**June 2020**

**The Israel Asperger and HFASD Association (“Effie”) – General Information**

The association acts to raise the awareness of the syndrome since the number of those diagnosed has grown steadily as has the number of people who applied to our aid.

The association operates different services including:

* **Support and information center**,
* **The employment programs**
* **Social clubs**, (for the time being 3 groups in the Tek Aviv and Rishon Letzion regions)
* **Center for guidance and counseling on life partners and family support groups**
* **Preparation and chaperoning for voluntary military service.**

Our updated database includes 3500 members, information seekers, professionals and various institutions who wish to be in contact with us and keep up with updated information.

We also operate professional conferences and participate in various advocacy forums.

All the activity of the association is financed by contributions, membership fees and token payment for some of its workshops. The army preparation program is financed 50% by the Ministry of Welfare, and our social clubs are also partially financed by the Ministry of Welfare.

**Background**

* The Israel Asperger and HFASD Association **(“Effie”**) was established in 2001 by parents of children with the Asperger Syndrome.
* It is a registered and recognized non-profit association with all required authorizations including official recognition of its proper management and permit to receive contributions (Israeli Tax Authorities “Section 46”).
* The association was awarded the “Effective Management” recognition in 2016.
* The program for preparing and accompanying soldiers with Asperger received a certificate of appreciation from the Ministry of Defense.
* Since government agencies do not support a great part of our activities and the expenses associated with the rehabilitation of people with Asperger are very high, we will greatly appreciate your support or partnership in the activities of our programs which help people with ASD disabilities find and maintain suitable integration into the society. We will be happy to see your active partnership and sponsorship. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

**What is Asperger or HFASD ?**

* Asperger syndrome or HFASD is a developmental disorder, situated in the high functioning sphere of the autistic spectrum (ASD) effecting social communication.
* People with Asperger have normal and high intelligence, mostly with good verbal capacities but experience difficulties in social communication, social relations and in networking. These manifests themselves in all circles of life and create a frustrating gap between their cognitive capacities and their ability to function in everyday life, causing stress for them, their families and whoever interacts with them.

**Additional information about the activity of the association can be found (in Hebrew) on our website.**

**Queries and consults are welcome (also in English):**

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