



*"Birkat reut" organization*

Those who Give Shall  
**Receive**

**1.4** million disabled people live in Israel,  
representing **17%** of the population





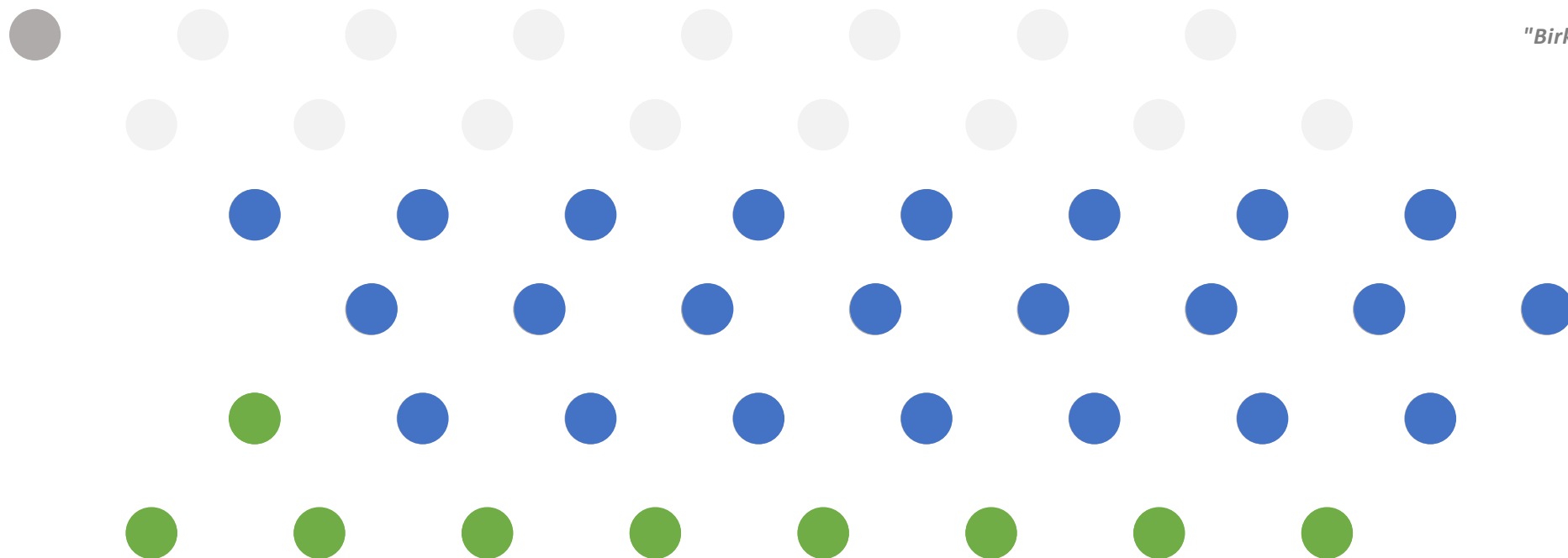
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**Out of those 17% (about 240,000) are children below the age of 17**



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**and 50% (about 700,000) are adults under employment age**

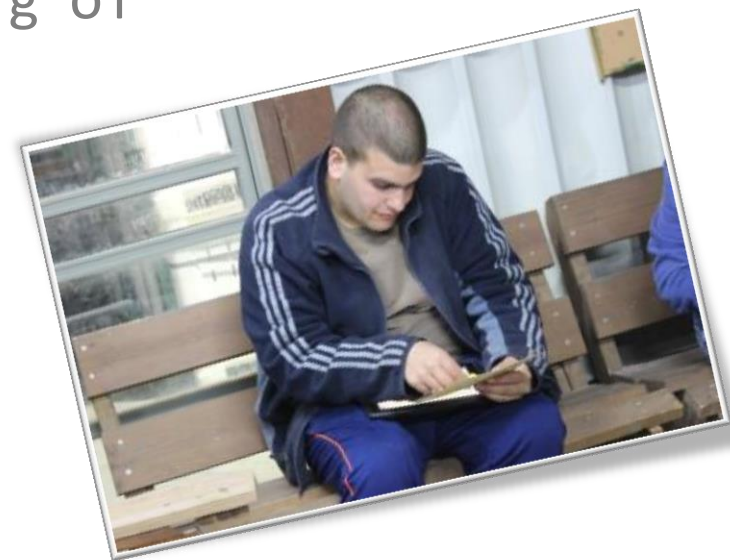


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## FEELING LONELY

**15%** of the severely disabled people between the ages of 20 – 64 express a feeling of loneliness

The Israeli total population feeling of loneliness is **3%**





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EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITY

In 2015 there was a **4%** reduction in the employment of handicapped people

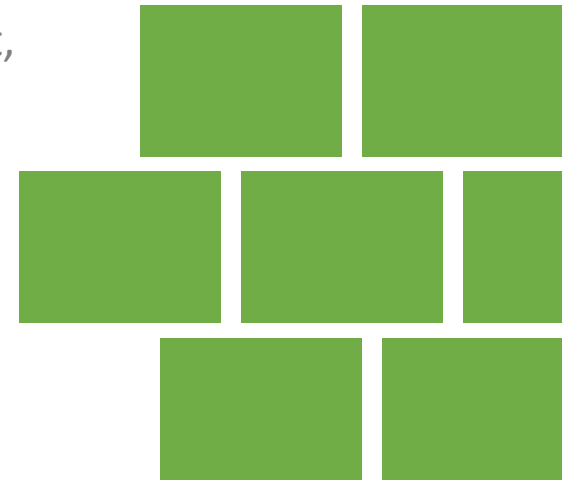
The work opportunities for the physically able increased by **1%**



# Who are We

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- Birkat Reut Foundation, works to advance equal opportunities among populations with special needs by providing tools and opportunities for integration into the Israeli society.
- Activities are conducted in the unique setting of Kibbutz Palmach Tzuba in the Judean Hills where participants work side by side with high school graduates volunteering prior to their military service and thereby enhancing and improving the participants' self esteem.
- The connections formed during these encounters, between farmers, the disabled and other people from the Kibbutz, create the opportunity to embrace and express human love and connection to the land.
- Each week more than 200 people with disabilities take part in the project, and additional 150 take part in special events during the year.
- All activities are on a totally voluntary basis.



# (Part of) Our activities



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## Equal Cafe

A monthly event promoted by the group of high school grads who volunteer for a year of civil service before joining the army. The event provides a meeting place for many different peoples in the Israeli society. There is no distinction made between those with special needs. The event is open to all and it includes entertainment as well as refreshments.

## Day Center

The Day Center was created by cooperation between the foundation, the kibbutz and the Shekel Foundation. This initiative introduces a program for young adults on the range of the autistic spectrum which enables them to work in various branches on the kibbutz. The main purpose of this activity is to develop the skills needed for daily life with a final goal of becoming an integral part of the workforce.

## Children's Island

Children's Island forest was built in 2008 in the heart of Kibbutz Tzuba's orchards. It houses an activity park that offers "extreme" and educational amusements for the physically handicapped. The park allows people with special needs of all ages to enjoy nature at its best. The forest floor is adapted for wheel chairs access and any level of physical challenge- in short a wonderful meet & play venue.



# (Part of) Our activities



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## Carpentry shop

The carpentry shop was established in 2010 and is used as a workshop for various activities offered to special needs youth. Professional carpenters offer the lessons. Most of the students are from, a rehab hostel for young adults with behavior and emotional challenges as well as young youth with learning disabilities whose families are unable to offer them the needed support.

## The Raut Hothouse

In 2015 volunteers from Kibbutz Palmach Tzuba, built agricultural greenhouses in the kibbutz. The disabled participants operate a hydroponic greenhouse where they grow hydroponic lettuce on water. This greenhouse is part of the kibbutz orchard and specially designed for the access of the physically challenged who move freely as they work.

## On wheels

Helicopter, wagon and a motored submarine.

The purpose of this project is to provide an experience on wheels (a ride) in vehicles that have been adapted by the foundation's volunteers.

The vehicles are donated and renovated to accommodate people with physical challenges.

# Skills that are developed



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# Target groups



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Disabled

Deaf

Blind

Socially impaired

Youth at risk

Disabled children and youth

Behavior problems

The entire spectrum of autism

Emotionally disturbed



## From picking apples in the Orchard



Often, the program offers PWS participants their first opportunity to achieve relative success when they carry out the tasks delegated to them. The participants learn to cooperate with the volunteers who work with them, there is an emphasis on assisting them in dealing with frustrations encountered while trying to meet their goal and adhering to the rules.

(The Ginstel Home Group)

## In “equal coffee” activity



"An ongoing improvement is seen, as the group becomes cohesive and activities are tailored to the group, for example an activity is initiated and the participants refuse to join in . Now, following a number of months, the participants sit in the circle and join the discussion (each one according to his turn), they listen to each narrative. The group is becoming unified as a result of this social activity and there exists a great respect for each other".

(The House on Wheels)

# Today's Challenges



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Today we do not have one single facility to house all our activities – we utilize buildings that are temporarily available in the kibbutz.

Our aim is to establish one permanent building where our participants can feel at home, a genuine activity center of our own.

## This will enable us to:

- ✓ Expand the program
- ✓ Funnel all of our energies to our participants without the need to "juggle" logistics
- ✓ To reach a higher professional and secure level of work
- ✓ Better adapt the program to the abilities of the participants and to provide him or her with the exact tools he or she needs to excel in his field.



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We are available to meet and allow you the opportunity to see our activities and share our plans and dreams for the future. Seeing is believing!

We extend our heartfelt thankfulness to all who support us and take a part in the past and the future of the foundation.

We invite all who wishes to donate from their time, talents, funds or donations of any form to step up and help.

**For further information**

**Birkat Reut Foundation**



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