



Otniel

SAVING LIVES IN THE HEBRON HILLS

As the Children of Israel are about to enter the Land of Israel for the first time, God encourages the nation: ***“Be strong and resolute, be not in fear or in dread of them for the Lord your God Himself marches with you.”*** (Deuteronomy 31:6) As the modern-day pioneers of Otniel face their challenges, they draw strength from this and so many similar verses. They have lived through several deadly terrorist attacks. They are one of the most vulnerable communities in the Hebron Hills region. Yet, their courage and optimism have not diminished.

These spiritual pioneers exemplify the very essence of Biblical values as they raise their families in the Biblical Heartland. Despite the danger, they continue attracting many new families. With so many young families and children, they must meet the needs of their growing community.

Hostile Arab towns heavily populate the Hebron Hills region. The small Jewish communities in the area live under constant threat of terrorist attacks. In recent years, Arab extremists have been using arson to wreak havoc in Jewish communities throughout Judea and Samaria. One small match along the perimeter of an isolated community can quickly and effectively ignite a massive fire, destroying homes and endangering lives. Just last year, Arab arsonists targeted a small community in Hebron Hills. The dry conditions fanned the flames, quickly spreading it across the entire community and everyone had to evacuate. Otniel’s fire-fighting crew, aided by crews from more distant localities, heroically subdued the fire, and thankfully, no lives were lost that day. But homes and infrastructures were damaged.

Otniel had one of only two fire-fighting trucks in the Hebron Hills, staffed with a large crew of experienced firefighters who served the entire region. But the fire station that housed the firetruck no longer met safety standards and had to be closed. A new firehouse is needed immediately. Without the new building, Otniel is no longer authorized to operate a fire station, leaving only one fire engine in another part of the Hebron Hills to service the entire region. Otniel is desperate to recover its fire engine and ensure that all communities in the area are adequately protected.

Otniel desperately needs your help to build a new firehouse to reopen its regional fire station. The small communities of Hebron Hills have significantly suffered from Arab arson terror attacks. Their lives and homes are threatened, and their property damaged or destroyed. Your donation for a fire-fighting station in Otniel will save lives in the entire region!

REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1983
- ☆ **Location:** Hebron Hills
- ☆ **Origin of Name:** Named after Otniel son of Kenaz, the first of the Biblical judges. A scholar-warrior, Otniel liberated the southern Hebron area from the oppressive Emorite King (Judges 1:13)
- ☆ **Population:** 160 families



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You can help Otniel construct a new firehouse (like the one above) for its fire truck so they can resume saving lives

OTNIEL FIRE STATION PROJECT BUDGET

Fire engine shed	\$20,245
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED	\$20,245

To participate in this project: visit our website at 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)