

- **Name of the study:** Survey for the teams of the rehabilitation field in the authorities, on the subject: need for support from a whole fund in the field of developing professional and social supports.
- **Year:** 2023
- **Type of research:** Survey
- **Catalog Number:** 890-681-2022
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- **Research Authority:** 'Michlol' unit, Shalem Fund.

Abstract

This study was carried out by 'Michlol'- the Assessment and Measurement Unit of the Shalem Fund

On the occasion of the expansion of Shalem Foundation to develop services also for people with sensory, physical and cognitive disabilities, the foundation asked to contact the departments of social services and examine through a short survey their needs in relation to the rehabilitation population, in terms of the foundation's existing support tracks, as well as their needs for supports that do not yet exist. The survey was constructed by the ' Michlol' unit and included background data on the authority and the respondent, followed by statements about Shalem Fund support (in the professional and social fields) which the respondents were asked to rate in terms of the degree of necessity for their authority (between 1 and 6). They were also asked to choose the three most necessary supports for them, and even to suggest additional supports they needed that were not mentioned in the survey. The questionnaire was sent online to a variety of officials in the field of disabilities in the Department of Social Services in all the authorities in Israel.

Out of all the officials to whom the survey was sent, 181 people from 118 different authorities responded (the overall response percentage from all authorities is 46%). The findings of the survey, which are based on the reference according to the number of authorities (and not reference according to the number of respondents) were very positive and showed that all the fields were evaluated at a relatively high level of necessity (between 4.0 and 4.9), where the field of "Tamar route - grants for the development of disability field staff in the authorities" received the highest average rating, while "Development of online portals and solutions for professional people who provide services" received the lowest rating among the fields presented to them. When the respondents were asked to choose the three most necessary supports for them, it emerged that there are two prominent areas that were chosen by over 40% of the authorities ("Tamar Route" and "Grants for social enterprises in the rural area and the

periphery"), followed by two areas that were chosen by a third from the authorities ("Grants to promote information and exposure to disabilities", and "Assistance to family centers in the fields of training and guidance"), followed by three areas that were chosen by about 20% of the authorities ("Development of professional knowledge for professionals and service providers", "Professional development for teams in today's frameworks " and "Development and online answers to make information accessible for people with disabilities"). Finally, the field of "developing online portals for service professionals" was chosen by 14% of the authorities. Also, differences were observed in the findings when they were examined in the division according to the types of authorities and types of sectors in society.

In the respondents' answers regarding additional supports that the Authority needs, several areas came up: professional development and knowledge, empowering families and support groups, improving services, mentors and support for people with disabilities, support for increasing funding and recognition, respite and refreshment for staff, online mentors.

The insights and recommendations that emerged from the survey refer to the relatively high percentage of restitution, to the significant need of the departments for all of the fund's supports in the professional and social fields, which strengthens and gives validity to the fund's activity in these fields, to the outstanding need of the authorities in the field of providing answers to the families of people with disabilities, and hence prepares an infrastructure for possible thinking for assistance in this area.

Keywords

Survey, assistance and support, professional needs, welfare departments, rehabilitation

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