

Israel Sport Center for the Disabled: Wheelchair Program

We are in constant need of wheelchairs. The 2500+ kids that come through the center each year are in need of many things. We replace over 400 wheelchairs per year at an average cost of \$1,500 per wheelchair. We would love to raise the \$3,000 to buy 2 new wheelchairs for the center.

The center is an amazing place. It is situated on 4 acres right outside Tel Aviv. The center has been around for almost 50 years, but they have not done a lot of active fund raising and awareness raising in the US until now.

There are approximately 2,500 kids at the center who are either born with a disability, been in an accident, or are a victim of terror. The goals of the center are to help with the mental and physical rehabilitation of these children so that they can become active and important members of society. They do this through competition and sport which helps them build confidence. Some of the people that have grown up through the center include Izthak Pearlman, Supreme Court Justices, Lawyers, Doctors, Olympic Athletes, etc...

The Center is one of the largest in the world and is a world pioneer in the field of sports for the disabled. The spirit and motivation of sport is used as a means to help guide the disabled from a state of helplessness to productive, fulfilling lives. It has been proven that sports activities contribute more to the confidence, morale, and self-image of the disabled than any other form of rehabilitation and significantly prolong the life expectancy of the seriously disabled.

All of the funding for the center is done by private donation. They receive less than 1% of their funding through the Israeli government. Although these are hard times, they are harder for these people and they need help.

I have attached some links on here with great info including a short 5 minute video which I think you will find very informational. Thank you so much for taking the time to learn more about our amazing organization. I really appreciate it.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErqA6PDYt7Y>

<http://www.iscd.com/?CategoryID=277&ArticleID=220&sng=1>

Stuart Nitzkin
National Director
Israel Sport Center for the Disabled
773-875-2425
www.iscd.com