

Renovation Report

The New Kitchen in The Roger & Françoise Varenne DCC

Sponsored by WIZO Switzerland and

The Mary Bendet Foundation

Yericho St., Holon



World WIZO Fundraising Division

Nov. 2015 / Kislev 5776

WIZO Day Care Centres

Established in 1920, with the distinct purpose of supporting working women as part of the Zionist endeavor, WIZO opened its first Day Care Center (DCC) in 1926. Today, WIZO operates over 180 DCC's throughout Israel that employ over 3,000 caregivers who cater more than 14,500 children from 3 months to 4 years of age. Children enrolled at our DCC's come from various socio-economic backgrounds, many from underprivileged and/or single-parent homes supported by the Welfare Department. And yet, almost all of our DCC's have waiting lists, proof of the quality of service provided at these facilities.

Considered a leader in education, WIZO's trained and experienced caregivers engage children in early childhood development programs aimed at developing cognitive and physical aptitude from infancy. These programs encourage curiosity, experimental learning, and self expression while increasing communication, speech, and reading abilities. Educational games, music activities, movement, art, and story time are geared to enhance muscle tone, coordination, and attention span.

WIZO takes pride in parents' willingness to leave their child in the hands of our DCC staff every morning. And we take even more pride in the trust the children give to our caregivers.



The Roger & Françoise Varenne DCC

- ◆ The DCC, established in 1969, provides quality childcare in the Kiriat Sharet area of Holon, a low to middle class area of the city
- ◆ The DCC has 20 children in the baby classroom, 23 in the toddler classroom, 33 in the junior nursery class and 34 in the senior nursery class, with a total enrollment of 110
- ◆ Most of the families are working class and approximately half of them are immigrants from Ethiopia, the former USSR
- ◆ 6 of the children have been referred by the Welfare Authorities
- ◆ There are 23 full time staff members who care for the children daily. The DCC 's director Sara Tzel has a background in social work, and has developed a unique model of inclusion at the centre which focuses on the integration of disabled children

Special Programming

- ◆ This DCC is involved in a wide range of experiential activities to increase the development of the early age child and to enhance self expression. Children enjoy the rich experiences of supervised play, music programs, guided imagery activities, nature program, science program, arts and crafts, story time.

Parent Support

- ◆ As a large majority of the parents are immigrants with limited Hebrew skills, the staff at the DCC assist them with completing forms or dealing with authorities.
- ◆ Parents of disabled children meet with the director and staff on a regular basis to receive updates and advice on their child's development. If necessary, DCC staff assist parents to advocate on behalf of their child with social and medical services.



The Roger & Françoise Varenne DCC And the Mary Bendet Foundation

Over the past few years, the **Mary Bendet Foundation** has generously sponsored crucial upgrades at the day care centre including:

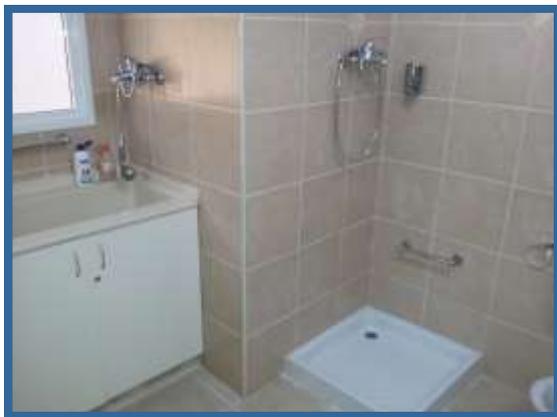
**nursery and kindergarten playgrounds*

**toddlers toilets and change area*

**renovations of the baby toilets*

**paint work and landscaping*

These improvements have dramatically changed the quality of care for the children.



Nutrition at The Roger & Françoise Varenne DCC

Two years ago, further improvements took place when the day care centre enriched its menu and began to offer meat meals as well as regular dairy/fish meals.

All meals were prepared in the kitchen which had never undergone renovations. It was outdated, cramped, and did not meet the necessary health standards. In addition, the kitchen area was much too small and there was no room for adequate storage, so items were scattered and stored in areas which were not suitable or hygienic.



Due to the poor condition of the roof over the kitchen area, the walls and windows of the kitchen were peeling and cracked.



During past visits from The Ministry of Economy and Health they voiced their disapproval with the situation and even said that if the matter was not dealt with they may remove official state recognition.



Ariel's Story

Ariel* was only one year old, but it was clear from the start that he was developmentally behind.

His mother Ida*, had noticed that he was much less curious and active than his older sister, Klara* was, when she was his age. Ariel was very shy, quiet and unresponsive most of the time. When he wanted something, he would point and scream. He was also having a hard time crawling.

The staff at the DCC knew the family very well, as Klara* had been at the DCC 2 years earlier. They also saw that the little boy was struggling to express himself. They recommended that he undergo a full assessment.

With the help and advocacy of the staff, Ida was able to deal with the bureaucracy of having Ariel tested and the results indicated that he was suffering from Apraxia, a brain condition which affects speech and motor skills.

With the guidance of health professionals, and with the support of Ariel's parents, the DCC staff was able to develop a program to help Ariel slowly improve his verbal and motor skills. His classroom caregivers set time aside every day to do exercises with him in the motor-sensory room. Over time, Ariel became responsive and his motor skills improved greatly. Ida, her entire family and the day care staff are thrilled with his overwhelming success. Ariel still has a ways to go, but he is definitely on the road to becoming a happy communicative and physically active little boy.

Thanks to the DCC director Sara Tzel Ariel and the outstanding commitment of the staff, Ariel was fortunate to receive the care he received and to spend his early childhood years in a mainstream environment.



WIZO and The Roger & Françoise Varenne DCC are committed to caring for children, such as Ariel, regardless of their special challenges.

* Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality, and pictures are for illustrative purposes only

The New Kitchen



Thanks to the ongoing generosity of the
**Mary Bendet Foundation
and WIZO Switzerland**
the children at
The Roger & Françoise Varenne DCC
in Holon are now enjoying nutrition
meals and snacks prepared in the newly
renovated kitchen.



Laundry Room Upgrades

In the course of the kitchen renovations the laundry room was expanded and underwent major changes. These improvements have upgraded the overall sanitary standards in the day care centre. The new space is much easier to access and is being enjoyed by the staff on a daily basis.



Expenditure Report The New Kitchen and Laundry Room Upgrades

Description	Amount NIS
Kitchen renovation work-demolition haulage and building, plumbing work, plumbing fixtures, ceramic tiles, stainless steel counter tops, and plaster work	90,000
Adjacent laundry room renovations in order to accommodate new larger kitchen-new stainless steel counters, electrical and plumbing work, new storage cabinets and painting	72,410
Finishing work	2,714
Total	165,124
10%supervision	16,512
Grand total	181,636

Total WIZO support requested 183,472 NIS



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WIZO's Mission

The Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO) is a non-party international movement dedicated to the advancement of the status of women, welfare of all sectors of Israeli society and encouragement of Jewish education in Israel and the Diaspora.

WIZO's Goals

- To provide for the welfare of infants, children, youth, women and the elderly.
- To advance the status of women in Israel.
- To strengthen the bond between World Jewry and the State of Israel.
- To support the absorption of new immigrants in Israel.



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