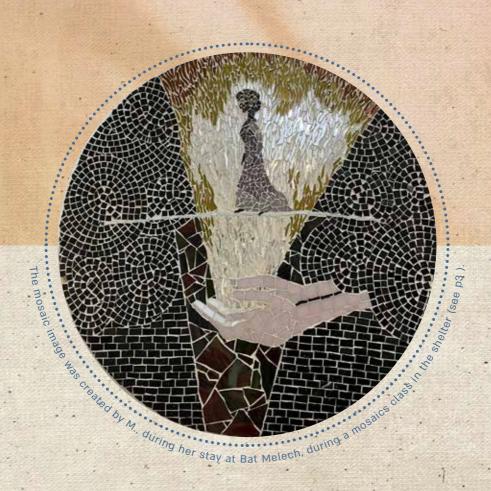
PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER



Social Impact Report 2022





We have decided to dedicate our annual summary booklet to the memory of **Aviva Reich**, a dear volunteer at the shelter in Jerusalem, who passed away after a long battle with illness.



About ten years ago, two weeks after assuming my position, I received my first phone call from Aviva. She asked to meet me and said she would like to give to the shelter. Already at that first meeting a deep connection formed between us. With simplicity, a great heart, a winning smile, and much will, Aviva was quite simply there for us, for every need. And there is no lack of need at the shelter!



Aviva was in the shelter helping women. She

shared hugs and kind words to women just entering the shelter. She helped find schools for children and made bat mitzvah parties for the girls at the shelter. She brought the community together to provide Machzorim for the Yamim Noraim. She found temporary workplaces for women staying at the shelter as well as for those who recently left. She helped with recruiting Megillah readers and shofar blowers. She created a rotation for volunteers for hospitalized women and so much more.

Aviva did all of this in addition to her regular volunteer work, a beloved and meaningful mosaic class for women and classes and activities for the children during summer vacation. The classes were much more than a mere class, they were a creative way to touch hearts.

Efforts that most people would consider heroic, Aviva did as if it were the most obvious thing in the world.

Beyond her boundless giving, Aviva's outlook, her presence, her acceptance of difficulty, and her considerate and respectful interactions are the principal things that we gained by her presence at the shelter, and with her passing we have lost them.

Aviva was always there for us, even when her health was deteriorating. She saw needs, often before the staff noticed, and sometimes even before the woman or child themselves could define them, and she took care of them.

When I look back on Aviva's character and her volunteering, it is clear to me that it was not only what Aviva gave, it was the way she gave: always with pleasant demeanor, with simplicity, with modesty, and especially with love.

Aviva continues to be an inspiration for giving in almost impossible circumstances and will always remain in all our hearts.

תנצב"ה

Help us STOP abuse!

Partner with us to extract women and children from THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE!

Secure donations on our website www.batmelech.org



Donation via bit.



Donate by phone: 02-6338927

Bank transfer to Bat Melech's account

Israel

Bank Mizrahi Tfahot | 20 Givat Shaul, Jerusalem branch | 458 Account number | 102965 IBAN - IL88 0204 5800 0000 0102 965 BIC/SWIFT - MIZBILITXXX

USA

Chase Bank, American Friends of Bat Melech, Accounting number 763993552, ABA/ Routing number 021000021

Donation by Check:

Israel

PO Box 23023. Jerusalem 9123011

IISA

144 Enclave Boulevard, Lakewood, NJ 08701

Canada

336 Spadina Road, Unit 1103, Toronto, M5R 2V8

England

6 Braystan Gardens, Gatley, Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 4NU

עגלו לטובת בת מלך

*After making a donation, please notify us by telephone or email where to send the receipt +972-2-6338929 | batmelech.office@gmail.com





Eligible for tax deduction (IL, UK, USA, CANADA)

"One who saves a Jewish life, it is as if he saved the entire world" (Mishna Tractate Sanhedrin, 4'5')

THE ORGANIZATION'S GOALS

Saving women and children in the Ultra Orthodox and Religious sectors from domestic violence.

Providing each and every woman the right to not be abused or degraded in any way, shape or form and to realize her potential both as an individual and as a woman.

AREAS OF ACTIVITY:

Since its creation in 1996, Bat Melech has been focused on achieving the above goals by pursuing the following paths of action:

WITHIN THE COMMUNITY:

The goal: to eradicate domestic violence. Bat Melech works tirelessly to raise awareness and conduct workshops discussing, explaining, and idsseminating percise and clear infomation on every aspect of domestic abuse. An emergency hotline (1-800-292-333) is managed by experienced social workers and attorneys.

SHELTERS for WOMEN and THEIR CHILDREN:

The goal: To save lives. Bat Melech runs two shelters for women and children within the Orthodox and Ultra-Orthodox communities, in cooperation with and under the supervision of the Ministry of Welfare. The shelters offer a safe haven away from domestic violence and provide rehabilitation services.

ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN EXTRICATED FROM VIOLENT SETTINGS:

The goal: To help women with rehabiliatation and re-entry into an independent life within their communities after leaving the shelter. To provide them with suitable transitory apartments, emotional and psychological help, economic relief and legal advice as needed.





1-800-292-333 WWW.BATMELECH.ORG





A Few Words from Bat Melech Chairwoman Attorney Tzilit Jacobson

Dear Friends and Partners,

We are excited and grateful to present this summary of Bat Melech's activities in 2022.

To condense an entire year's work into a mere few pages

is no simple matter. Many faces and hearts stand behind the statistics and figures. Much bravery and hope stands behind the many calls for help.

Our activities are carried out hand in hand with the community. Positive changes can only take place in society if we cooperate and act with sensitivity and mutual trust.

Over the course of this year we strengthened our relationship with Itach ambassadors and initiated further training programs. In honor of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women we launched a moving campaign. Women trapped in the cycle of violence reach out to ambassadors, letting them know that they are not alone.

We share in the tremendous responsibility as a society as the driving force behind Bat Melech's investment. Great effort is unceasing to educate and raise awareness for the sake of our women and children.

This year, I sadly accompanied families who lost loved ones to domestic violence. Hopes, dreams and lives were lost. I sat with parents who lost loved ones, encountering indescribable pain. Could we have known? Could we have prevented it? Classmates of one of the victims asked "Could we have noticed?"

Following these cases, we published and distributed a flyer describing common warning signs of an abusive relationship in order to protect our daughters.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank, on my behalf, and on behalf of the hundreds of women and children at the shelters as well as the wonderful staff at Bat Melech who rise each day to their daily mission.

As our Sages say in Pirkei Avos (Ch. 2), 'It is not our duty to finish the work: there is still much more to be done, but we are not at liberty to neglect it.'

I-would like to thank you from the depth of my heart, our dear friends, who walk this road with us in body and in spirit.

May we be emissaries of good in this world!

Tzilit



A Few Words from Bat Melech Director Attorney Noach Korman

Dear Friends,

We are honored to summarize another year of activity at
Bat Melech and share with you the importance continuing
the work. The year 2022 was full of intense activity in all of
Bat Melech's fields of operations within the community, shelters, transitional
apartments and helping women and their children to move on after leaving the
shelters.

An increased awareness of domestic abuse prevention in the Orthodox and Charedi sectors is a result of our activity in the field. We hope to continue reaching out to the communities to create safer homes for women and children. This year the shelters were full to capacity. Sixty-five women and their children filled the shelters. Unfortunately, sixty more women and children in dangerous situations were turned away-due to lack of space. In some cases these women were left with no choice but to stay home to continue suffering until we had space. We are not indifferent to this situation and we will do whatever it takes to resolve this situation ASAP.

Women with teenaged boys need our help. The shelter does not have accommodations for teenage boys. Often, a mother will decide to keep suffering at home rather than leave her son, and sometimes she has no choice but to go to the shelter without him and to leaving him at home. We are currently, thank G-d, in the process of opening two dedicated apartments for women with all their children, including the teenagers.

And finally, I am happy to announce that Bat Melech's activities are expanding and adapting to the religious Anglo population in Israel. Bat Melech's activity among these communities will combine support with an Anglo social worker as well as educational and awareness activities adapted to the nature of this large and underserved community.

With tremendous gratitude, I thank you for your continued partnership. It is a merit for you and a privilege for us. Yet, the work is not complete. Please be with us as we build in 2023.

Best wishes,



Women's Paintings Project

This painting, created in the women's art therapy class in the shelter, expresses an interpretation of how the women envision their life after being in the shelter.

M., a mother of four, says that the violence was there from the very beginning. She did not define it as violence, but during the first days after the wedding she felt imprisoned.

The first physical blow came three months after their wedding. She tried counseling. She was afraid to break up the family, so she kept silent, and learned to keep her head down.

When the children were born, he controlled her parenting. He challenged her in front of the children, and was physically and verbally violent towards them as well. When she wanted to leave, he threatened to commit suicide because of her, so she stayed with him for fear that he would actually do it.

After physically violently hurting her baby, the desire to protect her baby was stronger than all her fears.

The painting shows the light at the end of the tunnel. M's optimism emerges through the slits in reality, "I chose to paint the shattering of the glass ceiling, of the harsh reality that I lived through for so many years. Although I am still dealing with the scars, it is now from a place of strength and faith. I see the light and the hope. I am on the way to overcome the obstacles of building a new life."





To view all the women's paintings and the story of their lives that brought them to this moment, you are invited to click and read the full-article about the painting project on the **Kipa** website

Women and Children at Bat Melech's Shelters in 2022

In 2022 Bat Melech was a safe and warm home to:

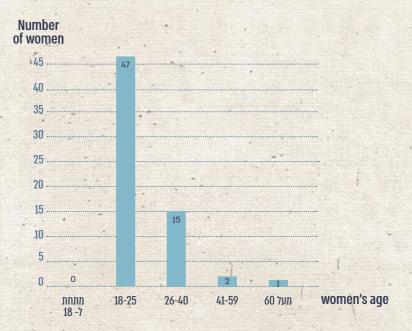




191 children

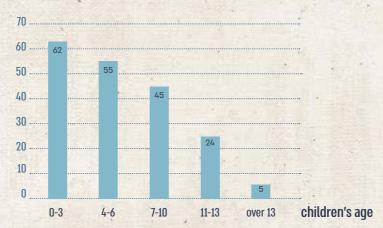
64 women

Age of the women:



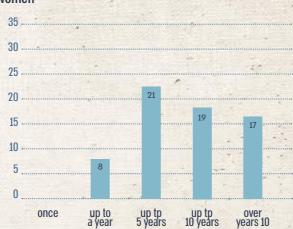
Age of the children:

Number of children



Duration of violence:

Number of women

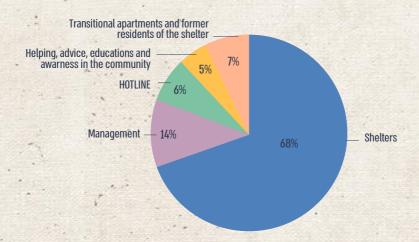


Duration of Violence

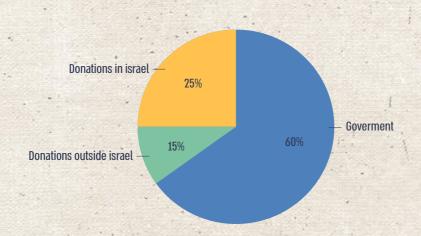
2022 Bat Melech Budget

Operating Budget: 10,342,000 NIS

Budget distribution graph



Funding sources distribution graph



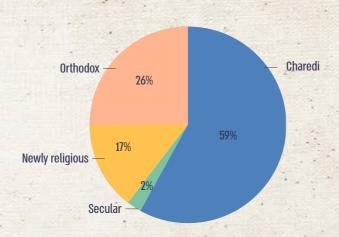
The Bat Melech Helpline

- In the year 2022 we saw a noticeable rise in calls for advice, support, and assistance as a result of advertising and increased awareness in the community.
- Throughout the year 2022 Bat Melech helpline counselors dealt with 1,341 calls which were then referred to social workers or to lawyers who specialize in domestic violence.
- We are pleased to share that this year a French-speaking counselor has joined the staff of the Bat Melech Helpline.
- Bat Melech's activities are expanding and adapting to the religious Anglo population in Israel. Bat Melech's activity among these communities will combine support with an Anglo social worker as well as educational and awareness activities adapted to the nature of this large and underserved community.

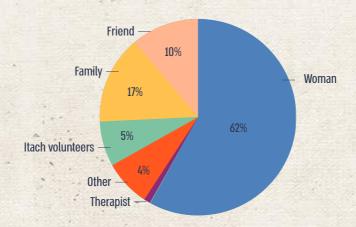
Total calls to the helpline in 2022: 5,979

Of these 1,341 led to further

Communal affiliation of those who contacted the helpline:



Source of call:



Subsequent handling of cases:



Legal Division

In 2022 we represented 67 women at the rabbinical courts and family courts. In representing the women and handling their legal proceedings, Bat Melech's attorneys attained, b"h, impressive achievements:



legal meetings and court hearings at the rabbinical and civil courts legal meetings and court



women received a get



Life After the Shelter



What happens to the women when they leave the shelter?

The warm and supportive relationship that the women become accustomed to at the shelter does not end when they leave. A dedicated team accompanies the women in their first steps back to the world outside the shelter and maintains consistent contact with each woman who is interested. The women face a significant challenge, but they are not alone.

Throughout the year we supported 204 women across the country who had left the shelters to begin living independently and needed assistance, support, advice, or even just a hug.

The situation of the women who leave the shelters is not straightforward. Violence against the women and children may continue. Financial dealings create a challenge for single mothers, and returning to the community as divorcees is difficult, especially in more religiously conservative communities. We try to give them a sense of family and belonging after they leave the shelter, and give as much assistance as we can in each case.

A., a former resident of a Bat Melech shelter, recently completed a law degree summa cum laude. A., a mother of five, stayed at a Bat Melech shelter and later at a transitional apartment after enduring many years of violence. She made the decision to study law while at the shelter realizing that she must help other women like her in distress. At the graduation ceremony A. Stood at the podium, facing hundreds of students and their family members, and emotionally told of her journey: "I remember that morning, sitting on the couch in the transitional apartment into which I moved with my five children after



Staying in a Bat Melech shelter for Orthodox and Charedi women. Divorced, with five children, financially and emotionally impoverished. No alimony. A sole breadwinner. Definitely not a little girl anymore. I convinced myself: we must change this system, and who, if not you could accomplish this? Knowledge is power, and you've already done your internship. It is hard to admit, but the truth is that I was afraid. I enrolled in studies on the spur of the moment, against all logic, because I had to support my family. All of my children were with me. Four years have passed since then, and I am changing the system. A bill fighting domestic violence which I am privileged to have contributed to passed its first reading in the Knesset within the past few weeks. May it be the first of many."

We are proud of you, dear A., excited for you, and are certain that your activism for victims of domestic violence will help bring about meaningful change.



43 women

left the shelters in 2022



77% of the women

left behind the cycle of violence and continue to live independently



22 women

who began living independently joined Bat Melech's program for former residents of the shelters and continued to receive support and assistance this year



246,600 NIS

in total was given to the women



67,200 NIS

was distributed as matanos le'evyonim to former residents of the shelters



70,100 NIS

in food vouchers was given to former residents of the shelters

The Communities That Adopt Us - Salit Geva, Shelter Director

Most people have a community: people we meet at shul, in the supermarket, at the park, or at the library. The women of the shelters, who are torn from home, and sometimes also estranged from their families, their communities, and their social circles, find their sense of belonging and community is completely shaken.

One of the first symptoms of domestic violence is the victim's being

disconnected from community, friends and family by the abusive partner.

At Bat Melech's shelters we have the privilege of working with several communities who have adopted the shelters. These communities shine a new light for the women and children, a light of giving and working together, of a warm and loving outlook are always sharing respect and compassion. Producing a fun day for all the women in the shelter or for all the residents, getting together to celebrate a bat mitzvah for a girl whose birthdays were never celebrated before, helping a woman who just gave birth; raising money for equipment for women leaving the shelter, purchasing down blankets and bedsheets for the winter; organizing and hosting a three-day summer vacation at a yishuv for the shelter residents, regular or occasional volunteering on Shabbos, providing menorahs for the children at the shelter are representative of this generous communal effort.

Thank you to all the communities who are partners in this journey, who accompanied and continue to accompany us. Without a doubt, the families who move out of the shelters will want to join communities like yours.

▶ In preparation of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, we published and distributed a list of warning signs of domestic violence.

The warning signs under the headline: "It Can Happen to Anyone." were also shared on social media by influencers from various sectors bringing the information to as many women and girls as possible.



Do you want a copy? Contact us and we will send you one. batmelech.office@gmail.com

In honor of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women we launched an extensive campaign in the Charedi and Religious media calling on victims of domestic violence and their friends and relatives to reach out to Bat Melech's Itach ambassadors and the helpline.







Watch the video shared on WhatsApp and social media



visits a Bat Melech shelter and shares encouraging words with the women and staff before Pesach



Religious Zionist
 Party Chairman MK
 Bezalel Smotrich
 visits a Bat Melech
 shelter



This year we again had the privilege of attending the Israel Construction Center's Nadlan in the City conference. We told many thousands of real estate professionals about the Bat Melech organization and about our work to bring women and children out of the circle of violence.



Itach Ambassadors Meeting

After much training of Itach ambassadors via Zoom, we began holding face-to-face training sessions for the first time in Jerusalem.

The ambassadors received professional and empowering content, learned important information for their ongoing



volunteering and consulted Bat Melech's staff face-to-face.

Attorney Tzilit Jacobson, Chairwoman of Bat Melech, who founded and leads this important initiative, shared the vision that has become a powerful and life-changing project with the ambassadors: "We have made it our goal to reach each woman, wherever she may be. The way to achieve social change is by a sensitive and gradual process, by enlisting volunteers and agents of change from within the community.

"It is important to me to emphasize: we are fighting a phenomenon, not a community. This mission belongs to us all. This is the inspiration for Itach, 'With You.' The value of mutual responsibility was our guide. We invited the ambassadors to be outstretched hands within the community, to be an initial address to tell women in need, "I'm here for you."

In this past year we again gave many lectures on the topic of violence against women in order to raise awareness of the issue. We shared information about recognizing the warning signs, and the possibility of dealing with violence at earlier stages in relationships. The lectures were given before professionals, mikvah attendants, sheitel machers, yeshivah and ulpanah students, as well as mechinot and midrashot, and other various audiences.



In the photo: Attorney Tzilit-Jacobson delivers a lecture to Nishmas's halachic advisors

In an article published in the Shiva Yamim supplement of Yediot Ahronot, writer Rotem Izak presented the testimonies of six brave women who left the cycle of violence and came to Bat Melech's shelters with their children after a difficult and violent life story. They are now rebuilding themselves. She wrote of their bitachon, their belief in themselves, and especially of the ability to found a new family unit and to grow from the pain.





Read the full article

Item in Laisha on Bat Melech's Itach project



Hadar Gil-Ad, in an interview for Yediot Ahronot, relates the story of women who broke the cycle of violence after they stayed in Bat Melech shelters and joined the Itach ambassadors project, who tell of the important mission they took upon themselves.





To us at Bat Melech, it is Women's Day 365 days a year.

Attorney Tzilit Jacobson in an interview with Eden Harel at **Channel 14** in honor of International Women's Day.



Atorney Tzilit Jacobson in the Ezrat Nashim column of the Shabbos leaflet **Shabbaton**



Tzilit Jacobson interviewed by Gil Sassover for **Channel 14**





Sherut Leumi girls interviewed by Maariv and Channel 14 about their meaningful volunteering at the shelters



An article on
Makor Rishon's
website about
the spike
in cases of
domestic
violence during
the holidays



An item in Yediot
Ahronot on
teenagers who
volunteered
at Bat Melech
during summer
vacation



Tzilit Jacobson appeared as a guest on Arutz Sheva's Hasket: Zavit Ishit with Dudu Saada



An important column by Tzilit published in Mishpacha



News at Bat Melech

Attorney Tzilit Jacobson, director of Bat Melech, received the Minister of Social Equality's Award for meaningful and unique contribution to education for fighting violence against women. The award was given for Tzilit's long-standing work as director of the organization, and especially for the Itach program of Bat Melech ambassadors in the community spearheaded by Jacobson.



In the photo: Attorney Tzilit Jacobson receives the award from Minister of Social Equality Meirav Cohen and Director of the Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women Ayelet Razin Beit-Or.

Photo credit: Eli Rosenthal

Among the hundreds who ran in the Jerusalem marathon for Bat Melech was N., who stayed with her five children in the shelter. As part of her rehabilitation, N. decided to run for raising awareness of Bat Melech among women still trapped in the cycle of violence. N. trained for the marathon in all kinds of weather and at all hours of the day with Techiya, one of the Sherut Leumi volunteers at the shelter. Techiya accompanied her from the initial idea up to the moving participation in the Jerusalem marathon.



A fascinating talk by Tzufit Grant with almost 200 former residents Bat Melech shelters on a funday she produced for them with volunteers by the women of Nehalim.



We had the honor of participating in an event at the President's House celebrating 100 million NIS donated to over 200 organizations through the Round-Up.

Thanks to you, in 2022, we doubled the number of people who round up for Bat Melech!

Not yet rounding up for Bat Melech to rescue women and children from the cycle of violence? Scan the QR code for details and easy signup.





Thanks to the generosity of several donor families, we were able to begin necessary renovations on one of the shelters.

Thank you to the donors and to designer Liad Heller, who worked on the new design of the shelter to give it a warm and homey feeling.





אחרו

לפני

▶ Bat Melech's activities are expanding and adapting to the religious Anglo population in Israel. Bat Melech's activity among these communities will combine support with an Anglo social worker as well as educational and awareness activities adapted to the nature of this large and underserved community.

The project is led by Abby Reading and Yael Sunshine, who recognized the need and initiated the program.

A Murder Algorithm By Eli Fink

When I am murdered, Every few days They will write: A 36-year-old woman was murdered On her doorstep. She was known Or not To the Welfare Ministry. And we did not hear a scream. One emoji will shed a tear. Another emoji will be angry. And maybe someone will let out a sigh. But the inconsiderate algorithm, thank God, Will move on to an amaazing recipe for Alfajores. And a furniture ad. And a copywriting course. And only I will regret those ten things you will never know about me...

This powerful poem was written by Eli Fink, a former resident of a Bat Melech shelter. She read it to the members of the Public Security Committee when they discussed MK Keren Barak's bill proposing electronic tracking as a means to prevent domestic violence.

The story of Esti, 43, mother of five, currently staying at a Bat Melech shelter, from Rotem Izak's powerful article for Yediot Ahronot's Shiva Yamim supplement

"I married him after three months. There were issues from the start. He decided the dress code at home, the kashrus standards, but in many homes in our sector it is normal for the husband to decide these things, so I said: okay, he knows, he learns Torah and I don't. I explained to myself that 'a righteous woman does her husband's will.' Here was the trap. He didn't yell, didn't hit, but he was a master of emotional violence. He always wanted to rule in the name of religion, in the name of halachah. He would explain to me that I was not tzenuah. What did I know about kashrus and tzenius and chinuch?

"I had five children in six years. I was so busy from one birth to the next that I didn't notice that he was cutting me off from society. Always with oslensibly religious explanations. I thought I was living a Torah life. Our society honors the man, and the man is the one who knows the halachah. I thought that was Judaism.

"One day, as I prepared the children for school, he came out of the room and commanded one of the girls to stay home. He said he was punishing her for not cleaning her room. She stood there with tears in her eyes. We were not in any state to contest his words, and I took the rest of the children out to their schools. Half an hour later I came back home to find my daughter sitting on her bed in her school uniform with her head shaven. He had cut off her braids with scissors and then shaved her head with the haircutting machine. He told her that it is better for her to get punished in this world and not in the next. On that day I no longer knew who he was or what to expect. Until then I had told myself that he was just a difficult person, but that was the last straw. In the next few days we lived in fear. He deleted all the contacts from my phone; I was cut off from the world. Five days later my daughter wanted to leave the house. I put a hat on her head, but he came and ripped it off. He wanted her to leave the house in shame and humiliation. My daughter said, I don't want to go back home,' and there was no longer any question in my mind that we must leave, but I didn't know what to do, so we went to the kupat cholim and sat there. Suddenly a neighbor called me and said she saw me and she thought something must be going on at home. I burst into tears and told her everything. The neighbor worked at the welfare department. From there things Started moving and we moved to the shelter.

"I didn't file a complaint with the police. Why? I don't know. Maybe because I was afraid of him. When I left the house he filed a complaint that I kidnapped the children. As a result of this complaint my children were called in for questioning and they talked. Now the police know the story. I fear the future. At the moment I am at the shelter and feel good, but I am afraid of meeting him. Leaving home was the best thing I ever did. That is my message to other women and mothers: Don't be afraid, just jump into it. Hashem will help."

Thank you to the partners who accompanied us this past year

FRIENDS OF BAT MELECH American | British | Canadian Aviv Foundation Gottstein Family Foundation

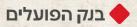


The Slomo and Cindy Silvian Foundation Inc











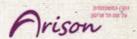






















Your small change can make a big change





Join Igul Ltova for Bat Melech today!





כְּשֶׁהַכֹּל סָגוּר אֶצְלֵנוּ פָּתוּחַ

תקין צבוטיק