



## CHIMES ISRAEL

Improving the lives of people with disabilities  
in everything they do, at every stage of life

### A Grant Request

*Standing Together During War to Protect Those Who Cannot Protect Themselves*



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For over 35 years, Chimes Israel has served children and adults with disabilities across the country through 27 centers and programs. We care for individuals of all backgrounds, including Christians, Jews, and Muslims, from as young as six months old through adulthood and into old age. Each day, we support people with complex needs and their families, helping them build stability, independence, and lives of dignity within their communities.

Today, as Israel endures ongoing war and uncertainty, the people we serve face extraordinary challenges. Many cannot reach safety on their own. Others have lost access to the therapeutic services and daily frameworks that sustain their development, stability, and well-being. Families are living under constant threat, often isolated and overwhelmed, while striving to care for loved ones with complex needs.

In this moment, we are guided by a simple but powerful belief: that every life is precious, and that those who are most vulnerable must not be left behind. Through this request, Chimes Israel seeks to provide urgent, life-sustaining support and protection for individuals with disabilities and their families during this time of war.

#### **Emergency Support for Vulnerable Families with Disabilities**

Because of the war, many participants in Chimes Israel programs must now remain at home full-time or partially at home as security restrictions and program closures interrupt essential services. When participants lose access to their regular therapeutic frameworks, their daily routines collapse. This disruption often causes emotional distress and developmental regression.

To address this situation, Chimes Israel is preparing activity kits tailored to each participant's age and abilities. Each kit includes creative materials, sensory activities, games, and simple physical movement tools. Staff members will use these materials during home visits and remote learning sessions, and participants can use them independently. These kits help individuals maintain structure, engagement, and emotional stability while continuing therapeutic and developmental activities during prolonged periods at home.

At the same time, many families in our programs face severe hardship because the war has disrupted daily life and income. War has called some parents back into their IDF reserve service, leaving the other caregiver alone with a child who has complex disabilities. Other families are new immigrants with extremely limited financial resources.

We are assembling family relief baskets that include basic food essentials, baby food, diapers, and wipes for families in urgent need. In addition, we will prepare care baskets for vulnerable adults with disabilities in the Ariel employment program. Many of these participants are new immigrants who live alone in Israel and lack strong support networks. These baskets provide both practical assistance and an important reminder that they are not alone during this difficult time.

#### **Safety Need: Protected Space at the Chimes Or Early Childhood Center**

In addition to these emergency needs, Chimes Israel must address a serious safety concern at the Chimes Or early childhood center located at 33 Sderot HaOmerim in Modi'in-Maccabim-Reut.

During the first month of the Hamas-Israel war, Home Front Command ordered the center closed because the building does not include an on-site protected space. When authorities later permitted limited reopening, the municipality relocated the program to a temporary building that contained a shelter. However, the temporary location proved completely unsuitable. The building had severe water leaks and a rat infestation. Children slept on mattresses on the floor while rats moved through the facility. The building also lacked a functional kitchen, which forced staff to bring food from outside. This situation created additional challenges for children with complex feeding needs who rely on freshly prepared, carefully adapted meals as part of their therapeutic care.

The Chimes Or center currently relies on a synagogue located on the street behind the building as its only protected space. To reach it, staff must take the children approximately

## A Grant Request

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55 yards outside the fenced lawn, down concrete stairs, through a locked gate, and into a locked building. Because the synagogue houses valuable religious items, the building must remain locked at all times.

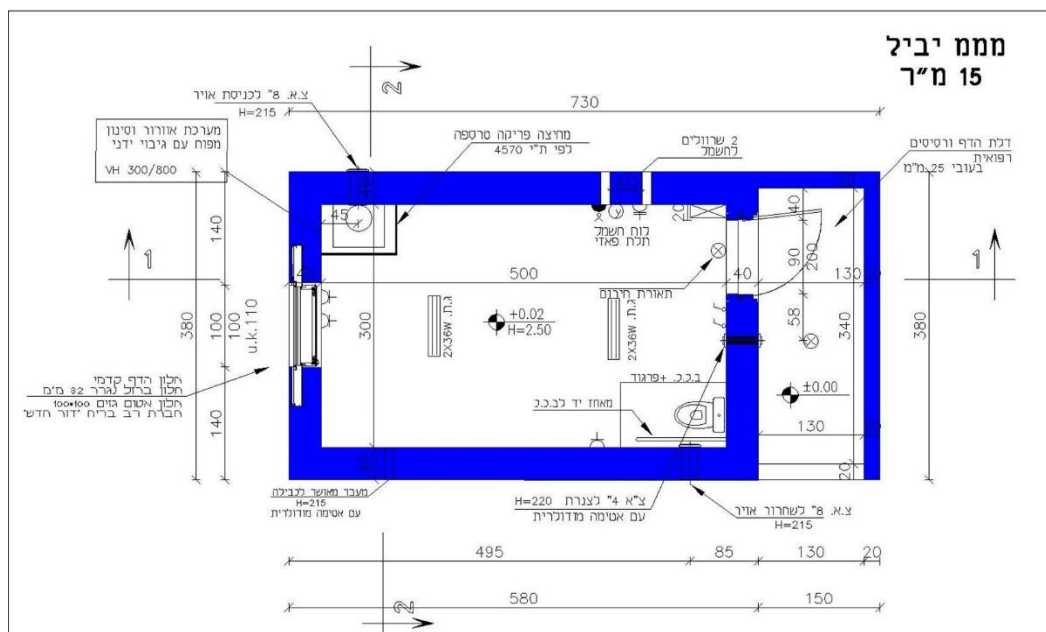
The center currently serves 32 preschool children and has capacity for 40. Many of these children rely on walkers, standing frames, or other therapeutic mobility equipment. When a siren sounds, staff have approximately one and a half minutes to reach shelter. In practice, staff cannot move all the children safely within that time. Staff must release children from equipment, lift those who cannot walk, and guide those who can. At the same time, the team does not have enough adults to carry multiple non-ambulatory children while safely escorting others outside the building.

Israel's security reality makes response times unpredictable. The time available to reach shelter depends on the type and origin of the threat. Preschool children with disabilities cannot move quickly during emergencies. Staff must therefore adapt the physical environment to ensure both safety and emotional stability. For this reason, the Chimes Or center requires an on-site protected space.

Chimes Israel seeks support to install three prefabricated institutional protected shelters (MAMAM) at the Chimes Or center.

Each shelter will stand directly outside the classroom garden doors so children and staff can enter immediately without leaving the secure perimeter or navigating stairs. The shelters will comply fully with Home Front Command requirements and support extended stays. Each shelter will include air conditioning and an internal toilet so children and staff can remain calm and safe during emergencies.

Ofarim Ltd., a recognized Israeli expert in the design and construction of prefabricated institutional protected spaces, will construct the shelters. Ofarim designs these structures to withstand air attacks, short-range missiles, and anti-tank missiles in accordance with Home Front Command standards. The company builds these shelters from pumice concrete, which provides durability, insulation, and long-term structural stability. The diagram below shows an Ofarim prefab protected space, which includes reinforced steel plan, engineer's certification, and Home Front Command approval.



### Budget

We respectfully request your help or support for these urgent war needs. The total costs for each of the two urgent responses are as follows:

## A Grant Request

*Standing Together to During War Protect Those Who Cannot Protect Themselves*

- **\$ 41,773** -- Emergency relief support for people with disabilities and vulnerable families, including activity kits, family relief baskets, and care baskets for isolated participants.
- **\$ 221,110** -- Installation of three institutional protected shelters (MAMAM) at the Or Center in Modi'in to ensure the safety of preschool children during missile fire.

Please see the detailed budgets below.

Rehabilitative Early Childhood Centers	Number of children	Children's Kits in NIS	Total Kits	Families #s	Family Relief Basket NIS	Total Basket Cost	Total per group	USD
Modi'in	33	₪155	₪5,115					
Hod Hasharon	20	₪155	₪3,100					
Holon	30	₪155	₪4,650					
Jaffa	40	₪155	₪6,200	8	₪500	₪4,000		
Herzeliya	13	₪155	₪2,015					
Holon	23	₪155	₪3,565					
Ashkelon	29	₪155	₪4,495	8	₪500	₪4,000		
Ramat Hasharon	9	₪155	₪1,395					
Ashkelon	39	₪155	₪6,045					
<b>Total</b>	<b>236</b>		<b>₪36,580</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>₪8,000</b>	<b>₪44,580</b>	<b>\$14,197</b>
Adult Day Care Centers, Severe Disabilities	Number of Adults	War Relief Kits in NIS	Total Kits				Total per group	USD
Kfar Kassem	36	₪200	₪7,200					
Ashkelon	56	₪200	₪11,200					
Kfar Saba	18	₪200	₪3,600					
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>		<b>₪22,000</b>				<b>₪22,000</b>	<b>\$ 7,006</b>
After School Programs (Ages 6-21)				Families for Baskets	Family Relief Basket NIS	Total Basket Cost	Total per group	USD
Kalisher - Tel Aviv				8	₪500	₪4,000	₪4,000	\$ 1,274
Adult Employment Centers	Number of Adults	War Relief Kits in NIS	Total Kits	Indivs for Care Baskets	Care Basket in NIS	Total Basket Cost	Total per group	USD
Taibe	56	₪200	₪11,200					
Rosh HaAyin	46	₪200	₪9,200					
Kfar Saba	13	₪200	₪2,600					
Ariel	10	₪200	₪2,000	19	₪150	₪2,850		
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>		<b>₪25,000</b>			<b>₪2,850</b>	<b>₪27,850</b>	<b>\$ 8,869</b>
Elderly Retired Therapeutic Units	Number of Adults	War Relief Kits in NIS	Total Kits				Total per Group	USD
Taibe	57	₪199	₪11,343					
Rosh HaAyin	56	₪199	₪11,144					
Kfar Saba	46	₪199	₪9,154					

### A Grant Request

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Very low functionality	5	₪ 219	₪1,095		
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>		<b>₪32,736</b>	<b>₪32,736</b>	<b>\$ 10,425</b>
<b>Total War Relief Needed</b>				<b>₪131,166</b>	<b>\$ 41,773</b>

Budget for Three Protected Institutional Spaces (MAMAM)			
15 square meters			
		NIS	USD
One prefabricated shelter (base cost)	₪	160,000	\$ 50,473
Transportation & Installation with crane	₪	38,000	\$ 11,987
VAT (18%)	₪	35,640	\$ 11,243
<i>Total cost for one protected space</i>	<i>₪</i>	<i><b>233,640</b></i>	<i><b>\$ 73,703</b></i>
<b>Grand total for three protected spaces</b>	<b>₪</b>	<b>700,920</b>	<b>\$ 221,110</b>

### Conclusion

For 35 years, Chimes Israel has worked to ensure that people with disabilities live with dignity, safety, and inclusion. In times of peace, this means providing care, therapy, and opportunity. In times of war, it means standing in the gap for those who cannot protect themselves.

With your support, we can continue to be that lifeline. Together, we can ensure that children and adults with disabilities are not forgotten in the midst of crisis, that families receive the care and support they need to endure, and that the most vulnerable members of Israeli society remain protected, seen, and valued.

We are deeply grateful for your compassion and unwavering commitment to the people of Israel. In standing together, we bring light into a time of great darkness and help restore hope where it is needed most. ❤️

