

The Jerusalem Hills Therapeutic Centers Children's Home Treatment & Training Center

## A Turbulent Soul in Times of War



Last week, the children's home held a special seminar to celebrate the release of the book **A Home for a Turbulent Soul**. Although the seminar was delayed due to the war and the events of the past year, it was still fascinating, meaningful, and no less exciting.

"A Home for a Turbulent Soul" is a collection of articles, impressions, and professional experiences from one of the Jerusalem Hills campuses which closed in 2020. It was a home for teenagers called Beit Channah later renamed to Beit Kamper, and the book describes the therapeutic work that took place over its 50 years of operations. The book's articles were written by its many staff members, including clinical psychologists, social workers, psychoanalysts, women, and educators over the years.

The special seminar focused on issues related to the institutional care of at-risk children, but it was also an opportunity for a meaningful and nostalgic reunion of the staff from across generations.

There was a panel that focused on the impact of war and exposure to recent violent events on children and adolescents. The issues of virtual spaces, the decline in parental authority, the enormous difficulty of caregivers and the necessary support required for them, and other issues highly relevant to the current war period were also raised in the panel and created a fascinating discussion with audience participation.

The seminar concluded with a presentation of a case involving a boy currently residing in a Children's Home. This case highlighted the profound impact of the ongoing war, demonstrating how it directly affects the children's well-being and development, often leading to regression.

The book "A Home for a Turbulent Soul" is currently available for purchase in Hebrew at the following link and will soon be translated into French as well: <u>Purchase the book in Hebrew</u>



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