



## **HEADLINE FROM ISRAEL**

All the Israeli newspapers were recently hit with a headline that has taken the country by storm.

**Former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir** was refused entry to any geriatric hospital because of the recent cutbacks taken by the Knesset for elderly care in the country.

Prime Minister Shamir, who devoted his whole life to the state of Israel since its creation, is now confined to a wheelchair and is mentally and physically disabled. Shulamit Shamir, the prime minister's wife, filed a request with the finance committee of the Knesset to receive budget approval for the hospitalization of her husband, which she can not afford.

IHF, through its new state-of-the-art geriatric center in Achiezer outside Tel Aviv, offered a private room to the former prime minister, at no cost, so he can live his remaining time with dignity.

Mrs. Shamir spoke by phone to Arnon Hoter-Ishay, major philanthropist who donated \$8 million to help build the center, and was brought to tears by IHF's offer. She told Arnon that we made her feel less alone and deserted. At this time, she did not accept our offer, pending the Knesset's decision.

IHF has been a leader in bringing the neglect of Israel's elderly to the forefront. While the disadvantaged elderly wait for government approval of subsidies – many of them pass away – often in very lonely and tragic circumstances.

At IHF's new Geriatric Center, 150 of Israel's elderly are living their final years with dignity, comfort, and love. However, there is a waiting list of over 6,000 elderly throughout Israel in need of care, and 2,500 of the most poor and needy are on the waiting list at IHF.



**ARNON HOTER-ISHAY**  
*Founder & President*  
*IHF Geriatric Center*