



## Bnai Zion Foundation: Assisting those in need for over a century

BY  
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Good works always reach the consciousness of the masses and that is just what the philanthropy of the Bnai Zion Foundation has done. Throughout its 101 years of humanitarian work, this organization has been dedicated to helping those in need through its various projects in Israel.

The Bnai Zion Foundation is currently working on five projects including its cornerstone project, The Bnai Zion Medical Center in Haifa where the neonatal unit receives 5,000 births each year. This hospital has gone through massive renovations thanks to the foundation's financial support.

"We select humanitarian projects in Israel that are not being funded by the government but are important to Israeli society," says Bnai Zion Regional Director Eileen Glastein.

The Bnai Zion foundation steps in and insures the future of its projects by conducting fundraisers, collecting donations and applying for grants. However, most fundraising is based on face-to-face relationship building, says Glastein. The goal of the foundation is to raise funds to see dreams come true and where else can dreams flourish than in the minds of children. The Bnai Zion Foundation's Ahava Village for Children and Youth program rescues at-risk children, ages six to eighteen, by giving them the support they desperately need. The Ahava Village is located in the town of Kiryat Bialik, where children live in apartments with foster parents who provide a loving environment for them.

Other Bnai Zion projects include The Quittman Center at Israel Elwyn in Jerusalem which houses 89 disabled adults and the David



Eileen Glastein and Gerald Schwartz, Bnai Zion Foundation

Yellin Academic College of Education which grants a bachelor of education degree and awards a master's degree. The foundation also funds the Bnai Zion Library of Peace in Ma'aleh Adumim, which provides the community with modern technology, books and educational entertainment that the whole family can enjoy.

The support that the Bnai Zion Foundation gives these programs is immeasurable. But even still, these programs continue to need contributions for their continual maintenance and expansion. As the need for aid continues so will the impact of this 101 year old foundation.

"Bnai Zion's second hundred year plans to be exceedingly visible in the philanthropic community of South Florida," Eileen Glastein said.

For more information about Bnai Zion Foundation, call 305-949-0076 or explore their website at [bnaizion.org](http://bnaizion.org)

## Aventura Hospital appoints Melanie Vymlatil as director of Step Down Services

Aventura Hospital is proud to announce the appointment of Melanie Vymlatil as the new Step Down director. Vymlatil arrives at Aventura Hospital with more than a decade of experience working as a nurse and as a director at Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center. Most recently, she served as a manager of a CV/ICU and was the center's director of emergency services, in which she coordinated care for a 19-bed emergency department, for their Cardiac Institute and for their cardiac receiving facility. Prior to this appointment, Vymlatil worked as an administrative nursing supervisor and as an intensive care and cardiovascular surgical recovery room nurse. She also helped to improve Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center's compliance with Joint Commission (JCAHO) standards of excellence by working with the Nurse Education Department to develop and implement more efficient policies and procedures.

"Melanie is a natural leader," said Heather Rohan, CEO of Aventura



Hospital. "She is a passionate and self-motivated professional who communicates with patients and with staff alike in a caring and compassionate manner. We are excited to welcome her to our Aventura family."

Vymlatil is currently working towards her masters degree in health administration and nursing. She has a bachelor of science in nursing from the University of Phoenix and an Associates of Science in Nursing from Palm Beach Community College. As

director of Step Down Services, Melanie will oversee all operational activities for the 6th Floor of Aventura Hospital's North Tower. This special unit, called Step Down, is designed to care for stroke patients, patients requiring specially monitored cardiac therapy treatment and patients requiring ventilators.

For more information on the specialized services provided at Aventura Hospital and for physician referrals, visit [hcahealthcare.com](http://hcahealthcare.com) or call 1-888-256-7692.

## The Shear Investment Group adds Golden Touch

The Shear Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors (Formerly Wachovia Securities) has added veteran industry advisor Doug Golden, First Vice President-Investments to their team. Their new name is The Shear Golden Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors. The investment advisory group now sports six professionals, three advisor/consultants and three administrative/operational specialists.

Headed by Managing Director-Investments and 41-year industry participant Michael A. Shear, The Shear Golden Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, strives to bring their clients an exceptional level of personal service and professional individualized advice. "We don't adhere to the one size fits all approach towards advising our clients," says Shear. "Our clients are individuals with varying objectives, needs, and goals, and that's the way we treat them."

Inviting Doug to join our group was one of the easier business decisions I've had to make during my career. He brings a diverse knowledge and background of equity and fixed income, with an emphasis on tax free investment strategies, but Doug's strongest character trait is that he shares our passion for distinguished client service and caring.

The Shear Investment Group was formed years ago in New York when Mike's son Scott joined the practice. Scott's a 12-year financial consultant specializing in 401k rollovers and other retirement vehicles. On July 2, 2008, the group established its presence in South Florida by moving into a new state-of-the-art investment facility located at 19950 West Country Club Drive, suite 700 in Aventura.

When Mike was recently asked if the addition of Doug Golden to the group was it for the team's growth he quickly responded, "I truly believe, the moment you stop moving forward, you start moving backward. So, the answer to your question is if we can find other individuals of outstanding character and integrity that share our client philosophy, we would certainly be open to a discussion, Shear continued. "We are totally committed to our client's well-being." They would welcome the opportunity to discuss with the readers of the *Aventura News* their individual investment needs and how they may be of assistance.

The Shear Golden Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors can be reached at 305-933-6335 or 800-327-3510.



Shear Investment Group's Scott Shear, Michael Shear and Doug Golden