



Na'amat Canada

**Welcome to the world of
Na'amat Canada**

**MEMBERS'
HANDBOOK**

INTRODUCTION FROM OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT

On behalf of our Na'amat Canada National Board, I would like to welcome you to Na'amat Canada and to thank you for joining us as we strive to enhance the lives of women and children in Israel.

As I have said in the past, “the information that you will not find in this book includes the intangible ideals, which come with being a Chavera (member). The friendships, the commitment to each other, the support systems achieved within clubs/chapters and the organization cannot be listed in an information booklet.”

This booklet has been designed to give you an overview of what we do and who we are, from the club/chapter, city and national perspectives. Hopefully, it will also answer any questions you may have about Na'amat in general. We hope that this booklet will help to lay the foundation upon which you will build your own connection and commitment to Na'amat.

If you still have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact myself or the Na'amat Canada office at 1-888-278-0792 or naamat@naamat.com.

Doris Wexler-Charow
National President

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NA'AMAT CANADA MISSION STATEMENT

Na'amat Canada is a Jewish non-profit volunteer women's organization whose goal is to improve the lives of women, children and families in Israel and Canada. We empower women and raise funds to support Na'amat Israel in the area of education and social services.

NA'AMAT – A WORLDWIDE MOVEMENT

Na'amat branches can be found in 8 countries around the world and with Na'amat in Israel, are united under the banner of the World Movement. The World Movement Executive, which is made up of representatives from the 8 countries, meets annually to review the programmes and policies of the International Organization.

NA'AMAT AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

CANADA
UNITED STATES
MEXICO

SOUTH AMERICA

ARGENTINA
BRAZIL
PERU
URUGUAY

EUROPE

BELGIUM



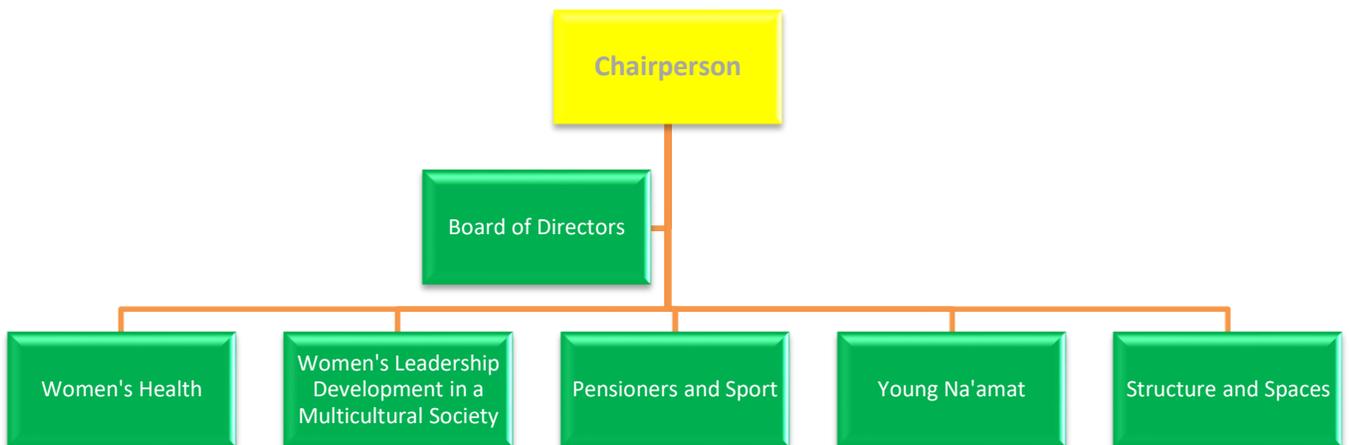
For more information on our organization's role in Israel, click on www.naamat.org.il/english .

NA'AMAT ISRAEL STRUCTURE

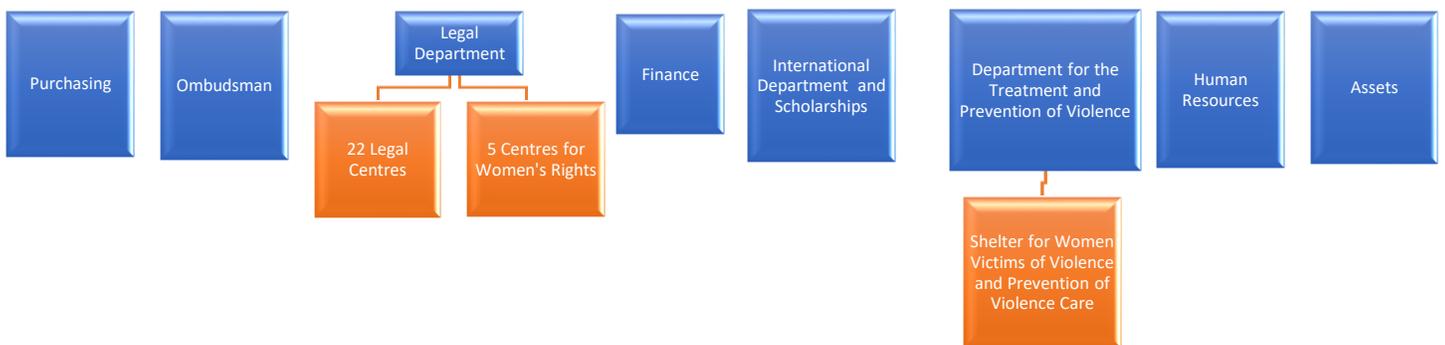
NA'AMAT is the Hebrew acronym for:
NASHIM OVDOT UMITNADVOT
(English Translation: *Working Women and Volunteers*)

National Membership in Israel consists of **300,000 women**
Managed by **30 Regional Offices**
Headed by Elected Representatives

Na'amat Israel Divisions

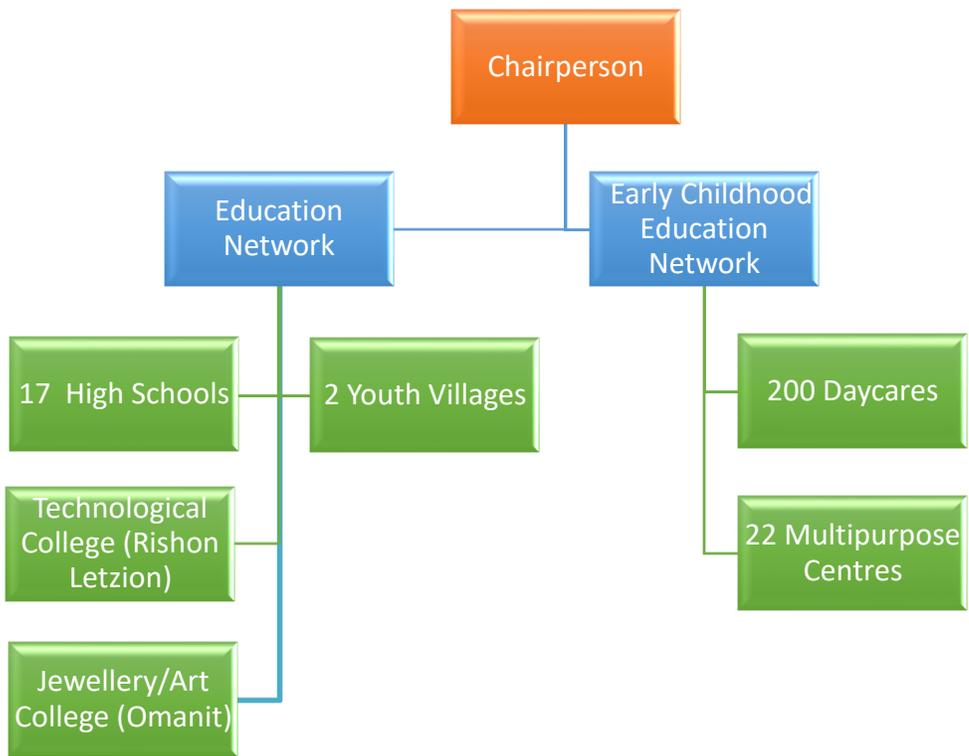


Na'amat Israel Professional Departments



Please note: The size of the box does **not** indicate the size of the department.

Na'amat Israel Education Networks



WHAT NA'AMAT DOES IN ISRAEL

NA'AMAT ISRAEL has 30 Councils throughout the country and is active in Arab and Druze Villages. Its work in Israel encompasses the following areas:

1. LEGAL ADVISORY

In locations throughout the country, Na'amat's Legal Department has over 25 different branches staffed with lawyers who provide advice and help to women. Professionals offer help in such personal issues as domestic abuse and violence, employment discrimination, sexual harassment and illegal termination during pregnancy. As part of its continuing role as a leader in the field of women's rights, Na'amat drafts and introduces legislative proposals to the Knesset, and submits petitions to the Supreme Court on the Status of Women and their legal rights.

2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT AND PREVENTION

Statistics show that there are over 200,000 battered women and half a million children in Israel exposed to domestic violence each year. Na'amat's two centres for Prevention of Violence in the Family, in Tel Aviv (the Glickman Centre) and Haifa, have aided thousands of these victims. Our centres deal with the authorities and provide legal counselling, run support groups for battered wives and provide rehabilitation services for battering husbands. Na'amat tries to break the cycle of violence by changing the patterns of behaviour where possible, and when not, help to find alternatives for the victims of the violence.

The Glickman Centre, established in 1993 as the first women's shelter in Israel, is made up of three distinct sections: the Shelter, the Counselling and Treatment Centre and the Rhodie Blanshay Benaroch Multipurpose Children's Centre Wing, a safe haven for children living in the shelter. The Centre was funded by the Tel Aviv Municipality Foundation and Na'amat Canada.

Working with the Israel Defence Forces, the police and universities, Na'amat psychologists also conduct educational sessions with young men and women to increase their awareness of the danger signs that can lead to abuse between couples.

3. WOMEN AND FAMILY RIGHTS CENTRES

Helping over 10,000 women annually, these centres focus on the challenges of women in need, utilizing a staff comprised by lawyers, psychologists and social workers. Innovative vocational and leadership courses are also offered to women seeking to advance their careers and to start up new businesses. These centres can be found in all major cities of Israel including Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Beer Sheva and Petah Tikvah, which is a Na'amat Canada supported facility.

4. WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTRES

These centres offer an array of education and counselling vital to building awareness about common female health issues, so women and girls will be able to detect and ultimately prevent illness. They provide educational programmes on childbirth, eating disorders, prevention of osteoporosis, family planning, menopause and nutrition. There are also individual and group therapy programmes for post-natal and menopausal women and support groups for cancer patients and their families.

Na'amat also has two Health and Empowerment Centres in Carmiel and Sderot. These centres offer medical preventative projects and lectures/workshops for women and families.

5. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (DAYCARE CENTRES)

As the largest provider of childcare services in Israel, Na'amat operates 200 Daycare Centres throughout the country and cares for over 15,000 infants and toddlers from ages 3 months to 3 years. The Centres are in large cities, frontier settlements, development towns, agricultural settlements and Arab villages. The existence of the Na'amat Daycare centres makes it possible for working mothers to remain in their jobs even when their children are very young.

Na'amat understands that many of our children find themselves at risk in their family environment because of the socio-economic hardships. In a warm and secure environment, individual attention is given to orphans and to children who have been abused, traumatized by terrorism or have come from homes afflicted by poverty or other difficult family situations. Because of this unfortunate reality, 22 Na'amat extended service daycares run from 7:00am to 7:00pm to allow up to 2000 children to spend their waking hours in a safe and nurturing environment.

6. TECHNOLOGICAL HIGH SCHOOLS

Na'amat maintains 17 Technological High Schools, including 7 in the Arab sector. These schools give a second chance to thousands of students each year who were not able to succeed in the regular education system. In addition to the basic subjects, students are given courses in photography; communications, business management, early childhood education, computer graphics; interior design; bookkeeping; hairdressing and jewellery making. All students receive a well-rounded education under the supervision of a dedicated staff who works to instill pride, self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment in all who attend the schools.

7. AGRICULTURAL YOUTH VILLAGES

Na'amat runs two boarding Agricultural High Schools – one in Ayanot and one in Kanot. These schools serve a diverse population of youngsters. These residential high schools, with approximately 400 students in each, have many that come from underprivileged families. The students regard their schools as their homes as well as a place of learning and socializing. Although both schools began as a way of teaching newly arrived Jewish immigrants how to work the land, today, each school focuses on giving students the tools they need to succeed and to make a positive contribution to Israel's society. Along with its traditional curriculum of agriculture and farming programmes, Ayanot and Kanot offer its students courses in veterinary studies, criminology and police studies in addition to all compulsory subjects needed for the matriculation exams and a high school diploma. As they gain new skills and feel the admiration of others, these young people gain pride in themselves and their hope for the future.

8. PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS

Each year, Na'amat awards 180 university scholarships to academically gifted Israeli women. By doing so, these women of merit gain the opportunity to attend institutions of higher learning and complete their Bachelor and Master degrees. Many have demonstrated special aptitude in fields traditionally occupied by men – engineering, medical and scientific research. Na'amat scholarships offer recipients opportunities to develop the skills and education they need to escape poverty, enter promising careers and make their mark on Israeli society. We believe that through this important programme, we contribute to the advancement and empowerment of a future generation of women.

Na'amat also offers awards for annual research grants that help women pursue their PhDs in the fields of gender studies (4 grants) and medical science (7 grants).

NA'AMAT CANADA STRUCTURE

Na'amat Canada is made up of members right across the country. Currently, we have active clubs/chapters in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Hamilton, Toronto and Montreal.

When a Na'amat Canada city has three or more chapters/clubs, the members elect a Council that *acts* like a local Board of Directors. If there are fewer than three chapters/clubs, the members elect an Executive. These Councils and Executives are composed of, but not limited to, positions such as:

- President
- Past President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- President
- Membership Chair
- Communication Chair
- Programming Chair

All Council and City Presidents have the responsibility of communicating information that transpires at our National Board Meetings to their local membership. As well, some cities have part-time Coordinator staff members who are resource persons for volunteers of that city.

NA'AMAT CANADA GOVERNANCE

Members of our Na'amat Canada National Board are elected by our members every three years at our National Convention. Any member in good standing can attend our Convention and vote for the Board nominees. Not only is Convention a time where we reconnect with our fellow Na'amat friends, it is an ideal opportunity to gain insights into the latest work being done by Na'amat in Israel.

National Board meetings are held in Toronto at least twice a year with one meeting coinciding with our Annual General Meeting. Board meetings are a time for sharing ideas, creating new policies and reconnecting with fellow Na'amat Canada Board members. Although the Board does a lot of business in a condensed amount of time, these weekends also allow for Board members from across Canada to form new connections and bonds. It is a time of regrouping and refueling that helps to sustain the organization.

As Na'amat Canada is a member driven organization, our National Board is comprised of volunteers, representing membership from across the country. Na'amat Canada staff, along with various volunteer advisors, also attend Board meeting but in a non-voting capacity.

Board Meeting Attendees

Voting Members	Non-Voting Members
National President	Executive Vice President
National Vice President	Coordinators
Six Additional Board Members	Organizational Development Advisor
Council and City Presidents	Online Communications Advisor
Past National Presidents	Habonim Dror Representative

National Board Executive

Members of the National Executive (selected by the Board)
National President
National Immediate Past President
National Vice President *
Three members serving as either National Finance, Membership, Education or Development Committee Chairs

*National Vice President holds one of the Committee Chairs

Na'amat Canada Local Social Services

Na'amat Canada has developed local social service projects that not only help people in our own back yard, but act as a good publicity tool, increasing our organization's visibility within our local communities.

1. School Supplies for Kids

Since its inception in 1998, the Na'amat Canada School Supplies for Kids programme, with the support of concerned individuals, corporate sponsors and volunteers, has provided thousands of children in domestic violence shelters with school supply kits, enabling them to re-enter the school system with hope and dignity. Typically, battered women and their children arrive at these shelters with little or no money and with very few personal possessions. For safety reasons, some of the children now must enter new schools. This experience is stressful, but not having their basic school supplies adds to their anxiety.

2. Social Programs for Seniors

Our Na'amat Canada volunteers run activities and social programmes targeted at seniors.

- Luncheon programs are held in meeting halls or party rooms. A home-style lunch is served while our senior guests are entertained by speakers or performers.
- Some of our chapters/clubs prepare *mishloach mannot* baskets at Purim. They deliver the care packages to Jewish seniors' residences and nursing homes.

3. College Bursaries (Edmonton & Calgary)

Designed to mirror Na'amat's scholarship programme in Israel, Na'amat Canada Edmonton and Calgary provide annual bursaries in Alberta to further advanced education. These bursaries are available to female students enrolled in any certificate or diploma program. Most often they are awarded based on financial need and preference is given to single mothers.

4. Toiletries for Women's Shelters (Toronto)

Na'amat Canada Toronto's Club Aviva collects donated toiletries and cosmetics from Na'amat Canada members and friends. Volunteers package these products and distribute them to women's shelters.

NA'AMAT CANADA TYPICAL CITY CALENDAR

July, August:

- Our year begins July 1st. Summer is marked by informal social gatherings.
- Annual Membership dues are due.
- Club Executives plan their fundraising/programming schedules for the upcoming year.

September:

- Installation of Council and city Executives (done every three years)
- Membership Evening for prospective members

October, November:

- Fall Major Fundraising Event

December:

- Some cities run a Tribute to Members Event, celebrating their local membership
- Chanukah themed Fundraising Event

March:

- International Women's Day Event

April, May:

- Spring Major Fundraising Event
- Volunteer Appreciation Month

June:

- End of season club/chapter get-togethers

Year-Round Projects:

- A**
- (1) Special Occasion Cards
 - (2) Capital Campaigns – funds for the renovation and enhancement of Na'amat's facilities and capital needs in Israel. This is a three-year fundraising campaign, at specific locations, undertaken at the Tri-annual convention

B Club/Chapter Specific Events:

Any programmes, educational, fundraising, social, etc., planned by clubs/chapters for themselves or in conjunction with other clubs/chapter

C Direct Mail Campaigns:

The National Office sends out donation request letters at these three times each year: Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah and Passover. A city may request to be exempt from one of these mailings if they are doing a major fundraising campaign at the same time. They must make this request at least 6 weeks before the mailing goes out.

NA'AMAT CANADA FACTS IN BRIEF

Na'amat Canada is federally incorporated and its charitable tax receipt registration number for income tax purposes is 107758096 RR0001.

- 1925 Pioneer Women of Canada established as a branch of Pioneer Women of America, a sister organization to the Council of Women Workers in Palestine
- 1944 Canadian branch bank account opened
- 1947 Canadian branch office established in Montreal
- 1951 Canadian branch Executive Secretary hired
- 1956 Regional Conference held in Montreal where decision is made to hold referendum to separate Pioneer Women of Canada from Pioneer Women of America
- 1957 Canadian Conference held in Toronto where motion to separate Pioneer Women of Canada from Pioneer Women of America is defeated
- 1965 Convention held in Philadelphia where motion to separate Pioneer women of Canada from Pioneer Women of America is re-introduced. Motion passes and is ratified
- 1966 First Canadian National Convention held in Montreal where Dvora Blanshay is elected President. Theme of Convention is "BLUEPRINT FOR TOMORROW"
- 1969 First Canadian only funded project (community centre) opens in Migdal Ha'Emek, Israel
- 1969 Second National Convention held in Toronto where Ruth Wolfish Rotman is elected President. Theme of Convention is "TOMORROW IS NOW"
- 1972 Third National Convention held in Winnipeg where Freda Sohmer is elected President. Theme of Convention is "ACT – Action, Commitment, Total Involvement"
- 1974 First edition of "CANADIAN PIONEER WOMEN" (CPW) Magazine published
- 1975 Fourth National Convention held in Ottawa where Eva Natch is elected President. Theme of Convention is "REVIEW AND RENEW-FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY"
- 1978 Fifth National Convention and Tour held in Israel where Flora Naglie is elected President. Theme of Convention is "A DIRECT LINK – SEEING IS BELIEVING"
- 1980 First All-Canadian Leadership Seminar held in Israel
- 1981 Sixth National Convention held in Montreal where Pearl Mekler is elected President. Theme of Convention is "VIVE LA DIFFERENCE"
- 1984 Seventh National Convention held in Edmonton where Florence Simon is elected President. Theme of Convention is "EXPANDING HORIZONS"

- 1987 Eighth National Convention held in Toronto where Tillie Margolis is elected President. Theme of Convention is "CHALLENGE & CHANGE"
- 1990 Ninth National Convention held in Winnipeg where Rhona Blanshay is elected President. Theme of Convention is "YES WE CAN – WE'RE NA'AMAT"
- 1993 Tenth National Convention held in Montreal where Etty Danzig is elected President. Theme of Convention is "A DREAM FOR TOMORROW – UN REVE POUR DEMAIN".
- 1996 Eleventh National Convention held in Jerusalem where Erika Bloom is elected President. Theme of Convention is "JERUSALEM 3000 WITH NA'AMAT"
- 1999 Twelfth National Convention was held in Vancouver, B.C. Theme: "NA'AMAT MEETS THE 21ST CENTURY". Marilyn Myers was elected President.
- 2002 Thirteenth National Convention held in Toronto where Anita Blanshay is elected President. Theme of Convention is "PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE"
- 2005 Fourteenth National Convention held in Ottawa where Esther Rodzynek is elected President. Theme of Convention is "THINK ISRAEL, THINK NA'AMAT"
- 2008 Fifteenth National Convention was held in Jerusalem where Rivka Shaffir is elected President. Theme of Convention is "NA'AMAT CANADA, NA'AMAT ISRAEL BE'YACHAD".
- 2011 Sixteenth National Convention held in Toronto where Orit Tobe is elected President. Theme of Convention is "TOMORROW IS TODAY"
- 2014 Seventeenth National Convention held in Ottawa where Sarah Beutel Morgan is elected President. Theme of Convention is "MAKING A DIFFERENCE DAILY"
- 2017 Eighteenth National Convention held in Toronto where Doris Wexler-Charow is elected President. Theme of Convention is "IT STARTS WITH US"

NA'AMAT CANADA FUNDED INSTALLATIONS IN ISRAEL

BUILDINGS & SERVICES

Before Pioneer Women of Canada became an autonomous organization in 1966, we were involved in specific building and maintenance programmes in partnership with Pioneer Women, USA. At our first National Convention, held in Montreal, we assumed responsibility for the building of a Community Centre in Migdal Ha'Emek, Israel. This was our first and not our last undertaking!

Achva:	Achva Daycare Centre- refurbished Playgrounds Women's Rights Centre
Ashdod:	Community and Daycare Centre Playgrounds
Be'ersheva:	Comprehensive High School-Drafting Room built in memory of Gitel Kravitz Leff, daughter of Esther Kravitz, our National Canadian VP From 1955-1959.
Be'er Tuvia	Mosh Aviv Daycare Centre-refurbished
Beit Canada	Playground
Beit Elisheva	Playground Renovations to daycare
Carmiel:	Day Nursery, Knights of Pythias - Montreal. Sue and Stan Goldfarb Daycare Centre- Toronto
Gedera:	Kanot Agricultural Boarding High School Science Building, Winnipeg Chaya Surchin, Home Economics Room and Steele Gymnasium-Winnipeg Equestrian Office Building-Toronto. Police Academy Residence-Toronto Dormitories, Dining Room and Fitness Room-refurbished
Givatayim:	Community Centre, Daycare Centre (2), Women's Rights Centre (2).
Hadera:	Na'amat Canada Technological High School-Toronto built 1980. Renovation of photography studio and computer room
Haifa:	Omna began as a baby crèche and has undergone many changes. Build in the 1930's, it was our first project. Community and Daycare Centre, Pedagogic Centre-Toronto Beit Shimon Daycare Centre-refurbished by Na'amat Toronto Neve Bar Daycare Centre, playground
Holon:	Bob Rose and Louis Sharp Community and Daycare Centre

Women's Club and Vocational High School-Toronto
Beit Canada Daycare Centre
Women's Club and Vocation High School

- Jerusalem: Beit Ellisheva Community Centre – refurbished by Na'amat Toronto
Katamon Gimmel Daycare Centre-Toronto
Beit Montreal Daycare Centre, Bak'A.-Montreal
Sophie Udin Library School, Hebrew University
This project commemorates Sophie, who is considered to be the
Founder of Pioneer Women of America. She received the request from Rachel
Yanait for funds to build a well
- Lod: Beit Matlow Daycare Centre-Toronto
- Migdal Ha'Emek:Community and Daycare Centre.
- Nes Ziona: Ayanot Agriculture Boarding School (founded by Ada Maimon).
- Petach Tikva: Community and Daycare Centre.
Women's Rights Centre-refurbished by Na'amat Toronto
Kirat Ganim Daycare Centre- Refurbished Na'amat Canada Toronto
- Ramat Gan: Beit Canada Community and Daycare Centre.
- Ramleh-Gibore Playground
- Rishon LeZion: Daycare Centre- refurbished by Na'amat Toronto
- Sderot: Safe room
- Tel Aviv: Na'amat Canada Glickman Centre for the Treatment and Prevention of
Violence in the Family including new bedrooms and Rhodie Blanshay
Benaroch Children's Centre
Glickman bedroom campaign
Therapy room
- Playgrounds Over 35 playgrounds have been installed in daycare centres across the country



Na'amat Canada

Empowering women and children in Israel and Canada since 1925

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