



# Bekaot

## A PLACE TO GROW

Family conflict is natural. Some family members may not see eye to eye, giving rise to fighting, hurt feelings, and distance. But family bonds are precious and not easily broken. With the proper perspective, conflict provides an opportunity to repair the damage and heal.

Bekaot, an isolated agricultural community in the Jordan valley, was a thriving community for decades. But seven years ago, they experienced a community rift that impacted community cohesiveness and wrecked every aspect of community life, including their agricultural enterprises. Bekaot was crumbling. Today the people of Bekaot are united in their desire to save their beloved community. They are working hard to mend social bonds and encourage volunteerism, both among the adults and the youth.

Isolation poses a major challenge for anyone, but especially for energetic teenagers. Without a youth center, teens began choosing to leave Bekaot to attend boarding schools, and parents were fearful their children would turn to harmful behaviors. A youth center was needed to provide a safe and inviting place for all teenagers, grades 7 through 12, to engage in enriching programs, social gatherings, and volunteer initiatives.

The community took the first steps to create a youth program. A resident, who volunteered to act as a youth coordinator, has been leading programs rooted in the Biblical values of love of the Land of Israel, kindness, and volunteer initiatives. One of the program's first initiatives involved local teens helping the community's remaining founding pioneers who are in their golden years and need additional help to continue living independently. Bekaot teenagers regularly visit local seniors, mow lawns, and do light house maintenance at their homes. But these budding youth initiatives needed a center.

Last year, the community designated an existing building as a youth center. Eager to participate in the efforts, the youth worked to clean and paint the building. But the building was in need of serious renovation. Thanks to generous CFOIC Heartland donors, Bekaot recently renovated the kitchenette and bathroom and installed new flooring. However, Bekaot needs your continued help to purchase furniture and equipment to create a truly comfortable and inviting space.

**Bekaot, a small, isolated community in the Jordan Valley, needs your help to furnish a youth center and create a safe space for their local teens. Your support will enable the dedicated pioneers of Bekaot to continue building a strong, vibrant community rooted in the Biblical values that are so critical to settling the Biblical Heartland. Join us in supporting the people of Bekaot in raising the next generation of young pioneers in Biblical Israel.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1972
- ☆ **Location:** Jordan Valley
- ☆ **Name Origin:** Bekaot, valleys in Hebrew, inspired by Deuteronomy 11:11 "A land of hills and valleys soaks up its water from the rains of heaven"
- ☆ **Economic Basis:** Agricultural community growing mostly grapes and dates, with a high degree of economic cooperation
- ☆ **Population:** 70 families, including 104 children and teenagers



*Bekaot teens work hard to clean up an old building to create a youth center for social gatherings and volunteer initiatives*



*Thanks to you, the Bekaot youth center has progressed significantly, today, they just need furniture & equipment!*

## BEKAOT YOUTH CENTER

### PROJECT BUDGET

Furniture .....	\$2,080
Refrigerator & A/C Unit .....	1,390
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$3,470</b>

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