



# Bekaot

## A PLACE TO GROW

Family conflict is natural. As we witness in our own lives, family members may not see eye to eye, giving rise to fighting, hurt feelings, and distance. But family bonds are precious and not easily broken. With the right perspective, conflict provides an opportunity to repair the damage and heal.

Bekaot, an isolated agricultural community in the Jordan valley, was a thriving community for decades. But seven years ago, they experienced a community rift that not only impacted community cohesiveness but affected every aspect of community life. Their agricultural enterprises suffered. Bekaot was crumbling. Today the community is united in their desire to save their beloved community, and they recognize that the best way to accomplish that is by mending social bonds and encouraging volunteerism, both among the adults and the youth.

The community has already taken the first steps to create a youth center. A resident, who has volunteered to act as a youth coordinator, is leading activities rooted in the Biblical values of love of the Land of Israel, kindness, and volunteerism. Many of the community's remaining founding pioneers are in their golden years and need additional help to continue living independently. Local teenagers regularly visit them, mow lawns and do light house maintenance at the seniors' homes. But these budding youth initiatives need a center.

Isolation can pose a huge challenge for anyone, but especially for restless teenagers. Without a youth center, parents are fearful that their children will turn to harmful behaviors. A youth center will cater to all teenagers, seventh through twelfth grades, providing them a safe and inviting place to engage in enriching programs, social gatherings, and volunteer initiatives.

The community has designated an existing structure as a youth center, but the building needs serious renovation. The kitchenette and bathroom are run down and the flooring is worn. The youth have already started cleaning and painting the building, but to create a truly comfortable and inviting space, Bekaot desperately needs your help to complete the renovation and furnishing of their new youth center.

**Bekaot, a small isolated community in the Jordan Valley, needs your help to renovate and furnish a youth center for their local teens. A recent community-wide rift served as a wake-up call. Today, your help will enable these dedicated pioneers to recreate their warm community atmosphere, rooted in the Biblical imperative to “love thy neighbor” (Leviticus 19:18). By supporting a youth center in Bekaot, you are helping raise the next generation of young pioneers in Israel. In addition, your donation will help instill the values that have always been critical in settling the Biblical Heartland.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1972
- ☆ **Location:** Jordan Valley
- ☆ **Name Origin:** Bekaot, valleys in Hebrew, inspired by Deuteronomy 11:11 "A land of hills and valleys soaks up its water from the rains of heaven"
- ☆ **Economic Basis:** Agricultural community growing mostly grapes and dates, with a high degree of economic cooperation
- ☆ **Population:** 70 families, including 104 children and teenagers



*Bekaot teens volunteer to clean up an old building to create a Youth Center where they can launch volunteer initiatives*



*The pioneers of Bekaot need your help to renovate and refurbish the Youth Center for their teens*

## BEKAOT YOUTH CENTER

### PROJECT BUDGET

Flooring, Light Fixtures & A/C Unit.....	\$5,030
Bathroom & Kitchenette Renovation.....	2,280
Furniture & Furnishings .....	2,015
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$9,325</b>

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