



One of the most formidable challenges for parents of special-needs children is the constant ache and worry about the future—what will become of my child when she is an adult? How will he manage when I am no longer here? The Heart of Benjamin program in Ofra caters to special-needs children, adults, and their families residing in the Benjamin region, providing them with resources to help navigate the myriad of challenges they face.

A recently launched program for special-needs adults, “graduates” of the Heart of Benjamin children’s programs, has proven quite successful. These young adults live in an apartment on-site, supervised by counselors, and learn hands-on life skills, social skills, and vocational skills at sheltered employment locations. There are currently two such residences in Ofra, one for women and one for men, and they enable these young adults to develop a greater level of independence. The long-term plan is to operate six such apartments.

This year, Heart of Benjamin would like to expand the program and create two more hostels in Ofra, one for women and one for men. Government funding covers most of the ongoing expenses, including rent, utilities, and salaries for the counselors, a social worker, and maintenance workers. However, it does not cover the cost of preparing the apartments for use. Heart of Benjamin is seeking your help to furnish and equip two new apartments.

During the day, able residents work at the Heart of Benjamin kitchen, which services the Heart of Benjamin children and offers catering for local events. They also work at the local high school coffee shop, prepare snacks, take orders, serve, and manage the cash register. Jobs at the coffee shop are highly desirable, affording real-world work experience and integration into mainstream society, as special-needs workers interact with local Ofra residents and high school students, who buy snacks during school breaks. These special young adults are filled with pride as they interact with customers. But perhaps more importantly, their customers learn that people with limitations can still contribute to society.

**Heart of Benjamin urgently needs your help to furnish two apartments for use as special-needs adult hostels. Each hostel provides program graduates with a supervised home where they gain life and vocational skills. With your support, special-needs adults in the Biblical Heartland can achieve greater independence and integrate into Israeli society. Your gift today will give them immeasurable value as they contribute to building Biblical Israel.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1975
- ☆ **Location:** On the border between Biblical Samaria and Benjamin , near Beth El, between Jerusalem and Nablus
- ☆ **Biblical Significance:** Named after the ancient Jewish town in the territory of Benjamin, mentioned in Joshua 18
- ☆ **Historical Significance:** The first Jewish community established north of Jerusalem in modern times
- ☆ **Population:** 4,000



*The local Café provides jobs for the special-needs adults of Heart of Benjamin who love serving their community*



*Your gift will furnish apartments that enable these special-needs adults to live semi-independently*

## HEART OF BENJAMIN HOSTEL APARTMENT

### PROJECT BUDGET

Appliances for two apartments .....	\$31,470
Furnishings for two apartments .....	20,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$51,470</b>

To participate in this project: visit our website at [www.cfoic.com/projects](http://www.cfoic.com/projects)  
 Or mail a check with the project name in the memo to:  
 CFOIC Heartland, 7661 McLaughlin Rd, #255, Falcon, CO 80831 (US & Canada)  
 CFOIC Heartland, PO Box 752, Karnei Shomron, Israel (all other countries)