

Olam Shalem – An Update on the Shalem Foundation's Activities

Issue No. 6, September 2017



Dear friends and partners,

Each year, on the eve of the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, I feel that quiet evolutions have taken place in the field of cognitive developmental disabilities. In our biannual newsletter, you can see a small fraction of this progress. It is progress that our society needs: to be more aware, more respectful, more sensitive and more attentive, so all people can express their needs and desires and act upon them.

This is a core value in which we at the Shalem Foundation truly believe and strive to act upon by being attentive to the needs of Arab society, supporting cognitive accessibility projects while taking into consideration the needs of new immigrants and the elderly, and teaching about and raising awareness of professional organizations for the advancement of self-advocacy and joint decision making within the community of developmentally disabled people.

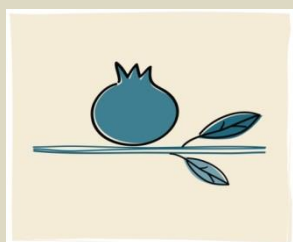
And so, it is with great pride that I present our newsletter, in which you can read about and get to know some of these significant initiatives.

The ***Tishrei Chagim*** give us an opportunity to reflect on our past and think about our future. Let us all try to take a step forward, to create a society where diversity is natural and paramount, inherently woven into the fabric of our existence, an all-inclusive reality in which there is no need to point out that we are “including”; a society where everyone can shine at all times.

Happy New Year and Shana Tova.

Yours,

Riva



Shana Tova and a Happy New Year from Keren Shalem!

May all people with differing abilities,
have an abundance of opportunities for growth,
development and quality of life.

“Nothing about Us without Us”

A First-of-Its-Kind Advocate Conference of People with Intellectual Disabilities

A ground breaking program promoting self-advocating groups and processes in frameworks for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in the community has been presented in a national conference.

The activities enabling self-advocacy processes and decision making by people with IDD have had a significant impact on their daily lives, as well as their skills, their positioning in the various centers and their relationships with their professional "care-takers" and families. [Read more](#)



The Shalem Foundation assists with building, renovating and equipping of institutions for those with intellectual disabilities in the community

"Planning at Early Stages Creates Real Social Integration" **The Shalem Fund at the Urban Renewal Convention of the Foundation of Local Authorities in Israel**

In order to realize true social integration, the Shalem Fund has developed special programs, training courses, and grants for inclusive urban planning. In the last urban renewal convention Riva Muskal presented activities supporting this goal and the collaboration with urban planners.

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We Have a New Home in the Heart of Nes-Ziona

In the heart of Nes Ziona a new home for people with IDD has been established. It includes 18 residents between the ages of 23-40 and is set near many cultural and social centers to enable community integration.

[Read More](#)

"Toddlers Deserve the Best" **Rehabilitation Daycare Center "Michal" for Toddlers in Holon**

"Michal Center", communication rehabilitation and daycare center, opened recently in Holon and serves toddlers with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism, aged 6 months to 3 years. It combines therapeutic education and a personal rehabilitation plan in collaboration with the parents. [Read More](#)



The Shalem Fund Supports awareness-raising events: Explaining, Exposing and Changing Positions towards People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

"My Brother is Special" – A Seminar on Siblings with Special Needs in Netanya

A seminar regarding the issues dealt with by siblings in families with children or parents with Special Needs was held in Netanya. It included various lectures and perspectives on this complex issue. [Read More](#)



Promoting safe and good transportation: a day with the drivers and the care-takers who accompany children and adults with disabilities

Transportation is a crucial part of the integration of children and people with disabilities in society. A special day was held for drivers and care-takers who accompany children and adults with IDD in the Arab sector. It raised various issues regarding safe and respectful transportation as well as encouraging the drivers and emphasizing their importance. [Read More](#)

The Shalem Foundation operates unique training and instructional programs for professionals working in the field of developmental intellectual disabilities

“Familiarizing with the World of Developmental Intellectual Disabilities” – National Seminar on behalf of the Shalem Fund at the Kibbutzim College for People Working in Economy, Administration and Secretariats

20 participants working in economy, secretariats and administration from all over Israel went on a tour to the Yevulim Ecological Farm and the Amichai Home in Hod HaSharon. As one participant said: “We received a fascinating tour, a glimpse of the community work, the creative solutions and the unique services they have ” and another participant said “We all have much to learn from these places”

[Read more](#)

Growing Wings – Closing Event of the Self-Advocating Course at the Halichot Beit-Yaakov Seminary in Modi’in Illit

“Each of us has their own wings; we have learned to get to know them and fly with them.” This was how one student summarized the course “Self-Advocating for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities” at the Halichot Beit-Yaakov Seminary in Modi’in Illit. This was the first time a course such as this was held in an Orthodox education framework. The course was attended by approximately twenty education professionals from the field of regular and special education.

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The Shalem Fund Initiates and Is Partner to Planning and Financing Professional Seminars and Conventions in the Field of Disabilities

Getting Connected in Ashkelon
The Tri-Annual Convention of the Shalem Fund for Coordinators, Social Workers and Care Center Managers in the Field of Developmental Intellectual Disabilities

The “Connected” convention, held in Ashkelon this year, brought together 100 professionals from all over Israel, working with intellectually and developmentally disabled. The two-day experiential convention was rich with inspirational content, workshops, lectures and the premiere Performance of “Beyond the Voice”, a group consisting a people with and without disabilities, which constitutes an innovative model for integration.

[Read more](#)




Seminar for Professionals in the Field of Treating Persons with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities – Southern District

A seminar focusing on guidelines regarding care and independence of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities was held in Beer-Sheva. One of the main lectures was “The Diamond Insight” by Haya and Tzachi Dichner, a mother with intellectual and developmental disabilities and her son, regarding the topic of marriage and children, and sharing a collection of insights from her journey. [Read More](#)

“The Therapeutic Relationship Covenant” at the International Down’s Syndrome Convention

The Down’s Syndrome awareness day was held on March 21 all over the world and in Israel. This was the tenth year of the International Down’s Syndrome Convention which was held at the Shalva National Center in Jerusalem. 400 participants from all over Israel enjoyed a variety of fascinating lectures on the issue of “Therapeutic Relationship”.

[Read More](#)



The Shalem Fund Supports Initiatives of Integrating Social Activity in the Community as Part of the Course of Social Entrepreneurship in the Geographic and Social Periphery

"Only If We Learn to Accept People Different from Us Will the World Become a Better Place" – Social Volunteering with Special People

Volunteering is crucial in creating a quality, integrating society. Eden Aburokan, a 15-year-old girl from Haifa volunteered this year with people with intellectual disabilities and passionately talks about how this year made her understand that "only on the day when people are willing to accept people who are different from them, will the world become a better place to live in".

[Read More](#)



"Integrating Duathlon" in Ashkelon

The Ashkelon municipality chose to mark the "2016 Disability Day" with a unique sports event – an "integrating duathlon" including: running and riding a variety of adapted bicycles. It was attended by athletes, youth and adults with and without disabilities

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The Shalem Fund Deals with the Development of Professional Knowledge Intended to Make the Service Provided to People with Intellectual Disabilities Optimal and Excellent

The Shalem Fund Photographed Media Database

Videos are a significant and useful tool for awareness raising and changing views. The Shalem Foundation has been allocating many media pieces, both filming and translating videos from Israel and around the world, which are available for all people interested in the field, in changing attitudes and creating a better and more inclusive society.

[Download the database file](#)



"I Am A Person – North Dakota"

Filmed testimony about the experience of going out to the community of people with intellectual developmental disabilities in the USA

In 1982, North Dakota passed a reform which resulted in thousands of children and adults moving into the community. The film "I Am A Person" meets the people affected by that change and investigates their contribution to the community. The Shalem Foundation has received permission from the Prairie television network to edit segments of the film and translate them into Hebrew and Arabic.

[Read more](#)

A Professional Meeting on Quality Management (ISO 9001) in Adult Nursing Day Care Centers and Employment Centers for People with Intellectual Disabilities in the Community.

The Quality management system (ISO 9001) was developed over several years by the Shalem Foundation in collaboration with its partners. It is exhibited to local authorities, associations and organizations providing employment services and treatment to adults with intellectual disabilities, in order to significantly improve all the organization's activities. [Read more](#)

All developed packages are available for [free download](#) on the Foundation website.

Video presenting the [success stories](#) in the centers which began applying, implementing and assimilating the quality management system that was introduced for the first time at the convention



Arabs with Intellectual Development Disabilities in the Job Market: Attitudes and the Blocks They Engender

Dr. Khaled Abu-Asbeh, Al-Quasemi Academic College, Center for Research of Educational and Social Research, Baka-al-Gharbia, 2016

An empirical study conducted by the Al-Quasemi Academic College investigated attitudes of the Arab population in Israel (employers, employees and parents of mentally challenged individuals) with regard to the possibility of employment for these individuals in the private sector. It also examined the influence of socio-demographic characteristics, the knowledge concerning intellectual development disabilities, the stigma and prejudices and the difficulties that hinder the employment of people with intellectual development disabilities. Its findings bring a row of recommendations such as: a support group for the parents taking into account the social and cultural character of Arab society, expanding the range of solutions for genuine employment, construction of a program beyond the special education settings to prepare children for integration in the workplace and more.

For more information [Click here](#)
To watch a short film about the research [click here](#)

Family Members, Experiences, and Meanings of Living and Aging within a Family with Adult Child with Intellectual Disability

Tova Band Winterstein, Ph.D. , Tal Araten Bergman, Ph.D., Hila Avieli, Ph.D
Department of Gerontology and School of Social Work, Faculty of Welfare and Health Sciences, The Haifa University, 2017

Increased life expectancy in the general population, coupled with medical and ideological changes, has led to longer and fuller lives for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) in mainstream society. Nowadays, more individuals with ID live and age within their family. This study employed qualitative methods analyzing the issues of the family and its relationships along the life course; life experience of having a family member with ID; aging of the family with a person with ID; a retrospective and prospective view. The study reveals that the storyline of the family is constructed over time around two transitional milestones. The first is the birth of the child with the ID and the second is aging as a new arena for family coping. The findings illuminate the need to address the family, not only as support and care resources for the person with disability but rather as an integral and holistic entity with unique and changing needs.

For more information [click here](#)



To order the band, contact
Uri Shachar on 052-2304979

A Vocal Meeting between Soprano Chen Reiss from Herzlia and the Group “Beyond the Voice”

The soprano Chen Reiss and band members of “Beyond the Voice” held a joint artists’ workshop. Reiss, a player, former dancer and esteemed opera singer is considered one of the greatest sopranos in Israel and around the world, arrived voluntarily to the artist workshop with the group “Beyond the Voice” – bringing together on one stage professionals and singers with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Reiss and the band members sang together in an emotional and inspirational meeting. [To the Facebook Page](#)

Just like everyone else: interviews with our most precious partners.

Meet eleven-year-old Liel from Holon. She has seven brothers, loves to travel, listen to music and play basketball. Her dream is to become a soldier when she grows up.

To meet Liel and hear about her life and experiences [Click here](#)



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