

2022 YEAR-END SUMMARY REPORT

**BRIDGES
FOR PEACE**

... Your Israel Connection®
גשרים למען השלום

A Word from BFP President and CEO

This past year was an amazing display of God partnering with believers to rescue Jewish communities at risk and to fulfill His prophetic word to bring the Jewish people home to Israel.

Bridges for Peace not only had a front-row seat, we were also on assignment to help them come safely to Israel. We were able to assist in many ways, as you will see below.

The conflict in Ukraine, the threat of Russian Jews being called up to the front lines in the war and the looming civil war and resultant humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia prompted the floodgates of *aliyah* (immigration) to Israel to open as tens of thousands of Jewish people came home to the land of their promise.

While we rejoice at the fulfillment of prophecy, we are deeply saddened to see the toll war has taken on the Jewish people who arrive with nothing but shattered hearts. The record number of unexpected

new immigrants also meant a number of financial and logistical challenges. Bridges for Peace had the honor of standing in the gap, offering much-needed help to Israel and its newest citizens.

There is no doubt that 2022 was an extraordinary year filled with extraordinary needs and extraordinary opportunities to serve, bless and help. Our additional efforts would not have been possible without generous donations from Christians around the world. Because of your generous donations, we had the financial means to meet the needs. Because you gave, we were able to act as His hands and feet during these crucial times. Because of your obedience to His prompting, thousands of Jewish refugees and Israelis in need now know that international Christians stand behind them and want to see them prosper. We praise the Lord for His miraculous and ongoing provision. We praise the Lord for you. We pray that this report will fill your heart with gratitude and awe at an almighty God who invited you and me to partner with Him as He fulfills His ancient promises to Israel.

OPERATION EZRA OUTREACH

Feed a Child

The Feed a Child program currently meets the needs of 340 children (200 in Beit Shemesh, 80 in Karmiel, 30 in Jerusalem and 30 in Kiryat Ekron) in 11 schools. We're in our 16th year of bringing hope to Israeli children!

Adoption Program

The Adoption Program provides a much-needed safety net for new immigrants who are struggling to become fluent in Hebrew and establish themselves in Israel. Since the program's inception, we have helped 4,965 families and individuals. A total of 127 families and individuals are currently on the program, with the total number of people helped, including spouses and children, standing at 447.

Cheer Baskets

In 2022, we distributed 3,385 cheer baskets in the Land. The breakdown is as follows: 411 children and families on our programs, 418 Holocaust survivors on their birthdays, 420 at *Purim*, 19 to mothers of newborns, 12 to families sitting *shiva* (week-long mourning period), 85 welcome/cheer baskets, 1,526 *Rosh HaShanah* baskets and 494 special gift baskets.

Food Bank

During 2022, our food bank purchased and distributed a total of 1,011,250 pounds (459,659 kg.) of food, feeding an average of more than 24,000 people per month. Direct aid was given to 23 communities through our Adopt an Israeli Town program, and we assisted 55 Jewish organizations that distribute food in communities all over Israel, as well as 6 Arab organizations. In addition to regular support, we give special gifts at Christmas to Christian Arab families.



Immigrant Welcome Gifts

Since the inception of this program in 2002, we have served 34,952 families. During 2022, Bridges for Peace welcomed 2,123 new immigrant families to Israel by distributing 5,896 blankets, 2,123 kitchen gift sets, 1,621 *Tanakh*s (Gen.–Mal.) and 388 school kits. These figures make 2022 the year in which Bridges for Peace has handed out the most immigrant welcome gifts in the history of the program.

Home Repair

Since the inception of the program, 1,671 jobs have been completed.

Project Rescue

Project Rescue helped 14,260 Jewish people immigrate to Israel between January 2022 and November 2022, bringing the total number we have helped “rescue” to 100,657. During 2022, we reached the milestone of helping more than 100,000 Jews from the Diaspora immigrate to Israel.

Project Tikvah (Hope)

We provided food parcels, hot meals, heating and other much-needed items to

destitute Jewish people in Ukraine and Siberia who cannot immigrate.

Ukraine Fund

The war in Ukraine and its devastating ripple effect was a major focal area in 2022. We donated roughly US \$2 million to rescue, aid and humanitarian efforts. The funds helped rescue Jewish Ukrainians from war-torn areas and bring them safely to collection points at the border. We then assisted in the immigration process to Israel, including paperwork, transport, airfare and accommodation. Once here, we came alongside them as they started rebuilding their shattered lives in their new homeland, welcoming them with generous gifts of basic necessities.

We also joined hands with an Israeli organization to set up a “store” in a local mall where Ukrainian refugees “shop” for the home essentials—at no cost to them. Then we outfitted two bare apartments for two refugee families with everything they needed to start over. We also partnered with an Israeli organization who rescued an entire orphanage from Ukraine and brought them to Israel. We committed to help these children receive an education and sponsored the cost of their transport to and from school as well as a special schooling program for those who cannot be accommodated in the Israeli school system. And when these orphans moved from their temporary housing to a more permanent home, we provided beds, washing machines and other necessities.

Finally, we helped alleviate the hardship and suffering on the ground in Ukraine by donating funds the Israeli field hospital in Ukraine, helping Magen David Adom send bulletproof ambulances to the frontlines and purchasing vehicles to help transport immigrants in neighboring countries.

MULTIMEDIA EDUCATION



Publications

The bimonthly *Dispatch from Jerusalem* continues to spread the news of Israel and our work here to readers internationally. Links to the *e-Dispatch*, the monthly *Israel Teaching Letter* and the weekly Israel Prayer Update are sent to more than 20,000 email addresses. Our calendar, "Israel Mosaic," featured 13 vibrant scenes depicting the beauty of the Land and her people. Our publications team works passionately to share the truth about Israel and educate the Church about the importance of standing with Israel and the Jewish people.

Web

The BFP website continues to inform and educate visitors with its vibrancy and engaging content. In 2022, we saw 714,295 hits, which is down by 23.4% from last year.

Social Media

The BFP Facebook and Instagram pages continue to be platforms where we interact with our global audience and supporters in a meaningful and personal way. We share our daily news stories to let people know what's really happening in Israel as well as regular posts with pictures and images of the Holy Land.

Now in its 10th year, our Facebook page has reached nearly 41,000 "likes." We are growing brand recognition and connecting with Israel lovers from across the globe.



As for Instagram, we completed 2022 with an average of three posts per week. The account now has 897 followers, translating to an overall growth rate of 28% in 2022. We are looking forward to connecting more Christians to the work of Bridges for Peace and Israel through our Instagram account in 2023.

Video

The video team creates meaningful content to draw in audiences around the world and get them excited about Israel and our work here. Our team consistently increases the quality of our content, creating 22 videos and one short reel during 2022.

Group and Guest Relations

With most COVID-19 restrictions lifted, we were once again able to receive guests and groups. The Group and Guest Relations department hosted a total of 132 guests in 2022. Thirty-six groups with a total of 114 people participated in community service projects (Discovery Groups).

Zealous8:2

After two years of pandemic restrictions, the first Call to Zion tour since 2019 took place with 21 participants from Japan, South Africa, the UK and the US. Since its inception 15 years ago, this tour has invested into hundreds of lives through volunteer service, touring the Land and discipleship.

The seventh Zealous Israel Project began with nine participants from three nations, namely Japan, South Africa and the US.

There have been 27 young adult volunteers (ages 35 and younger) serving at Bridges for Peace in Israel during 2022, which was 48% of our staff.



International Development

Corona restrictions began lifting early in 2022 and most of our national offices were able to resume normal activities, including travelling and hosting meetings. The resumption of international travel also meant that we were once again able to host the Institute of Israel Studies in Israel. Participants from nine countries attended, including seven of our national office nations. We were particularly grateful that our national coordinator from New Zealand and our Spanish resource coordinator from Mexico were able to attend. After serving in their respective positions for roughly two years, the Institute further equipped them for the roles they fill.

Blessings from Jerusalem,
Rebecca J. Brimmer
International President and CEO