



לשכת ראש העיר  
Mayor's Office

To my JNF family,

I can't use words to adequately describe how I feel, how the people of Sderot feel, about your gift of the recreation center. The truth is I don't need to use words. Just stand in the doorway of the most beautiful facility in the world and listen to the sounds of the children. They are laughing, they are shrieking gleefully, they are happy, they are being children. You have given back their childhoods and there are no words for our emotions.

Gaza is home to the workshops that produce Kassam rockets 24 hours a day. Those for whom terror and war are a way of life delight in the production of yet more instruments of destruction and death. They send these rockets to our city and the entire region while sowing ruin and anguish.

This has been our lot for eight years, day in and day out, hour after hour. We have experienced endless suffering, a heavy burden and much anxiety not knowing what to expect or what lies ahead.

Yet another Kassam lands, another hole in the earth gapes wide, another building is damaged, another soul becomes agitated.

But the people of Israel -- the people who live in Sderot and around the Gaza Strip, the people who strive for normalcy, seeking peace and tranquility -- we, will not be deterred. We will not leave. This is our home.

As Oren, a 12-year-old girl said at the center's dedication ceremony: "Life here isn't easy. But I promise every single one of you -- nothing can break us. We are here to stay. Thank you."

With respect and appreciation,

David Bouskila

Mayor

"שמרנו ילדי של הקורא"