



Avigayil

ENCOURAGING TEENS SURROUNDED BY ADVERSITY

The isolated community of Avigayil, is located in the Hebron Hills. It was established in 2001 by a small group of single young men, who lived in an abandoned bus, in an effort to protect and settle Jewish land during the height of the Second Intifada.

The Bible (I Samuel 25) relates the story of the confrontation between David and Nabal, a selfish and mean merchant living in Maon. While David had protected Nabal's workers in the Judean desert, Nabal refused to extend hospitality to David and turned him away with rudeness and contempt. Although she faced retribution from her husband, Nabal's wife Avigayil (Hebrew for Abigail) offered David and his men food and drinks, thereby preventing violence and bloodshed. Her actions exemplify courage and trust in God in the face of a life-threatening situation. The founders of Avigayil named their community, located across from Biblical Maon, after this brave woman, who later became King David's wife, as they sought to fulfill God's will in the face of adversity.

Living in Avigayil is not easy. Still relatively undeveloped with primitive infrastructure, there are 50 families, including 150 children and teens, living in Avigayil today. They have created a warm and accepting environment but face increasing security threats on a daily basis. Arab illegal land seizures and construction is rampant. Anarchist protesters go out of their way to disturb Jewish life in the area, often blocking the entrance to Avigayil, preventing residents from leaving or entering the community for hours. And each time, in an effort to de-escalate, the army asks the people of Avigayil to remain inside the community until they can defuse the conflict. At times like this, it is critical for the community to create social and cultural outlets within the community to reduce tensions and calm anxieties.

The teenagers of Avigayil are active as youth group counselors, and happily volunteer their time on community projects. There are special programs and workshops for the teens, which take place either outdoors or at the local synagogue. But the people of Avigayil understand that teenagers need a place of their own. Harking back to the original history of the community, when an old bus served as the initial housing, the community would like to renovate and convert a grounded bus into a youth center. Amazingly, they have figured out a way to furnish the bus, and even add a small kitchen, where the teens will cook for themselves and offer fast food for the community at large.

Avigayil, a small isolated community in the Hebron Hills, needs your help to convert an abandoned bus into a youth center for their teens. Despite rising hostility, these inspiring pioneers are raising their children to be responsible adults and contributing members of Israeli society. By supporting a youth center for their teens, you are sending a strong message to the people of Avigayil that you support their efforts to settle the land.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Name Origin:** Hebrew name of King David's wife Abigail, who resided in the Biblical town of Maon, The community of Avigayil is located near Ancient Maon
- ☆ **Established:** 2001
- ☆ **Location:** Hebron Hills, Judea
- ☆ **Strategic Significance:** Part of a cluster of small Jewish communities in the Hebron Hills that were established to strengthen the Jewish presence in this vital area of Biblical Israel
- ☆ **Population:** 50 families, including 150 children and teens



You can give Avigayil's teens a place to call their own—a youth center that will greatly enrich their lives!



You can help the people of Avigayil who are creating an inviting community in the isolated Hebron Hills region

AVIGAYIL YOUTH CENTER

PROJECT BUDGET

Infrastructure & Renovation	\$19,350
Lighting & Air Conditioning	5,300
Kitchen.....	3,950
Already Raised by CFOIC Heartland	-19,540
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED	\$9,060

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 Or mail a check with the project name in the memo to:
 CFOIC Heartland, 7661 McLaughlin Rd, #255, Falcon, CO 80831 (US & Canada)
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