



HOT NEWS

FALL 2017/WINTER 2018

THE POOR & THE HUNGRY • YOUTH AT RISK • THE ELDERLY
SPECIAL NEEDS & COMPASSIONATE CARE • COMMUNITY SERVICE
VICTIMS OF WAR, TERROR & NATURAL DISASTERS



HOT NEWS

Fall 2017/ Winter 2018

HOT is about helping **The Poor and The Hungry, The Elderly, Youth at Risk, Individuals with Special Needs, and those who need Compassionate Care, or are Victims of War Terror or a Natural Disaster.** We have helped these people, all of whom without *HOT* would have continued to suffer. We did this with 100% of the money raised going to people that needed our help. No overhead of any kind is charged to any donor's gift other than one donor who pays for all of these expenses and makes a large enough programmatic gift to "seed" all of *HOT*'s programs.

This booklet describes all of *HOT*'s current programs. For ease of reading we use **red print to emphasize our initiatives where we Help People Help Themselves** – projects where *HOT* helps people gain or regain their financial independence. We feed and clothe the poor, but realize that unless we teach them what is necessary for them to get a (new) job, they will continue in the never-ending cycle of poverty. We use **blue print to designate grants we have already made or designations you can make where our dollars are leveraged**, by having it matched with money raised by our partners. You will see opportunities to leverage YOUR gift to help the people you think have the greatest need. **We use yellow highlighting for strong emphasis.** You will see opportunities to help individuals, and in many cases, entire families, to escape the endless cycle of poverty.

In its year ended June 30, 2017, *HOT* raised \$1,104,000 from 281 donors and distributed \$1,149,000 to help people in need. Fiscal 2017 included a disastrous hurricane in Haiti (see pages 55 and 56). Fiscal 2015 included the 2014 Gaza War (see pages 53 – 54, 57). We don't know what Fiscal 2018 will bring but what we do know is that whatever it is, *HOT* will work with its partners to help those in need.

To new readers – HOW DOES *HOT* WORK?

Unlike other charities where 25, 30, 40 or in some cases as much as 50% of what you give goes to pay for the administrative and fund-raising expenses of the charity, we have a donor who, in addition to a substantial annual programmatic gift (see below), pays 100% of all *HOT*'s expenses, resulting in **100% of your gift helping people who would otherwise continue to suffer.**

Unlike other charities where your gift goes into a "pot," *HOT* encourages you to pick which specific group of people you want to help and how you want to help them: six categories to pick from, 45 projects in all. The donor referred to above seeds every project, every year. **The projects can be expanded if you want them expanded.** Unlike other charities that tell you \$100 does this, or \$1,000 does that, or \$10,000 does something else when all they are doing is giving you "illustrations," dollars given to *HOT* do not become fungible as ***HOT* directly uses what you give it, for exactly what you want it to be used for.**

HOT does not pay ANY of the overhead of ANY organization it partners with.
HOT supports sectarian and non-sectarian projects (but YOUR dollars go ONLY to where YOU tell us YOU want them to go...there is no fungibility of dollars at *HOT*).
HOT support projects in the United States, in Israel, one in Guatemala, one in Haiti, and one in Kenya.

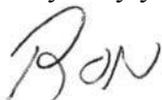
Your entire dollar goes where YOU want it to go, expanding the projects YOU choose or, if YOU prefer, the geographic region or specific category you choose.

Simply put (i) *HOT* is efficient, (ii) its due diligence is comprehensive, and (iii) it funds critical projects that in many cases have been overlooked by more traditional charities and where, but for *HOT's* grant, people with desperate needs would not be helped.

Please read through the Table of Contents and pick the area or areas most meaningful to you. But since many of our projects could have been just as easily put in another section (Does feeding a poor senior belong in The Elderly? The Poor and the Hungry? Does feeding a child belong in Youth at Risk? The Poor and the Hungry?) you may need to read the entire *HOT News* to find YOUR project.

Pages 3 to 6 contain a summary of our various activities that you may want to read before reading the in-depth description of all 45 of our projects. Starting on page 7, you will read about our partners and their wish lists of critical needs that YOU can DESIGNATE to help – letting YOU pick who YOU help and how YOU help them.

Very truly yours,



Ronald L. Gallatin
Chairman and CEO

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Summary of *HOT*'s Programs

HOT currently works with 40 partners on 45 projects helping thousands of people overcome hardships.

Many of these organizations transcend multiple areas in the way they help people. *HOT* chooses the most sensitive and efficient organizations to work with and then makes grants using either, or both of, funds specifically designated by our donors or contributions given to *HOT* without any designations, to fund their most critical projects.

We pay none of our partners' indirect or administrative expenses – we pay only the direct expenses of the program. And in all cases, if *HOT* did not make its grant, needy people would not get desperately needed help.

This 4-page summary takes you through the breadth of what *HOT* does in a more detailed way than the Table of Contents on Page 2, but you can only feel *HOT*'s projects if you read the vignettes that describe them later in this booklet.

***HOT* Emergency Assistance Funds**

One of the ways *HOT* addresses Poverty is through Emergency Aid to individuals and families where without *HOT*'s help they would be homeless, without electricity, with no refrigeration for their food, risk suffering dental disaster, and/or other horrors that befall people living from hand to mouth who have sudden, unexpected Emergency Needs.

We have 10 separate Financial Assistance Funds set up with 8 partner organizations. Each of our partners only submit cases that meet *HOT*'s requirements that they, at their own expense, (i) review the financial records of the applicant (ii) determine that the individual or family has enough ongoing income to cover their ongoing expenses, and (iii) verify that all other potential sources of funding for the emergency - family, governmental and NGO have been completely exhausted. Where possible, we require our partners to match what we give to leverage our donors' dollars.

***HOT* Emergency Aid Funds:**

- 1 - Families and Singles in Boca Raton (p. 11)
- 2 - Families and Singles in Boca Raton/Delray Beach (p. 17)
- 3 - Families, Singles and Seniors in the Northern Galilee, Israel (p. 18)
- 4 - Families, Singles and Seniors in Boynton Beach (p. 19)
- 5 - Families of Children who are Caregivers for a family member (p. 25)
- 6 - Frail Elderly in Jerusalem, Israel (p. 35)
- 7 - Seniors in New York City (p. 37)
- 8/9 - Seniors in Boca Raton (p. 38 and 39-40)
- 10 - Survivors in Northern Israel (p. 41)

HOT Continuing Financial Aid for Seniors

HOT provides Continuing Financial Aid to Seniors who have simply outlived their funds and do not get sufficient governmental aid to live with dignity. Many of the people we help in these programs are survivors of the Holocaust:

- 1 - Seniors in New York City (p. 37)
- 2 - Seniors in Boca Raton (pages 39-40)
- 3 - Holocaust Survivors in Northern Israel (p. 41)

HOT Feeds the Hungry in Different Ways

There is hunger throughout the world and *HOT* is dedicated to fighting it.

- 1 - Weekly chickens for poor families in Jerusalem, Israel (p. 7)
- 2 - Indigent families of the Israeli Border Patrol (p. 8)
- 3 - Thousands of sandwiches for hungry schoolchildren in Israel (pages 9-10)
- 4 - Weekend food for Children in Boca Raton (p. 11)
- 5 - Daily service of hot meals and distribution of food in Boca Raton (p. 11)
- 6 - Harvesting the Fields for millions of pounds of produce in Israel (p. 12)
- 7 - Feeding the hungry with meals made from leftovers from tens of thousands of institutional meals in Israel (p. 12)
- 8 - Feeding the hungry in Sderot, Israel (p. 13)
- 9 - Three Cent Meals in Kenya (p. 16)
- 10 - Food for families in cities and towns in Israel (p. 20)

HOT Fights Poverty

We help both individuals and families who do not have:

- 1 - Basic furniture (cribs, beds, etc.) and appliances - Indigent Families of the Israeli Border Patrol (p. 8)
- 2 - Water tanks for drinking water in Kenya (p. 16)

HOT Gives Scholarships

We believe the only way to stop the endless cycle of Poverty is through education.

- 1 - Giving Moms in Guatemala the opportunity to help themselves and their children (p.15)
- 2 - Migrant Workers and other Poor in Boynton Beach (p. 19)

HOT After School Programs for Immigrant Elementary School Children at Risk

We have to help the young who have language and other cultural barriers and/or no support at home after school.

- 1 - Sderot, Israel (p. 13)
- 2 - Netanya, Israel – Netanya Foundation (p. 27)
- 3 - Delray Beach (p. 28)

Helping People Help Themselves

HOT believes most poor people want to work, but they need training and they need confidence.

- 1 - Job Training and Mentoring in Boca Raton (p. 11)
- 2 - Mentoring former soldiers in Israel (p. 14)
- 3 - Twenty-four folding income in Guatemala (p. 15)
- 4 - Single Moms in Northern Israel (p. 26)

Tutoring

Not all kids are born as smart as others, and many have environmental issues and need extra help if they are going to have any chance to move forward.

- 1 - Kids in Israel (p. 20)
- 2 - Children Caregivers in Palm Beach County (p. 25)
- 3 - Children of immigrants in Delray (p. 28)
- 4 - Underprivileged kids in Washington DC (p. 29)
- 5 - Underprivileged kids in New York City (p. 30)
- 6 - Teens in Israel (p. 32)

Keeping Teens out of Trouble

Teens are at the age where they can choose the easy way (the streets), or the harder way (working towards the future). We have programs that help them work for the future:

- 1 - Netanya, Israel (p. 27)
- 2 - Delray Beach (p. 28)
- 3 - Ashkelon, Israel (p. 31)
- 4 - Jerusalem, Israel (p. 32)

Seniors

In addition to Senior Financial Aid (p. 4) there are specific goods, subsidies and services that our funding provides to hundreds of needy seniors:

- 1 - Padded Wheelchairs – USA (p. 36)
- 2 - Activities to keep their minds active in Boca Raton (p. 38)
- 3 - Transportation, Boca Raton (p. 38)
- 4 - Subsidized Home Care in Boca Raton (pages 39-40)

Holocaust Survivors

There are no words to describe the unspeakable horrors these survivors went through and what damage it did to their bodies and their minds.

- 1 - Northern Galilee, Israel (p. 41)
- 2 - Hod HaSharon, Israel (p. 42)
- 3 - South Palm Beach County (p. 43)

Therapy

Whether for PTSD, schizophrenia caused by being in one of Hitler's Camps, or any of a series of alphabet psychiatric or psychological illnesses, *HOT* supports a wide array of therapy

- 1 - Throughout Israel – Animal Assisted Therapy (p. 48)
- 2 - Losing a loved one from War and/or Terror (51/52)

Special Needs Programs

The parents of Special Needs Children have “special expenses,” sometimes starting as early as a few months after birth. *HOT* supports programs that work to help these children reach their maximum potential or at least give them some enjoyment:

- 1 - New Jersey – Equipment (p. 44)
- 2 - Martin County, Florida – Best Buddies & Dollar A Day (p. 45)
- 3 - Boca Raton – Camp (p. 46)
- 4 - A special summer camp in Israel (p. 47)
- 5 - Throughout Israel – Animal Therapy (p. 48)

Summer Camps

Summer is the time disadvantaged and vulnerable kids can get in the most trouble. We support a unique and critical camp program (see #1 in the last section of this page) and we give scholarships to needy kids through several of our other partners:

- 1 - Kids in Sderot, Israel (p. 13)
- 2 - Underprivileged Kids in DC (p. 29)
- 3 - Underprivileged Kids in New York City (p. 30)
- 4 - Throughout Israel (p. 48)

Victims of War, Terror and Natural Disasters (p. 51 -58)

8 pages describe how *HOT* on a real-time basis (1) helped Israelis (mostly in the South) cope with the many years of missiles fired at them by Hamas and then helped other Israelis (mostly in the North) deal with the reign of terror of Hezbollah’s missiles, and (2) helped those in Mississippi, Florida, New York and then New Jersey deal with the ravages of Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Wilma, and Super-Storm Sandy. Last year we helped residents of Baton Rouge deal with the aftermath of devastating floods. The story you will read on pages 55 and 56 describes our Haiti Partnership and really tells you what *HOT* is all about. *HOT* in times of crisis does not merely send money; it mobilizes within hours and, working with trusted partners, orchestrates immediate help through all the missiles and through all the storms.

Four of Our Most Important Programs Cannot be “Classified with other Programs” because of their uniqueness. All four of them require two pages to describe them.

1: Camp Sunshine (pages 49-50) in Maine for children with life-threatening diseases.

2: Bet Elazraki in Netanya, Israel is the home of more than 250 children who were placed by the court system because of their parents’ inability to take care of them (pages 23-24).

3: The Jaffa Institute in Jaffa/Tel Aviv which has expanded from a boarding school to a food bank and a training center for Moms wanting to go back into the workforce. They have Special Needs Centers and and and and... (pages 21-22). **Also, see the fence on page 22.**

4: Community Service Projects helping those in need and teaching the importance of Community Service (p. 33-34).

You have now read the summary – so much awaits you in the following pages. So many choices of how YOU can be the reason others aren’t going to have to suffer. Start with the four you just read about. Critical, critical programs. People who need YOUR help.

The Poor and The Hungry:

- **A Chicken each Week in Jerusalem (page 7)**
- **Helping Indigent Families of the Israeli Border Patrolmen (p. 8)**
- **A Sandwich a Day for Every Child in Israel (p. 9-10)**
- **Feeding the Poor, Health Clinic and Job Training in Boca Raton (p. 11)**
- **Leket – Israel’s National Food Bank (p. 12)**
- **Poverty in the Gaza-Border City of Sderot (p. 13)**
- **Helping Discharged IDF Soldiers from Disadvantaged Backgrounds (p. 14)**
- **Job Training for the Poor in Guatemala (p. 15)**
- **The Basics of All Needs in Kenya (p. 16)**
- **Hands On Tzedakah Emergency Assistance Programs**
 - **Boca Raton and Delray Beach (p. 17)**
 - **Northern Israel (p. 18)**
 - **Boynton Beach (p. 19)**
- **Volunteers Feeding the Hungry & Helping Troubled Teens in Israel (p. 20)**

A Chicken a Week in Jerusalem

Four years ago, a selfless 90-year-old woman who had spent 77 years helping others died.

For the last 45 years of her life Bracha Kapach maintained a weekly distribution of food to families in need. The families came from all over Jerusalem and were a cross-section of Israeli society; all of whom had been referred to her by the municipal social welfare department. *HOT* bought her a freezer and has supplied approximately 40 chickens, each weighing approximately 4 pounds, every week (with an additional chicken or two for the holidays) for the last twelve years. These chickens are a source of protein that is



sadly lacking from most of the recipients’ diets. Although Bracha Kapach died four years ago, her work is continuing. Her grandchildren learned the importance of helping others, and as a living memorial to their grandmother they are continuing her work. *HOT* can think of no finer memorial to a woman who spent her life helping others!

The list of hungry malnourished families continues to grow. \$511 buys a chicken a week for a new family for an entire year. Last Fall a donor had us take 9 families off the waiting list. Unfortunately, in October we will no longer have funding for these 9 families and we will go back to having 56 families on the waiting list.

***HOT* would like its donors to designate \$28,616 (in multiples of \$511) so we can give a chicken a week to each of these 56 families.**

Helping Indigent Families of the Israeli Border Patrolmen

HOT regularly supplies “basic food packages” (with special supplements for the holidays) to



60 indigent families of patrolmen and 40 indigent single members of the **Israeli Border Patrol**. What is the Border Patrol? What do they do? They are the men and women who guard Israel’s borders and prevent terrorist infiltrations.

They are the popular “targets” for the Palestinian terrorists TO STAB, TO RUN OVER WITH CARS AND TRUCKS, AND TO SHOOT.

The unmarried patrolmen we feed during their few days off each month have no relatives in Israel and/or have been identified by their Army welfare officer as being in severe financial distress. All the food for this program is purchased at or below wholesale. Volunteers prepare all the packages. The Border Patrol provides all the transportation and delivery.

In 2014, we found out from the Base Commander in Jerusalem and the unit’s Welfare Officer that there were families of Border Patrolmen who lived in apartments where **infants slept on beds** (they did not have cribs), **two (sometimes three) children shared a bed or slept on the floor**, and/or lived in **apartments where the refrigerator or range didn’t work**. In 2014, *HOT* purchased more than \$26,000, and in 2015 more than \$29,000, of cribs, beds and appliances for these families. In 2016, we spent over \$90,000 (\$125,000 including the Food Boxes), and in 2017 we **expect to spend in excess of \$135,000 on this project that helps indigent families of these brave young men and women whose families would otherwise be living in deplorable poverty. We can’t allow these families to live this way while their brother, sister, husband or wife risks his or her life every minute of every day. We can’t. We just can’t.**

Readers of the Fall 2015/Winter 2016 edition of the *HOT News* read about our meeting a young patrolman 4 days after he had been knifed in the neck and heart. I confess I was, and am, unable to relay the emotions that went through our minds at his bedside. Such courage, such pride, cannot be put in words, and certainly cannot be adequately conveyed on paper. Sadly, our June 2017 visit to the Border Patrol had no such miracle. This time a young Patrolwoman was stabbed in the Old City of Jerusalem and while the medics got to her quickly, her wounds were so massive that she couldn’t be saved. An irony here is that her family was one we had helped just a few short years ago.

How much will we be asked for before the end of 2017? For 2018? Who knows? But what we do know is that we do not have the resources to keep meeting these continuing and critical needs without donor designations. No one else is helping the families of these heroes in the way *HOT* is. **If we don’t do it nobody will. My best guess is we will need at least an additional \$75,000 (\$60,000 for furniture and appliances, \$15,000 for the food program) to expand the program to other needy families.**

This is not a Wish List – this is a Necessity List. We can’t let the families of these brave young men and women live in squalor or go to sleep hungry. We just can’t.

A Sandwich a Day for Every Child in Israel

in a country where one-third of the children live below the poverty line

This program started in 2003 when *HOT* partnered with the elderly women volunteers from the Beit Frankforter (BF) Community Center, who were at that time preparing sandwiches for about 100 children. We expanded the BF Program to 500 sandwiches and then started a partnership with **Leket Israel**, who in the 2016/2017 school year distributed the bread and fillings for between 8,000 & 8,500 sandwiches every school day. Today, we fund only Leket.

The children who need our sandwiches are from low-income families. Many are from families where one parent is sick, is unemployed, or in prison. The children are a mixture of sabras (native Israelis), and new immigrants from the Former Soviet Union, Ethiopia and South America. **For many, the sandwich is the only meal they have before dinner; for others, it is lunch and/or a supplement to a completely inadequate diet.**



Every school has to go through a screening process to become part of the program. Leket makes periodic visits to the schools to check on how the project is running and to make sure that there is no abuse of the project and that the distribution of sandwiches to the children is handled with dignity. *HOT* meets with the men and women who make the sandwiches and pack the lunches and the principals of schools in the program.

Israel has a nationwide program that is “supposed to” feed all needy children a hot lunch, BUT it is only mandatory for younger children and even then, children who are in school all day. BUT for many Israeli children school ends at 1 PM and they only get food if the municipality, or in some cases the principal of the school, decides to allocate some of the shekels they receive from the Ministry of Education for food rather than for a teacher or two and/or other parts of what is necessary to give quality education. This results in there being **tens of thousands of Israeli children who are not getting the basic nourishment necessary to concentrate on their schoolwork.**



Because the needs were greater than Leket or its donors could possibly fund, a few years ago Leket went to the municipalities and offered to supply food for the children ONLY if the school either contributed 1/3 of its cost or found someone (e.g. local businessmen) to contribute 1/3 of the cost of what is necessary to feed the needy kids.

During the 2016/2017 school year, Leket distributed between 8,000 and 8,500 sandwiches each school day to more than 121 schools in 44 cities, towns and villages in Israel. The project functions in different ways in different places. There are a number of cities where Leket only supplies the ingredients and partners with other organizations that handle making the sandwiches and supervising their distribution. Some schools receive the makings of the sandwiches, and the school staff prepares the sandwiches. There are also schools where the children make the sandwiches. Tablecloths, gloves and small bags are provided for the making and packing of the sandwiches.



The children receive a large freshly baked roll filled with hummus, cheese, chocolate spread, tahini or tuna. **At times, it is accompanied by a fruit or vegetable that comes through Leket's gleaning program (see page 12) and yogurt and milk that Leket receives as contributions due to their short shelf life. Neither *HOT* nor the municipality pay anything for what Leket gleans or receives as in-kind contributions.**



Through the years *HOT* has made more than \$2,000,000 of grants paying for more than 4,000,000 sandwiches for hungry children. Since the program began we have fed between 1,250 and 4,000 (depending on the designated giving of our donors) children every school day. **Contributions in-kind and their incredible efficiency have permitted Leket to reduce the direct cost of each sandwich to 44 cents. Using a 180-day school-year and a 44 cents cost per sandwich, in the 2017/2018 school it is anticipated to cost \$79.20 per student. This means *HOT* donors will be able to feed children for a whole school-year**

for \$52.80 with the other \$26.40 coming from, or raised by, the schools).

\$528.00 will feed ten additional children during the 2017/2018 school year, and \$5,280.00 will feed a hundred additional children. Leket's recent loss of a major contributor to this program, coupled with what was already a huge waiting list, makes designated gifts to this program critical. *HOT* hopes its donors will designate up to \$79,200 to feed 1,500 additional hungry children.



Feeding the Poor, Health Clinic and Job Training in Boca Raton



Boca Helping Hands is a volunteer-driven organization (only 12 staff members and more than 300 volunteers, several of whom are “full time” volunteers) whose mission is solving hunger and crisis situations for the most needy, and to help guide their clients cross the bridge from poverty to self-sufficiency. **They run a soup kitchen, a food pantry, supply meals to the homebound, provide limited financial**

assistance, and job training, and mentoring. They work at providing solutions to hunger and poverty in assisting low-income families, the elderly and the homeless. **In 2016 BHH held classes training participants for jobs as Home Care Aides, Truck Drivers and in the Catering Industry. More than 50% of their “graduates” are now employed fulltime.** The Food Center is open 6 days a week and in addition to serving 1,300 hot meals each week, BHH also gives out 5,000 pantry bags (some of which are delivered directly to the homebound using Health Department approved coolers funded by *HOT*) each month.



Over the years, *HOT* has made major grants to enable BHH to purchase (1) a freezer for the Food Center, (2) a van, (3) a walk-in cooler see left, (4) a freight elevator see upper right (5) an air conditioner for the kitchen (6) a refrigerated truck, see below (7) a forklift, (8) a Hydraulic Scissors Dock, see below (9) computers for the job mentoring program We have also (10) set up an Emergency Aid Fund which, similar to *HOT's* other Financial Aid Funds, can only be used if all other sources of potential funding have been exhausted. (11) **has made numerous successful challenge grants,**

filling backpacks with weekend food for hungry children, and (12) funded the purchase of an X-ray machine for their dental clinic.

Their current wish list includes:

- **BHH has 2017/2018 funding for 1,360 of the 1,500 children in their backpack program but needed \$14,725 in multiples of \$105.18 to fill 140 additional backpacks. The full cost is \$6.01 per backpack or \$210.35 per child for the entire school year, but *HOT* donors only need give half as *HOT* will use your designated funds to keep making challenge grants. BHH will find us a partner to pay the other half. LEVERAGE.**
- **\$5,000 to repair a currently unusable truck**



Leket – Israel’s National Food Bank

In addition to its Sandwich Program (pages 9 and 10), **Leket** “rescues” food from more than 300 large caterers, hotels, corporate cafeterias, and IDF bases, and distributes it to community centers for the elderly, soup kitchens and schools for youth at risk. AND it utilizes thousands of volunteers who “glean” the fields (pick fruit and vegetables from farms where the owners fulfill their biblical obligation to donate part of their produce to people in need).



Leket also rescues excess food from more than 1,000 food producers. In 2016, it collected and distributed more than 38,000,000 pounds of food to more than 195 charities and food banks in Israel. Leket has warehouses strategically located where they can refrigerate and quickly distribute (i) the fruits and vegetables picked by their more than 50,000 volunteers (including visitors to Israel who work for a morning or afternoon), (ii) rescued prepared food, and (iii) short dated packaged food products contributed by stores and manufacturers. Leket also runs programs helping hundreds of NGO’s to better understand proper nutrition.

HOT has made grants to Leket to purchase a tractor, forklifts, an automated produce sorting machine, packing crates, a 4x4 for the fields, refrigeration units, an automatic door to ensure constant temperature in refrigeration areas increasing the shelf life of produce, and much



much more to help the Israeli Soup Kitchens and Food Banks that Leket serves. **All of these grants went through a rigorous analysis to satisfy *HOT* that the increased production resulting from our grants would be a multiple of the grants. A refrigerated van that we funded last year brings meals from a hotel, a corporate cafeteria, Police Headquarters,**

and Border Patrol cafeterias to a “Last Chance High School,” to a soup kitchen that feeds the poor, and delivers food to the homebound. The van delivers 7,300 meals a month valued at \$5 per meal or \$438,000 of meals per year. *HOT*’s \$40,000 matched grant produced an 11-1 return in just the van’s first year of use.



HOT also funded a \$30,226 forklift to replace a 12-year-old forklift that was continually breaking down. Leket estimates that the efficiencies of the newer model and avoidance of downtime will permit \$130,000 of food to be distributed annually.

Leket’s current needs are

- **\$30,226 for a second new forklift that Leket estimates will also increase distributions by \$130,000. Another 4-1 projected first year return.**
- **\$40,000 for a replacement 4x4 truck in the north.**
- **\$45,000 for a 4x4 truck and trailer for a coordinator of an area in the south where Leket feels the time is right to make substantial inroads in penetration.**

Poverty in The Gaza-Border City of Sderot



Sderot is a city (24,000 residents) on the Israeli border with Gaza, within easy range of every rocket, mortar and missile fired by Hamas – over 13,000 from 2001 to 2016. Sderot was once a growing town, but with its proximity to the Gaza border, both industry and many of its wealthier citizens have moved to “safer” parts of Israel.

HOT has been working for many years with **Reut Sderot**, an organization that helps the young, families, and the elderly. *HOT* and its donors have paid for renovating bomb shelters so after-school programs could use them. We have paid for food

for the hungry (about 30% of the residents of Sderot are regulars at the social welfare office). We have paid for summer day camp for kids whose parents work and otherwise would be left at home or on the streets. Over the years we have (i) created and expanded programs in their Daycare Center for At-Risk Children, Early Childhood Daycare Center, and Community Center and (ii) annually have given camp scholarships to ensure that Reut’s camp program (which is subsidized by the City) includes as many children as possible. We have made more than a hundred separate grants to Reut over the last eleven years.



Prior to the Summer of 2014 war, *HOT* made grants for children to go to summer camp, for equipment for daycare centers and sun-protective tents that were placed over play areas where kids participate in special afterschool programs, and **partnered with another organization to purchase three industrial size freezers for Reut**. We paid for a coordinator for Reut’s Emergency Response Team and for part of the renovation of an existing building that Reut uses as an Education Center for learning-disabled children. But then came the summer. **Thousands of rockets aimed at, or over, Sderot**. When their flame was spotted on ignition the sirens started and gave the residents only **14 seconds to make it to the bomb shelter**. *HOT* was there, on the phone almost every day, making almost \$100,000 (see page 57) in grants to equip shelters and pay for food, games for kids, fire extinguishers, respite day and overnight trips, texting plans, animal assisted therapy, first aid training, and more. We have paid to reinforce gates and doors to buildings where Reut takes care of young children. Most recently, *HOT* partially funded the purchase of the furniture and equipment for a new “safe” building funded by the Ministry of Defense and the City, that will house a daycare facility run by Reut.

Wish list:

- **\$2,624 for a two-day cultural and recreational trip for 18 girls from underprivileged families**
- **\$16,665 for a new afterschool therapeutic center**
- **\$16,906 for holiday food vouchers for 170 families @ \$99 per family**

Helping Discharged IDF Soldiers from Disadvantaged Backgrounds

Every year, approximately 1,200 soldiers from disadvantaged backgrounds are discharged from the IDF only to return to their high-risk environments, and have difficulties transitioning back to civilian life.



Many do not have a home to return to or family upon whom they can rely. They return to the social, emotional and financial challenges of their old lives. **Amit LaDerech (“A Friend Alongside”)** helps these former soldiers at a critical juncture in their lives.

A couple of inspiring stories: Mor was discharged from the army with medical issues and did not have a high school diploma. “A Friend Alongside” helped him navigate the civilian medical bureaucracy and finish high school. In addition, Mor is going to start studying Social Work in college this fall.

Nikita had a criminal record, no high school diploma and no place to call home. A Friend Alongside worked with him and mentored him in different areas. As a result, Nikita was able to expunge his criminal record, find a job and receive his high school diploma. Today, Nikita studies towards his law degree and volunteers with youth at risk.

“A Friend Alongside” integrates these former soldiers from disadvantaged backgrounds into civilian life by strengthening their personal skills and abilities which helps them become contributing members of society. “A Friend Alongside” helps these former soldiers attain stable employment, higher education, confidence and self-realization by mentoring them, guiding them, and helping them with seminars and scholarships.



HOT made its first grant in June 2017 to finance the training of 15 additional mentors to guide the former soldiers. There is no cookie cutter way to successfully mentor former soldiers with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Each mentor is taught to recognize the uniqueness of the former soldier’s needs and are in touch with their mentees on a day to day basis to help them gain the tools to integrate into civilian life.

***HOT* would like to assist “A Friend Alongside” in their efforts. Please consider:**

- **\$5,714 for four leadership workshops for the former soldiers (for a total of 40 former soldiers)**
- **\$7,920 for a part time social worker**
- **\$10,777 to train the mentors**

Job Training for the Poor in Guatemala



Mercado Global (“MG”) is succeeding in its mission of helping people help themselves. It supplies education, market access, and the opportunity to escape a level of poverty that none of us can possibly imagine. MG epitomizes *HOT*’s efforts to leverage its funds and teach people to help themselves.

MG gives rural native women in Guatemala, a country where ¾ of the indigenous population lives on under \$2 a day and more than ½ live on less than \$1.25 per day, the tools and skills to support themselves and their families by training them to be successful artisans and entrepreneurs. MG forms Artisan Co-Ops and arranges sales to international companies such as J Crew and Levi Strauss; where the artisans receive their pay based on their individual production. The co-ops’ “profits from sales” and contributions to MG are used to teach business and financial literacy, nutrition and leadership programs. The women use their increased “wages” which average \$12 per day (or six times what ¾ of the indigenous population lives on) to pay for books and school supplies for their children.

13 years ago, after completing a beaded jewelry course that *HOT* paid for, these women were able to produce beaded eyeglass necklaces for a major eyewear company in the U.S. Through this order, women earned 12 times more per day than they were previously earning. The women used the additional income to buy shoes, school materials and more nutritious food for their children. Over the years we have made more than 50 grants including (i) paying instructors to teach the women different skill sets in ceramics, sewing and weaving (ii) funding loan programs where the women borrow money to purchase sewing machines and repay their loans with part of the incremental income they receive from the increased production from the machine. **Most of these loans have been fully repaid and re-loaned, further leveraging our donor’s gifts,** (iii) paying for the ground transportation and supplies for a Case Western Medical Team that taught the Artisan Communities the importance of nutrition, sanitary procedures, clean drinking water, and the basics of 20th and 21st century medicine, and (iv) Emergency Assistance Program used for dire, one-time personal crisis’s.

Every grant we have made to MG has had an immediate impact on the artisans and their families. Health, Schoolbooks, and Food – what could be more important???

MG’s current wish list includes:

- **\$3,465 for Pap smears and other testing for 185 women**
- **\$9,388 for new technical courses that will teach the artisans additional sewing and weaving skills.**



The Basics of All Basics in Kenya



Africa? Not the easiest place to find a trusted partner, but we are excited that we have found **Matanya's Hope ("MH")**, a non-profit dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty in Kenya. MH offers educational sponsorships for children in need and assists by donating items critical to their survival.

The U.S. staff of MH is made up primarily of volunteers. Its Board is truly committed with each of its members sponsoring at least one child in school.

More than just helping to improve lives, **designations to MH can literally save lives.**

In parts of Kenya people have to walk for miles to collect water. During the droughts, water is extremely scarce. And at other times, the water is collected from dirty, disease-infested rivers. MH is working to change this situation. *HOT* has given MH 19 grants to purchase 10,000-liter rainwater storage tanks, each one configured to fit specific homes* or schools it is to serve.

*The homes are not houses – they are shacks made of dung and ash with tin sheeting, possibly some wood, and rarely stone.

Incredible as it may seem, 3 cents (yes, 3 cents) a day can provide a hot meal for school children who otherwise would not have one. *HOT* has previously made challenge grants that have been met and resulted in thousands of additional children getting a hot bowl of porridge every school day.

We are asking our donors to consider designating gifts to help MH continue to improve and save lives in Kenya. MH needs:

- **\$1,400 for the “Porridge Program” which feeds 250 hungry children a hot meal every school day for a year – YES THAT IS 3 CENTS PER CHILD, PER DAY!**
- **\$3,500 for sneakers and school shoes at \$35 per child for 100 children (most of whom have ill-fitting or torn shoes, or are barefoot)**
- **\$4,500 to provide school supplies and text books for 10 children at \$450 per child**
- **\$9,000 for 6 additional 10,000-liter rainwater tanks @ \$1,500 each**
- **\$10,000 to transport 40 additional (above the amount delivered in 2017) fifty-pound boxes filled with medical supplies, shoes, clothing, book bags, blankets, school supplies, jackets and more to Kenya next summer (the donated supplies have a value far in excess of the transportation costs)**



HOT Emergency Assistance Programs in Boca Raton and Delray Beach

Many individuals and families have trouble paying for their most basic needs. **The Financial Assistance Coordinator at Ruth and Norman Rales Jewish Family Service (JFS) comes to *HOT* with their most dire situations.** We discuss the case history and **only make a grant if we are satisfied (i) as to the legitimacy and reasonableness of the request and (ii) that all other sources of funding have been exhausted.**

HOT has provided funds so that JFS can buy hearing-aids to improve quality of life; pay for dental work necessary to prevent daily pain; to pay an electric bill that needs immediate payment before **the lights go out** and has funded rent, mortgage payments, utility bills, child-care, medications, car repairs, clothing, school supplies and has helped the young, the elderly, the infirmed, and those with debilitating diseases.



Jen and Hank never imagined that they would be faced with a financial crisis. With three young children, they were living a modest and happy life until Hank was diagnosed with cancer. He was no longer able to work, savings quickly dried up, and disability payments had not come in yet. The family was faced with being unable to pay \$1,600 of rent. *HOT* matched JFS's \$800 and this family was not evicted.

A couple in their late 50's, both on disability, were unable to work due to illness. Their air conditioning unit broke, they were unable to afford a new one and they were suffering in the Florida heat. *HOT* matched JFS's funds so that they were able to buy a new unit.



In the past three years *HOT* has made grants of more than \$46,000 to JFS that have been matched by JFS from other sources, **creating a fund of more than \$92,000** that has been used to fund specific cases, as they arise. *HOT's* share of what was needed to meet the emergencies of families and individuals in need has been as little as \$347 and as much as \$2,500. There are more people with emergency needs than there is money to help them. We need to have sufficient funding for our half of all the emergency needs that people come to JFS seeking. **We would like to see our donors designate up to \$30,000 for this fund.**

Think of your gift being used to prevent a life, or lives, from being destroyed as the result of a one-time emergency need that you would fund in a second, if you only knew about it. *HOT* will be your eyes and your ears. Your designated gift will be matched by JFS and will be life altering.

Northern Israel

What do all of the following people have in common?

- A newly single mom without a refrigerator.
- A 100 year old needing dialysis every 3 days.
- A 9 month old baby girl with cancer needing to travel to a hospital for chemo.
- A fragile Holocaust survivor in a cold, rural town needing warm blankets.
- A divorcee (was a battered wife) with 2 children needing beds for her new apartment.
- A young boy needing transportation to get to specialized treatments for his cancer.

They are among the 291 families that live in northern Israel that in the last 3 years received assistance from the Galila Emergency Assistance Trust (GEAT) that assists families and individuals in distress by providing one-time grants in order to help in moments of crisis and distress. The fund's volunteer committee reviews the requests that come from municipal social workers with focus on cases where a one-time grant can help a person get back on their feet. The fund mainly helps children from families in distress, single moms and the elderly. The funds are transferred to the entity or provider handling the case to ensure the grant is used for its intended purpose. The people we help are residents of the towns of Shlomi, Akko, Nahariya, Karmiel, Tzfat, Ma'alot and northern Galilee Kibbutzim and Moshavim.



Life in the northern Galilee is particularly hard because of the memory and fear of Hezbollah attacks. Many individuals living in this area of Israel are employed, but barely earn a living. Employment opportunities are few, salary levels are low, and many parents are unable to assist their children with ANY needed extra expenditure.



Similar to *HOT's* other Emergency Funds, grants are only made if all other sources of funding have been exhausted. Galila culls the list approved by the committee and sends it to *HOT* for final review and approval. **Since the needs of the families in this part of Israel go far beyond what *HOT* can allocate out of its undesignated funds, *HOT* needs \$30,000 in designated gifts in order to approve additional requests where often a few hundred dollars can change the lives of an individual or a family. The**

list gets longer and longer and these people need OUR help.

Boynton Beach

The mission of the **Caridad Center** is to upgrade the health, education and living standards of the children and families of agricultural workers, day laborers and the working poor. This includes being their “safety net” and providing assistance in emergency situations. We have stopped evictions and power shut downs, paid for food, chemotherapy and other extraordinary medical assistance. **We have given scholarships for individual college courses to give the needy a chance to escape the otherwise**



endless cycle of poverty. Similar to all of *HOT*'s emergency assistance programs, we help only when all other sources have been exhausted.

*A young woman with five children, the youngest an infant, arrived at Caridad desperate for help. Her problems, though extreme, were not that different from so many who come to Caridad. With no husband, she was on the verge of eviction from their small trailer, she had no food, little clothing for the children, and no diapers or bottles for the baby. **HOT provided half of the \$1,200 needed for shelter and basic needs that were critical to keeping this family off the streets.** Caridad Center continues to work with this mother as she obtains an education to give her family a lasting and self-sufficient future.*

Six years ago, we started giving scholarships to students carefully vetted by Caridad. The results have been outstanding – continuing studies, earning degrees in nursing, becoming productive members of society rather than continuing in what could be an endless cycle of poverty.

Caridad's wish list continues to be funds for **Scholarships** and Emergency Assistance for families including grocery store food cards. We would like our donors to designate all or part of their contributions to this program with the goal of our raising an extra **\$25,000: \$12,500 of which would be used for scholarships** and \$12,500 that would help us respond to Caridad's continually growing need for Emergency Aid. Please let us know which Fund you want your contribution to be used for.

Volunteers Feeding the Hungry and Helping Troubled Teens in Israel



Shachen Tov – in English, **Good Neighbor Association (GNA)** – was started 17 years ago by a group of students at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. It feeds more than 1,000 families every week and performs other social service functions ranging from tutoring and running a textbook library for children, to friendly visiting for lonely elders. Three things make this organization unique: First, is that it has no employees. **It is run 100% by volunteers.** Second, is that while it was started by college students and continues to be predominantly a college student organization, many of its volunteers have finished college but still continue to volunteer. And third, it recognizes that while the elderly and the disabled must be helped for life, families that include one or more

healthy parent should not receive continuous aid. Families with one or more healthy parent are told up front that they will be getting food for a maximum of one year.

In Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and in 11 other cities in Israel GNA is feeding the unemployed and the underemployed who without their help would go to sleep with empty stomachs. Additionally, GNA has taken volunteering to a new level by helping indigent people to develop self-confidence by encouraging them to give the only thing they have to offer – “time” – to help others.

In addition to grants for food, we have made a 60,000 shekel (approximately \$16,600) grant for furnishings and one year of program expenses for GNA to establish a multi-room destination in Jerusalem where troubled teens can come in to talk out their problems in a relaxed “Coffee Shop” type setting with either social workers (paid by the City) or with GNA volunteers not much older than themselves. This project will run out of funding in December 2017 when we will evaluate the program.



We are continuing our 15,000 shekel a month grant for food (a rate of approximately \$49,800 a year).

We would like our donors to consider designating:

- **\$28,700 to feed 50 more families of the hundreds on GNA’s Waiting List @ \$574 per family.**

Youth at Risk:

- **Trying to Break the Cycle of Poverty - Jaffa/South Tel Aviv (p. 21-22)**
- **A Very Large Israeli Family Needing Help (p. 23-24)**
- **Children Who Are Caregivers in Palm Beach County (p. 25)**
- **Helping Single Moms of Youth at Risk in Northern Israel (p. 26)**
- **Giving Kids in Netanya a Chance (p. 27)**
- **Underprivileged and Educationally At-Risk Children in Delray Beach (p. 28)**
- **Helping Underprivileged Kids in Washington, DC (p. 29)**
- **Helping Underprivileged Kids In New York City (p. 30)**
- **Teaching Leadership to Teens in Ashkelon, Israel (p. 31)**
- **A Safe Haven in Jerusalem for English Speaking Youth in Distress (p. 32)**

Trying to Break the Cycle of Poverty – Jaffa/South Tel Aviv



The Jaffa Institute (TJI) was created to serve those children who grow up in the worst Israeli neighborhoods, particularly in South Tel Aviv and Jaffa. Approximately 50% of their target population live below the poverty line. Some 30% regularly receive local welfare services. And the worst statistic of all: Over 50% of the children drop out of school before the 12th grade.

TJI was established in 1982 as a private, non-profit, multi-service social agency to assist the city of Jaffa's severely disadvantaged children and their families. Its mission, initially, was to provide educational, therapeutic, and social enrichment programs that assist

children to develop positive attitudes and skills to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty in the impoverished communities of Jaffa, South Tel Aviv, and Bat Yam. Over time TJI has expanded its mission to include special needs children, crisis residences for at-risk youth, feeding the poor, educational enrichment centers **providing the necessary tools to moms (many of them single) to initially enter, or get back into, the workforce** and helping Holocaust survivors. It currently operates more than 30 different programs and provides service and relief to over 4,000 Israelis.



We are very impressed with TJI's long-time Executive Director David Portowicz and his staff, and we are very comfortable supporting a wide array of TJI's programs. Over the last four years, we have made more than \$200,000 in grants to purchase computers **(including \$30,000 where we met an expiring challenge grant and \$25,000 for use in a course teaching work skills to unemployed single Moms)**, an industrial oven, playground equipment, an equine therapy program, furniture and equipment needed for an after-school program for disadvantaged teenage girls who are at risk of "dropping out," help for Holocaust survivors as well as grants for a portable chair lift, and incremental therapy for their programs where the participants get a hot meal, academic assistance, and both one-on-one and group therapy.



During the Gaza War, HOT gave TJI \$46,500 towards recalling their teachers and other key personnel to reopen their dormitories to 230 Kids from Ashdod and other towns in the south. The kids had a balance of enrichment classes and camp like activities in the comparative safety of Tel Aviv.

TJI's very lengthy wish list includes:

- \$5,028 for kitchen renovations
- \$6,798 for art and drama therapy for special needs children
- \$9,972 for outdoor play area for at risk children
- \$12,920 for tutoring 10 children in the summer between grade school and middle school @ \$1,292 per child
- \$14,958 for 9 fully loaded computers @ \$1,662 per computer

Unfortunately, half of our \$50,000 June 30, 2016 fiscal year grants to TJI had to be used to fortify and increase the height of the perimeter fence around their Bet Shemesh school. How wonderful it would have been to have made this grant for one or more of the items on last year's TJI's wish list, but the Palestinian terrorist who killed an innocent Israeli, a block away, in October of 2015, did not permit that. Look at the picture to the right... for sure it looks more like an Army base than a school. This is the reality Israelis have to deal with every day.



A Very Large Israeli Family Needing Help



The 251 children who live at **Beit Elazraki** have been orphaned or come from troubled backgrounds where their parents may have been incarcerated or have drug or other serious issues. Some of the children have been beaten, abandoned and/or molested. Incredibly, almost all of their parents were treated in a similar manner by their parents. What a horrible legacy.

Yehuda Kohn has found a way for each of the children to feel part of a family. Each child is given the love and respect necessary for them to grow to be happy productive adults. It is very easy to write this section because of what we saw the first time we were shown the bedrooms the kids share. We asked Yehuda why there was an extra bed in each room. He smiled and told us that the reason for the extra bed was that he wanted the children to be able to bring a friend from school home for the weekend. Yes, the dining room looked like a boarding school or camp, but the smiles of inner contentment that we saw showed us that these kids were getting a chance to grow up as normally as possible. There are birthday parties, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and weddings. There cannot be total normalcy because these children are not being brought up by their parents and living at home with their siblings, but the love and attention they get from the incredible staff is preparing them to grow to adulthood, have successful relationships, and finally break the cycle of personal horrors that they had with their parents, and many of their parents had with their parents.



Over the years, we have made more than \$500,000 in grants to BE. We can't list everything but here are some of the things we have done:



(i) converted and renovated a storage room for parent/child therapy, (ii) added on a room for intake therapy, (iii) purchased numerous computers and iPads, (iv) replaced air conditioners, (v) bought Chanukah gifts, (vi) funded critical Anxiety Therapy Programs, (vii) bought miscellaneous gardening tools, (viii) paid for repairs, (ix) had a special app written that permits real-time entries that create a profile for each student, track behavioral and academic progress, that give therapists a heads up before meeting with each child and helps the coordinators keep better track of each child's progress, (x) paid for additional regular therapy and animal assisted therapy, (xi) paid for tutoring (the kids come to BE "broken" and it

shows in their schoolwork), (xii) bought cameras for a photography program, (xiii) paid for a family therapy program (remember most of these kids have parents who had their children taken away from them by the court), (xiv) paid for a marketing video to help them raise additional money, (xv) **partially funded (a successful *HOT* challenge grant) an animal assisted therapy program (see page 48)**, (xvi) renovated rec-rooms, and paid for sneakers, birthday presents, outings and much more – all that we could do to help Yehuda and his staff give these kids a chance to grow up and be happy. And NOT continue the cycle their families have followed for at least one generation before them.

BE's current needs list includes:

- **\$945 of counseling for each graduate who is getting married (these young adults have no idea of what is necessary from each party for a successful marriage)**
- **\$1,974 for a mini-oven/toaster**
- **\$5,135 for a program for 20 seventeen year olds who are a year away from leaving the “safety” of BE. All the work done by the BE staff cannot completely remove the natural anxiety of being “on their own”**
- **\$7,143 to renovate the bomb shelter and purchase new equipment in the backyard**
- **\$17,270 to renovate the kitchen area in the emergency shelter**
- **\$25,000* for additional tutoring**
- **\$25,000* for additional therapy**
- **\$42,855 for orthodontic treatment @ \$2,857 per child**
- **\$52,950 to renovate 15 bedrooms @ \$3,530 each including bed, desk, chair, and small closet**

*** I could have just as easily put \$50,000 or \$100,000 for either or both of tutoring and therapy, BUT gifts of any size designated for these critical needs will help children reach their potential as human beings.... Is anything more important?**

The Wish list above is longer than any other in the *HOT News* and this is one of very few 2 page vignettes. Many donors ask me which need of our 45 projects is most important and which of their needs are most critical and I constantly say that is for YOU, the donor, to choose. We try hard to only help those who were dealt a bad hand, not those whose conscious choices have resulted in their need. The Israeli government gives Yehuda enough money to feed, clothe and give some basics for these kids. It is for YOU to decide what “extras” (like orthodontics) they get and whether those “extras” are really “extras” or the “basic needs” to give them a chance.



Children Who Are Caregivers in Palm Beach County

Can you imagine a sixth grader coming home from school and having to immediately take care of a family member? Not being able to go outside with his or her friends or study, but coming home to be a “primary care giver.”

More than 1.3 million children in the United States sacrifice their education, health and emotional growth to assume the role of family caregiver. **There are over 10,000 student-caregivers in Palm Beach County schools.**



The **Caregiving Youth Project (CYP)** identifies and supports this hidden population of children who sacrifice their education, health, well-being, and childhood to provide care for ill, injured, elderly or disabled family members. During the past 10 years, the CYP has served 1,342 youth caregivers and their families. It provides in-school therapeutic support groups, out of school educational and recreational (respite) activities, family evaluation home visits, and most importantly, the opportunity for youth caregivers **to learn they are not alone** by connecting them with other kids dealing with the same issues. **In 2016 100% of the 43 high school seniors that CYP worked with graduated high school, versus under 80% of high school seniors with the same ethnic diversity as the caregivers CYP works with.**



HOT has made many grants to CYP including: (i) purchase computers and monitors for kids to complete schoolwork, research medical information, pay bills, and secure employment, (ii) provide blocks of respite, (iii) buy laptops for the staff to enter data while in the field, (iv) purchase equipment for the CYP office and (v) **set up a fund to handle emergencies of caregivers and their families.** Similar to all of *HOT's* Emergency Financial Aid Funds, we do not permit this fund to be used unless all other potential sources of funds have been exhausted and we believe this is a one-time problem. **Sadly, it is almost axiomatic that a family that cannot afford non-family caregivers cannot fund financial emergencies. In the last two years, we helped 29 families with problems they might not have ever recovered from.**

This year CYP is asking for:

- \$3,600 for 9 laptops + memory sticks
- \$5,400 for home tutoring for 20 kids (\$45 an hour in blocks of 6 hours)
- \$17,280 for 240 four hour blocks (\$72 per four-hour block) of respite care that will permit 20 children 4 hours “off” a month for them to “catch up” or simply have 4 hours to be just like other kids. **These kids need some relief.**

Helping Single Moms of Youth at Risk in Northern Israel

Why is this vignette about help for Single Moms living in the North in the “Youth at Risk” section of this booklet?

Because unemployment assures poverty for the mother which places her children “at risk.”

Two years ago **Galila** (see p. 41) called to ask us to fund a program in Shlomi (on the Lebanon border) that was targeting unemployed or underemployed Single Moms. Being a single Mom is difficult anywhere, but it is particularly difficult living in one of the periphery regions of Israel where transportation is limited. Learning a profession that will enable the Mom to work from home, with flexible hours, can be a life-saver that will enable her and her kids to gain economic stability and independence, and break what could be an endless cycle of poverty.



The Shlomi Social Welfare Department arranged for the program to be held at a local college to include both a professional cosmetics course and a basic computer course.

The program was a total success. Of the 14 participants, **5 started their own businesses, 4 got jobs, and 4 took advanced courses.** A year later, Galila called us with an opportunity to replicate the Shlomi program in Kyriat Bialik and **it took HOT one phone call to find a partner.** The early returns are in on the recent graduates of the Kyriat Bialik program, and it appears that program was also a success.

The idea of helping these single Moms, was an outgrowth of programs helping “teens at risk” that was endorsed and initially partially funded by my close friend Stewart Harris and we dedicated the first “Help Single Moms Program” in honor of, and in memory of, Stewart, a true giant of a man.

We must continue financing programs that train young Moms to become self sufficient. It is the only way to stop an endless cycle of poverty.

We are asking our donors to designate \$12,707 for a new class that we hope will start in Shlomi before the end of the year.



Giving Kids in Netanya a Chance

The Netanya Foundation (TNF) raises money for projects that the City is unable to fund or is only partially able to fund. We have found them to be a wonderful partner. Depending upon the project, they supervise buying and/or construction. Our first project was the renovation of a moadonit, an after-school daycare club that is a substitute “home” for 15 children, aged 6-10 years. The children who come to this club are high-risk from severely dysfunctional families and are primarily olim (immigrants to Israel) from Ethiopia and the Former Soviet Union. The children are referred to the clubs by social workers. The moadonit substitutes for the weaknesses of the children’s real homes. The children are given individual attention, help with their homework, enrichment activities, and a hot meal that is often their only meal of the day.

Over the last four years we have made grants of approximately \$150,000 to (i) renovate and equip a room in a Community Center used for adults in the morning, young children after school, and teens at night, (ii) modify an old classroom into a specialized “Math Unit” that made an entire classroom a “Mathematics Learning Center,” to buy (iii) computers, (iv) projectors, and (v) outside games (and paid to grade and renovate the backyard) of the moadonit discussed above (vi) furnishings and equipment for a room that will be used by parents and children where the courts do not allow unsupervised visits of a parent and child, and (vii) **twice matched a TNF grant to supply a hot meal to 30 underprivileged children, who spend four days a week from 12:45 – 4:00, in a “Learning Center,”** (viii) an industrial kitchen in a community center serving “kids” from 4 to 94, and (ix) **leveraged an \$18,300 grant six-fold by agreeing to be the last dollars** to make a large project for a music room (in an afternoon center for very poor Ethiopian teens) plus equipment, plus teaching and other operating expenses for 2 years (the party offering the original challenge was toward the end of its challenge period, and, **but for *HOT*, the project would have died**), (x) the purchase of furniture and equipment for a classroom for high risk kids so they can get



the special attention they need (the city agreed to fund the teachers if *HOT* furnished the room), (xi) a ceiling crane to move disabled children within their classroom, (xii) funded a small Hebrew tutoring class for Ethiopians who had trouble learning Hebrew making it impossible for them to assimilate into Israeli society, (xiii) **buy specialized equipment for a robotics lab in a high school** (see picture to the left) (xiv) a/c unit and furniture for a school library, and (xv) computers for a school with predominantly

Ethiopian students.

TNF’s current, all levered, wish-list includes:

- **\$8,427 to again match TNF’s \$8,427 to expand an existing elementary school afternoon program of tutoring, enrichment and guidance for children “at risk”**
- **TNF frequently sends *HOT* new projects and we recommend that any donor that could be interested in a program in Netanya, contact *HOT* for an update on requests from the Netanya Foundation.**

Underprivileged and Educationally At-Risk Children in Delray Beach



When we were babies we watched and mimicked our parents. We learned the meaning of what were initially merely sounds to us. We learned that those sounds together formed words that had meaning. We learned how to talk. We learned English. But what would have happened to us if the only language spoken in the house wasn't English? We started school, and we came home and if we didn't understand our homework, one of our parents could help. But what if there were no parents who could help? These are the real-life problems faced by many children in Delray Beach. The population includes many Haitian and Latin American families where the principal, if not only, language spoken at home is Creole or Spanish. Their parents are generally either unemployed or under-employed. **The kids start school and more than 50% of them are "left back" during their first five years in school.**

The **Milagro Center (MC)** in Delray Beach runs a 52-week K-12 after-school program (full-day in the summer) to help children of families living below the federal poverty level. The program supplies the "language" and academic support missing at home.

98% of the participants in their program have been promoted to the next grade every year.

Also, while less than 50% of the local population will graduate high school and less than a third of them are expected to go to college, based on the change in grades, study habits and attitudes 100% of the seniors in MC's Teen Program are going to either a college or a trade school this fall.



MC's formula for success is easy to understand. Just by walking into their Young Child Center you see kids who are doing their homework, participating in workshops, asking questions and "learning" from both professionals and volunteers. At their Teen Center, we saw kids learning about "life." Learning to have confidence in – and to respect – themselves.

MC is giving these kids a chance to escape what could be an endless cycle of poverty. HOT has also given MC grants for a Security System, a Water Cooler, Math and Literacy Tutors, a Teen Center Van (matching grant), an Academic Tutor for the Teen Program and Summer Field Trip Transportation, and a New Roof (matching grants).

MC's current needs are:

- \$9,900 for ACT/SAT College Prep Course Fall 2017
- \$20,400 for Literacy and Math Tutors for the K- 5th Grade for Spring 2018 and Summer 2018 Semesters **\$5,100** for each discipline for each time period.
- \$26,500 for Academic Tutors for the each of the Middle School and High School Programs for each of the Spring 2018 and Summer 2018 Semesters **\$6,625** for each time period for each of the Middle School and High School programs.

Helping Underprivileged Kids in Washington, DC

For a child, summer should be a time full of laughter, exploration, sunshine, and the outdoors. For children from low-income families in Washington, DC, that carefree summer experience isn't always possible. **Just Imagine (JI)** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which was started in 2012 with the goal of giving city children the opportunity to get out of their environment for the summer by providing them with scholarships to sleep away camp. JI was able to provide **9 children** with this experience in **2012**.



Five years later, Just Imagine not only provides scholarships to sleep away camp, it prepares children for college by giving them access to SAT preparation, college tours, and workshops on the college application process and life skills. Just Imagine negotiated more than \$340,000 in in-kind scholarship donations for the summer of **2017**, which, together with \$20,000 of funding from *HOT* and \$20,000 from others provided **80 children** with the opportunity to attend sleep away camps up and down the East Coast.



Just Imagine relies on donations—both in-kind and monetary-- to cover the cost of transportation (car rentals, airfare, and gasoline) to and from camp and college tours, partial camp tuition costs, and camp supplies (sneakers, athletic clothing, sleeping bags, and toiletries). **This year they expanded their year-round programming to require participation in community service projects, and offered workshops on the college admission process, and field trips to expose their students to careers and areas of study they may not have known about or had access.** Last fall they took a series of college tours in the DC/Virginia/Maryland area, and traveled to North Carolina to visit Duke, UNC, NC State, and North Carolina A&T. This spring, they plan to visit colleges in the Atlanta area.

JI's wish list for school year 2017-2018 and summer 2018:

- **\$6,000 for SAT prep courses**
- **\$7,500 for additional college tours (including transportation and housing)**
- **\$16,000 for summer 2018 camp fees, clothing and transportation**



Helping Underprivileged Kids in New York City



Since 2000, **Camp Fiver**, in New York, has been a lifeline for kids growing up in the inner city. Working year-round with a group of motivated educators and college students who inspire and care for the children, Fiver has helped and/or is continuing to help more than 1,400 children by making a 10-year commitment to their “campers” who start in the program when they are 8 years old.

Research has shown that in addition to the obvious (education), character and self-confidence are critical in an individual’s future success. Recognizing that children brought up in a bad (poor and often dangerous) environment often lack these qualities, Fiver’s programs include promoting healthy life choices, enhancing self-efficacy and leadership skills. By motivating participants to succeed in school, Fiver has seen 99% of its high school seniors graduate with 90% enrolling in college. The program leads children who might well otherwise have to be faced with the bad choices of those living in an endless cycle of poverty, to make ethical and healthy life decisions. **We can help these children grow, or we can let them continue in what would probably be an endless cycle of poverty and the need for a lifetime of assistance.**

Through the years *HOT* has funded (i) programs to support college visits for rising sophomores and juniors, (ii) public speaking instructors, (iii) a platform tent, (iv) buses and incremental camp expenses to get as many parents as possible to the Annual Parent Retreat (which keeps the parents engaged and involved in the program and allows them to experience the magic of Camp Fiver the way their kids do), (v) a new \$30,000 cabin where Camp Fiver’s other donors met a \$15,000 *HOT* Challenge Grant, (vi) a \$10,000 *HOT* Challenge Grant to repair a dock injured in a storm that was met 6 times over, (vii) LED lights that had a 2-year payback in saved electricity costs, (viii) purchased office equipment necessary to keep the Camp running efficiently, (ix) electrical wiring and conduits for seven cabins, (x) a new phone system, and (xi) new beds.



By funding these programs, *HOT* has helped Fiver succeed in their mission to lead their kids out of what could otherwise be a never-ending cycle of poverty, drugs and crime.

***HOT* would like its donors to designate all or part of the following:**

- \$4,500 for a new industrial ice machine
- \$7,700 to replace rotted wood and damaged handrails on many of the cabins
- \$24,750 for a new pick-up truck

Teaching Leadership to Teens in Ashkelon

In the Fall 2008 edition of the *HOT News* we titled a vignette *Ashkelon - Another Sderot?* We wrote this after a summer of Hamas missiles being fired at a town with hotels, a beautiful beach, and a port known as the Israeli Riviera. We renovated two bomb shelters, one of which was to house a training and leadership center (TLC) that was to be used to empower and develop young leadership who were to lead youth group branches located all over the city. It was to be a hub to make an important contribution to empowering teens and developing leadership skills.

Through the years, we have funded several youth-at-risk projects in Ashkelon ([Ashkelon found us a partner for many of them](#)) and when Hamas started launching missiles at Ashkelon in the summer of 2014 we immediately called Sigal (our contact at the city) to see how *HOT* could help. Over the following 7 weeks, we spoke to each other as many as 3 times a day and often emailed more than 10 times a day. You can read the rest of what we did that summer on page 57. During the 2014 Hamas War, the food *HOT* bought to feed the up to 4,000 children a day, and the toys and supplies we bought to entertain the very young children, were routed to the public shelters by the teens, who disbursed them from the TLC shelter. These teenagers acted as surrogate parents playing with the young children and doing whatever else they could do to keep the younger kids from focusing on the sirens and explosions.



In October 2014 there was another chapter in this incredible story. *HOT* visited the TLC after the war, and met eight of the teens. We asked them “weren’t you afraid of the sirens and missiles.” And they answered: YES - during the first day they were, BUT starting on the second day they didn’t have time to be scared because it was their “job” to make sure the younger kids were calm. It took a moment to process these words coming from a 17-year-old, speaking for a group of 14 - 17 year olds, and when we processed

these words **we told them that the people who called them the FUTURE of Israel were WRONG because they are the PRESENT of Israel.** It may have been their older brothers and sisters and in some cases fathers or mothers that fought in Gaza, or were stationed on the border, but these teens fought the war too. Our thanks to these young men and women and to all the Israeli mothers like Sigal who went to sleep every night worrying about their 18-year-old son or daughter on the Gaza border. **Since 2014, Hamas has dug more tunnels and rearmed itself with new missiles, and terrorism has become a daily occurrence in Israel.**

Wish list:

- **\$5,555 to renovate a Bomb Shelter to be used for predominantly teen groups (to be a 50% match to the \$11,110 they already have committed)**
- **\$13,888 (for which Ashkelon has found a dollar for dollar match) for a special needs program pairing teens and special needs children similar to Best Buddies on page 45.**

A Safe Haven in Jerusalem for English Speaking Youth in Distress



Crossroads Jerusalem (“Crossroads”) is the sole intervention program in Jerusalem that focuses on at-risk English-speaking teens. The teens are often homeless, struggling with addictions and have been the unfortunate recipients of physical, sexual and emotional abuse. In many cases they are estranged from their parents and/or come from broken homes. These teens are exposed to high-risk behaviors, violence and further abuse on the streets. Crossroads’ skilled social workers go out into the streets at night to find teens in need and bring them to the

safety of the Crossroads Drop-in Center. Through crisis intervention, individual therapy, group therapy, educational assistance and intervention, Crossroads provides the teens with hope, and direction to help them lead healthier and more productive lives. In 2016, Crossroads “met” 1,139 new teens on “the street” and had 4,023 visits to its Center and currently have 162 teens in weekly therapy where they learn about themselves, to deal with their problems, develop trust, and “chill out.”

As Crossroads has grown *HOT* has made grants to purchase the equipment to establish (i) a much needed “hotline” for troubled teens late at night when loneliness and desperation peak, (ii) a therapeutic music room, (iii) a computer room, and (iv) a teen game room. We have also funded (v) an additional full-time social worker, and (vi) a part-time social worker to establish a Midnight Café (9-11 PM on Thursday nights), (vii) financed the expansion of an innovative Intern to



Learn program for kids on the verge of dropping out of school. The internship serves as the transition to either full employment or back to school, and (vii) last year we financed a Pilot Program to help teens in need find Crossroads through the Internet. Imagine the troubled teen going to his/her regular sites and contacting a helping hand rather than a predator.

Crossroads has continued to grow and while often hard to do, they have continued to do this with fiscal discipline.

This year we are asking our donors to consider designating:

- **\$424 for 4 flat screens @ \$106 per screen for existing computers**
- **\$1,576 for 2 iPads @ \$788 each**
- **\$9,253 for a program to help teen girls establish boundary limits and have the self-defense skills for when someone tries to cross those boundaries.**
- **\$9,277 for a music program**
- **\$10,569 for a GED course and Test Registration for 30 teens @ \$352.30 per teen.**

Community Service Projects

- **The HOT Student Community Service Program (p. 33)**
- **Community Service Program in the FSU (p. 34)**

The *HOT Student Community Service Program* gives high school and college students the opportunity to use their initiative to design and implement community service projects. *HOT* provides the “start-up” money for the projects, and when necessary, will assist monetarily in continuing to subsidize projects.

Additionally, we have funded more than \$100,000 of “Alternative Breaks” where college students at the Hillel chapters at the University of Florida (Gainesville) and at universities in Broward and Palm Beach counties spent their winter or spring breaks doing manual labor repairing blight caused by natural disasters or sheer poverty. At different times during the years we have partially funded trips to (i) El Salvador- poverty, (ii) Mexico – poverty, (iii) Nicaragua – poverty, (iv) New Orleans (several times) – hurricane victims, (v) Iowa – flood victims, and (vi) Ukraine – poverty. We chartered a bus to take 44 students (Jewish and non-Jewish) with supplies we purchased, from Gainesville to New York City for “two days helping Victims of Sandy” – clearing debris, sweeping, tearing down dry wall, tearing down decks, etc. Additionally, we subsidized two college students’ summer trips, one working as a volunteer physiotherapist in a Jerusalem hospital and the other spending two months working with a local organization working against poverty, hunger and disease in Uganda. We have also funded a Child Abuse Prevention Program (college students through various campus ministries, working one on one with young children at-risk), and a Community Living Renewal (college students cleaning up blighted neighborhoods).



Our goal is that these experiences, in addition to serving the community today, will result in the students becoming caring and philanthropic members of society. I am typing in blue because it is without doubt the most leveraged of our programs. Not only do the needy get help, but also the ongoing lesson to the young adults doing the work produces young adults who have experienced what it is to help others. Now that is leverage.

The items on the wish list for our Community Service Projects are:

- **\$25,000 to subsidize the costs of sending 50 - 60 students on “Alternative Break” programs, foregoing their vacation time to help others**
- **\$20,000 for other projects students bring to us over the next 12 months**

Community Service in the FSU

HOT has always looked to partner with organizations that encourage community service. We think of this as the ultimate leverage - teaching people the importance of helping others, while simultaneously giving help to the needy. On the page facing this page (page 33 for those of you reading this online) you have read about our how we have partnered with Hillel chapters helping college students learn to want to, and actually, help others.



This year, we believe we have finally found the right partner to work with in one of the most challenging parts of the world – the former Soviet Union (FSU). *HOT* has committed to a 3-year project that we believe will encourage scores of young people to help others, by opening their hearts to the importance of helping those less fortunate. We are piggybacking on work done over the last 25 years in the FSU by our new partner, the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC).

For the past 15 years, JDC has successfully run a program in the FSU training young people to go back to their communities with volunteerism in their blood. *HOT's* 3-year grant will



primarily be used to fund 2 part-time coordinators, one located in Rostov and the other in Krasnodar. Each of these coordinators will work with graduates of the JDC program to identify local unmet community needs, to create work plans, activities, action groups, seminars and other events. Additionally, and most importantly, they are to create an active network of community leaders who will take on the training of future leaders and volunteers.

While *HOT's* basic funding is to encourage volunteerism, several projects require programming costs and make up a wish list of:

- **\$1,540 Birthday Parties and Holiday events for children at risk or with disabilities**
- **\$1,760 Seminars on obesity, diabetes and other health related issues for seniors**
- **\$3,450 of Food for the Elderly**
- **\$4,500 of homecare for the Elderly at \$3.25 per hour**

The Elderly:

- **Helping the Frail Elderly**
 - **Jerusalem (page 35)**
 - **All Over the USA - Dignity and Comfortable Mobility (p. 36)**
 - **New York - Project Ezra (p. 37)**
 - **Boca Raton**
 - **Helping Seniors in Many Ways (p. 38)**
 - **Senior Assistance Program (p. 39-40)**
- **Holocaust Survivor Programs**
 - **Israel – Northern Galilee (p. 41)**
 - **Israel – Hod HaSharon (p. 42)**
 - **South Palm Beach Country (p. 43)**

Helping the Frail Elderly – Jerusalem

In 1989, the privately owned, formerly posh, 520 room **Diplomat Hotel** in Jerusalem was appropriated by the Absorption Ministry for Soviet immigrants. It quickly became “a five-star slum” and today it is categorized as “sheltered housing.” 2/3 of its residents are between 75 and 102 including 50 frail elderly who cannot go out alone to shop or go to the doctor themselves.



A dedicated volunteer named Alice started and runs 2 programs: one which pays for home-care and assistance to the residents who need help with transportation to doctors and other errands, and a “Basic Needs” program that prevents seniors from having to choose between food, dental care, prescriptions and prosthetics.

In the last 12 months *HOT* gave \$6,000 in grants for the “Home-care and Transportation” program and \$8,700 for the “Basic Needs” program.

The Diplomat’s wish list includes:

- **\$3,000 for refreshments for a weekly social program that brings some enjoyment to the lives of the 50 elderly shut-ins.**
- **\$10,000 for the Basic Needs Program so that no senior should have to choose between food, dental care, prescriptions and a prosthetic.**

Helping the Frail Elderly – All Over the USA

DIGNITY AND COMFORTABLE MOBILITY



The mission of the **Rose Art Foundation – Living with Dignity (LWD)** is to improve the “quality of life” for the non-ambulatory by supplying specially built wheelchairs that look like a recliner chair on wheels.

They supply padded wheelchairs to immobile patients who suffer from debilitating diseases, dementia, paralysis, stroke, or in some cases age related infirmities who may be bound to wheelchairs or bedridden for the rest of their lives.

Providing care for frail and infirmed seniors who are not ambulatory is extremely challenging. Spending almost the entire day in either a bed or a conventional wheel chair is both sad and depressing.

In 4 years LWD has bought and delivered 617 chairs to nursing homes throughout the USA (in Florida, New York, California, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, and Washington DC) and to 3 Nurse Visiting Services for those aging in place. These chairs make it easier for aides and caregivers, for which there always seems to be a shortage, to get their patients into a comfortable position. The chair lets them be more comfortable when sitting for meals, physical therapy, napping or attending activities, and while spending quality time with their loved ones. The chair reduces their suffering and the humiliation of struggling to “transfer” from bed to wheelchair, wheelchair to chair, back to wheelchair. Not only do these chairs allow for patient comfort and time-saving for staff, they allow the elderly to function with dignity.

LWD has no staff, rent, or overhead, and all the funds they receive is used to purchase recliners. Buying in bulk, LWD pays only \$375 per chair verses the over \$900 retail price.

We have made \$50,000 in grants (**mostly challenge grants**) to LWD in the last three years **which was enough to buy 135 chairs but because most of our grants were Challenge Grants we are responsible for improving the quality of life of more than 225 seniors.**

***HOT* wants to encourage its donors to help buy 100 more chairs so it will match from its undesignated funds, any designated gifts up to a maximum of \$1,875 per donor up to an aggregate of \$18,750. That means any donor who designates \$187.50 to this program will be responsible for a major change in the quality of life of a senior. \$909 retail, only \$187.50 through *HOT* – almost 5-to-1 leverage AND the knowledge you have helped a senior be more comfortable and retain his/her dignity.**

Helping the Frail Elderly - New York

PROJECT EZRA

Project Ezra (PE) serves over 300 frail, isolated, and impoverished elderly Jews on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. They suffer from economic, physical and/or psychological difficulties and are being helped by services provided through PE. Some of their services include subsidies for food and medicine to those whose Social Security benefits are insufficient to last the entire month. Additionally, they sponsor group programs and outings, housekeeping services, volunteer home visits, transportation, a food pantry and food package distributions at holiday times.



Over the years, *HOT* has bought a woman a new bed that replaced one that she had been using for 67 years, which had springs popping out of it. We have bought tombstones so that five widows didn't have to look at only dirt when they went to the cemetery plot where their husbands of fifty and sixty years were buried, and we have paid for funerals.



In addition to financing Emergency Needs, *HOT* also funds a program which now provides \$30 monthly stipends to 34 seniors who do not have enough income to buy “even the basics” (this program is similar to what we are doing in Florida – page 39).

HOT also pays for more than 200 of these poor elderly to attend two festive holiday meals each year. For some of the attendees it is the only two times during the year they socialize with people they have known for years.

We are asking our donors to designate:

- **\$10,800 in increments of \$360 (12 months at \$30 per person) so we can give monthly supplements to 30 additional needy seniors.**
- **\$12,000 in any increment to give us more flexibility, when we get requests for Emergency Financial Aid.**

Helping the Frail Elderly – Boca Raton

HELPING SENIORS IN MANY WAYS IN BOCA RATON/DELRAY

The Volen Center (TVC) offers a myriad of programs designed to bring better health, fun, laughter and companionship into the lives of senior citizens – all based on a preventative concept designed to nurture the mind, body, and spirit to foster continued good health.

Through the years, *HOT* has made multiple grants to TVC, including (i) **three challenge grants that other donors to the Volen Center met that permitted the offering of quality food to financially troubled seniors at 50% of cost**, (ii) a successful pilot program using



Nurse Practitioners, (iii) a grant to TVC to cover the basic cost of a build-out of a treatment room for this program, (iv) **a challenge grant that was met by the Volen Board which when combined met the terms of a Federal 9-1 grant to purchase 4 vans, creating 19-1 leverage on *HOT's* grant**, (v) computers, (vi) a grant to meet the shortage from “sequestering” that would have otherwise resulted in seniors being hungry, (vii) funding 25 Life Enrichment Memberships for residents of both the Gould and Weinberg Houses, (viii) subsidizing the expansion of TVC’s computer literacy program, and (ix) funding of lunch for the monthly gatherings of Holocaust survivors, and children of survivors, that was hosted at the TVC as a collaborative effort of TVC and both the Alpert Jewish Family Service and JFS. We have also approved 60 grants

totaling \$21,012.00 from a fund we set up at TVC to pay one time “emergency aid” (rent, electric, etc.) to seniors. Think of it, at an average grant of \$350.20 (\$233.47, when we count spouses) we changed the lives of 90 people who had varied problems ranging from getting their water and electricity turned back on, to a payment to a landlord to avoid eviction, to paying emergency medical expenses and prescriptions. As in all of our emergency aid funds, nothing can be paid unless all other possibilities of aid have been exhausted.

We would like our donors to consider:

- **\$4,000 for an exercise and nutrition program**
- **\$10,000 to be the last \$10,000 to finance a \$30,000 breakfast program for 120 seniors, many of whom come to morning TVC programs not having had breakfast**
- **\$21,801 (\$7,267 per bus) for the 10% required match to the 90% grant by a partnership of the Florida and Federal Departments of Transportation. Each designated gift of \$7,267 purchases a \$72,672 bus (\$21,801 buys \$218,010 of buses). 9 -1 leverage.**



Helping the Frail Elderly – Boca Raton

ONGOING SENIOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

This woman was not sorting the spare change in her purse. She was counting every penny to determine which of the basic necessities of life she can buy, and which ones she would have to live without, that month.

She had to decide between soap, detergent to wash her clothes or a lotion to soothe her eczema. She couldn't afford them all.

She is one of 259 seniors who now receive a gift card from *HOT* to help pay for the basic necessities of life. She is part of a group of seniors who live in Palm Beach County who have almost no disposable income, are over 65, and have outlived whatever money they had. 250 seniors have income between \$614 and \$1,348 a month; and 9 have income between \$307 and \$613 a month.



How do they live? They either live in HUD Section 8 housing or in condos bought as many as 40 years ago that have very low maintenance. Many of these seniors have no income other than Social Security and because many of them did not have large incomes in their, or their spouses', earning years, they receive only a fraction of what others receive.

How do they eat? Many get food stamps and all are clients of Ruth and Norman Rales Jewish Family Service (JFS) and receive semi-monthly food packages. Now, for 250 of these seniors, in addition to the food, there is, once a quarter, \$60 (\$240 a year) of gift cards from either Target or Wal-Mart (the store is determined by its proximity to the client's home) in the food package. The 9 with the lowest income get \$40 of gift cards every month (\$480 a year).

What do they use the cards for?



Millie hadn't purchased a stitch of new clothing for years. The month she started receiving her Walmart cards she **was able to buy shampoo, dish soap and detergent and had a little left over to buy a new blouse.** She chose one with a pattern of roses. She said it reminded her of when she was a little girl and her mother would plant flowers in window boxes. She said the flowers brought sunshine into the house and her new blouse gave her a bit of sunshine.

Betty suffers from mild **infections on her feet.** Living on a limited social security she **never had enough money to buy Epsom salt** to soak her feet daily. Since Betty started receiving her Walgreens card, 8 months ago, she has not had any flare-ups. Her walking and quality of life have dramatically improved.

Mrs. L called to tell us how excited she was that the gift card given to her allows her to buy shampoo so she can wash her hair several times per week- in the past **she didn't have money to buy enough shampoo** and when she ran out she used a bar of soap.

Subsidized Homecare

Early in 2014 *HOT* started a new program piggybacking on what was then a new JFS Program which provides for subsidized homecare for frail seniors. When *HOT* reviewed the new JFS program, it applauded JFS for this much-needed help to frail seniors – but was concerned that even with the JFS subsidy, there would still be seniors who could not afford even the small co-pays. So, *HOT* added a further subsidy which reduces the rate to \$1 per hour for the poorest of the seniors. In the last 12 months, these subsidies permitted 4 hours a week of homecare for 22 indigent seniors. *HOT* would like its donors to designate up to \$20,800 in multiples of \$208 to help support this program.



Emergency Financial Assistance Program



JFS keeps in constant contact with the Seniors who receive gift cards and subsidized home care and call *HOT* when any of these Seniors have Emergency Needs. *Shirley is an elderly senior living alone in Boca Raton. Last year, Shirley's hot water heater stopped working. The only way that Shirley was able to take a bath was to boil water in pots to fill the bathtub. After a few months of doing this, Shirley could no longer physically carry these heavy pots from the kitchen to the bathroom. Shirley reached out to*

*JFS for financial assistance and all the necessary purchases and installation were made and **Shirley was able to take a hot bath for the first time in months.** Similar to the Financial Assistance Fund we created for those under 65 (see p. 17) here, too, *HOT* partners with JFS and over the last 3 years, *HOT* and JFS have partnered in over \$100,000 of grants to 44 needy seniors whose many needs included hearing aids, dental care, wheelchair repair, air conditioners, and rent. As with all of *HOT*'s emergency assistance programs, we help only when all other sources have been exhausted.*

Critical Support Requirements

These 3 programs were originally funded 50% by a multi-year designated gift, and 50% from *HOT*'s undesignated funds. Since the multi-year commitment expired, *HOT* has continued this in excess of \$100,000 program with undesignated funds, but needs the help of its donors to continue to provide this Ongoing Financial Assistance, Subsidized Homecare, and Emergency Financial Assistance.

Please consider designating funds of up to \$75,000 so we can continue, and expand, these critical programs.

Survivor Assistance Program- Israel Northern Galilee

Galila (pages 18 and 26) is a grassroots organization formed for the primary purpose of improving the daily lives of impoverished residents of the Galilee region of Israel, primarily in the towns that border Lebanon. Included in the people they now help are 143 Holocaust and Ghetto Survivors, who receive 360 shekels semi-annually (approximately \$101) of vouchers redeemable for food and clothing.



These survivors, most of whom came from the FSU, live on meager pensions and meager supplementary subsidies from government agencies. Galila attempts to make their final years more bearable by sending in people to help in their apartments, distributing as much clothing, shoes, heaters, fans, glasses, hearing aids, and other day-to-day NECESSITIES as its budget permits. Additionally, Galila

administers an Emergency Financial Aid Fund that it uses to help more than 550 survivors from all over Europe (including the 143 who receive the “subsidy”).

HOT has funded (i) emergency financial aid, (ii) semiannual distribution of vouchers redeemable for food and clothing, (iii) the purchase of clothes, shoes, and other necessities for these survivors, and (iv) has also funded repairs to apartments (many in four-story walk-ups) where some of these survivors live in conditions that are deplorable for people who suffered for the “crime” of being Jewish. Unfortunately, many of these people arrived from the FSU in the ‘90s. They are elderly, still have language barriers, and do not have the proper skillsets to enable them to be a part of the Israeli workforce.

We have been using un-designated funds to help these people who have suffered so badly but we now NEED our donors to designate gifts to help these people who are a living testimony to the horrors of the Nazis:

- (1) \$13,533 to be used for emergency financial aid to survivors
- (2) \$14,461 to fund the next semi-annual distribution of vouchers redeemable for food and clothing
- (3) \$16,240 to repair the five decrepit apartments @ average costs of \$3,248 per apartment.



Survivors in Hod HaSharon, Israel



CLICK (Community Leadership and Innovation Centers for the Elderly) in Hod Hasharon operates five Day Centers for Independent Seniors, a Day Center for Disabled Elders, a Virtual Technology Center for the Homebound, a Social Support Center, a Vocational Center, a Multidisciplinary Community Leisure Center, and two days a week it operates a **Day Center for Holocaust Survivors**. CLICK offers computer classes and social activities each of these days. On one of the days it offers lectures, and on the other day a community theatre. 50 survivors and their spouses attend these activities that are held in a coffee shop type setting. In some cases, this is the only opportunity for the survivors to be with their friends and others who share the horrible memories of their past suffering forever embedded within.

The average age of the survivors is 85, and traveling to the community center has become increasingly difficult for them over the years. *HOT* has funded the cost of a mini bus to provide roundtrip door to door service, twice a week, from the survivors' homes to the community center. Not surprisingly many of the survivors suffer from hearing and sight impairment and are unable to totally enjoy the lectures, watch movies and participate in the celebrations, so *HOT* purchased new equipment to enhance the sound and sight level of these activities.

CLICK reduces the loneliness and social isolation of the homebound Holocaust Survivors by sending volunteers into their homes to be involved in activities such as: conversation, crafts, reading a book, a newspaper or simply listening to music together.

While not predominantly for Survivors we are intrigued by a new innovative program initiated by CLICK that virtually broadcasts a range of CLICK'S programs via the web to the homebound. Classes broadcasted include: meditation, music appreciation, group therapy, lectures and more all via the elder's television set. We have just funded a social worker implementing a new virtual therapy group.



CLICK'S wish list includes:

- **\$500 for birthday presents and cakes for Holocaust Survivors at the Day Center**
- **\$1,680 to purchase monthly craft kits for 10 homebound Holocaust Survivors**
- **\$14,668 for the cost of 4 (@ \$3,667 per group) new Virtual Group Counselling Sessions**
- **\$18,098 for transportation costs to the Day Care Center for Holocaust Survivors**

Survivor Assistance Program – South Palm Beach County, Florida

More than 1,250 of the almost 5,000 Holocaust survivors in Palm Beach County, Florida live at, or near, the poverty level. The goal of the **Ruth and Norman Rales Jewish Family Service (JFS) Holocaust Survivor Program** is to enable survivors to live out their lives in their own homes, safely and with dignity. Because of the horrors experienced at the hands of the Nazis, survivors do not fare well in group care facilities, such as nursing homes. JFS arranges for home health care, cleaning services, transportation to medical appointments and visits by a social worker. JFS is committed to the concept of “aging in place” by enabling these survivors to maintain independent lives in the community for as long as possible.



Many survivors are frailer and require more services. These survivors are outliving all projections. The same “**will-to-live**” that kept them alive 70+ years ago is still there.

HOT funds the emergency needs of survivors that are not being met by anyone else. The Claims Conference (a conduit of the German government that makes grants to agencies like JFS) limits emergency need funding to \$2,500 per year no matter how serious the need is. JFS has limited funds to meet these needs. **We cannot stand by and permit people who lived through such horrors be unable to eat because of lack of dentures or be unable to hear for lack of a hearing aid. They cannot be asked to “wait until next year.”**

The Claims Conference also gives grants for homecare aides, but limits the amount each survivor can receive to no more than 40 hours a week. Think about it, a very frail survivor of unspeakable horrors getting help for 8 hours, five days a week. **Do people who endured Hitler have to stay in bed over the weekend? Do they have to wash their own floors?** Maybe they should be in a home, but that would be completely losing their independence and they cannot be asked to do that. THEY CAN'T BE. **Recognizing that we cannot permit frail survivors whose only crime was being Jewish to risk broken hips and other injuries, three years ago *HOT* made a short-term Challenge Grant. We agreed to put \$30,000 into a fund to add hours of help to those who most need it IF JFS could get our grant matched twice over, once from the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County, and once from individual donors. We gave them 2 weeks to get the match. Ten days later we got a call from JFS telling us that our leadership resulted in our \$30,000 being matched not twice, but thrice. The \$120,000 (our \$30,000 and a total of \$90,000 from the Federation and 3 individual donors) provided critically important additional hours of help to individuals who have 70+ year old scars.**

***HOT* Needs**

- \$36,000 will permit us to establish a fund to take care of emergency needs as they occur.
- \$38,480 for personal aides for 10 survivors @ \$18.50 an hour for 4 hours a week (\$3,848 per survivor per year).

Special Needs and Compassionate Care:

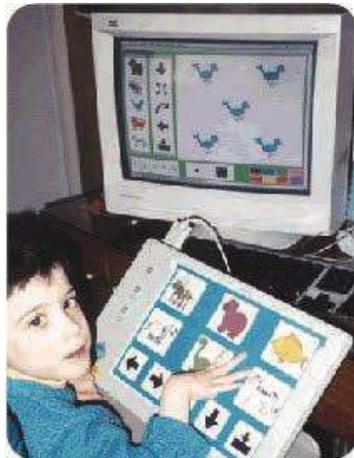
- **Touch the Life of a Medically Fragile Child in New Jersey (page 44)**
- **Special Needs Training for Very Special High School Students in Martin County (p. 45 top)**
- **Best Buddies in Martin County (p. 45 bottom)**
- **Camp Kavod – Florida (p. 46)**
- **My Piece of the Puzzle – Israel (p. 47)**
- **Humans Helping Animals Help Humans in Israel (p. 48)**
- **Camp Sunshine for Children with Life-Threatening Illnesses and Their Families (p. 49-50)**

Touch the Life of a Medically Fragile Child in New Jersey



The NJ Pediatric Patients Charitable Trust Fund is dedicated to providing funding for the acquisition of recreational, educational, and/or adaptive equipment, home modifications and specialized services that will enrich the lives of the medically fragile / special needs children of Southern

New Jersey. *HOT* has made grants benefiting more than 75 children by providing swing sets, treadmills, baby monitoring systems, iPads and special computers. The children's disabilities



range from a brain tumor, to Down Syndrome, to cerebral palsy to autism. The NJPPCTF policy is that no child receives more than \$1,200 in funding. There are no words to describe the happiness that these gifts bring to these children. Over the last four years we have



made more than \$40,000 in grants to NJPPCTF from undesignated funds. *HOT* would like to help even more children and families in need, and is asking donors to designate gifts of \$12,000 in multiples of \$1,200 so we can help at least 10 extra children next year.

Special Needs Training for Very Special High School Students in Martin County

Eleven years ago, *HOT* began supplementing a job-training program (“the Dollar-a-Day Program”) in Martin County, Florida where 27 developmentally disabled high school seniors interned at local businesses. *HOT*’s grant paid the students nominal wages based on their performance and diligence. 75 children are now learning about “real life.” The children open savings accounts through the program and save a portion of the money they earn towards a year-end school trip. Some of these children will be able to use the lessons they learn about life to help them develop independent living skills they will need when their parents are no longer there to help them.

Over the last 2 years, in addition to the Dollar-a-Day program, we funded the purchase of 10 iPads that were not in the School District’s budget that are being used to teach skills and independence. The Thank You note from the teacher brought tears to our eyes. Additionally, this year we took over the funding of a yoga program that the teachers believe has helped get some of these children out of their shells.



We would like to add additional classes to the Dollar-a-Day. An average class has 15 students and therefore \$2,700 (15 students x 180 days x \$1 a school day) would permit us to offer to add another class.



Best Buddies in Martin County



The **Best Buddies** program matches students with developmental disabilities with students on a regular academic track. They become Buddies in high school and spend time together socially, with after-school projects or just having fun, including: float building for Homecoming, movie nights, lunches, pool parties and picnics. *HOT* would like to continue sponsoring the chapter in Martin County, Florida that this year has 30 Buddy pairs (60 members). **We would like our donors to designate \$2,400 to fund additional group activities.**

Camp Kavod – Florida

Camp Kavod (CK) Year-Round Camps are part of the Levis Jewish Community Center’s Special Needs Department that provides children ages 3-22 with a high quality and well-rounded camp program during winter, spring and summer school breaks. *HOT*’s grants have funded many supplies, equipment and program expenses, including: Digital cameras and printers for a camp teen photography program, funding for a teen dance during summer camp to promote greater social skills, a yoga program to help campers learn relaxation techniques,



an adapted art program “HeART” for supplies and equipment, **and in partnership with the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County has made grants to fund more than \$50,000 (\$100,000 with the match) for camp scholarships for families in great need. This funding ensured that no camper would be turned away from summer camp due to a family’s inability to pay camp fees.** Last fall, *HOT* provided funding to initiate a Saturday night “Parent’s Night Out” respite program for 4 hours, once per month, where children attended a structured recreational program as parents receive a well needed break from everyday responsibilities. *HOT* also provided matching



funds for Camp Kavod to purchase a new communication system (walkie-talkies) that enables staff to communicate more effectively with one another, within a very large campus setting.

CK’s current wish list includes:

- **\$2,500 for Zumba enrichment program which will enhance coordination, cognition skills, socialization, and increase self-esteem.**
- **\$10,000 for Shadows that will permit less-developed children to participate in programs where their needs would be too great to otherwise allow participation.**
- **\$10,000 for partial scholarships for special needs children whose parents cannot afford to send them to Camp Kavod (\$5,000 for each of their two holiday sessions).**



My Piece of the Puzzle – Israel

My Piece of the Puzzle (MPOP) runs a free summer overnight camp in Israel using underprivileged “teens-at-risk” as junior counselors for “children with special-needs.” In addition, they work with all of the campers and junior counselors during the school year via regular meetings and activities.

MPOP believes that every child deserves the chance to feel successful and loved. The “special-needs children” go up and down the autistic spectrum, some have Down syndrome, others have Fragile X syndrome. The goal is the same with each of the two populations, and that is to prepare them to function successfully in today’s society, while they experience fun filled camp activities.



The program is run by a carefully selected staff of volunteers, offers a wide range of activities such as swimming, zip lining, ropes course, sports, camping, and workshops in art, music, drama, cooking and dancing.

Using “teens-at-risk” as junior counselors for “special-needs children” is another example of how *HOT* and its partners use leverage in their programs. The special-needs population always has staff on hand to help them. The “teens-at-risk” learn responsibility and feel the pleasure of helping the “special-needs children.” A true Win-Win!

MPOP’s goal is to continue to grow and expand the summer camp, and have holiday camps during the school year. They want to make it possible to reach out to more “special-needs children” and “teens-at-risk” and provide them with a fun, life changing experience.

Hopefully the experiences at camp will result in the “teens-at-risk” being empowered to move forward with their lives and escape what could otherwise be an endless cycle of poverty. In fact, if all goes as planned, many of them will come back as volunteer full counselors and be the staff that will make the expansion of the program possible. As for the “special-needs children”, in a perfect world, the interaction with the “teens at risk” will help them move forward too. They will still be limited by whatever disability they have but camp will teach them that they can be part of a group that goes beyond other “special-needs children”. At worst case, the “special-needs children” will have had a wonderful, fun experience.

MPOP’s wish list includes:

- **\$1,389 expenses for 20 meetings during the school year**
- **\$4,167 programming for youth at risk during the school**
- **\$8,334 overnight trip meals, guiding, entrance fees, transportation, etc.**
- **\$11,111 Holiday Week Camp for 20 special-needs and 20 youth at risk**

Humans Helping Animals Help Humans in Israel

Avshalom Beni started a program that we call “**Humans Helping Animals Help Humans**” where animals help humans deal with problems they are having trouble coping with. And while it is easy for cat and dog lovers to love this program, the project is about helping people. They work with children and adults suffering from PTSD, schizophrenia, ADD, and ADHD, and with Holocaust survivors and fathers who want to reconnect with their children.

In the past we have funded (i) the costs of camp for some of the kids he helps; (ii) in a break with our normal grant rules, food and veterinarian fees (see the reason in bold black print below), (iii) a critical Parent Child Therapy Group that helped families in the south deal with the trauma of the thousands of missiles unleashed by Hamas in the south of Israel in November of 2012. In the aftermath of the 2014 Hamas War, we funded (iv) two PTSD programs in the south. **Last year we made (v) a Challenge Grant that was matched for a program helping parents and children dealing with cancer, (vi) a program helping parents and siblings of autistic children and (vii) a Challenge Grant that Avshalom found another donor to meet for a special needs program for children age 3-5 in Be'er Sheva.**

During the 2014 Gaza War, children in the south (young and old) were screaming as they heard siren after siren and explosion after explosion. Avshalom, who thinks more of the well-being of who he helps than his own safety, drove to Ashkelon with a helper and a bunch of dogs and cats (his “therapists”) and did not leave until a bunch of kids were smiling and laughing. **The war is NOT over for many of the children who lived through all the shelling. The four legged “therapist” in the picture (lower right) died last year, but not before he made this frightened (from the shrill of sirens) little girl feel protected.**

Since there can be no programs without these “therapists,” many of our donors have made designations to help feed them and pay their vet bills. We encourage our donors to designate up to \$33,750 to feed and pay for vet care (\$2,250 on average), for each of fifteen four legged “therapists.”

We would like our donors to consider supporting all or part of additional programs Avshalom would like to start or continue that will help parents and kids through the horrors of PTSD, cancer or autism. Which group is more important? Which group needs this therapy the most? That is for you to decide.



Each program costs approximately \$9,450. Please contact me if you would like to hear the specifics of each program he would like to start. How does interaction with a dog or a cat help? For an adult, maybe it awakes a positive memory –For a child, maybe it is a friend. Maybe it is warmth? Avshalom can explain it far better than I can. I first met Avshalom in a hospital – in a psychiatric ward with Survivors who never recovered from years of horror. One of the survivors was holding the leash of a small dog. He was remembering something. Who knows what? And he smiled. What was he remembering? It doesn't matter what. He smiled. That is enough.

Camp Sunshine for Children With Life-Threatening Illnesses & Their Families



Camp Sunshine in Maine is a retreat for children with **life-threatening illnesses** and their families. It runs year-round and provides recreation and group support and focuses on alleviating the strain a critical illness takes not only on the ill child, but on other members of the immediate family. There are **no fees to attend** the camp, but the families must provide their own transportation. Because the camp's family focus is unique, families have traveled from all 50 states and 27 countries since the program was founded in 1984. Providing access to families is critical to making sure

they can benefit from this opportunity. Over the years we have made grants of more than \$150,000 to Camp Sunshine including **a successful \$20,000 challenge grant that resulted in the purchase of two new vans to transport families to Camp Sunshine from the local airports; to local hospitals from Camp Sunshine; and to treatment for medical emergencies that arise while families are attending the program.** Over the years we have made grants responding to a myriad of important requests, but the bulk of our grants have been for transportation, as we want to make sure that as many families as possible have an opportunity to attend these incredible sessions.



*We received a Thank You Letter from a young boy and a separate one from his mother. This young child knew he was dying. He had a sibling who was jealous of all the attention his mother was giving him. His brother met the brother of another child who had lost a sibling to the same debilitating disease. **After learning how guilty the other boy felt when his brother died, the brother of the boy writing the letter "understood."***

At Camp Sunshine, the sick meet with the only people in the world who can truly understand what they are going through. Parents meet parents. Siblings of children with life-threatening illnesses meet siblings of other children with life-threatening illnesses. We have received many thank you letters through the years and the Executive Director of Camp Sunshine suggested that we might want to print another letter rather than printing this one year after year. I have decided to reprint this one because it says it all, but the two-page layout permits me to print one more.

“My five-year old son was diagnosed with a rare and sometimes fatal blood disease when he was two years old. After four years of chemotherapy, surgeries, infections, and everything else that goes along with this nightmare, we are no closer to a cure than day one. However, you have given us a week to heal. Greg met great friends, fished, went boating, and forgot about chemo for a while. My three-year-old daughter had a chance to be number one, and my husband and I laughed and cried with other parents in similar situations...”



“As we face an uncertain future, we know that Camp Sunshine has made a huge difference in our lives, and we can only hope that it will always be here.”

No family should be deprived of Camp Sunshine because they cannot afford the cost of travel. We must significantly increase our grants for transportation costs for needy families and want our donors to designate \$60,000 in multiples of **\$1,500 (the typical round trip for a family of four). The help we give Camp Sunshine is why *HOT* exists. **Look at the child in the picture to the left. He is smiling. He is a happy child. He doesn't know. Think of what his parents are going through.****



And look at the faces above. A full family, all together but dealing daily with ramifications of a child who requires more attention than his siblings. It hurts the whole family and the week at Camp Sunshine provides, fun, companionship and understanding – understanding of the different problems each member of the family must deal with.

\$60,000 for Transportation (in multiples of \$1,500)

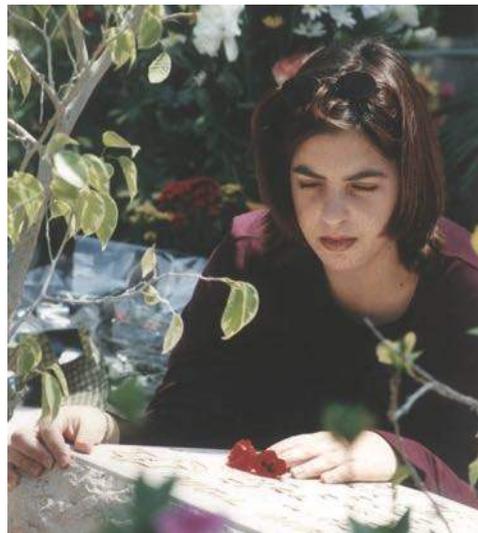
No suffering child or their family should ever not be able to go to Camp Sunshine because they can't afford to get to camp. NEVER EVER.

The Many Victims of War, Terror and Natural Disasters:

- **Widowed In All But Name (pages 51-52)**
- **2014 Gaza War (p. 53-54)**
- **Disaster Strikes Haiti AGAIN (p. 55-56)**
- **2014 Israel Emergency Campaign (p. 57)**
- ***HOT* Emergency Fund for Victims of Terror & Natural Disasters – Prior Years (p. 58)**

Widowed In All But Name

In 1997, a 23-year-old young woman's fiancée, while serving in the Israel Defense Force, was killed in action in Lebanon, 4 months before they were to be married. Her mother and her sister found a way to help her cope and rebuild her life by forming the **Organization for the Emotional Support of Fiancées of Fallen Soldiers of the Israel Defense Force (“Widowed in all but Name”)**. At that time, “Group 1,” a group of 10 fiancées whose loved ones were killed in action, began to meet for two hours per week with a professional therapist trained in bereavement. The group counseling lasted for approximately one year.



They are now up to 29 support groups, 2 of which (Groups 24 and 25) were formed in September 2014, immediately after what has been an inconsistent cease-fire on the Gaza border. The stories of the girls in Groups 24 and 25 are painful with several of them having wedding dates planned for that fall, and one who suffered the loss of her fiancée just weeks before what was supposed to be the happiest day of her life. Both of these groups were funded by a donor to *HOT* who several years ago pledged that if, G-d forbid, there was ever the need for additional groups he insisted on paying for them. When the one year of group therapy ended, many of the girls needed – and, in some cases, are still getting – private therapy. A different donor to *HOT* came forward during the war to fund 182 hours of private therapy.

The Israeli government has accepted some responsibility for helping these girls and the organization is able to get some reimbursement for therapy; BUT the reimbursement procedure is somewhat bizarre in that Widowed In All But Name can only get back a percentage of the direct therapy limited to its good faith estimate of therapy hours at the beginning of each year (yes, that's right, there was minimal reimbursement for the cost of therapy for the girls in the two support groups established immediately after the 2014 Gaza

War because the organization didn't "anticipate" the 2014 Gaza War????). Additionally, expenses like transportation (all sessions are held in the same place and while small, Israel is not quite that tiny), scholarships and emergency needs of the girls (some of the dead soldiers were reservists who were supporting their fiancées) and a small social component deemed necessary by the therapists, is not eligible for any reimbursement.

We have made grants to **"Widowed in all but Name"** to make sure they have no cash flow problems and are able to do whatever is necessary to help these girls get to some level of normalcy.

Sadly, Hamas, the Palestinian Authority, Hezbollah and their "sponsors" have made it clear that there will be more fiancées that will not make it to their wedding day, and will need the love and companionship of others suffering through the same agony and therefore

We are asking our donors to make designations of as much as \$43,680 in multiples of \$2,184 (26 sessions @ \$84 per session) to pay for private therapy for 20 of the fiancées from earlier groups that still need help, and up to \$30,000 to help pay for transportation, scholarships, and emergency needs.

If the Israeli government changes their reimbursement procedures and/or there are no more wars then anything raised beyond what ends up needed for therapy will be used for financial aid and scholarships for the Fiancées or a new support group for the parents of these bereaved girls to help them better understand the problems their daughters are going through, and how to deal with them.

The 2014 Gaza War



In June 2014, 62 rockets... missiles... were fired from Gaza into Israel. In the first week of July, another 170 were fired into Israel. By the time a “lasting” cease-fire had been reached late in the summer, approximately 3,900 rockets had been fired against Israeli towns and their residents. Throughout Hamas’ relentless attacks, we were working non-stop with our partners throughout Israel to provide critical in-the-moment assistance to the many victims of war and terror.

From the moment the war began, *HOT*’s partners were at work. Our Emergency Fund became available without delay, and you – our donors – ensured that we would have enough to address many urgent, critical needs.

Throughout the *HOT News* you have seen many instances where we worked with our Israeli partners to assist during the war.

For example, in Sderot (see page 13), with continuous attacks being launched from literally “right next door” (Sderot is 8 miles from Gaza City, and less than 1 mile from the border with Gaza), running for shelter in 14 seconds many times a day was the alternative to living in the shelters. We helped to equip shelters with food and ensured that children being terrorized by these attacks would have “normal,” fun activities while taking shelter.



While helping our partners in Ashkelon (see p. 31), 8 miles from the Gaza border, *HOT* donors were part of the most critical work we have done. **By paying to rewire over 100 shelters to bring them operational, we insured that many who would have otherwise been taking cover in stairwells during attacks could be protected in a reinforced shelter. This protected lives!**

When we refer to “partners” we are not just talking about organizations in these Southern Israel cities. Our partners are throughout the country, and *HOT* was able to be a catalyst for bringing many of them together... to offer respite for those relegated to the shelters... to increase the supply of food being sent into these areas... and much more.

These are just a few of the examples of the things we were able to do with \$517,000 sent by *HOT*'s donors to specifically address the many needs that arose during the war. The full list is far more extensive. Many of you received my Sunday night emails during the war that gave incremental updates on the work we were doing. On page 57, we summarized all the grants we made during the war.

***HOT* is unique – not just in what we were able to accomplish, but in the way we were able to identify critical needs up front and ensure funds were available with zero delay. As with past crises, we were in contact with our partners as events unfolded, and were able to authorize immediate (i.e., that day) purchases. This comes from our lack of organizational “red-tape,” our direct relationships with those who know the immediate needs, and our generous donors who understand that we need to have the ability to respond immediately.**



Those who have followed *HOT* throughout the years (or who have read the *HOT News*) should recognize this model. In many other crisis situations, we were similarly there for the victims.

Disaster Strikes Haiti AGAIN

In 2010 Haiti was hit with a devastating earthquake. *HOT* was afraid that any supplies or money we could send to help would never get to those in need, so we came up with the idea of providing weekend food for poor children (all the children were participants in the U.S. government hot lunch program) in the Little Haiti section of Miami. *HOT* did this by buying 100 backpacks and having an organization we were already working with fill the backpacks with food for the weekend. Either the food provided nourishment for the child, or was split between the school child and his/her preschool sibling or it freed up money for the parents to send to their family in Haiti (something they could do with far more confidence than we could have).

6 years after being hit with the devastating earthquake, Hurricane Matthew turned away from what would have been a direct hit to southeast Florida, and for a few hours stalled over southern Haiti. The southern part of this country of 11,000,000 people was again crippled. Poorly constructed houses and huts that again replaced similar structures (if you want to call them that) destroyed by the earthquake were swept away. Cholera ran rampant and the same people who suffered 6 years earlier were desperate for help. While writing this vignette, I went to Google to check a fact I was going to write in the next sentence but I think copying the first Google listing says all that is needed to understand the magnitude of the storm:

Hurricane Matthew: Haiti south '90% destroyed'

8 October 2016 – **“Nearly 900 people are known to have been killed by Hurricane Matthew in Haiti, with aid officials saying up to 90% of some areas have been destroyed.”**

(BBC News)

But how could *HOT* help the Haitian people? Again, *HOT* was concerned that any supplies we purchased or money we sent would end up with either “government officials,” or “middlemen” who control much of the commerce. This time we sought out the one partner who we could trust to make sure what we sent would ALL end up with those in need, the “Archdiocese of Miami”. Additionally, as *HOT* always tries to lever its grants, we also partnered with B’nai Torah Congregation in Boca Raton. On Kol Nidre eve, (the holiest night in the Jewish calendar), the Rabbi (David Steinhardt) announced that *HOT* (from undesignated funds), offered to match up to \$25,000 (that we subsequently raised to \$36,000) his congregants contributed to *HOT*. He repeated his plea the next day at Yom Kippur services, and both times read the list of supplies requested by the Archdiocese (a list they got from the “Archdiocese of Haiti”). *HOT* used the same “shopping list” and in the next 6 days bought \$72,000 of supplies (see the facing page) which were then added to the approximately \$200,000 of supplies brought that Sunday to the synagogue. **\$36,000 from *HOT* grew to over \$250,000. More than 7-1 leverage.**

The List:

- Shoes and sandals for toddlers, children and adults
- Clothing for toddlers, children and adults
- Toiletries: deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, bars of soap, baby powder and laundry soap
- Medical Supplies: bandages, ointments, wound care for children and adults
- Sheets, towels, wash cloths, blankets
- Trash bags in all sizes, Ziploc gallon bags, large tarps to cover roofs.
- Tents, building materials, air mattresses, flashlights and batteries
- Pedialyte, ready-to-feed baby formula and bottles
- Small toys for orphanages



Almost 1,000 (yes, almost 1,000) people came to the synagogue on Sunday. They brought everything on the list. We kept sending out for more pallets. We kept sending out for more shrink wrap. When added to what *HOT* bought with the \$72,000, there were a total of 72 pallets. \$36,000 leveraged to more than \$250,000

But the leverage was actually far greater than 7-1 because the Archdiocese took responsibility for loading the 72 pallets on a ship, getting someone to ship for free, off-loading, trucking to a central warehouse and then trucking to 6 distribution points.

Look at the length of the line to get close to one of the distribution points (lower left) and then to finally get through the gate (lower right) – how pitiful, how NECESSARY:



**This project is what *HOT* is all about.
Working to help those in need.
“PARTNERSHIP”**

**“PARTNERSHIP”
HOT, a Synagogue and the Catholic Church
All working together to help those in need**

The leverage on this project was Much Much Much More than 7-1.

2014 Israel Emergency Campaign

We raised \$517,000 in our Israel Emergency Campaign and made \$523,659 (1,885,171 NIS at an average exchange rate of 3.6 NIS to the dollar) of grants to our partners to help them deal with the problems brought on by the war.

836,481 NIS in Ashkelon (page 31) to:

- Rewire 102 bomb shelters, providing safety to more than 5,000 people
- Feed kids in public shelters for almost 4 weeks – some days as many as 4,000 kids
- Buy food vouchers for poor families
- Provide 4,800 Shabbat meals for families in public shelters
- Purchase toys and art supplies for children in shelters
- Provide single-day, overnight & multi-night respite for more than 1,000 people including 200 with various mental disabilities
- Repair air-conditioners in shelters

336,451 NIS in Sderot (page 13) to:

- Equip shelters
- Provide single day and overnight respite for more than 1,000 people, including 600 children
- Purchase food for shelters and food vouchers for poor families
- Conduct a one-day retreat for 38 daycare center employees
- Provide first-aid training for nursery school teachers
- Provide respite trips for families of the Emergency Response Team
- Conduct Women's Workshops
- Provide animal assisted therapy
- Provide an expanded one-day program for kindergarten age children
- Purchase a high volume "texting plan" to get information to residents of a particular neighborhood
- Purchase supplies for activities, and offer arts and craft and photography workshops in the shelters

160,500 NIS to The Jaffa Institute (pages 21 - 22) for housing, food, teachers and programs for 230 kids from the South

152,157 NIS for Animal Assisted Therapy (page 48) to help victims in the South deal with PTSD

120,000 NIS for both group and individual therapy for fiancées and (long-term) girlfriends of soldiers that died as a result of the war (pages 51-52)

90,278 NIS to buy an industrial freezer and two industrial refrigerators, allowing Leket (page 12) to add fresh produce to deliveries of food in the South; to purchase food in 6 cities in the South to stop merchants from going out of business; and to distribute discounted food vouchers in the South

86,964 NIS to Shoulder to Shoulder to provide busing, special activities and a psychologist for children and their families for respite, providing food and school equipment vouchers in 3 Southern Israeli cities

62,100 NIS to Beit Elazraki (pages 23-24) for buses and activities for busloads of 50 kids a day **from the South**

23,940 NIS to bring 7 families with at least one child with mental and physical disabilities from Ashdod to Beit Kaye for a program run by Krembo Wings (arranged by Galila, see page 18)

16,300 NIS to Shearim Netanya for an additional counselor, bus transportation activities for children coming from the South.

HOT Emergency Fund for Victims of Terror and Natural Disasters

In **2005**, *HOT* worked with many in the community to provide trucks and supplies during the first 10 days following Hurricane Katrina. In the same year, we helped to provide food, bus passes and emergency lodging to victims of Hurricane Wilma.

During the **2006** war with Hezbollah, *HOT* helped meet the immediate needs of a *de facto* refugee population as those near areas under attack fled to the center of Israel and helped to secure matching funds to open an Emergency Command Center in a secure bunker.

In the years since... in **2007**... **2008**... through 2014, we developed and deepened our relationships with partners in the South as they endured rocket attacks from Hamas. We have been there during each crisis, helping with food, shelter and respite. And when the attacks subsided, we were there to help victims deal with the emotional trauma that they had suffered.

In **2010**, a devastating earthquake displaced a tremendous portion of the Haitian population. We worked directly with one of our partners to help the families of some of these victims in Miami's "Little Haiti."—depending on them to get help to their families rather than sending money or supplies directly to Haiti where the help could be siphoned off by corrupt officials or other "profiteers". See pages 55 and 56 to see what we did for the citizens of Haiti in 2016.



And in **2012**, Hurricane – or “Super Storm” – Sandy ravaged coastal areas in New Jersey, New York City and Long Island. We partnered with multiple organizations to: bring truckloads of food, clothing, hygiene products and other basic necessities to areas hit hard; brought electric power back to many who lost it by providing new circuit breakers to replace damaged ones; funded a bus and supplies for 44 student volunteers (see p. 33) to travel from Florida to New York (and then back to Florida) to provide critical manpower for cleanup and rebuilding and we made, **and had challenge grants matched, which multiplied the effectiveness of our donors’ dollars.**



And in Fall **2016**, 11 years after Hurricane Katrina, much of the same Gulf area was hit by devastating floods, and *HOT* again found a way to promptly help those in need. No trucks this time – a *HOT* volunteer had a relationship with a church in Baton Rouge that gave us lists of what was critically needed. This time *HOT* eliminated trucking costs and used “Amazon Prime” to make deliveries directly to the distribution center. No wasted costs... sending only what was specifically needed – not like other well-meaning organizations that send whatever they receive from their well-meaning donors, whether needed or not. The process of recovery was a slow one because houses in poor areas were under

water and mold needed to be completely eliminated before they could be re-inhabited. In some cases, there was little or no help from government agencies if houses did not “fit within specifically designated boundaries.” *HOT* helped those in need, whether they lived within or without “designated boundaries.”

***HOT* has used undesignated funds for all its emergency relief other than the 2014 Gaza War (during which we had an emergency campaign). *HOT* needs to be financially prepared to act immediately when there are more disasters. When you are making your decision of what to give to *HOT* this year and what to designate it to, think of all that we have done and how quickly we did it, and consider helping us build up a fund to be available for the next disaster. We would like our donors to designate \$500,000 towards a fund that can be used in those first critical days.**



Hands On
H.O.T.
 Tzedakah

The charity where donors pay no overhead
 and choose what their dollars are used for.



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