

Aliyah Absorption

IN THE NEGEV & THE GALILEE

THE OPPORTUNITY

Fueled by a resilient and entrepreneurial culture, Israel is the innovation-hub of the middle east and a desirable place for immigrants and opportunity. The nation has also been a safe haven and welcoming place for war refugees and those seeking a better quality of life.

When the war broke out between Russia and Ukraine the rate of Aliyah significantly increased. The current wave of Aliyah is characterized by groups whose process was expedited without adequate preparation, and with individuals of academic degrees and high-quality professions. There is another wave of Aliyah eligible Jews who have been separated from their communities and families (mainly due to mobilization orders), and according to the Jewish Agency, it has becoming increasingly difficult to fulfill The Right of Return. It is a basic human right for Russian and Ukrainian Jews to immigrate to Israel, and there are currently 600,000 Russian Jews eligible to start the process.

THE SOLUTION

As Israel's official Information Center for the Negev and Galilee, OR Movement was called upon to assist in the absorption of olim. We understood there would be unique challenges for those immigrating from Russia and Ukraine and stretched ourselves to support those seeking a better quality of life and connection to Jewish culture.

1. We opened a Russian-speaking division in the OR Movement Information Center to support those interested in immigrating to Israel, in the process of making Aliyah, and for those who newly arrived and needed additional support. Our Information Center provides "white glove" relocation services from geographic guidance, immigration and Aliyah support, residential, workplace and community information for the Negev and Galilee.
2. We created a dedicated 6-month Aliyah Absorption & Community Building program to support the Russian and Ukrainian olim. The goal was to ensure a seamless and successful integration into Israeli society and to foster a strong local community that would continue to welcome future Russian and Ukrainian immigrants.

ALIYAH STATISTICS

Aliyah figures are from 2022 and based on data published by the Ministry of Aliyah and Absorption and the Central Bureau of Statistics:

- **67,000 olim** from Eastern Europe
- **57,000 olim** just from Russia and Ukraine
- **7,000 olim** from the rest of world
- **74,000 olim in total**

Locations where the Olim communities will be situated

- Akko
- Tiberias
- Ofakim
- Beer Sheva



New Olim learning Hebrew in their private Ulpan



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OUR IMPACT

Our first pilot program launched in Akko and we welcomed 24 wonderful adults and 4 adorable children. All basic life necessities were provided (Housing, language classes, employment readiness, etc.), along with a warm welcome from our "host families" and a series of cultural and Jewish educational programming with the larger community.

Our goal is to launch the Aliyah Absorption Program in 4 different cities by the end of the year to support immigrants from Russia and Ukraine while fostering a strong Jewish community and contributing to Economic Growth and Jewish Peoplehood in the Negev and Galilee.

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- A program director dedicated to building a strong local community through curating cultural activities, providing Jewish educational programming, and bridge building experiences for immigrants, Israeli citizens, Jews and Arabs
- A private Ulpan for learning Hebrew
- A partly subsidized new furnished apartment for 6-months
- Aliyah assistance
- Employment Workshops (Translating and writing CVs, interview prep)
- Job placement assistance with local companies
- Introductions to Aliyah Host Families (families who welcome new Olim for Shabbat meals, events, and provide general support when integrating into Israeli society)

OUR GOAL

Our immediate goal is to provide the Jewish diaspora, specifically from Russia and Ukraine a safe, high-quality and fulfilling life in Israel. We have identified four communities in the Negev and Galilee that are ready, willing, and able to establish 300 new Olim by the end of the year.



The new community of Olim stand together in front of their new home in Akko

BUDGET

Program Budget:

Line Item	\$ Budget
Program Coordinator	31,000
Community Activities	9,000
Real Estate Agent Fee	6,000
Apartment Rentals	75,000
Ulpan Enrichment	17,000
Workshops	7,000
Home Furnishing & Electrical Products	22,000
Utilities	32,000
Total	200,000

Program Income:

Line Item	\$ Budget
Participant fee	112,500
Total	112,500

**Our Request: \$80,000
to establish one
community of Olim**



The new Olim light the Hanukkah candles on their first day of the program



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