



# Hermesh

## A PLACE TO THRIVE

Although terror attacks are common in Judea and Samaria, their frequency does not lessen the emotional and psychological toll on the people of this region. The pioneers that settle the Biblical heartland are made of strong-stock; yet no one is invincible. It is not easy to bounce back from hardship, but the measure of true greatness is in one's ability to pick up and go on living after tragedy strikes.

The original pioneers who founded Hermesh, an isolated community, separated by nearly ten kilometers from the nearest Jewish community, were driven by idealism and courage. Full of excitement and hope, they dreamed of creating a place where their children would grow up and eventually start their own families. But a horrific terrorist attack in 2002 left many residents scared for their lives. Their concerns, coupled with growing hostility in the area, caused more than half of the families to flee, leaving barely 30 families to hold on to the land.

Incredibly, despite the unrelenting threats, new families began to trickle back in recent years, once again infusing Hermesh with idealism, and new life. Traveling on surrounding roads is relatively safe during the day. But under the dark of night, blood-thirsty Arabs crouch by the side of the road, frequently throw Molotov cocktails or rocks at Jewish drivers. Terrorists ambush cars and obstruct roads with boulders, intending to cause harm to life and property or wreak havoc on the roads with car-ramming and car-jacking attacks. Many Hermesh residents are simply too frightened to leave the community at night.

Determined to persist in settling and developing their ancestral homeland, the people of Hermesh want to strengthen the community by providing rich cultural and recreational programs. A community center would be a vital resource to build up this isolated community, providing something for every age group. The exercise room, geared at keeping adults and teenagers fit, will also have indoor ninja equipment for children. A social den will offer residents a space to gather, socialize, and play games, and an activity room will serve as a fun venue to blow off steam while playing pool, ping-pong, and other fun games. But to make this vital community hub a reality, Hermesh needs your help to renovate the building and to purchase equipment and furniture.

**Hermesh, an isolated and vulnerable community in North Samaria, needs your help to renovate and furnish a new community center. With your generous donation, you can help enrich community life for these committed pioneers. Help provide the men, women, and children of Hermesh with a safe place to socialize, grow, and blossom while encouraging the development of the Biblical Heartland.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1983
- ☆ **Location:** Northern Samaria, 10 kilometers from the nearest Israeli community
- ☆ **Geographical Significance:** Overlooking Biblical Dotan, where Joseph found his brothers (Genesis 37:17) surrounded by hostile Arab villages
- ☆ **Origin of Name:** means "scythe" in English, reminiscent of early Israeli pioneers
- ☆ **Population:** 85 families, 280 residents
- ☆ **Aliyah From:** Russia



*Your help with a community center in Hermesh will greatly improve the quality of life for pioneering families in Samaria*



*A community center is vital because it isn't safe to leave the community after dark due to location and hostile neighbors*

## HERMESH COMMUNITY CENTER

### PROJECT BUDGET

Building Renovation.....	\$23,720
Furnishings & Equipment - Exercise Room .....	20,220
Furnishings & Equipment - Activity Room.....	7,980
Furnishings & Equipment - Social Den .....	5,700
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$57,620</b>

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