



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

Issue No. 5, April 2017

Friends and Partners,

Two central themes of Passover are speech and freedom, and we at the Shalem Foundation also believe that they are closely related. Freedom is a cornerstone of Judaism, and some consider the Passover festival the anniversary of the birth of the Jewish nation: Our very existence is intertwined with the concept of freedom. We believe in freedom of choice for all people, including people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).



Many of our activities, as well as the articles in this newsletter, stem from these core values, which also play an important role in the community as far as work, recreation, housing, and the management of personal funds. We work closely with the local authorities, promote healthy lifestyles, carry out research, and build community platforms in order to enable maximum freedom of choices, actions and priorities for our dearest partners: people with IDD.

Speech is just as vital. Words create reality, as well as meanings that can transform our lives in the public space and on social media. Some people may be limited in their ability to express themselves or in the platforms that are available to them. As you can see in our newsletter, we work to give people with IDD the opportunity to speak out and share; one example of this is the Net.Haver social media platform. We also enable them to tell their own stories and create their own realities. Our friend Warren Kahn is just one example; you can meet him [here](#).

Since the Shalem Fund celebrates self-expression and freedom throughout the year, we feel especially proud of our work during the Passover holiday, which highlights these essential values.

Wishing you a happy Festival of Freedom in which each of us finds his or her own voice!

Yours, Riva



Happy Passover from the Shalem Foundation!

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

If You Will It, It Is No Dream: A Group Home in Kibbutz Ketura

After more than a decade of effort, two mothers from Kibbutz Ketura fulfilled their vision of creating a group home for people with special needs in their region. The group home, which serves eight residents with intellectual, sensory and physical disabilities, opened in 2016.

[Read more...](#)



The Beit Shulamit Daytime Rehabilitation Center in Kiryat Malachi Is Reopened

The Beit Shulamit Day Rehabilitation Center in Kiryat Malachi, which provides care for babies and toddlers with multi-disciplinary developmental delay, reopened in September 2016. The center also provides support for the children's families by giving them a chance to live an ordinary life.

[Read more...](#)

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

The Knowledge Managers' Conference on Developmental and Intellectual Disability in Authorities and Organizations

The forum of knowledge managers in organizations dealing with people with D.I.D. held its first meeting in January 2016. Among the forum's aims are to train officials in knowledge management and create a community of professional knowledge development and sharing

For more information [click here](#)



Circles of Life: The "Golden Years" through Our Eyes - A video series about aging created specifically for people with developmental intellectual disabilities



The video series entitled Circles of Life: The "Golden Years" through Our Eyes was created specifically to help people with developmental intellectual disabilities deal with topics related to aging. Concepts covered in the series include retirement, physical wellbeing, relationships, decision-making, and living with loss.

To watch the video series [Click here](#).

Employing people with intellectual disabilities: An explanatory video

People with developmental intellectual disabilities have the right to support themselves with dignity and enjoy the other benefits that employment provides, such as value, meaning, and empowerment. Work opportunities for people with developmental intellectual disabilities have increased in recent years, together with the support and guidance provided to those who employ them. [To watch the video](#)



Community Life as Perceived by People with Developmental Intellectual Disabilities: An Extended, Innovative Study

The Shalem Foundation, together with a group of expert Israeli researchers, is carrying out a long-term study that looks at community life as it is perceived by people with developmental intellectual disabilities. The goal is to give these young people and their families a voice in the processes of change and development as they prepare to complete their schooling and begin living and working in the community.

This extended study will be carried out by the Shalem Foundation in conjunction with three top researchers: Professor Michal Alyagon of Tel Aviv University, Professor Malka Margalit of the Peres Academic Center, and Professor Arie Rimmerman of the University of Haifa.

For more information and to view a short video describing the study [click here](#)



Team-based simulations as a tool for developing an ethical code of conduct among counselors and employers in supported employment: Learner-Centered Education.

Orly Shapira – Lishchinsky PhD, Miri Ben-Amram MA, Bar Ilan University, 2016

Employers who hire people with disabilities may encounter ethical Dilemmas and other issues related to supported employment Environments.

The finding of this study help in the development of an ethical behavior Code for employers and counselors of people with intellectual development Disabilities. [To Read the full article](#)



The Shalem Foundation supports innovative research in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Health Circles: A Healthy Lifestyle for Members of Social Clubs



People with Intellectual disabilities are more susceptible to obesity than the general population. The Health Circles program was created to give people with D.I.D. the knowledge and tools to pursue a healthy lifestyle, including proper nutrition and appropriate physical activity. After almost a year of piloting the program in 12 clubs for people with D.I.D. that serve more than 200 participants, we are seeing positive results.

For more information [click here](#)

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

Net.Haver: A social media website for adults with intellectual disabilities

Net.Haver, a unique social media website with several hundred users, was created for adults with intellectual disabilities. Its purpose is to improve their quality of life by enabling them to expand their social



Circles and gain access to information. The community offers training and guidance to those who wish to join Net.Haver.

For more information [click here](#).

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

Warren Kahn is a lively and charming middle-aged man from Ra'anana. When he is not busy with his job, he enjoys cycling, going to the movies, and preparing Shabbat dinners for his friends.

To meet Warren and hear about his Life and experiences [click here](#)

Warren's World: A great job and lots of Hobbies



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