



ONGOING UPDATES from the Rimon Farms, Therapy-Centers in the Desert

(sorted chronologically - newest at the top)

Dear friends of Israel,

we are happy to update you on the projects we are supporting [as ARC to Israel](#). In April we visited the Rimon farms and were deeply impressed by their valuable work – please [read about experience here](#). Now we want to give you an insight into what your donations make possible. And share some news from Nir, the CEO.



Update February 2026

The transition from grief to hope is beyond words! Am Yisrael is moving forward, rebuilding and returning to our land and roots.



A sense of preparation and tension is felt throughout the country; however, for our beneficiaries, the struggle is constant. We are here, prepared and continuing all of our activities.

A summary of the past weeks:

***Or HaNer-UJA Farm:**

Establishment is in full swing: laying water lines, planting the vegetable garden, and planning therapeutic spaces. We are working closely with the Sha'ar HaNegev Council to define the specific therapeutic needs of the region. We already have regular volunteers, including a group of girls from Netivot and children from a local kibbutz.

***Shekef Farm:**

Youth from frontline communities have begun regular activity in "The Heart and the Path" program. As part of the "Shorashim" program, we hosted medical and social work teams. The vineyard is being prepped for spring, the vegetable garden is getting a makeover, and preparations for the new lavender plot are moving fast. We also installed a new, large-scale water line for the farm.

***Lahav Farm:**

We are expanding with two new programs-one with the Ministry of Defense and another with the Ministry of Health-following the great success of our previous cohorts. We just completed a three-month program with an elite unit, and this Sunday we will hold a festive closing ceremony. On the farm itself, we began taking the herd out to the Lahav Reserve after receiving all necessary permits. The farm is in a stage of growth and intensification, with new tents, a sheepfold, and additional therapeutic spaces under construction.

SUMMARY & ACHIEVEMENTS 2025

2025 at Rimon Farm Association - a year in which we supported thousands of people: individuals in prevention and treatment of post-trauma, and communities across the Western Negev.



Throughout the year, we continued our broad collaborations with government agencies, philanthropic foundations, business partners, NGOs, and of course local authorities. I'm truly happy to share that based on our data so far, the methods we developed together with our partners are working - and working very well!

In the field of post-trauma, here are some particularly encouraging results:

Across all programs (short- and long-term):

- **About 70% report improved sleep quality**
 - **About 80% report improved relationships with close family members and loved ones**
- In the long-term programs:**
- **About 80% continue into employment, education, or follow-up frameworks**

Today, we can say with full confidence: therapeutic work in open, nature-based spaces - combined with community, a skilled professional team grounded in proven protocols, body–mind work, and psychotherapy - truly changes lives.

Our therapeutic centers enabled many people this year to rediscover their inner strengths, remember how capable they are, *and most importantly - regain hope.

Currently, we operate six frameworks: four farms and two urban therapeutic centers.

In 2026, we plan to establish three additional farms in the Western Negev, along with five new urban programs across the Negev.

I would like to express my deep gratitude for your ongoing guidance, support, and partnership.

Together, we will continue to support everyone who needs it - everyone for whom the healing space of our centers can bring relief, strength, and peace.

With great appreciation, Nir

Update End of December 2025



In times like these, our mission is to continue spreading light - supporting people coping with post-trauma, and the communities of the Western Negev. Darkness fades only when we increase the light.

We hosted many visitors for Hanukkah - with farm-to-table food, organic harvesting, and drumming, circus, and capoeira workshops. On the eighth night, all our farms lit candles together with a menorah built by our young team.

Lahav Farm

After extreme weather damaged 17 treatment areas, **we continued all programs without canceling a single group.** Three therapeutic programs concluded this week, including one for the Ministry of Defense and two for reservist women. Over 200 beneficiaries were hosted each week - many shared that the farm “changed their lives.”

Sehkef Farm

We held numerous therapeutic groups - including “Mifneh–Shorashim,” the weekly “Shavim” reservists group, and processing days for the Marom Brigade. We also welcomed groups from Hashomer Hachadash, IDF units, and many visitors drawn to the now-full Adorayim Dam.

Major Updates

We are launching therapeutic programs in four southern municipalities: *Mitzpe Ramon, Arad, Dimona, and Yeruham. In addition, we are building four new agricultural therapeutic centers in the Western Negev, led by *Elam and Yair - heroes from Kibbutz Beeri emergency squad on 7.10, now dedicated to spreading hope and healing.

Thank you for your support, Nir



DECEMBER 2025

To Prevent Another Life from Being Lost

⚠ !! An Urgent Call to Action !! ⚠

A Tragic Suicide... 💔

The news of the suicide of **Tomas Adzgauskas (27)** from Ashdod shook us deeply this weekend. With his death, the full tragedy of October 7 becomes painfully present once again. Tomas, an officer and sniper commander in the Givati Brigade, fought that day with extraordinary courage near the Gaza border — and saved lives. But what he witnessed and endured left deep, invisible wounds. He survived the attack physically, yet could not find his way back to life.



In his farewell letter he wrote:

“Thomas has been dead for a long time, I am only a soul searching for peace... 7.10 destroyed my life and everything I was. I can’t go on.”

He is the **62nd soldier** to take his own life since October 7.

There is Help — the Rimon Therapy Farms! 🤝 🌱

Nir Amitai and his team work tirelessly to expand their programs and capacities to help exactly these internally wounded individuals find a path back to life — and they are achieving remarkable success.



From his recent update:

“Every week, **230 people** participate in our post-trauma programs at Lahav Farm, including soldiers from the Yahalom Unit. We have expanded our family-therapy program, held a religious–secular learning session, organized a dance evening, and visited the Gaza Envelope to deepen our mission. We are also building new collaborations in the Western Negev. I am especially proud that our new program directors come from a community deeply affected on 7.10 — no one is more meaningful for rebuilding this region.

There is still much work ahead. But with united forces, we will overcome every challenge. We are deeply grateful for every form of support.”

Our Contribution? It is Crucial — Right Now. 🙌 🙏

The Rimon Farms accept **everyone** who seeks help. But accommodation, therapy, and long-term care can only be funded by people who understand, who empathize — and who act.

Those who donate are **truly saving lives**. Please help!

Ways to donate:

- ♥ Directly to the Rimon Therapy Farms: <https://www.rimon-farm.org.il/en/donate>
- ♥ Via our organization Arc to Israel: [arc-to-israel/donate](https://arc-to-israel.org/donate)

Please specify “Rimon” as the purpose of the donation.

We have already transferred a larger donation and forward **every euro without deductions**. Donation receipts will be issued at the beginning of next year.

Thank you for your open hearts — and for helping make life livable again.

Brigitte Chaya & Harald



AUGUST 2025

This time, it is about a **very personal and moving story**. Let me introduce you to S. (the man I already wrote in the article: [“Oasis of Life”](#)). On October 7th, he fought in Nir Oz to keep the door of the shelter closed to protect his wife and children. S. lost so many friends and loved ones - it's truly unimaginable.



BUT NOW he completed a powerful six-month rehabilitation journey at Lahav farm, where he came three times a week and joined a group through the Ministry of Defense Rehabilitation Department. Today, S. works at the bakery at Rimon farm, volunteers with the cattle herd in Or HaNer, and is soon to help establish a new farm in Re'im.

S. is a role model - someone who refuses to give up. He's choosing to smile again, to laugh, and to hold on to hope. This week, he received a certificate of appreciation for everything he's accomplished and for helping us build these farms.

S. will be joining the upcoming visit to the U.S. and Canada this October - to meet partners, say thank you, and give a big hug.

JULY 2025

Two weeks after the end of Operation "Am KeLavi" (the 12 day war with Iran), we are striving to return to routine.

The daily loss of our sons in Gaza breaks our hearts and deeply affects the healing process of our participants. Each fallen soldier is a painful reminder of how meaningful and critical our mission is during this time.

We are making great efforts to provide appropriate responses to everyone, and to return to routine during this complex time. Thousands of people are in need of support, and we are here for them and only for them. We will continue to develop unique solutions to support everyone in need.

We continue to work with the processing groups, and we maintained continuous contact with people throughout the fighting period.

Lahav Farm (1st Post Trauma Therapy Center in the Negev)

- ✧ We will host one of the IDF's elite and largest units for processing groups.
- ✧ A new cycle of the “Shavim” program has begun. A group of reservists returning from service, engaging in group dialogue, agricultural work, yoga, and ice baths.
- ✧ A new Mothers and Daughters group from the Gaza Envelope and families of long-term reservists, processing the war period together.
- ✧ Yahalom unit teams have started arriving for a combat trauma processing program. A unique process that will accompany the entire unit in the coming months.
- ✧ A new Women’s Thursday Space was launched. An open group for partners of reservists and career soldiers, with body-mind work and healing agriculture.
- ✧ In collaboration with "Ima Leviah", we launched a two-day pilot for mothers whose sons were injured in the war. Deeply meaningful days of conversation, creativity, and mutual support.



Shekef Farm (2nd Post Trauma Therapy Center in the Negev)

- ✧ We will start a program for secondary trauma treatment, in collaboration with the National Insurance funds.
- ✧ We hosted volunteer groups and youth, accompanied a Yahalom team through a processing journey
- ✧ We launched the “Roots of Growth” youth program.
- ✧ In the fields: corn, melons, and eggplants are ripening beautifully and almost ready for harvest.



Or HaNer and Tel Gama Farms (Re'im) – Rebuilding the destroyed communities in the Western Negev

- ✧ Our herd continues to grow, and the connection with the surrounding community is growing stronger.
- ✧ We completed fencing the pasturelands, fully vaccinated the herd, and continue steady and dedicated work on infrastructure development.
- ✧ We have completed the team recruitment, and soon a talented and experienced manager named Galit will join us to establish the two farms in the Western Negev, together with a skilled and experienced team.



JUNE 2025

Lahav Farm (1st Post Trauma Therapy Center in the Negev)

- ✧ Recently, we hosted a group of reservist women for an overnight stay, and for the first time, we opened a trauma processing group for individual reservists — not as a team.
- ✧ We also welcomed a group of commanders from the Marom Brigade for a three-day processing retreat.
- ✧ With growing demand, we've expanded: a new therapy zone, a shaded welcome area, a new dining hall, and soon — a woodworking shop for furniture making.
- ✧ Today, Lahav Farm runs over 10 programs — from trauma prevention workshops to support those dealing with severe post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).



Or HaNer and Tel Gama Farms (Re'im) – Rebuilding the destroyed communities in the Western Negev

- ✧ At Tel Gama, we ran a bonding day for pre-army youth and planted trees with the local community.
- ✧ At Or HaNer, we're pushing forward with farm development: fencing the grazing areas for the cattle herd, infrastructure work, renovations — and new calves being born!
- ✧ The community is beginning to take part, and individuals coping with PTSD are joining the herd work as part of their recovery.



We're not letting go. We're not giving up on anyone. And to you, our dear partners and supporters - we want to say a heartfelt thank you. From us, from Nir, from S. and from the entire team and community. Because of you, we're able to help those who need it most.

With love and deep appreciation, Brigitte Chaya & Harald