



**VOLUNTARY SUPPORT FOR THE CITIZENS OF NORTHERN ISRAEL**  
**Established by veterans of the Armored Brigade 421**  
**In affiliation with the Armored Corps Memorial Foundation**  
**("Amoutat Yad Lashirion")**

March 2007

Dear friends

During the war between Israel and Hezbollah along the Lebanese border in the northern part of the country, massive destruction was caused to towns, infrastructure and private property. The vast majority of this geographical zone was completely paralyzed. People stayed in shelters for 30 days and many had to evacuate their homes and stay out of the area for their personal safety. This situation created economical chaos for many people. The recovery of this area and its inhabitants has begun right after the cease fire and is still continuing, consuming large amounts of money and a lot of support by volunteers.

We are veteran of the renown 421 Armored Brigade (of General Ariel Sharon's Armored Division), which was the first armored unit to cross the Suez Canal during the Yom Kippur War in 1973. Our operation across the canal led the IDF offensive into Egypt and turned around that war. Since we are all retired from the IDF reserves, we gathered this time in order to help in recovering the people of North Israel from their devastation. For that purpose we formed this voluntary operation which operates under the hospices of the Armored Corps Memorial Foundation, which provides us on a full voluntary basis, legal, financial and logistical services.

Immediately upon establishing our activity we started raising funds from our veterans, families, friends and corporations in Israel and abroad. Simultaneously we have conducted a study in order to decide how we could extend our support in the most efficient manner.

We have decided to adopt a small town called Shlomi (population 6,000) and a village of Bedouins called Arab el Aramshe (population 2,000), which are physically located on the Lebanese Border. What is common for these two townships is that their populations are largely in the lowest socio-economical tiers, and they constantly suffer from high level of unemployment.

Shlomi who suffered from Hezbollah for many years was again a constant target for Katiusha rocket shelling during the war. Arab el Aramshe who many of it's inhabitants serve in the IDF also suffered casualties due to such deadly shelling.

Right after the war ended we begun providing summer camp activities for children and teenagers from Shlomi and Arab el Aramshe in different recreation sites in Israel. Hundreds of pre-school children from the two communities were taken with their parents for a day camp in a kibbutz in the Galilee (hosted by one of our veterans). For teenagers we arranged a three days camp at the Armored Forces Memorial Center in Latrun, showing them historical and national site in the surrounding area, taking them to recreation activity in a nearby Kibbutz (hosted by one of our veterans) and taking them for a visit in Jerusalem and the wailing wall. For many of them this was the first visit at that holy site. All these activities were planned, organized and accompanied by our veterans and financed by our funds.

Soon after new school year started and children returned to their regular studies we began to work on long term educational project. Shlomi has a regional center for Sport and Education providing recreational activity after school hours. This

center has five classes for advanced computer studies. We financed the upgrade of the computers in these classes and the local network and equipped the center with new advanced educational software. We are also financing the use of the center to host all school classes from Shlomi during school hours so that every child in the town receives two weekly hours of advanced computer training in this center.

Since the war disrupted summer time work for most of University and College students residing in the area, we identified students who faced financial difficulties and paid for them the advanced fee for their enrollment for the new academic year which began last October. work of which is equipped with children begin working with college and university students, towards the upcoming new school year. We are also looking into supporting local small businesses. Further support will mostly depend on funds which we are raising now.

While our veterans volunteer in supporting these activities and contribute their personal donations, we are looking for additional financial support. We call upon you to extend your donation for this very important activity.

You may send your donation by way of a crossed check (to the bearer only) to the attention of "AMOUTAT YAD LASHIRION – 421 BRIGADE" which is a non profit charity organization of our Brigade. Please send the check by certified mail to the address of: Jonathan Adereth, 47 Hof Hashenhav st. Haifa 34980 , Israel .

If you prefer to make a bank transfer we shall provide you with bank transfer instructions, although in general checks are preferred for recording and control purposes.

We shall greatly appreciate your considering this request and advancing to us your donation as soon as you can.

Sincerely

Haim Erez (General Ret.)  
Commander, 421 armored brigade