

Har Gilo

PROTECTING FAMILIES UNDER FIRE



While parents have plenty to worry about, when it comes to their children's safety, ideally the home is a secure sanctuary where kids are safe from harm. But in Har Gilo, locking the doors is no longer enough to protect families from imminent harm. Recently, on a quiet Friday night, one family home became a terror scene. As their three young children slept soundly in their beds, exhausted from a festive Shabbat evening, Dina and Rafi enjoyed a quiet conversation. But heading to bed, they stopped in their tracks to the sound of glass shattering inside their home. Frantically, they ran toward the sound. In their baby's room, steps away from the crib, they found a large rock on the floor, surrounded by broken glass. Thankfully their baby was unharmed, but it was a close call.

The community of Har Gilo is located just outside the southern edge of Jerusalem, along the road to the Judean Hills and Gush Etzion. The once barren hills, a strategically critical area between Bethlehem and Jerusalem, were originally only inhabited by soldiers and workers in the Nature and Parks Authority. Their presence made all the difference in securing Jerusalem. Today, Har Gilo is a desirable and growing community populated by over 400 families, religious and secular.

Like most communities in Judea, Har Gilo has its share of security concerns. Molotov cocktails, stone-throwing, and frequent infiltration attempts are common. However, after years of terror from hostile neighboring villagers, the people of Har Gilo understood they needed an advanced surveillance system to defend their community. Thanks to CFOIC Heartland's generous donors, Har Gilo was able to purchase radar surveillance cameras to better protect the weak points on the north section of their perimeter fence.

But recently, hostile Arabs from the neighboring village of Al Walaja have been attacking from the east. Terrorists lob large rocks and firebombs from an illegal Arab construction site just across the road from Har Gilo, attacking families in their homes. In addition to the attack described above, recently, a fire bomb landed in the front yard of a family home. Thankfully, no one was outside at the time. But to prevent future tragedy, Har Gilo desperately needs additional surveillance cameras, proper lighting, and a higher fence.

Har Gilo urgently needs your help to purchase security equipment to protect and defend their families from hostile attacks. Security is not a luxury; it is a necessity. Your support will give the pioneers of Har Gilo the vital equipment they need to prevent future attacks while safely continuing to settle Biblical Israel. Your donation will save lives!

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ❖ Founded: 1968
- ❖ Location: Gush Etzion region, Judea
- ❖ Origin of Name: in English, “Mountain of Gilo”
- ❖ Biblical Significance: Biblical Gilo, listed in Judah’s territory (Joshua 15) and birthplace of King David’s renegade advisor Achitofel (2 Samuel 15:12)
- ❖ Strategic Significance: Located 923 meters above sea level, near Jerusalem, it has been a military stronghold since Ottoman times
- ❖ Population: 450 families, including 850 children and teens



You can help build Har Gilo stronger for future generations as it strategically sits between Jerusalem and Bethlehem



Firebombs are regularly thrown from just across the road, landing in the yards of family homes in Har Gilo

HAR GILO SECURITY EQUIPMENT PROJECT BUDGET

Cameras, Computer, and Installation	\$31,140
Fence and Security Lighting	20,770
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED	\$51,910

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:

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