

Dear Eliya children - each and every day you enrich us with your courage and optimism..... Be strong, be brave and believe in yourselves. Together, combining belief and perseverance, we shall progress step by step. Know that we will always help you, with an attentive ear and unlimited love. In other words, we will always be there for you.

And to all of you, supporters of ELIYA throughout the years – thank you.

- ✦ Thank you to **all our wonderful parents** who rely on us to help nurture their children.
- ✦ Thank you to **our generous donors**, who enable ELIYA children to enjoy the very best of individual care.
- ✦ Thank you to **our outstanding volunteers** who play a major role in all our work.
- ✦ Thank you to **our management board** for their commitment and devotion.
- ✦ And a special thank you to **our most professional and dedicated staff**, who make up the backbone of our organization.

**My best wishes to every one of you for a Happy Passover holiday and a most enjoyable vacation.**



A Passover Message from  
 ELIYA's Executive Director – Pini Weil



### Rehabilitation Teachers

This new Eliya program is designed to further the development of blind or visually impaired children, enabling their integration into the appropriate schooling placement. Instruction takes place in the child's home, in an education establishment or rehabilitation center, according to the needs, age, and functioning level of each child.

The program includes consultation and training for parents by the rehabilitation teacher working alongside the child, with the emphasis on visual stimulation, developing motor activity, adopting new concepts, interaction with the environment, orientation and mobility.

The program is at present mainly in the center of the country (Hadera to Ashdod), and over 120 children are currently enrolled.



### Joint Project with Bet Oved – Seeing-Eye Dogs

An emotional bond, self-assurance, heightened senses, confident movement and the building of a special relationship between the child and the animal - all these are the fruits of cooperation in the joint project between Eliya and Bet Oved, the Israel Center for Seeing-Eye Dogs.

For children at Eliya, contact with a dog enables the child to express a range of emotions. The fact that the child can give of himself and in turn receive the unconditional love of a dog, stimulates and sharpens his emotional development.

The project, which includes joint meetings with the counselors, the dogs and the children's family members, is part of a long term program, whose goal is to encourage today's child to become tomorrow's independently mobile adult.



A Passover Seder will be conducted in every class.

The children come dressed for the Holiday, read the Haggada and sing Passover songs.

**A Happy Pesach from all the children at Eliya!**