



Haifa Dream. Speak. Live. Camp

Summer Camp to support children who stutter

Children who stutter often face challenges related to self-esteem, communication, and overall quality of life. These difficulties often have a direct impact on their social interactions, academic performance, and future opportunities. Without proper support and intervention, children who stutter may struggle to reach their full potential and face ongoing obstacles in their personal and professional lives.

To address these challenges, the University of Haifa is excited to establish the **Haifa Dream. Speak. Live.** – a summer camp which is directly informed and inspired by the Arthur M. Blank Center for Stuttering's CARE Model™. This model has been developed and refined through extensive research and clinical experience. Blank's proven method has been successfully applied in multiple countries over the past two decades.

Partnering with the Blank Center and other organizations in Israel, the University aims to create a supportive space where children can enhance their communication skills, boost self-esteem, and increase resilience. This program will provide crucial support to children in northern Israel who may not have access to specialized stuttering intervention.



"We are dedicated to ensuring that every learner realizes their full potential. We believe that this camp will make a lasting impact on the lives of young people who face significant communication challenges."

- President Gur Alroey

Building Voices, Building Dreams



The Haifa Dream.Speak.Live Camp will offer a fun and supportive environment where children who stutter are embraced for who they are. Through group therapy, individual speech therapy, and recreational activities, campers will build self-esteem, improve communication skills, and develop advocacy and leadership qualities.

Launching in the summer of 2025, the inaugural camp in Israel will welcome approximately 30 children from northern Israel. These children will be guided by a dedicated team of experienced clinicians, passionate students, and supportive volunteers, including inspirational role models from the Israeli Association for Stuttering. In subsequent years, the program will expand to offer separate Hebrew and Arabic camp experiences.

This unique setting will serve as a natural laboratory, allowing the University to assess the effectiveness of intervention programs designed to enhance the quality of life for both children and adults who stutter. Additionally, our dual-language approach aligns with our commitment to diversity and promises to yield rich data that can significantly advance our understanding of stuttering and its treatment across cultures. Preparations for the Arabic session, including material translation and program development, will begin in the coming months.

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, a leader in the field, is uniquely qualified to lead this initiative. Our clinical students will integrate camp participation into their professional training, ensuring high-quality, compassionate care. By embedding this program within our academic framework, we are not just supporting children who stutter today, but also training the next generation of clinicians who will continue this critical work.

Request for Support

Your generous donation of **\$240,000 (\$80,000/year for 3 years)** will enable approximately **150 children** to participate in the Haifa Dream Speak Live Camp, at no cost to their families. This transformative experience will empower these children – impacting not only their lives but also those of their families and communities.