



Safety Net Post-Shelter Program

Rebuilding Lives Beyond Violence

2022 Report



Everybody Deserves to Feel Safe

The post-shelter period is an extremely perilous stage for women and their children. At the start of their rehabilitation process, this vulnerable population is faced with numerous risk factors including poverty, lack of family support, alienation, unemployment, and exclusion from educational frameworks, alongside an array of psychosocial and emotional needs.

WIZO Safety Net Program's Inspiring Success Rate

Starting life anew requires women and their children to adapt to new surroundings, far from their abusive past. Statistics show that up to **40%** of women return to their violent partners or establish harmful relationships with another violent man, **while after participating in the WIZO Safety Net program, this harsh statistic drops dramatically to below 5%!**



CLICK TO PLAY
SAFETY NET VIDEO

WORLD WIZO

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ISRAEL

WIZO Leads the Way

WIZO has always been at the frontier of social innovation in Israel.

For over a century, WIZO has led the way in identifying critical needs on the ground as they arise, and developing cutting-edge social and educational services to address them.

The enormous demand for the Safety Net program, and its rapid growth throughout Israel, is the best proof that WIZO once again has identified an acute problem, utilized its expertise and innovative spirit to address the need, and created an **effective, life-changing and life-saving program for the women and children of Israel.**



Our Vision

A Zionist, humanistic Israeli society based on equal opportunities, focused on education and welfare for women, children and youth, in partnership with the Jewish Diaspora.



WIZO
Doing What
Matters



Since 2017, WIZO's Safety Net post-shelter program has proven to be an effective model for integrating women and their children back into the community to live a safe, sustainable, and independent life.

160

Children are cared for while their mothers receive hands-on tools to rebuild their lives

130

Families attend structured weekly support meetings tailored for women alongside fun activities for children

120

Dedicated and committed volunteers, trained and supported by WIZO staff

Goal

Purpose

Activities

Emotional Support

Creating a network of support and a sense of community for 130 women. Establishing a circle of care for 160 children.

- Weekly support groups help women process past trauma and obtain new skills
- Professional workshops such as writing therapy.

Gaining Financial Independence

Access financial resources such as understanding their rights, housing assistance, legal aid, finding a job.

- Workshops for employment rehabilitation
- Legal Support
- Food Vouchers on Holidays
- School supplies for children

Parental Empowerment

Training and hands-on guidance to help mothers rebuild their sense of self-worth, confidence and parental competence.

- Parent group counseling by Adler Institute (6 groups out of the 8)
- Summer camp for the children
- Structured bonding activities



2023

Supporting the planned growth of 4 additional communities, reaching a total of 12 locations throughout Israel!

2023 will focus on expansion so as to serve a wider population in need.

Each community will provide three levels of involvement in the lives of the women and children participating in the program.

The first level focuses on maintaining a reasonable standard of living for the families, providing food baskets, groceries, electric appliances, toiletries, clothes, and games, all based on donations and cooperation with local businesses.

The second level is the social and therapeutic aspects. Providing the women with a personal "mentor" and friend – a trained WIZO volunteer, who builds an ongoing supportive relationship with the family at all times. Each weekly four-hour afternoon group meeting culminates with a group dinner. The children are looked after and entertained, while the women socialize, conduct group therapy sessions, and create a much-needed support network.

The third level is occupational rehabilitation, with the goal of finding and maintaining jobs. According to a recent study, 50% of women will return to the abuser due to an inability to earn a living. Women are provided with training programs, occupational rehabilitation, digital orientation, and suitable employment solutions. Assistance with the children is provided throughout the process, enabling the woman to study or work.

Additional Emphases 2023

Research Study

Strengthening our research-based model via a 2-year extensive in-depth qualitative and quantitative research study in collaboration with Bar Ilan University.

Legal Rights

Introducing a new legal service that will connect every participant with a legal team that will provide valuable counsel for dealing with family court and criminal court cases involving ongoing abuse.

Volunteer Training

Expanding volunteer training materials, content, and support with additional workshops in-person, via zoom, and in annual meetings.

Continuous Mentoring

Providing ongoing support for Safety Net graduates by trained WIZO volunteers. This continuous access to a support system is especially crucial through a survivor's extended recovery journey.





WIZO. Doing What Matters

Thank You

Our heartfelt gratitude to you for your exceptional and continued support in advancing social impact in the field of domestic violence.

Your unwavering care has transformed the lives of hundreds of women and children throughout Israel, who have suffered from the devastating effects of domestic violence, providing them with the emotional, financial, and social support necessary to rebuild their lives and regain their independence.

Thank you for making sure that these survivors of domestic violence are never alone in their journey to overcome the trauma of abuse and rebuild their lives.

Photo Credit: World WIZO, Mickey Noam Alon