



Spring has arrived ... Pesah (Passover) ... flowers ... new birth ... **renewal of commitment !**



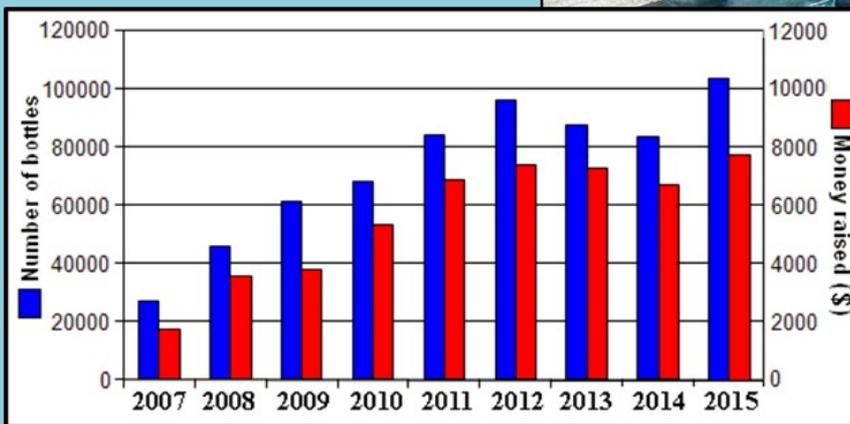
Spring scene in the Galilee



After 30 years, we had hoped that the Committee would be superfluous, but the opposite is the case. That is why **we have to renew our commitment**: new needs arise, and the general situation of the community is still far from optimal. We **strongly recommend** that you read this up-to-date article: "[The Situation of Ethiopian Jews in Israel](#)", to understand why we cannot sit back.

"Renewing commitment" is not just a slogan ! On our part we have to be open to all approaches made to our Committee, to allocate resources in accordance with their availability, and most important: **to raise the money needed**, which is what it always boils down to.

We are constantly trying to widen our donor base, and to find new ways to raise funds. As you probably know, we raise around **12-15%** of our annual needs by **recycling**, which is very time consuming. Here are volunteers from [Livnot u-Lehibanot](#) who gave



us a couple of hours this month. Last year was our best since we started, as we collected over 100,000 bottles and cans, making about 680,000 since we started 9 years ago.

You, too, are invited to renew your commitment, whether now or later in the year. Obviously we'd like you to continue donating, but **we'd also be grateful if you could publicise our activities in other ways**, whether on social media or by word-of-mouth in your family and/or community. If you would like a specific project, please [contact us](#) and we'll suggest one.

There are at present two supporters in the Safed area who make us **monthly donations** by standing order. The monthly sum is modest, but the annual sum is significant: in one case about \$290, in the other about \$380 ... just an idea !

Here are a few of our most recent expenditures:

- **\$658** for one month's **fees at a crèche** for Miri A.'s infant son. Miri, a single mother, was in a catch-22 situation: the Government gives very generous subsidies for working mothers to place their children in such crèches, but only on receipt of a pay slip to prove that they are indeed working. Miri wanted to look for work, but unless her child was looked after (her parents are very old), she couldn't do so. She is now working, so will be able to pay from her own earnings.

- **\$80** to subsidize **10 make-up lessons** for Leah K., a 4th grade student at the Ari Primary School. She suffers from Juvenile Diabetes, and often misses classes. The total cost of these lessons is \$133, but her parents pay the other \$53. It is our policy, wherever possible, to only pay part of the sum needed, both to make sure that the recipients share the burden and to preserve their self respect.
- **\$415** subsidy for **high school fees** for Alamenesh T. (her parents pay the remaining \$440); she goes to the Ort High School in Hazor, near Safed, which has an excellent reputation:
Had Alamenesh gone to school in Safed, where the family are resident, she would have qualified for a municipal scholarship, but as it is, if we didn't help in Hazor (as we have in past years), she wouldn't be able to get this standard of education.
- Occasionally we are approached by one of the three Absorption Centers in Safed, to help out in cases where there are insufficient funds available from the Jewish Agency or the Ministry of Absorption. Yunis (right), 7 years old, was diagnosed with Juvenile Diabetes, after six weeks hospitalization during which his father had to give up work, whether to be by his son's bedside or to help his wife out with their four month old baby. Mr. Maru Zaoudo, the Center's director, and Mr. Arie Edri, the social worker, asked us to make a **grant of \$530**, while the Absorption Center would supplement this with a further \$265. Yunis is now back in school and his father is back at work, so no further support is needed.
 
- **\$510** for urgently needed **dental treatment** for Tzahai G., a new immigrant still in one of Safed's Absorption Centers. She and her husband and 6 children came to Israel in February 2014. Tzahai and her husband work at whatever jobs come their way, and they could never pay the \$870 needed; the Absorption Center undertook to pay a further \$255, and the family paid the outstanding \$105.
- **\$135** for **dental treatment** for Abraham B., being **the first of 12 payments totaling \$1605**, of which he has undertaken to repay \$530 from his wages.
- **\$185** - Israeli **citizenship registration fee** for S.B. She and her husband, Davit (David), and their 3 children find it very hard to make ends meet, but **he contributes to our funds**: he works as a maintenance man at Meron (the grave of Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai), where there are thousands of visitors; he collects cans and bottles for [our recycling program](#).
- We subsidize two 10th Grade boys at the Amit Yeshivah High School here in Safed: for Avishai W. we pay **\$53 a month** (\$425 for the year, this being just over 40% of the **school fees**, as both his parents work), while for Idan T. the sum is **\$86 a month** (\$690 p.a., almost 70%, as his mother is on her own). The school principal, Rabbi Yoram Rosenbaum (right), says of Avishai that he is a studious, hard-working boy of high principles; Idan sets an example to the whole school: not only is he an excellent student, specializing in math and physics, but he is also has taken on the responsibility of being a group leader in the local [Bnei Akiva](#) branch. We are happy to see that our funds are supporting such fine future citizens.
 

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We are very anxious to widen our list of supporters, so if you have family, friends or acquaintances who you think would like to share in this great *mizva*, then **please recruit them !** Similarly, if you know of synagogue or community funds which might be available, please let us know and we will apply to the trustees.

This form can be printed out separately:

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