



# The Summit Institute Annual Report of Activities

# 2021



**The Summit Institute**  
Foster Care for Children and Youth at Risk  
and Psychosocial Rehabilitation



## From the Desk of Yoni Bogot

### Dear Friends,

Once again, 2021, not unlike the previous year, was defined in large part by the Corona virus. Yet this past year at the Summit Institute we were better prepared and equipped to work alongside these challenges, and the multiple waves that came and went.

I take pride in the fact that we continued to succeed in our rehabilitative and treatment activities, and expanded our professional approach to assisting those in need out of a sense of deep responsibility for those we are blessed to help; 1,400 foster children, 900 foster families, 12 families who work with us in times of critical need for an urgent response, 600 individuals in our rehabilitation programs, and 120 parents of adolescents.

Over the course of the year, we were able to continue to train new staff members through a variety of clinical seminars and retraining sessions, and to further improve our management structure. We recently completed a series of courses that have been ongoing for the past two years throughout all the levels of the Institute focused on suicide prevention. We drafted a document that brought together the relevant policies and guidelines to help identify and address suicide.

We very much hope that after more than a year of planning in tandem with the local authorities that we will commence construction on the "Summit House" in the coming months.

I fully recognize that all our ongoing accomplishments are due to our remarkable staff who invest each and every day in helping us achieve our vision of comprehensive treatment and rehabilitation for those who need it. Like every year, our ability to grow and develop new programs and sustain existing ones in ways that directly benefit our children and those in the rehabilitation programs, is due to the assistance and generosity of you – the friends of Summit. I wish to express a particular thanks to the Chair of our Friends organization, Mr. Moshe Bar Siman Tov whose leadership has allowed us to build a team of particularly dedicated supporters. After many months of hard work, we have recently succeeded in joining forces to create the Igul L'Tova program. I invite all of you to join this initiative and encourage others to join as well which creates a "circle of good" - a structure to support Summit and expand the projects we are involved with for the betterment of the community we serve.

With deep gratitude for all your continued support and friendship, I wish us all a year defined by calm and good health.

**Yoni Bogot**



**1,400**  
Foster children

**900**  
Foster families

**12**  
Urgent case families

**600**  
Individuals in our  
rehabilitation programs

**120**  
Parents of adolescents





## From the Desk of the Director of Foster Services | Netta Siboni

For me personally, 2021 was a year of discovery for how the foster process operates, as I now have had the chance to learn to direct this service that I established together with Orit Amiel.

Orit served as the director of the service for the past 20 years with remarkable dedication and love before leaving the position last year. Despite being a year defined by changes and challenges, we were blessed to witness continued growth and activity on behalf of our children, families and fellow staff.

Corona certainly presented a feeling of confusion and uncertainty to our children, the families, and all of us as well. The children were forced to deal with long periods of time where they didn't know what would lie ahead- specifically when the primary goal of our foster program is to create a sense of stability and routine in their lives.

### Among our activities this year:

#### Therapeutic groups for children and parents:

- For children and families in the Jewish and Arab communities in their first year in foster programs.
- Groups for those in their last year of fostering.
- Groups for siblings who have had a foster child join the family, focused on their responsibilities in welcoming in a new family member.
- A DBT group for foster parents that teaches parental skills - particularly in response to adjustment challenges for their children.

#### Meimad Program

Corona presented unique challenges in our goal to maintain relationships between the children and their biological parents, a further obstacle in what is already often a complex relationship.

Over 2021, we held 75 different treatment programs using the Meimad approach, a model developed together with the Ministry of Welfare and The Joint, designed to maintain proper relationships between foster children and their biological parents.

#### Programs for "Foster Graduates"

These two-day programs welcomed the participation of 20 high school graduates who were preparing to complete their times as foster children. The programs were intended to create a sense of "equality" among all the graduates and allow them to assist one another in this new phase in their lives defined by new challenges and separation from the past.

The program further helped educate them about opportunities in the IDF or the general workforce, and what options existed for further support in planning their future paths. All this is intended to help reduce the obvious tension for what lies ahead and to give the necessary support to address these changes.

Over the course of the year, we held two such sessions- one for teens in the Jewish sector and a separate session for Arab teens.

#### Relatives Fostering

Since the passage of the Fostering Law in 2016, there's been a marked increase in the cases of relatives requiring fostering. In 2021, we absorbed 102 families. When fostering takes place on a family level, it often requires the involvement of additional relatives (aunts and uncles, grandparents) to address the emotional and practical needs of the multiple children being fostered who are often in very challenging places in their lives.

#### The Summit Institute Therapy Center

Over the past year, our Therapy Center treated 252 children in 23 different therapy rooms. They were treated by a team of 37 psychologists, clinical social workers and foster case workers. In Jerusalem, we opened a new facility in the north of the city which is designed for the Jewish population of the Mateh Yehudah region, as well as Arab residents of the northern areas of the city.

The Center provides a range of dynamic treatments via interactive games as well as highlighting interactions between foster parents and children – all designed to strengthen bonds and trust. On the one hand, these places provide a fresh setting where parents and the child can get to know each other and learn how to communicate and help parents to connect to a new child who was previously not theirs. From the child's perspective, the child is taught to relate to a new parental figure, alongside their biological parents.

Over this year, we also expanded our services via Zoom sessions, being increasingly available to parents and allowing us to respond to specific incidents and crises that could arise even when in-person responses might not be possible.

#### Foster Staff Training

2021 presented a range of new challenges for our staff involved with the fostering process. One of the greatest issues was related to challenges of isolation, which caused children to withdraw, all too often into depressive states because of lengthy separation from others. On occasion, this would manifest itself in self-destructive behavior and even suicidal thoughts and statements.

This situation produced considerable concern for our staff, and we felt it necessary to respond with specific staff training. We carefully mapped the needs and drafted a guidebook to help staff identify issues and respond accordingly. We held a series of day-long seminars on this topic, and we are continuously working to respond to issues that arise.

Alongside this realm, we also worked on a parallel program to identify and assist victims of sexual abuse.

#### Foster Research Program

The research branch of our foster program is coordinated by Dr. Shlomit Prince-Engelsman, a social worker with expertise in care for children, teens and parents. She who works at our Therapy Center as well as being a lecturer in the Faculty of Social Work at the Ashkelon Academic College.

#### During 2021, under her direction, we embarked on a series of studies:

- The Role of the "Foster Father" - performed in collaboration with Dr. Nadav Vaisvidovsky, a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Social Work at the Ashkelon Academic College.
- The experience of fostered relatives - conducted by Prof. Shalhevet Atar-Schwartz from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Prof. Avihu Shoshana from the University of Haifa and the Ministry of Welfare.
- The experience of foster coordinators during Corona - performed in collaboration with Dr. Shirli Ben-Shlomo from Bar Ilan University. The study surveyed responses from 20 foster coordinators and supervisors. The results were shared in a lecture presented to foster coordinators and compiled into a paper that will be published in the near future.
- A presentation on the limitations of fostering - which was presented at the 52nd Symposium of the Israel Social Work Society held at Sapir Academic College. The presentation was developed together with Shoshana Lubish-Omer, Director of the Jerusalem office, and Dr. Maayan Fine, a lecturer at Sapir College. The presentation focused on coping mechanisms of foster coordinators during Corona.
- Participation in a conference on "Diversity in Israeli Society- Directions and Trends" - which was held at the Ashkelon Academic College. Summit was represented by Dr. Shlomit Prince-Engelsman, Orit Amiel, former Director of Foster Services and Ruti Soffer- Elnkave, a social worker and doctoral student at the University of Minnesota. Our presentation was entitled "Diversity in Fostering in Israeli Society" with a focus on the Bedouin population in the Negev and the charedi population.
- We published a research study about the work of our Therapy Center in the Journal "Efshar" together with Orit Amiel and Meital Drimmer, the Center's director.
- A lecture was presented at a conference on "Loss and Resilience" at the Multidisciplinary Center for the Study of Loss, Despair and Resilience together with Avital Altman, director of our Kiryat Milachi foster office. The lecture, entitled "I miss my mom and dad and want to go home", focused on developing tools of resilience in foster children who are fostered by family relatives following tragic loss.

75  
People in the Meimad Program

102  
Relative Families Added  
This Year

252  
Children treated in our  
Therapy Center



### From the Desk of Danny Steinberg, Director of Rehabilitation Services

I would first like to thank all those partners in our rehabilitation services and express my gratitude for the hard work you have invested in this process which requires the involvement of many people and resources. I thank you both for the time you have invested in this process, but even more so the emotional investment.

Our work is based upon a real spiritual commitment, and I firmly believe that only people who share that sense of dedication choose Summit as the place to work - rather than somewhere else where it might be easier and calmer.

The past year has certainly not been simple, and it challenged us on many occasions to find the stability that we need in this field. We were forced to confront many different situations where we needed to learn to adjust and be creative. Of course, there can be no summing up the past year without referring to the new partner that has become a constant in our lives- Ms. Corona.

Many of our staff interactions, which were previously held in person, have been transferred to the virtual realm and forced us to adapt to new ways of working which will likely continue to define how we operate even when the virus is completely behind us.

The early periods of Corona were characterized by a great deal of confusion and uncertainty, particularly as we approached the times of green and purple passes and red and orange zones and all that those labels meant. Through much of this time, we dealt with that inescapable feeling that we were working with little idea of what lay ahead. In essence, this robbed us of one of the more fundamental ideals of rehabilitation, which is based on elements of confidence, continuity and control. We weren't able to anticipate what would happen on any given day, who would end up in isolation or getting infected, or if another full closure might be on the horizon. Across our entire workforce we dealt with a sense of swaying emotions, where one day we would feel that this would be with us forever and by the next day we were thinking that we had reached the end of the tunnel. This year of uncertainty demanded that we adapt how we work and often to divide into "capsules" and where necessary to meet online, but always requiring us to think creatively in response to the latest chaotic developments.

We did succeed in learning to live with these conditions, and over the course of the year we experienced several important developments in our rehabilitation service. Netta Siboni, who was the director of our protected residence program since 2002, was appointed as the new director of foster services at Summit. We are very proud of her achieving this new position and will also miss her greatly as she led the program with a great deal of dedication and love - and with a perfect combination of sensitivity and intensity. Keren Zelikov, who was Netta's deputy, has assumed the director position, and Lilach Kukush, who served as the head of the staff in the protected living program, will now be the deputy director.

”  
Despite the challenges from Corona, we proved that we could promote stability and sensitivity to remain true to our values, and as importantly embrace a high-level of professionalism.  
”

### Some Additional Highlights from 2021

- We launched the “Embracing Life” program led by Adi and Reut who led groups based on the approach of Adi Mentzur who has become the director of the DBT field at Summit.
- We set up a steering committee to oversee the program to reduce the incidence of suicides, with Eitan Geffen and Netta Siboni joining the committee. Our staff underwent training to better identify and respond to cases of self-harm and individuals showing suicidal tendencies. The team produced a book of guidelines summarizing everything we learned and provide specific tools to respond.
- We held our first Orientation Day for new staff members which proved to be a very enriching experience for all and quickly strengthened their connection with Summit.
- In August of 2021, we held a very productive meeting with the Director of Mental Health Services, Dr. Tal Bergman earning our “Nitzan” program praise.
- In May of 2021, we hosted the annual “Rehabilitation Morning” which focused on issues of aggression against staff members.
- The Nitzan Unit has moved to a new center located adjacent to our main offices and the Therapy Center. There the Unit will have both its offices and host its therapy sessions.

On a personal note, I welcome the chance to share something about the rehabilitation approach at Summit.

Despite the challenges from Corona, and the many staff and administrative changes and financial concerns- we were able to promote stability, compassion and adherence to our values and always with a high level of professionalism. In the field of rehabilitation in Israel, we are perceived as an outstanding service provider. What helps us stand out is our ideological commitment combined with extensive experience in bringing together the various elements of rehabilitation with the understanding that to succeed we need to relate to all relevant aspects of life. This in turn aids the individual's overall function, assisting them finding employment, social interaction and truly relating to their emotional and practical needs. This combined and comprehensive approach is realized each and every day in how our staff approaches their work. I firmly believe our successes relate to the close bond between our directors and the staff, and how everyone comes together to dedicate themselves to the rehabilitative task and more than ever before we are benefiting from this important commitment towards collaboration.







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**2017**

The Nitzan Unit opens to provide therapeutic and rehabilitation services to victims of sexual trauma

**About 18**

Women are currently in the program

**4**

Women in the program live in our group housing

**4**

Meetings per week with rehabilitation counselors

### The “Nitzan” Unit

| Michal Achitov



The Nitzan Unit was set up five years ago with the goal of assisting in the rehabilitative response for victims of sexual trauma, and currently works with 18 women.

Four of the women live in our housing which is staffed every morning, evening and weekend by three of our counselors. During the days the women go out to work or to learn. We face a high level of demand for housing and we are hoping to open an expanded group facility in the coming year.

The other women live on their own, mostly in rented apartments with roommates and are in regular contact with our counselors at least four times a week. In addition, all the women have in person meetings at least twice a week so that on most days one of our team members is in touch with the women and checking in on their welfare.

In many cases, victims of sexual abuse also suffer from eating disorders and we therefore have a dedicated dietician on staff who meets regularly with the women. Our rehabilitation counselors often accompany the women for everyday tasks like shopping and cooking, and are a regular presence to help them deal with the many practical and emotional challenges that come with their conditions. In recent months, we have added a psychiatrist to the team who provides additional mental health support beyond what they can receive via the public healthcare system. Our therapy approach, using

individualized and group therapy and DBT, helps these women learn to identify the complex emotions that arise in various daily situations and learn to better respond to stress and tension. This of course includes working with them to handle self-destructive thoughts, that are all too common with victims of sexual trauma. The DBT sessions work intensely to address suicidal tendencies. These women have to deal with a wide variety of practical and mental challenges but are bravely committed to rebuilding lives defined by independent living and self-confidence.

All too often, these victims come to us with little or no family support, and tragically we confront cases where their families are unwilling to believe their stories or it's family members themselves who are the abusers and the family relationship is deeply strained. For these women, our housing and support programs are their primary safe spaces, where they can go even if they have no family to rely on.

Despite Corona, in 2021 all these program elements continued to be active with limited disturbance. The therapy meetings, counselling, dieticians and DBT sessions all were able to take place throughout the year. When there were cases of quarantine, we shifted to Zoom, but tried to keep that format to a minimum wherever possible.



4  
Hybrid Programs for Coping  
with Challenging Teens

Programs  
in 13  
Hostels Throughout Jerusalem

The Mahut Center  
for Parents of  
Adolescents  
| Galia Tzurel

Corona presented a wide variety of challenges and struggles for teens and their parents and was also a year of development and activity for the Mahut Center:

- We worked with hundreds of couples and individuals who are parents of adolescents.
- We coordinated four hybrid group sessions for parents coping with challenging teens. The sessions were divided between two-parent families, fathers from the charedi sector, single-mother families, and mothers from the charedi sector.
- We continued to provide free lectures for parents from Jerusalem where we brought leading experts in fields like parental consent, parenting during Corona, communicating with teens, negotiating and other topics.

The Mahut Center was set up to provide a supportive framework for parents, teens and families at large, specifically to relate to challenges like those that exist during these complex times.

We work to strengthen the often-strained connection between parents and children and help parents to be more supportive in times of crisis - with a specific goal of creating more unified families and assisting the teens to function better in the face of challenge.

Those who turn to the Center are parents of children ages 13-18 living in Jerusalem from all sectors of the population including new immigrants.



The Sports and Fitness Center | Adi Shorer

2021 was a challenging year. We seemed to be always fighting to be able to function and introduce new ideas and recruit new members, all while keeping our staff upbeat in the face of ongoing challenges that threatened our activities.

In a world of social distancing and not knowing what was next, we often felt that things were up against us. But we have persevered and were even able to celebrate numerous new successes over the year. We launched a stage performance center under the direction of Maayan who together with the team produced a remarkable and moving show. Our theater group also produced a great show that earned rave reviews, and was directed by Masha and Yael.

We opened a home studio of the Sports Center, with the help of Yariv and Ophir, the maintenance team of the Institute, who worked tirelessly to make this possible! We are now transforming a space for a social hall that will be easily accessible and will allow people to come together and relax with friends. In addition to the sport and culture activities, we held groups for couples in chess, nutrition, cooking and others. We launched cooperative ventures with other groups including for the marathon together with the Ministry of Health, "Fridays in the Nature of

Jerusalem", a partnership with the Sotera organization and the Musrara Local Council to offer day trips in the Jerusalem area. We also assisted in research together with Bar Ilan University about how physical activity in a group setting impacts on social development. Our activities were spread among the 13 hostels throughout Jerusalem.

And of course, we have continued to expand our remarkable work in the mental health hospitals in all the nine departments in Eitanim and Kfar Shaul.

We expanded our activities with the older ages- a program that provides enrichment for people over 50 who are looking to enhance their social lives and embrace tools for more healthy living.

Our Center offers individual attention to all who need our help and seek it out. Every person receives professional guidance from our team of counsellors and is able to have a course designed specifically for their needs whether it's in a group setting or on an individual basis. This allows the person to better understand his or her physical abilities and what makes them calmer and reduces tension - all leading to greater feelings of personal independence and self-confidence.



About **240**  
individuals received  
rehabilitation services in the  
housing program

About **50 to 60**  
staff members

About **10**  
parents meet weekly to  
confront and share issues in  
coping with parenting



## Assisted Housing Program | Keren Zelikov-Shasha

2021 was again a challenging year and in particular for the program for those in protective housing.

Netta Siboni, who directed the program for the past 15 years left in October and Keren Zelikov-Shasha is now in the director's position. Lilach Kukush-Velkowitz is now the deputy director.

Corona had a very direct impact on our work, and despite those challenges, our close relationship with our residents remained in place throughout the entire year. When we were faced with quarantines and closures we had to resort to Zoom. Over the course of 2021, our program grew substantially, and we now work with 240 people either in rehabilitation or those who are dealing with mental health challenges or other behavioral difficulties that require our support. In response, our staff has also grown, and we have between 50 and 60 team members over five different departments. This includes social workers and rehabilitation counselors and department managers.

### A Glimpse into Our 2021 Activities

Our rehabilitation residents participated in the DBT programs of the Institute.

In December of 2021 we opened a group for people in the program who are also parents. The group, made up of ten people, meets each week to discuss issues related to parenting and the challenges this presents. The group is run by Shani and Yehudit- both social workers in the Institute.

We developed a working collaboration with students from Hadassah College. Two students from the Faculty of Behavioral Science are working alongside two of our program members and participate in group training.

We've similarly developed a partnership from the Phototherapy program at Musrara where a student meets with our program members once a week to engage in phototherapy and also receives training from our staff.

In July of 2021, the Nitzan Unit left its protective space and entered into a more independent housing structure.

This is an important and meaningful shift and will also allow for additional space in the protective space unit. The move will provide additional therapy rooms, ensuring more space for our therapists and social workers and allowing greater privacy and comfort for all. This year also presented challenges in recruiting new staff, particularly rehabilitation counselors who are critical players in all aspects of the rehabilitation process. This recruiting challenge is believed to be linked to numerous factors including Corona which made people more wary of working outside the home and also introduced new financial challenges that made people rethink certain employment tracks. But we take pride that we have added new social workers to respond to the growing needs.

### Goals for 2022

- Expanding the network of services of the rehabilitation counselors through day-long seminars, DBT training events and more.
- A "Fun-Day" for our Social Workers to thank them after two particularly intensive years.
- Increased involvement of social-work students to prepare them to become rehabilitation professionals.
- Increased attention to the needs of parents within the program. Our hope is to hold monthly events with parents and children together focused on fun and creativity and to allow parents with similar challenges to come together.
- Additional social, educational and recreational events for those in our rehabilitation programs.
- Building a staff room within the rehabilitation unit which will be designed to create greater comradery among the staff and provide them with a private space where they can come together and relax from the emotional intensity that defines this field of work.



Angel and Shlomo, you might have **8** children listed officially, but in your hearts there are **217** children. How blessed I am to be one of them.”

### Dear Angel, My Angel,

It's so remarkable to see that now the whole world can get to know you and the good you do – and not just us - your family. I say these words “us” and “family” because you and Shlomo have truly become my Saba and Savta. Angel and Shlomo, you might have eight children listed officially, but in your hearts there are actually 217 children.

I feel so blessed to be one of them.

My relationship with Angel began on the day I was born. As it happened, I was born three months early and my parents had no ability to care for me when I came into the world. My mother became severely depressed upon my birth and as an “urgent foster response family” on behalf of Summit, Angel was called to come to the hospital. She was told there was a baby that needed being picked up and taken care of.

This precious Angel picked me up from the hospital, discharged me from the neonatal intensive care unit, and from there our love story began. Since that day I have become a member of her family. I will never forget the love and concern that Angel and Shlomo had for me and I will be indebted to them for my entire life. Since that day, I have never lacked; food, money, warmth, love, giving and security- they were my angels and they protected me and continue to protect me, even in the toughest of moments. Even when I left to go with my brother to my foster family which was located far away, they continued to make sure I was cared for. I grew up as one of those many siblings and when I got bigger, I helped her care for them. They say that “children are happiness”, but until you’ve walked into Angel’s home you could never truly appreciate what that phrase means.

So let me explain... First of all, their door is always open, just like a huge heart and their home is filled with all the food and drink that you can't refuse even if you try. And even if you do refuse, Angel will push home-made cakes into your hands or some tray of the best home-cooked food you can imagine. All this takes place with happy and laughing kids all around singing and playing.

Each child has a story of how he or she got to Angel’s home, but together they are all Angel’s children - and wherever they came from she has that same soul-filled connection. When I was about five or six years old, I left my foster family to go back to my biological parents – of course only after Angel’s recommendation because only she has that ability to determine exactly what’s right for her children.

And indeed, she wasn't wrong. My parents had rehabilitated themselves and gave me a new life filled with goodness and love and I was now blessed with two families that I could love - my biological family and the incredible Alon family. I know that Angel and Shlomo turned the world upside down to give me the life I needed and fought so hard to give me the chance to grow up, here in Israel, in the best conditions possible. For this they deserve the sincerest thanks - just for who they are and what they do. Because it is only because of them that my life was given back to me.

There is no one in this country more serving to light a torch than Angel because that is truly who she is – a model of wonder for the State of Israel. There is no one like her. A righteous tzadika in a league of her own. Thank you Savta Angel and Saba Shlomo. I love you.

### Vered\*, a Foster “Graduate”

\*name changed to protect her identity





# David Lau Chief Rabbi of Israel

**David Lau**  
Chief Rabbi of Israel  
President of the Great Rabbinical Court



**דוד לאו**  
הרב הראשי לישראל  
נשיא בית הדין הרבני הגדול

בס"ד, י"ב אדר ב, תשפ"ב  
15 מרץ, 2022  
המ"ל-370.פב

To the Attention of  
**Mira Werker**  
Summit Institute

"You shall build a world based on charity" - so it is written in the Midrash (Yalkut Shimoni, Ruth B). From here we learn that he who acts charitably is entitled to a very special bond with the Creator of the World.

We learn that one who raises an orphan is indeed their parent. This isn't only if the parents tragically die, but also those who have no ability to raise a child in the proper fashion and thus require the assistance of another.

Anyone who opens their house and welcomes in a young boy or girl, this is charity on the highest level, and we know that those who provide this selfless expression of caring will be blessed in return. We also know that providing this spiritual and practical support to these children can be very challenging. There is no doubt that those who invest themselves in this area build up a very special bond with children. The Midrash on the Book of Esther similarly writes that anyone who raises an orphan is considered as someone who is doing charity at all times.

If the very existence of our world was built on charity, there is no doubt that fostering a child and welcoming him or her into our homes is something that allows our world to exist.

The Summit Institute has as its flagship this goal to help and rehabilitate young people, many of them facing lives of challenge, who are often unable to continue to function alongside their biological parents.

I call upon all who can to support this work and to also open their homes to those in need with love and warmth and to serve as foster families and help these children in all ways possible so they can continue to grow and thrive.

Sincerely,  
**David Lau**  
Chief Rabbi of Israel  
President of the Israel Chief Rabbinical Court



## The Past Year a "Yatzir Kapayim"- Creating Opportunities for Special People

| Rotem Nefesh-  
Mamman

2021 continued in the shadow of Corona, but in many ways we have long-ago learned how to deal with these challenges. For most of the year, we were able to operate under normal conditions, even if we needed to be cautious and patient. Our creative activities in our factory went full speed ahead.

**For Purim 2021, we prepared hundreds of mishlochei manot packages for schools and nursery schools and we were truly proud of how everyone rose to this task in such a remarkable fashion.**

- For Pesach, we prepared gifts for all the Summit staff and sewed about 350 individual tablecloths.
- The summer was particularly busy where we worked in building furniture for local kindergartens.
- We continued with our work creating masks.

This year our occupational department welcomed about 100 people within the rehabilitation program, some who worked in the factory and others in other support roles and with the goal of helping to prepare them for the general employment market. We continued with our employment partnership with the Nechama Bakery.

In 2021 we also launched a partnership effort with Shani Avigayil, the mother of Ido Avigayil who was killed in Operation Shomer Hachomot. The project, in Ido's memory, saw us building special benches in our own carpentry shop where the phrase "Love Your Neighbor Like Yourself" was etched into the wood and have been placed throughout neighborhood schools and gardens.





Minister of Culture and Sport Chili Tropper at the tribute event for Angel Alon and families who provide urgent foster response



Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Leon at the tribute event for Angel Alon and families who provide urgent foster response



Fun day in Tel Aviv for Summit staff



Fundraising event in partnership with the Friends of Summit



An evening of appreciation in tribute to Orit Avital, who completed 20 years of service as director of foster services



Mira Werker appearing on television to discuss our foster work

## THANK YOU!

We are so proud and appreciative to have you as partners!

The Summit Institute is deeply grateful to the government ministries, foundations and businesses who partner with us to create a better life for the foster children and all the others that we are blessed to help.

Orca Securites  
 Altshuler Shacham  
 Elta Systems Ltd. Beersheva, Ashdod  
 El Al  
 Bezeq  
 Bank Hapoalim  
 Bank Discount  
 Bank Leumi  
 Mizrahi Tfachot  
 Joseph and Lilach Gitler  
 The Joint  
 Ganir Ltd.  
 Hapoel Beersheva  
 Hapoel Altshuler Shacham Beersheva  
 Hapoel Yerushalayim  
 Harel  
 Haruach Hatovah  
 Alstom Israel  
 Tempo Beverages  
 Meitar Law Offices  
 Igul L'Tovah  
 Pasternak Shoham  
 Hatikva Project  
 CheckPoint Software Technologies  
 The Arison Family Foundation

The Buxbaum Foundation  
 The Jerusalem Foundation  
 The Miriam Shlomowitz Memorial Fund  
 The Dr. Polanska Memorial Fund  
 The Menachem Bar-On Fund  
 The Arkin Family Foundation  
 The Sebba Charitable Trust  
 The Sobell Foundation  
 The Azriel Foundation- Israel  
 The Schusterman Family Foundation  
 Tafnit Construction Management  
 Rhoda Kaufman  
 Jewish Child's Day  
 Trax

### Government Partners:

The National Insurance Institute (Bituach Leumi)  
 The Ministry of Defense  
 The Ministry of Health  
 The Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Services





## About Summit

The Summit Institute was founded in 1973 and is a not-for-profit organization working together with the Ministries of Welfare and Defense, the Jerusalem Municipality and the National Insurance Institute (Bituach Leumi) for the advancement and rehabilitation of three individual populations each with their own individual needs.

Summit provides groundbreaking rehabilitation services for mentally-abused people through a variety of individual and group therapies, psychiatric support, assistance in securing gainful employment, as well as safe and secure housing.

Summit also recruits and assists foster families to accept the immense responsibility that comes with fostering a child and provides a network of therapeutic and support services for the children and their foster parents.

In addition, Summit runs the "Mahut" Center, a therapy and educational service for parents of adolescents, together with the Jerusalem Municipality, that combines individual training alongside professional counseling for educational professionals and others who are involved in relevant educational and social fields.



**The Summit Institute**  
Foster Care for Children and Youth at Risk  
and Psychosocial Rehabilitation

[www.summit.org.il](http://www.summit.org.il)

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