עזרת אבות
Ezrat Avot
Aging With Dignity
Since 1976

Ezrat Avot, a non-profit organization, is a leader in elderly care in Jerusalem and it's surroundings. Since 1976, we have been providing unwavering support and services to seniors and Holocaust survivors, ensuring that they are aging with dignity.

Pesach Newsletter 2026 / 5786

Fifty Years of Caring for Jerusalem's Seniors: *Creating a Legacy*

More than fifty years ago, Ezrat Avot began with one simple, righteous idea: no elderly person in Jerusalem should go hungry or feel forgotten. Rabbi Shlomo Gamliel was deeply troubled by the poverty he saw among his elderly neighbors. He turned to his granddaughter, Naomi Sharabi, and asked her to help him bring food and warmth into their lives.

Naomi took that compassionate idea and made it into a lifelong mission. What began with open doors and her grandfather's home-cooked meals, steadily grew as more seniors were able to receive nourishing meals. With determination and tireless advocacy, Naomi helped formalize this work into a registered non-profit in 1976, laying the foundation for what Ezrat Avot is today.

Over the years, the organization expanded far beyond its earliest days. A dedicated building was purchased and later renovated in 2002, which created a dignified and welcoming space that seniors could gather. New initiatives were established: a men's Kollel and women's Moadon, holiday and dry-goods package distributions, home-delivered 'Meals On Wheels,' activities for Holocaust survivors, and inter-generational programs that connect local school children with our seniors.

In 2016 Ezrat Avot broke ground on a six-story community center in Ramot. The center serves hundreds of people each year: with a kitchen, dry goods storage warehouse, synagogue, community event hall, and even a floor dedicated to providing Health Services.

As we celebrate fifty years of service, we honor the impact of this extraordinary journey of one family's concern for its seniors to creating a successful non-profit with ever-growing potential.

Together We Can Fill Their Seder Table

Dear Friends & Supporters,

As Pesach approaches, we think about the memories that shaped us each year gathered around our Seder tables. These were the voices that sang the Haggadah, the hands that guided us through the Seder, the patience with which we were taught traditions, and the faith that became part of who we are.

For many of Jerusalem's seniors, those memories are now distant. Their children live far away or have become estranged. Friends are no longer here. The Seder table becomes smaller each year.

Every week, our Meals On Wheels volunteers visit men and women who once cared for families, built communities, and carried faith through difficult times. Today, many face old age with limited income, illness, or loneliness.

For 36 years, through our Pesach Food Drive, founded by Naomi Sharabi z"l, we have made sure seniors can welcome the holiday with the basics every person deserves: food, dignity, and the reassurance that they have not been forgotten.

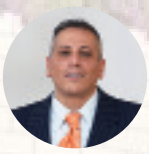
> *They once prepared the Seder for us. Now it is our responsibility to prepare it for them.*

This year, we invite your partnership. Your contribution enables us to maintain existing services and increase our impact.

From all of us at Ezrat Avot, may your home be filled with meaning, gratitude, peace, and continuity this holiday season.

Chag Kasher v'Sameach!

With appreciation,



Sraya Sharabi
Executive Director,
Ezrat Avot

Please contact us with any questions via:
02-5829984 / Fax: 02-5322226 / info@ezratavot.org / ezratavot.org

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Our Volunteers Come from All Different Walks of Life

Our Volunteers are the Heart of Ezrat Avot.

Each year Ezrat Avot hosts a Brunch to thank our incredible volunteers. It never seems like enough to convey the true depth of our gratitude. This year it will be after Pesach.

This past year we have had hundreds of amazing volunteers. Some of them found us through websites, on social media volunteer groups, or as part of their planned trips to Israel to volunteer. Others come with schools or programs. We have our 'regulars,' young and old, who come every week to pack our Meals On Wheels or help prepare the food for our chef to cook. Volunteers with special needs or hardships of their own come volunteer as well and are grateful to be able to help our seniors.

> *"Our volunteers are not just volunteers, they are people with real skills and ideas who want to help."*
> – Brenda, Coordinator of Ezrat Avot Volunteer Services

Young adults from Midreshet Darkaynu - a school for girls with special needs.

Seminary Girls

Machon LeMadrichim Volunteers

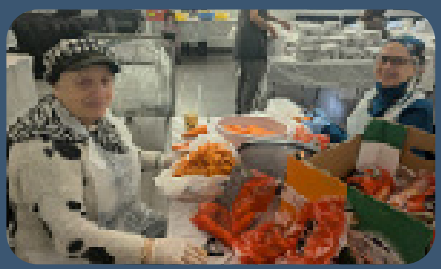
Women's Moadon Trip to the Biblical Museum

In December 2025, the Ezrat Avot Moadon Women took a trip to the Biblical Museum and stopped at Ikea. At the museum, they participated in educational and interactive exhibits, and had an awesome time getting hands-on experience with some of the exotic animals.

This summer, we are planning several future trips, including a trip to the beach and other museum tours.

We are happy to welcome our two new Women's Moadon Madrichot, Yona and Malka.

Update on Tzivia



"I love to come here, this is my family."

Tzivia was not feeling well before Chanukah, but we are thrilled that she is back and volunteering with us again! She happily tells us she is doing much better now and is grateful to be at home with minimal assistance.

Purim Celebrations

Annually, we have a special Purim celebration for our Holocaust Survivors.

This year, we thank cross river Technologies employees donating and assembling 150 Mishloach Manot for our Holocaust survivors!

Continuing the *Legacy*

Our first vision is to relocate our kitchen to the building's top floor. This unique space invites the creation of a roof-top garden with a peaceful green space, along with a place for therapeutic activities. We are also exploring the idea of a small dining area to further connect us with the community and support our mission. The former kitchen space could become a fitness center designed especially for older adults, promoting health, connection, and independence.

Practical equipment upgrades are a necessity. New freezers, refrigerators, and an industrial dishwasher would greatly improve our efficiency. This would allow our chef to develop new recipes and cooking techniques.

We also aim to grow our center's daily programs. With a professional-level kitchen and more volunteer drivers, we hope to increase our Meals On Wheels outreach to accommodate every senior in need.

Rooted in compassion and vision, Ezrat Avot's next 50 years will build on everything we have achieved: bringing dignity, nourishment, and companionship to even more seniors in need across Jerusalem.

Artistic depiction of our future roof-top garden and dining space.

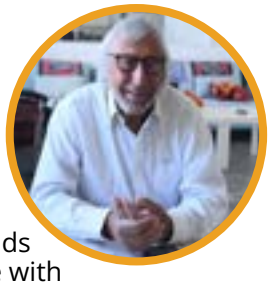
If you are interested in helping fund a specific project or have an idea of your own, please reach out to us!

info@ezratavot.org or
WhatsApp +972 52-244-3508

Hear from Some of Our Meals On Wheels Seniors

Every week, our drivers meet remarkable people—Holocaust survivors, homebound seniors, and elderly neighbors quietly facing illness and loneliness on limited incomes. Their stories are filled with strength, faith, and perseverance.

Simcha's Story



Simcha has shaped his life with Torah, learning, and community. Coming from a family of rabbis, with his son following in the same path, Simcha spent 38 years in education where he spent the last decade serving as the school's headmaster.

After his wife passed away 10 years ago, Simcha made Aliyah from London to Jerusalem. He filled his new home with books, and attends daily Daf Yomi study. He also participates in a weekly choir practice with the Rinat Jerusalem Men's Choir.

"Now I got your meals... I eat them all up at different times when I'm hungry."
– Simcha

Now at 87 and battling cancer, Simcha is unable to cook for himself. With his son living out of town near Ashdod, Ezrat Avot's Meals on Wheels have become essential.

Simcha's story reflects the heart of our mission: caring for those who once dedicated their life to caring for others.

Noga & Gavriel

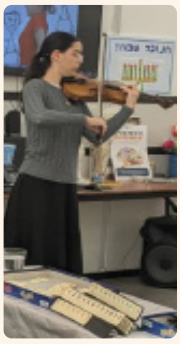
Gavriel, 70, was born in Haifa to parents from Morocco. At just six years old, a grenade explosion took his sight and his right hand. Noga, 67, grew up in Tel Aviv with severe near-sightedness where she later developed glaucoma at age twenty. She gradually lost her vision as well.

Noga and Gavriel, both blind, have learned how to navigate the world in ways most of us never have to consider.

Despite these challenges, the couple is determined to remain in their own home. Their only son was raised with the help of his grandparents. Now he lives in the same building and helps when he can, but they mainly rely on a caregiver for daily support.

Weekly meals from Ezrat Avot play a crucial role in making that possible. Reliable, nutritious food eases the burden of everyday life. "These meals are very tasty," they share. "We don't have to worry about what we're going to eat."

Noga and Gavriel's story is one of partnership and perseverance. With your support, Ezrat Avot can continue helping special couples stay nourished and in their homes.



Support Our 36th Pesach Food Drive!

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You can easily and securely donate with your credit card by visiting our official website at **ezratavot.org** or scanning the QR code below.

Please contact us with any questions via:
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