



# The Bier Family Community Internship and Chesed Program

Machon Ma'ayan

A sampling of our many opportunities....



# What is the Community Internship & Chesed Program?

The Community Internship and Chesed Program is a central component of Machon Maayan. Integrating learning with community activities, Machon Maayan offers an extensive array of community internships. Students have the valuable opportunity to make a personal imprint on Israeli

society as they contribute, learn and grow.

Students shape their internship program based on their personal talents and interests. They discover how to integrate their passion with helping others.

Community Internships and chesed activities ...

- Give students hands-on training in their areas of interest
- Develop organizational skills
- Nurture leadership abilities
- Provide a vehicle for students to impact Israeli society
- Put Torah values into practice
- Develop vital skills as a community member and leader



## Big Sister Program

Volunteer “big sisters” adopt a “little sister” from the local high school and work together on self-confidence, English, and life skills. The little sisters hail from disadvantaged homes, and the opportunity to have a big sister to lean on is a welcome addition to their lives. Each week, the “sisters” spend quality time together, both recreational and educational, and build a bond of friendship and family.



*As soon as we saw each other, my little sister would give me a bear hug embrace. I loved going to spend time with her every week. I am not sure if it was more fun for me or her!*

ASYA TUCKER, COLUMBUS, OHIO



# English is Fun: A Variety of English Enrichment Programs

## Book Buddy and English Tutoring

essential key to unlock the doors of higher education in Israel. Students tutor different age children at their homes, classrooms, and on our campus.

In nearby Kibbutz Yavne, the elementary school has partnered with us to create a fantastic program to help their students develop in English. Our students volunteer for an hour a week as “book buddies” and work on reading skills. With careful mentoring from the school’s English staff, our students use creative techniques to teach their buddy in a fun and engaging way.

*Armed with a good sense of humor, my students and I created funny memories for a lifetime. We talked about everything and anything, and it helped them to learn English, me to learn Hebrew, and all of us to have new friends.*

—RACHELI WEISS  
TEANECK, NEW JERSEY

*English theatre was an opportunity to help girls put on a show. It allowed them to become more confident. The girls were originally from disadvantaged Russian homes and this gave them a chance to shine.*

—LEAH ISRAEL, MONSEY, NEW YORK

## English Theatre

Theatre education has proven to be a unique way of learning, giving students insights in drama techniques, storytelling, communication and most importantly, learning about oneself.

Our students partner with the English Department of Ulpanat Yishai, the local high school, to create an English Theatre program.

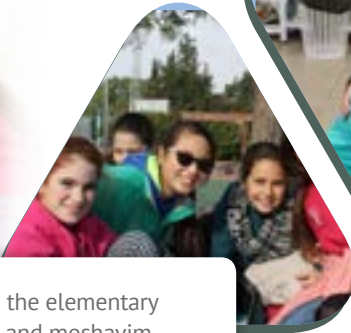
Through fun, challenging and interactive mediums, our students train the high schoolers and produce a play in English that is performed towards the end of the school year. This format allows the students to speak English with confidence publicly and privately.



The Amichai School in Kibbutz Yavne is the elementary school servicing all the local kibbutzim and moshavim. Amichai proudly educates its youth in an environment of religious Zionism and agricultural studies. With values of Torah and Derech Eretz, Amichai students seek to apply Torah to their daily life and build a strong foundation of giving to the State of Israel.



Ulpanat Yishai, located on the Givat Washington campus, is a home to 450 students, including 200 who live in the high school dormitory. Most of the students hail from families on the lower end of the socio-economic spectrum, who come to Ulpanat Yishai for a supportive learning environment, which stresses the acquisition of academic skills for success beyond high school.





# Ezer Mizion Medical

Machon Maayan students travel once a week to Kaplan Hospital in Rechovot and distribute cake and coffee to the patients and their families. They take the opportunity to talk to the families and brighten their day.

*Ezer Mizion was an amazing internship because I was able to see how my help impacted people. It made me so happy when we would give somebody coffee and I could see their smile and the small change in their mood. It made me realize I was making a difference in their day.*

—REBECCA GORODISCHER  
WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK



## Medical Clowning

Students who train as Medical clowns use their skills in magic, balloon sculpting, and acting to treat children to doses of fun to help them deal with their fears, anxiety, loneliness, and boredom. Interacting with the clowns gives the patients an opportunity to relieve stress, relax, and even reduce pain.

Machon Maayan medical clowns travel to Kaplan Hospital to work with a range of patients, from children to adults. Dressed up with costumes and clown makeup, and armed with toys, balloons, and a host of other props, they entertain the patients and improve their quality of life. Both the clowns and the patients benefit greatly from their visits, and look forward to their return each week.

*It's a beautiful job. As a medical clown you go into a hospital and bring fresh air to the sick or disabled children and their parents.*

—ALINE FISCHER  
ZURICH, SWITZERLAND



**עזר מציון**  
מערך תמיכה רפואית  
מחברים: 2012

Ezer Mizion operates a national volunteer system of over 16,000 volunteers who visit the sick, provide food to the homebound, and transport the sick and elderly to medical care centers. With divisions serving cancer patients, special needs children, the geriatric population, and mental health, Israeli medical care has come to rely on the volunteers of Ezer Mizion.





# Afterschool Programming

Machon Maayan students have filled a void for the youth studying on the Givat Washington campus by opening a variety of after-school programs to serve the needs of the disadvantaged children in the various schools. Kindergarten, Elementary and High School students who never had exposure to recreational activities now participate in Machon Maayan organized programming in a range of areas such as **tennis, swimming lessons, hip hop dance lessons, basketball, soccer, karate, makeup artistry**, and many more.

*It's fun and educational and an amazing way to bond with the Israelis on campus*

—MIRIAM FORMAN  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



*It was an unbelievable opportunity to teach girls who would never have had the opportunity to learn how to swim. My students were so excited to come to the pool each week, to overcome their fear of water, and to learn new skills.*

MOLLIE SCHWARTZ, SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS



*I developed relationships with the kids and their parents. The parents of the children who participated in my karate chug always invited me for Shabbat meals and always made me feel like family.*

—SARAH EDELSTEIN,  
BOYTON BEACH, FLORIDA



The Givat Washington campus was founded in 1950 by the Jewish community of Washington DC as a home for young Holocaust survivors. In 1953, the campus opened its doors to a teacher's college and slowly grew in size, beginning to house additional educational programs.

Today, Givat Washington is home to an educational college, an Israeli high school, a high school program for Jewish teenagers from France, a high school program for gifted Russian students, an Israeli Midrasha, and Machon Maayan.



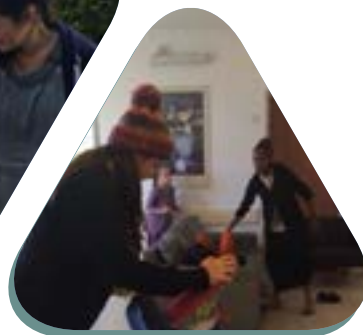


# Aleh

Machon Maayan Aleh volunteers travel to the Aleh center in Gedera and take the children to recreational afternoon activities in the park, spend time together, and help ensure that they have a wonderful afternoon, playing and enjoying themselves.

*I came to Aleh because I wanted to learn about what it takes to help people with mental disabilities. In the end, I really think that I gained more than I ever could have given to them. I learned patience, how to understand different people, and new communication skills.*

—LEXIE LAST  
DENVER, COLORADO



Aleh was formed In 1982 by a group of parents who decided to do everything possible to give their children with disabilities the best available care and the opportunity to grow and develop to their fullest capabilities. Today, over 700 children with complex disabilities receive state-of-the-art medical, educational and rehabilitative care in ALEH's four facilities In addition, ALEH provides thousands of outpatient treatments annually. Without ALEH, many of these children would be forced to spend their lives in hospitals, with no opportunities for rehabilitation, education, and the love and warmth of a home.

# Equestrian Therapy

Equestrian therapy makes use of horses to help promote emotional growth. Equestrian therapy is applied to patients with ADD, anxiety, autism, delay in mental development, downs syndrome, depression and other mental health issues.

Our students who are experienced with horses volunteer weekly at the therapeutic ranch as an assistant to the professional therapists and instructors. They work with the horses and children, helping lead the animals, cleaning them, and feeding them.

*Every day offered a new lesson, a new story, and a new sore muscle. At first, you don't realize how much you are giving back to the community. Whether it was cleaning out the stalls, brushing the horses, or training them, the chesed was truly always there.*

—MICHELLE KHANDADASH  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



The Riding Farm in the Kannot Youth Village was established in 1982. The farm services children with special needs and behavioral struggles who come for horseback riding therapy in order to build their confidence, self-esteem, and social skills.



# Daycare Center

Our students volunteer at the local Emunah daycare center once a week, working with children ages 3 months-3 years. Machon Maayan volunteers help with feeding, changing, and supervise afternoon playtime. The children look forward to their weekly arrival, and our students have a chance to give back to Israeli society.



*The daycare internship is so special, especially if you love working with babies or toddlers. The caretakers want to build a professional relationship with you. It's an incredible opportunity, and it changed my Machon Maayan experience for the better.*

—CHANA INGBER  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND



Emunah operates a diverse network of 135 daycare centers, the third largest in Israel, serving more than 9,000 children daily, including 3,000 vulnerable children from welfare families, providing excellent care in a secure environment and within a Jewish framework. Working parents find peace of mind knowing these centers offer a safe and quality solution for the daily care of their children.



# Educational Farm

Volunteers at the Educational Farm travel weekly to Ashdod to intern in the hot houses, gardens and petting zoo. They help create a positive outdoor classroom for the elementary students that visit the farm.

*I had no idea I liked that kind of work, until volunteering at the agricultural farm. Internships at Machon Maayan gave me the opportunity to explore areas of myself that I hadn't previously discovered.*

—LILY ROSENBAUM,  
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK



The National Ministry of Education in Israel puts a strong emphasis on teaching the connection of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel. From a young age, school children study about Israel's flora and fauna, and engage in outdoor and ecological activities.

Most cities in Israel house Ministry sponsored Educational Farms, which host school children throughout the year for hands on activities with native Israeli animals and plants. They learn agriculture, botany, and ecology, strengthening the bond between the people of Israel and their homeland.



# Shalva

The student interns at Shalva enjoy giving the children special one on one time in the beautiful state of the art facility. Some interns work with the children in the therapy swimming pool.

*I love that as soon as I enter the Shalva building, the girls recognize me and jump into my arms. Those small moments put a huge smile on my face and makes every moment of being there so worth it. I cherish each one of their relationships that we have built.*

YONEENA HEIT, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Shalva provides an all-encompassing range of services for 2,000 individuals with disabilities from infancy to adulthood and their families. On an ongoing basis, Shalva's programs offer a host of therapies, inclusive educational frameworks, sports and wellness, recreational activities, as well as respite and family support.

The Shalva National Center's advanced programs and facilities create new frontiers in disability rehabilitation, research, and inclusion; defining new standards in the field and impacting the world beyond those in Shalva's direct care.



*The kids at save a child's heart have taught me so much about life. No matter where they are coming from, no matter what they are going through, they always have smiles on their faces. They are so grateful for even the smallest things in life. I love volunteering at save a child's heart!*

REBECCA BARGRASSER, HOUSTON, TEXAS



Save a Child's Heart (SACH) is an Israeli-based international non-profit organization and recent recipient of the prestigious United Nations Population Award. SACH was founded in 1995 at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel, with the mission of improving the quality of pediatric cardiac care for children in developing countries and creating centers of competence in these countries.

# Stand With Us

Every week our students intern at the Stand With Us office in Jerusalem. Our students are actively involved in the making of action alerts for their website, making scripts for various videos, helping with campaigns and gathering contacts to help bring Israel education to other countries.

*I love going to my internship every week! I feel like I am directly helping people become more educated on what is happening in Israel and the significance of our land. I get to work in an office full of people who are from all different backgrounds. We all share a common belief, which is the importance of a strong Jewish homeland. I also get to feel what it is like to have an actual job while I am still in my year in Seminary. This is an incredible opportunity that enhanced my year in Israel and I am so beyond grateful that Machon Maayan gave me the chance to work for Stand With Us!*

—ADERET BRENNER, NEW YORK, NY

StandWithUs



StandWithUs is an international, non-profit organization. They believe that education is the road to peace. StandWithUs is dedicated to informing the public about Israel and to combating the extremism and Antisemitism that often distorts the issues.

Through print materials, speakers, programs, conferences, missions to Israel and from Israel, campaigns, social media and internet resources, they ensure that the story of Israel's achievements and ongoing challenges is told on campuses and in communities around the world.



# Discover

your talents while helping others

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