

**“I want people to understand that the help they give us, the warm words they offer and the good deeds that people are doing here in Sderot, are worth a million dollars. It is important for us to know that we are not alone.”**

*-- Pinchas Amar, a 48-year-old father of three, whose wife was injured and his apartment destroyed by a Kassam rocket attack in Sderot. Fund for Victims of Terror recipient.*



[www.jewishagency.org](http://www.jewishagency.org)

**PARTNERING WITH PURPOSE, ALL OVER THE WORLD.**

The Jewish Agency is funded by United Jewish Communities, major Jewish federations in North America, Keren Hayesod, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, foundations and donors from Israel and around the world.

**Activities for Citizens of Southern Israel**

At the end of December 2008, Operation Cast Lead turned Sderot and the entire Western Negev region into a military zone. Having already faced eight years of unrelenting Kassam attacks, the communities in southern Israel were left in even greater despair. More and more people faced the realities of life on the frontline and thousands of people, including children, were traumatized.

The Jewish Agency, with the indefatigable help of its partners and supporters, United Jewish Communities-Federations of North America through the IEC, Keren Hayesod, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, IDB and donors around the world, continues to assist the brave people of Sderot and the Gaza perimeter communities.

When the fighting ended, the Jewish Agency was ready with a plan of action to help residents rehabilitate and regain a sense of routine. Programs during and after the war included:

#### **Respite Activities for Children**

Over 35,000 children enjoyed respite activities in the center and north of the country, out of the range of Kassam rockets.

#### **Educational Enrichment Activities**

More than 10,000 pupils participated in educational enrichment activities in a structured and nurturing environment that gave them a feeling of normalcy.

#### **Summer Camps**

Each year for the past three years, 8,000 children attended Jewish Agency summer camps, which include trauma counseling and fun activities throughout Israel.

#### **Jewish Agency Fund for Victims of Terror**

Over 200 victims of Kassam attacks, individuals and families, have been given vital financial assistance through the Fund.

#### **S.O.S Emergency Fund**

Established in January 2008 to provide initial relief of up to \$1,000 to victims of Kassam attacks; finances to alleviate their immediate plight before assistance from the government.

#### **Student Scholarships**

Over 1,700 scholarships have been granted to students studying in the Sapir Regional College (near Sderot) to ensure their academic continuity and the college's continued operation.

#### **Support for Small Businesses**

Providing immediate grants, the Jewish Agency is supporting small and medium businesses facing financial ruin as a result of the situation.

#### **Trauma Support**

Some 300 educators, absorption center social workers, Youth Futures trustees and Young Communities activists have been trained to assist children living through trauma.

# Standing By Southern Israel

Whether Sderot makes headline news, or the deadly Kassam rocket attacks go unnoticed, Israeli citizens throughout the entire Western Negev live in fear for their lives every minute of every day. The Jewish Agency is dedicated to assisting these brave citizens living on the frontline of terror.