since 2005

AVIV MINISTRY

For victims of addictions and abuse

«For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost» (Luke 19:10)

MINISTRY UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear Praying Friends and Partners, shalom!

From a courtroom to a maternity room, from the streets of Tel Aviv to the waters of baptism, this month's stories follow several women whose lives are being touched by God in the midst of brokenness, recovery and new beginnings.

"A Miracle in the Courtroom"

This month, our team accompanied **Alona***, our Women's Shelter resident, to her final court hearing (in connection with incidents that took place during a period when she was living in a very difficult and destructive relationship).



Before the hearing began, her lawyer returned from speaking with the prosecutor and quietly told her, "They want to make your life very difficult, but I will do everything I can to change that."

Only later did we understand what he meant: the prosecution was seeking **a year and a half in prison**.

As the judge reviewed Alona's case and the proposed sentence, the atmosphere in the courtroom became very tense. Alona was deeply anxious – and so were we.

Then her lawyer stood up and asked the court for mercy. Instead of prison, he requested nine months of community service and a fine. Among his arguments, he spoke about the time Alona had spent in our Women's Shelter, the rehabilitation process she had gone through, the lessons she had attended, and the changes she had begun making in her life. He also submitted a letter of recommendation from our team.

The prosecutor objected, pointing out that Alona had three criminal cases against her. At that moment, we began to pray. Then something unexpected happened.

The judge himself began appealing to the prosecution on Alona's behalf, asking them to reconsider and agree to a lighter sentence.

"Let me contact me supervisor," replied the prosecutor… and a few minutes later, she announced that they would accept the reduced sentence! Alona received *nine months of community service and a 1,500-shekel fine instead of prison.*

When we left the courtroom, even the lawyer told her:

"What you saw today was a miracle. According to all logic, this should not have happened."

Later, Alona told us that when she first heard the proposed prison sentence, she had begun praying intensely and asking God for help.

Today she is looking for an apartment and preparing for the next chapter of her life.

We are deeply grateful to God that we were able to walk alongside Alona during such a difficult season. 🙏 Please pray that the seeds planted in her life will continue to grow and bear good fruit!

"They Are Going to Cut Off My Leg…"

Lora* is about 35 years old. She lives on the streets and struggles with drug addiction. She has been coming to Aviv Center for some time and especially likes attending our women's outreach day.

Recently, when Lora came to the Center, she was in very poor condition and could barely walk.

“What happened? Why does your leg hurt?” we asked.

Lora suddenly burst into tears.

“They’re probably going to cut it off. They’re going to cut off my leg…”



She was terrified, and it took some time to calm her down.

Her legs were hidden beneath a long skirt, so at first we could not see what was wrong. When we finally examined her leg, we found large, open sores covered with an old piece of cloth that Lora had placed over them herself. The fabric had dried onto the wounds.

Thankfully, one of the women serving that day has experience caring for wounds. She carefully soaked the old dressing, cleaned and treated Lora’s sores, and put on a fresh bandage. It was very painful, and Lora cried throughout the process.

As her wounds were being treated, one of the pastors sat beside her, spoke with her, and prayed with her. Lora also prayed a prayer of repentance. We cannot know what was happening in her heart at that moment, but we entrust her to God and continue doing what we can to help her.

Lora’s physical wounds are only part of the struggle she is facing. We have spoken with her several times about going to a rehabilitation home. But each time, fear stops her.

“I won’t survive the withdrawal,” she tells us.

We have encouraged her to come even for a few days and simply take the first step, but so far, she is too afraid. 🙏 **Please pray for Lora – that the Lord would remove this fear and give her the courage to choose life and enter rehabilitation**.

NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS:



- **Susan***, who came to our Women’s Shelter in July, recently gave birth to a **healthy baby girl.** We are grateful to God that both mother and daughter are doing well, and we continue to support Susan as she adjusts to life with her baby and prepares for the next steps. We are also encouraged that Susan has been joining our Bible studies, listening attentively, and asking sincere questions about God and faith. Please pray that the Lord will continue to work in her heart and guide her as she begins this new chapter.



Judy after the baptism

- This month, we also rejoiced seeing the **baptism of Judy*,** a young woman who once lived on the streets of Tel Aviv and struggled with addiction. Through volunteers from Aviv Center, she entered a rehabilitation program in Ashkelon, was set free from addiction, and gave her life to the Lord! She is already coming to Aviv Center as volunteer. Please pray that she will continue to grow in faith and remain strong in her new life with the Lord.

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

Aviv Ministry

Aviv Ministry

avivministry

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



For more information and for donations please visit our website: www.avivministry.com

dovbikas@gmail.com

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