



HOPE

THE FORGOTTEN WAR

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THE FORGOTTEN WAR

As the war in Ukraine shows no sign in ending, it continues to obliterate daily life, leaving families and communities shattered. Since the conflict began, Tikva has been a lifeline, evacuating over 4,700 people, including many orphans, families, and elderly to safety in Bucharest, Romania.

For those left behind, Tikva provides vital supplies such as clothing, toiletries, and meals. Currently over 200 children attend our school from bomb shelters, and 21 orphans that are unable to relocate remain in Odessa. We support our elderly community of 1,250 with more than 4,600 meals and welfare packages distributed monthly.

In Bucharest, Tikva runs Europe's largest displaced-person camp, supporting 1,069 people. Our work subsidises living costs, creates job opportunities, and provides psychological care. Tikva offers a nurturing orphanage and school, ensuring over 500 children receive the love, support, and the education they deserve.

Over 1,000 Tikva alumni have relocated to Israel. Since the recent outbreak of war, 100 more have made Aliyah, knowing Tikva remains a family they can always turn to.

This winter, let's continue as a beacon of support, bringing peace and warmth to those in need. Together, we can be a light in the darkness.

A WORD FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

In a world shaken by global upheaval, the Tikva community remains a resilient force, reaching across borders to support those in dire need. Rooted in the values of Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), Tikva has adapted its mission to support Jewish families worldwide, addressing challenges with steadfast commitment.

In Israel, Tikva provides vital aid to alumni, including refuge, essential supplies, and psychological support, helping those affected by conflict, find stability for those who make Aliyah and solace. Across Europe, Tikva manages the continent's largest displaced persons camp, embodying an unwavering commitment to people uprooted by war and persecution. Tikva offers more than physical aid; it fosters community and belonging for those who have lost so much.

In Odessa, despite relentless bombings and limited resources, Tikva continues to deliver lifelines to the vulnerable, dedicating itself to uplift the most marginalised. In Romania, Tikva's initiatives for adult refugees have empowered many by facilitating employment opportunities, fostering self-sufficiency, dignity, and a renewed sense of purpose. For the children in Tikva's care, educational and psychological support initiatives equip them to overcome hardships and build hopeful futures.

At the heart of Tikva's mission lies a profound belief in the power of compassion and solidarity. Inspired by the resilience of those we serve, we envision a world where all people have the means to thrive, regardless of life's unpredictable obstacles. Tikva's journey is propelled by the invaluable support of donors, volunteers, and partners, all integral members of a shared vision of compassion and transformation. Your generosity enables Tikva to continue its essential work, bringing hope and healing to communities in despair.

Though the challenges are formidable, Tikva's determination remains unwavering. Together, we will persist as a beacon of hope, spreading warmth and empathy to a world yearning for renewal. From the depths of our collective heart, we thank you for standing with us on this transformative journey toward a brighter, more compassionate tomorrow.

With very best wishes



KAREN BODENSTEIN
CEO, TIKVA



ALUMNIFINDING THEIR STABILITY

We are thrilled to celebrate the incredible accomplishments of the children in Tikva's care who have recently graduated! This milestone represents years of hard work, growth, and determination.

Providing a well-rounded and respected education for both the orphaned children in our Homes, and those of the wider community, is part of Tikva's core mission. Whether pursuing an academic or vocational path, education plays a crucial role in helping children break the cycle of poverty and abuse, empowering them to become active, contributing members of society.



Through our support, students have the option to enrol in many classes such as language skills in both Romanian and English, IT courses, assistance in writing CV's, Interview training, and signing everyone up to the local employment centre. Local organisations have helped our family find employment, alongside Business owners and entrepreneurs in Israel who operate in Romania to find more opportunities for our alumni.

Tikva supports our alumni by providing transportation to and from interviews for those seeking work, and incentives for those who are on lower paying Job's and still require financial support.



EVENTS IN 2024

JOIN US IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

When you choose to run for Tikva, you're not just taking on a physical challenge; you're becoming a vital part of our mission to uplift and empower those in need. Together, we can transform lives and create a brighter future for the children and families we support.

Your support makes all the difference. Join us in this incredible journey—run with purpose, run for Tikva!

If you have any queries please call or email us on:

Tel 020 8209 9106 | Email beth@tikva.org.uk | Web tikva.org.uk

FAQ'S

How do you know all the children are Jewish?

Tikva employs 30 full time staff members who have the expertise to seek out, document and rescue destitute Jewish children from the southern regions of the former Soviet Union, specifically Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus and Russia. The team confirms each child's Jewish identity by researching family records kept by local authorities and USSR archives.

Who funds Tikva programmes?

Tikva is a non-profit organisation. The Tikva programmes are able to run because of charitable contributions from generous individual donors and foundations worldwide.



Tikva UK
Annual Dinner 2024



Men's BBQ



Kenton United Synagogue
Music Afternoon

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Tikva's search and rescue mission has successfully located over 40 children and brought them to safety of Tikva since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine. These vulnerable children were living in increasingly dangerous and unstable conditions. Our dedicated team on the ground work tirelessly to locate those most in need, often overcoming challenging circumstances to ensure their rescue.

Each mission involves careful coordination, resources, and a compassionate approach to bring those affected by the conflict and dire family situations to Tikva and provide immediate and long-term support. Once safe, Tikva offers them access to a home, essential care, emotional support, warmth, food, education and love as they begin to rebuild their lives.

The impact of our efforts has been profound; by restoring hope and providing stability, we are not only saving lives but helping the most vulnerable Jewish children find a renewed sense of safety and community.

Children who were dropped at Tikva's doorstep by parents who had no one else to turn to during times of hardship have undoubtedly had a better chance at life. Many of the children who have gone through Tikva have gone on to graduate, marry, and become parents themselves.

We are delighted to share that there have been 700+ marriages and a further 1,000+ babies born to Tikva alumni. We couldn't be prouder.

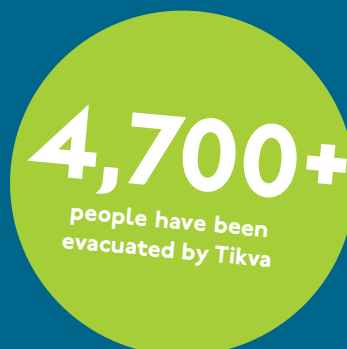


THE CHILDREN OF TIKVA

Since arriving in Romania Tikva has established a dedicated orphanage, now home to nearly 234 orphans. Here, each child has a bed and a safe space to call their own, helping them begin to heal and rebuild their lives.

It is crucial that Tikva has a support system in place for those with special educational needs. Many children in our care struggle with learning difficulties, PTSD, social integration, and emotional regulation due to their traumatic experiences.

The SEN unit provides our children with tailored interventions. Our trained professionals support our students through a range of holistic approaches, and we are proud to support our children with sensory-play and wellbeing rooms. Children are offered a range of supportive services such as art, occupational, speech and language therapy.



EMPLOYMENT IN BUCHAREST

In Romania, Tikva is dedicated to helping adult refugees regain stability through employment, achieving an employment rate of 56% among able adults up from 43% last quarter. Currently 85 individuals from the adult refugee population are employed locally through the support of Tikva.

This shift has led to a remarkable outcome: food costs have dropped by over 50% as more individuals are now financially equipped to provide meals for their families, easing the burden on relief resources and enhancing self-reliance within the community.

A wonderful example of gained employment is the matza factory. Tikva encouraged a company to set up a factory in Romania situated near our residence. The company has subsequently employed many of our adult refugees, it has been a huge success.



MENTAL HEALTH

To support the emotional recovery of those impacted by conflict and displacement, Tikva initially brought in six psychologists to work with both children and adults. Whilst returning home to Ukraine currently remains impossible, the need for mental health support rises. Tikva has increased the psychological support team to 18 specialists.

With all children who are part of the Tikva family, war is a secondary trauma. Our psychologists provide daily care, addressing the complex traumas faced by the children and community members, many of whom have endured significant loss and instability.

Through counselling, therapy, and individualised support, Tikva's psychological team is instrumental in helping refugees process their experiences, build resilience, and regain hope. Tikva's holistic approach addresses both immediate needs and long-term recovery.



2,500

hot meals served
for the elderly

1,069

refugees in our care,
including new births

234

children in our
orphanage



700

marriages have
taken place

THE CAMP NOW HAS
230 APARTMENTS, UP
FROM 200 LAST YEAR
IN OUR GROWING
COMMUNITY.

NATALIA, 35, SINGLE MOTHER AND WAR SURVIVOR

After losing her husband to the conflict in Ukraine, Tikva helped Natalia and her three children evacuate Ukraine where they found refuge through Tikva. They have been supported in relocating to Bucharest, Romania where they are trying to regain a sense of normality in their lives. Tikva provided housing, emotional, and financial support, easing her burden as a single mother. Overwhelmed by grief and new responsibilities, Natalia found strength within Tikva's supportive community.

Through job training and childcare assistance, she began to rebuild her life and has since secured work at the Tikva Matza Factory, where many employees are also war refugees and part of the Tikva community. Natalia is active in community centre activities and can provide for her children, finding renewed hope and stability with Tikva's continued support.



Photos for illustrative purposes only.
Names have been changed to protect identity.

YOUNG VICTIM OF WAR

Eight-year-old Lila from Odessa grew up in an abusive home, witnessing her father's violence toward her mother and at times becoming his victim too. When the war began, her father was drafted in the army, and her mother was tragically killed in an airstrike. Through the dedicated work of Tikva's rescue team, Lila was found at the age of 6 and brought to safety, receiving essential care.

Initially struggling with anxiety, nightmares, and social withdrawal, Tikva arranged for her to see a child Psychologist, helping her heal through play therapy, art and constant psychological support.

Today, Lila is beginning to thrive, bonding with her new Tikva family, making friends, and enjoying school. Tikva remains committed to supporting her emotional and educational growth.



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BNEI MITZVAH

for **TIKVA**

GEORGINA - BAKE SALE

"I was delighted to raise money for Tikva as part of my Bat Mitzvah activities. Supporting those in need and helping people from Ukraine is a cause I deeply care about, and I was pleased to be able to twin my Bat Mitzvah with Lilya from Ukraine so she could experience a Bat Mitzvah too."



BAT MITZVAH STUDENT - UK

A 12-year-old in the UK chose to support Tikva for her Bat Mitzvah project, moved by gratitude for her own circumstances. "I realised how lucky I am and wanted to help the children I met at Tikva," she shared. She organised a fundraising activity, inviting guests to donate new items or give funds so we could buy clothes for the children in Tikva's care.



Tikva prefers to give new clothes to its children to help build self-esteem and allows teenagers to pick out their own styles. The Bat Mitzvah girl was deeply touched by the generosity, noting the kindness of those who contributed to her fundraising initiative. Though she hasn't returned yet, she looks forward to visiting Tikva again soon.

PROFILE ON **MARINA, 25,** CAREGIVER IN UKRAINE

Marina lives with her elderly grandmother and her mentally handicapped brother in a Soviet-era apartment in Odessa. She feels a deep sense of responsibility for her family, especially during this challenging time. As prices rise and resources dwindle, she relies on the Jewish community's support to provide food, essential supplies, and maintain their home. Due to the war, Marina cannot work and finds herself unemployed.

Maria expresses a heartfelt plea from the global Jewish community to keep her and her family in their thoughts, wanting to ensure that they are safe and supported amid the ongoing conflict. Her commitment to her family and community underscores the

importance of solidarity during times of crisis. She is thankful for all the support Tikva has been able to provide in this challenging and uncertain time.



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THE YEAR IN PHOTOS

High school graduation



Mesibat Siddur - 2nd grade



Graduation day



Celebrating a Bar Mitzvah



Summer fun



Tikva summer camp



Last day of school



Shabbat party in Kindergarten



7th October memorial event



"THROUGH COUNSELLING, THERAPY, AND INDIVIDUALISED SUPPORT, TIKVA'S PSYCHOLOGICAL TEAM IS INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING REFUGEES PROCESS THEIR EXPERIENCES, BUILD RESILIENCE, AND REGAIN HOPE."



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