



October 2012 Haifa Home Update

An International Flavour

Tulips from Holland, hand embroidered silk shawls from China, handmade woollen socks and mittens from Finland. These were among the gifts of love received recently by the residents of the Home for Holocaust Survivors in Haifa!



And a tulip and some loving attention was just what Karol needed! It lifted him out of the depression he has been feeling lately due to the diabetes related amputation of his leg.

In the first week of October during the Jewish celebration of Succot, the ICEJ hosted 'The Feast of Tabernacles'. This annual event draws thousands of visitors from all over the world and the exotic gifts which blessed and delighted the Home's residents were from some of those visitors.

some generous of the Home groups. The staff member these people it gave them.



However it was not only these gifts, cheerful practical assistance, and monetary donations for the upkeep which were received from the ICEJ survivors kept telling the ICEJ AID present how much love and joy radiated and the wonderful feeling

Home Director Shimon Sabag showed guests a recent acquisition, a new Torah Scroll. Its case had been designed by a Holocaust Survivor to represent the Six Million. This joyous season of Succot includes a day of rejoicing over the Torah which is expressed by dancing with the Scrolls. And so visitors and residents began to sing and dance together. A visiting relative of a resident, started to cry. Something of the love she observed deeply touched her and she exclaimed how thankful she was to the ICEJ for enabling such a home to be a reality.



Please note that visits to the Home MUST be coordinated through ICEJ AID, icejaid@icej.org

Tears and Joy:

Esti was dressed in black. It was exactly 70 years ago that her father was murdered by the Nazis and the memory still brought tears to her eyes. She always remembered the day because it happened before the usually joyous Jewish observance of Simchat Torah/The Rejoicing of the Law.

Birthdays are a monthly happening at the Home! Everyone who has a birthday in that month is honoured at an evening meal in a party-like atmosphere.

Eugene recently celebrated his 87th birthday with family members present and shared the occasion with Genia, Benjamin and Shula. Eugene had spent his teenage years in a forced labour camp in Romania, ending the war years broken both physically and mentally.



Birthday Celebration

Emergency Care

In 1941 in the city of Yasi in Romania, there was a systematic massacre by the Romanian police and German soldiers resulting in the death of at least 8,000 Jews. More than 5,000 surviving Jews were loaded onto overcrowded, sealed 'death trains' that drove slowly back and forth across the country in the hot summer weather until most of their passengers died of hyperthermia, thirst, or infection and blood loss. Shlomo aged about 14 years, survived the massacre and then endured one of these trips in hell.

When the Germans invaded the Ukraine, Lev was 9 years old. His father died in a work camp and his mother and the three boys lived in hiding. Lev was the oldest brother and at night would go out and try to get some food from the houses, many times being caught and suffering beatings so severe he could hardly walk because of the pain. After six months of this life they were found and sent to a work camp. Every few months they were transported from camp to camp by train, not knowing where they were going. Lev refused to cry in spite of his extreme fear in order to be strong for his younger brothers and mother.

Lev and Shlomo have both found themselves in difficult circumstances in their older age and have been given emergency accommodation in the Haifa Home. ICEJ has recently provided the funding to finalize the purchase of an upper floor apartment of a nearby building to provide such emergency care to Holocaust Survivors that are either living on the street or are in extremely difficult circumstances. Situations such as Lev and

Shlomo's are requested by the Social Welfare Services.



Lev and Shlomo have found shelter but around them the renovations continue.

Urgent funding is required for this project.

Please consider joining our Family of Adopters whose ongoing support is a vital contribution to the maintenance of this wonderful care facility.

Please consider giving to the emergency accommodation project.

As long as Holocaust Survivors are here and in need, we need to continue to ask for your help.

For further information write to icejaid@icej.org

For general donations please visit our website at www.icej.org and navigate to ICEJ AID Haifa Home project to donate on line.