

Sde Boaz

SWING, CLIMB, AND JUMP WITH JOY

In 2002, at the height of the Second Intifada, a group of young idealistic pioneers established Sde Boaz in Gush Etzion, making a statement about Jewish continuity in the Biblical Heartland. The brave pioneers of Sde Boaz chose to develop this spot particularly for its historical and strategic significance. Historically, it is situated near the Path of the Patriarchs, the ancient artery used by the Biblical forefathers as they traveled to and from the holy cities of Shechem, Jerusalem, and Hebron. Strategically, set at the highest altitudes of any Jewish community in Judea and Samaria, it ensures the security of the entire region.

While still relatively undeveloped, idealism and natural beauty continue drawing new families to Sde Boaz. In the past five years, 15 families have joined the community, growing the number of children from 40 to well over 100. The people of Sde Boaz, predominantly professionals, academics, and students, are united in their belief that working the land goes hand in hand with ensuring Jewish presence in their ancestral homeland. Busy schedules and all, everyone finds time to tend the modest community farm, growing wheat, corn, watermelons, and a vineyard.

With so many young families, Sde Boaz must provide quality recreation for them. In Israel, it is rare for a family to have a swing set in their own backyard. Public playgrounds are central to community life. More than providing vital children's recreational experiences, a community playground serves as a community gathering place, fostering the community ties and solidarity that are so critical for life in Judea and Samaria. It is precisely this solidarity, coupled with a strong faith, that helps the most isolated communities face the challenges of terrorism and isolation over the years.

The children of Sde Boaz have gotten years of good use out of their local playground. Over time, the community maintained and added to the park with the aid of our generous CFOIC Heartland donors. But as the community grows, the park needs to grow to accommodate all of the new children. Additionally, the community needs to upgrade the park's overall safety and accessibility, installing a fence around the playground, a shade structure, and specialized playground equipment that gives access for disabled children. They need your help to expand their playground.

Sde Boaz needs to upgrade its central playground to accommodate its growing community. Much more than a recreational area, a playground is essential for developing and strengthening community ties. Your gift today will bring joy as well as a much-needed resource to the pioneering families of Sde Boaz, enabling them to attract more families as they continue settling the Heartland of Biblical Israel!

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ❖ **Founded:** 2002
- ❖ **Location:** Gush Etzion, Judea
- ❖ **Biblical Significance:** adjacent to the Path of the Patriarchs. A ritual bath dating back to Second Temple times was recently discovered at the community's outskirts
- ❖ **Origin of Name:** The name Sde Boaz ("The Field of Boaz") was chosen because of the community's proximity to Bethlehem, where the Biblical Book of Ruth took place
- ❖ **Population:** 40 families, 110 children



Safety upgrades are desperately needed for the Sde Boaz playground to accommodate the growing community



You can help spread joy and blessings to the youngest residents of Sde Boaz, in the mountain of Judea

SDE BOAZ PLAYGROUND PROJECT PROJECT BUDGET

Playground shade	\$19,000
Access for disabled children	18,910
Playground turf and infrastructure	12,000
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED	\$49,910

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)