

Supported housing for persons with complex disabilities

ISRAEL / JDC ISRAEL – EXPANDED SUPPORTED HOUSING

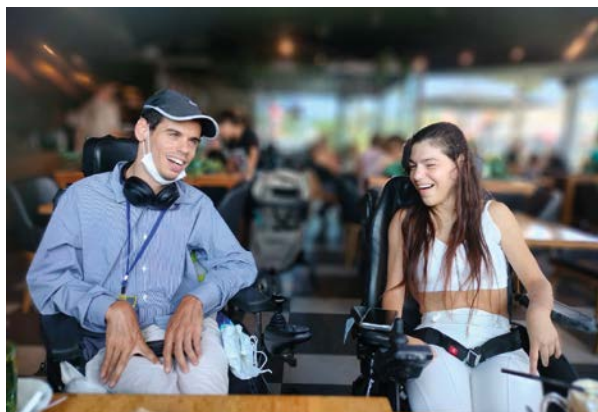
In 2019, JDC Israel Unlimited developed the Expanded Supported Housing programme in partnership with the Israeli Government. The programme supported 16 adults with severe disabilities aged 21–55 to live independently. The services include help finding an apartment, actualizing rights, budgeting, cultivating autonomy, and building independent life skills. Based on the pilot project, JDC is expanding the project, and the Israeli Government will adopt it in the next five years.

Problem targeted

Many adults in Israel with severe disabilities end up in institutions due to a lack of facilities and supportive housing programmes.

Solution, innovation, and impact

The Expanded Supported Housing programme focuses on adults with severe disabilities transitioning to living independently in the community. The programme includes preparing the individual for the move, finding an apartment, and adapting it to the occupant's various needs. JDC also provides ongoing personal mentoring and training in life skills for as long as the adult needs. The model is a continuation of a previous Supported Housing programme by JDC, designed for people with less severe disabilities. Due to the success of this earlier project, many parents and people with disabilities requested more extensive services. In comparison with the previous project, the programme offers extended hours of support, adapted services to take the various disabilities into account, and extended participation of families. In early 2022 the project transitioned from the pilot phase to the actual programme phase in two locations.



The programme prepares the individual adult to move into their own apartment and provides mentoring as well as life skills

Israel. The budget includes costs related to pilot development and training, which amounts to \$4.4 million per year. In June 2022 a new law was passed in Israel to support the transition of people with disabilities from institutions to community living, with a budget of \$500 million for the next five years. There are more than 16,000 persons living in institutions in Israel. It is expected that the Israeli Ministry of Social Services will incorporate the programme entirely, reaching 210 participants by 2025.

**“Do I recommend independent living?
Come with a positive mind-set,
despite the challenges, and do it!”**

Daniel Mizrachi, programme participant

Outlook, transferability, and funding

The programme is funded jointly by the Israeli Government and philanthropic money raised by JDC

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FACTS & FIGURES

Start: 2019

- In 2022 the programme had 16 participants.
- The Israeli Government is funding the project with \$500 million for the next five years.
- *A project of Civil Society.*