



## **Eye screening of children in Israel**

### **Vision in Preschoolers-Lirot VIP program**

The Lirot Association goals are to fund research in blindness prevention and to increase public awareness of the importance of preventive care in order to reduce the number of people affected by eye diseases in Israel.

One of Lirot's achievements is our medical project of eye screening for needy children in order to prevent blindness due to "lazy eye" or amblyopia, If not treated before the age of 8, the child can become blind in one eye.

Up to 5 % of the juvenile population suffers from "lazy eye", or approximately 8000 children every year contract the disease.

This is an innovative and unique project in Israel that will screen the children's eyes of disadvantaged children in community centers throughout the country.

For the second year already, the Lirot preventive medical staff has come to Rehovot to the Kiryat Moshe Community Center to screen the eyes of the small children in this community including many Ethiopian children.

A professional optometrist has volunteered to participate in the project and in one afternoon, checked 50 children who came with their parents by a special invitation of Lirot and the community center social worker.

Our especially acquired PlusOptix camera, purchased by donations to the Lirot Association, screens the children's eyes without the need of dilating their pupils and gives the results of the binocular refraction measurements to the parents with a recommendation for further care if necessary, or for general annual checkups in the future by an ophthalmologist.

We had the very special visit by the Tawill family, who was in Israel for the Bar Mitzvah trip of their eldest son David. They had the opportunity to have their children screened and be part of a wonderful project that can save some children their sight for life by detecting in time amblyopia in Ethiopian children and referring them to the ophthalmologist for treatment.

We hope that this short film will reach many Bar/Bat Mitzva boys/girls who plan to visit Israel and would like to be part of our photo-screening program for preschool vision screening and to support it by sending a donation to the Lirot Association for Eye Research and Blindness Prevention in Israel.

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Executive Committee: Prof. Ehud Assia, Dr. Yair Morad, Prof. Ari Barzilai, Prof. Dov Weinberger, Prof. Eli Hazum, Prof. Anat Lowenstein, Prof. Saul Merin, Mr. Arie Neiger, Mr. Mark Amos, Mr. Freddy Shaviv, Dr. Yafit Stark, Mr. Yair Schaffer, Dr. Ronit Levinger, Prof. Hannah Garzozl, Mr. Nir Erdinest, Mr. Asher Grinbaum, Prof. Jacob Pe'er, Prof. Ido Perlman, Dr. Dror Sharon, Ms. Iris Spiegel.

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THE ISRAELI RESEARCH ASSOCIATION FOR  
EYE HEALTH AND BLINDNESS PREVENTION (I.R.A.)

How can you support us?

By sending the film to your friends and asking each Bar/Bat Mitzva boy/girl to adopt a community center in Israel for the screening to detect amblyopia or the "lazy eye" disease in preschool children.

A donation of \$1800 will enable us to organize a screening day in one community center and save the vision of children detected as suffering from amblyopia.

Thank you for watching our film and supporting our eye-screening project in Israel.

**Donation information can be found on our website**

**[www.lirot.org](http://www.lirot.org)**



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10 Uriel Ofek, Herzelia, 46363. Tel: 972-9-9518475 Fax: 972-1539-9518475 [www.eyes.org.il](http://www.eyes.org.il)



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