



# Eshkolot

## PROTECTING JEWISH PRESENCE IN THE LAND

Humans are hardwired to fear the unknown. As children, we sleep with nightlights and flashlights to ward off fears we have of whatever may lurk in the dark. As adults, we do much the same, only with different methods: we lock our front doors, charge our cell phones, and, in the case of the Jewish residents of Judea and Samaria, we have volunteer rapid responders patrol our communities. In Eshkolot, a tiny rural community entirely surrounded by enemies at the southern tip of the Hebron Hills, the only way to protect lives from constant threat is by having proper security equipment.

Recently, the community of Eshkolot has been facing a new kind of threat: infiltration. Hostile Arabs from neighboring villages are worming their way into the community over the fence. Fairly undetected, they roam freely across Eshkolot, disappearing into waiting vehicles on the other of the community. Because of the lack of adequate surveillance equipment, the Eshkolot security team only learns of the presence of these infiltrators accidentally or when residents report observing suspicious characters climbing over the fence. And untold damage can be wrought by these terrorist infiltrators before the Eshkolot rapid response team has even been alerted to active threats. A surveillance drone will aid in protecting the community's perimeter from hostile infiltrations and potential attacks, provide the rapid response security team with advanced warning of potential threats, and improve efficiency and response time.

Jewish prayer and practices are very important to the people of Eshkolot, a mix of secular and traditional Jews. The local synagogue offers regular prayer services on weeknights, the Sabbath, and on holidays, as well as Bible study. Much more than a public prayer forum, in the small isolated communities of Judea and Samaria, a synagogue also serves as a venue for gathering and strengthening community bonds. Last August, when Arab terrorists from Gaza fired more than a thousand rockets over a three-day period at Jewish communities in southern Israel, Eshkolot families fled to bomb shelters multiple times each day. But with no bomb shelter within a sixty-second dash from the local synagogue, the army canceled worship services for the duration of the conflict. Since rocket fire is not a rare occurrence in Southern Israel, the Eshkolot synagogue must have a bomb shelter, to enable residents to maintain prayer services even during hostile conflicts when public prayer is actually needed most.

**Eshkolot desperately needs to purchase a surveillance drone and install a bomb shelter for their local synagogue. As security threats rise in the area, Eshkolot must ensure the safety of their families in the event of an attempted infiltration or missile attack. A drone will give Eshkolot a valuable asset to detect threats early and save lives. Your support for a bomb shelter in Eshkolot will ensure prayer, and Bible study continues. Your donation today will save lives and keep prayer alive in Eshkolot!**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1982
- ☆ **Location:** Hebron Hills, Judea
- ☆ **Geographical Significance:**  
located over five kilometers from the nearest Jewish community
- ☆ **Origin of Name:** in English, "clusters," referring to clusters of grapes grown in the many nearby vineyards, from Biblical times to the present day
- ☆ **Population:** 140 families



*You can encourage prayer and strengthen community bonds by supporting a bomb shelter for Eshkolot's synagogue*



*Help Eshkolot purchase a surveillance drone to protect families from regular terrorist threats!*

## ESHKOLOT DRONE & BOMB SHELTER

### PROJECT BUDGET

Construction of Bomb Shelter at Synagogue .....	\$19,490
Surveillance Drone .....	5,200
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$24,690</b>

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