



Avigayil

ENCOURAGING TEENS SURROUNDED BY ADVERSITY

The Bible (I Samuel 25) relates the story of the confrontation between David and Nabal, a selfish and mean merchant living in Maon. While David had protected Nabal's workers in the Judean desert, Nabal refused to extend hospitality to David and turned him away with rudeness and contempt. Although she faced retribution from her husband, Nabal's wife - Avigayil (Hebrew for Abigail) - offered David and his men food and drinks, thereby preventing violence and bloodshed; her actions exemplify courage and trust in God in the face of a life-threatening situation. Avigayil's bravery was the inspiration for the founders of Avigayil, located across from Biblical Maon, as they sought to fulfill God's will in the face of adversity.

The isolated community of Avigayil, located in the Hebron Hills, was established in 2001 by a small group of single young men who initially lived in an abandoned bus, in an effort to protect and settle the land during the height of the Second Intifada. Today, there are 50 families, including 150 children and teens living in Avigayil. Still, life there is not easy, as the community is still relatively undeveloped with primitive infrastructure. The people of Avigayil have created a warm and accepting environment, but they face increasing security threats daily. Arab illegal land seizures and construction are rampant; anarchist protesters go out of their way to disturb Jewish life in the area, often blocking the entrance to Avigayil, and preventing residents from leaving or entering the community for hours. And each time, in an effort to de-escalate, the army asks the people of Avigayil to remain inside the community until they can defuse the conflict. At times like this, it is critical for the community to create social and cultural outlets within the community to reduce tensions and calm anxieties.

In a small community, everyone lends a helping hand and the teenagers of Avigayil are no different. These energetic teens happily volunteer their time in community-wide projects and as counselors for younger children. Understanding that teens need a safe and supportive space of their own, the people of Avigayil decided to establish and furnish a youth center for their dedicated teens. Last year, thanks to generous CFOIC Heartland donors, Avigayil erected and partly furnished a new prefabricated structure to serve as a gathering place for their teens. While the structure is complete, they still need some furnishings, supplies, and equipment for the teen enrichment activities. Avigayil needs a fully furnished and functioning Youth Center, but they cannot do it without your help.

Avigayil, a small, isolated community in the Hebron Hills, needs your help to establish a youth center for their teens. Despite rising hostility, these inspiring pioneers are raising their children to be responsible adults and contributing members of Israeli society. By supporting a youth center for their teens, you are sending a strong message to the people of Avigayil that you support their efforts to settle the land.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Name Origin:** Hebrew name of King David's wife Abigail, who resided in the Biblical town of Maon, The community of Avigayil is located near Ancient Maon
- ☆ **Established:** 2001
- ☆ **Location:** Hebron Hills, Judea
- ☆ **Strategic Significance:** Part of a cluster of small Jewish communities in the Hebron Hills that were established to strengthen the Jewish presence in this vital area of Biblical Israel
- ☆ **Population:** 50 families, including 150 children and teens



You can enrich the lives of Avigayil's teens by providing them with a safe and supportive place to call their own



Avigayil needs your help to complete a fully furnished and functioning Youth Center

AVIGAYIL YOUTH CENTER

PROJECT BUDGET

Games, Supplies and Equipment for Activities.....	\$8,410
Furniture and Furnishings.....	5,820
Funds Already Raised.....	-5,450
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED	\$8,780

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