

October 11, 2023 / 26 Tishrei 5784

Dear Ramah Mishpacha,

The past few days have been terrifying and tragic. The brutal massacre committed by Hamas terrorists invading our homeland has horrified us, decimated families, and shattered our souls.

We are already mourning the loss of friends and family of Ramah shlichim and Ramah alumni who have made aliyah; we are sending chizuk to our chayalim (Amy's son included) and the thousands of shlichim called for reserve duty. We have communicated with all of our shlichim spanning the past two decades (letter below) to send them our unconditional love and support, and we have received responses from over a thousand of them.

We know that our Ramah family is deeply connected to the land and people of Israel. This love is nurtured at each of our camps. This tragedy affects each and everyone of us.

As we watch the news unfold, please know that we are here to support one another. We hope you will join us on Zoom at Sunday, October 15, at 12 noon ET / 7 pm Israel Time for a brief Ramah Mishpacha Solidarity Gathering for Israel—an opportunity for Ramahniks across the world and the decades to be together in song and solidarity.

Here is the <u>registration link</u> for this event.

We are organizing college and young alumni gatherings and will reach out to all of our college-age staff in the coming days to offer support as they confront difficult situations on college campuses. By early next week, we will have a webpage dedicated to educational and parenting resources, in addition to updates from our shlichim and opportunities to donate to specific causes. You will be able to access this information from our website, campramah.org

We encourage you to <u>send a message of support to Ramah shlichim</u>. We will be compiling these messages and sending them to our shlichim on a weekly basis.

We are sending our heartfelt tefillot to the current heroes of Israel. May God watch over them as they defend us.

Arnie Harris, President Amy Skopp Cooper, Director National Ramah Commission, Inc