

My name is Shoshi Mishali. I live in Jerusalem. I am a mother to a little boy, and I am a firefighter.







I always wanted to be a firefighter. In Israel, starting at age 16 young people can work with the firefighters as part of their community service, in the Fire Scouts. They spend about four hours a week after school to the program.







Women began fighting fires in Israel in 2006. I was one of of the first women firefighters in Israel. I have been a firefighter in Jerusalem since 2006.







I fight fires in buildings and in forests. I also help people involved in car accidents. It feels good to be able to save lives. I know that everyone is depending on me. When I am helping people this feeling makes me so strong that even the heaviest equipment is easy to carry.







In Israel we don't have as much modern equipment as firefighters in the United States. We are lucky though, because our friends overseas help us. The Talmud, the book of Jewish laws, tells us that *Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh* - All Jewish people are responsible for one another. Israeli firefighters help keep Jewish people safe, and Jews in the United States help provide us with tools and equipment we need to do the job.



Thank you to our overseas friends!







My name is Tal Goldstein. I live in Ashkelon, a beautiful seacoast town about 9 miles north of Gaza. I decided to become a firefighter two years ago.







I live in my own apartment not far from my parents' home, but the fire station also feels like home and the other firefighters are like my family. We work together to keep the people of Ashkelon safe!







I am proud to wear my uniform. It reminds me of the great feeling I have when I help people and save lives! As Jewish people, we believe that helping someone whose life is in danger is a most important responsibility. In Hebrew, this is called *Pikuach Nefesh*.







Many Israeli firefighters wear outdated protective clothing and do not have access to important rescue equipment like thermal cameras. We do our best with what we have, but we are very happy that our friends in the United States help us to get better equipment. Newer equipment and more manpower makes the job of firefighting even better, because we are prepared to handle any threat!



Thank you Jewish National Fund and Friends of Israeli Firefighters!

