



# Update . . .

November 2011

5772 Cheshvan



*A disabled father enjoys a Purim magic show with his children.*

## A Thank-You Letter

*by a Disabled Dad*

I would never have thought that poverty would personally touch me. I was born in a good neighborhood, my parents were professional people, I learned two well-paying professions in addition to other skills. I have worked as needed to sustain my family. I never thought that I would need help from other people, I was the provider of my family.

During a mission on reserve duty I suffered a back injury. After a recovery

period I tried to go back to work. Gradually, I had to slow my activity as a contractor and then had to stop it altogether. On bad days I was not able to move at all. Since it was gradual I tried for a long time to resume working.

Meanwhile a catastrophic divorce meant all I had left over went to child support. I was destitute when a court decision restored custody of my children to me. Today I have two children to support by myself with no

right to child support as a single father. [Editor's note: Jewish family courts in Israel do not order women to pay child support for their children.] Now I'm trying to support my family on \$1,000 per month. My rent is not subsidized, so I pay \$900 per month for a 500 square-foot apartment.

How do I do this? I still can't explain it. I just try not to panic. The worst thing would be to let my poverty turn into misery, I'm very scrupulous about having no debt as I wait for assistance. In Israel when parents have no money social services usher their children in to foster care. I do not want that for my own children. It's my honor and my duty to raise my children with some dignity. We make the best of what little we have: we are happy. I do everything to make my kids feel like children, to have friends, not to be ashamed.

I want to thank you for helping needy children in Israel. My own children have benefited from your donations and it really means a lot. It is hard sometimes to show you our gratitude because of the ocean between us. Meanwhile, I hope this letter expresses the impact your generosity has on Israeli children like mine. Thank you and G-d bless you!

**Our Holiest** work is advocating on behalf of at-risk Israeli children. This not only saves lives, it also saves over 90% on taxes and donations. A growing number of our national leaders from across the social and political spectrum are responding positively to our exhortations on behalf of these little treasures from Heaven. Your support empowers us to give a voice to children who cannot speak out for themselves.

**The Family** Treatment Center we sponsor is now providing support for six families. The proposal is available online at:  
<http://love4israel.org/admin/pdf/Proposal.pdf>

**You can** donate online at:  
<http://love4israel.org/donate.html>

**On behalf** of the Israelis you help –  
Todah Robah!

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Send checks to:

**Love for Israel Relief Fund**  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Suite 190-610  
Washington, DC 20004