



# THE DESERT ROAD

## DESERT HOPE INTERNATIONAL

What is this ministry?

- Making a difference in the lives of Holocaust Survivors with visitation & 'adoption.'
- Establishing a Hospitality House in Israel to help those in economic need, connecting those seeking God with those who can guide them.
- Speaking and teaching in churches or congregations about the Holocaust Survivors and Israel

Come join us in loving God's People!

## DID YOU KNOW...

...THERE ARE 43 SURVIVOR ORGANIZATIONS IN ISRAEL, TO REPRESENT THE NEEDS OF THE SURVIVORS?

IN SPITE OF THIS, OVER 70,000 HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS IN ISRAEL ARE FACED WITH CHOOSING BETWEEN BUYING EITHER FOOD OR MEDICINE EACH DAY

## A LETTER OF LOVE

While in Israel these past few months I have felt a great burden to personally share with you what is happening with Desert Hope, the people of Israel and our future. So, if you will allow me to share my heart, I want to tell you a few stories...

Lilly sat quietly smiling, fingering the buttons on her sweater. Sitting in the park wearing a jacket and hat against the cool wind, her demeanor suddenly changed, lips curling into a pout. She insistently announced she wanted to go home. Home, yes, but not to the one here in Israel. She wanted to go to her childhood home in the Ukraine, for that is all she remembers anymore. During the last five years Alzheimer's Disease has stolen all but 73 yr old Lilly's earliest memories. Some may consider it a blessing while others understand the loss; you see, Lilly is a Holocaust Survivor. Sometimes she can no longer even remember her native Ukrainian tongue, robbing her of even simple communication.

When Lilly was nine years old, she and her family began hiding in the basement of a house, and did so for most of WWII. During the latter part of that time German soldiers occupied the house above them and they lived in total silence and fear. Now Lilly is facing a new kind of silence – the loss her history and awareness of the love of her 11 children and 26 grandchildren. The full burden of care has fallen to one of her daughters who works many hours and must pay for any extra care in the home. Why is there no help? Lilly does not have the proper papers required to prove her status as a Holocaust Survivor to the Israeli government in order to receive additional care.

Many Holocaust Survivors in Israel are in a similar situation. They cannot receive compensation though they lost family and all possessions during the Holocaust. Israel's latest numbers of 350,000 Survivors represented by their Holocaust organizations does not include the hundreds of thousands of people who lost all, but did not have their name on a roster in a concentration camp or ghetto. Even so, all of them together do not have the proper status or honor as Survivors in their own country.

We are becoming aware of more and deeper needs for the Survivors of Israel. This country is over-whelmed with the huge number of Holocaust immigrants and their special needs while facing daily survival amidst hostilities. Many Survivor organizations themselves believe Israeli Survivors are not interested in receiving monetary compensation like the Survivors in other countries, stating they only want to put their past behind them. My question is: "How can they put their past of starvation and no status as human beings behind them when many are living in the same position today?"

**SCHEDULE****Scheduling for 2007.**

**May 1 to June 17** – Pennsylvania

**June 20 thru July 31** – Texas

**August 2 to 9** – Tallahassee and Jacksonville, Florida

**August 14 to September 5** – Israel – Work team for House

**September 6 to 30** – Pennsylvania

**September 29** – *“Night to Celebrate Israel”* – Capital Area CC, Mechanicsburg, PA

**October 1 to 31** – Pennsylvania

**October 7** – House of Prayer, Davidsburg, PA

**November 1 to 19** – Pennsylvania

**November 20** – Return to Israel

**You can schedule a time now for us to share about the Holocaust Survivors and the new Hospitality House!**

To secure a time for your church or group, call Marianna Esworthy at 717-557-5775 or email [marian-nae@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:marian-nae@deserthopeinternational.org)

You may also call Susan at 717-542-8810 (after May 1st)

We would be pleased to come share with you!

**UPCOMING JEWISH AND RUSSIAN HOLIDAYS**

**May 9-** Victory Day to commemorate millions fallen in World War II. Flowers and wreaths on wartime graves, and veterans come out into the streets wearing their military orders and medals.

**May 23-24** Shavuot (Jewish)

**LETTER** (CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

Please pray with us as we seek the best ways we can help the Holocaust Survivors here in Israel. The help you are sending for them is so precious to us – I thank God for your compassion toward Yeshua’s brethren. If it were not for you we could not supply food coupons, give gifts, send birthday cards, acknowledge them on holidays or arrange visitation. Desert Hope consists of people like YOU. We are all volunteers and we consider every contributor to be a part of this organization.

**Latest News:**

**With the addition of 33 Survivors** and potential for several hundred more in the next few months, we are now in 15 cities & 2 more in process; a total of 219 Survivors.

**BIG NEWS!!** The Lord has revealed a house in Acco for the Hospitality House! Beginning in July we will be renting for one year. At the end of that year, or preferably before, we have first option to purchase the house for \$250,000. This is an excellent price as the value of the property is increasing rapidly in this area. It is a large home and will have up to 8-10 beds. The location is a quiet secure street just minutes from the Mediterranean Sea and Old Acco. We are next to the actual Acco tel, yet a few streets from the mall and main highway. We will have guest rooms available for those touring the Land and opportunities for hands-on ministry as well.

For the last two years a Messianic congregation has met in this home and filled it with Prayer, Praise and Worship. The House has a peaceful atmosphere, permeated with God’s Spirit, prepared for His continued use! Please come into agreement with us for the rent and purchase of this House so we may fulfill His outreach and work.

In addition we will be providing an opportunity for a team to come and do some work on the House. We need to do some plastering, painting, electrical and yard work to prepare to open our doors. Let us know if you have this desire and/or skills.

More details of the guest house availability will be shared with you soon. Please prayerfully consider if you are to invest in this House and/or be one of our guests. I am very excited to increase our outreach and include YOU in our plans!

**Tents of Mercy Congregation**, located between Haifa and Acco, are joining us in ministering to the Survivors in the Kryot. Their two daughter congregations, Shavai Zion in Haifa and Netzer Galilee located in Nazareth Ilit, are also going to begin identifying, visiting and praying for the Survivors in their areas.

**Dima, our translator** for the Rishon LeZion area, asked if a young German man could accompany us on our next visit. I was pleased to have him come along. Choosing at random one Survivor to visit from a list of 136, we soon discovered “our” choice, Sara, spoke fluent German. Our young man had come to Israel hoping to have the opportunity to meet a Survivor and ask their forgiveness for his country. God knew and orchestrated it all. They had an opportunity to share together after she spoke for two hours of her experiences during WWII.

**After meeting with an Israeli** organization who helps Holocaust Survivors, we were welcomed to join together with them to make life better for the Survivors. Praise God for His favor! Please pray for wisdom as I approach the political aspect of gaining assistance for the Holocaust Survivors.

**Different young people** arrived together at a hostel in Jaffa – all here for Holocaust Survivor Remembrance Day - and seeking God.

1. One from Australia arrived not knowing where to go and came to this hostel wanting to meet a Survivor.
2. Several from Germany seeking to meet Survivors.
3. One young man from another country came to Israel intending to convert to Judaism. On his arrival he met a Believer and ultimately met his Messiah. From there he was directed to the same hostel and met the other young people.
4. A young woman named Sara, who speaks and writes German, has expressed the desire to meet and adopt Sara, the Survivor we met.

**Driving to visit Survivors** in one city I hoped to be able to see a couple I missed visiting on the last two trips. Stopping at a pedestrian crosswalk, I suddenly realized that couple was right in front of me! After parking, we had a nice visit right there on the sidewalk. God is good!

**Leaving one city**, I saw a rock in the road. I swerved to avoid it, but the wheel swung back and the tire hit it square. Six kilometers down the road, the tire went flat. Calling friends in the city I just left, they came and changed the flat for me. Forced to return to replace the tire, I suddenly discovered I had accidentally left all my credit cards, ATM cards and phone cards in my hip pack at the house where I had been staying. If I had continued on my journey, I'd have traveled to the other end of Israel before noticing the loss! The devil meant evil but God used it for good!

**Following the final decision** to rent the House, I prayed one evening and gave the Lord a list of items needed for the Hospitality House: sheets, alarm clock, mirror, baskets, a small lamp and extra bowls, etc for the kitchen. The next day, at noon, a humanitarian aid truck pulled up to the house and dropped off several boxes of items for distribution. Among those items were all the things on my list! Our God does care about the details!

**Thanks to Foundation Ministries**, we have had some help with some minor repairs around the House. It is great to have a clothesline again and doors that close! Thanks, Bill! Also, Bill and his wife Patti have consistently provided housing for me on my last few trips to Israel. Precious friends are a gift from God!

All of these things I have mentioned are indications of God's Heart. He wants the Holocaust Survivors to know who He is, to know their own Messiah. We want to be their friends and family, desiring to bless them and honor them. This outreach and operation of blessing cannot be done by one or just a few people. We need many more to help; in Israel, America and other countries. What is desperately needed is to get the word out and adopt these Survivors. We have over 100 waiting to be accepted into someone's family. Contact numbers for your area are on the back page. Please, can you help us tell others? We need places to speak and present the Adoption Program – groups, organizations, churches, congregations. It is important that we share God's Heart, His Compassion and tell of the stories and needs of His Survivors. Thank you for your prayers and caring for God's special people.

In His service- Susan Heagy

## ~ A FEW WORDS ~

Even as I visited with Boris and Sofia and saw how frail he had become in the 3 months since I had seen him, I was reminded of the short time left for each Survivor. Boris does not yet know His Messiah and I am asking the Lord to speak to him. As I put my arms around him and prayed for restoration from his stroke, I could not hold back the tears. I have come to love these people as my own grandparents. Each time I leave I wonder who will be gone when I return. In one year three Survivors have died. Each loss hurts deeply. The average rate of death among Survivors in Israel is five per week.

*“...to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.”*

Isaiah 61:3

Please help me bless and honor these precious Survivors who have endured so much and have so little time left. God spared their lives from the Holocaust here on earth. Let's make sure they don't face a second Holocaust and instead receive the blessing of God.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

All contributions and communications can be sent to the address below:

**Desert Hope International, P.O. Box 760183, San Antonio, TX  
78245**

Credit/bank card donation option on our website [www.deserthopeinternational.org](http://www.deserthopeinternational.org)

*Desert Hope International* is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, faith-based ministry,

Desert Hope International  
P.O. Box 760183  
San Antonio, TX 78245

Be sure to visit our website: [www.deserthopeinternational.org](http://www.deserthopeinternational.org)

## DESERT HOPE INTERNATIONAL TEAM

**Pennsylvania: Desert Hope International, P.O. Box 3055, Shiremanstown, PA 17011**

**Ministry Information / Speaking Engagements**

Marianna Esworthy, Vice President    email: [mariannae@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:mariannae@deserthopeinternational.org)    ph. 717-557-5775

**Adoption Coordinators:**

Pennsylvania- Nancy Kurtz                      email: [coordpa@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:coordpa@deserthopeinternational.org)                      ph. 717-592-0859

International-all other States

Wanda Heebner                      email: [coordintl@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:coordintl@deserthopeinternational.org)                      ph. 717-557-5775

**Texas: Desert Hope International, P.O. Box 760183, San Antonio, TX 78245**

**Contributions / Main Office**

Kathleen Nicholson, Treasurer                      email: [kathleenn@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:kathleenn@deserthopeinternational.org)                      ph. 210-249-8401

**Adoption Coordinator:**

Texas- Barbara Himelfarb,                      email: [coordtx@deserthopeinternational.org](mailto:coordtx@deserthopeinternational.org)                      ph. 210-249-8401