

Dear friends,

While we ready for a peaceful Shabbat in Colorado, the situation in Israel is worsening. Our office is continuously monitoring the situation to keep our community updated. For a newsfeed of information, go to: <http://Jewi.sh/IsraelCrisisUpdate>

Many of you are asking, how can we help? Here are a few ways YOU can make an impact:

1. Attend our Community Solidarity Gathering for Israel on Tuesday, November 20th at the Hebrew Educational Alliance at 7pm.
2. Donate to our Israel Crisis Fund. This fund will go directly to Ramat HaNegev, our partner region, who is taking in families from hard hit towns and areas within close rocket range. To donate go to: <http://Jewi.sh/IsraelCrisis>
3. Share this donate link with your friends and family on Facebook, Twitter, or email. Remember, **100% of all the donations will go directly to support those affected by acts of terrorism in Israel.** There will be no administrative fees taken.
4. Send a letter to your Congressmen and Senators asking them to support Israel in this dangerous and trying time.
5. Buy Israeli goods!
6. Advocate for Israel with your neighbors and friends online and in person. Below we have shared some facts we feel you need to know and that are important to share.

Facts about the conflict in Israel:

- An average of 2 rockets per day were landing in Israel BEFORE Operation Pillar of Defense began. That was some 700+ rockets launched at Southern Israel since January 2012.
- In the last twenty four hours, over 250 rockets have been fired at the State of Israel, landing in the South and in the greater Tel Aviv area.
- Today, as Jerusalem, the holiest of holy cities, prepared for Shabbat... air raid sirens went off and rockets fell just short of the city.
- The IDF continues to distribute leaflets and make phone calls to Gazan citizens advising them to distance themselves from terrorists and terrorist infrastructure ahead of rocket attacks. The added challenge here is that most of Hamas' military infrastructure is buried or hidden in high density civilian areas.
- Despite Operation Pillar of Defense and the onslaught of rockets pounding the millions of Israelis, Israel has not stopped providing electricity and water to Gaza as well as medical care for Palestinians who need it. In fact, 14 Palestinians from Gaza were brought into Israel on Thursday for medical treatment.
- The Israel Air Force has targeted over 450 terror activity sites in Gaza with the aim of impairing terrorists' rocket launching capability.

- Rockets have been hitting Southern Israel since Saturday, with over 250 rockets on Thursday alone. The Iron Dome Defense system has intercepted 130 rockets headed towards populated areas and the IDF is readying to deploy a fifth battery, which is being called into service earlier than anticipated.
- Thursday night, a rocket hit near Bat Yam, landing in the sea.
- The sirens sounded in Tel Aviv, for the first time since the 1991 Gulf War.
- Sirens were also heard in Rishon Letzion, Israel's fourth largest city, and in Holon, both cities very close to Tel Aviv.
- Operation Pillar of Defense is working to reduce Hamas' ability to launch Fajar-5 rockets. Fajar-5 rockets are able to strike further across the country and target more people.
- 25 Israelis were rescued after the building they were in collapsed on top of them.
- Yesterday, Aharon Smadga, 49, Itzik Amsalem, 24, and Mira Sharf, 26 were buried after a rocket attack directly hit their apartment in Kiryat Malachi.
 - Mira Sharf was visiting Israel from New Delhi where she served as a Chabad emissary with her husband. She came with her husband and three children to mark the anniversary of the 2008 attack on the Mumbai Chabad House which killed nine, including Rabbi Gavriel and Rivka Holtzberg and was due to give birth in a few weeks. Her husband and 4-year-old son were seriously injured.
- Right now 16,000 reservists have been called up in a limited emergency call up. Families are adapting to the anxiety and pressures this demands.
- The Jewish Agency for Israel is preparing relief for a thousand new immigrant youth living in Jewish Agency absorption centers and 23,500 students between 1st and 12th grades throughout areas at the center of the conflict, who will be in dire need of a break from the escalating security situation. The Jewish Agency for Israel is also preparing special group psychological interventions for parents and children for those suffering from emotional trauma.
- The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) is preparing emergency kits for elderly and the disabled in the afflicted regions, in addition to working with emergency case workers who provide elderly and disabled with emotional and physical support so that they can stay in their homes during the sirens. The JDC is also delivering food to the elderly (as adult day care centers are not able to operate currently), running activities for children in shelters and implementing post trauma interventions for children.
- The Israel Trauma Coalition is running phone hot-lines, setting in place group workshops for children and parents, team training and support for those in the field, direct care for those in need in coordination with local councils.
- Radio stations are announcing rocket attacks and on some stations the broadcasting is interrupted constantly by sirens and alerts. The Israel Broadcasting Authority will operate a radio frequency (531 AM) during Shabbat

that will be silent except for emergency announcements like warning citizens to take cover in a bomb shelter. This arrangement is used only in times of severe national emergency.