

EBENEZER HOME

ANNUAL REPORT
2001 / 2002



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EBENEZER HOME
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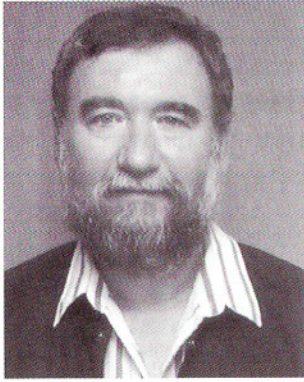
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Report of the Chairman of the Local Management Committee

Gershon Nerel



“If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows” 1 Timothy 5:16

With much satisfaction the LMC has observed during the last year, the repetition of words of appreciation coming from the Israeli authorities towards the Ebenezer Home. The inspecting visitors from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labor and Welfare have time and again expressed their approval of the high standards of the routine treatment provided by the staff to all the residents. The supervising officials have highly commended the professional care rendered to the residents by the personnel. Consequently the authorities have no difficulty in renewing the Home’s license. To that we may add that the positive spiritual atmosphere in the Home at present is a very positive one.

This scene actually stands in sharp contrast to the disappointing situation of too many “Homes” for the elderly throughout Israel. As a matter of fact, recently Channel One of the Israeli Television has broadcast a series of programs reflecting the poor conditions prevailing within many such institutions, hardly following the basic required standards of a recognized “Home”. It is needless to say that such “Homes” operate without any license and unfortunately there is much suffering, particularly among the nursing cases.

In Israel today there are about 60 (!) unlicensed homes, and they ask for a relatively low monthly payment. Because the geriatric services are very poor, the government ministries insist on closing such illegal homes. But in many of these cases, the family cannot afford to put the relative, who is often their parent, in a better institution. There is also a lot of running around required, to get the right documentation to say that your parents are eligible to get into a government home. And the prices of private institutions are very expensive. At the same time, however, the Finance Ministry and the municipal health departments have reduced their funding of geriatric services “fearing the high costs involved”. Thus, up to 1,000 elderly in Israel live in unfit facilities (*Ha’aretz* daily newspaper, 29 June 2001, p. 43).

The LMC is also happy about the upcoming second annual meeting at the Home with the relatives of the residents. This is indeed a valuable opportunity to share directly with the families, both about the needs of their dear ones and about the extra needs of the Home. At these meetings, the lawyer and accountant participate, in addition to the staff, the residents and members of the LMC. We hope that these occasions will improve the communication between all those involved in the Home’s life.

Although there is a problem of the many languages spoken in the Home, this is not a total surprise in a State where more than 70% of the population consists of veteran or new immigrants. In fact the Home functions as a unique melting pot, much like the situation within the entire Israeli society. In any case, we greatly rejoice that Jewish and Arab believers in Yeshua live here in harmony under one roof, praying and celebrating together the biblical feasts, such as the Passover meal, and having spiritual fellowship on a daily basis in the morning devotions. This is an ongoing testimony to the message of Yeshua, and it is even more evident today with the war between Palestinians and Israelis continuing now for well over a year.

We are grateful to our Lord for mercifully and faithfully responding to our prayers. We are also thankful for the input of each and every person. May our Savior reward you all.

MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND THE MEETINGS HELD IN 2001

The International Board

Member

Marta Eigeles, chairperson
Ulrich Laepple
Matthias Dahl
David Sedaca
Rolf Gunnar Heitmann
John Edvard Olsen
Heinrich Pedersen
Martti Tuhkanen
Gershon Nerel

Deputy

Berit Meyers
Hartmut Renz
Wofgang Raupach-Rudnick
Ronald Lewis
Terje Bakke
Håvard Kleppe
Anne-Line Friis
Toini Suopellonmaki
Ruth Denlinger

The International Board had its annual meeting this year on the 30th April – 1st May 2001. Matthias Dahl functioned as recording secretary.

The Executive Committee

Member

Marta Eigeles
Ulrich Laepple
Gershon Nerel

Deputy

John Edvard Olsen
Matthias Dahl
Martti Tuhkanen

The Executive Committee held its meetings on 29th April and the 21st October. Ulrich Laepple functioned as recording secretary at the April meeting and Johnny Khoury was recording secretary at the October meeting.

The Local Management Committee

Member

Gershon Nerel
Samuel Aweida
Fida Ramadan
Ruth Denlinger
Berit Skjeie Meyers

Deputy

Benjamin Shenkman
Naomi Ateeq
Beatrice Seiden
Itai Meron

The manager, assistant manager, housekeeper and social worker were present as observers at these meetings. There are meetings at regular intervals of six weeks throughout the year, except for the summertime. Six meetings were held in 2001. The assistant manager functioned as the recording secretary of the LMC meetings.

EBENEZER HOME

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Haifa, Israel

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Haifa, 20th April 2002

Gershon Nerel
Chairman LMC



Jostein Aune
Manager

