

EDEN ITU

TRAUMA TREATMENT FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN



Annual Activity
Summary Report

2024

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EDEN ASSOCIATION 2024

How can one sum up a year of action, trauma, and resilience in just a few sentences? This question applies to any year—but even more so to 2024.

I want to express my deep gratitude to the incredible women of Eden, many of whom live in southern Israel, including the Gaza Periphery communities. Some of them experienced unimaginable horrors on October 7 and its aftermath. Thank you to each of you who found the strength to gather the pieces, set aside the pain, and immediately stepped up to rescue, support, and care for the young girls and women who needed you more than ever.

I am proud to be part of an extraordinary team that, in the face of profound devastation, found the strength to offer others hope. Personally, this work has been a lifeline. Being part of Eden—an organization with such a meaningful mission—has been a source of purpose, pulling me through moments of despair. I am deeply grateful for this privilege and for the home that Eden provides.

In 2024, Eden not only maintained its core programs—the residential trauma care, Eden School, Eden for Life preparatory program, and the Eden 51 Center—but also launched new initiatives. Ideas became reality, transformed into impactful projects executed with professionalism and heart. In a reality where nothing felt stable or familiar, we remained a pillar of support for the girls and women who rely on us.

Among the many inspiring initiatives I've encountered since October 7, Eden stands out. I truly believe

that every girl and woman who participated in our programs this year gained strength, coping tools, and—above all—hope. The presence of Eden, with its exceptional team, has been nothing less than lifesaving.

And finally, my heartfelt gratitude to Ronit for her unwavering commitment, tireless dedication, and endless stream of initiatives and ideas, all driven by a desire to improve, support, and strengthen. Thank you to Gal Shiloah for your continuous innovation, deep thinking, and ability to translate ideas into action and execution. There is no doubt that the combination of Ronit and Gal is truly $1+1=3$. Thanks to Avital, who manages Eden's flagship project, the residential trauma care facility. Thanks to her dedicated, maternal, loving, and professional management, the girls moved to a temporary home and eventually returned home to Karmia. Thanks to Avital's holding the girls and the residential trauma care, and the support of Karo the school director, Ronit, Gal, and the Eden team were able to develop and implement all the other projects.

**2025, you have big shoes to fill—
but we are ready to keep growing,
acting, and making a difference.**



Yours,
Leora Sela David

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Partners and Supporters,

The annual report before you tells the story of 2024, a year of recovery, growth, initiative, and expansion. Following the devastating events of October 7th, we faced unprecedented challenges, loss, trauma, and uncertainty that became an inseparable part of our lives. Yet, alongside the pain, we discovered immense strength, resilience, and the ability to build a new reality out of crisis.

At the beginning of 2024, we focused on stabilizing our operations, ensuring continuous therapeutic and educational support for the girls in our care, and supporting our staff, many of whom were personally affected by the events. Our community became a source of strength and mutual support, leading us to develop new programs for women and girls impacted by the war.

This report presents our year at Eden Association through data, testimonies, and personal stories that illustrate the depth and expansion of our work.

This year was complex for all of us. Despite grief, sorrow, and the unsettling loss of security, we continued to innovate, create, and leverage our expertise in treating post-trauma in women and girls. We also launched several new programs.

In 2024, I completed the writing of *The Eden Model*—a practical guide for trauma-informed care. The book, now published, encapsulates 15 years of hands-on knowledge and makes the model accessible for therapeutic spaces in Israel and around the world.

Eden Trauma Treatment Center was established in April 2024 as a community-based trauma center for women and girls affected by October 7th. Operating under the Eden Model, it provides comprehensive therapeutic support in collaboration with a wide range of partners.

“October 7th HerStory”, our documentation project, expanded significantly with activities in Israel and abroad, including exhibitions and retreats for women who have experienced trauma.

Eden 51 Center has become a leading knowledge hub in the field of women and trauma, offering professional training for trauma specialists. As of November 2024, it has reached financial sustainability.

Eden Residential Trauma Care resumed full operations, providing a safe and stable environment for girls in Kibbutz Karmia. Emotional support services have been expanded, war-related damages have been repaired, and two additional houses have been renovated to accommodate more girls.

Eden School successfully reinstated a structured, supportive learning routine throughout the year. Following a stabilization period, we initiated new projects, including a volleyball team and a makerspace for innovative learning.

Eden for Life – Preparatory Program reopened after a one-year hiatus due to the war. Its third cycle, supported by an entirely new team and a newly renovated residential facility, is now preparing young women for independent adulthood and meaningful professional integration.

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the incredible women of Eden, who carried our vision forward with unwavering dedication during one of the most challenging times in Israel's history. They have been a model of resilience and growth for the women and girls we serve.

My heartfelt thanks also go to our board members for their steadfast support and to you – our dear partners, supporters, and friends. Your generosity, commitment, and belief in our work give us the strength to continue.

With deep appreciation,
Looking forward to a year of growth, resilience, and peace.

Ronit



2024 SUPPORT

**We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partners and supporters,
both in Israel and around the world.
Your trust, encouragement, and unwavering support strengthen us at
every step, inspire us, and enable us to grow, evolve,
and fulfill our vision—now more than ever.
Together, we are creating real and lasting change.**

CVI · The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia
Spectronics Emerson · Gimik Security & Protection
AJC Washington · ICA in Israel · Hof Ashkelon Regional Council
AJC San Diego · IBI · The Center for Jewish Impact
Vanguard Charitable · National Insurance Institute Funds
Israel Gives Fund · The Center for Jewish Impact
PEF Israel Endowment Fund Inc · The French Embassy in Israel – Institut Francais Israel
IVN Brothers at Heart · Lion of Judah Israel · Ministry of Justice – Estate Committee
Rozalyn Holtz · Naomi Bristol & Shirley Miller by JFNA
Big · Russian Jewish Congress · Combat Antisemitism Movement
Greater Miami Jewish Federation · Mack Ness Fund · Palm Beach Foundation
Raiah Fund · Pittsburgh Federation · Menachem Bar-On Legacy Fund
Seed the Dream Foundation · Hadassah Foundation · Ashiach Rosin Trust Properties
Kavod Fund · The Jewish Community Foundation Los Angeles
Mega Or · Jewish Federation & Family Services of Orange County
JFNA · Dead Sea Works ICL · Afi Properties · Berlovitz Fund
Keren Hayesod United Israel Appeal · Women’s Division Panama · NCJW
Center for Combating Antisemitism · V.I.D. DESALINATION COMPANY LTD
L’Oreal · Kathryn Ames Fund · The Jewish Agency for Israel

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US AT EDEN!

Eden Association was established in 1997 and since 2005, has specialized in trauma-informed care for girls and women through a unique model. The association initiates, establishes, and operates dedicated programs and safe spaces for girls, young women, and women suffering from post-trauma and complex post-trauma.

The association's programs:

Eden Trauma Treatment Center

Established following the events of October 7th to provide specialized individual and group trauma therapy, tailored to the unique needs of women and girls in the Gaza Periphery and the Western Negev communities. The center operates based on the Eden Model.

"October 7th HerStory" Project

A unique documentation project created to amplify the voices of women affected by the events of October 7th and the war within a framework that provides them a safe space as part of their healing process. The project ensures that the stories of these women are recorded in history, including recorded testimonies, art and photography exhibitions, and personal and community support for the participants.

Eden 51 Center

A dedicated Trauma Treatment Knowledge and Training HUB, serving as the association's income-generating unit. The HUB offers professional training for practitioners based on the Eden Model. In addition, it hosts organizations and companies for seminars, conferences, and other events.

Eden Residential Trauma Care

A specialized therapeutic space for girls aged 12-19 in a post-hospital profile, dealing with complex post-trauma.

Eden School (Junior and High School)

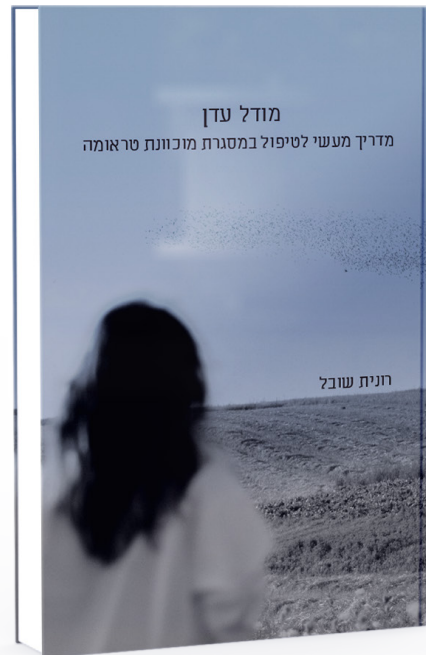
An educational framework for the residential care girls, operated in collaboration with the Ministry of Education's "Hilah" program, allowing them to complete 12 years of education and obtain a high school diploma.

Eden for Life Preparatory Program

Holistic program in collaboration with the National Insurance Institute and the Yated program, aimed at supporting young women without family support or those suffering from post-trauma, helping them integrate into the workforce and adult life.

Eden Model – Trauma-Informed Treatment

The Eden Model is a unique and innovative approach developed by Ronit Shoval during her work with adolescent girls suffering from complex post-trauma in a residential trauma care. The model combines evidence-based approaches to treating trauma consequences such as Dialectical Behavioral Therapy - DBT, views trauma as a societal issue rather than a personal one, and incorporates a motivational therapeutic approach. These elements come together to create trauma-informed spaces that allow patients to feel secure and move towards healing and transformation.



So far, work based on the Eden Model has enabled hundreds of young women who experienced trauma and abuse to transition from being victims of trauma to independent, confident young women capable of building fulfilling and meaningful lives.

In September 2024, the first edition of “Eden Model: A Guide to Trauma-Informed Treatment” was published, compiling 15 years of practical knowledge. The book presents tools and techniques for applying the model in additional therapeutic settings, both in Israel and worldwide. While primarily intended for professionals in the treatment field, its profound messages are also highly relevant to educators, parents, and anyone interested in creating a safe and supportive environment for healing and growth.

In the words of the CEO of the organization, Ronit Shoval, at the launch event:

“Today, as the book is published, I know that it is much more than just a book. It is a story of hope. A story that proves that even in a trauma-informed space, a real opportunity for healing can be created – provided there is a clear and structured therapeutic approach.”

EDEN TRAUMA TREATMENT CENTER

Eden Trauma Treatment Center

Following the October 7th events, which left the entire population of Israel, especially the residents of the Gaza Periphery, stunned, in pain, and traumatized, we decided to leverage our 20 years of expertise in trauma treatment and our location in the heart of the Gaza Periphery community for the greater good. Combined with the unique model we developed – the Eden Model for Trauma Treatment – we established the Eden Trauma Treatment Center to address the specific needs of women and young people in the region. The center opened its doors in April 2024, with its primary goal being to strengthen both individual and community resilience.

The Unique Needs of Women in Trauma

The establishment of the center was based on the understanding that women who are affected by traumatic events experience the crisis differently than men and often face additional gender-related challenges. Furthermore, women's struggles with complex post-trauma differ from those of men, and experience shows that they require a dedicated and tailored therapeutic space.



Therefore, the professional and sensitive team at the center customizes each treatment to provide women with the tools and support necessary for their healing and personal resilience development.

A Range of Treatments and Programs

The center offers individual and group therapies, including Psychotherapy, Bibliotherapy, Art Therapy, DBT (Dialectical Behavior Therapy) skills, Trauma-informed yoga, Qigong therapy, and a wide range of holistic treatments aimed at helping heal trauma in both body and mind. Each treatment is personalized to the needs of the participants, ensuring they receive the necessary tools to cope with the challenging experiences they have endured.

Collaboration with Local Bodies

The center works closely with local resilience centers, health insurance organizations, and local councils to provide comprehensive and focused therapeutic support for all the needs of the women. This collaboration ensures that they receive the full support required during their recovery.

Training a Trauma Specialist Team

Throughout 2024, we began the process of training a team of trauma treatment specialists based on the Eden Model and additional therapeutic tools. We plan to continue this trend in 2025.

EDEN TRAUMA TREATMENT CENTER IN NUMBERS

APRIL 2024

TILL DECEMBER 2024

56
patients received
individual therapy at
the center

420
total hours of
individual therapy

1 man
6 women
7 therapists



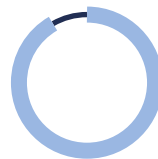
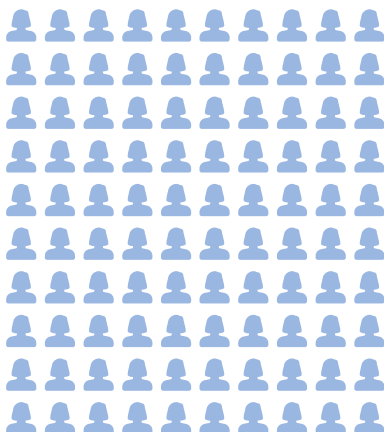
4
clinical psychologists

2
art therapists

1
yoga therapist

10
workshops held since the center's opening in April 2024, covering topics such as:
DBT / Yoga Therapy / Bibliotherapy / Qigong / Mindfulness / Movement and Dialogue
A Postpartum Women's Workshop

100
women participated in
workshops



95%
of the women treated
at the center are
residents of the Gaza
Periphery and Sderot

12-80
age range of women
treated at the center

42
is the average age of
the women treated

Success Stories – Reports from the trauma-informed yoga therapist at the center

B. – Finding Peace

B., a 27-year-old woman, struggles with high levels of stress in her daily life, which mainly manifests as outbursts towards her mother—rapid speech, high tone, and a tense body. During our sessions, I guided her to recognize the connection between thoughts, emotions, and sensations, helping her understand that the inner storms she experiences are temporary and will pass. Through practicing breathing techniques for regulation and calming, she learned to approach stress in a new way. After two months of this process, her family began reflecting to her the changes they saw in her—she feels more at ease, her outbursts have diminished, and when they do occur, they are less intense, and she can calm down much faster. She describes a new sense of comfort within herself, like an inner home that she is beginning to build.

G. – A Journey to Self-Connection

G., a 33-year-old woman, came with a history of eating disorders and abusive sexual relationships, seeking to reconnect with herself and her body. Throughout the process, she felt torn between the need to face herself and the urge to suppress and distance herself. We worked together like a pendulum—moving closer and then pulling away, allowing her body to become a safe space for exploration. Through physical practice, she began to truly meet herself—sometimes it's overwhelming, sometimes soothing, sometimes memories or limiting beliefs surface, and we address whatever arises. After six months of work, the journey continues, but something in her is already changing—she is beginning to believe in herself more, daring to choose what is good, and seeing sparks of a new future, one very different from the one she knew.

October 7th Herstory

October 7 HerStory

Over the years, women have had minimal historical representation in many aspects of recorded history for various cultural and societal reasons. Women's perspectives, achievements, and voices have often been neglected or omitted from historical records, including written documents and art. The events of October 7th shook us all, exposing us to horrific, brutal, and cruel acts of violence against thousands of victims. As a result, we have taken it upon ourselves to ensure that women's stories are documented and written into the pages of history, and their voices are heard. We believe that beyond documentation, these women's stories hold immense therapeutic power—for the women themselves and for the social-national healing and resilience of us all.

As Professor Judith Herman wrote: "Art is an expression of the human soul, and it has the power to heal and liberate."

Recorded and Filmed Testimonies

The documentary project presents recorded and filmed testimonies from women who experienced the events of October 7th from various perspectives, including residents of the Gaza Periphery who spent many hours in shelters, Nova survivors, bereaved mothers, mothers of hostages, officers and reservists in the security forces, and medical staff. These testimonies are shared on various platforms, such as Spotify, YouTube, and the Eden Association's website. Each episode takes the viewer on a journey from crisis to resilience, showcasing the greatness of the human spirit and soul.

Presenting a personal narrative in the face of trauma gives women the ability to face the horror and find within themselves the reasons and strength to continue living. In October 2024, we revisited 15 women for follow-up documentation of their condition one year later, and we intend to continue with this multi-year documentation project.

One Year After Testimony Video Compilation

The "October 7th HerStory" Exhibition

In 2024, the exhibition "October 7th HerStory" was presented at the Eden 51 center in Kibbutz Dorot for 8 months, during which over 1,500 visitors attended. The exhibition was curated by Ms. Osnat Israeli, with assistance from Ms. Ofra Eitan. With meticulous care and sensitivity, Osnat gathered works of art in various media created by women artists to process and express their feelings and experiences in response to the October 7th events and the "Iron Swords" war. The exhibition was a great success.

October 7th Herstory

Additionally, with great excitement, the exhibition was invited to be displayed in December 2024 at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York as part of the 25th anniversary celebration of Hadassah Women's Foundation grants in the U.S. The exhibition received emotional responses.

We would like to thank the artists whose works made up the exhibition: Anat Abokia Gruzovski, Orly Landver Trelovsky, Gila Myers, Anat Ein-Dor, Sharon Reshbaim Prof, Limor Tsarfati Max, Alicia Shachaf, Merav Shin Ben-Alon, Maryoma.

The "October 7th HerPhoto" Exhibition

Following the success of the testimony project, 13 participants from "October 7th HerStory" were selected, each of whom chose a segment from her testimony. In a photo-therapy process guided by artist and curator Ms. Alicia Shachaf, they worked together to create images that express the emotional experience alongside strength and a forward-looking perspective. This led to the opening of another exhibition, "October 7th HerPhoto," which was displayed in December 2024 at Eden 51 Center.

Photography as a Tool for Healing

Photography serves as an additional tool in processing trauma, opening a door for the women to embark on their healing journey. The images express the inner worlds of the participants and inspire deep reflection for anyone who views them. The exhibition acts as another bridge between pain and hope and serves as living testimony to the women's stories, ensuring that they are preserved in the pages of history.

During 2024, over 200 people visited the exhibition. By the end of the year, it was displayed in three locations in Tel Aviv and was exposed to the public. It is scheduled to be shown at Partner, AIG, Teva, and the public library in Netanya in March 2025 in honor of International Women's Day. We have transformed the exhibition into a digital kit, allowing anyone in Israel and worldwide to purchase it and display it in their community or organization.

[Exhibition Information Page](#)





Emotional Reactions from Exhibition Attendees

“Thank you so much to the curators and creators. The strength of presence in the space makes the emotion rise, allowing the pain and fear to be processed. I love and grieve with you.”

— D.

“Dear Eden Family, well done. Your flexibility, sensitivity, and beauty have brought together so many perspectives and viewpoints in such a deep way. I was also impressed by the way you connected the healing process in such a pleasant and relatively light manner. Thank you for everything.”

— R.

“Wow, wow, what a moving exhibition. It succeeds in conveying the feelings. I’m glad I experienced it up close. It needs to be published. It’s truly empowering.”

— S.A., Beit Kama

“The words were taken from me, my breath stopped, and my legs wobbled. The power and beauty of the art penetrated the layers of defense, climbing into the internal organs, choking my throat. Thank you for the beauty you created. Fear of death alongside immense strength. A powerful and emotional exhibition.

I believe it should be shown to teenagers.”

— D. Sderot



OCTOBER 7TH HERSTORY IN NUMBERS

Testimony Project

70 women interviewed and filmed	40 published episodes	8 episodes released in English	2.2 million views for episodes published on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok and Hot commercial T.V channel
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“October 7th HerStory” Exhibition

8 months of exhibition display (April–November 2024)	Over 1500 people engaged with the exhibition in Israel and abroad	9 artists
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“October 7th HerPhoto” Exhibition

7 organizations in Israel have already purchased the digital kit to display the exhibition	13 women participated in a photo-therapy process	12 portrait photographs
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EDEN 51

Eden 51 - Trauma Treatment Knowledge and Training Center

Eden 51 was established three years ago and offers training programs for professionals in trauma care, as well as a space for conferences, workshops, and lectures. The center operates along two main axes:

1. Professional Axis – Providing professional training for therapeutic and educational staff based on the Eden Model.

2. Business Axis – Hosting conferences and events for the business and public sectors.

Challenges at the Start of 2024

At the beginning of 2024, Israel was in the midst of difficult months of war that affected all aspects of life. Many residents of the region were evacuated, leading to a decrease in activity at the center during the first two months of the year due to the security situation.

Growth and Renewal

Despite these challenges, we recognized that now, more than ever, was the time to leverage our expertise in treating trauma and PTSD in women, young adults, and girls. Situated at the heart of the communities in the Gaza Periphery, we decided to transform Eden 51 into a hub for trauma treatment, training, and knowledge, based on the Eden Model. This also included showcasing content related to the experiences and challenges of the local communities.

As a result, in April 2024, Eden 51 hosted the exhibition "October 7th HerStory", followed by another exhibition, "October 7th HerPhoto", in December.

At the same time, more and more organizations expressed interest in visiting the South for tours, and after the initial slowdown, the center's activities rapidly gained momentum. By December 2024, Eden 51 was operating at full capacity. After two years of operation, the center transitioned from a financial deficit to a balanced budget.

EDEN 51 IN NUMBERS

IN 2024
TOOK PLACE

87
Events for groups in the
business, public, and
government sectors

Over **2,600**
people visited Eden 51
Center

36
new clients

Among our clients:

Spectronix Ltd. · Dead Sea Works ICL · State Comptroller's Office · NCJW
The Hartman Institute for Peace · Ashdod Municipality · Zuta-Core Ltd.
Elbit · Prime Minister's Office · BTG · OPC · WIZO · SodaStream
Be'eri Printing · Mekorot Teva · Geha Mental Health Center · Masad Bank
Wexner Foundation · Clalit Health Services · The Israel Trauma Coalition



EDEN RESIDENTIAL TRAUMA CARE

Eden residential trauma care is a post-hospitalization, feminist residential facility located in Kibbutz Karmia, providing a home for approximately 50 girls aged 12–19. These girls have faced complex life challenges, suffer from complex post-trauma, and in some cases, have been removed from their homes by court order. At Eden, they find a place to create change, guided by a social feminist perspective that acknowledges their struggles while fostering acceptance and personal skill-building for coping and growth.

The therapeutic model developed at the residential trauma care helps girls at the margins of society overcome difficult life circumstances, acquire essential tools and values, and build self-confidence that empowers them to realize their potential, take responsibility, and rewrite their life stories.

The success of this model is reflected in the elimination of psychiatric hospitalizations and high-risk behaviors, improvement in life skills and emotional regulation, and high enlistment rates in the IDF, national service, and preparatory programs.

The residential trauma care consists of five residential homes, providing a continuous, structured framework from admission to completion. Each year, around 50 girls reside at the facility, and since its establishment, more than 1,000 girls have been treated there. The professional staff, including the director, social workers, house coordinators, counselors, and volunteer gap-year mentors, provides round-the-clock therapeutic support, accompanying each girl on her journey of rehabilitation and growth.

The Return Home – Challenge and Recovery

In March 2024, after spending five months in an alternative facility in Jerusalem, we returned to Eden residential trauma care in Kibbutz Karmia. Although the area was still designated a war zone, the girls and staff chose to come back home—to what was familiar and safe, to a sense of belonging that cannot be replaced.

The return was emotional but also challenging. Alongside the excitement and joy, we faced a new reality: a building that had sustained a direct missile hit on October 7 and required renovation, staff members who had lost family members, many who remained displaced and could not return, and families of girls who were afraid to come back to the Gaza border region. At the same time, new girls were admitted, and new staff members were trained to ensure the residential trauma care could continue operating 24/7.

Thanks to generous donations from our partners, Yahalom House, which had been damaged, was restored and once again became a warm, vibrant, and lively home.

The physical rehabilitation was accompanied by emotional recovery, which required a significant expansion of the support and treatment system. Thanks to the support of donors and partners, we strengthened the individual and group therapy services and provided the girls and staff with a variety of tailored treatments: psychotherapy, art therapy, movement therapy, animal-assisted therapy, EMDR, and DBT. Each month brought noticeable changes—improvements in security, behavior, and a sense of belonging.

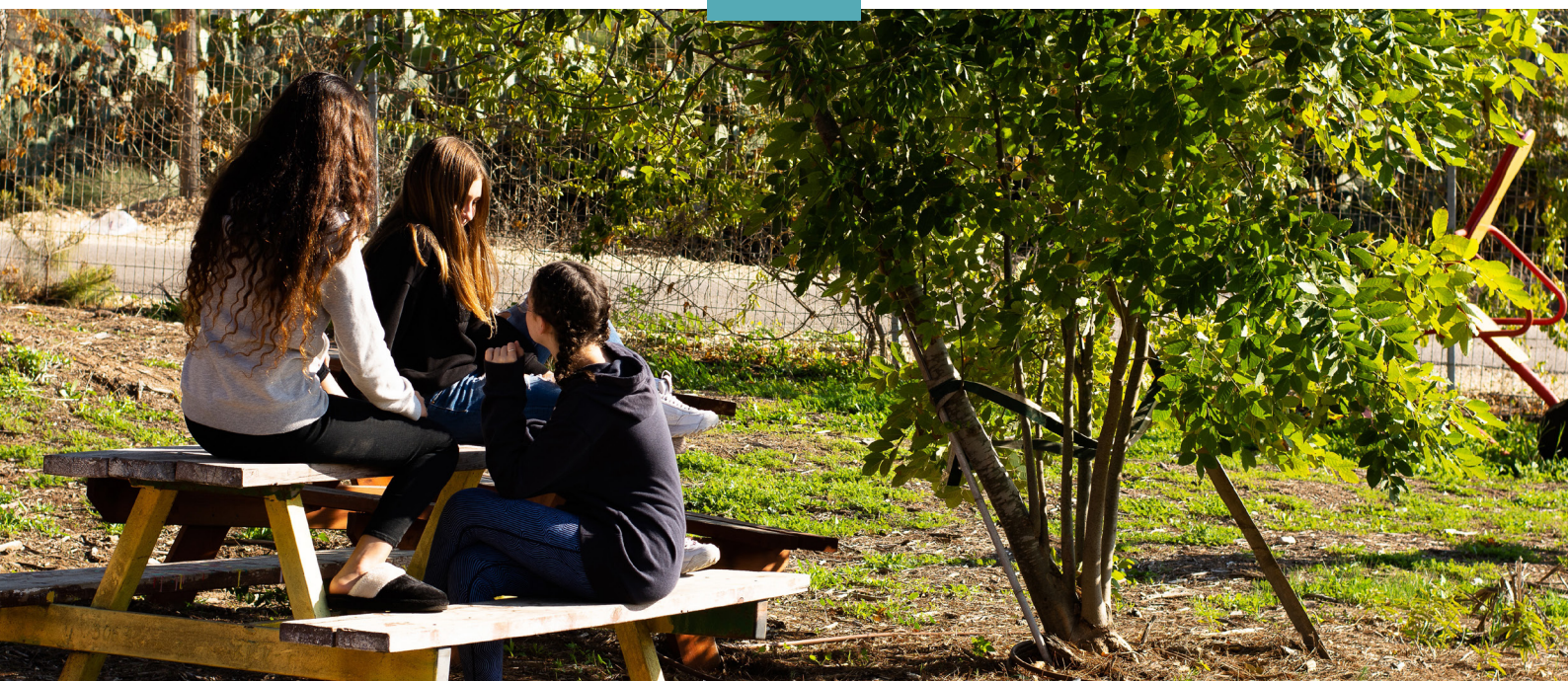
Life at the residential trauma care is returning to normal, but the journey continues. In the upcoming year of activity, we will continue to expand the emotional support system for both the girls and the staff to enable them to continue growing, despite and because of all that they have been through.

Cultural Capital – Expanding Horizons, Building the Future

This year, we also continued implementing the “Cultural Capital” program, based on the understanding that the knowledge, abilities, and values a person acquires during their life, especially in childhood, are a central component of their social mobility. Exposure to culture and education not only broadens horizons but also strengthens self-efficacy, boosts self-confidence, and creates meaning.

Throughout the year, the girls participated in a wide range of enrichment and cultural activities: lectures and tours at museums, visits to business companies, workshops to improve academic skills and open new horizons, watching plays and movies, nature hikes, and weekly enrichment classes.

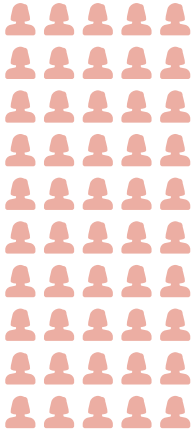
The highlight of the program was the trip abroad as part of the “Cultural Capital” initiative. The girls from the senior house had the opportunity to participate in a unique trip abroad. In 2024, the girls traveled to Amsterdam, Netherlands, where they met with our partners from the CVI Foundation. They toured, visited galleries and cultural sites, experienced a different lifestyle, and learned the importance of learning English and the ability to communicate with different cultures. For many of them, this was their first time leaving Israel.



EDEN RESIDENTIAL TRAUMA CARE IN NUMBERS

50

girls treated at Eden residential trauma care in 2024



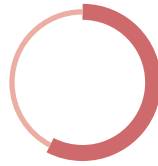
1 staff member for every **2** girls



5 houses in the residential trauma care, each with **8-14** girls

25

girls enrolled in the residential trauma care during 2024

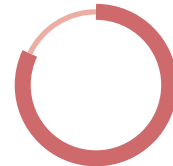


56% of girls were referred to the residential trauma care under a court order

44% girls who are not under a court order

25

girls continued from previous years



84% of girls with a post-hospital profile

16% of girls with a treatment profile

3

the average length of stay for a girl at the residential trauma care

12-19 age range of the girls

18%

of girls who have been at the residential trauma care for more than three years

15.5 the average age of the girls

48%

of girls residing in towns between Hadera and Gedera

38%

of girls from the southern region

14%

of girls from the northern region

Education, Growth, and Resilience

The year 2024 began with a tremendous challenge. Due to the war that broke out three months earlier, we found ourselves in a temporary residential facility in Jerusalem, facing the great challenge of maintaining a new and stable educational framework with a new, temporary staff recruited in Jerusalem, as well as the emotional challenges the girls were experiencing due to the situation. Amid the uncertainty and emotional upheaval the girls went through, the rapid stabilization of the educational framework became a steady anchor for the girls, helping them regulate their emotions and connect to a sense of self-efficacy.

Returning Home – Challenges and New Beginnings

In March 2024, after five months, we returned home to Kibbutz Karmia. The return was not simple because the teachers had been evacuated since the beginning of the war. Thus, for the second time in six months, we had to recruit a new educational team and train them to work according to the Eden model. The challenges were many, but with determination, dedication, and the support of our partners, we successfully stabilized the school and returned to the educational path.

Personalized Learning for Success

Each girl receives a personalized curriculum based on her academic situation when she arrived at the school and her potential for where she aims to go. The lessons take place in small groups with close supervision. Thus, even girls who have faced significant academic gaps due to complex life experiences can complete their 12 years of schooling and receive a full high school diploma.

Beyond Education – Striving for Excellence and Expanding Horizons

In addition to the regular curriculum, the school operates a unique program in two tracks:

Striving for Academic Excellence – Professional reinforcement in mathematics, English, and Hebrew, aimed at bridging gaps and providing each girl with a strong foundation for future integration into academia and employment.

Enrichment and Exposure to Diverse Fields – The girls participate in tours to museums, theater performances, enrichment clubs, workshops, and trips, alongside practical training in various fields. In 2024, they took part in a learning strategies course, first aid training by Magen David Adom, agricultural and therapeutic gardening lessons, Playback theater workshops, video-therapy courses, animal therapy, and more.

Educational Innovation – Makerspace

In 2024, we made a dream come true, and thanks to our partners, we began establishing an advanced learning space at the school – the Makerspace. This space is much more than just an educational tool – it creates an innovative and empowering experience that fosters curiosity, creativity, and independent thinking.

Through working with advanced technologies, diverse materials, and creative processes, the girls develop problem-solving skills, teamwork, and the ability to face challenges – essential skills in the changing world of the 21st century. Eden School is not just an educational institution – it is a space for growth and renewal, providing the girls with the tools, confidence, and sense of capability on their way to independence and a better future.

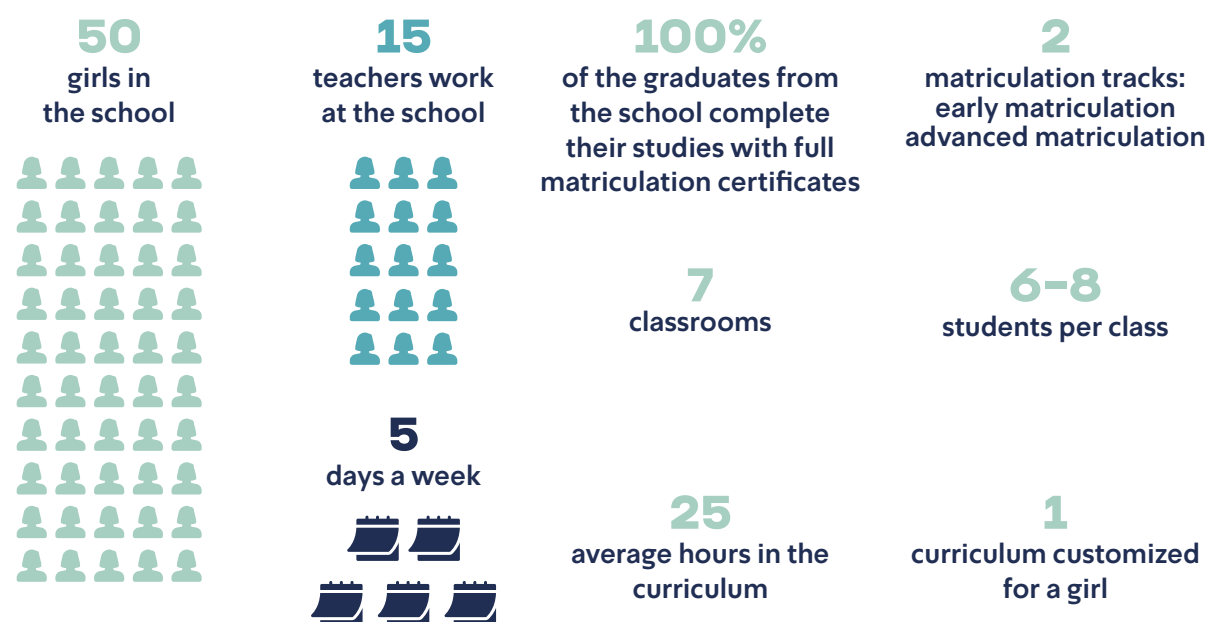
Netball – Sports as a Way to Strengthen Personal and Community Skills

In 2024, the netball team was launched for the first time, a project that began with 11 girls with the goal of promoting not only their athletic skills but also values such as cooperation, perseverance, and dealing with challenges. The team participates in a school league, where it competes with other teams and becomes an ambassador for Eden residential trauma care in both sports and the educational values it promotes.

Joining the team is part of a broader therapeutic process aimed at not only improving physical fitness but also strengthening the girls’ social and personal skills, developing team consciousness, shared pride, and, of course, a sense of self-efficacy. The games provide a supportive platform for excellence and striving to maximize abilities, as well as an opportunity for the girls to develop skills in time management, perseverance, working under pressure, and aiming for a common goal.

The girls’ joining the team and participating in the local league expands each girl’s ability to overcome personal difficulties and grow under challenging conditions, reflecting Eden residential trauma care fascinating path in creating real change in the girls’ lives.

EDEN SCHOOL IN NUMBERS



EDEN FOR LIFE – PREPARATORY PROGRAM

Preparing for Independent Adulthood and Employment Integration

The Eden for Life Program is an annual program aimed at young women aged 19–26 who come with a background of post-trauma and/or lack of family support. The goal of the program is to provide them with a holistic treatment framework alongside professional preparation for independent living and employment so that they acquire the tools and skills to lead adult and independent lives, with an emphasis on job stability and financial security. Additionally, in the pre-academic program, the young women build social connections with a group of peers, which later become a great support for them. They also go on trips, seminars, and cultural activities, enriching their lives. Alongside their development in the employment aspect, they accumulate enjoyable experiences that help to enrich their lives.

The program lasts 10 months, with 6 months in a residential framework and 4 months with personal guidance in the community.

Challenges of Opening the Program in 2024

The third cycle of the program was scheduled to open in November 2023, in collaboration with the National Insurance Institute and the “Yated” program, but due to the war, it was postponed to September 2024. Meanwhile, due to the events and the urgent need to provide specialized trauma treatment for the women of the Gaza Periphery and surrounding areas, we immediately faced the challenges of the situation and converted the Eden for Life residential compound into therapy rooms for the association’s new treatment center.

Thus, an additional challenge arose of finding an alternative location for the program, immediate renovation of the structure, and preparing the necessary fortification. All of this, alongside recruiting a completely new staff and training them, so that we could accommodate the young women in September 2024.

A Wide Range of Responses: Soft Skills, Workshops, Courses, and Professional Knowledge

The Eden for Life program offers a wide range of responses aimed at providing young women with emotional, personal, and professional tools. In the emotional aspect, the young women receive weekly therapy and guidance, both individually and in groups, based on the Eden model. In the professional realm, the young women undergo occupational assessments and are guided by an employment coordinator in building a personal plan and setting goals, which chart the unique path for each one and lead them to quality employment integration, with personal guidance and mentoring.

Additionally, there is a wide range of workshops designed to help them acquire knowledge relevant to the world of work, such as courses for employment integration, CV preparation, successful interview practices, lectures on employer-employee relationships, understanding pay slips, as well as simulation days for job interviews that simulate the entire process from job selection, submitting CVs, to receiving feedback from the interviewer. Moreover, they receive reinforcement in professional knowledge, such as improving English, digital literacy courses, and financial management workshops.

Among the workshops, there are those focused on developing soft skills and personal qualities, learning self-regulation skills using the DBT method, and guidance that helps remove personal and gender-related barriers.

On-the-Job Training

From the first month of the program, all the young women are integrated into work and receive individual and group guidance to deal with the challenges that arise. The guidance focuses on strengthening the young women's abilities to develop a personal portfolio of possibilities and building ways to cope with challenges.

EDEN FOR LIFE PROGRAM IN NUMBERS



CASE STUDY

A. a 21-year-old young woman, joined the Eden for Life Program after struggling with complex post-trauma from her childhood, without any supportive family backing.

When she began her journey in the program, her adjustment was challenging. She arrived with many defenses, deep distrust, and limited ability to express her emotions. Anger, swearing, outbursts at others, and difficulty maintaining basic communication with listening and mutual interest were all part of her initial experience.

After a turbulent period, A. had a moment of openness and decided to share her desire to commit to the process, though she faced difficulties that were preventing her from doing so. Her honesty led to two months of reflection and significant struggles. However, during this time, A. began to acquire emotional and mental regulation skills and to build trust—both in herself and in her surroundings. The frequency and intensity of her anger and outbursts gradually decreased. After about four months, she shared: **“I realize that the opportunity I’m getting here, I’ve never had before. No one ever believed in me like this or wanted the best for me like I do.”**

In the last two months, A. has been fully utilizing all the tools available to her by the staff, the professional content, the Eden model, and her personal goal-setting program. Today, she is excited about starting the next phase of her life, equipped with new abilities and self-confidence



EDEN ITU

TRAUMA TREATMENT FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN

THANK YOU FROM US AT EDEN ASSOCIATION

We turn to 2025

Hoping it will be a year of blessed action, healing, rehabilitation, growth, strengthening of personal and national resilience, and peace.

