



A Smile Says It All



Friends of DVI
Trudi Birger Dental Clinic

**Providing Dental Care to Underprivileged Children
in Jerusalem Since 1980**



VISION

A Jerusalem in which every child has access to dental care.

MISSION

To prevent children in Jerusalem of all ethnic and religious backgrounds from suffering physical and psychological pain as a result of dental problems through comprehensive dental services and preventative programs.

THE NEED

According to Israeli government statistics, more than 150,000 children live in poverty in Jerusalem and for most of their families, dental care is considered an unaffordable luxury. The fact is that dental care, unlike other health care, is not covered by Israeli government health services and the number of people who cannot afford to pay fees for these services is growing. The Trudi Birger Dental Clinic is the only free facility of its kind in Jerusalem to treat the city's most vulnerable population, its children. Without the clinic thousands of children will go without any dental care.

WHO WE ARE

Dental Volunteers for Israel was founded in 1980 by the late Trudi Birger and the clinic has been providing free dental care to Jerusalem's underprivileged children ever since. The clinic is staffed by a handful of English-speaking dental assistants and hygienists along with visiting dentists from around the world who donate their time and services.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERING

The clinic sees children of all ethnic and religious backgrounds between the ages of 5 to 18 who are referred by the Jerusalem Department of Social Welfare. The clinic combines dentistry with

a complete oral health education program. Services include regular cleanings and fillings as well as more extensive work such as root canals and restorations.

A comprehensive preventative dental care program helps children develop long-term oral health habits. Patients are recalled every six months for checkups and cleanings.

The Trudi Birger Clinic attracts dentists from all over the world. DVI provides accommodations for them and their families.

The worthwhile work done at the clinic is made possible not only by the dentists who volunteer their time and expertise but also by the businesses and individuals who generously donate supplies, equipment and financial resources.

DVI treats everybody,
Jews and Arabs,
Christians and
Muslims. They all
have the same
number of teeth and
deserve the same
quality of care.

—Dr. Alan Wender,
a dentist from New Jersey
who has volunteered for two weeks
every year since 1992.





About the Founder

Trudi Birger was a microbiologist and a Holocaust survivor. As a child she suffered much during the war and vowed to help prevent other children from suffering if she should survive. As an adult she worked with needy children and soon became aware of the terrible suffering of children with severe dental problems. In 1980 the government cut dental programs and having lost her own teeth during the war, Trudi found her cause. Trudi established Dental Volunteers for Israel that year and oversaw the organization for the remainder of her life. Inspired by her commitment and by the good work itself, a handful of dedicated people have picked up where Trudi left off to ensure that DVI continues to provide these critical services to the most underprivileged children of Jerusalem.

DVI AT A GLANCE

- More than 150,000 children live in poverty in Jerusalem
- The Trudi Birger Dental Clinic is the only free facility of its kind in Jerusalem and without it, thousands of children would have no access to dental care.
- In 2004, the clinic treated approximately 100 children a day
- Children-in-need from all religious and ethnic groups are treated at the clinic
- Every child that comes to the clinic participates in an oral health education session with their family to promote improved oral hygiene for life
- Over 4,500 dentists and residents from around the world have volunteered for DVI, and many have returned year after year
- DVI provides visiting dentists and their families a free apartment in Jerusalem and most dentists can write off a good portion of their trip as a business expense
- Historically, 95% of DVI's budget is paid for by charitable donations of money, supplies, equipment and services
- Since 2000, Henry Schein Cares has provide DVI with it's clinical supplies
- Prevention is as important as dental treatments

How Volunteering Has Left These Doctors Smiling

Jerusalem and DVI gives me something for my soul, my heart and my work. What more could I want?
—Dr. Peder Erickson, Denmark

A Smile Says It All
A child smiles when he or she is feeling good, is confident, is healthy. That's what DVI gives to the youngest and most underprivileged residents of Jerusalem. With proper dental care even those suffering from the most serious dental problems can be transformed when they are finally free from pain and disfigurement.

Too many people do not have adequate access to dental care and it is our responsibility as dentists to make sure they get the care they need, especially children. DVI is an excellent vehicle for giving back to the community in a way that affects lives.

— Dr. D. Walter Cohen,
Periodontist and
Chancellor Emeritus,
Drexel University
College of Medicine

For so long I had to cover my mouth when I smiled and now for the first time I can smile. All my friends say how nice I look.
Thank you to DVI.

— Eddie, a 16-year-old Ethiopian girl
treated at the clinic

My wife and I look forward to this trip all year. I'm seeing some kids for the eleventh year in a row and I can see that our work has had a huge impact.

— Dr. Alan Wender, New Jersey

ABOUT OUR FUNDING

Friends of DVI is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization. The Israeli Government provides 5% our funding and the remainder comes from international, private donations.

Please help us make a child's smile last a lifetime... A gift to DVI will assure the dental health of thousands of children in Jerusalem, as we use these funds to expand our clinical services program and schedule of hours. After all, **a smile says it all.**

Sustaining Membership Program yearly contribution:*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 1,800 – 10 children | <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 720 – 4 children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 1,440 – 8 children | <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 540 – 3 children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 1,080 – 6 children | <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 360 – 2 children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 900 – 5 children | <input type="checkbox"/> US \$ 180 – 1 child |

* Your name will be engraved on a plaque inside the clinic if you provide for at least three children a year.

SEND YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE* DONATIONS PAYABLE TO DVI TO:

IN THE UNITED STATES
American Friends of DVI c/o Dr. Deborah W. Lipner
45 East End Ave. #14A -- New York, N.Y. 10028

FROM ALL OTHER COUNTRIES

Dental Volunteers for Israel
P.O. Box 53334 • Jerusalem, Israel 91523

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TO DONATE SUPPLIES OR EQUIPMENT CONTACT:

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*Friends of DVI is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing free dental care for the underprivileged children of Jerusalem. Donations are U.S. tax exempt - Number 13-3202264