



**REBUILDING
SHATTERED
LIVES.**

Year End Wrap-Up

Cross Israel Hike a Major Success

The 2009 Cross Israel Hike through the Southern Negev was an outstanding success. 56 Canadian hikers and six survivors of terror attacks in Israel trekked together over challenging terrain and spectacular scenery, creating memories and forging bonds to last a lifetime. Many participants said that this trip was life changing — a unique opportunity to connect to the land and the people of Israel.

On the final day, hikers began at 4:30 a.m., following a single light as they made their ascent to the top of Mount Tzafachot to watch the sun rise over the Gulf of Eilat. In a poignant scene, One Family hero Etti Elimelach, who lost her son in a terror attack, stood at the peak of the mountain to face the sunrise. Facing the photo of her late son on the back of her tee shirt, everyone felt the deep significance of their journey.

In total, our incredible team raised over \$200,000. These donations will help to fund a bereaved parents retreat in Israel as well as send children to a One Family Fund Summer Camp, two important programs that provide therapy and support to terror victims in Israel.

Many of our hikers have already confirmed their participation in this year's **Cross Israel Hike in the Golan Heights, set for October 17-21, 2010**. For further information or to register, please visit www.onefamilyfundhike.com. [Link to Video](#). **Attend our Information Night for the 2010 hike, Tuesday, February 23, 7:30 pm at Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook Avenue**



Painting a House in Jerusalem

By Bob Watson

Four volunteers from Canada had the opportunity to help paint the apartments of two people who had been impacted by terrorism in Jerusalem. This was a wonderful hands-on experience that brought us closer to two victim families. In both cases we were welcomed into their homes with kindness and hospitality.

In an apartment in southern Jerusalem, only about ten minutes from Bethlehem, we met the first family: the father, Natan, his wife Helen, and their beautiful kids, ten year old Noam, nine year old Or and Elinor, age 6.

Natan had been injured in a bus that was blown up by a suicide bomber in 2003. He suffered critical injuries and required over two years of reconstructive surgery. As a result he hasn't been able to work for six years.

The family was immensely grateful for our efforts and we were deeply touched by their expressions of gratitude. A couple of days we worked late and they invited us to join them for supper. When we left, Natan touched our hearts with the words, "You are not friends – you are family."

The second family, Avraham and Zehavia and their three children had lost Dana, a nineteen year old daughter, to terrorism. They welcomed us with meals at their kitchen table and despite the language barriers we really felt like part of their family. Thank you, Sharon, an OFF volunteer for helping us to understand each other despite our lack of Hebrew.

I strongly encourage volunteers to go to Israel and give some of their time to One Family to help in a direct way. The satisfaction of helping those who need your help in so many ways will be more rewarding than you can imagine.

Canadian Friends of the Israel Museum Hosts Chanukah Festivities for Terror Victims

The Canadian Friends of the Israel Museum sponsored a special day at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, on December 15th, for victims of terror and their families. 60 children and adults from Sderot saw the wonders of art come to life through workshops, guided tours and a Chanukah performance. The highlight of the program was the Chanukah candle-lighting ceremony, where Museum director James Snyder personally welcomed all in attendance.

Our heartfelt thanks to CFIM for helping to make it all possible



Photo: Lighting the Chanukah, l to r: Tali Gavish, head of the Ruth Youth Wing, IMJ, Daniel Ben-Natan, IMJ, Jane Gordon, Martin Gordon, Will Hechter, Linda Hechter, James Snyder, Director, IMJ.



KRG Youth Centre Changes Lives

The KRG Youth Centre in Jerusalem is a supportive and nurturing environment where kids who've been affected by the trauma of terrorism can congregate, enjoy activities and the therapeutic benefits of a supportive and caring staff. One of its clients, David, an 11 year old who lost his brother in a bus bombing in 2004 writes of the Centre, "It's so much fun to be there – it's great to have somewhere to go where I can just be myself and not hold anything back." Funded by KRG Children's Charities, we want to personally express our gratitude to Susan and Steven Wise for their generous support of this facility.

Reuben Lerner Summer Camp Experience

Bernie Little is working hard behind the scenes to make it possible for young victims of terror to come to camp in Canada during August 2010. As we know from past summers, the benefits of this experience have an extraordinary impact on these children. At camp they can relax, form new friendships, develop new skills and create happy memories that will last a lifetime. If you want to support this project in any way, please contact our office at **416-644-4955** or email sarah@onefamilyfund.ca.

The Latest Casualty, Rabbi Meir Avshalom Chai

On December 24, 2009, Rabbi Meir Avshalom Chai, a Torah teacher and father of 7 children, was killed in a drive-by shooting near the community of Shavei Shomrom where he lived. Rabbi Chai was a much-loved figure who loved Israel and taught Torah to young children. Rabbi Meir Avshalom Chai was buried at the Mount of Olives Cemetery in Jerusalem and is survived by his wife Elisheva, and 7 children aged 16 years to 2 months. We would like to express our heartfelt condolences to his family.



With our Deepest Gratitude to all our Donors and Supporters

2009 was a critical year for us... The number of terror victims and their families who are receiving assistance grew to over 3500 families. . At the same time, our donors and supporters have grown to over 5000 generous and caring individuals, families and businesses. We want to acknowledge and thank each and every one of you for everything you do to make life better for our Family in Israel who need our help daily to go on with their shattered lives.

We are in the process of publishing a special "Thank You" brochure and would like to include your name, with your approval. This brochure will only be circulated amongst our donors and your privacy and contact information will be respected. **If you do not wish your name to be included in our list of supporters please advise us by February 28.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gidion One Family Fund Bike Ride

The 2010 One Family Fund Bike Ride will take place on Sunday, June 6 in Lemonville, Ontario. This year we are riding in celebration of the life of Gidion Lee, a member of the Yidden on Wheels Motorcycle Touring Club (YOW) and former One Family Fund volunteer. As a model volunteer, Gidion's leadership played an integral role in helping us grow our organization. To read more about Gidion please [click here](#).

Registration for the Gidion One Family Fund Bike Ride is now open.

The deadline to register is **May 21, 2010**.

There will be lots of prizes, giveaways and fun for riders of all levels. The registration fee is \$36.00 per person. In addition, each rider must raise a minimum of \$500.

Registration includes: Coffee and breakfast before the ride, rest stop snacks, a One Family Fund cycling jersey and a chance to win great prizes.

Please join us for a wonderful 55 km late spring ride through the beautiful countryside just north of Toronto. We will ride together to raise much needed money for victims of terror and their families in Israel.

Please click here to register now!



Save the Date: Monday, August 9, 2010 One Family Fund Golf Tournament

At the spectacular Devil's Pulpit, Caledon, Ontario
To register call 416-644-4955 or email sarah@onefamilyfund.ca

One Family Fund Canada

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