

# Community of the Month

## Throughout July...

**CFOIC is taking a look at Migdal Oz...**

Dear Friend of CFOIC Heartland,

July is usually a time when we think of children playing outdoors, running through sprinklers, and swinging on swing sets. The parents of Migdal Oz have turned to their Christian friends and asked for your help to equip their community with vital new books, toys, and playground equipment for their children.

Can you imagine the looks of joy and excitement on the faces of the children in Migdal Oz when they have a brand new playground to explore, new books to read and new toys to play with? Your donation this month will turn that hope into reality for these precious young ones.

Thank you for giving to the community of Migdal Oz this month. Every donation helps, and, together, we can make the future brighter for the land of Israel.

Shalom,

*Kimberly*

Kimberly Troup

Director, US Office

Christian Friends of Israeli Communities

## Where is Migdal Oz?



Migdal Oz was founded in 1977 by members of the Religious Kibbutz Movement, as part of the revival of the Gush Etzion communities that fell in the War of Independence. Migdal Oz is located in the heart of Gush Etzion (Etzion bloc), which was originally settled by Jewish pioneers in the 1940s. The four settlements of Gush Etzion were destroyed by the Jordanian Army during Israel's War of

Independence. Many of the area's residents were killed, and others were taken prisoner. Since 1967, the entire Gush Etzion region has proven vital to the security of Israel, protecting the southern approaches to Jerusalem.

## What Does Migdal Oz Need?



Today, there are 400 residents in Migdal Oz, including hundreds of children. Migdal Oz is able, financially, to cover only the most basic upkeep of the community's educational institutions,

like salaries, meals and ongoing maintenance. But the need for additional enrichment is vital. Studies show that informal education provides at least as much of what a child needs, as what is taught in the classroom setting.

Migdal Oz would like to start with their youngest children. Enrichment during those formative years is essential for proper development. The Kibbutz's Day Care Center needs a new yard for free play and activities. The programs for toddlers and pre-schoolers need equipment for their Music Room, new books, and an upgrading of their yards and play areas. Their playground can use new equipment and some landscaping.

Then, Migdal Oz would like to invest in their older children. The school serves a more challenging audience—one that needs to be provided with opportunities to learn and the correct equipment in order to do so. Migdal Oz would like to purchase a new supply of plastic chairs, video equipment and a T.V. cabinet, a computer, fans and heaters, kettles and gymnastics mats. School age children need to have their comforts met, interests whetted and skills challenged.

Your assistance in completing these projects in Migdal Oz will demonstrate your support and belief in the rights for the residents in Migdal Oz to lead normal, healthy lives as their families fulfill their dream of rebuilding the pioneering sites of pre-State Zionism and settling Biblical Judea.

**Total Funds Required: \$18,015**

## How Can I Help Migdal Oz?

[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=DX8XQWRNXL8JA](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=DX8XQWRNXL8JA)

Your donation will help provide new books, playground equipment, chairs, and much more for the children of Migdal Oz.

You may donate by calling 1-800-647-3344, emailing [info@cfoic.com](mailto:info@cfoic.com), donating online at [www.cfoic.com](http://www.cfoic.com), or mailing a check made payable to CFOIC (with Migdal Oz in the memo) to:

**Christian Friends of Israeli Communities, PO Box 50833, Colorado Springs, CO 80949-0833**

*all donations are US tax-deductible*