

18.06.2020

Conduct during Covid-19 - Eliya 2020

On March 15, 2020, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Welfare in Israel announced that we must close all our daycare centers, meaning 140 children age 6 months to 6 years old, with blindness or visual impairment must stay home, without rehabilitation treatments and an educational framework.

We were able to leave most of our staff on the job, although the government had informed us about a reduction of resources.

By doing that, we were able to provide our staff a stability in a period of uncertainty and unemployment in the Israeli economy, and most of all, we continued providing support to our children and their families.

Actions that were made for the benefits of our children and families:

- We opened Eliya centers in favor of lending rehab equipment for the families.
- Our professional staff gave online treatments in physiotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy and vision rehabilitation.
- We have provided financial assistance to 10 disadvantage families.
- We sent creative kits and activities to the families.
- Whenever possible, we sent staff to help at home with the children.

When we could finally open all Eliya's Centers, on April 22, we had to adapt quickly to the "next normal":

- Work in small groups and constant staff during the week.
- Equip the staff with protective equipment: masks, gloves, robes. So they could be safe as much as possible when they treat the children.
- Take out the non- disinfectant games and products (cloth dolls, carpets...), and make customized game sets.
- Disinfecting and cleaning the kinder gardens more than regularly.
- We have made sure to specialize in employee rights specific to covid-19, and thus provide our staff with up-to-date information on their rights throughout their PA.
- We have accelerated the implementation of a computerized system for online health statement approvals.

The reality is still uncertain, and requires us to adjust ourselves in real time and to be creative within limits and caution, to keep giving our best for our children and their families as well as our staff.