
HANDS OF MERCY ISRAEL

ADOPTION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Adoption Story –October 2015



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YAAKOV AND SARAH A.
SDEROT

Yaakov and Sarah A. are a severely ill elderly couple who come from an ancient Jewish community in Derbent (now belonging to the Republic of Dagestan, Russia). Yaakov was born in 1937 in Derbent, and Sara born there too. They have immigrated to Israel in the era of Soviet persecution of Zionist Jews, almost 40 years ago. Sadly, both Yaakov and Sarah are now severely ill. Although Yaakov has sarcoma (skin cancer) and he can hardly walk, he faithfully cares for Sarah, who is now bedbound. The couple lives on the fifth floor in an apartment building and Sarah has not had the chance to get out of the flat for two years. During the last few months Sarah was falling on the floor whenever she tried to summon her strength to get up from the bed.

Unfortunately, the couple is only visited by a community nurse for a few hours a week. Sarah and Yaakov are childless, but Yaakov has a son and a daughter from his first marriage. Sadly, the children can't help with the day to day care of Sarah and Yaakov, as they live far away in the North of Israel. As a cancer patient, Yaakov is struggling to care for his bedridden wife and to deal with the day to day struggles of life. The couple can hardly afford to pay for Sarah's medicines, which are very expensive.

When our team arrived to visit this elderly couple Yaakov was very distraught. Sarah is on oxygen and her machine was not working and the alarm was going off. Sarah was afraid and breathing hard. Our team member knelt with Sarah and spoke softly to her to calm her down and told her that everything was going to be ok. Thankfully, after quick prayers and some phone calls, the machine started working.

Sarah is experiencing severe depression to the extent that she is often asking G-D to take her life. Whenever she is not asleep, she cries all time. Jacob and Sarah are experiencing a very hard time in their lives. Our heart was broken for this couple who truly need the peace and presence of the L-RD in their home and lives. The pictures on the wall showed a younger couple full of life and it was so sad to see the heartache and pain that they now experience.

If you and/or your congregation would like to help this dear family find The L-RD's help through this difficult time, check out our website for the 'Adoption-Sponsorship Program' and contact us for details.

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