

ICEJ Aid

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN EMBASSY JERUSALEM



September 2010 Email Update

LOVE IS THE rEVOLUTION

“Love is the Revolution” expresses the hope of ICEJ AID to break down barriers built over generations between Christians and Jewish people by showing Christian love and care in a practical way. Come see us at the ICEJ AID booth during the Feast of Tabernacles this year in Jerusalem. Learn how you can be involved!

Spotlight on:

Man U'Maor

Modern day sustaining manna and light in the desert of poverty are what Avner Avraham, director of Man U'Maor, (Manna and Light) is offering to those in need in Maale Adumim located on the outskirts of Jerusalem. A man of faith with a big heart, Avner and his wife Maggie began to help those in need in their community. Operating out of their home, they have quietly advocated for and aided the poor surrounding them for the past 18 years.



Monthly and Jewish festive food distributions include food baskets for immigrants, single parent and broken families. Today, over 75 families receive essential aid, without which they would not be able to make ends meet.

ICEJ AID has been privileged to partner with Man U'Maor. This year our staff lent extra hands to prepare richly filled food baskets with meat and other basic food items required to make a celebratory meal.



Rosh HaShana Relief for Immigrants

One family benefiting from our aid this year emigrated from Ethiopia four years ago. During their trek through the Sudanese desert, the father died, leaving his wife and 5 children. While waiting to make aliyah, the mother remarried a non Jewish man and became pregnant. The husband wasn't permitted to immigrate with the family. Once in Israel, the family was given some money and an a place to live. However, it was very difficult for the mother to start a new life pregnant and alone.

Today the family is steeped in emotional strain and lives in deep poverty. One son, now 15, was put in a boarding school due to involvement in petty crime. The ongoing emotional and food support this single mother receives are a true life saver for her. To donate to the ICEJ AID, please go to www.icej.org/donate.php



Buds for the Future

A merry little song of "Ring around the Rosie" ending with everyone collapsing amidst children's laughter and calls to "do it again" belied the setting. Surrounding this happy scene, mother's observed from chairs lining the hospital corridor of the children's ward where their children daily battle serious illness and contend to overcome disability.



These children, for whom a long hospital stay is necessary, require aid in maintaining their school work. ICEJ Aid partnered with Nitzanim L'Atid (Buds for the Future) to provide computer programs for children at the Dana Schneider Children's Hospital. Online computer programs brought straight to their bedside meet the need as well as provide games to distract them from painful treatment programs. As one mother said, "The only smile I see on my child's face during this difficult time is while she is sitting in front of the computer. Of course I'm happy that she's learned her letters and numbers – but that's not nearly as important to me as the smile."

Illness reaches across the Israeli population to Jewish and Arab children both rich and poor. Just as disease doesn't discriminate, neither do the medical personnel or program coordinators. Indeed, when ICEJ AID staff visited, we were amazed to see children from Gaza choosing to learn Hebrew in this program. The young girls were gleefully showing mastery of the Hebrew alphabet to a loving parent looking on.

As one educator noted, "I love seeing how children from very different backgrounds –who would never interact with one another normally – work together and help one another solve problems on the computer. I just hope that this can also serve as a bridge in our culture."

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