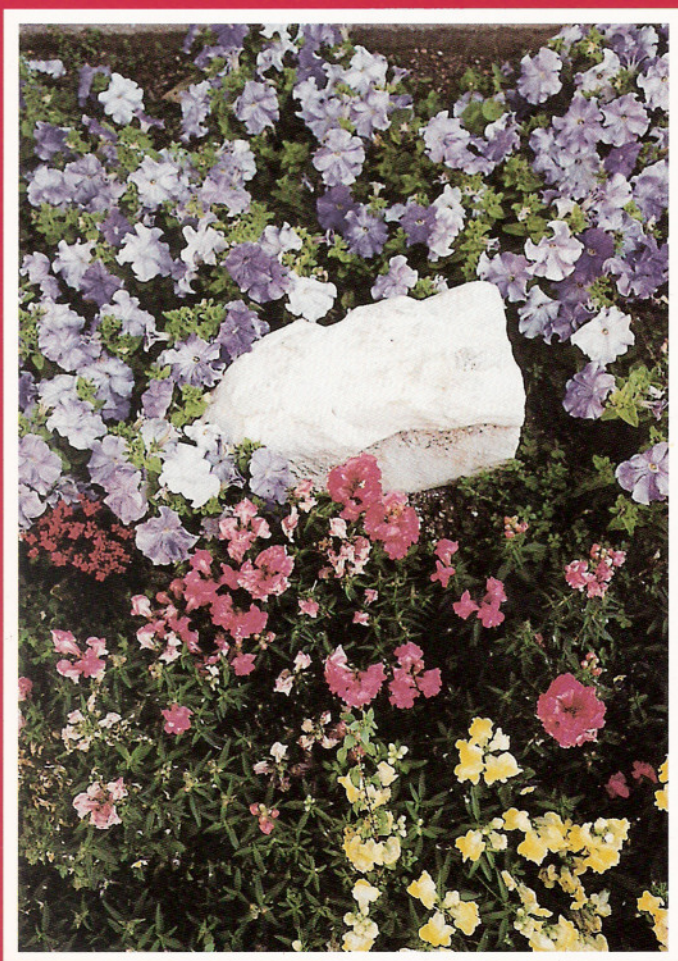


EBENEZER HOME
חֶבְרֹן

ANNUAL REPORT 1998

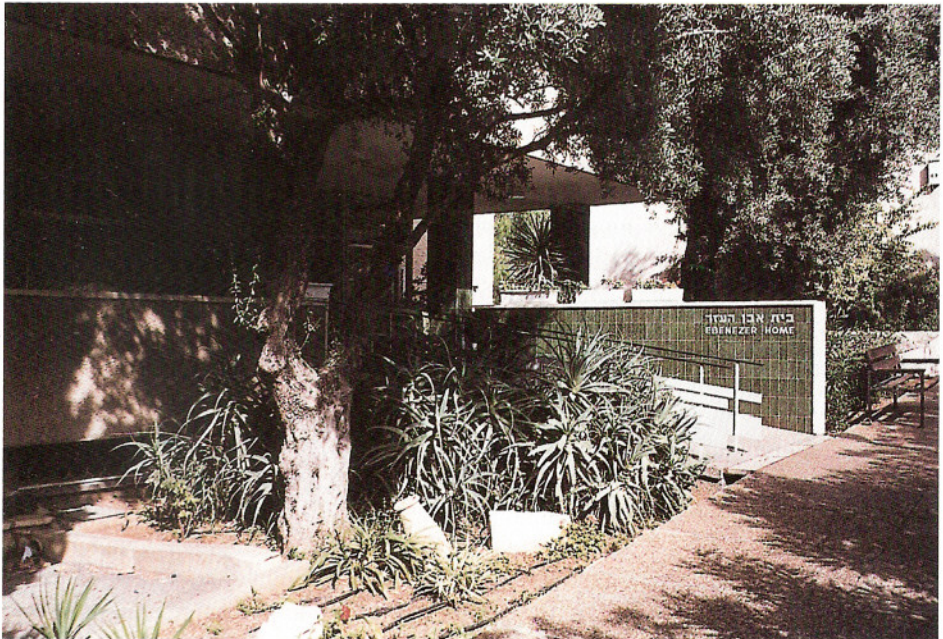


ISRAEL 50 YEARS

EBENEZER HOME

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The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; the God of my strength in whom I will trust. 2 Sam. 22:2, 3a



"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33)

This year I would particularly like to thank the members of the LMC for their faithful participation in our bi-monthly council meetings. Berit Meyers, Ruth Denlinger, Fida Ramadan and Samuel Aweida proved to be trustworthy colleagues in the ongoing consultations of this group. Their cooperation is of great help and is much appreciated. I am always confident that I can rely upon their judgement and support. Indeed it is an excellent feeling to realise that the Home can benefit from the sense of responsibility that these friends contribute to the committee's work. Special thanks also goes to Margreet Boschma for taking care to systematically write and organise the minutes of our meetings.

During our discussions we began to realise more and more the necessity to clarify the situation of the *External Flat residents*. Legally the Home could have difficulties accepting a resident from the External Flats as a new resident into the Ebenezer Home when he/she has become dependent on medical care, for example, after a stroke. Thus the Home is unable to guarantee to the External Flat residents an automatic acceptance into the Ebenezer Home. During most of the year this issue remained on the agenda till finally it was decided to put a proposal to the International Board in order to clarify this policy. This proposal would remove the entrance fee for the External Flats and instead require only monthly 'rental' payments. In this way we hope to avoid unrealistic expectations of External Flat residents in regards to acceptance into the Ebenezer Home. Obviously, those who are already residents in the External Flats will not be neglected.

With the advice of our lawyer, Marvin Kramer, we also began the revision of the original entry forms into the Home. New applicants will from now on be requested to provide clear details concerning their financial status, their ownership of real-estate and to contribute 80% of their *total* regular income or, whenever possible, to fully cover their expenses at the Ebenezer Home. In addition to that it became clear that, according to Israeli law, children of residents are also obliged to reveal to the Home their economic situation, and should support their parents financially in order to meet the increasing expenses of the Home.

It was with much satisfaction that we observed the fruitful teamwork between the manager of the Home and his new assistant, Johnny Khoury. We are confident that such assistance can greatly contribute to the functioning of the Home. At the same time we also pray that the needed funds will be available in the future in order to continue with this situation.

Hopefully, we shall soon be able to introduce the Ebenezer Home to the world directly from Israel through the internet. For many years the *United Christian Council in Israel* (UCCI) has given a special donation to the Home on the occasion of its annual general meeting, and now the UCCI has offered its website to present the Home globally. This comes alongside its many other local ministries. Such an opportunity would "open" the Home to numerous new eyes and hearts of people who would pray for the Home. It would interest new potential donors, and also interest young people to come and work as volunteers at the Ebenezer Home.

The LMC invited an External Flat resident, Lottie Nussbaum, to one of its meetings. Lottie, a holocaust survivor, shared with us her feelings and experiences in her new home. We were most impressed to see her deep gratitude for all the facilities that were provided for her. She especially appreciates the fact that now, being 74 years old, she does not need to concern herself any more about property repairs and maintenance. "You spoil us here", she told us. Lottie also emphasised the importance of 'giving' rather than 'expecting to receive' all the time.



Resident with acting head nurse Kristina and Pastor Samuel Aweida

MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND THE MEETINGS HELD IN 1998

The International Board (IB)

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Deputy</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Marta Eigeles, Chairperson | Ase Gunhild Duesund |
| Ulrich Laepple | Hartmut Renz |
| Matthias Dahl | |
| Ronald Lewis | David Sedaca |
| Kjell-Einar Ljones | Berit Skjeie Meyers |
| John Edv. Olsen | Håvard Kleppe |
| Ulla-Maija Saarilahti | Toini Suopellonmaki |
| Martha Vibjerg Thomsen | Heinrich Pedersen |
| Gershon Nerel | Ruth Denlinger |

The International Board held its meeting on the 4-5 May 1998.
The housekeeper of the Home functioned as recording secretary of the IB.

The Executive Committee (EC)

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Deputy</u> |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Marta Eigeles | Kjell-Einar Ljones |
| Ulrich Laepple | Matthias Dahl |
| Ronald Lewis | Gershon Nerel |

The Executive Committee held its meetings on May 3 and October 16 in Haifa.

The Local Management Committee

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Deputy</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Gershon Nerel | |
| Samuel Aweida | Benjamin Shenkman |
| Fida Ramadan | Naomi Ateeq |
| Ruth Denlinger | Beatrice Seiden |
| Berit Skjeie Meyers | Itai Meron |

The manager, head nurse, housekeeper and social worker were present as observers at these meetings. The assistant manager also participated in most of the meetings. Six meetings were held in 1998. The housekeeper functioned as the recording secretary of the LMC meetings.

EBENEZER HOME

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e-mail: aune@netvision.net.il

Haifa, 28 March, 1999



Gershon Nerel
Chairman, LMC



Jostein Aune
Manager