



# Impacting the Ultra-Orthodox Community in Israel

**Projects of the Mandel Program for  
Leadership Development in the Haredi Community**

**Cohort 8 (Women's Program)**

**March 2022**

# On Her Day You Must Pay

Justice and the rights of teaching staff in “recognized but unofficial” educational institutions

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Many Haredi (ultra-Orthodox) teachers in schools run by non-profit organizations do not get the full pay they deserve, often because the teachers do not know their rights. This project, developed by a fellow who serves as a financial supervisor in the Education Ministry, seeks to raise awareness about wage rights for teaching staff through user-friendly technological solutions.



# Domestic Harmony between Parents and Children on the Topic of Health

A plan of action to bring about change for the sake of the health of the next generation

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According to the CDC, the next generation will have poorer health and a shorter life expectancy than the generation of their parents. This project, developed by a holistic nutrition coach, seeks to promote healthy food choices and a warm family environment by offering digital content, lectures, workshops, intergenerational meetings and children's games on the topics of food and health.



# Souls and their Needs

## Psychologists speak the Haredi language

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Developed by a clinical rehabilitation neuropsychologist, this project brings together mental health professionals from within the ultra-Orthodox community to strengthen the quality of care they provide in their role as psychologists serving the Haredi community and to make psychological services more accessible to the Haredi community.



# Two Separate Parents

## Family rehabilitation following high conflict divorce

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Developed by a family and couples' therapist, this project seeks to restore family ties following a divorce and provide a therapeutic model to prevent parental alienation that is tailored to the Haredi public and focuses on identification, diagnosis, and treatment. Ultimately, it aims to establish an institute that will train Haredi therapists in this area and provide appropriate therapy to members of the community in need.



# Growing Resilience

A Haredi high school for girls that will raise the second generation of returnees to Judaism

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In an effort to curb the large number of school dropouts in the Haredi sector, especially among children of returnees to Judaism and new immigrants to Israel, this project is a girls' high school that seeks to give students a sense of belonging and an authentic connection to Torah and mitzvot. The school, which includes a full secular and religious curriculum, will involve the students themselves in planning and implementation, to give them a sense of belonging.

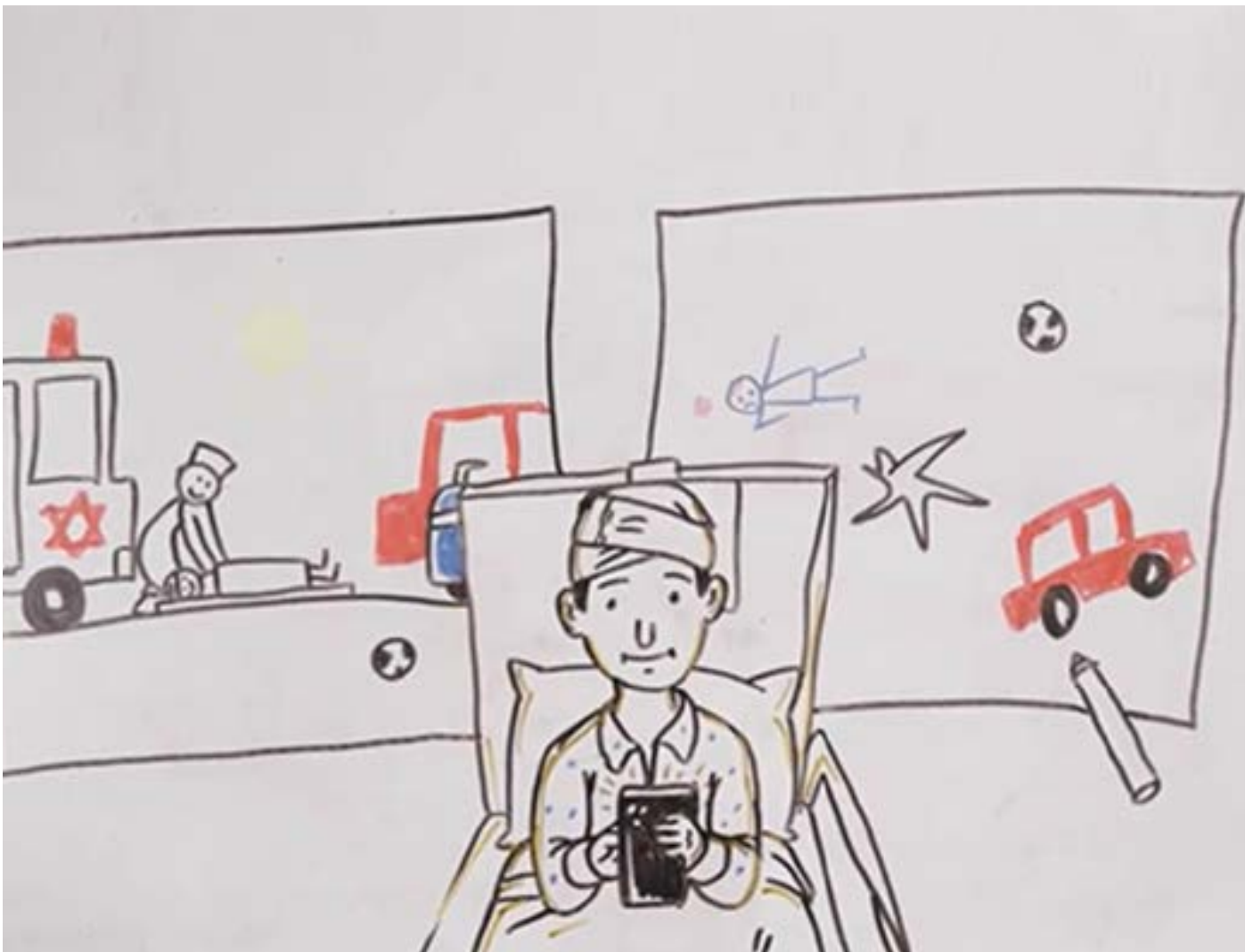


# Trauma Prevention in Children and Adolescents

## Bolstering social resilience in the Haredi community

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This project, developed by a doctoral student in art therapy, seeks to prevent post-traumatic stress disorder in children and adolescents who have been brought to the emergency room, by developing an app that will enable hospitals to assess the emotional situation of young patients and to provide treatment during the critical 48-hour window after the traumatic incident. This will strengthen the emotional resilience of the patient, his or her family, and the entire community.



# We Don't Take Risks

## Helping young Haredi women achieve optimal independence

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A mentoring program to help at-risk young women in the Haredi family, who have been placed in residential schools or foster families, and lack family support, emotional support, economic support, and the backing of a community. The program will provide both individual mentoring tailored to the young woman's needs and a group framework that will increase women's sense of belonging and identity as members of the Haredi community.





# Where Community and Welfare Meet

Strengthening cooperation between state welfare agencies and the Haredi community

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This project, designed by a social worker who represents the social welfare needs of the Haredi community in Knesset committees, seeks to establish a center that will strengthen collaboration between the Haredi community and state welfare agencies by informing community members about their rights and available services, by training social workers in intercultural mediation regarding the exercising of rights, and by increasing cultural competence within professional organizations. The center's name, KEREN, is an acronym for the Hebrew words "Community, Welfare, Meet."



# Women's Wisdom Builds Meaningful Community

Empowering returnees to Judaism who were not born into the religious community

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Women who have joined the religious community often feel like immigrants, who have left family, jobs, culture and friends, and feel a sense of disconnection, isolation, and loneliness. This project seeks to provide a response to the unique challenges faced by returnees to Judaism by creating small communities of women who share common characteristics and life situations, within a large network of returnees that has been operating for seven years.



# Mingle, But Remain Distinct

## Developing inter-gender communication skills

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Haredi society advocates creating clear boundaries between men and women, which can lead to discomfort and confusion in mixed gender spaces. Designed by a social worker and social entrepreneur, this project seeks to improve the absorption and integration of members of the Haredi community into mixed workplaces and works with employers to create diverse and safe work environments.



# Creating a Greenhouse for Children in the Shade

Equipping teachers to support Haredi children living in the shadow of a parent with mental illness

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This project seeks to create a module of three sessions that will give teaching staff in schools and kindergartens a basic understanding of various mental illnesses, what it means to be a child of a parent with a mental illness, and how to communicate with the child and his/her parents and empower such children in school settings. This will provide the children with support while raising the issue of mental illness for discussion among teachers in Haredi schools for the first time.



# Religious Femtech

## Empowering Haredi women in high tech

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Many Haredi women complete high-tech training in their religious seminaries but fail to find work, or earn salaries that are not commensurate with their abilities and are not able to break out of the cycle of poverty. This project seeks to address these challenges by developing a program that gives Haredi women who want to work in high tech relevant training and skills prior to their entry into the workforce, and will also prepare them for working in a mixed workplace while retaining their Haredi values and lifestyle.



# Combining Forces

## Improving relations between the Haredi public and the police

Relations between the police and the Haredi community are often tense, and public confidence in the police is eroding in Israeli society in general. This joint venture between the Israel Police and community centers in Haredi neighborhoods seeks to create a channel for continuous communication between the two entities in order to strengthen their relationship and create collaboration, increase trust, and make the police more relevant in the lives of Haredi residents.



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This document represents the views of the fellows of Cohort 8 of the Mandel Program for Leadership Development for the Haredi Community and does not necessarily reflect the view or position of the Mandel Foundation-Israel.