



# Bet Hagai

## HEALING LOST BOYS

Aaron came from a dysfunctional family, where his parents' fighting was fierce and incessant, and he suffered from terrible neglect. He did anything, just to put some distance between himself and his chaotic home life. Spiraling out of control emotionally, not letting anybody through his wall of aggression, Aaron eventually turned to crime. Thankfully, Social Services found him and sent him to Bet Hagai, where Avichai and Miri Chakak welcomed him with open arms and hearts, serving as his house parents. For the first time, Aaron had a home.

With hard work and the unwavering support of his new family, teachers, and staff, Aaron re-created himself, erased his criminal past, and went on to serve in a combat unit in the Israeli army. After he completed college, Aaron returned to Bet Hagai - this time as a staff member! Today, Aaron works as a counselor, welcoming lost boys who come to Bet Hagai with love and understanding.

What the Youth Village did for Aaron, it continues to do for countless at-risk boys. Many of them come from broken homes, and they often arrive at Bet Hagai broken in spirit. At Bet Hagai, they learn to heal, acquire life skills, and eventually restore their souls. The program holistically cares for its boys' physical and spiritual needs, from academics and vocational training to mentoring by rabbis, and therapeutic programs, as well as addressing their basic day-to-day needs, such as clothes, shoes, bedding, and more. Some boys arrive at the village with literally nothing but the shirts on their backs. Bet Hagai needs your help to purchase clothing and shoes for these troubled boys.

The learning does not stop when the school bell rings. In the afternoons, boys attend fun enrichment programs that are vital to their emotional and physical well-being, including, fitness, leadership skills, arts, dog training, and more. At the music program, run by a musician and music therapist, boys learn to sing, play musical instruments, or compose and record music. As they build their skills, some join musical ensembles and perform at school events and competitions. Music enables even the most introverted boys to find the language with which to express their pain and provides a balm to their struggling souls.

**The troubled boys who have come to the Bet Hagai Youth Village need clothes, shoes, and after-school enrichment programs. You can help these at-risk boys break the cycle of dysfunction, abuse, and neglect, and become responsible, upstanding Israeli citizens. Your gift to the Bet Hagai Youth Village is a gift towards Israel's future leaders.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** The community was established in 1983, the Youth Village in 1989
- ☆ **Location:** South Hebron Hills, Judea
- ☆ **Origin of Name:** Hagai is an abbreviation of the names of three young men, Hanan, Gershon and Yaacov, murdered by terrorists in Hebron in 1980
- ☆ **Population:** 110 families in Bet Hagai, 45 boys and 5 families at the youth village



*Bet Hagai's music program provides an emotional outlet as well as practical vocational skills for at-risk boys*



*Foster parents open their arms and hearts to the boys at Bet Hagai, with unwavering love and support*

## BET HAGAI CLOTHES & ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

### PROJECT BUDGET

Summer & Winter Clothes & Shoes (\$445 per boy x 45)	\$20,025
Music Program.....	15,900
After School Programs (\$318 per boy x 45)	14,310
<b>Funds Already Raised</b> .....	<b>-1,907</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED</b> .....	<b>\$48,328</b>

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