

"Asher Ruach Bo" named after Rafael Eitan (Raful) Pre military Program for youth at risk in Mitzpe Ramon



Background

"Asher Ruach Bo" is a 7 month pre-military program ("Mechina") for youth at risk from Israel's social and economic fringe population.

The Mechina which is located in Mitzpe Ramon, provides an educational, ethical and Zionist framework for young men whose goals are to change the course of their lives. The Mechina accomplishes this change by paving the way for a meaningful military service in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), and turns these youngsters into upright citizens.

Most of the youngsters in the Mechina don't have family to support them. Some live on the street or in welfare situations. Several have criminal records and feel hopeless in every sphere of their lives. To serve in the IDF is an unattainable dream for them.

The Mechina meets the social, educational and therapeutic needs of these youngsters. It puts values into practice, commitment, competence, discipline, meaning, and above of all, the belief that the youth can succeed.

The youngster understands that his destiny and ability to succeed are in his hands and that if he, himself doesn't do something about it, no one will do it for him. He is given an opportunity to change the course of his life, to break out of the vicious cycle that he has lived in all his life and move forward. The implication of joining the Mechina is to have the opportunity to be drafted into the IDF, learn social leadership, become properly assimilated into Israeli society and personal empowerment.

We believe the general strength of society and particularly in Israel, is measured by its ability to integrate and strengthen its weaker links. The Mechina provides a unique solution for this need by encouraging these under privileged youngsters to bridge the gap and thus emerge from the fringes into the forefront of Israeli society.

Participation in the Mechina is free of charge and covers all of the participants' needs.

The Mechina is approved by the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Defense and the Israel Defense Force. Furthermore, due to its unique nature, it is recognized by the Ministry of Welfare and the Public Defense Bureau as an unofficial substitute for imprisonment for youth at risk which for some constitutes the only way to stay out of prison and enlist into the army. The Mechina is funded entirely by donations, and consequently depends on this income for its subsistence.

Educational program

- A. Physical and mental preparation for IDF service - Physical training, orienteering weeks, survival training, visits to IDF bases, training with IDF officer cadets, gym, hand-to-hand combat ('krav maga') and more.
- B. Volunteering in the community - Changing from being receivers to givers; volunteering once a week in a home for the aged, farms, schools, or a petting zoo.
- C. Field trips - Learning first hand to love the land.
- D. Educational seminars - Field trips and encounters with key figures and a variety of public figures in Judea and Samaria, the Golan Heights and Jerusalem.
- E. Eitan Day - A challenging hike to the monument commemorating Rafael Eitan, after whom the Mechina is named.
- F. Agricultural work -- Strengthening settlements and learning the value of working the land.
- G. Studies - Nature and the environment, history and Zionism, Israeli society through cinema, leadership and role models, current events, the weekly Torah portion, life skills, military history. Enrichment courses: First aid, drama, sculpture, yoga, hand-to-hand combat and guided imagery.





Structure of the Foundation ("Amuta")

"Asher Ruach Bo Mitzpe Ramon" (Registered Foundation NPO 580551737) named after Rafael Eitan (Raful).

Foundation Chairman:

General (Res.) Giora Eiland, former director of the National Security Council.

Founder and Director of the Foundation and Principal of the Mechina:

Moshik Wolf: born in Mitzpe Ramon, MA in Educational Management from Ben Gurion University, Major (Res.) in an elite commando unit, Educational Director of Sde Boker Mechina, Director of the Hostel for Youth At Risk, former vice-CEO of "Aharai!"

Board Members:

Pinny Badash, Mayor of Omer; **Aryeh Broide**, Director of the Mitzpe Ramon Board of Education; **Doron Erel**, ex elite unit, the first Israeli to climb Mt. Everest and leadership lecturer; **Guy Edri**, businessman, co-founder of AM:PM and co-owner of Exit Electronics Ltd; **Tal Sinai**, Commander of the Givati Brigade's Engineering Corps and Dept. Commander of the Shaked Battalion; **Ofra Meirson-Eitan**, former director of the Ahava Village for youth at risk; **Tzahi Ein-Dor, PhD**, Doctor of Psychology and Lecturer at IDC, Herzliya; **Omri Frisch**, social worker, Lt. Col. (Res.), founder and director of Kfar Izun; **Eddie Gatlovsky**, Director, Kedma Village for Needy Youth; **Amitzur Bar**, educator and former CEO of Kedma Youth Village, Armored Corps Battalion Commander (Res.); **Tzahi Ziso**, teacher and educator, former Armored Corps Battalion Commander.

Legal Consultant:

Att. **Tzuri Lavie** and Att. **Shirley Yifrah Azur** of Lipa Meir and Partners.

Accountant:

Barnir - CEO Shuki Feder; Comptroller - Hanan Rabi, CPA.

"In a place where there are no men, try to be a man"
(Pirkey Avot)

Contact and Contributions

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Bank Account:

Bank Hapoalim, Mitzpe Ramon Branch 672, Account # 192012,
Under the name of *Asher Ruach Bo Foundation*.
IBAN: IL 18-0126-7200-0000-0192-012

The foundation is legally registered with the Foundations Registrar and is certified for sound management, legal counseling, proper procedure and Article 46.