

# Providing Physical Enrichment to the People of Alon



Alon is a medium-sized community located just northeast of Jerusalem, about halfway between Israel's capital and the northernmost tip of the Dead Sea, overlooking the breathtaking backdrop of the Judean Desert. The community started small and grew slowly and steadily, dealing with the difficult solitude and sandy, dry landscape of the desert. There are now 130 families currently living in Alon, with a careful balance of religious and non-religious.

There is a strong focus on youth in Alon. There is a daycare center and preschools in the community itself and elementary-school children travel to nearby Kfar Adumim for daily classes. Until the third grade, religious and non-religious students study in "mixed" classes, thus learning at an early age to respect the beliefs of others. Fundamental to the ultimate success of Alon as a "mixed" community is a shared value system. While not all families in Alon are religiously observant, all families are eager for their children to receive a firm grounding in Jewish education, with particular emphasis on Biblical studies. The community

has a Biblical culture program, which provides extra-curricular resources and programming to enrich the spiritual lives of the local teen-agers.

Food for the spirit and soul is vital but so is a release for the body. To that end, the people of Alon would like to build an outdoor Exercise Park. They have already invested in clearing a piece of land and setting up sprinkler systems, landscaping and sitting areas. Now they would like to purchase the equipment... colorful, sturdy, attractive and professional exercise apparatus. These parks have become very popular around Israel and they have been proven to be safe, challenging, long-lasting and fun! They know that this park could be a wonderful draw for children and adults alike. They can already picture mothers and fathers bringing their children to the park and relaxing on the benches as their children run off to have a healthy fun workout. And then, when the kids are happily exhausted, the grownups can take their turn on the equipment as the children relax and sprawl on the soft grass.

In the first phase, Alon would like to install eight exercise devices, enough to fill the space nicely, while whetting their appetites for a time when they can afford to fill the area with more.

Show the people of Alon that you stand with them... that you believe in their right to be there and in their dream of settling this spectacular area of the Biblical Heartland.

**TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED: ..... \$24,750**

## *To participate in this project:*

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