



Gitit

EDUCATION IN THE HEARTLAND

Nestled against the eastern slopes of the Samaritan Hills, just east of the Biblical city of Gilgal (Joshua 9:6), you will find the small and isolated community of Gitit. Across from Gitit stands the Sartava mountain, and beyond it stretches breathtaking views of the Jordan Valley. In ancient times, Jews in Israel would send up smoke signals from the peak of Sartava, heralding the arrival of each new lunar month to their fellow Jews in central Babylonia. This message system ensured that the Jewish Calendar remained in sync.

Gitit, established in 1975 by secular Zionist pioneers who shared a deep commitment to reviving the Jewish presence in their ancestral homeland, began as an agricultural community. With God's help and a lot of hard work, these early pioneers cultivated the desert landscapes, transforming them into flourishing vineyards, bountiful date palm groves, and vibrant vegetable fields. But when the Second Intifada erupted in 2000, the harsh reality took its toll, and many families felt compelled to leave due to escalating security threats.

In the face of looming extinction, the people of Gitit made a courageous decision to change the secular character of the community to ensure a continued Jewish presence in the region. They extended a heartfelt invitation to religious families, ushering in a pivotal moment in Gitit's history that helped it thrive and grow. Today, Gitit is a vibrant and diverse community, with 100 families, including young families, older couples, and a mix of religious and non-religious Jews, all living together in mutual respect and responsibility.

It is not easy raising children in an isolated and vulnerable community. The Gitit library is a vibrant hub of activity, thanks to the dedicated efforts of local adult and teen volunteers. But, as the building continues to age, urgent renovations are needed, including roof repairs, bathroom renovation, and a new coat of paint. As Gitit continues to attract new young families, so does the need for additional recreational resources. Gitit plans to expand and furnish an unused room in the library, transforming it into an indoor play center for younger children. Additionally, they would like to purchase equipment to create a community archive, which will be managed by local youth. Last year, CFOIC Heartland raised some of the funds needed, but your help is desperately needed to complete this vital community project.

Gitit, a small, isolated community in the Jordan Valley, needs help renovating the old library building and establishing an indoor play center for its youngest residents. Developing resources and strong community bonds is crucial to the survival of small, isolated communities in Judea and Samaria. Your generous gift will make a lasting impact and encourage the dedicated pioneers of the Jordan Valley, as they continue developing the Biblical Heartland!

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1972
- ☆ **Location:** Jordan Valley
- ☆ **Name Origin:** IDF General Rechavam Ze'evi named the community after an ancient stringed musical instrument (Psalm 81). He explained that from the community's vantage point, the Jordan Valley is reminiscent of the ancient instrument
- ☆ **Population:** 110 families, including 120 youth



The Gitit library is a vibrant hub for residents of all ages, but it urgently needs your help for a much needed face lift



Your help will bless the families of Gitit with the priceless gift of knowledge, education, and play!

GITIT PLAY & LEARN CENTER

PROJECT BUDGET

Building Renovation.....	\$15,430
Furnishings and Equipment	6,360
Funds Already Raised	-8,630
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED	\$13,160

To participate in this project: visit our website at www.cfoic.com/projects
 Or mail a check with the project name in the memo to:
 CFOIC Heartland, 7661 McLaughlin Rd, #255, Falcon, CO 80831 (US & Canada)
 CFOIC Heartland, PO Box 752, Karnei Shomron, Israel (all other countries)