

The young leadership is completing their second year!

To celebrate all the old and new projects the Young Leadership Committee had an evening to welcome the New Year in the VIP Hall that belongs to YES Planet (a VIP movie Theater). The Chairman of the Young Leadership Committee, **Idan Nishlis** summed the past year activities as a promise to make the next year more fulfilling, energetic and dynamic. **Vered Israely** praised and presented all activities that were done and summarized it as a dream and vision that come true.

The Young Leadership Committee had expended their activities, added more members and expand their work in the community. The leadership had grown from six members to 35 active members who are working with projects as a part committee such as: The volunteer Committee (that was created by volunteers during the volunteer week in Haifa). The committee planned the "Volunteer to Party" and successfully raised a great amount of money for hiring a coordinator for the young volunteers. Another committee that was formed was the Committee of Lawyers that works in Haifa as well as in Boston, and helps professional and personal issues. Furthermore, this year the "Meshlachot" (Delegations) Committee had hosted "Tagliot" and embraced a group of teens from Boston while in Haifa. In addition to the committee's activities, the Young Leadership members are planning to found two new committees. These committees will work through the year with collaboration with "the Jeans Entrepreneurs" (and with the help of the Economic Development Committee) to assist new entrepreneurs in Haifa. They also think these committees will send delegations to deniap' Ukraine.

There is no doubt that the New Year will bring amazing new stories and wonderful new



On one of the steamy hot Fridays in the month of August, IDF officers and civilians gathered in. the chairman for the Living Bridge Committee **Yoav Keren** hosted us at the "Hod" Hostel to maintain a long term relationship...

It was nice to see everyone (only three officers were missing) - we heard who stayed in the army and who went for a long trip. The beautiful views from the windows of the "Hod" Hostel added to the wonderful friendly atmosphere that was right before Shabbat.

Friends talked about the new adventures, there was storytelling, lots of laughter and when it was time to say our goodbyes we promised to meet again.

The connection between the "**HaTikva 12**" delegation and the Haifa Boston Connection remains strong, and will be stronger! This delegation is a successful new invention of the Connection and the beginning for more officer groups.



This August is the 25th year of the "**Otzma**" project. There are 24 representatives from the Jewish federations from all of the USA. The program had started with short activities that included an introduction to the group and the staff. The opening ceremony took place in the Has Promenade that a beautiful view of the old city of Jerusalem can be seen from. Two of the participants were here for the first time stood in the middle of a circle of people who blessed the Sh'hechyanu, v'kiy'manu...

After the sentimental ceremony the group traveled to the Judean desert to start their educational journey. In the next three month the participants will live together in the Absorption Center in Ashkelon. They will study Hebrew in the mornings and during the afternoon they will volunteer in different organizations. **Barry Churchman** had met with the seven new members in a picnic held in Ashtaol forest. The members will arrive to Haifa in the beginning of January and they are very excited about it!

Hadar Kluger, a new Volunteer in the Connection took upon herself to organize with the help of friends a few days of activities for children in the Neve Yosef neighborhood during the month of August. At this time in August, when camps are over and the children are bored it was important to contribute to the community so children will not fall through the cracks.

Zipora Neeman and **Chen Baralya** from the Connection helped with the activities and the project and for this we need to thank them.

Zipora summed up the activity: "after waiting for an hour, six children arrived to an activity that had to do with Paper Mache. Though the group was small, they enjoyed it very much. They worked for about an hour and a half and in this time the children learned about the Jewish Symbols such as the Menorah, the Star of David and the Seven Species. They were interested, enthusiastic and worked hard on their projects. Not all of them agreed to take pictures, but took their work home gladly. When the project ended I gave them samples to take home, as well as a pair of scissors."

Chen: "it's not always we get an opportunity to make someone feel good, smile and remind someone that he/she are important. It is not always we get the opportunity to make new friends...I was lucky to get this opportunity that was offered to me by **Hadar Kluger**, the volunteer who suggested summer activities to the children from Neve Yosef neighborhood. Her idea included an art activity for the children where they did some cutting and pasting, and where we had the opportunity to help the children develop their artistic side. The best part for me, other than spending time with the children, was meeting some of the volunteers from the neighborhood. They told me about their classes in the University and their lives in the Neve Yosef neighborhood. I had told them about a new volunteering project that will take place in the "Magentza House" in their neighborhood. In the end we exchanged phone numbers, and promised to keep in touch. It was a great ending to a wonderful day."



These days the program for 23 students from the **Bosmat School** in the computer science class was approved by the **IBM** research and development team. The program includes 10 meetings that include mini workshops that create a whole course in intro to computer science. The students will be exposed to topics such as creative thinking, technology sound and image processing, networking, technology in the community, Conservation information and data, Machine learning and Healthcare and much more. Furthermore, the students will attend three cultural events from the **Haifa Boston Connection** (a movie, a visit to the theatre and a museum visit). Moreover, the Connection will bring in volunteers to lecture from the Haifa University for the students. This is the second year of this combined project with **IBM**, the **Haifa Boston Connection** and the **Bosmat School** and the reasoning behind its name "**Growing Together**" is because we accompany the students for three years.

The Council for Volunteering –Special Needs branch

Within the **Special needs branch** which works under the **Council for Volunteering**, a few members of the 23 organization went for an educational tour in Raanna. The goal of the tour was experiential learning and enrichment from successful employment domain, excitability, knowledge and new ideas for the group to work in. the tour started at the **Eizi Shapiro** house where an introduction with the "Employment in a Different Spirit" program that "Akim" Association is affiliated with. The association is responsible for employment for people with special needs and the group learned about working people in the free market, people who are disabled and children with different issues. The activities that were held in the Shapiro house than moved to the "friends" Park on Raanna where games for disabled children were played while interacting with the community. One of the community workers, **Ronen**, told the story of how the park was established, how the community and the neighbors helped, about raising the money and more. He offered his help in building something similar in Haifa. The tour emphasized the importance of building parks like this in many cities and communities so people with special need will feel welcome.



Toward the end of August the **Gliklich family** has arrived to a visit in Haifa. When the five people family finally arrived they chose to take the Baha'i Garden Stairs all the way down in the hottest hours of the day! Afterward, the family headed towards the **Moria Temple** where they met with **Tova Karni** and received a wonderful reception and an explanation about the Haifa Boston Connection. The family was touched and excited to learn about everything that is going on in the city. **Rabi Dubi Haiyun** from the Temple Moria Community and his family had the family for lunch while the children were playing. The parents had mentioned that the visit in **Dubi Haiyun's** house was very meaningful for them and they have a lot in common.

Volunteer Birthday Celebration – celebrate more than once a year!

(Hitnadvolet)

We all want to give, but only a few of us know how. We are presenting a new, one of a kind project that will allow each and every one of us, on our birthday to contribute to our community with the help of friends. The idea behind the project is to celebrate a birthday in a different and unique way by giving to others and feeling good about it.

A person's birthday is the one day of the year he/she is used to receive gifts from loved ones. In the Haifa-Boston Connection, we have decided to create a project where a person who celebrates his/her birthday gathers a few close friends and together they help their community. The friend's gift is actually helping and contributing to the community.

The project offers many places to volunteer and help different communities and each birthday boy or girl can choose where they and their friends would like to volunteer. Among the places offered are: elderly homes, hospitals, shelters for woman, schools, lonely soldiers and more. For more details and registration please call the Haifa –Boston Connection: 972-4-8378371

Haifa Boston Connection wishes happy birthday to the members who celebrated their birthdays on the month of August: **Matt Cohen** and **Joseph Kluger** members of the Otzma 2010 and **Dror Katzav** a member of the "Tikva" delegation!

Mazal Tov and congratulations to **Matan Peleg** and his wife from the Young Leadership for the birth of his first son!

We express our condolences to Lena Bronstein (a member in the Young Leadership committee) and her family for the death of her father
Yuri Bronstein

