



B'NAI B'RITH UK

Newsletter Update 17th July 2025



Russian Missiles attack Kyiv, Ukraine



Results of the Iranian bombardment of Israel

For the attention of all Members of BBUK, our Friends and our Supporters

As the situation for the Jewish communities around the world continues to become more dangerous, especially in Ukraine and Israel, many of you have asked how BBUK is responding and so I am happy to update you all as to the latest position regarding our charitable support for those in Israel, Ukraine and at home.

Since our AGM in June 2025 we have made the following donations:

- ♦ donated **£5,000** to BBYO to create a residential leadership course for their future leaders
- ♦ given **£5,000** to the Qiryat Gat Foundation in Israel to help them with the immediate relief of suffering following the Iranian missile and drone attacks
- ♦ given **£20,000** to B'nai B'rith Israel again to help them assist the 15,000 residents made homeless during the war with Iran

There will be a further **£3,000** to follow arising from our Emergency Appeal two weeks ago; **£12,500** will be given to the Tikva Children's Homes in Odesa and Bucharest.

All this is in addition to the continued full support of the Medicines Programme in Kyiv, Ukraine; the continued support of the Jewish community in Chernivtsi, Ukraine and the Food Programme in Qiryat Gat, Israel. The last three are dependent of our continued support.

I would like to thank each of you who have made contributions by donations or through your support of your Lodge programmes.

I would like to share with you some of the letters of appreciation which we have received as they give you a flavour of the problems being faced.

From Emanuel Cohen, President of BB Israel. Received 16th July 2025

On behalf of B'nai B'rith Israel, I would like to thank you again for your generous donation of £20,000, which arrived this week. Your solidarity and support means a lot to us as we strive to help families whose homes were destroyed by Iranian missile attacks. It was especially meaningful that you initiated the outreach to us and offered your assistance.

Many of these families come from disadvantaged backgrounds so it is not clear how many of those currently in hotels will be able to move out soon and rent apartments. We will continue to have our finger on the pulse and stay in touch with the social services of the various municipalities, who will monitor the needs of these families until their homes are rebuilt, or at least until they can get settled again in temporary housing. It is a long process and a lot of red tape (our volunteers are helping there too, meeting families and helping them fill out the requests for compensation and assistance from the government).

I trust that Elise has been keeping you up to date as to the nature of our allocations. Rest assured that she will continue to be in touch and that you will receive a summary report when we wrap up this campaign, whenever that will be.

Please convey our gratitude to all your donors.

Am Yisrael Chai!

Emanuel Cohen

From Elise Shazar, International Relations Officer for BB Israel. Received 6th July 2025

First of all, please convey our thanks to the generous donors who have partnered with us to bring some relief to the families who have lost their homes over the past month. Your support is heartwarming.

We are three weeks into our program to assist these families and almost two weeks into the cease fire. We are continuing to maintain almost daily contact with the municipalities which were hit (Haifa, Bat-Yam, Ra'anana, Holon, Petach Tikva, Rishon LeZion, Rehovot, Ness Ziona, Tel Aviv), and we continue to receive requests for assistance.

Last Wednesday we convened our War Cabinet for the third time and had our second allocation meeting.

Please allow me to give you a general update on where we stand today.

We have already made allocations for **20,000 - 50,000 shekels** to most municipalities for the following needs:

- a) Washing machines and dryers for hotels which are housing large numbers of evacuees.
- b) laundry services where evacuees are dispersed.
- c) Sets of bed linen for families.
- d) Coupons so that families can buy clothing, towels, and toiletries.
- e) Specific needs: several laptops for breadwinners so that they can continue working; a hair-dresser's chair for a hairdresser whose business was completely destroyed.

f) Assistance in transportation costs for families who are staying in hotels outside their cities. The Bay Yam municipality, for example, organizes shuttles for people who want to continue to get to work and also so that families can visit the destruction sites and, accompanied by the Home Command teams, salvage family memories, heirlooms, photo albums and anything else they can find from under the rubble.

g) We also allocated funds to a sister project of ours, the National Bank for Baby Food. They called us in the first days of the missile attacks and told us that their supply of formula, diapers and baby items was slowly running out. They supply baby food and diapers to the evacuees through the social services of the municipalities.

h) In addition to providing financial help, our volunteers have been visiting evacuees in the hotels and bringing Shabbat cakes and toys for kids and also visiting families whose houses were partially hit (and who still live at home) and delivering hot coffee and cake).

We are hearing from the field that some of these families will need to be in these hotels for many months, so we are expecting more requests. We will help as much as we can.

Incidentally, everything we donate comes with a letter from B'nai B'rith and we have also pasted stickers on the washing machines and packages, which say "A Warm Embrace from B'nai B'rith".

Thank you for being part of this with us.

Sincerely,
Elise

Following the Iranian attacks on civilian targets, here are B'nai B'rith Israel volunteers in action!



From Yamit Armbrister, CEO of the Qiryat Gat Foundation in Israel

Shalom Alan,

Well, the current conflict/war is over, for now, and I wanted to summarize the activity we have managed to accomplish due to your generous donation

1. We have managed to prepare and deliver 50 food packages to elderly straight to their homes, collaborating with Social Services and Welfare department in Kiryat Gat.

2. We have purchased and delivered 71 activity kits to children with special needs in town in collaboration with the Department of accessibility/ special needs and Social Services.

On behalf of the residents in Kiryat Gat, I express my deepest gratitude and hope you will always be on giving side. It warms our hearts!

As always, thank you for always being there for us!

Yamit

Photos from Qiryat Gat



Volunteers about to make deliveries



Parcels ready for delivery



Family in Qiryat Gat having received aid

From Svitlana Levitas in Kyiv, Ukraine, received 8th July 2025

Thank you very much for your kind words.

The nights in Kyiv are really awful now, it reminds me of the stories of our dear friend Alex Faïman how his wife Audrey when being a schoolgirl survived Nazi bombing of London.

The same is here, people spend nights in the metro.

I hope that enough people will survive to bring Russia to justice and punishment for all crimes.

Thank you for your support!

With love,

Svitlana

From Vadim Kolotushkin, President of the B'nai B'rith Lodge of Chernivtsi, received 13th July 2025

I was very glad to get your message, thank you very much. We always know where our real friends are, those who in difficult times support us and whom we can always rely on. As for the current situation, it is heating up. On the night of July 12, there was the first serious attack of UAV on Chernivtsi. Before that, other drones appeared in the sky near the city, but there was no bombing. On July 12 the situation changed, residential buildings were attacked in the city. According to the military administration, 2 people were killed, 26 were injured, several of them are hard. There was significant destruction. The air attack was in the nearby airport; several buildings were seriously damaged and not fit for living anymore. The old city was not affected.

All members of our community, fortunately, are alive and healthy. This was the first attack on Chernivtsi, now it should be expected that these attacks will be repeated. In Kyiv, everything is much worse. The city is densely populated, air strikes taking place almost every week. People are nervous, in the night by the sound of the siren, they should leave their apartments and go down to the shelters. This exhausts the population both physically and morally. Many men displaced their families here to the West but remain in the city. As for possible protests against

Russia, no one even thinks about them. After all, they will not give the desired result - the end of the war. On the contrary, the massive accumulation of people can create a threat to the lives of participants in the case of a possible fast missile strike. The population realizes that the war is not won by protests, the war is won by weapons, discipline and the will of the people. But new people who can take part in hostilities, are becoming less and less.

Many restrictions on the delay from mobilization have already been lifted. There are no men on the streets, mobilization is tightened. People are just sitting home; from there they still do not pull out.

As for the situation in Gaza and those who support them outside Israel, I can assume that such actions are an attempt to complicate life in Israel. Exactly from the Gaza there was a constant shelling of densely populated areas, the terror attack of October 7, 2023, also started from there. In some way, ordinary Antisemitism took the character of anti-Israeli actions. This allows to hide the true intentions. In addition, many politicians fear a new wave of refugees from Gaza. There are several million populations, some of them may want to move to Europe, which is undesirable for the EU. So, they hold and support such demonstrations.

Our Lodge and Community are still relatively safe, although many activities and even communication had to be reduced or generally suspended. Many men have lost their jobs, we support them and their families with products and other necessary things. Ahead are difficult times, the leadership of the Russia has chosen a long -term war strategy aimed at displacing the indigenous population from all over Ukraine. I have had a bunch of relatives in Kherson, now only one woman remained, she is a teacher at school. She wrote to me that 30% of the population remained there at best, the city looks empty. This should be expected in other cities, now those who can leave is going abroad. Nonetheless we still stay.

Many thanks for your support, it helps us a lot. Despite all the troubles the mood in the Lodge is confident, we try not to lose heart. The Creator has many miracles; we are not losing our optimism.

Brotherly greetings and heartfelt thanks to all our brothers and sisters in BB UK, we are very grateful to them and especially to you personally.

Sincerely,

Vadim

I hope this give you a flavour as to how B'nai B'rith UK is trying to help those in need throughout the Jewish world.

Thank you again for your support, which you can see is much appreciated and will be continuing for some time to come.

Lets us all pray for peace security and an end to the wars and suffering

With all good wishes,

Alan

Alan Miller
President, B'nai B'rith UK
17th July 2025