

Annual Report 2019



Photo: Noam Moskowitz

**Providing comfort for suffering Israelis.
Caring for Jews in the former Soviet Union.
Rescuing and resettling Jewish refugees.**

*'For I know the plans
I have for you,' declares
the LORD, 'plans to prosper
you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope
and a future.'*

– JEREMIAH 29:11

INSIDE

- 3 From the President**
- 4 Guardians of Israel – Providing a Lifeline**
- 5 Isaiah 58 – Independence and Dignity**
- 6 On Wings of Eagles – Making a New Life Possible**
- 7 Freedom Flight Assistance**
- 8 Our Mission**
- 8 Global Impact 2019**
- 10 Financial Overview 2019**
- 12 Fellowship Resources**



Photo: Eric Sultan, Makor Rishon

OUR 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Yael Eckstein

CHAIRPERSON

David Berger

SECRETARY TREASURER

David Krieger

DIRECTORS

Mariana Baben

Peter Chung

Hon. Stockwell Day

Hermann Gruenwald z"l

Robin Van Etten

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jackie Gotwalt

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shalom,

As I write this message for *The Fellowship's* 2019 Annual Report, we are already well into 2020. And, at the beginning of this new decade, I am filled with optimism.

I say this even though the world is in the middle of a global pandemic the likes of which we've never seen. My optimism comes in part from the truth that was reaffirmed to me time and again throughout 2019: *The Fellowship's* supporters have partnered with us out of faith, and faith weathers all change. God has shown us that He is with us in the darkness. And together, we have been able to bring so much light — as believers in Him — to the people who need it most.

Looking back on 2019, I can see how God gave birth to light and goodness despite the great sorrow and uncertainty of the passing of my *abba* (father), Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein. God showed us the way and asked only that we follow — and we did. And I believe that He will continue to bless us to help more people and to partner with Him in bringing biblical prophecy to life as we move forward.

Despite the challenges the world currently faces, I see light and goodness ahead. There are so many extraordinary people and wonderful initiatives coming together through *The Fellowship*. Despite the loss of my beloved *abba*, we ended the year incredibly strong, and in these pages you can see the wonderful results of all the work made possible because of your selfless spirit of giving. We can't necessarily change the entire world, but we not only CAN, and we HAVE, changed the world for many individuals. What an honour!

I hope, as you look through *The Fellowship's* 2019 Annual Report, that you will remember the absolutely critical role you play in feeding the hungry, providing comfort and hope to the sick and needy, and filling emergency needs in Israel, the former Soviet Union, and around the world.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). My friends, thank you for coming alongside us to help God's people in need. Your partnership in this ministry reminds me that God is good, that His plans are good, and that the future will be more hopeful than we ever imagined.

With blessings from the Holy Land,



Yael Eckstein
President

GUARDIANS OF ISRAEL

**THANKS TO
CANADIAN GENEROSITY:**

238,245 HOT MEALS
were served to needy
people in Israel

8,300 CHILDREN who
were displaced or living
in homeless shelters were
given clothing cards for
the school year

**770 BACKPACKS FILLED
WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES**
were provided for children
aged 6–12

**15,044 IMPOVERISHED
FAMILIES & ELDERLY
PEOPLE** received food
cards to observe the
sacred holidays of
Passover and *Rosh
Hashanah*

**89,400 HYGIENIC
FOOD CONTAINERS**
were provided for
elderly recipients to bring
food home from soup
kitchens for evening and
Shabbat meals



Photo: Nir Kafri

Providing a Lifeline

Miryam is 86 and lives alone. She has two physically disabled sons who receive disability stipends from the government that barely help them make ends meet — and, sadly, don't allow them to also help their mother.

Miryam is battling cancer and must travel to another city for chemotherapy treatments. Those trips are expensive, and don't leave Miryam any extra money with which she can buy food.

Miryam was very worried about how she would survive — until *The Fellowship* began providing her with a monthly food card she can use at the grocery store. This has eased her mind, and allows her to stay nourished and strong enough to fight her illness.

President Yael Eckstein brought Miryam a special food box and a warm winter blanket, reminding her that *Fellowship* friends like you would love and care for her.

ISAIAH 58

*For he satisfies the thirsty
and fills the hungry with
good things.*

– PSALM 107:9



Photo: JDC

1,765 JEWISH ELDERLY received visits from home assistance workers for help with personal care, cooking, and cleaning

680 ELDERLY JEWS received surgery and other emergency medical support

2,639 ELDERLY were provided with food cards to shop with dignity and food boxes were delivered to elderly who were unable to leave their homes

Independence and Dignity

102-year-old Shoma is blind, nearly deaf, and can barely walk on his own. Despite these major health challenges, Shoma is fiercely independent. He doesn't let his heart disease, dementia, or loneliness (his beloved wife Melly died in 1996) squash his strong spirit.

That spirit has helped Shoma through many difficult times. A young man during World War II, Shoma was first evacuated to Russia, and then to Kazakhstan, where he was recruited to carry heavy logs and bricks for the building of bridges. Work and living conditions were very poor, and Shoma was often cold and hungry.

After the war, Shoma moved to Moldova, where he studied accounting and economics. For years,

Shoma served as the head of human resources at a consumer goods factory.

He never imagined he'd be in this situation today, living off a pension that is too small to cover the costs of his basic needs.

Shoma does not know how he would survive without support from people like you and our volunteers, who deliver food, medications, clothing, and provide companionship. He also gets visits from a *Fellowship* homemaker, helping him manage his illnesses.

This care is made possible thanks to you. You make sure elderly Jews in the FSU are cared for and loved.

ON WINGS OF EAGLES

**THANKS TO
CANADIAN
GENEROSITY:**

**1,758 JEWISH
REFUGEES**
were given rescue
on *Fellowship*
Freedom Flights



Photo: Sergiy Polezhnaka

Making a New Life Possible

"Our last name never left room for doubt. Everyone immediately knew we were Jewish", says Volodymyr Kats, age 51, who made *aliyah* to Israel, together with his wife Olena, age 47, and their daughter Kseniia, age 11.

The family is from the city of Konstantinovka, which is on the frontline of the fighting in eastern Ukraine. "When the war started in 2014, we didn't really understand what it was and how long it would last", says Volodymyr. "War is the most horrible thing humanity can invent. People are killed and injured, and homes are damaged. We never knew when they would bomb us again, because there are no alarms. We had nowhere to hide. We had a storeroom in the house, under the kitchen. I dug more space there and also made an impromptu exit to the street.

I told my wife and 21-year-old son (who remains in Ukraine to finish college) that if there will be a massive bombardment, they could hide in the storeroom, and if the house collapses, they could escape through the exit I dug".

Volodymyr's grandfather was murdered during the Holocaust and his grandmother managed to save his father. "When the Germans came, my grandmother fled to the woods along with my father, who was then a boy, and my uncle. Their neighbour informed on my grandfather and said that he was Jewish. My grandfather was murdered along with other Jews and was buried in a mass grave. I make sure to tell my children our family history. It's important that we know our roots and our family history".

Volodymyr and his family have never tried to change their last name and have always bravely faced the

*He will raise a banner
for the nations and gather
the exiles of Israel.*

– ISAIAH 11:12



Photo: Olivier Fitoussi

anti-Semitic statements. Even as the family was preparing to make *aliyah* to Israel, they made sure not to tell their neighbours about it. "I didn't want them to talk about it. I didn't want them to hurt my kids in any way. I also told my daughter not to tell anyone. Although she's very excited and happy that we're making *aliyah* to Israel, she has had to keep her joy to herself".

"I'm not really old yet, but I'm sorry we didn't do it before", says Volodymyr. "I know that in Israel my last name is very popular and good. I know that at last we'll walk around proudly with our name. We'll live among our people, connect to our roots and my daughter will be happy. I sincerely hope that my son will eventually join us as well".

We're very optimistic about the future.
Home in Israel."

Did you know?

Each person on a **Fellowship Freedom Flight** receives help with:

MOVING ARRANGEMENTS

- Applying to the Israeli consulate for *aliyah* eligibility
- Connecting to an employment agency
- Registering for school and Hebrew language study

TWO-DAY PRE-FLIGHT ORIENTATION PROGRAM

- Learning how *The Fellowship* will help with their transition
- Learning about Israel from experts in the fields of health, education, employment, and housing

TRAVELING TO ISRAEL

- A fully funded flight to the Holy Land

ARRANGEMENTS AFTER ARRIVAL AT BEN-GURION AIRPORT, TEL AVIV

- Registering for new Israeli IDs
- Transportation to their first home in Israel

GETTING ESTABLISHED

- Opening a bank account
- Registering for health insurance
- Receiving food for their first few days in Israel
- Assistance for six months from a volunteer who speaks their native language

Building Bridges from the Past to the Future

OUR MISSION The *International Fellowship of Christians and Jews of Canada* is a leading Canadian religious charity building bridges between Christians and Jews, blessing Israel and the Jewish people around the world with humanitarian care and life-saving aid.



SINCE 1983

1.9 million PEOPLE IN CANADA, U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD have supported *The Fellowship*

\$1.8 billion HAS BEEN RAISED to help Israel and her people

IN RECENT YEARS

OVER \$127 million has been donated annually

MORE THAN 1.5 million PEOPLE IN NEED are helped each year by *The Fellowship*

TODAY

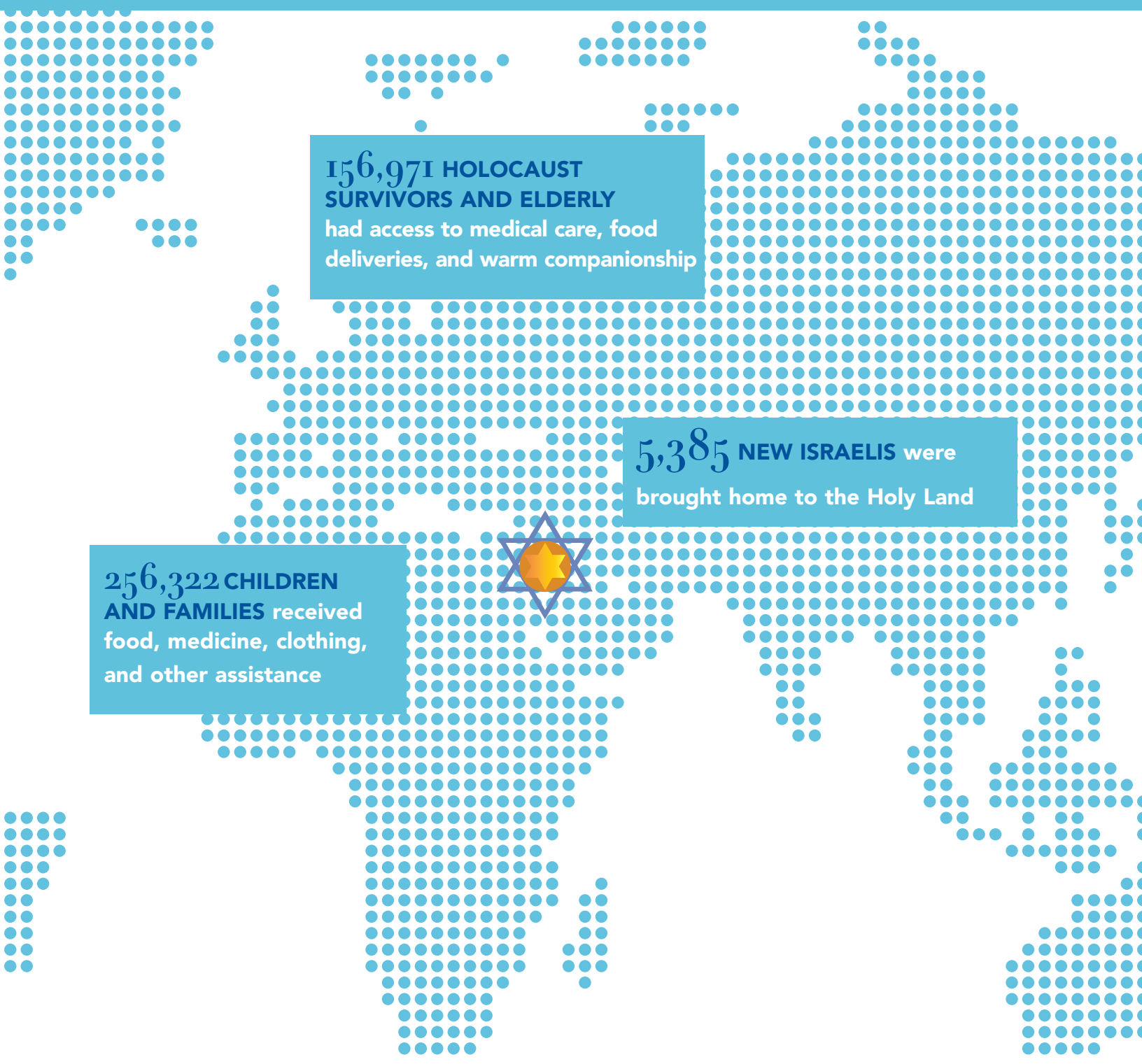
The Fellowship is the largest provider of humanitarian aid in Israel.

MORE THAN 700,000 MEALS were provided by *The Fellowship* in soup kitchens around the world

In 2019 our global partners helped over 1.7 million people in need

That assistance — fighting poverty, providing compassionate care, and facilitating *aliyah* (immigration to Israel) — was given through *The Fellowship's* hundreds of lifesaving projects in Israel and around the world.

GLOBAL IMPACT 2019



**156,971 HOLOCAUST
SURVIVORS AND ELDERLY**
had access to medical care, food
deliveries, and warm companionship

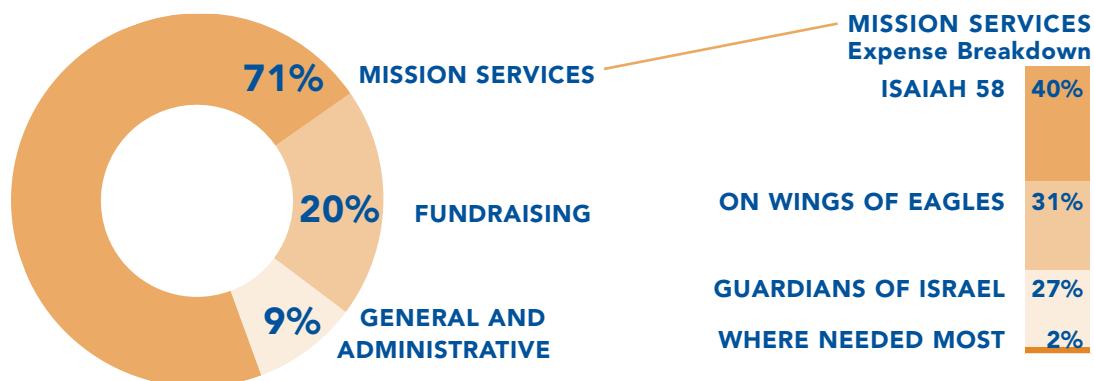
5,385 NEW ISRAELIS were
brought home to the Holy Land

**256,322 CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES** received
food, medicine, clothing,
and other assistance

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2019

REVENUE	2019	2018
Restricted Contributions	\$ 4,997,980	\$ 5,558,358
Unrestricted Contributions	5,011,889	5,159,191
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 10,009,869	\$ 10,717,549
EXPENSES	2019	2018
Isaiah 58	2,890,000	2,749,777
On Wings of Eagles	2,205,026	2,085,587
Guardians of Israel	1,947,452	2,133,396
Fellowship	\$ 136,016	\$ 172,745
Subtotal, Mission Services	\$ 7,178,494	\$ 7,141,505
Fundraising	2,044,140	2,585,265
General and Administrative	874,259	903,526
Subtotal, Support Services	\$ 2,918,399	\$ 3,488,791
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 10,096,893	\$ 10,630,296
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ -87,024	\$ 87,253

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN



*Lord, you are my God; I will
exalt you and praise your name,
for in perfect faithfulness you
have done wonderful things.*

– ISAIAH 25:1



Photo: JDC Arif Shraga



Photo: FJC

*Thank you
& bless you!*

**Because of your support,
countless vulnerable Israelis
and Jews are able to
live lives of dignity
and hope.**



2014 FJC



Photo: FJC



Photo: Jordan Hay

FELLOWSHIP RESOURCES

*But let all who take
refuge in you be glad;
let them ever sing
for joy.* – PSALM 5:11



Photo: FJC

HOLY LAND MOMENTS

Your Daily Devotional and
Hebrew Word of the Day

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Sign up for news from
The Fellowship and stories
about our ministry programs
of care

PRAYER TEAM

Join in a chorus of prayer to
God for the care and support
of Israel's people

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook.com/IFCJCanada

Instagram.com/IFCJCanada

Youtube.com/IFCJCanada

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NUMBER

86941 1587 RR0001

P.O. Box 670, Station K, Toronto, ON M4P 2H1
888.988.4325 | www.ifcj.ca | info@ifcj.ca

©2020 International Fellowship of Christians and Jews of Canada. All rights reserved.

 International Fellowship
of Christians and Jews® 