



Friends of Yemin Orde

*Press Release: News from Friend of Yemin Orde*

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**FRIENDS OF YEMIN ORDE RECEIVES \$172,000 CHALLENGE GRANT FROM ANONYMOUS DONOR TO HELP SUPPORT IMPORTANT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR ISRAEL'S AT-RISK YOUTH**

**GENEROUS GRANT WILL MATCH NEW AND INCREASED GIFTS OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS**

For immediate release, July 9, 2018 -- Friends of Yemin Orde has received a two-year \$172,000 challenge grant from a private foundation that wishes to remain anonymous. The grant will match dollar for dollar, up to a maximum of \$21,500 per donor, per year, all new and increased gifts to Friends of Yemin Orde. Funds raised by the challenge grant will support the excellent extra-curricular programs and services for at-risk youth at Yemin Orde Youth Village, and will help expand the highly-successful Village Way educational methodology in Israel through Village Way Educational Initiatives (VWEI). Friends of Yemin Orde, located in Bethesda, MD, is the philanthropic partner of Yemin Orde Youth Village and VWEI. Visit [yeminorde.org](http://yeminorde.org) or email [info@yeminorde.org](mailto:info@yeminorde.org) for more information.

Challenge grants such as this typically encourage support from donors as the value added to each gift doubles, thereby, increasing its significance and impact.

"We are grateful to this foundation for sharing our commitment to Israel's at-risk youth and for helping to expand our Village Way methodology to thousands more deserving children in Israel," said Robert Arogeti, National Campaign Chair, Friends of Yemin Orde. "Certainly, the ability to have a matching gift elevates our fundraising ability and we appreciate the confidence this donor has in our work."

Yemin Orde Youth Village is home, school and safe haven to 430 at-risk youth from around the world. Today, the population of the Village consists predominately of youth from Ethiopia, the Former Soviet Union, France and Brazil, as well as youth born in Israel. Most of Yemin Orde's youth arrive at the Village with deep emotional scars from trauma such as abandonment, extreme poverty and loss.

Through Yemin Orde's unique and successful educational methodology, called the Village Way, its at-risk youth thrive, develop self-esteem, and embrace hope for a productive future in Israel. Graduates serve with distinction in Israel's military, volunteer for national service opportunities and hold jobs in Israel's health care, technology and life sciences industries, as well as the arts, politics and education.

VWEI expands the Village Way methodology throughout Israel to hundreds more at-risk youth in 36 partner youth villages, therapeutic residential communities and public high schools with high at-risk youth populations, including schools in Arab communities. –MORE–

VWEI's think tank, Village Way Educational Institute, provides its partners with a highly effective educational blueprint as well as resources, workshops and interventions to empower educators and help them better connect to their at-risk students. Studies that prove the efficacy of the Village Way methodology reflect graduates' positive attitudes toward volunteering, strongly identifying with the State of Israel and serving in Israel's military.

Since its launch in 2006, the Village Way has reached more than 14,000 youth and 1,775 educators. The goal is to expand to 59 educational communities by 2021 and impact 25,000 youth and 2,800 educators.

"We appreciate the ongoing support of this foundation and I am confident our donors will meet this challenge. Investing in the education of Israel's youth at risk is one of the most important elements in the promise of a safe and secure Israel for future generations," said Karen Sallerson, Executive Director, Friends of Yemin Orde. ###