

**Shanti  
House**

# 2019 Annual activities



## Our Mission

“The return of runaway and homeless youth to an optimal way of life through the creation of a supportive environment, designed and adapted to their needs”

- ✿ Shanti House Association support children on the streets, at risk or in life danger to return home to their families (if there is no harm).
- ✿ The Shanti House Association provides a Home and Family 24/7 365 days a year.
- ✿ Shanti House aims to reduce the number of teenagers living on the streets through short and long term housing solutions, providing unique therapy methods, counselling and Tender Loving Care that supports teenagers to choose life.
- ✿ The Shanti House helps youth at risk and in life danger to believe in their abilities to change, develop life skills and help them to overcome challenges today and in the future.
- ✿ The Shanti House works with the wider community to raise the awareness for youth at risk and in immediate danger.
- ✿ At Shanti House Association we are committed to continuous learning, improving our programs and developing new ways and methods to better meet the needs of the youth we are working with.



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Thank you



*"The whole world was created from one spark of tremendous energy. One spark might ignite with full force engines that push forward, out of the swamp of unhappiness, pain, and mental death. Away from pessimism and what had been done to us in the past. We should be moving forward to optimism, to laughter and to curiosity and faith. It stimulates desire, faith and knowledge, wisdom and understanding, dreams and hopes, and above all, insight and love which is the strongest of all.*

*Your duty is to draw a chain of lights along their way, like street lighting in a dark neighborhood, until they form the desire to live and will be able to shine their way forward on their own. The chain of lights consists of happy words, warm embraces, and of creative and shared activities".*

*Mariuma*

Dear and love Souls,

I would like to thank each and every one of you for making 2019 a remarkable year for us ! This year we marked 35 years of establishment. Thanks to your support and our dedicated staff who has done an incredible job and see their work as a mission and a home, we were able to help and expand the range of programs and services we provide.

In this annual report we reviewed our diverse activities, explored the impact our programs have had to support runaway, homeless and at-risk youth, as well as those who can return to their families (only if possible, through mediation and intervention). At the same time, we are doing our utmost to provide programs that benefit youth at risk who went through a rehabilitative, therapeutic and educational process that will enable them to grow as adult citizens and contribute to our society. In this report, we highlight youth and staff therapeutic workshops (separately), our children's volunteering activities, horseback riding therapy program, the diverse therapies which designed to inspire, empower develop abilities and strength, and raising our awareness and sensitivity to the others. and of course, our unique and first crowdfunding campaign that helped us raised the amount that will enable us to ensure the future of the Shanti House and to build the 3rd Shanti House in Jerusalem.

Our ongoing goal is to keep our overhead low while expanding the services we provide for youth at risk and in life danger, and you truly help us to make this possible. Thanks to our continually expanding community who comes together to donate time, resources, and abilities in supporting our important mission. This year alone our volunteers logged over 7,000 hours and our Board of Directors has assisted us in expanding our programs. Shanti House Association is a hard-working organization who will always make the most of our limited resources.

If you have any questions or want any further information we encourage you to get in touch with us at any time.

Thank you for wholeheartedly being a part of the Shanti House family!

Fondly yours, Mariuma



## Numbers – facts and database

This year, the Shanti House Association provides a unique solution to a wide range of needs, from emergency care to the provision of a home and family for life. The association assists 2574 youngsters in the age of 14-21, who divided into three groups:

**First Group:** The youngsters who reside in the house up to 24 hours. This year 1643 children and youth came just for one night, a hot meal and a shower. Some of them were able to return to their families or the homes/institutions from which they ran away from, after mediation and reaching an understanding with their parents or guardians.

**Second Group:** The youngsters who reside in the house for a transition period up to one month, during which their needs are evaluated, after which they are relocated to the place best suited for them. Their acceptance into Shanti House prevents them from ending up on the streets, with all of its dangers. In 2019 Shanti Houses became a temporary home for 720 children and youth.

**Third group:** The youngsters who reside in the house for a long period, from one month up to several years. This year we provide a permanent home solution to 187 youth at risk ages 14-18 and for 24 homeless soldiers – graduates of the Shanti House. Additionally, the Shanti House Association assists thousands of youths every year, including our graduates, who no longer reside at the house but rely on us for advice and guidance, food, laundry, classes and other needs.



## A glance to our ongoing programs

The teens who come to Shanti homes were abandoned, abused sexually/physically/ mentally and were neglected. In a courageous decision, they have chosen a new path in life. Every child in the home chooses to stay at Shanti House and make a profound change in his/her life.

Our basic approach arises from the children's needs, from a place of love, compassion, and empathy rather than mercy. The children are not victims of their past but are present and future fighters for their lives. Shanti House is a home and family - a safe home providing stability to help them through a deep healing process and give them the power to believe in themselves and the freedom to dream.

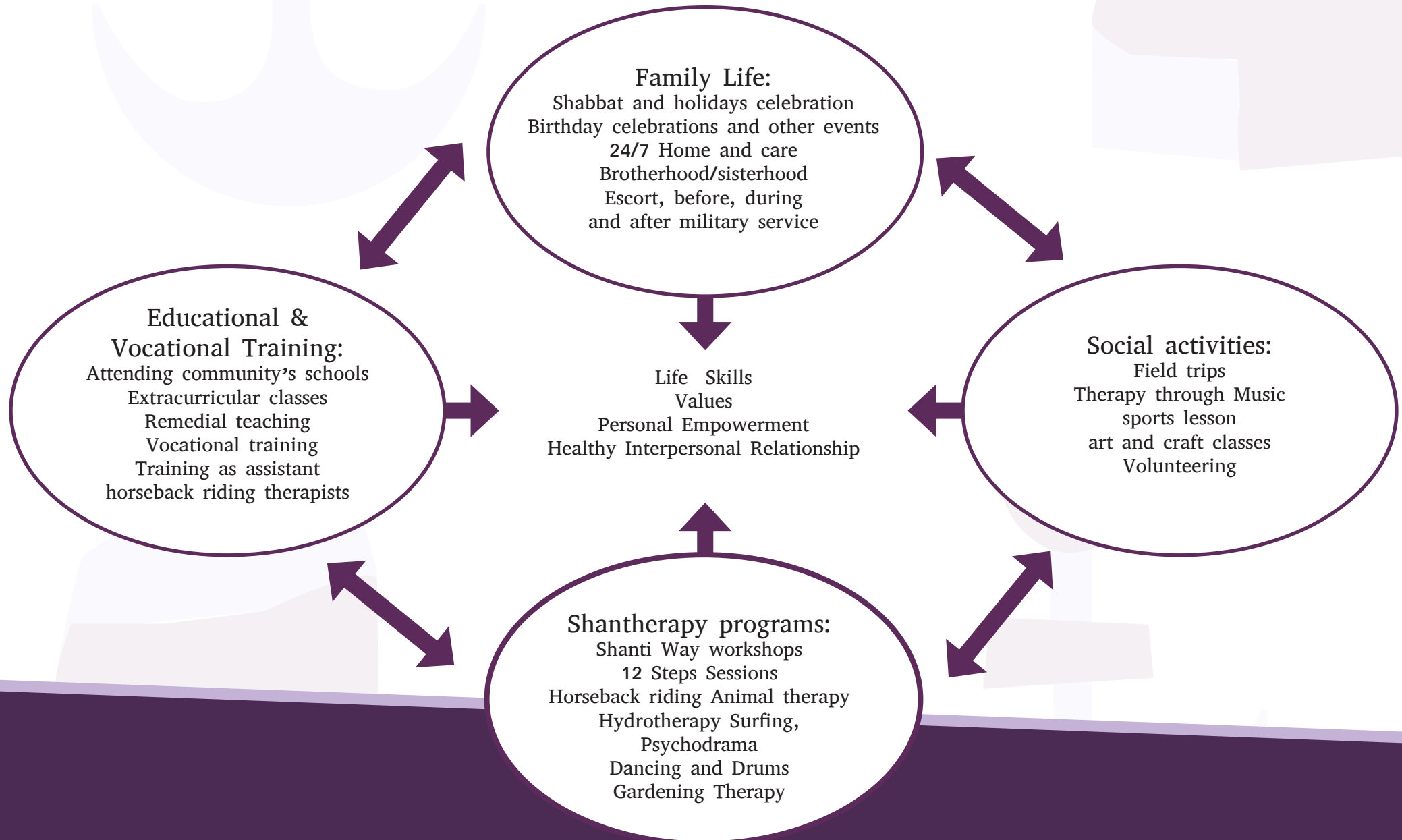
These models are based on unique individual and group therapeutic methods which focus on various issues: developing abilities and life skills as empowering factors, as well as educational and value-based activities that allow them to emerge from self-concentration to an unlimited world of possibilities

An important cornerstone of their rehabilitation process is becoming active in this process while understanding and being aware of their choices.

In our programs, the emphasis is on socio-emotional skills: developing life skills, professional abilities and capabilities, learning assistance, fun and sports activities, arts and music, and diverse therapeutic activities. In addition, there are activities that help them internalize core values such as volunteering, helping others, mutual respect, tolerance, thankfulness - all in a family and homey atmosphere.

Our teens are given a variety of opportunities to practice life skills that are so vital to their healthy development while exposing them to environments that provide healthy relationships and experiences.

The combination of these different aspects has long-lasting effects on our children and graduates in various fields such as education, employment, family life, health or civic engagement.





## Practicing Family Every Day

Shanti House is a family. Everyone in his/her turn talks about a good thing that happened to him that week and what he/she wishes for himself (positive) for next week.

In our daily family routine, our children experiencing a remedial experience of healthy family life. Our organized and predictable home environment helps them feel safe, secure and looked after, particularly during stressful times or difficult period of transition or change. stages of development.

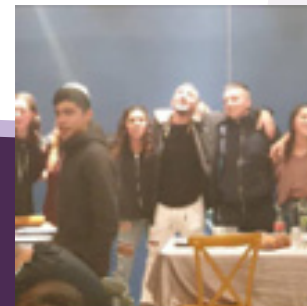
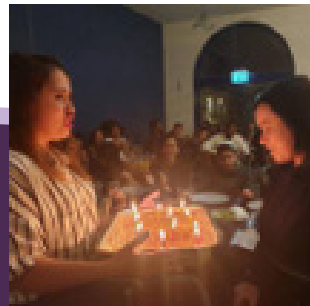
Our kitchen open 24/7, we visit our children's schools on permeants days, we escort them to medical clinics we celebrate with them their birthdays, like in every family.

### Family vacations and field trips

Our routine is also built around having fun or spending time together in shared activities that can develop and strengthen family relationships in field trips, during special events and on Shabbat dinners while all Shanti House teens, staff, volunteers and graduates gather as one big (very big) family for the Kiddush.

### Shabbat's Dinner

On these Shabat dinners, everyone, sums up the past week. Everyone in turn tells about a good thing that happened to him that week and his expectations for the following week. Mariuma also summarizes and tells about the past week and her plans for the coming week. Her words are contagious, with optimism and positive thinking and allows each child to see the bright side of life, practicing positive thinking. These Sabbaths are sacred moments, with the feeling of togetherness giving power and joy for each and every one of the participants noticing the spark that exists within our children's souls.





## Holiday celebration

Although the holiday season might be bringing joy for our children these times might be very challenging, due to their encounter with their abandonment. Therefore we highlight the meaning of each holiday for their self growth, emphasizing "togetherness", and most importantly, looking forward to creating new memories rather than focusing on the past with great joy and fun.

## Back to school:

Back to school can be a hassle, moreover most of the children experience anxious feelings which are normal and expected during times of transition or change. This is especially true for our teens. This transition can be stressful and disruptive. In Aug, thanks to Office depot, who decided to help us with our children's school needs, we were able to get school supplies, and backpacks in discount. Getting their new school supplies drew their attention away from their worries and concerns, and created a positive experience. Just like any family back to school is another event in family life. This year our teens enjoyed cultural activity (watched cinemas films and participated in the Tamar festival in Masada, which took place this year in Sukkot), thanks to the donation of the "Forum Group" in Beer Sheva.





## The Shanti House Fighter Unit

At the end of the year, 21 children of the Shanti House joined the IDF various units.

One of the most exciting visits in our Homes was Itzik's visit. Itzik is Shanti House's graduate who is now serving as a paratrooper. He came together with 40 members of its unit to show them "his house and his family". He proudly gathered everyone in one of the rooms and gave them a lecture about the Shanti house and its values such as: strength, security, faith, acceptance and compassion.

Thanks to our supporters we continue our tradition to send packages of goodies for those who are on mission and cannot come home! if family visit is allowed we are going to see them wherever they are. We continue raising funds from philanthropists in order to care for their very basic needs, while there is no governmental support for the lone soldiers.

In addition, we are raising the awareness to the Shanti House's Way to thousands of soldiers who come and volunteer in our "Friendship Tent" in Desert Shanti House youth village, and thank all regiments of soldiers who come to volunteer and help us in the village



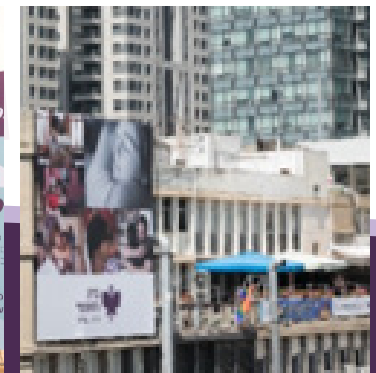


## Raising awareness activities for youth at risk – In Israel

Shanti House has become a well-known non-profit organization for teens at risk in Israel. This advantage is utilized for raising public awareness for youth at risk.

The Shanti House held this year for the first time, "Dance for Life" street party in Tel Aviv. Thousands of people came and exposed to the association's activities. The street party was held in collaboration with the Tel Aviv municipality and leading performers who volunteered for this event. The main sponsor for this event received from El Al Airline, other sponsors were Bank Mizrahi Tefahot, Mania Jeans and Amot Investments. Every year the Shanti House association leads a national campaign during International Child's Day to raise public awareness to the state of at-risk children and youth in life danger in order to expand the circle of supporters in Israel for this vulnerable population. This year as well as last year we have published a short video about homeless youth and asked the government to allocate funds for unique and innovative solutions that can narrow the numbers of children at risk. This video created and produced pro-bono by Adler-Chomski advertising firm.

In the Eurovision song contest held this year in Tel Aviv, we raised the awareness for the Shanti House Association. Within the Eurovision Village in Tel Aviv where thousands of people from all over Israel came every day. We have placed a small booth within the Village. This booth operated by Shanti House's teens who were so proud to tell passers-by about their affiliation with the Shanti House and what the Shanti House is all about.





## Giving back to community and helping other

Giving, and helping others is one of our major values. We believe that giving makes our children realize that they can make a difference in the world. We teach them that giving is a major value for themselves since it forces them to think beyond themselves and encourages compassion and empathy. We help them find causes they can relate to. An important part of our education is to have them experience personally and directly in how it feels to give rather than receive, and we ask them to take more active roles. We help them understand that we all have a duty to contribute for the common good. Giving not only makes you feel good, but it produces responsible adults who want to make the world a better place. It's not only our responsibility to give back to the community, but to also teach our future generation about its importance.

### Production of a Mitzvah Girls Event

Every year Desert Shani House hosts girls from Yerucham (a city nearby) for their Bat Mitzvah ceremony. This is an integral part of our community activity. This year (fifth year' tradition) we conducted an event for 23 Bat Mitzvah girls from Yerucham who came with their families to celebrate such an important event in their lives. We feel that this is our privilege to produce such an important event in their lives.

### Happening for families in Desert Shanti House

During summer vacation, children of Shanti House initiated and arranged a free Happening that was open to families from nearby communities. Families from nearby towns: Mitzpe Ramon, Yerucham, and others, arrived and enjoyed horseback ridings, activities within the petting zoo, craft activities and other amusement facilities that were specially donated to the event.

All activities were guided by the Shanti House children and supervised by the Shanti House staff. In doing so, our children experienced both leadership and giving activities

### Celebrating Hanukkah together with the elderly

Our teens have decided to volunteer and to celebrate Hanukkah together with the elderly living in a nearby convalesce home. They brought with them (Sofganiot) Hanukkah donut, sang and danced with them and brought so much joy !

Through these activities they learn to give back to society.





## Horse back riding therapy and its amazing unexpected outcomes

One of the major partners in the therapeutic riding activity was the Jewish community Foundation in LA, over four years and “Peami Tikva” foundation.

The project objectives were initially defined solely for the children of the Shanti House: establishing a direct and primary unthreatening relationships, allowing unconditional acceptance, build our youngsters confidence and self-esteem as well as fostering empathy and compassion for others, initiate contacts that help them develop social capabilities and help them gain control feelings and trust.

Since the Shanti House Desert’ horse ranch is the only ranch provides therapeutic sessions in the entire geographical area, thanks to “Peami Tikva” foundation, we offer our services for children with disabilities from the community nearby (at a subsidized rate).

Through these sessions an extraordinary phenomenon emerged and the Shanti House children began to actively assist and mentor the disabled children. An unexpected and amazing empowerment process began in which the Shanti House children trained as the therapist assistants and helped the disabled children as well as the therapists. Through their help they felt needed, contributed their skills and abilities and gained self worth. They demonstrated responsibility, involvement and joy and developed sensitivity and compassion, which increases their self esteem and satisfaction. The added value of this program is the ability of the Shanti House children to acquire additional tools and skills in running horse farm. Since then we wish to continue combine these two target groups.

“The main lesson we learned from this activity is that pooling resources is exceptionally successful. Once we opened the farm to children with disabilities from the communities nearby and mutual activity was created, our children earned twice as much. In this case, we saw again, that one plus one worth more than two”

we are continuing raising funds for this program from foundation and private donors in Israel and abroad. We are grateful to all our donors who continue supporting us in our mission and to the Jewish Community Foundation in LA that contributed to this program in the last 3 years!





## Professional conferences

### Professional Day Seminar in Shanti House Tel Aviv

With an aim to increase awareness on Shanti House therapeutic methods, a daylong seminar was held at Shanti Tel Aviv. Many social workers at the local municipalities, therapists and workers of the Ministry of welfare attended.

The day organized with the collaboration of the Ministry of welfare. Dr. Avigdor Kaplan (general director of the Ministry of Welfare) spoke as chief guest and Shai Piron (former Minister of Education) delivered a fascinating lecture. Mariuma lectured about the unique therapeutic methods and practices she developed, those who arose from the children's needs and prove to be successful.

Two Shanti House's children spoke openly about their experience within the Shanti House. They described the Shanti House as an embracing and welcoming place alongside the choices they make day by day thanks to the tools they acquired during their stay in the Shanti House. This part that closed the day did not leave the eyes dry. Due to the huge demand another day seminar, is planned in Shanti House at the beginning of next year.

### Mariuma lectured at the YPO

After appearing in Ted, nominated as one of CNN's top hero, Mariuma was invited for the second time, to the David Intercontinental Hotel to speak at the YPO. YPO is the premier global leadership organization for more than 27,000 chief executives in over 130 countries and the global platform for them to engage, learn and grow. YPO members harness the knowledge, influence and trust of the world's most influential and innovative business to inspire business, personal, family and community impact

Mariuma lectured about the difficulty in gaining recognition from academics and government institutions, even when there are evidence that new methods of dealing with at-risk youth works. "Sometimes," says Mariuma, "the system is not mature enough to accept changes and absorb change in perception, but how do startups suddenly grow if not from ideas born out of the box?"





## Workshops with Mariuma

This year as well, Shanti House Staff and children went through Mariuma's workshops. The purpose of these workshops is to give strength and faith in their choices in life and in their inner process in which they learn compassion and self-love, leaving the world of sacrifice and choosing a world of forgiveness and compassion.

Mariuma investment in nurturing Shanti House youth and staff is obvious for her. Mariuma's workshops are a journey to the self, it peels layers, releases traumas and restraints, and provides tools and knowledge for personal development in different fields.

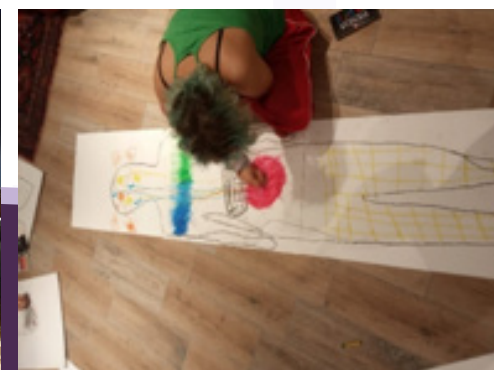
Thanks to Mariuma's rich experience for many years and amazing abilities, these workshops give mental boost to each of the Shanti House employees and youth living in the Shanti House.

Whether we are stuck, alone or at a crossroads in our personal lives - Mariuma's workshops are a gift. Throughout these workshops we find within ourselves a path to an authentic self which helps us develop in all aspects of life.

Cultivating human capital

Shanti House considers every employee as a valuable resource. Mariuma herself nurtures and upgrades Shanti House's staff' skills, through workshops and in-person conversations.

Since 1984 till today, Mariuma is grateful to her great teachers: 57,000 youth who have taught her, through their choice in life and their arrival to the Shanti House, the insights to create the "Shanti House's Way" treatment method.





## WhatsApp Message to Mariuma

"It's been only few weeks since I moved into the apartment and started a new stage in life, but I have to share with you few things I understood recently.

Moving to this apartment made me understand how much the Shanti house has helped me... although I was questioning its impact in my life, now I realize that Shanti House has a huge place in my heart. A place that I cant detach from.

I learned this month about independence, and the freedom to choose, and I noticed that in everything that I do, I use the tools and skills that I acquired during my stay at the Shanti House. I feel that it is a privilege to live in this fucked up world with so many tools and knowledge.

Food in the refrigerator, air condition, nice furniture, a bed, supportive environment, clear running water, clean laundry, bus transportation and a job seem obvious when you born with a silver spoon in your mouth, but they are not to be taken for granted although they are basic and necessary to live.

I learned to appreciate the two years I have lived and grew at the Shanti House, while I turn on the light or open the refrigerator or go to bed knowing that I am safe and protected. Only now I understand that these things were once given to me free, just because you wanted me to feel good and I think it's because you truly loved me. So now I'm saying thank you.

From an abandoned child who couldn't deal with anything and was only looking for her next cigarette in a stranger's bed, I became a strong woman who dances with her demons without fear and enjoys small moments of happiness and love and sets healthy boundaries.

I felt that I had to send this to you and to simply say thank you so much for an intensive period full of love and concern. I know that I will continue to spread Shanti's house methods and spirit to allow more people to see how much influence this place has for children who have nowhere to go. A place that you don't just return to but grow in it." M





## Fundraising activities in Israel and abroad

Since most of the association's activities are financed by donations our marketing and fundraising department has produced several events this year in Israel and abroad.

A fundraising event in Miami held in April, and we hope to extend our circle of friends within the community. Other fundraising events were held in New York and LA. Thanks to key members in the communities who opened their home and their hearts. At the same time we have had two kidush evenings among the Israeli community in Los Angeles and New York.

In an attempt to penetrate to the Jewish and Israeli audience in London, the Israeli Ambassador in England, Mr. Regev, held an evening within his home. In the following day we have had an intimate fundraising event in which we met some new friends who hopefully will become part of the Shanti House family. In Singapore and Hong Kong, too, we have planted the seeds in which we hope will soon be sprouted.

In Israel, a fundraising event was held in Tel Aviv, and included a limited number of participants.

An extraordinary fundraising event was held in May, (a festival in the desert with the best artists from Israel and abroad). An extraordinary production in which all revenue was dedicated to the association's activities

In addition, our annual "ride a bike" event was held with 1500 bike riders who took part in this journey.

However, this year's fundraising highlight was our first crowdfunding campaign which we held during Dec. 18-19 in order to raise funds needed for building the Jerusalem Shanti House and ensure the existence of the association.

In this campaign we have raised 4,250,000 NIS from over 8000 donors! the campaign reached numerous media channels (electronic, social and written media). Many of the donors expressed their gratitude in taking a part in building this house in Jerusalem. We still need additional support for its continued operation. The New Shanti House in Jerusalem is expected to open towards the end of 2021.

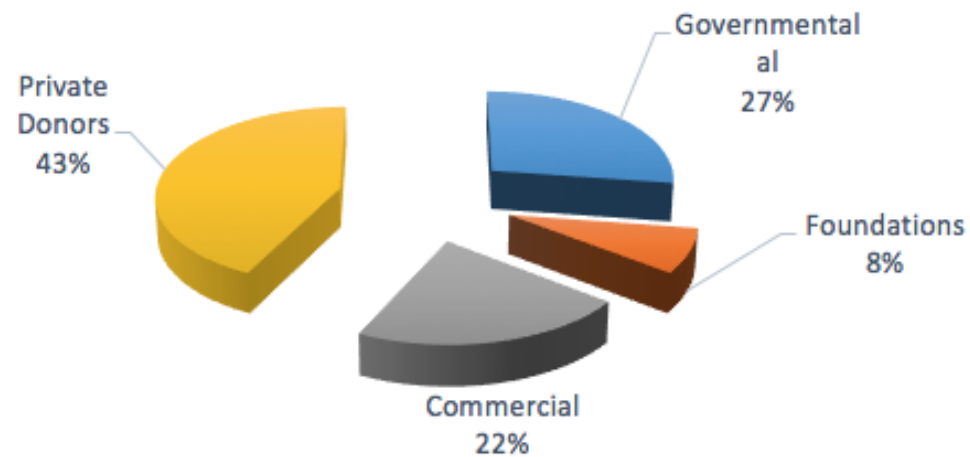
Although events such as these take a lot of thought and preparation, the funds we have raised will assist us in reaching more youth in need. We really enjoyed organizing these events and are grateful for all those who participated.



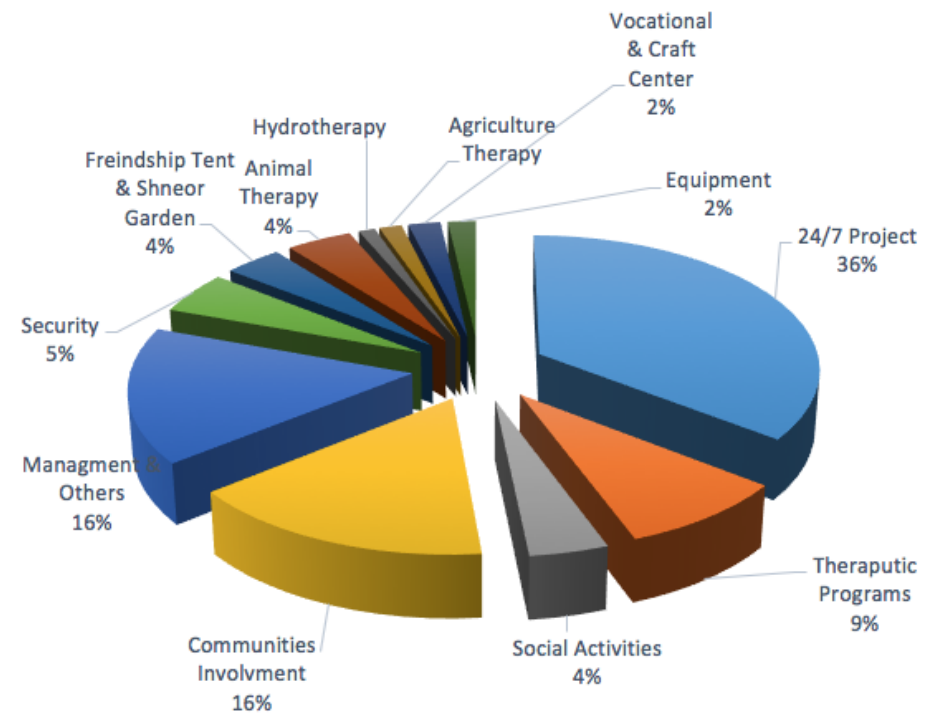


## Annual Budget

### Source of Income 2019



### Expenditure 2019





## Shanti House Top Priority Projects for 2020

If you wish to be a part of our Friends associations in NY, Miami or London and to take an active part in recruiting new friends to Shanti House – you are more than welcome!!!

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

24/7 Home & Family	\$ 1,735,000 per year
Shantherapy - Therapeutic sessions for all of our youth at risk	\$ 575,000 annual cost
"First Hug" – First Aid Kit for homeless youth who arrive at Shanti Houses	\$ 192,000 per year
Horseback riding therapy	\$ 200,000 per year
Enrichment Activities	\$ 960,000 annual cost
Adopt a soldier	\$ 1,800 per soldier per year
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

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

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



We wish to thank  
all of you who helped  
our children  
and allowed them to choose life  
Your support is touching and  
encouraging to all of us!



Tax Exempt in US  
# 46-2548190

Through  
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  
Tel: 212-599-1260 Fax 212-599-5981

For bank transfer

Name of the account : American Friends of  
Shanti House  
Bank Name: Chase Bank,  
Swift Code: CHASUS33,  
Bank Address: 270 Park Ave. New York, NY.  
10017,  
Routing Number: 021000021  
Account Number: 897000100

Tax Exempt in UK

Through  
UK Gives  
(with a specific recommendation to the  
Shanti House Association)  
483 Green Lanes, London, England N134BS  
Tel# 44-7426052180  
<https://www.israelgives.org/amuta/580199594>



Tax Exempt in Israel  
#58-0199594

P.O.Box 50041 Tel Aviv 6150001 Israel  
Tel: 972-3-5103339 Fax: 972-3-5168603

Marketing & Fundraising Dept. Ext. 229  
Web Site: <http://www.shanti.org.il>  
E mail: [promo@shanti.org.il/en/](mailto:promo@shanti.org.il/en/)

For bank transfer

Shanti House Association  
Bank Hapoalim (12)  
Branch no. 611 (Jaffa) address: 16 Jerusalem  
Blvd, Jaffa – Tel-Aviv, Israel 6802108  
Account no. 000000155554  
Swift code: POALILIT  
IBAN: IL95-0126-1100-0000-0155-554  
USA – ABA No.: 026008866