

Samaria Family Assistance Programs

They're people like you and me. They too have dreams; they too have needs. But unlike you and me, their dreams are much more basic, their needs more extreme. **They dream of a time they can put food on the table for their hungry children-- children who have already learned to stop asking for something to eat.** They dream of looking at their spouses and feeling respect instead of desperation... seeing pride in their children's eyes instead of shame. Is this too much to ask for? They need stable jobs, family guidance, a way to help themselves and their families out of the depths they have found themselves in. Their pain is real and it is great.

There are over 100,000 Jews living in Samaria, spread out over 30 small communities and several larger towns, covering a large area in the heart of Israel. **The Israeli economy is recovering but there are still so many people who find themselves in precarious financial situations. Too many do not know where their next meal will come from.** In some cases the breadwinner is out of work or disabled; in others, an illness has forced the family to spend its last shekel on medical bills. **There are 12 communities where more than 20% of the residents are receiving aid from Social Services. That means 1,130 families—4,759 people, 750 of whom are receiving intensive aid. Sixty families are victims of terror and 430 families live below the poverty line.**

No one in this day and age should be allowed to go hungry and **the Samaria Family Assistance Program provides food packages and other basic necessities for dozens of needy families** until they can get back on their feet. The food packages enable these families to maintain a basic standard of living. The program relies on private contributions, but the shortfalls are formidable, and social workers are often unable to respond to all the requests.

A livelihood is one of the most critical components of a stable household. When it is absent, the damage goes far beyond a financial one. Being unemployed affects a person's emotional and psychological state, his ability to function within his family. The Social Services Departments work with those unemployed individuals who approach them; but there are so many more who are not getting help because of the shame of coming forward.

An employment program open to the entire population will neutralize the stigma of receiving social services aid. The Samaria Family Assistance Program can provide training and consulting to prospective employees, teaching them how to present themselves to future employers and providing them with the skills most in demand in today's job market. They will also encourage the development of small businesses.





- **The Samaria Family Assistance Program is being asked to provide food for a growing number of families who are just not capable of feeding their children, of providing for their most basic needs. No one should be turned away.**
- **Unemployment isn't just a hole in the pocketbook. It creates a loss of self-worth and a sense of humiliation and failure.**

CFOIC Heartland is asking you to see the pain, the shame and the emptiness of what has become of these families' lives, to give them hope. Help give them a future filled with pride, confidence, self-respect and purpose.

Project Budget

Food Packages.....	\$72,840
Employment Training	48,300
Employment Fair	7,735
Employment Coordinator (Annual Cost).....	17,840
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED:.....	\$146,715

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CFOIC, PO Box 50833, Colorado Springs, CO 80949 (US & Canada)
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