

The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed

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There's nothing new under the sun ... or as we say in the Haggadah:

שְׁבָב־דָּוָר וְדוֹר עוֹמְדִים עָלֵינוּ לְכַלּוֹתֵנוּ, וְהַקְדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא
מְצִילֵנוּ מֵיָדָם:

But in every generation they rise against us to destroy us; and the Holy One, blessed be He, saves us from their hand!



There is only one solution to the Middle East problem...
the annihilation and destruction of the Jewish state.

How did Esther and Mordechai cope, and how should we ?



And Haman said to king Ahasuerus: 'There is a certain people **scattered abroad and dispersed** among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom; and their laws are diverse from those of every people; neither keep they the king's laws; therefore it doesn't profit the king to suffer them. If it please the king, **let it be written that they be destroyed !**

By unity (the antidote to Haman's description) !

Then Esther told them to answer Mordechai: 'Go, **gather together all the Jews** that are present in Shushan ...'

By mutual support !

They should make them days of feasting and gladness, and of **sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.**

Your aid in the past, and hopefully in the future, is a present-day expression of the unity and mutual support that will enable us, with God's help, to outlive all those who wish to harm us !

Fund Raising Facts

Great news !

The Trustees of the [Sobell Foundation](#) have made us a **three year grant of £5000 (\$6200) a year !** In the next three years (2017, 2018, 2019) we plan to continue subsidizing (as we have done to date):

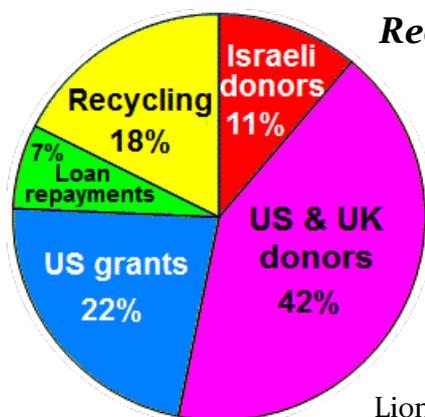
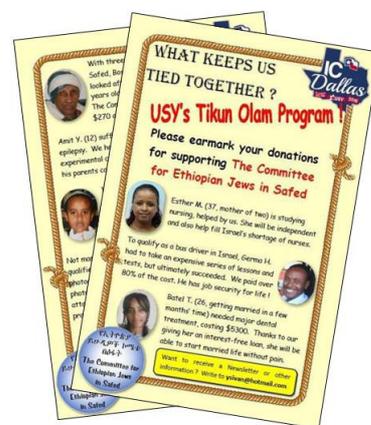
- dental and medical treatment,
- tertiary education and professional training,
- secondary education
- acquisition of household appliances and repairs.

Thanks to P.E.F.

For the last 17 years the Trustees of [P.E.F.](#) have given us very generous, **unsolicited** grants (for the past 6 years: **\$10,000 a year**). This has been in the order of 20% of the total money raised each year. So many members of our community would have had to go without, had it not been for this support.

Thanks to United Synagogue Youth

Their [Tikun Olam Program](#) has given us generous support for nearly 20 years. The 2016 grant was to fund our **interest-free loan program**. This grant was funded in part by the [Milburn USY](#). In order to encourage other chapters to ear-mark donations for specific causes, at USY's suggestion we printed a flyer (right) for distribution at their [2016 Convention](#) in Dallas. We'll keep you informed as to how successful the flyer was ...



Recycling

2016 was our best year ever, with over 109,000 cans, plastic and glass bottles recycled. As you can see from the chart (left), this is a significant source of revenue (a detailed [Financial Report](#) is attached). It is also remarkable how many private people and commercial enterprises in Safed and elsewhere are happy to collect on our behalf.

A legacy

Listed amongst the 2016 donors is a **\$5000** share in the legacy of the late Lionel Okun, who we wrote about in the [Rosh HaShana 2016 Newsletter](#).

The most frequent donor

Apart from two Israelis who made monthly contributions by banker's order, Mr. Richard Danso must be singled out for making no fewer than **seven** separate donations in the course of 2016, not to mention a further **four** in the first two months of 2017. He, and other family members who also contribute, are religious Christians living in the UK who feel that the welfare of the Jewish people is also their responsibility.

Donation in kind

Ms. Batya Fulcher is another Christian well-wisher from the UK. She knitted **eleven scarves** for new immigrant children in one of the Absorption Centers. They arrived just in time for Hannuka, and were enthusiastically received !



Our faithful supporters:

We received donations from the following in the course of 2016 and 2017 to date. Our apologies if we have inadvertently omitted anyone.

Abuhav Synagogue (Mr. Meir Carsenti), Safed, Israel
 Ms. Yvonne Akonnor, London, UK
 Mr. & Mrs. David J. Bardin, Washington, DC
 Ms. Yael Ban, Har Haluz, Israel
 Ms. Chaya Barth, Safed, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. José Benarroch, Jerusalem, Israel
 Ms. Shani Bendor, Hashmonaim, Israel
 Mrs. Sara Devorah Bilerman, Safed, Israel
 Dr. Shimshon Bitnun, Bar Yohai, Israel
 Prof. & Mrs. Laurie Blendis, Jerusalem, Israel
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert J. Bloomberg, Tempe, AZ
 Ms. Natasha Boateng, London, UK
 Prof. David & Mrs. Felicia Citron, Jerusalem, Israel
 Mr. Terry Clapp, Napa, CA
 Mr. Benjamin Cohen, Safed, Israel
 Mr. Haim & Mrs. Rivka Cohen, Jerusalem, Israel
 Ms. Rivka Cohen, Mattat, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Yossi Cohen & family, Safed, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Moshe Cohn, Jerusalem, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Danso, Carshalton, UK
 Mrs. Doreen Feigenbaum, Raanana, Israel
 Ms. Roslyn Feigenbaum, Forest Hills, NY
 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Flatauer, Safed, Israel
 Mr. Thomas J. Fleisch, Mamaroneck, NY
 Mrs. Anna Folberg, Rosh Pina, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Friedman, Miami, FL
 Mr. Jay Glushien, Longmeadow, MA
 Mrs. Lillian Goldberg, Sarasota, FL
 Mr. & Mrs. Colin Goldstein, London, UK
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Herzog, Los Angeles, CA
 Robert Klein Charitable Fund, Silver Springs, MD
 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Knoppow, W. Bloomfield, MI
 Mr. Edward Kopelowitz, New York, NY
 Barry Landy Charitable Trust, Cambridge, UK

Dr. Allan & Dr. Alicia Levine, Valley Village, CA
 Mr. & Mrs. Avraham Loewenthal, Safed, Israel
 Mrs. Judith Luder, Rosh Pina, Israel
 Ms. Naomi Markowitz, Jerusalem, Israel
 Mr. Yehuda (Josh) Markowitz, Tiberias, Israel
 Mrs. Rachel Menses, Safed, Israel
 Dr. John & Dr. Daisy Merey, West Palm Beach, FL
 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Newman, London, UK
 Mr. David Nosrati, Tarzana, CA
 The late Mr. Lionel Okun (legacy), Long Beach, CA
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Olevitch, St. Louis, MO
 Mrs. Phyllis Oresky, Youngstown, OH
 Mr. Alan Portnoi, Netanya, Israel
 Mrs. Laurie Rappeport, Safed, Israel
 Prof. Mary Rudolf, Rosh Pina, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Sack, Amuka, Israel
 Mr. Alan Sacks, Dresher, PA
 Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Saltzman, Silver Springs, MD
 Dr. & Mrs. Benjamin Schuraytz, Valley Village, CA
 Mrs. Anne Sendor, Safed, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Sher, Jerusalem, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Seri, Jerusalem, Israel
 Ms. Avital Sivan, Tekoa, Israel
 Mr. & Mrs. Howard Spielberg, Richmond, VA
 Mr. & Mrs. Ephraim Stark, Safed, Israel
 Mrs. Susan Steinberg, Livermore, CA
 Dr. & Mrs. Yitzhak Stern, Safed, Israel
 Mrs. Elizabeth K. Teitelbaum, Brooklyn, NY
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Trabelsi, Safed, Israel
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wolf, Clifton, NJ
 Mrs. Shoshana Yehuda, Safed, Israel
 Ms. Julie Zellat, Brooklyn, NY
 Ms. Hana Zmiri, Jerusalem, Israel

Several donors made more than one contribution during the year, but they have been considered as one combined donation from that donor.

March 2017: activities in the pipeline

Bar Mitzva

Two requests came on the same day:

- Mimi A.'s son will be *bar mitzva* next month. Mimi used to live in Safed, is now settled in Kiryat Yam where she works in a factory. She's also paying for Omer to learn to read the *parasha*, so we undertook to pay for the *tefillin* (**just over \$400**).
- Emuna is a divorcee with five children, who works in a local shop. Her employer, Michael Trabelsi, is always very concerned as to her welfare (as he is on behalf of all Ethiopian Jews), and he approached us to help with her son's bar mitzvah celebration. We paid a **similar sum** for Shai Nahman's *tefillin*.



Theory lessons for a driving license



A driving license is a great asset when it comes to looking for employment. Talya Dadon, a social worker at the "Meron" Absorption Center, asked if we could help pay for the theory course which is a prerequisite for eventually taking the driving test. There are **18 young people who would like to take the course** which consists of 12 to 15 hour-long lessons with a very experienced instructor. The total cost will be \$1900, of which the students will pay \$1350, and we will pay **\$550**.

Subsidizing programs for young children

Sigal Y. has three children aged 6, 3 and 2. She works as a part-time cleaner, bringing home about \$400 a month, and the National Insurance Institute brings this up to the minimum wage (\$680 a month). For two of the children she pays \$68 a month for an after-school program, and for the youngest \$270 a month for day care – in other words, these items use up half her income, but if the children were not in these frameworks, she could not go out to work. Another Ethiopian volunteer, Mr. Atnau Wassa, brought her to our attention, and we are now paying her a **subsidy of \$163 a month**.

Care giver for Bosana

In [our last Newsletter](#) we wrote that we planned to contribute towards the wages of a **caregiver** for 92 year-old Bosana K. Zenia, a Filipina lady, has now started working with her, and we pay **\$270 a month** out of her total wage (\$1510 a month, of which the National Insurance Institute pays \$700). There were some language problems to start with, but Bosana's granddaughter Simha stepped in as the Amharic-English interpreter, in part thanks to the extra English lessons which we helped pay for a few years ago (see the [September 2102 Newsletter](#)).



A few dollars can give a lot of pleasure ...



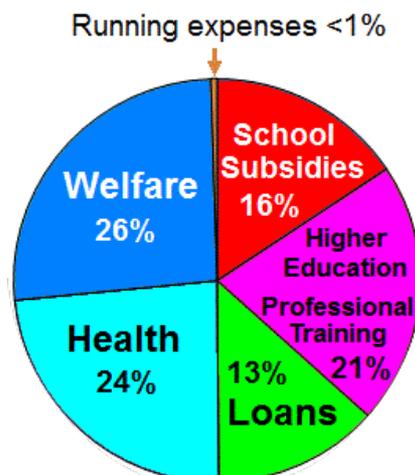
At the time of writing, schools are organising their Purim Fun Fairs: food stalls, competitions, lotteries, games and so on. The Amit High School in Hazor, near Safed, has a group of Ethiopian new immigrant children from the Absorption Center in Ayelet HaShahar. Mrs. Michal Rahat was concerned that if they came to the school Fun Fair their parents wouldn't give them money to join in, so she asked us if we could give them a small sum so that they would not feel left out. \$2.70 each was enough, and **18 children** were able to really enjoy themselves for a **total outlay of \$50**.

The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed

Registration No. 58-008-783-1

Financial Report 1.1.2016 - 31.12.2016 (all figures in \$US)

		31/12/15	31/12/16
Opening cash balance		518	446
Closing cash balance		447	3782
Donations			
	From Israeli contributors	5323	5363
	From contributors abroad (mainly P.E.F.)	25600	20524
	From P.E.F. special grants	10000	10000
	From Tikun Olam Fund (USCJ)	1000	450
Loan repayments		7832	3225
Recycling		7575	8451
<u>Total income</u>		<u>57330</u>	<u>48013</u>
Expenditure			
	Grants to university & college students (2)	4942	2820
	Professional training (3)	3597	6553
	Subsidies & enrichment for secondary school children (5)	2010	2048
	Extra tuition for secondary school children (2)	5705	2777
	Subsidies for primary school children (12)	1077	1591
	School trips, extra-curricular activities (1)	1680	112
	Subsidies for nursery & pre-nursery school children (1)	1868	479
	Religious needs (gravestone, wedding, synagogue chairs) (3)	995	684
	Loans (6)	6898	5901
	Help for the needy (26)	6367	8627
	Home repairs, replacement of appliances, etc. (5)	5309	2326
	Dental treatment (7)	5633	7745
	Other health needs (8)	8383	2791
	Postage, office supplies and fund-raising	80	74
	Bank charges	372	149
<u>Total expenditure</u>		<u>54916</u>	<u>44677</u>
<u>Income – expenditure</u>		<u>2414</u>	<u>3336</u>



USA donors

- can send a check to **P.E.F.** using [the form below](#) (this way there are no commissions) *or*
- can wire a contribution to **P.E.F.** (see [below](#)) *or*
- can make an on-line donation at [Israel Gives](#).

UK donors

- can make an on-line donation at [Israel Gives](#) or at [UK Toremet](#) (their charges are lower)

Israel donors

- can send a check to us by post (address given in [P.E.F. form below](#)), *or*
- can deposit a check directly in our account: **Bank Leumi (10), Branch 975, a/c 2814303**. Please notify us that a payment has been made ! *or*
- can make an on-line donation at [Israel Gives](#).

Wire transfer details:

Israel Discount Bank
 511 Fifth Avenue
 New York, NY 10017
 ABA# 026009768
 Account # 03-2693-2

Account name: **PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.**

If you send a wire contribution, we strongly advise you to ask your bank to include a memo on the transfer slip that identifies you as the donor.

In addition, you **MUST** advise PEF (preferably to info@pefisrael.org) in writing of the exact amount that you intend to transfer, your **recommendation** for **The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed** (58-008-783-1), and when the transfer was made, so that they can identify the transfer when it comes in.

Please include your current mailing address in order that PEF may identify and acknowledge your contribution when it is received.

This form can be printed out separately (please distribute extra copies to potential donors !):

To: P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.

630 Third Avenue, #1501

New York, NY 10017

Date: _____

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ * with a recommendation to your trustees that it be used for **The Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed, Anilewicz 5, 1340003 Safed, Israel** (Registration no. **58-008-783-1**)

* Gifts are US tax deductible if of at least \$25 and made payable to **P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.**

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip code: _____