

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Dear Friends,

As the COVID-19 drastically affects the world, our country and the Givat Haviva community, we know that many of you face unprecedented challenges and concerns, as do we. We want you to know that we, your friends, are in this together with you.

We would like you to know that in the meantime we are all healthy and hope you and your loved ones are too. This is the most important above all else.

Givat Haviva Campus: All of Givat Haviva's international delegations and visits scheduled for the coming weeks have been significantly postponed. The campus has been closed to all outside visitors. This cancellation of all campus bookings through creates a massive loss of income to the organization. At this time, two groups maintain some presence on campus: the International School and Givat Haviva staff. The contractor will continue to provide meals for the international students.

Givat Haviva International School: With the approval of the Ministry of Education, the school accommodations will remain open for international students while the Israeli students have been sent home to be with their families. Remote learning will take place during this time, as precedent in the universities. The group of counselors will be together with the youth on campus. They will not be left alone. For the wellbeing of all, they will not be allowed to leave the campus at this time.

Hebrew Language Enrichment: The project team is working together with the Ministry of Education to conduct remote learning.

Bara'em Hi-Tech: The first semester this year was completed without incident through the first round of final exams for all courses. The second round has been postponed until further notice. The second semester was scheduled to start on Friday, March 13. At present, Netanya Academic College is preparing to open the semester via online instruction on March 23.

The Jewish-Arab Center for Peace: As of last Friday meetings between local schools were cancelled, with in-school programming taking their place. However, this was also temporary, and with the school closures we anticipate having to cancel much of our programming which takes place in the schools until the new school year. Due to restrictions of gatherings, we have also cancelled all **Women's Empowerment** courses, and any scheduled activity for the **Shared Communities** program.

The Collaborative Arts Center: All of the art courses have been cancelled. The Through Others' Eyes project team is currently working to bring the youth participants together through virtual encounters and to bring the current exhibition online.

This is a very dynamic situation, and we are still in the midst of learning and adapting to the changing scenario and directives as they come in. We realize that our update is necessarily partial, as the full picture is still emerging. The situation is changing constantly, to the extent that, when you read this, the situation may already be significantly different.

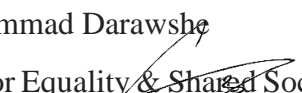
Due to the cancellation of many of the paid groups on campus and the need to keep the international school open during spring break, we expect a serious cash flow problem. Many of our friends and supporters have been very supportive and we hope to raise emergency funding.

Givat Haviva has made it through challenging times before, and we will do so again.

Keep healthy above all

Yaniv Sagee

CEO, Givat Haviva

Mohammad Darawshe

Director, Center for Equality & Shared Society