

Shalom's Childhood

Shalom, the oldest of 6 children, was born into a poor, struggling family in Beit Shemesh. His parents Miriam and Yossi worked hard and earned minimum wage.

They came home exhausted every day. There was rarely time for homework supervision, fun outings or even bedtime stories for Shalom.

Shalom spent most of his time on the neighbourhood streets. At 13, Shalom was smoking regularly, hanging out with the wrong crowd, not even interested in his own bar mitzvah. Partying and surviving each day were Shalom's only goals. He was in the worst kind of negative spiral.



The Secret of Rabbi Katz

Rabbi Moshe Zev Katz of blessed memory, was a warm-hearted, idealistic Chassid.

His tremendous warmth and charisma attracted young people in particular.

He sought to help the large, struggling, immigrant community of Beit Shemesh, at a time when there was little spiritual leadership. Rabbi Katz did not judge. He took great interest in the lives of street youth. His powerful energy tapped the Jewish heartstrings of lost kids in Beit Shemesh over generations.

With simple clarity and conviction, Rabbi Katz reached out and changed Shalom's life forever, together with many of his friends.



"Rabbi Katz and his staff changed my life by giving it meaning. They believed in me and expected me to believe in myself. The day he challenged me to believe in myself as much as Gd believes in me, was the day I stopped smoking and started to figure out what I wanted to do with my life."

Yossi, TOM graduate.

Tiferet Ohel Moshe

Shalom underwent a lengthy rehabilitation over many years.

That's why the program works so effectively. The 'secret' to success is found in the personal, caring relationships that develop. Every teenager who joins the program is paired with a dedicated adult who bonds with him over learning, chatting and just hanging out over the course of years. Kids and counsellors meet in the evenings at the Tiferet Ohel Moshe's (TOM) program (which they lovingly call going to "Rav Katz" in honor of its founder, even though he passed away many years ago). They learn Torah together. They discuss life, and gain the support and direction that lasts a lifetime.

Today Shalom doesn't just busy himself with basic survival. He holds his head high with honesty and purpose.

Shalom is a husband, a father, a hard-worker, and an upstanding member of the community. He is a proud to be a Jew. Thanks to the leadership of Rabbi Katz and the informal educational system he established, Shalom is now giving back to his community by helping struggling teenagers who are finding their way in life. Shalom embraces teens in need with the warmth and genuine concern and understanding he learned from the team of educators at TOM.



"TOM is a program in name. But, more importantly, it is home to thousands of boys and men who matured here and still consider it their lifelong anchor."

Rabbi Mordechai Gottfried
Director of TOM

Rabbi Katz left a legacy. He was a dynamic man who loved every Jew and found that love reciprocated by all. Through teaching and caring for every aspect of the boys' lives, he made everyone feel important and helped them find purpose to their days.

Now the legacy must continue at TOM. So many teenagers in Beit Shemesh today need **your** support. With your help, together we will keep the TOM flame alive and empower more needy teens to take pride in their Jewish heritage. The Jewish flame burns brightly inside every child's soul. Honor those who laid the foundations for Jewish survival by supporting TOM in Israel. Your support will help these lost and troubled children, who are blameless.

When you extend a helping hand, you are saving a lost and troubled Jewish youth.

Join us today and give meaning
to the life of a troubled young Jew -
Your gift of life!



Rabbi Moshe Zev Katz



"Rabbi Katz made me realize that I am here in this world for a reason and that I have a purpose. Nobody had ever told me before that my life has value. Today I am trying to help TOM teens realize that their lives have value, too."

Shalom, TOM graduate
and current mentor.

TOM Youth Programs Include:

- 1. Daytime Youth Intervention Program** - for school drop outs. Counsellors offer ongoing care and support, with day-time activities and guidance.
Daily contact is maintained and progress is monitored until the teen enters the army at age 18.
- 2. Evening Youth Empowerment Program** – for 14-18 year olds from difficult family or social lives and high school drop outs who are working during the day.
- 3. Young Adult Futures Program** – Participants are 20-23 years old, have difficult family backgrounds and have generally suffered physical and/or emotional abuse.
This evening program helps rebuild their self-esteem and belief in building a healthy future. It is closely coordinated with the local welfare department.
- 4. Middle School Yeshiva Introduction Program** – There are two neighboring schools that send students to TOM on a regular basis. One is a local public school. 7th graders are matched with a TOM Kollel member to study Torah and Talmud in the classic “Chevrusa” style for a class period each week. The second school has a dormitory and students come from cities across Israel. Most have dropped out or been asked to leave schools in their own towns. They are looking to find themselves and discover their Jewish identity.

TOM gives teens important exposure to adult mentors - Kollel members who were once in the same terrible place and now volunteer their time and give back to these teens and young adults. Tiferet Ohel Moshe makes the Yeshiva a source of comfort and joy. It empowers youth to discover their positive character traits and instills in them the desire to achieve and succeed as adults.



"My teacher just told my mother how great I'm doing in school. That's because my TOM 'big brother' helps me with my homework and explains things I don't understand. We even do fun things together like bike rides and contests."

Ilan, age 14, regular TOM participant

Youth Programs at Tiferet Ohel Moshe have no space of their own. We are in dire need of your help so that we can enhance our programs and improve the areas for ongoing activities.

JOIN US TODAY AND Your Gift will
GRANT A BETTER LIFE TO A
TROUBLED TEEN IN ISRAEL.

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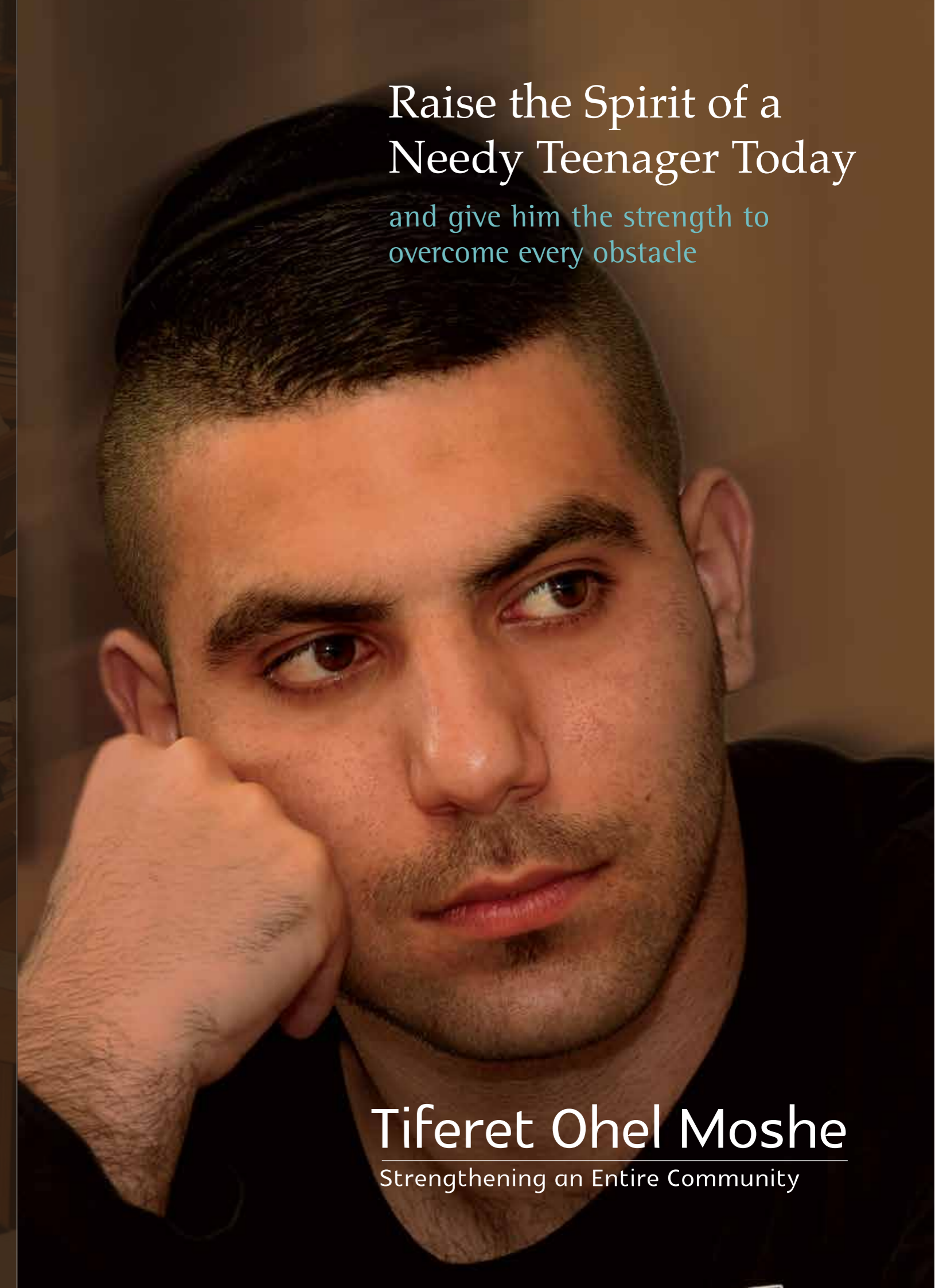
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Raise the Spirit of a
Needy Teenager Today
and give him the strength to
overcome every obstacle



Tiferet Ohel Moshe
Strengthening an Entire Community