



Another

STEP FORWARD

Towards Independence

Spring 2008



צעד קדימה

העמותה לחינוך ושיקום באמצעות
גישת החינוך המדריך - פטו (ע"ר)

Tsad Kadima

The Association for
Conductive Education in Israel



www.tsadkadima.org.il



Greetings from the Chairperson

This year marked the 20th anniversary of Tsad Kadima's work in Israel.

One of the main activities surrounding the anniversary was an international conference, one of the highlights of the Association's professional endeavors.

The Conference was a huge success, bringing together professionals from Israel and abroad, people with cerebral palsy, their parents and members of their families.

The lectures and the workshops created an important dialogue among parents and between parents and professionals and between professionals in the spheres of health, education and rehabilitation.

Our heartfelt thanks are sent to the members of the professional committee, the organizing committee and the Conference's Chairpersons, Dr. Rony Schenker and Prof. Shula Parush.

Thanks to the determination of Tsad Kadima's graduates, its dedicated staff, its friends in Israel and abroad, the contributors and volunteers. We will continue moving the organization forward in the years to come.

I should also like to express my thanks to the members of the Board of Directors, the members of the various committees and the General Director who spare no effort, and work tirelessly to bring the toddlers, the children and the teenagers steps forward towards independence and inclusion into society and the community.

Anete Mozes



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From the General Director's Desk



This year, 2007-2008, marks the third year of the implementation of Tsad Kadima's multi-year plan.

Twenty years have gone by since the Association was founded, and we note with pride that Tsad Kadima continues to pursue its various activities in frameworks all over Israel: the rehabilitative day-care centers, the kindergartens, the creation of a school-in-progress, plans to integrate extra-curricular activities for developing skills for independent functioning, training apartments and living in the community.

2007-2008 has been a record year for the numbers of pre-school and other children, teen-agers, young adults and their families enjoying Tsad Kadima's educational and training services.

Tsad Kadima runs programs in Eilat, Be'er Sheba, Rishon LeZion, Jerusalem, Netanya, the Sharon Valley, Haifa, Kiryat Haim and Carmiel.

We are investing considerable efforts in establishing a school-in-progress, a school that grows with each passing year, from First Grade and so on. The pupils are expected to move into the school's new building in the very near future.

Thanks to the generous contribution from The Helen Bader Foundation, to the construction of an educational rehabilitative facility in Be'er Sheba, we have now entered the planning stages. This was made possible by the generosity of the Be'er Sheba Municipality, which allotted us a plot of land appropriate for this purpose. It is our hope that by September 2010 the project will be completed as planned.

Tsad Kadima is continuing to train Conductors – special education teachers in the theory of Conductive Education. In the near future, we shall begin the selection process for candidates for the 12th cycle to be opened at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year.

As we do every year, we are preparing for the summer camp for our teenagers at Kibbutz Hanaton in northern Israel.

I would like to thank the members of the dedicated staff at Tsad Kadima, the leaders of the various frameworks and projects. Special thanks are due to the staff at the main office in Jerusalem. Heartfelt thanks to Anete Mozes, the association's Chairperson, to the members of the Board of Directors and to the various committees who spare no effort in promoting the various Tsad Kadima activities. Thank you to the volunteers and to the Friends of Tsad Kadima in Israel and abroad for their help and cooperation. And last, but not least, the toddlers, the children, the teenagers and the young adults and their families from whom we draw the motivation to move ever forward in our work.

Yossi Pinto

The Helen Bader Foundation announces a 1 million \$ grant for building Tsad Kadima's center in Be'er Sheva

HELEN BADER Foundation

NEWS FROM THE HELEN BADER FOUNDATION

HBF CURRENTS

SPRING/SUMMER 2008

MAJOR GIFTS TAKING BIG STEPS

In southern Israel's Negev Desert, the city of Be'er Sheva and its 200,000 residents represent the diversity of modern Israeli life, a diversity that includes children with special needs.

The city's range of health and rehabilitative services often attract families from surrounding Negev communities, where those services are scarce. For young children with Cerebral Palsy (CP), Be'er Sheva is home to a growing branch of **Tsad Kadima** (Hebrew for *a step forward*), a national nonprofit using a treatment approach that aims to not only address motor needs, but also the child's overall psychological and educational capabilities.

"As the children progress through the program, we see the changes take place," said Yossi Pinto, program director at Tsad Kadima. "Looking ahead, we know that there are many more children we need to reach."

Working out of a rented space in Be'er Sheva since 2004, Tsad Kadima now serves 14 children in its rehabilitative day care program, but it has plans for a new, state-of-the-art facility that will enable it to serve up to 40 children at a time. To put the new facility on solid footing, the Foundation has committed a two-year, \$1 million grant, the Foundation's first major gift in Israel, where more than \$25 million has gone to aid Early Childhood Development programs since 1994. The new facility will be named in recognition of the late

Marvin Klitsner, a longtime Foundation director who was active in furthering Tsad Kadima's work.

Tsad Kadima uses a treatment approach called Conductive Education, also known as the Peto Method, named after the Hungarian Jew who developed it in the 1940s. Conductive Education aids children and youth with CP, combining physical rehabilitation with an emphasis on personality factors, with the ultimate goal of independent living upon adulthood. The key staff are called Conductors, who are trained to help the children address both sets of needs.

Tsad Kadima has been working for two decades to spread the Peto Method in Israel, which it now does through five locations serving more than 300 children annually. To mark its 20th anniversary, last year it held an international conference for



Tsad Kadima has served children with Cerebral Palsy for more than 20 years; a \$1 million gift will help it expand in Be'er Sheva (photos: Foundation staff).

Conductive Education professionals and researchers.

Tsad Kadima sees an equally big role in educating the public about the potential within the children it serves. Be'er Sheva's diversity means that it must strive to work closely with parents to bridge cultural gaps, so they can play an active role in their child's well-being. According to Pinto, the new facility will provide the space to accommodate new programming to help the children as they transition into the school system.

"Our goal is to provide our children the very best in care, and parents are important partners in that process," he said. "The new facility is a vital part of making those partnerships a reality."

Prior to the new gift, Tsad Kadima had received nearly \$1.1 million in Foundation grants for its work across Israel. ♦

קרן הלן בדר מכריזה על הענקת תרומה של מיליון דולר להקמת מרכז "צעד קדימה" בבאר שבע



To Sara Avissar and our friends
in Washington, a whole bunch
of "thank you" for the great work
you do for our children.
Keep up the good work!

Warmest thanks...

The children, the parents and the professional staff of the school classes of Tsad Kadima, wish to express their warmest heart felt thanks to Ms. Etty Ofek - director of Eshkolot school and the educational staff of the school, for the hearty welcome and acceptance they showed to the children of Tsad Kadima, while they were guests and used their compound after the fire destroyed their classes. For almost a year Eshkolot school was like a home for our children, giving them more than a roof, but also companionship and friendship as well. Thank you and bless you all.

Omri's Tale

Hi, I'm Omri. I'm six-and-a-half years old now, and I came to Tsad Kadima when I was really, really small. Next year, I'll be going into First Grade and my family is very excited. To me, this is the most natural thing in the world, because I'm a really big boy. I have a little brother, and for more than a year now I have been practicing how to be his big brother. My Mom says that I'm doing an excellent job. Thanks, Mom!

Omri Nusinker



Every Day Brings Another Small Miracle

A stranger taking a glimpse at the Tsad Kadima center in Rishon LeZion could think that the people there make at least one small miracle happen every day.

One day, two toddlers at the pre-school stand up and begin to walk.

Another day, two others learn to feed themselves independently, these are the toddlers who have been with us since the beginning of the year and are the proof of the effectiveness of the educational process.

These are not miracles of Divine Intervention, but are the result of day-to-day, uninterrupted, structured and precise educational work.

Is it any wonder that the people who work here are filled with a sense of accomplishment?

Inclusion - Theory and Practice

For years, there have been discussions among those involved in the rehabilitation of children with cerebral palsy. Inclusion? For all? Even for those who are severely disabled? Or even have problems in communication? This week, five-year-old Or, a pupil in the Cypress Group, provided a resounding "YES" to those questions. Or, who fits the above description, was included into the "Butterflies" kindergarten, a "regular" kindergarten in town.

This was his second visit to the kindergarten and to the surprise of the entire staff, Or took to it like a fish to water. He even played soccer with the other children.

Is there any better proof than that?

Hanna Alajem



The Tsad Kadima Travel Club

The Tsad Kadima Travel Club in Rishon LeZion is another one of the activities of the Parents' Leadership. About every six weeks the families get together for an exciting day out. They meet in the morning, with the vehicles, at the meeting place and from there set out for a family trip. The latest trip was to Haruvit Park. The families enjoyed a fantastic route filled with flowers and greenery. The children enjoyed social and thinking games.

They ate lunch at a pre-determined spot, a green hill surrounded by Carob trees. After the "feast" the children handed out chocolate treats for dessert.

Tal Mori



Our Gal,

Our brother, Gal, has been in Tsad Kadima for five years.

He is now seven years old and is studying in the Tsad Kadima class at the "Eshkolot" School in Rishon LeZion. We accompany him to all the events to which siblings or the whole family are invited. At Hanukkah, we took part in siblings' day, where we were active in all the activities in which all the brothers and sisters of Tsad Kadima participated; then we split up into groups and participated in activities within each group.

We also took part in family trips and really enjoyed ourselves: there was the trip to Haruvit Forest, the one to Palmahim and more.

These joint activities draw the families participating in them closer together. We wish Gal and the other Tsad Kadima children success and hope that every one of them will take at least one more step forward.

Or and Chen Shilian

Family Day at the Sharon Pre-School

Six delightful children and a loving and devoted staff make up the Sharon Pre-School. This is certainly a small family by any account... Nevertheless, Family Day this year was especially exciting.

This was the first celebration this year in which all the children and their families were at the pre-school after long weeks during which many were absent because of a drivers' strike, illness and so on.

We all got together on a Friday morning to celebrate Family Day.

The parents had a hard time finding their children after they had hidden all over the pre-school. The family train was happy and long. But the highlight of the day was the decorating of cakes with figures and shapes from marzipan, a joint effort of the children and their mothers; truly a sight to behold!

We have promised to celebrate again next year.

Racheli Balali
Director of the Pre-School



best wishes
from
Stuart & Anne
Dove

With best wishes
Barry & Susan
Liberman

Raphael Advances at Tsad Kadima in Beer Sheba

I would like to thank Tsad Kadima for what it has given and is giving to the children and the parents.

For my Raphael, it's Tsad Kadima in "civic" life, after a stay of a year and a half in the hospital.

We'd like to tell you about what the pre-school and the staff there mean to our family. Being first-time parents to a child is something new, but being first-time parents to twins is hard, and it is even harder when one of the twins is disabled.

When we got to the pre-school for our first tour in Tsad Kadima, we fell in love with it and fell even more in love with the staff. We felt that we have come to the right place, that help was available. But we had no idea how much the Tsad Kadima's staff would be important in our lives. The support and encouragement we received in the most natural manner made us feel that we are not alone, that there is someone we can turn to for help.

Tsad Kadima is one big family and we are a part of this family.

The staff took us under its wings, guiding and accompanying in every step: at the pre-school, at home or in the hospital.

Firstly, we would like to say thank you to Dr. Marina, who made us part of this family, and to our entire staff in Be'er Sheba. Thank you for who you are, for the love, encouragement and support you have given us and for the understanding you have shown us. Thanks from deep within our hearts.



**Tirtza Gavrilov,
Raphael's Mom**

Experiences from Tsad Kadima's center in Be'er Sheba

My name is Anna, and I'm from England. Lately I'm volunteering at Tsad Kadima in Be'er Sheba. So, what has brought me to Israel? I am part of a world wide youth movement called Netzer. Each year Netzer offers all its participants who have graduated from school to spend a year in Israel. While we are here, we have the opportunity to learn, to volunteer, to travel and to really try and get the true experience of living in Israel. So far I have been in Israel for six and a half months. For the first four months of the program, I spent my time in Jerusalem living in a flat with 14 other people from the group. Each day we had a selection of classes and studied many things, ranging from Zionism and Hebrew to t'fillah. As well as lessons, each week we spent a morning volunteering and every Tuesday we were taken on a tiyul to explore a new part of the country. Once the program in Jerusalem had finished, we were offered the opportunity to go and work on a Kibbutz in the south, volunteer in Haifa or volunteer in Be'er Sheba. I chose to come to Be'er Sheba.

I am currently living in a small flat in neighborhood Dalet with 4 other members of my group. In the mornings I volunteer in Tsad Kadima. I really enjoy working here. At first I found it hard to know what to do, when to help and when not to. but now, even though I still make mistakes, I feel I have settled in and learned a lot about each of the children and the work that is done here, as well as many songs about sitting nicely and washing hands. It is such a fun place to work in, I really love how everything is always so upbeat and lively.

I only have just over a month left in Be'er Sheba before the next part of my program and I really hope to make the most out of my time in Tsad Kadima and, of course, continue having fun.

Anna Posner



Tsad Kadima's Twentieth Birthday

On the occasion of its 20th Birthday, Tsad Kadima granted the professional community in Israel, the families and the young adults with CP a valuable gift in the form of an important, significant and interesting international conference. Its subject was: "Throughout Life with Cerebral Palsy – Partnership, Environment and Participation. Partners in the Conference included the School of Occupational Therapy of Hadassah Medical Center and the Hebrew University which lent its academic sponsorship to the conference, the Neuropediatric Unit, Shaare Zedek Medical Center and the Israeli Bobath Tutors Association (EBTA Israel). Together we created a program that included scientific and clinical presentations as well as case study and personal stories about cerebral palsy from early childhood to adulthood in various life environments and from a variety of angles. We feel privileged to have been able to bring together guests from Israel and abroad: people with CP, parents and family members as well as professionals in the spheres of education, health and social welfare. About 400 people participated in the conference held at Dan Panorama Hotel in Tel-Aviv. The participants enjoyed lectures by internationally renowned specialists, participated in exciting meetings and learned first-hand of the progress being made in the area of cerebral palsy. Alongside the learning experience, there were personal meetings and there was a genuinely family atmosphere to the Conference.

More than anything else, for me the Conference represents the power inherent in partnership: partnership between organizations, between various professionals and between parents and professionals. This is what formed the basis for the success of the conference which shone a spotlight on Tsad Kadima as an important and central element in the educational-rehabilitative work in Israel and on its uncompromising qualities.

Dr. Rony Schenker
Professional Director
and Head of the "Conductive Education" Training Program



Right to Left:
Dr. Andrew Sutton;
Prof. Reuven Feuerstein;
Dr. Rony Schenker



Mr. Meir Nitzan, the Mayor
of Rishon LeZion - a true friend,
Anete Mozes, Yossi Pinto



Sandro De Bernardin,
the Italian Ambassador in Israel (center)



Right to Left:
Dr. Rony Schenker;
Dr. Sarah Capelovitch;
Prof. Peter Rosenbaum;
Dr. Andrew Sutton