

Reading Books in Tekoa



Tekoa, a thriving community located in the eastern Etzion Bloc area, just south of Jerusalem, is one of the communities that defends the southern approaches to Israel's capital. Tekoa was founded in 1977 by new immigrants from the Soviet Union. These pioneers were soon joined by native Israelis and immigrants from other countries to create a community that is as varied in background as it is in lifestyle. Both

Remember visiting the library when you were a child? The almost holy hush, the richness of ordered shelves upon shelves of numbered bound volumes, waiting to be explored, the smell of new paper mixing with the exotic musty smell of old books. Remember the quality time you had with your mother at the library, snuggled together on a bean bag for some whispered story telling?

religious and non-religious Jews live together promoting tolerance and mutual understanding between the diverse individuals. Today, Tekoa numbers close to 550 families, and it continues to grow.

The people of Tekoa believe that a proper library can be a warm, live nucleus for the whole neighborhood. Tekoa's library is open eleven hours a week and services approximately 250 adults and 400 children on a regular basis. Unfortunately, the library has no computer to assist them with cataloguing books, determining which books it owns, who has borrowed them, and when they are due to be returned. The proper software package would offer all this and provide bar-coding for books for easy identification and tracking. Neighboring Alon Shvut already has the program and local El David is investing in it too. How wonderful it would be for Tekoa to be able to network with these communities! Requests for books would be met more easily and the patrons could be served better.

The violent war of terror in 2000 affected the residents of Tekoa profoundly. In 2001, two boys were murdered near their homes by Arab terrorists. Residents have been shot at on the way to work or on the way home. The community has had to deal with the threat of terrorist infiltration and security on the roads. Miraculously, though, life goes on, always with the joy that comes from settling their land and raising their children, the only true guarantees for Israel's future.

Tekoa is turning to CFOIC to help raise the money for the library.

A library is a place of recreation, education... a place where people can come together... be together. Your contribution to this project will provide encouragement and moral support and express your faith in Tekoa's future.

Computer	\$1,190
Library software package	2,970
TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED:	\$4,160

To participate in this project:

Visit our website at www.cfoic.com ~ Or mail a check with the project name in the memo:
CFOIC~ Box 50833~Colorado Springs, CO 80949 (US & Canada) ~ CFOIC~PO Box 752~Ginot Shomron, ISRAEL (All Others)