

## MINISTRY UPDATE: APRIL 2026

### ***Dear Praying Friends and Partners, shalom!***

Thank you for your prayers for us during the difficult time of active war with Iran. We are deeply grateful to God for His protection – He has preserved us, our team, and those we serve. We are also grateful for the current ceasefire.

In this newsletter, we would like to share about new residents in our Rehab Center and Women's Shelter, and what God is doing in their lives.

### **PRAYER ANSWERED RIGHT AWAY**

**Matan\*** is around 40 years old and arrived in our Rehab Center in Beersheva just a couple of weeks ago. After being released from prison, he quickly relapsed into drug use, but then he realized he could not continue living like that anymore. Through a friend, he heard about our Rehab and came to start the program for the first time.

When I saw him that evening at a Bible study, he was very quiet and sad. At first, I thought it was because of withdrawal, so I asked, “Are you feeling physically unwell?”

He said, “Yes, I feel terrible. My legs are aching, my whole body hurts. But that’s not why I’m sad.”

“Then why?” I asked.

He replied,

*“My wife stayed at home. She also struggles with drugs. I’m afraid for her. She’s alone. I don’t know how she will manage.”*

I could see his eyes filling with tears.

He continued,

“Her mother keeps calling me. But I’m afraid to answer. Because if she tells me something has happened to my wife, I won’t be able to handle it. I’ll drop everything and go try to save her.”

I told him,

*“Don’t be afraid. God is in control. Nothing is impossible for Him. When we are in His will, in the place where we are supposed to be, things begin to fall into place.”*

We decided to pray. Honestly, I didn’t really know how to comfort him. Sometimes just being there is enough. Then he stepped away for a few minutes.

When he returned, he looked completely different – radiant, full of joy.

He said,

“I finally answered the call from my wife’s mother. She doesn’t like me. She blames me for all of her daughter’s problems. But this time she spoke to me so kindly. She told me not to worry and to take care of myself. And she said she already paid for a rehabilitation center for my wife – paid for everything. Since yesterday, my wife is already there.”

He paused, drew a deep breath, and continued:



*“I’m so happy that even the pain in my body is gone!”*

And then he added something that made my day:

Still an unbeliever, he said:

**“Great is the Lord!”**

*Let us pray for Matan\*: that he may experience not only God’s greatness but also His saving power – and one day share it with his family as well!*

(By Sergey Rybak, Assistant Director of Aviv Ministry)

#### NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS:

- At the beginning of the war, we had to temporarily close the **Aviv Center** because of frequent rocket attacks on Tel Aviv area, but as soon as the Home Front Command eased the restrictions, the center reopened and ministry resumed.

Almost all our volunteer teams returned. Many of them traveled long distances from other cities, putting themselves at risk of rocket fire along the way – yet this did not stop them.

We are deeply grateful for our brave volunteers and thank God for protecting each one!



- As you know, by God’s grace and through your support, at the end of last year we were able to expand the staff of our **Women’s Shelter** and hire an additional full-time worker. This has allowed us to accept more complex cases, including women struggling with addictions and psychiatric challenges.

One of the new residents is **Lynda\***. She is 57 and became a believer more than 15 years ago in a rehabilitation center in Ukraine. She has no family. About seven years ago, she moved to Israel for work. Recently, she reached out to us and shared that she was exhausted from an ongoing struggle – periodic relapses into alcohol. It was clear from her voice that she was very tired and truly desired change.

We invited her to move into our Shelter. After just one week, Lynda shared sincerely that she feels so well that sometimes it seems like a dream. She said that for a long time she had not experienced such inner peace, had not slept through the night, and that she now deeply values the constant fellowship with believers, time in the Word, and prayer.

Lynda says that hope has returned to her heart. She understands her responsibility and is ready to take steps toward healing. Glory to God! **Please pray for Lynda and the other Shelter residents!**

Thank you for supporting our ministry and please feel free to share your prayers requests with us too anytime!

*Yours in His Service,  
Dov and Olga Bikas and Aviv Ministry Team*



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 **Aviv Ministry Israel**  **Aviv Ministry**  **avivministry** [dovbikas@gmail.com](mailto:dovbikas@gmail.com)

P.O.Box 1181 • Arad 8911002 • Israel • Tel/WhatsApp: +972-544-997336