



# Gush Etzion

## PROTECTING A JEWISH PRESENCE IN THE LAND

Jewish communities existed in the Gush Etzion region (the Etzion Bloc), located southwest of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, since before the establishment of the State of Israel. This area is replete with Biblical scenes and stories of heroism and bravery, starting with the time of Abraham and Isaac. But in 1948, all the Jewish communities in Gush Etzion were tragically destroyed, resulting in the murder of 240 men and women, and an additional 260 people were taken captive. Immediately after the 1967 war, when Israel recaptured Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria, brave Jewish pioneers flocked back to resettle their beloved land.

Today, in the expansive Gush Etzion region, 22 communities and small farms are spread across a wide area. While life may seem peaceful, the threat of terrorism persists, especially for isolated communities with limited budgets for defense. A recent pilot study by the Gush Etzion Municipality installed a surveillance camera at a busy intersection, proving effective in deterring terrorism and providing critical footage to the security center. As a result, there was a notable decrease in terror attacks and car accidents in the surrounding area. To enhance emergency response and safety measures, the Gush Etzion Municipality needs your help acquiring surveillance cameras for seven critical junctions.

Sde Bar, an isolated community on the edge of the Judean Desert near Tekoa and the ancient fortress of Herodian, faces a dire reality. Originally, established as a youth village for homeless and abandoned children, Sde Bar has blossomed into a vibrant community engaged in agriculture, dairy farming, and art. But, surrounded by several hostile Arab villages, whose residents are intent on uprooting Jewish presence in the region, the residents of Sde Bar live under unrelenting security threats. Facing frequent hostile infiltration attempts, round-the-clock patrolling along the community perimeter is critical. But the deteriorated security road poses a significant vulnerability, impeding swift and effective response to these constant acts of terror. To save lives, the Gush Etzion Municipality urgently needs help renovating and repaving the security perimeter road in Sde Bar.

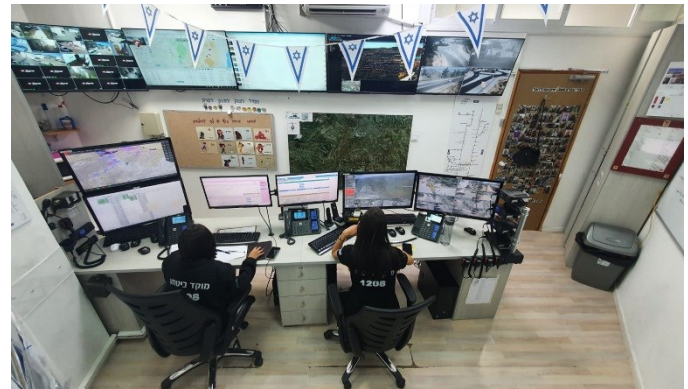
**The Gush Etzion Regional Council desperately needs vital surveillance and security installations to protect and defend Jewish communities from the constant threat of terrorism. The dedicated pioneers of Gush Etzion have returned to resettle their ancestral homeland. Your help today will equip them with the tools they desperately need to prevent hostile infiltrators and manage emergency events. Your donation will keep these men, women, and children safe as they fulfill Biblical prophecy in Israel's Heartland.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Regional Communities Include:** Bat Ayin, Gevaot, Har Gilo, Sde Bar, Sde Boaz, and Tekoa
- ☆ **Historical Significance:** First settled in the 1920's, four kibbutz settlements were destroyed by the Jordanians on the eve of Israel's independence in 1948. It was re-settled in 1967, right after the Six Day War
- ☆ **Geographical Significance:** Strategically protects the southern approach to Jerusalem
- ☆ **Population:** 28,500



*The deteriorated perimeter security road leaves the families of Sde Bar vulnerable to hostile infiltrations*



*Surveillance Cameras at key junctions in Gush Etzion will deter future terror attacks and improve emergency response!*

## GUSH ETZION SURVEILLANCE & SECURITY

### PROJECT BUDGET

Paving Sde Bar Security Road .....	\$39,220
Surveillance Cameras (7 @ \$4580/each) .....	32,060
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$71,280</b>

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