

"Heroes for life activity has tremendous meaning to all of us as **Jews**, as **Israelis**, and of all as **human beings**"

Major general Eelyezer Shkedy, chairman of heroes for life



Summary:

Heroes for Life is an Israeli Non-Profit Organization working to leverage the vast infrastructure of hundreds of thousands of discharged Israeli soldiers traveling to developing countries. Every decade, more than 400,000 Israelis travel to underdeveloped countries as part of the "Great Post-Army Trip" to serve as blue and white humanitarian volunteers. Along with being a high-tech and agriculture powerhouse, we want to transform Israel into a world-class volunteer powerhouse, leveraging existing infrastructure to show the true face of Israel and IDF graduates around the world.

The method:

Heroes for Life organization conduct joint volunteer delegations in developing countries with IDF graduates and young Diaspora Jews to increase the connection and sense of pride of Diaspora Jewry in Israel, make the world a better place, and strengthen Israel's positive image by using 2 unique infrastructures:

1. There are hundreds of Jewish communities all over the globe. For centuries, they have all spoken the local language and culture.

2. Every decade, about 400,000 Israeli backpackers go on the "big trip" after their military service in the IDF. This trip is one of the most well-known Israeli traditions, and it involves newly discharged soldiers going on a long trip for several months, usually to South American countries or the Far East









Baceround:

Heroes for Life was established by three discharged officers that served together in "Duvdevan", an elite Israeli anti-terror unit. After his military service, Gili, one of the three officers went on his "post-army trip" to Thailand and was amazed by the vast number of Israeli travelers to one of the poorest countries in the world. The idea was born during a Shabbat dinner in a Chabad house in Ko-Samui, an island in southern Thailand where he was present with over 1200 Israeli backpackers. Gili thought that if many of those Israeli backpackers dedicated two weeks of their "big post-army trip" to humanitarian volunteering, we could use it to show the beautiful face of Israel to the world and make our world a better place. We believe that there is no justification for the fact that Israel, along with Pakistan and Iran, was ranked among the countries with the most negative impact on the world (BBC 2012). Furthermore, we believe that this action of "Tikkun Olam" is part of who we are as Jews and thus constitutes a central element in the Jewish DNA. Israel is already very advanced in High-Tech and is a world leader in science and agriculture. Heroes for Life is working to do the same in the important field of humanitarian aid. The organization's advisory committee includes former Air Force commander Maj. Gen. (Res.) Eliezer Shakedi, Supreme Court Justice (Ret.) Ayala Procaccia and Professor Asa Kasher.



Israeli backpackers together with young people from the Guatemalan Jewish community on a joint volunteer trip, Guatemala city





Our "25-25" Vision:

By the end of 2025, the organization will send 25 humanitarian missions to 25 developing countries each year, while leveraging the infrastructure for backpackers that already exists in these countries. The organization will be known to all IDF veterans and will brand Israel as a world leader in the field of humanitarian aid. As part of the association's alumni organization, thousands of graduates will be recruited to participate in significant volunteer work in Israel.



Currently:

Each year, around 8,500 IDF graduates register to participate in the organization's activities. This number is expected to grow to 15,000 registrants by 2025. Currently, the organization sends 13 humanitarian trips to the following countries each year: South Africa (February) | Brazil (March) | Ethiopia (March) | Uganda (April) | Peru (May) India (August) Mexico (September) Panama (September) | Guatemala (October) | Nepal (October) Burma (Every November) Vietnam (November) | Argentina (December). The organization has a total of 1,500 graduates who are involved in significant voluntary work in Israel.



The method and process:

The Heroes for Life organization organizes two-week volunteer cycles in developing-country schools every year. Each volunteer team consists of 30 Israeli backpackers who have been prescreened in Israel and are combining volunteering with their "big post-army trip" trip. Every year, we return to the same children, ensuring that we maintain continuity in our work while at the same time taking care not to create a dependence on our volunteers.

The volunteer work is divided into three categories:

A. Educational volunteers who teach children basic English, arithmetic, personal hygiene, and other skills.

B. Renovating the schools where we volunteer and, in some cases, renovating homes in poor neighborhoods.

C. Medical assistance - Some delegations are accompanied by a doctor who, in addition to the backpackers' educational work, provides emergency dental assistance to the children with whom we volunteer



Commemoration of fallen IDF soldiers:



We decided from the beginning, as an organization created by IDF soldiers while on active duty, that all our delegations, aimed at showing the true faces of IDF veterans around the world, would be dedicated to the memory of IDF martyrs. The commemoration of each fallen soldier is permanent and takes place with each delegation every year. With the opening of new delegations in the future, we will be able to commemorate more soldiers. We see it as a duty to act in memory of our comrades who have fallen while defending our homeland



צוות דניאלי – ברזיל 1995-2015 נהרגה בתאונת דרכים



נפל במהלך מבצע צוק איתן



1989-2015

נפל בפעילות מבצעית בהר

דב גבול לבנון









לזכר עוז מנדלוביץ ז"ל

1993-2014

נפל במבצע צוק איתו



נוות דניאל- הודו לוכר דניאל פומרנץ ז" 1993-2014 נפל במבצע צוק איתן

טראגית בזמן התנדבותה במערך השירות הלאומי





צוות עמית - בית שאן **צוות אורן אשקלון** לזכר אורן נח ז"ל 1995-2014 נפל במבצע צוק איתן לזכר עמית בן יגאל ז"ל 1999-2020 נפל בפעילות מבצעית בגדה המערבית

צוות ארז- וייטנאם 20145199 נפל במבצע צוק איתן

1989-2014 נהרגה במפולת שלגים ברכס האנפורנה בנפא



צוות דולב -קולומביה 1976-2014 נפל במבצע צוק איתן



צוות רני- בורמה

1980-2003



צוות בר- פרו לזכר בר רהב ז"ל 1993-2014 נפל במבצע צוק איתן



צוות צבי - פנמה זכר צבי פז ז' 1947-1968 "דקר" נפל באסוו הצול

נפל במהלר פעילות מבצעית בשבם

צוות שחר- אוגנדה לזבר שחר תעשה ז"ל 1994-2014 נפל במבצע צוק איתן

People 2 People Diplomacy:

Israel's good name has been tarnished over the years due to a variety of factors. One of our objectives is to present the true face of Israel and IDF veterans to the world through our volunteer activities. We do this with the assistance of Israeli embassies in the respective country, through which we invite many media outlets that come to delegations and cover the volunteer activities. To our delight, heads of state and even world powers held ceremonies of appreciation for our volunteers in their country, such as the presidents of Guatemala, Brazil, and more





इस्रायली तरुणांकडून मुंबईतील विद्यार्थ्यांना लाइफ स्किलचे धडे

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المحلة



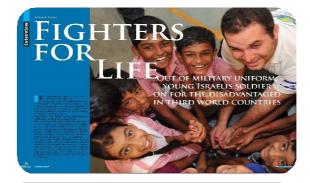
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الرئيسية

आझाद सोशल



a organización israell "Mochileros sin fronteras" llegó a la Argentina y lanzó su primer proyecto en Sudamérica







Talk about an Indo-Isezeli collaboration with a difference











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IDF Veterans Volunteer to Teach, Repair Orphanages in Ethiopia





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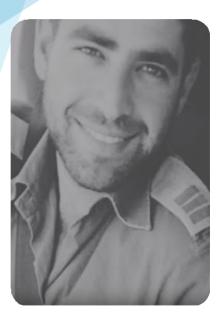








The fundadores



Major (res.) Yair Attias

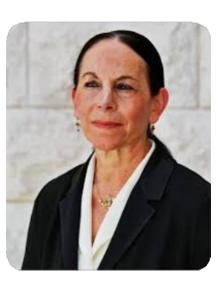


Major (res.) Gili Cohen

The Advisory Bord



Major (res.) Boaz Malkiely



Former Supreme Court justice



Former israeli air force commander major general (res.)



The author of the IDF code of ethics

Ayala Procaccia

Elyezer Shkedy

Prof. Asa Kosher



"The State of Israel will be measured by the influence it has on poverty and illiteracy in the world... a day will come and this will be the judgment of the Zionist enterprise"



(Shimon Peres, 2012)



