

## **End of Year Report** 2023-2024

Dear Partners,

As we reach the end of this school year, I am pleased to update you on Nevet's successes and challenges. This past year has been uniquely painful and has presented Israel with unprecedented difficulties. On the morning of October 7th, we woke to one of the toughest wars in the country's history, drastically impacting citizens nationwide. We had to adapt quickly to this new reality.

The education system faced the enormous challenge of maintaining normal school routines for students and families displaced by trauma, uncertainty, and disrupted stability. Schools closed, and many evacuees urgently needed nutritional support. Nevet provided for these evacuees by delivering sandwiches to new schools and ensuring that emergency educational teams received regular meals. I would like to share an excerpt from a war diary by Gil Chadash, Head of the Education Department in Sderot, about the first weeks of the fighting:

"The second week marked the evacuation of all Sderot residents to centers across the country. This unprecedented civilian operation saw the Education Department team establishing educational spaces from the Golan Heights to Eilat. Many civil and volunteer organizations joined us from day one, helping us set up and maintain the system. Without them, our success in those first weeks would have been impossible."

Like Gil and his counterparts in other cities, we faced significant challenges and, alongside other organizations, did everything possible to assist.

In more positive news, Nevet launched a fruits and vegetables pilot program this year, aligning with our vision of promoting healthy and balanced nutrition for disadvantaged populations. We provided fresh fruits and vegetables to 37 schools for three weeks. The pilot was a tremendous success, generating great excitement in the schools. We learned many logistical and organizational lessons, and I'm thrilled to announce that next school year, all students in the project will receive a fresh fruit or vegetable daily, in addition to the enriched variety of sandwich spreads we've introduced.

Looking forward, Nevet aims to reach Israel's most disadvantaged areas where our support is crucial. This year, we expanded to municipalities ranked 1-3 in the socio-economic cluster, including Bnei Brak, Safed, Mitzpe Ramon, Umm al-Fahm, Netivot, and Modi'in Illit, as well as other municipalities like Kfar Saba, Holon, and Be'er Sheva. Together, Nevet provides over 15,000 fresh sandwiches daily, a significant achievement made possible by your support.

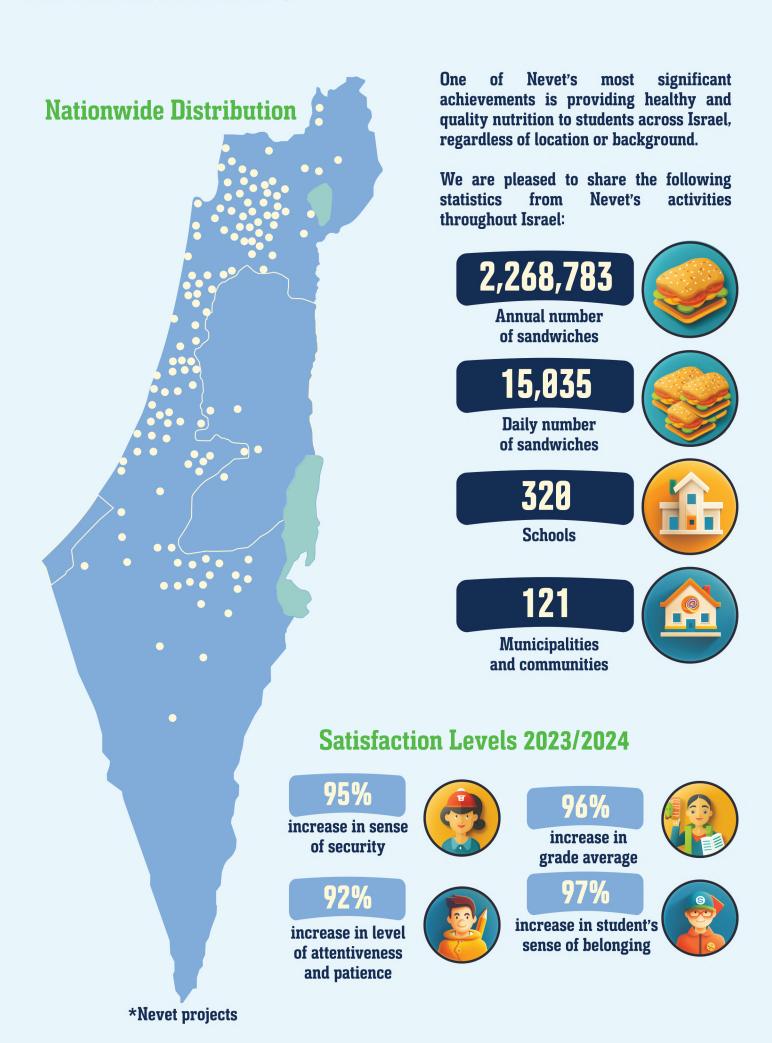
I conclude with a note of optimism: we are united as one nation with a shared fate. Our resilience and strength are most evident during difficult times, and this past year has proven our ability to grow stronger together, hoping for better days ahead.

Thank you for being part of our light; we are deeply grateful for your support.



Sincerely, Rotem Yosef-Giladi.

### **Nevet in Numbers**





On October 7th, Israel faced its most traumatic morning, which led to ongoing conflict in the Gaza Strip and the northern border. The education system undertook the immense task of continuing education and support for students displaced from their homes amidst this crisis.

In this section, we will reveal more about the activities of the Education Department in Sderot and Nevet's activities during the war.





#### שדרוֹת Gil Chadash – Head of the Education Department in Sderot

"What we accomplished in four intense weeks after the October 7th attack would normally take large organizations ten years or more. Reflecting on it, it's moving to see our dynamic decision-making, our flexibility in problem-solving, and our continuous reassessment of our strategies in response to the war's developments.

In the weeks following the attack, we established 200 educational frameworks from the Golan Heights to Eilat.

On February 19, 2024, we closed all frameworks in the alternate cities, and on March 3, 2024, we reopened Sderot's education system. Remarkably, 100% of principals, 90% of educational staff, and all kindergartens, daycare centers, and special education institutions resumed operations. Within a month, we reached an attendance rate of over 85% of Sderot's total student population."

Gil has been an invaluable partner in Nevet's educational activities, and we are proud to have supported Sderot's students during these challenging times. We continue to pray for the safe return of all hostages and for peace and security for everyone.

# **Nevet's Activities During the Iron Swords War**

Like many other organizations, Nevet also mobilized for the sake of Israeli society in its difficult hour during the war. Nevet focused on providing nutrition, supporting evacuated students, assisting reservists, and making financial donations, in addition to our regular school activities.

- We see it as a great privilege and moral duty as an organization working together with many partners across the country as part of civil society in the state.
- For about a month, Nevet funded and supplied breakfast, lunch, and dinner for dozens of "Shinshinim" (volunteers) in Eilat who guided and entertained evacuated children from Sderot and the western Negev.
- Nevet also prepared sandwiches for 2,000 reservists from Brigade 551 during the war's early weeks. Our employees and additional volunteers worked tirelessly to prepare and deliver these sandwiches to army bases.
- We continued our routine of providing nutritious breakfasts to Sderot students evacuated to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, ensuring they received healthy sandwiches for three months until their return home to Sderot. We also supported evacuated students from Kiryat Shmona, integrated into schools in Tiberias during the war.
- Nevet responded to the request of the principal of the regional school in Kibbutz Yad Mordechai after the school's students from the Gaza Envelope were evacuated to several different alternative cities and hadn't seen each other for a long time during the war. The entire school met for an exciting joint activity for Hanukkah. The activity took place in the Ben Shemen Forest, and Nevet took care of their nutrition by providing sandwiches and purchasing hats for them.



### **Nevet's Partners**



# At Nevet, we believe that significant societal change comes through collaboration.

We work with local authorities, national education networks, businesses, government offices, and numerous donors to provide nutrition for every child in need during school hours.

Here are a few examples of work with our valued partners and we take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the amazing people who contribute to the project and journey with us.



### Harel Insurance and Finance Group Adi Bager Ciobotaru, Head of Communications and CSR:

Nevet's vision is to provide a nutritional solution by offering sandwiches during the ten o'clock break to all children and teenagers in Israel's education system, ensuring both the quality and variety of food.

Harel Insurance and Finance Group shares this vision and has actively participated in volunteer activities at Nevet for the past decade. They prepare sandwiches for the Remez and Komemiyut Schools in Bnei Brak. From September and throughout the school year, Harel employees volunteer every morning to distribute and transport these sandwiches. It is worth noting that Harel Insurance and Finance Group employees are consistently amazed and excited by the immense contribution they make to Nevet's important work through their social action.

This project creates a significant daily experience for the volunteering employees and has a substantial impact on students from disadvantaged social backgrounds. These students receive a fair opportunity to focus on their studies and improve their achievements accordingly.

Looking ahead, we at Harel Insurance and Finance Group intend to continue our collaboration with Nevet. We wish the staff ongoing success, fruitful endeavors, and meaningful contributions to the noble cause of supporting and promoting disadvantaged populations.



# Zeev Saban, Deputy Manager, Department of Education and Manager of Department for Children and Youth at Risk

The Safed Municipality wishes to extend its gratitude to the Nevet organization for its contributions to the city's schools over the past year. For the past year and a half, the Safed Municipality and Nevet have collaborated to support the nutrition of disadvantaged students during school hours. We place great importance on reducing social gaps and providing quality and equitable education to all students in the city. Nevet's activities align with this mission, significantly helping to bridge the gaps between those who have and those who do not. Nevet operates in seven schools in Safed, providing approximately 300 sandwiches daily, totaling 46,000 sandwiches annually, thus helping to maintain the nutritional security of students throughout the school day.

This year, in light of the war that broke out in the country, we in the Safed Municipality have witnessed and experienced the mental and economic difficulties faced by many students and families. These challenges were exacerbated during the war, and Nevet's activities in the city greatly contributed to a sense of stability and home among disadvantaged students throughout the year. The impact of Nevet's efforts is immeasurable, both in normal times and especially during times of conflict when students and their families face difficult and stressful situations.

We hold deep appreciation and gratitude for the Nevet organization and look forward to continuing our joint efforts for the children of Safed.



### Darca School Network Avi Cohen, Regional Logistics Manager

Darca School Network is dedicated to the vision of education for excellence and equal opportunities for every student. Our mission is to equip students with the tools and skills necessary for personal and social success. We take pride in our comprehensive educational achievements, which include continuous improvement in student performance, promoting equal opportunities, and emphasizing education rooted in social and communal responsibility. Thanks to Darca's significant investment, we have successfully enhanced the lives of thousands of students, guiding them toward remarkable accomplishments.

As the Regional Logistics Manager of the Darca Network, I work closely with Nevet to ensure that the schools under my responsibility provide students with equal opportunities to enjoy breakfast at school, just like their peers. This longstanding and fruitful collaboration with Nevet has proven itself over the years. The quantity, quality, and standard of food provided by Nevet are consistently excellent, and the fact that students enjoy a satisfying and nutritious meal every day is immensely meaningful to their well-being. Nevet conducts regular audits at the schools to uphold high standards of quality and service, deserving significant recognition and appreciation. Thank you sincerely for your dedicated and professional collaboration. We deeply value your contribution to the welfare of our students and to Israeli society as a whole.

# Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program 2023/2024

For many years, Nevet has aspired to include fruits and vegetables in students' breakfasts to provide a full and nutritious meal. In recent years, awareness has grown regarding the importance of healthy nutrition and the incorporation of fruits and vegetables into daily diets, especially breakfast.

Vegetables and fruits are a significant source of essential minerals and vitamins, such as Vitamin C and iron, rich in dietary fibers, and contribute to reducing the risk of illness, which are extremely important for the proper development of children and teenagers. Additionally, the rising prices of vegetables and fruits in Israel have led to fewer children being exposed to these foods at a young age.

As part of Nevet's vision and values to provide a healthy and nutritious breakfast for all students in Israel, incorporating fruits and vegetables into the breakfast menu is a natural step. We are pleased to have successfully implemented an initial pilot for providing fresh fruits and vegetables after many years of planning.

In the 2023/2024 school year, we conducted a pilot involving 37 different schools across the country. These schools received fruits and vegetables for the students of the project, which were distributed alongside the sandwiches. Data from the pilot indicated that 97% of participants enjoyed the addition and requested to incorporate fresh fruits and vegetables into the daily distribution in schools as part of the regular supply.

In light of the positive feedback and the satisfaction of school principals and students, it has been decided that in the next school year, 2024/2025, Nevet will provide every morning to all project students a full breakfast including a healthy and nutritious sandwich, a wide selection of spreads, and fresh fruits and vegetables.



