

THE KFAR RETAMIM LIBRARY

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Kfar Retamim is a Modern Orthodox community located in the Ramat Hanegev region neighboring Kibbutz Revivim. In 2006 OR Movement assembled an Impact Group of 20 families from the center of Israel and relocated them into Kfar Retamim with the goal of transforming a dwindling town into a connected and thriving community rooted in Jewish values and strong education. The new community was officially established in 2009 by OR Movement and today is home to 550 residents inclusive of 350 children. Our collective goal is a community that fulfills the Zionist vision in the Negev and embodies the pioneering spirit of Israel and the OR Movement, and recognizes the importance of education and leadership.

OUR MISSION

OR movement is committed to building the future of Israel- united, stable, safe, and growing in a variety of fields in all parts of the country, for all citizens. We believe a country with three thriving centers (Negev, Tel Aviv/Jerusalem, Galilee) each offering a unique high quality of life is the solution to social inequality, demographic disparities, lack of infrastructure, and the religious and cultural divides in Israel. Over the past twenty years we have invested in Economic & Social Development, Urban Planning & Development and Community & Bridge Building initiatives, with the goal of relocating early adopters to the Negev and Galilee and establishing a strong foundation for future growth. A key component of developing the Negev and Galilee is youth development and community building.

The Better Life Index reports education plays a key role in providing individuals with the knowledge, skills and competences needed to participate effectively in society and may improve people's lives in areas such as health, civic participation, and happiness. As part of our Urban Development and Community Building priorities, we build a central meeting place in each city that offers unstructured play, continuing education, community enrichment programs and can host events and gatherings.

OUR LIBRARY



Community building and continuing education are central focuses of OR Movement, and an integral part of our vision in establishing united and thriving city centers in the Negev and Galilee.

The expansion of the Kfar Retamim library will allow the community to offer a robust calendar of educational programming for all ages, provide a vast selection of books, updated reading nooks and unstructured play areas, and build a computer lab with science and STEM programs. Kfar Retamim is a growing community with 350 children between the ages of 0-16, and the current library is outdated and can no longer foster adequate youth development, allows kids to develop social emotional learning skills and healthy soft skills.

Literacy is a critical factor in economic and social development and eliminates barriers to education and employment. Research has shown that libraries build literate, productive, and engaged communities and is a tool to support mental health.





THE KFAR RETAMIM LIBRARY

WE ENVISION A LIBRARY THAT ALLOWS EVERYONE TO LEARN, EXPLORE & CONNECT!

1 A place that fosters discovery, curiosity, creativity and knowledge

2 A library with a vast collection of current books, access to the internet and home to continuing education and early childhood programming



3 A healthy and engaged community with a high literacy rate

4 A central meeting place that facilitates social gatherings and cultivates connections within the community

LIBRARY EXPANSION BUDGET

New Computers	\$15,000
New Books	\$3,000
New Furnishings & Seating Areas	\$20,000
Library Expansion & Renovation	\$50,000
Total Project Cost (includes naming)	\$88,000

