



Bet Hagai

HEALING LOST BOYS

Aaron came from a dysfunctional family, where his parents' fighting was fierce and incessant, and he suffered from terrible neglect. He did anything to just put some distance between himself and his chaotic home life. He eventually turned to crime, spiraling out of control emotionally, not letting anybody through his wall of aggression. Thankfully, Social Services found him and sent him to Bet Hagai.

At Bet Hagai, Avichai and Miri Chakak were his house parents and they welcomed him with open arms and hearts. For the first time, Aaron finally had a home. With hard work and the unwavering support of his new family, he re-created himself, erased his criminal past and went on to serve in a combat unit in the Israeli army. Upon completing his education, Aaron returned to Bet Hagai, but this time as a member of the staff! Today, Aaron works as a counselor, welcoming lost boys who come to Bet Hagai, with love and understanding.

What the Youth Village did for Aaron, it continues to do for many at-risk boys. Many of the boys come from broken homes, and they often arrive at Bet Hagai broken in spirit. At Bet Hagai they are able to heal so they can enter adulthood with life skills, and with their soul restored. The program holistically cares for its boys' physical and spiritual needs. It provides them with a high school education, vocational training, mentoring by rabbis, therapeutic programs, and day-to-day necessities, like clothes, shoes, bedding and more. Some boys arrive at the village with literally nothing but the shirts on their backs and are in need of even the most basic necessities. The Youth Village also furnishes the boys with work clothes and boots, which they need for the agriculture, welding and carpentry programs. This year, Bet Hagai needs to purchase new washing machines and dryers to launder the boys' clothes.

The COVID pandemic has added its own challenges. After three national lock-downs, quarantines, and a minimal ability to leave the village, many boys have experienced increased stress, restlessness and frustration. Bet Hagai has been helping the boys overcome the emotional challenges associated with the pandemic by offering additional new enrichment activities, including dog training, woodworking, and rented inflatables for holiday events.

The Bet Hagai Youth Village needs your help to purchase new washing machines and dryers, work clothes and equipment for vocational training, and enrichment programs for its at-risk youth. By contributing to this meaningful project, you will have a direct impact on these troubled boys. Your gift will help them break the cycle of dysfunction, abuse, and neglect transforming them into responsible adults. Your gift to Bet Hagai is a gift towards Israel's future leaders.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** The community was established in 1983, the Youth Village in 1989
- ☆ **Location:** South Hebron Hills, Judea
- ☆ **Origin of Name:** Hagai is an abbreviation of the names of three young men, Hanan, Gershon and Yaacov, murdered by terrorists in Hebron in 1980
- ☆ **Population:** 100 families in Bet Hagai, 45 boys and 6 families at the youth village



Troubled boys learn responsibility, job skills, and team work at Bet Hagai



Foster parents open their arms and hearts to the boys at Bet Hagai, with unwavering love and support

BET HAGAI YOUTH VILLAGE

PROJECT BUDGET

Enrichment Programming	\$18,400
Work Overalls and Boots	8,300
Washing Machines and Dryers.....	3,200
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED	\$29,900

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