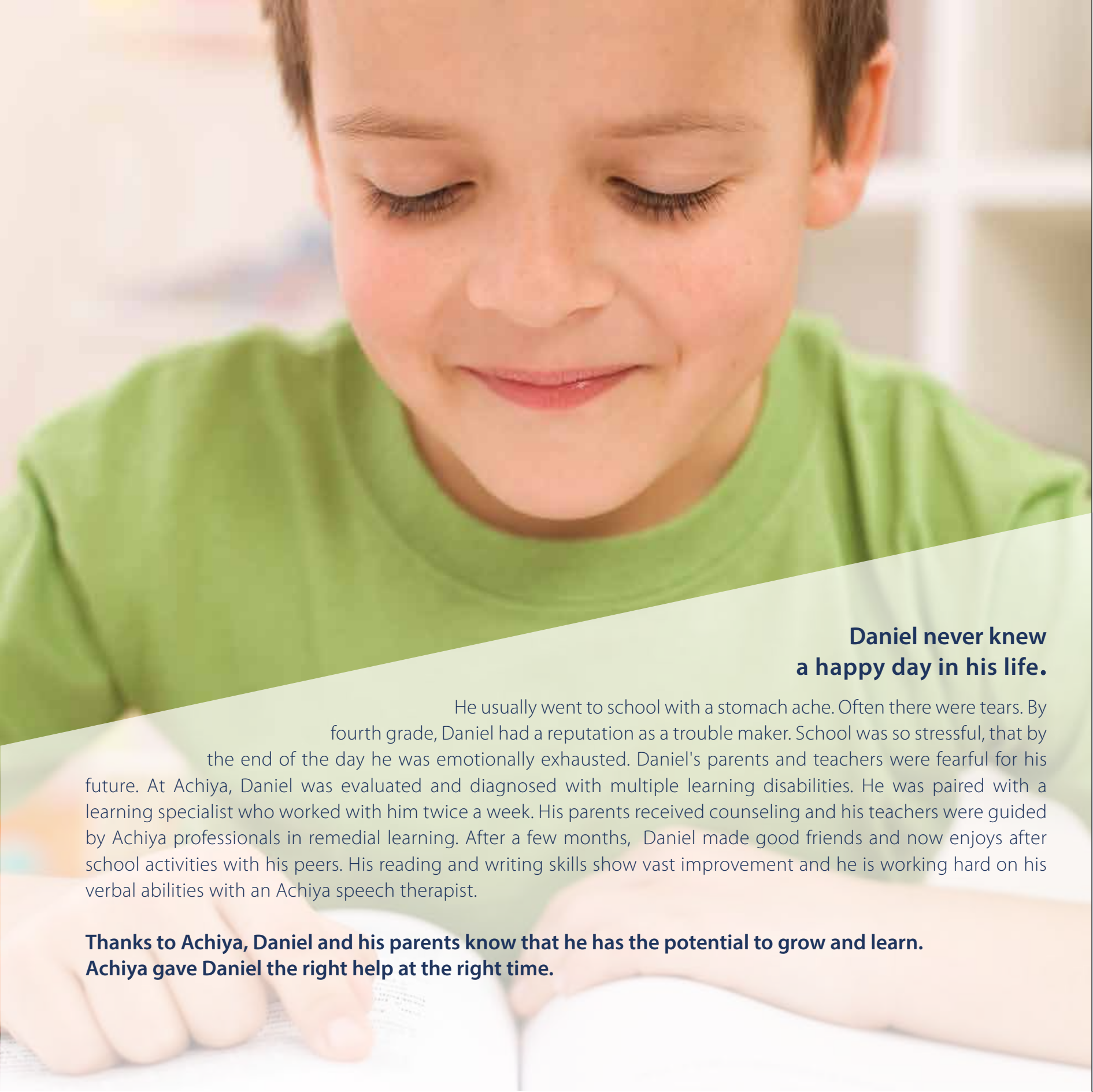




*Our children
Our youth
Our future*

*Early detection
and intervention
save children*



Daniel never knew a happy day in his life.

He usually went to school with a stomach ache. Often there were tears. By fourth grade, Daniel had a reputation as a trouble maker. School was so stressful, that by the end of the day he was emotionally exhausted. Daniel's parents and teachers were fearful for his future. At Achiya, Daniel was evaluated and diagnosed with multiple learning disabilities. He was paired with a learning specialist who worked with him twice a week. His parents received counseling and his teachers were guided by Achiya professionals in remedial learning. After a few months, Daniel made good friends and now enjoys after school activities with his peers. His reading and writing skills show vast improvement and he is working hard on his verbal abilities with an Achiya speech therapist.

Thanks to Achiya, Daniel and his parents know that he has the potential to grow and learn. Achiya gave Daniel the right help at the right time.

Achiya is the only organization in Israel offering a comprehensive solution that combines a complete program of educational and therapeutic interventions for learning and developmentally disabled youngsters with an accredited program of educational training for teachers.



"Achiya is a catalyst for change in the ultra-orthodox education system, providing professional support and training within the community.

Achiya's work is a key factor in these children's success in school and in life."

Uri Maklev, Member of Knesset

Through educational and developmental intervention programs for children, support for parents, and professional training for teachers, Achiya is transforming attitudes about learning disabilities, especially in the ultra-orthodox (haredi) sector.

A positive educational environment and an effectively trained teacher are the key components to ensuring a generation of well balanced and educated youth. The recognition of signs of developmental or learning difficulties and early intervention can only be accomplished with a high level of knowledge and professionalism throughout the educational system.

Early detection and intervention save children

We believe that every child deserves an opportunity to realize his potential.

Achiya offers in-house interventions in the Achiya Learning and Child Development Centers as well as on-site and in-classroom services throughout Israel.

Achiya provides educational and developmental intervention for children with learning disabilities while they remain in a regular educational framework.

In providing children with the tools they need to succeed in life, we prevent them from dropping out of school, becoming social outcasts or worse. To put it simply,




Achiya saves children before they need to be saved.



Our five step approach is unique in Israel:

1. **Detection:** Achiya trains teachers to identify children in their classroom who may need supplemental help.
2. **Assessment, support and professional teachers' training:** Achiya tests children and provides professional, non-judgmental support for parents and teachers.
3. **Treatment:** Once a plan is set, Achiya provides professional therapies and remedial learning at multi-disciplinary treatment centers.
4. **Location:** Children remain in their regular classroom as much as possible and are tutored on school premises or at one of Achiya's professional facilities.
5. **Awareness:** Achiya raises awareness in the community of the need to help learning delayed children and stresses the importance of early diagnosis and intervention.



-  Achiya center for children and their families
-  Teacher Training Branch
-  Outreach programs for children in schools



Learning and Development Centers

Achiya's Learning and Development Centers provide highly specialized educational and therapeutic interventions for children from birth to 15 years old affected by a wide spectrum of issues.



The centers have treated over 21,000 children since 1993 with individual therapy sessions and/or specialized remedial tutoring ranging from slight learning disabilities to ADHD and special needs.

Achiya's public awareness campaign has significantly minimized the stigma associated with therapeutic intervention. As a result, children are receiving the help they need at an earlier age, increasing the therapy's effectiveness and decreasing the amount of time needed in therapy.



"My Noam is a new child. You've granted him a huge gift by giving him the tools he needs to succeed at school and at home. Our family life is so much better thanks to Achiya."

Esther, mother of Noam, age 11

Achiya's Services:

-  Didactic and psychological evaluations 
-  Remedial learning in reading, writing and Gemara study 
-  Consultations with social workers and psychologists 
-  Speech and language therapy 
-  Physical therapy 
-  Occupational therapy 
-  Hydrotherapy 
-  Creative emotional therapy:
 - Music therapy
 - Art therapy
 - Drama therapy
 - Psycho-drama therapy
 - Play therapy

Tuesday is "Special Downs Day" at Achiya.

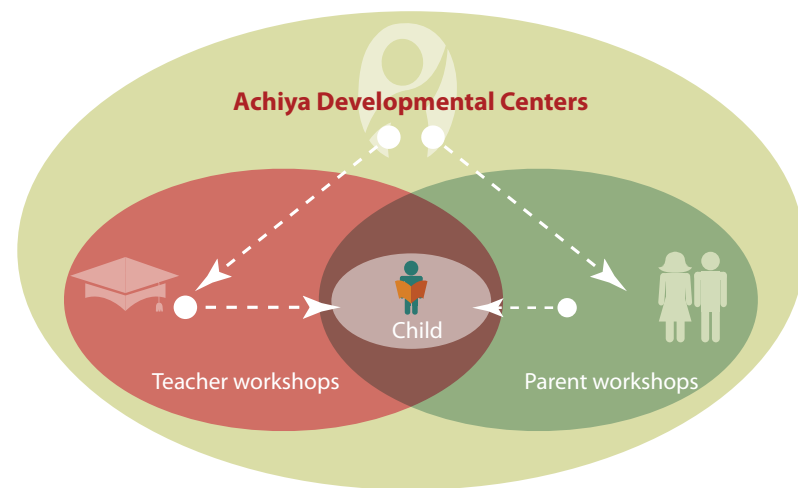
While parents of these special children get to share a cup of coffee and moral support, their kids are busy receiving all the necessary therapies they require in a one day consolidated program. Achiya provides parents with emotional and logistical support and each child with an individualized program to maximize his potential.



Early Childhood Intervention Programs

Early identification and treatment of learning and developmental disabilities is the first step in ensuring a successful school experience. Awareness of this issue is on the rise, yet thousands of children are still not receiving the corrective services they need due to a lack of trained professionals.

Since 2005, the Achiya early childhood outreach programs have screened over 12,000 children for signs of learning disabilities, ADHD and developmental delays. More than 2,750 children have received long term in-school treatments.



"Maagan Achiya" Kindergarten Screening Program

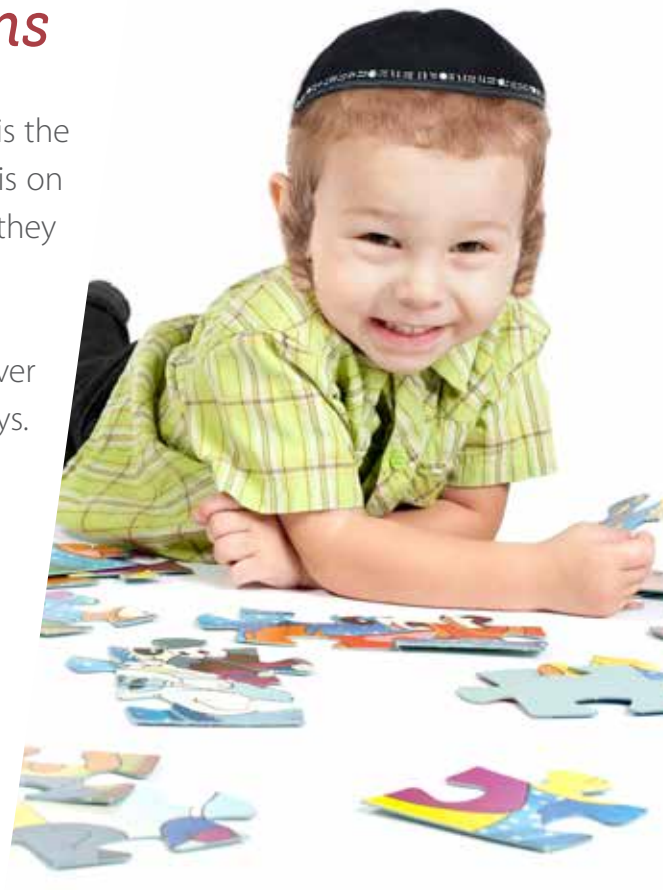
The first all-encompassing screening program in haredi pre-schools.

- Screening by speech and occupational therapists
- Referral to community clinics for children with serious disabilities
- Developmental assistance within the kindergarten for children with mild to medium difficulties
- Emotional support in the kindergarten
- Teacher workshops on child development and tools for screening and identification
- Parent workshops on early childhood development and parenting



5,250 children,
175 pre-school classes

Maagan Achiya is integrated into the pre-school system in Holon, Bnei Brak and Elad supported by the municipalities, the National Program for Children at Risk and the Bernard van Leer Foundation.



"A Taste of Honey" Skills Promotion Program

Advancing the development of pre-school children in the haredi community by training and empowering teachers, principals and parents to imbue learning and life skills in the formative years.

A Taste of Honey is a pilot program in seven communities supported by JDC-Ashalim and Israel's Ministry of Education. A group of veteran educators is being trained to teach other pre-school teachers via workshops and mentoring to:

- Create an enriching classroom environment that fosters language skills, positive interpersonal relationships and emotional intelligence
- Screen children for developmental/language delays, social awkwardness and emotional problems via observation, questionnaires and behavioral assessments
- Help children overcome social awkwardness, emotional problems and/or developmental/language difficulties



2,520 children, 84 pre-school classes,
84 pre-school teachers



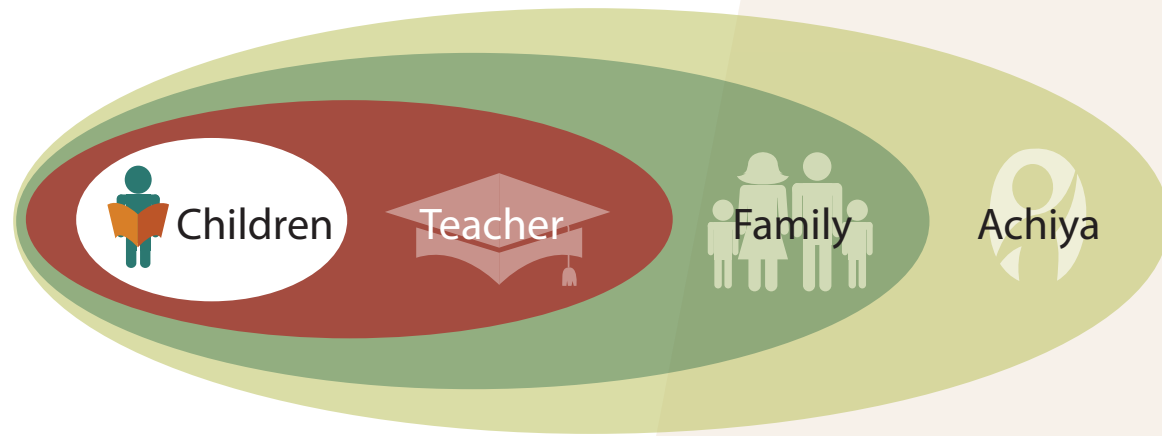
"Achiya's circles of influence stretch far beyond the program participants. The entire community benefits from Achiya's emphasis on early intervention and teacher training. Their model should be replicated country-wide."

Arlette Moyal, Head of Social Services, Bnei Brak Municipality



Teachers Training College

Achiya established a Ministry of Education certified professional program for haredi teachers with branches across Israel.



Teacher's training has taught the educators to recognize early signs of potential learning disabilities and other developmental difficulties. Their increased professionalism, knowledge and understanding of the issues have led to greater compassion for the children, increased patience for their lack of conformity and improved communication with pupils and their parents.

Our 5,000 graduates have changed the Talmud Torah (ultra-orthodox schools for boys) educational system in Israel. Another 1,200 students are currently studying in the college's 15 branches from Sefad in the North to Netivot in the South. ***This is nothing short of a revolution a revolution in haredi education!***

Achiya offers a B.Ed in collaboration with Seminar Hakibbutzim. 70 students have already finished their first year of study and 110 new students are enrolled.

Academic certification, especially for the orthodox male teachers, creates opportunity for increased pay scale within the community as well as opportunities for employment outside of the community.



The College has changed the face of haredi education in Israel

"I've seen the students in my classroom who are suddenly engaged, no longer bored, who are excited about learning, all because I changed my teaching style. I don't need to punish any more. I hope Achiya's program will be available to all Talmud Torah teachers because I absolutely know that it works."

Moshe Chevron, Modiin Illit, graduate of Achiya's Teacher Education Course



Teachers Training Impact

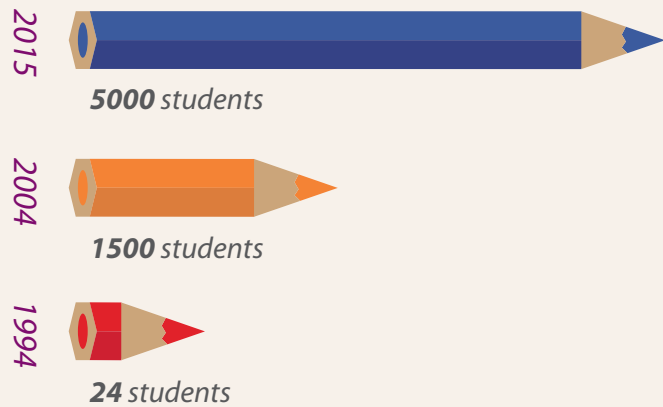
In just 20 years, we have grown from 24 students studying in one classroom to more than 1,200 students attending classes in 15 branches located throughout the country. A total of 5,000 students from all over Israel graduated from the Achiya Training College since its inception in 1994. 150 B.A. graduates have trained as Educational Counselors becoming the most influential professionals in the haredi community. Many are pursuing M.A. degrees and are lecturers in the Achiya Training program.

Achiya's graduates teach in regular elementary schools, special education frameworks and pre-schools. They are educational counselors, didactic evaluators, principals and school administrators.



The 5,000 pre-school, elementary school and special education teachers, educational counselors and didactic diagnosticians trained at the Achiya College teach in various orthodox educational institutions throughout Israel and play a major role by introducing social change in the following areas:

1. Raising the quality of education within the ultra-orthodox schools.
2. Promoting community awareness regarding the importance of early intervention.
3. Improving communication with pupils and their parents.



Joint Achiya- US Embassy Program

30 Achiya Teachers Training College students participate in a special English language course funded by the American Embassy. Our teachers improve their language teaching skills and benefit from their exposure to American culture.



ADHD Program

Children with ADHD tend to be of above average intelligence and very creative. With help, they can learn to harness their talents and become leaders. Instead, many suffer through school, rebel and wreak havoc at home and in school. Achiya established an innovative ADHD program in 2011, with the support of the National Insurance Institute's Foundation for Children at Risk, targeting boys ages 6-11 in the city of Bnei Brak. The city's 181,000 citizens are mostly ultra-orthodox, characterized by large families of low socio-economic status.

The Achiya ADHD Program is unique in that it provides comprehensive care to the whole child – from screening, to evaluation and action, all within the school framework.



Over 3,000 children ages 6-11 were screened for signs of ADHD. 290 children learned how to turn a challenge into an asset.

- Support groups give parents the tools to contend with their child's disability and to provide ALL of their children with a positive and supportive family environment.
- Teachers discover that children with ADHD can be reached, and receive guidance on how to do so.
- School principals, as community change agents, impress upon parents and teachers that with the right support children with ADHD can succeed.
- The Community has increased recognition of ADHD as an issue that must be treated. The real stigma is in the denial of ADHD and its effects.

"Our school system stresses in-depth text based study. Youngsters with ADHD suffer terribly, both socially and educationally from their lack of ability to focus. Our program saves these kids from dropping out of the system by giving them not just learning skills, but emotional support. Achiya is turning their lives around!"

Mordechai Beeri, renowned educator and head of the ADHD Program



The Achiya Children's Community Library

Seventy six thousand children live in Bnei Brak, yet there is not one public library to serve their needs!

Haredi parents want their children to read lifestyle appropriate literature that coincides with their values. For that reason, in recent years specialized libraries have been opened in Jerusalem, Modiin Illit and Beitar Illit. They are the most frequently visited libraries in all of Israel! Achiya is designing a fully accessible, open and inviting children's library on the 3rd floor of the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Learning Center in Bnei Brak, so that ALL the children in the area, including those with special needs, will be welcome.

The Achiya library programs will emphasize inclusion, creating an atmosphere of acceptance and respect. In partnership with the National Insurance Institute, the library will serve as a community based resource center for parents and teachers. The library staff will undergo disability awareness training.

The Achiya library will provide a warm, inclusive home for ALL local children, including those with disabilities, fostering togetherness and intellectual growth. There is no other library like this in Israel!



Partner with us and help more children
LEARN THAT THEY CAN.



Support from
philanthropic funders helps
develop new services and increases our
impact. Achiya is nationally recognized as leading the
improvement in our children's education and development.



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