



## **KISHORIT**

### **An innovative kibbutz of adults with special needs**

## **Enhancing Security at Kishorit**

### **Location**

---

Kishorit is located in the Western Galilee, approximately 10 miles from the Lebanese border. Kishorit's 160 adults with special needs are joined on the Kishor mountain ridge by two other kibbutzim with a total of 85 member families. The three communities are surrounded by more than 30,000 Muslim Arabs in the neighboring city of Dir Al-Assad and other villages.

Kishorit generally enjoys a friendly and peaceful relationship with its neighbors. We allow local farmers to cut through Kishorit to reach their agricultural land. We educate Arab teenagers with mental illnesses in our high school. Finally, we are developing Alfanara, a residential community for Arab adults with special needs.

## Defending Kishorit

---

Despite these great efforts, there is still sometimes strife between our communities and we must be vigilant in order to protect our members. Due to our close proximity to the border, Kishorit has previously been the target of Lebanese rocket fire. The IDF has warned us that we must always be within 30 seconds of a safe room, no small task for people with anxiety and mobility issues.

## The Challenge

---

To ensure the safety of our members, we must add safe rooms throughout the village, most notably in our organic garden, carpentry shop and organic goat dairy. Our members spend many of their waking hours at work and it is imperative that they be able to reach a secure room within the required 30 seconds.

Over the past year, the organic garden has tripled in size and has become a very significant source of employment and pride for our community. The garden is in the agricultural area of Kishorit, far from the existing safe rooms. Similarly, the dairy is our most profitable business yet the members who work there are relatively exposed as the goat shed does not have a safe room.

## Project Budget

---

We plan to construct four new bomb shelters in the Kishorit employment centers. Two 80 sq.m. shelters with toilets, showers and kitchenettes will be erected in the organic garden, a third 100 sq.m. with facilities will be built in the carpentry workshop. A fourth, 20 sq.m. safe room will be built in the organic dairy.

The cost of building a regulation steel and concrete safe room is \$1800 per square meter, including infrastructure costs and an air purification system (so members do not need to wear gas masks in the event of chemical warfare.) Although the army has delivered its security assessment, neither the IDF, nor the government will provide the necessary capital support to build the bomb shelters. Therefore, we must turn to our friends around the world to help us keep our members safe.

Thank you for your time and consideration. For more information, please contact Shira Reifman at [Shira.Kishorit@gmail.com](mailto:Shira.Kishorit@gmail.com).



a caring community of adults with special needs

M.P. Bik'at Beth Hakerem 20123 Israel Tel. 972.4.9085111 Fax. 972.4.9986810