

Some Suggested Resources for Children and Those Talking with Children & Some Charitable Organizations to Consider Supporting

These resources are for parents who want to talk with their children about what is happening in Israel and Palestine:

- HOW we can talk with our children of all ages, with very specific language, from 10/9/2023
<https://www.kveller.com/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-whats-happening-in-israel-right-now/>
- WHY we may want to talk with our children of all ages, from a few years ago:
<https://www.kveller.com/heres-how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-the-violence-in-israel-and-gaza/>
- This NPR clip encourages parents to be proactive about talking with their children so they hear it from you: <https://www.npr.org/2023/10/11/1205017249/how-to-talk-to-children-violence-israeli-palestinian-gaza-hamas>

These resources have some good context and basic information that will be helpful for anybody trying to understand what is happening:

- For Grades 6-12, this Facing History mini-lesson has good briefings about the situation, for adults and teens, and excellent structure for talking with older youth: <https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/processing-attacks-israel-outbreak-war-region>
- For context and deeper discussion, Reframing Israel: Teaching Jewish Kids to think critically about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (<http://reframingisrael.org/>) is a curriculum created by Reconstructionist leaders.

General Resources for being with/talking with our children about frightening news and violence (some with various ages and stages):

- This article by Harold S. Koplewicz, MD, from the Child-Mind Institute, talks about helping children cope with and process difficult events: [Helping Children Cope with Frightening News](#)
- [How to Talk to Your Children About Conflict and War](#): UNICEF's guide offers eight tips to support and comfort your children.
- [Handle with Care: Supporting Young People During Crises](#): Learning for Justice offers recommendations and resources to help guide conversations with young people and to manage potential subsequent actions and reactions.
- [How to Talk to Kids About Violence, Crime, and War](#): Common Sense Media gathers tips and conversation starters to help you talk to kids of different ages about the toughest topics.

If you want to take action through tzedakah, here are just some of the charitable organizations you may wish to consider supporting:

New Israel Fund

NIF's network of NGOs in Israel have a 4-part emergency response plan they've activated, and they are asking for donations at this time to implement it. The plan focuses on:

- **Basic care for the most vulnerable groups:** While the country reels from this attack, we must make sure that no communities are left behind. Families in the kibbutzim near the Gaza Border are still not reunited and may not have the access to care that they need. A number of Bedouin citizens from unrecognized villages in the South have been killed and many more injured. With very little infrastructure – including very few bomb shelters—and decades of neglect by consecutive governments, this community needs urgent support to ensure that basic care is available for those injured, left homeless, and for those needing arrangements for the dead.
- **Combating violent speech and incitement online:** Ever since news of the attack first broke, right-wing extremists have been calling for revenge and attempting to escalate an already dangerous episode by inciting hatred and fomenting violence in mixed Arab-Jewish cities and towns throughout the country. Learning from past experiences, we know how quickly and easily these kinds of inciting messages can spread and lead to conflicts and conflagrations on the ground. We need to help de-escalate, de-platform and disempower these voices online.
- **Preventing inter-communal violence in mixed cities:** Through focused efforts with municipalities, the media, and local grassroots leaders, we have to work to prevent the spread of violence into mixed Arab and Jewish cities.
- **Mental health and trauma counseling:** We know that yesterday was among the most terrifying and traumatizing days for Israelis in recent memory. People are shocked and reeling and we know that when that shock begins to fade, there will be a massive need for trauma counseling and mental health support for many, including civil society leaders, who will need to show up for their communities and lead long-term efforts even as they deal with their own trauma.

To donate to the New Israel Fund, go to this link: <https://www.nif.org/nifs-emergency-response-plan/>

Magen David Adom

Magen David Adom is Israel's "Red Cross". It has activated all 1,400 of its ambulances and is treating the wounded, often while under rocket attack and gunfire themselves.

To donate to Magen David Adom, go to this link: <https://afmda.org/>

Rebuilding Alliance

For 20 years, Rebuilding Alliance has been providing aid and advocacy to Palestinian families throughout the West Bank, in Gaza, and East Jerusalem. Our goal from the start was to support Palestinian Human Rights

To donate to Rebuilding Alliance, go to this link: <https://www.rebuildingalliance.org/>

(This list continues onto the next page.)

World Union for Progressive Judaism Emergency Appeal

Reconstructing Judaism is a member movement of the WUPJ. Their emergency appeal is focusing on providing funds for immediate needs, informal educational programs and childcare, elderly assistance, mental health counseling, and more.

To donate to the World Union for Progressive Judaism Emergency Appeal, go to this link: <https://wupj.org/emergency-appeal-to-help-israeli-victims-of-terror/>

Dror Israel Emergency Response

- **Supporting evacuees:** Day care and programs for traumatized children and youth are desperately needed for families who have been evacuated from Gaza border communities under attack to Dead Sea Hotels, our boarding school in Mitzpe Ramon, and more.
- **Youth counselors in bomb shelters:** In underprivileged communities where people don't have safe rooms in their homes, our experienced youth educators are running therapeutic and educational programs for children and families in Rehovot and Ashkelon, with more locations opening as soon as deemed safe.
- **Day care for children of hospital workers and other essential staff:** We are currently fielding requests from hospitals throughout Israel to set up day care centers for children of doctors, nurses, and staff so they can treat the injured while schools are closed.
- **Support for children and families sheltering in place:** We are providing in-person and online programming, distributing activity kits and other educational materials in Sderot, Ashkelon, Rehovot, and more.

To donate to the Dror Israel Emergency Response, go to this link: <https://www.drorisrael.org/donate>