

Shalom friends! How are you?

These are difficult times, no doubt. We are focused on our health and keeping our loved ones safe. We are concerned for you and all of our friends in the US, and hope you are looking after yourself and your families.

We wanted to reflect to you the situation of LOTEM these days, as part of the partnership that has existed between us for years, and the joint work we do and the huge impact that LOTEM-JNF on Israel.

As you know, our organization is subsidized in half by government funds and half by JNF support. For the past year, we have been dealing with the Political paralysis in Israel, manifested in the almost complete halt of government budgets. This year's JNF support was like a breath of air for us, and thanks to you we were able to continue our operations and provide our services to the tens of thousands who count on us . The current situation, in which the United States is also facing the health and economic crisis that followed, is a source of concern for us.

With a complete understanding of reality, we made instant adjustments and made massive cuts in the organization. We send a significant part of our employees on an unpaid leave of absence and reduced all expenses that were possible, immediately.

We continue to work with special needs schools and conduct online, remote, and face-to-face activities.

Children with special needs are more adversely affected by the social isolation imposed on them. Parents who have a child with special needs find it difficult to care for their family's livelihood, when they have to take care of their child.

LOTEM, together with the special needs schools in Israel, are preparing for the long run.

Because schools cannot pay for our services, we do not charge them. For now, we are using the few reserves left after this year.

We thank you for your continued support of LOTEM, and know that you will always be there for us, as much as you can.

We are here for you too, praying and strengthening you.

We know this too shall pass and good days will come!

”הָעָם הַהֹלְכִים בְּחֹשֶׁךְ, רָאוּ אֹרֶךְ יְדוּל: יִשְׁבְּלוּ בְּאֶרֶץ צְלֻמֹת, אֹרֶךְ נֹגַח עָלֵיהֶם.”

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined".

Isaiah Chapter 9

Yours sincerely,

Amos Ziv, CEO

Gaylee Schif, Liaison