

Sign up today for a new, innovative and subsidized gap year program costing only US\$11,500 after your automatic US\$2,000 MASA scholarship



MASA YEAR OF SERVICE -
SHALEM

BY WORLD BNEI AKIVA
A SHERUT LEUMI PROGRAM



SHALEM A SHERUT LEUMI PROGRAM IN ISRAEL, JUST FOR YOU

If you are a young religious Zionist girl looking for a meaningful year of volunteering and independence, immersed in the Israeli Sherut Leumi program, **Shalem** is the program for you.

World Bnei Akiva is a Jewish religious Zionist youth movement, which inspires and empowers young Jews all over the world with a sense of commitment to the Jewish people, the Land of Israel and the Torah, placing an emphasis on the value of Aliyah to the State of Israel.

Bat-Ami was created in 1994 to place religious Israeli young women in National Volunteer Service known as Sherut Leumi in Hebrew. The Bat-Ami organization works towards positive social change and promotes the values of fellowship and social justice through the modalities of volunteerism in Sherut Leumi, leadership programs, and empowerment activities, always providing equal opportunities to all population sectors.

Learning

We believe that Avodah and Torah are inseparable; the two complete and enhance one another. Every week of Sherut Leumi will start off with an engaging Torah learning program whether that be shiurim, seminars, art classes, and more. The learning will take place in a beit midrash and will be taught by leading and inspiring Rabbis, Rabbaniot, and educators.

Home Away from Home

Every participant will be paired with an adoptive family to help create a special home where they will feel comfortable and cared for. On free Shabbatot this will be a home where they are always welcome. Our hope is that the relationship between our participants and these Israeli families will turn into a lifelong connection between the two.

Shalem is an uplifting, inspiring, and empowering gap year program with Bnei Akiva. You will learn new skills, develop your Jewish identity, adapt to new environments, and play a meaningful part in contributing to Israeli society, all this while enjoying the group experience. The core of the **Shalem** program is Sherut Leumi. As a girl on a Sherut Leumi program you will be part of the nationwide Bat-Ami organization, which takes care of thousands of Israeli girls helping them through their year of giving back to Israeli society.

In addition to your Sherut you will be enjoying a variety of programming which will allow you to live and experience the pulse of the land and State of Israel. World Bnei Akiva will be your family in Israel. From meeting you at the airport and helping you settle in to your Sherut Leumi and your apartments, to arranging Shabbat hospitality whenever you need, World Bnei Akiva will be there for you.

On **Shalem** you will learn about your Judaism as you never have before, and gain the skills, drive, and passion to develop your own Jewish identity. **Shalem** is all about growth. Growing through giving to others, growing through learning about yourself and growing through the powerful group experience. It is your year to grow into an individual able to make an impact on the society around you. This year will be the perfect way to prepare you for either Aliyah - by integrating into Israeli society and immersing in the culture - or leadership, by preparing you to return home and take on responsibility in your community.



Year at a glance:

- Sep–Nov: Opening seminar, Shabbat Hachshara, group Chagim, Eilat Tiyul
- Dec–Feb: Chanuka, Jewish identity seminar, Northern Tiyul
- Mar–May: Pesach, Chagei Leom, Shabbat Hachshara, Yam L'yam
- June: Closing seminar

Sherut Leumi at Alutaf rehabilitation centers

Alutaf is a daycare center for toddlers diagnosed with Autism. Their main goal is to, through positive and meaningful communication, encourage and strengthen the children's social interactions. The professional team at Alutaf builds an individual plan for each child, and the national service volunteers take part in implementing the individual program. Staff members care for the personal, social, and emotional development of the children. In addition, there is a preschool manager, educational therapists, and paramedical therapists.

The Sherut Leumi volunteers will be a part of the professional sessions that discuss therapeutic and pedagogical issues. The volunteers will witness the amazing progress that the children make throughout the year and realize how their hard work and love changes the lives of these children and their families.

Sherut Leumi at Meir Medical Center

We have chosen the Meir Medical Center to be the base for the **Shalem** program. The Meir Medical Center serves as the central hospital in the Sharon region. With 200 wards, units and clinics with advanced quality medical care, it offers services to a population of 700,000 residents. One of the unique clinics is a sports clinic that specializes in sports injuries with professionals from different areas. Leading Israeli sports teams are cared for at this clinic. Every year about 50 Sherut Leumi volunteers are placed into different wards and have an influence in the development and advancement of the hospital. The volunteer roles include administrative and nursing tasks throughout the hospital. The hospital seeks out volunteers that are highly motivated, responsible, credible, devoted, kindhearted, and possessing a high service awareness. The ability to work under pressure is a major plus when searching for the perfect volunteers. The Sherut Leumi girls are integrated with the Meir hospital staff in a professional and dynamic atmosphere, which is both challenging as well as lifesaving. The girls in our program commit to 32 hours of work per week, and will greatly benefit from the professional enrichment they will gain there.



The SHALEM Program

Program cost: US\$13,500

Each participant automatically receives a US\$2,000 MASA scholarship

Team Building
Seminars
Ulpan

Torah Learning
Community Involvement

Shabbatonim
Independent Living
Tigulim



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