



Annual Report of Activities 2018

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1. A Personal Message from Mariuma

Dear partners and friends,

This annual report summarizes our many activities for the year 2018 and reflects our efforts to provide youth at risk the best conditions and care. In this report you will find some of our youth's stories, data and the implementation of some programs. Naturally we couldn't include all the information available. However, we are convinced that this report will give you a broad view of our activities.

It is also my pleasure to reveal for the first time, Shanti House Association's new logo. As of January 2019 all the Shanti House Association's visual language changed.

Our children and youth are our nation's most valuable asset. They represent the bright future of our country and hold our hopes for a better nation. Although our children are coming from the most deprived backgrounds we at Shanti House believe that the children who reached our doors (literally) can make the change and Choose Life.

*Whether it was to honor a loved one, remember a cherished friend, or simply a continued support in our ongoing activities, **Shanti House wishes to thank all those who made a generous gift of any kind in 2018. Our annual report is our way of recognizing your valued support and commitment to quality care for our children and youth.***

On behalf of the children, staff, board members and chairman we thank you for choosing Shanti House

Yours,

Mariuma

2. The Highlight of 2018 – Opening the New Shanti House Tel Aviv

The inauguration ceremony of the permanent Shanti House in Tel Aviv

This was probably one of the cornerstones in the history of the Shanti House Association. After a year and a half of constructing our new and permanent home, we finally opened its doors.

This dream came true, made possible thanks to the kindness and generosity of Doron and Marian Livnat and The Mayor of Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Mr. Ron Huldai.

The Shanti House' permanent home inauguration ceremony was held in the presence of the President of Israel, the Minister and the CEO of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, the Mayor of Tel Aviv, Ministers, Knesset members, donors and partners - family members of the Shanti House Association over the years.



Shanti House in Tel Aviv is dedicated in Loving memory of Yitzhak Livnat, a proud Zionist Jew, Holocaust survivor, immigrant and pioneer of the IDF Signal Corps and among its first commanders, one of the founders of "Taavura", a liberal-minded renaissance man, an inspirational leader to his family.

The new house is designed in a multi-cultural architecture style and characterized throughout with color, especially in its inner courtyard and imaginative dining room - far from the usual image of an institution for youth at risk.

The interior and exterior design creates a feeling of a warm wraparound that lights the children's spirit and helps them in choosing the bright side of life.

"When you design a place, aesthetically and beautifully you avoid feelings of alienation, it automatically feels like a home, a place that gives you a very special feeling of respect for the courage to make the change and choose a different path in life". Says Mariuma

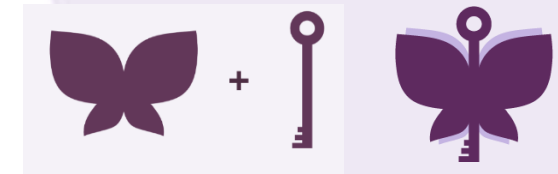


3. Rebranding

Over the past 10 month, the senior management of Shanti House, together with the children and their guides were involved in our rebranding process.

The slogans and the logo were chosen from a professional graphic design's brand who partly contributed their work as a pro-bono. This creation process helped us to focus on the core values of Shanti House's work. During these meeting we redefined the Shanti House identity and the organizational values: compassion, strength, choice and with all our heart.

The look of the new logo reflects these key values, and consists of two elements that connect to one, symbolizing choice and transformation, responsible and imaginative care: The butterfly with its wings spread out and between them a key that is based on stability in the form of three steps - aspiration and climbing up, active choice of change, acquiring wings and tools to perform it. The logo combines and symbolizes a vision and a way as well as a dream and its fulfillment.



Our slogans were based on the Shanti House Children's basic needs and combined with inspiring words that can lift them up and provide the **courage to choose, a dream to grow, a hug to believe, confidence to aim high, warmth to flourish and an opportunity to develop.**

By the end of this process a new web site was launched..

Our new website is a mobile friendly, fast loading and includes relevant information about the organization. In addition it has a secured platform for donations via credit cards.

You are welcome to visit!!



4. Statistics and data base

This year Shanti House provided:

- A 24 hours solution for more than 1600 homeless youth who came just for one night, a hot meal and a shower.
- A temporary home (up to one month) for 590 children and youth who reached our doors. Their acceptance into Shanti House prevents them from ending up on the streets, with all of its dangers. After a deep evaluation process we referred them to other frameworks that fitted their needs.
- A permanent home solution to 209 youth at risk ages 14-18
- A home for 26 homeless soldiers – graduates of Shanti House

We provided:

- 1200 First Aid emergency kits (a personal pack that contains everything they will need to start their new life and to feel at home).
- 360 hot meals per day
- 131,400 hot meals per year

We are delighted that 80% of our graduates join the Israeli Army and integrate successfully as a productive citizens in our society.

Thanks to your support we were privileged **to touch the life** of these young people at a time of need

5. Shanti House's youth background and personal characteristics

Our youngsters usually leave their homes for various reasons such as family conflicts, physical and/or sexual abuse, parental substance abuse, and parental unwillingness or inability to care for them.

A high percentage of our youth has spent time in state custody and had numerous foster home/residential care placements before their arrival at Shanti House.

In order to survive they may have developed street behavior (sell drugs, steal, and become involved in “survival sex” - trading sex for food, money, shelter, drugs, or protection). Many have stopped attending school or slowly slipped away from educational frameworks and other community connections.

Most of them are extremely vulnerable to exploitation by others, and are at high risk for substance dependence, sexual exploitation, depression, and other mental and physical health problems.

When they reach our Homes they usually suffer from:

- Lack of basic trust in themselves and others
- Low self-esteem and self-confidence
- Blaming others for their situation
- A pattern of dropping out of schools, community, etc.
- Problems observing limitations
- Aggressiveness and anger
- Lack of motivation

"Once in a while I write a post about personal things that have happened to me... this is certainly one of those... Drugs, alcohol and gambling are things that people do without being aware of the effects they have on themselves and their surrounding without being aware that they change their habits and behavior, without being aware that they stay away from everyone they love and for what? For a toke? A glass of vodka...? Because of a small game of poker they can lose all their money. They should ask themselves if it's really worth it? Is it really worth all the suffering? I am not going to say that it was easy to be clean but it is possible! These three things were part of my life until a year and 10 months ago. They totally controlled my life until the day I decided to come to Shanti House. This day changed my life. I can say that today I am free of drugs, alcohol and gambling, for the last one year 9 months and 22 days. And for anyone who does not understand what is in this picture... it is a key holder (Shanti House's logo) that symbolizes my clean period and reminds me all the time that I can do it".

David, Shanti House Tel Aviv

"Shanti House is a place that understands that the first and most important thing that what these children are missing is a home, a real home that gives the children stability, warmth and love... a place that nurtures their abilities and strengthens their belief in themselves. Staff members who remember your birthday and do not forget to celebrate it, staff members who care for you when you are sick and at night put a cold compress on your forehead, someone who takes a lot of pictures of you so that one day you can remember the amazing child you were, someone who tells you that it is OK if you fail as long as you tried your best, someone who comes to parent meetings and accompanies the school trip. Someone who allows you to invite friends home, someone who comes to your IDF ceremonies, or visits you in the IDF base during your duties and brings with him the food you like the most, someone who is in contact with your commanders, who does not forget to ask if you have enough money to return to the army. Someone who will check if you have all the necessary equipment in your rental apartment, someone who will help you in obtaining university scholarships, and will lead you to the chuppah when you get married, someone who is always happy and excited to see you when you come to visit. Someone who will not let you fall, and will always be there to remind you that no matter what happens you have the strength to continue..."

Shelly , graduate of Shanti House

6. On-Going - Educational Vocational, Therapeutic & Social Activities

The emotional, social and physical development of children has a direct effect on their overall development and on the adult they will become. Since most of the teenagers who arrive at the Shanti Houses didn't experience childhood, we are trying to do our best to provide them with the opportunity to become children since it is so important to maximize their future well-being.

Tremendous resources are invested each year in our youngsters formal and informal activities.

Every year, about ten different classes are held in both homes. Every child is obligated to take part in at least two after-school classes, as this is an important part of the therapeutic process and an opportunity for Shanti House's children to concentrate on being children again...

Throughout these multi-type activities these youth:

- enhance their knowledge and integrate into the Israeli experience
- add additional content and meaning to their lives
- narrow their educational and cultural gaps and activate their imagination
- are provided with moments of joy that help them put aside their difficulties for a while

Through these individual and group activities we help them maintain and build new relationships, acquire social skills and improve their health & well-being.



Shanththerapy

Psychodrama,
Horse back riding
Animal Therapy
Gardening Therapy
Hydrotherapy
12 steps sessions

Vocational & Craft Classes at Shanti Desert

Metalwork, Woodwork & Carpentry
Electricity, Plumbing, Gardening,
Mosaics, Stained glass, Sculpture,
Painting, Pottery.

Social Activities

Zumba,
Yoga, Pilates,
Football,
Bicycle
Surfing classes
Field trips
Drumming and more

All of these activities that add a *taste of life* in our children's lives are financed solely by donations and are essential to their healthy development!!!



What can you gain from a Master Chef food competition?

Shanti Houses adapted the TV version of the MasterChef Show and applied it into our Homes. Twice a year we exposed our children to cultural and traditional cuisines and the unforgettable experience of cooking, team activities, delicious challenges and fun programs.

Through this competition our children sharpened their culinary skills, developed healthy lifestyles and personal growth skills. This fun activity had some added values and life lessons such as:

- What is really important in life is that you tried (even when you fail or don't do as well as expected)
- Be excited about everything and anything (food is all about passion).
- Be kind to your competitors and always surround yourself with friends who want to help



Workshops with Mariuma

Several times a year, Shanti House's instruction and therapeutic staff convene for a special therapeutic workshop, guided by Mariuma. These exciting and important workshops help all of us become better people and better parents to the Shanti House children. Mariuma also conducted workshops with the children.

Mariuma's recent workshop dealt with "masks", and enabled our children to reveal another facet of themselves, to open their hearts and learn new, unique ways of coping with their pain from their past and their desire to make a change.

In these unique workshops, Mariuma highlights their innate resistance to change and the benefit of moving away from their current situation to the unknown. They acknowledge the fear of the unknown and focus on the importance of behavioral change in order to achieve the set objectives and the benefit that comes when we are open to changing our old habits



"The path for truth is exhausting, and children must be led down it until they learn that it is necessary to adhere to it without fear. The child is a free soul that needs to find its own destiny, not of his parents or his educators. We plant seeds of truth and wait for them to grow. Seeds of truth, of choice, of worthiness. Sometimes we seem to be engaged in cultivating the soul. Plowing, planting and waiting for the crop like a patient farmer. There is no room here for impatience, nor is it useful. Each has its own pace of progress and sometimes over-treatment or excessive watering, is destructive rather than helpful".

Mariuma

Holiday celebrations in the Shanti Houses

Holiday celebrations are part of the Shanti House way. The holidays add meaning to our celebrations and help bond us to those we love. Celebrating the holidays is a tradition and our children are thrilled to take part in it.

Purim celebration: This year, alongside the regular holiday customs, gifts "for the soul" were exchanged between the children and the staff. A festive Kiddush and a whole weekend of carnival at the Desert Shanti Youth Village was produced by the Shanti Homes youth: A colorful holiday celebration of costumes, made-up faces and masks full of fun and laughter.

We celebrated Passover for the first time in our new home in Tel Aviv. 200 people came together for an evening of gratitude and liberty: Shanti House children, the staff and their families, our graduates, national service volunteers and their families - all as one big family. In addition we hosted a group of elderly people from the neighborhood. It is hard to describe the spiritual and emotional experience of the Seder, and the taste of the food cooked by Mariuma. It was an evening that will be remembered for years to come.

The Holocaust Memorial Day, Israel's Memorial Day honoring the fallen soldiers and Victims of Terrorism, play an important part in Shanti House's educational program. In addition to the participation in school and community ceremonies, we hold a private annual memorial ceremony at Shanti House, organized by the children and staff, together with our National Service volunteers. Desert Shanti House held a moving ceremony in which we hosted 'Bahad 1' soldiers (officers and course cadets), under the command of Alex, a senior Shanti House graduate. The ceremonies took place simultaneously in both homes and constituted a sacred moment in which our children understood how meaningful this country is to the people living in Israel and to the Jewish people all over the world.



** We extend our gratitude to all who contributed to the success of this important event.

Summer Activities

During the summer, Shanti House's children and youth in Tel Aviv and the Desert enjoyed fun activities which empower them and contribute to their wellbeing. The objectives of these activities are to give these youth a positive educational and social experience that will serve as an impetus to build a healthy personality, an optimistic and better functioning member of society.

One of the happiest moments of the "Shanti House family" are our magical moments during our field trips. For some of Shanti House's children these field trips are the first "family vacation" of their lives. Our annual trip is a peak moment in the summer activities.

In addition, Last summer, we were privileged to host **the Flying Circus**, whose members came to Desert Shanti House to hold a workshop on acrobatics – a great opportunity for our youth to check their boundaries, to spend quality time with their peers and to add another experience to their shared memories.

We also conducted our traditional end of the year summer party after a year in which our children and youth worked hard to achieve their goals, complete their school year and their matriculation exams, and before some of them enlisted into the army.



Expanding the Circle of Giving

This year too, we continued to emphasize giving back to the community. Giving and volunteering are essential values in Shanti House. The Shanti House children learn from an early stage not only to receive but also to give freely from their heart and soul. They learn responsibility and compassion during visits to children's hospitals, and homes for the elderly where they bring cheer to children and senior citizens, distribute gift packages, entertain and learn what it is to give without expecting a thing in return.

For many, this is the first time that they give rather than receive. The feeling of making the elderly happy and giving them love, and respect with human compassion increased their self-value, and their satisfaction.

There is nothing more fulfilling than knowing you have helped someone in a time of need: Just like a tiny stone that creates a massive ripple when thrown into water at the right moment.

We believe that these activities are extremely meaningful and empowering for our children and for our society.

"Beyond the Bubble:

They will begin to see those with whom they are in contact as equals only after they learn to share and get "out from themselves". As soon as this happens, one must pounce on the child who has taken the small step out of the bubble and give him love and encouragement so he/she should feel safe to repeat such a significant step in the future." Mariuma



7. Our Graduates – our pride

hir, Zvi, Ben, Daniel and Stav are among the Shanti House children who were recruited to the IDF in 2018. They continued the Shanti House tradition, serving a meaningful military service. During their military service they continue to be part of the Shanti House family, and we accompany them throughout their service: upon their enlistment, through military events and other ceremonies, on Shabbat visits while they are on duty, and also after their release, on their way to independence.

Choosing a meaningful army service enables the Shanti House children not only to continue to fight for their lives, but also to contribute to the Israeli state, to get back on track and become productive citizens in Israeli society.

Shanti house is one of a few frameworks that prolong the stay of its graduates until they finish their military service. All of our soldiers' expenses are covered by donations only



8. Special Events

Dance for Life Festival

Dozens of volunteers, staff and tons of love and giving, made this year's festival happen (against all odds...). We thank all those who contributed, helped and believed, and those who came to celebrate. Together we succeeded in expressing our children's choice of life in every decision they take and in every challenge they may face. All income was dedicated to the Shanti House children.

2018 Bicycle Journey

The Shanti's annual bicycle Journey started in 2012 and has already become a tradition. This year 1,200 professional cyclists had registered to take part in this Journey. Each and every one of them paid 365 NIS for their participation (a contribution of 1 NIS per day for the Shanti House children).

The participants were supposed to cycle 180 km from Tel Aviv to Desert Shanti, together with the youth of Shanti House.

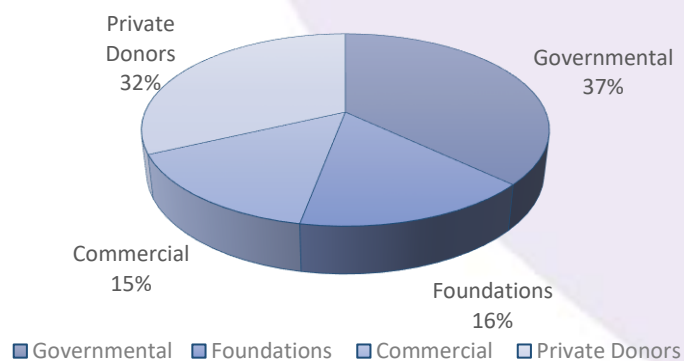
Unfortunately due to the security tension in the south and the barrage of rockets that were fired into Israel, the Ministry of Defense ordered us to cancel the event, the night before it has been scheduled to start.

Although we were very disappointed that the event didn't take place, we were excited to see that 95% of the riders didn't not ask for a refund and decided to contribute their participation's fee. Although we missed an adventure we gained many new friends!!!

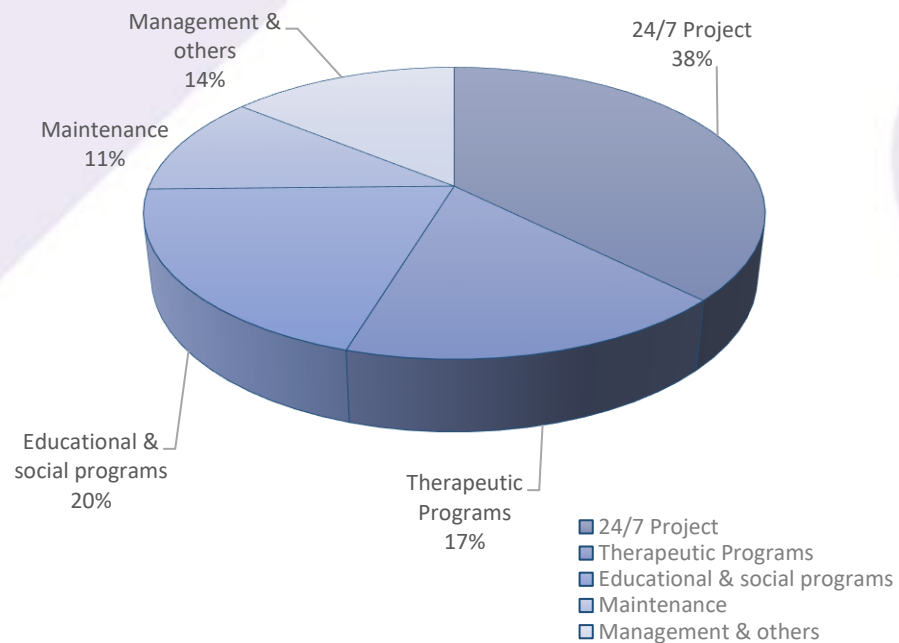


9. Budget

Sources of income 2018



Expenditure- 2018



10. Shanti House Top Priority Projects for 2019

In recent years we were able to establish friends associations in NY and LA. Our intention for the coming year is to form a circle of friends in Miami and London.

If you wish to join these friends associations and to take an active part in recruiting new friends to Shanti House – you are more than welcome!!!

Shanti House continue its efforts in gaining support for the following projects:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| • Construction of an auditorium in Desert Shanti Youth Village (350 Sqm)* | \$ 1,000,000 |
| • Construction of a dance studio in Desert Shanti Youth Village (200 Sqm)* | \$ 420,000 |
| • Construction of a workshop Studio in Desert Shanti Youth Village (200 Sqm)* | \$ 400,000 |
| • Expanding our facility in Desert Shanti by constructing an additional residential care structure for 50 youth at risk* | \$ 2,500,000 |
| • Opening a New Shanti House in Ein Karem Jerusalem – Still looking for funding sources in order to open the House soon | |
| • "First Hug" – First Aid Kit for homeless youth who arrive at Shanti Houses | \$ 192,000 per year |
| • 24/7 Home & Family | \$ 1,680,000 per year |
| • Therapeutic sessions for all of our youth at risk | \$ 780,000 annual cost |
| • Enrichment Activities | \$ 890,000 annual cost |
| • Adopt a soldier | \$ 1,800 per soldier per year |

For more information about these project you may contact us through our web site or by e-mail: effie@shanti.org.il

*We will be more than happy to commemorate your loved ones upon your contribution

Thank You !

We are grateful to all those who help, support, volunteer, offer, enable, mediate, connect.

Those who open their hearts to the children of Shanti House.

Those who enable us to continue to open our home and our hearts for at-risk youth.

And to our Youth who so bravely choose life, every day.



Tax Exempt in US # 46-2548190

American Friends of Shanti House Association

5158 Clareton Dr. # 883, Agoura Hills Ca. 91376

E mail: La@shanti.org.il

Or through the **PEF** (with a specific recommendation to the Shanti House Association)

630 Third Ave. # 1501 New York. NY 10017

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The Shanti House Association

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Marketing & Fundraising Dept. Ext. 229

Web Site: <http://www.shanti.org.il>

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Tax Exempt in UK

Through UK Gives (with a specific recommendation to the Shanti House Association)

483 Green Lanes, London, England N134BS