

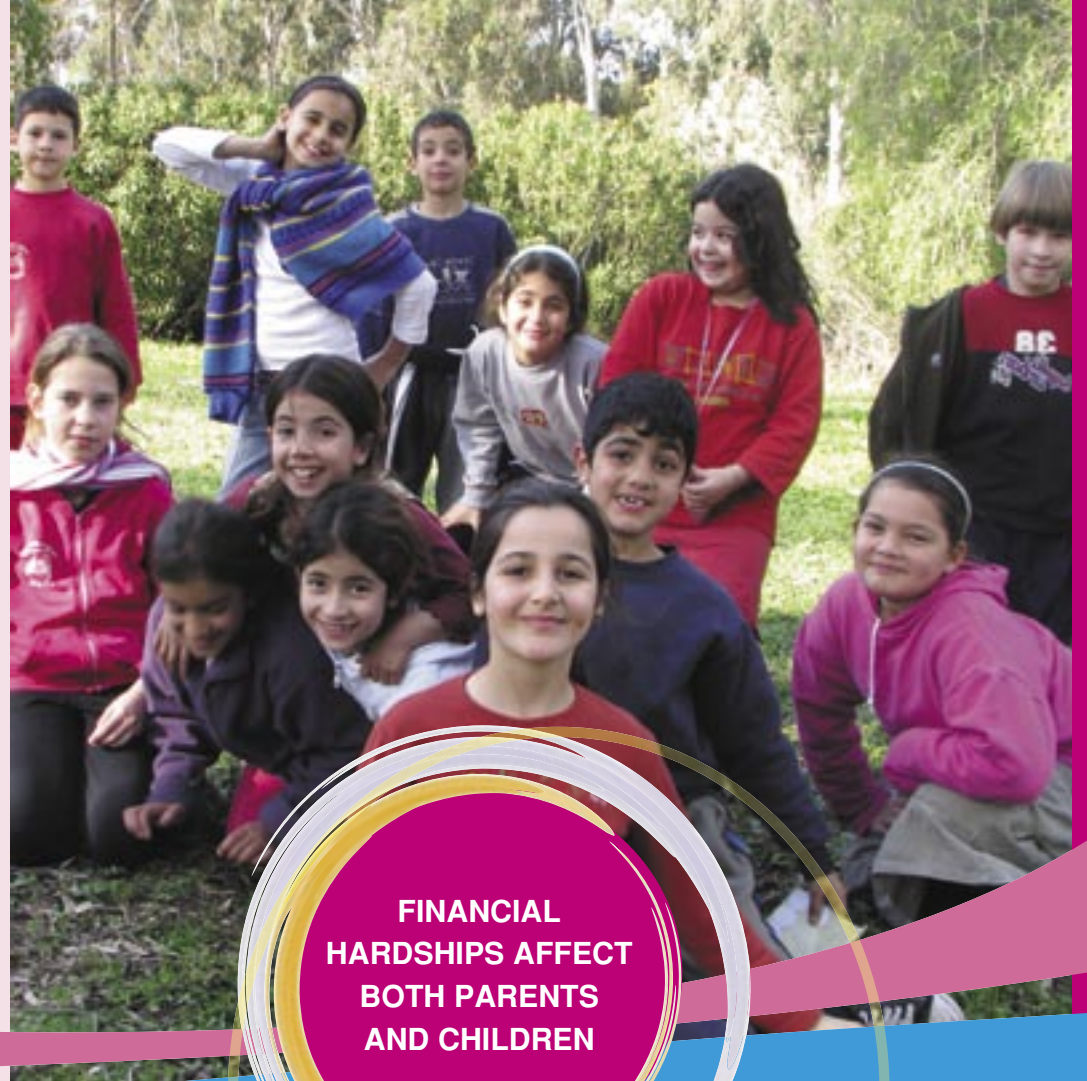
Our children are the most important resource for the future of the State of Israel, and yet there are currently 330,000 at risk, living in the shadow of abuse or crime, and whose wellbeing is threatened.

Children without a Framework Parents without Resources

The Compulsory Education Law unites all school-aged children, but the bell which marks the end of the school day exposes the social gaps within Israeli society. While children from financially stable families continue their activities via informal after-school programs, children from low-income and welfare families do not benefit from these same types of activities. The latter spend their after-school hours without adult supervision, wandering the streets that are filled with danger and temptation.

The parents find themselves in an equally difficult situation, faced with unemployment problems, immigration and absorption challenges; they are often unable to fulfill their parental responsibilities. Their hardships make it difficult for them to provide direction and emotional support to their children and challenge their ability to function as positive role models for them.

Afikim ("Channels") provides children and their parents with the necessary tools to break the cycle of poverty and become productive and contributing members of society.



**FINANCIAL
HARDSHIPS AFFECT
BOTH PARENTS
AND CHILDREN**



The Afikim Network provides services to children and their parents through an in-depth program which is provided over the course of six consecutive years from third through eighth grades. This program initiates change and impacts children, their parents and the entire community.

The AFIKIM model includes two frameworks:

After-School Programs: Learning centers that aim to develop each child's potential and that allow him/her to excel in the academic, personal and moral realms.

Center for Parental Empowerment: Providing professional guidance and instruction to parents regarding parenting; providing employment training programs to parents as well as assistance in integrating into the workforce.

The Hebrew University, in collaboration with the Afikim Network, has developed measurement and evaluation tools which are used to monitor the progress of children and parents. These tools make it possible to evaluate at any given time the child's situation - including his/her achievements and behaviors - as well as assess the changes which have occurred within the family. Afikim is the only organization within Israel which is using these precise measurement tools to evaluate the progress of children.

PARENTS AND CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN A 6 YEAR PROGRAM





**ACADEMIC,
SOCIAL AND
ENRICHMENT
EXPERIENCES**

Lunch and Dinner: The after-school activities begin with a hot, nourishing meal for each child. After lunch, the children are more alert and are able to concentrate on their studies. At the end of the day, each child receives a light dinner in order to ensure that no child goes to sleep hungry.

Academic Advancement: Each child receives two academic lessons each day in order to strengthen his/her Hebrew, math and English skills. These lessons take place in small groups of ten students each and are facilitated by a certified teacher who provides personalized attention to each child and ensures his/her maximal academic progress.

Instilling Values: One hour each day is dedicated to instilling Jewish and world values, life skills and self confidence through informal educational activities.

Extracurricular Enrichment: One hour each week is dedicated to music, drama, dance and sport enrichment activities. These activities provide the children with the opportunity to discover new worlds and develop their hidden talents.

Overcoming the Digital Gap: Each child participates in a comprehensive computer course which provides him/her with critical computer skills comparable to the skills of children from more financially stable homes.



Afikim believes that the primary key to the growth and development of a child is directly connected to the improvement of his/her parent's situation. Afikim's Center for Parental Empowerment teach parents how to develop skills and tools that will assist them in meeting their children's needs and in creating a more satisfying family life.

There are four components to the Centers' programs:

Parenting Guidance: One day each week, parents take part in a supportive and encouraging framework which provides them with professional parenting guidance and training.

Employment Training: Those parents who are unemployed are integrated into employment training courses and work preparation programs and receive assistance in identifying job positions and in job placement.

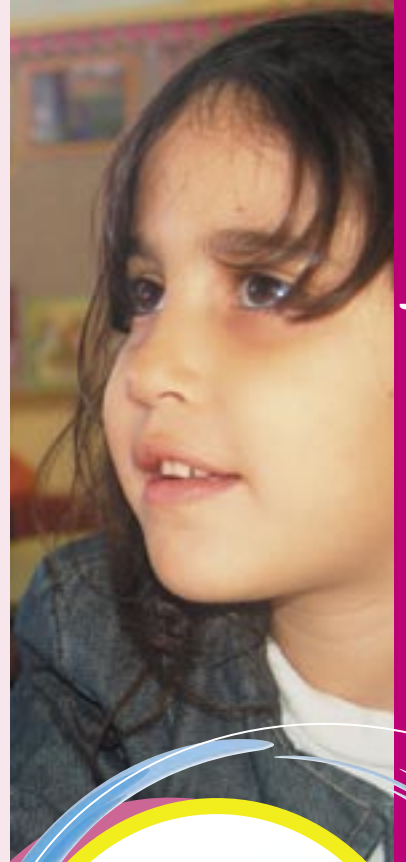
Managing the Family's Finances: Parents take part in courses which focus on finances and wise consumerism so that they can properly manage the family budget.

Cultural and Enrichment Activities: Parents enjoy a broad range of enrichment activities (i.e. cultural activities, lectures) as a way of enriching their world and that of their children.

**Afikim Children
Need Your Help!**

With your help we can provide children and their parents with the tools they need to succeed, break the cycle of poverty, and become leaders and productive adults.

**When they succeed,
all of Israel benefits!**





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AFIKIM
A GREAT PLACE TO GROW

