

A Library for Karnei Shomron



Karnei Shomron is a sprawling regional center, one of the largest communities in Samaria, with over 7,000 residents, spanning every age group. Karnei Shomron prides itself on its diversity. Young families have been joined by their parents and grandparents; new immigrants from North America, Europe and the former Soviet Union have joined native-born Israelis; and residents of all ethnic backgrounds, religious, traditional and secular, have joined to build a vibrant community with a keen sense of local pride.

They come in a steady trickle. A man hurries, glancing at his watch, his attaché case in the other hand, trying to find the time to grab a book for tomorrow's long commute to work. Pre-schoolers, hanging on to the hands of their mothers, prance impatiently down the hall, clutching books in their sweet, sweaty hands. An elderly couple shuffles along, looking forward to reading the daily papers. Children come in groups, chattering happily, swinging plastic shopping bags filled with books. One teenager is walking slowly, a tall pile of books balanced in her hands, her eyes on the opened top volume, as she concentrates on finishing the last few pages before she enters the room. And then they're in the library. The door swings closed behind them and it's quiet.

Remember feeling the almost holy hush of your local library? The neat ordered stacks of books upon books, with their special papery smell, waiting to be slipped out of their place and discovered. Remember snuggling next to a friend on a plush bean bag as the librarian started telling your favorite story? Remember the way your world slipped away as you sat down on the floor, resting your book on your bent knees, your back up against the shelves, and opened that first page?

Karnei Shomron wants that for their community. Founded in 1977 by a group of young Zionist pioneering families, today

Karnei Shomron is spread across five hilltops overlooking the Kana River Valley, the Biblical border between the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim (Joshua 17:9) In 2008, Karnei Shomron opened a beautiful new community center, centrally located, in the heart of the commercial area. The Israeli Government invested some \$2 million in the building, completing the actual building as well as the furnishings of the first floor. The first floor has become the center of community activity, housing concerts, lectures, and enrichment programs for both children and adults. The second floor includes additional activity rooms and the library; however, the library is currently an empty room, waiting for furnishings and computers.

Currently, there are small libraries in each of the three main neighborhoods, housed in temporary, shabby structures, with insufficient room for enrichment programs and with no handicap access. The main obstacle towards opening the new central library and indeed, the entire second floor of the building, is the installation of an elevator to provide handicap access.

It is a heartbreaking sight to see Tzippy Blumberg rolling up to one of the temporary library caravans and waiting outside as the

librarian brings out a selection of books for her to choose from. Tzippy has been in a wheelchair since August 2001 when a terrorist shot at the car she was riding in with her family, killing her mother, and paralyzing her and her father.

One large, comfortable, central library can offer the people of Karnei Shomron more space, more efficient use of resources, story hour, a reference library, and enrichment programs to promote reading. More important, this library will be handicapped accessible. It is time to do the right thing.

We are turning to you to help us finish this vital project. A library can be the heart of a community. A place of study and recreation. A place to come together and share quality time. Be a part of this project... this dream.

Elevator Installation \$98,000
Furnishings /Computers for Library ..\$130,000
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED: \$228,000

To participate in this project:

Click Here: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=DNURSSAGDRKKS

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