**Introduction**

The Education and Community Division at KKL-JNF is dedicated to organizing impactful educational activities throughout the year, reaching diverse audiences across Israel. These activities focus on the key themes of Zionism, love for the Land of Israel, Jewish heritage, environment, and sustainability.

The division also promotes social values like mutual responsibility, environmental stewardship, and a deep connection to the land.

**Mobilization During the Iron Swords War**

When the Iron Swords War began, the Education and Community Division quickly mobilized to support southern residents affected by the attacks and who were forced to evacuate or remain in shelters. Starting on October 8th, the division evacuated over 3,000 people to various accommodation centers throughout the country. KKL-JNF guides accompanied these evacuees, providing educational activities for relief and recreation.

* Evacuated residents were housed in hotels and accommodation centers.
* KKL-JNF guides led educational programs for relaxation and distraction.
* Instructors also supported families remaining in shelters.

**Impactful Educational Activities**

Through workshops and activities, the Education and Community Division helped bring moments of peace, joy, and optimism during these difficult times. The activities were highly appreciated by families, youth, and community leaders.

* Communities served: Families from Sderot, Netivot, Ofakim, and other southern areas.
* Accommodation centers: Ma'ale Adumim, Jerusalem, Kibbutz Tzuva, Givat Haviva, Kfar Maccabiah, and more.
* Non-evacuated communities: Instructors held workshops in shelters for those who remained.

**Empowering Activities for At-Risk Youth**

The division also organized a variety of empowering events conducted by the at-risk youth:

* Haircuts for soldiers and residents
* Riding lessons
* Supplies distribution for evacuated families and soldiers
* Visits to hospitals and support for the wounded
* Community support for the elderly and donation sorting

**Special Needs and Community Support**

The Special Needs Department conducted over 100 activities for special needs populations, including visits to hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and group trips for new immigrants.

* Flower seedlings were distributed in hospitals.
* Trips and outings for new immigrants included accommodations at KKL-JNF field centers.
* Collaborations with youth movements and community organizations promoted personal and national resilience.

**Conclusion**

The upcoming activities in Ruhama offer a glimpse into the extensive relief and educational efforts made by KKL-JNF's Education and Community Division during the war.

Even now, the division continues to strengthen Israeli society through its ongoing initiatives, all conducted in accordance with Home Front Command security instructions.