

A Nurturing Haven



Living in a children's home as a teenager brought both challenges and opportunities for growth. It has been a journey of discovery, where I have learned valuable life skills, emotional regulation, coping mechanisms, and the importance of respect, safety, and responsibility. Tasks like chores taught me accountability and the value of hard work, shaping me into a capable and self-sufficient individual prepared for the challenges ahead.

This journey allowed me to understand the significance of sisterhood, formed through shared experiences and mutual support. Bonding with fellow residents created deep connections akin to sisterhood, helping us face adversity with resilience and celebrate each other's triumphs. Through laughter and tears, we cultivated a sense of belonging and camaraderie, teaching me the power of empathy, kindness, and solidarity. Sisterhood became a cornerstone of my upbringing, shaping me into someone who values connection and compassion.

The support I received from the staff, social workers, and volunteers in the children's home was extraordinary, enriching my life in numerous ways. Their dedication and compassion created a nurturing environment where I felt valued and heard. From the tireless efforts of the staff ensuring our well-being to the guidance of social workers navigating challenges, their commitment provided hope and stability. Volunteers selflessly gave their time, bringing joy and inspiration, empowering me to dream big and strive for a brighter future. Their kindness and generosity gave me strength, resilience, and a sense of belonging. I am grateful to everyone who has been part of my journey, from buddies and girls to psychologists and staff. Ahuva Good Shepherd truly builds hope and touches hearts, empowering young girls like me.

by Olivia (not her real name)
Ex-Resident, AGS-CH*