## **Declaration of Restorative principles**

## Promoting a fair and safe society in Israel

Acknowledging the complex conditions of living in Israel and the expanding social tensions, violence and alienation, we hereby declare the adoption of an approach based on individual, mutual and public responsibility of every person, by way of gathering all concerned for the purpose of discussing alternative ways of conflict and risk situation resolutions, instead of escalation.

We wish to implement a new way of restoring conflicts and healing social splits, decreasing violence, cultivating and promoting our environment; to create an empathic and respecting society based on social discussion and on the involvement of the community as a whole; a society which allows all its members to express their needs and hopes, listening and encouraging them to act for the promotion of the well-being of them selves and of others. A new way based upon construction, preservation, cultivation and restoration of relationships, on respectful discussion and mutual attentiveness, on transparency and equity of the individual and the community in privet and public space, in daily life as well as in situations of conflict and dispute.

## We believe:

Prosperous societies and communities are built upon the cultivation of interpersonal relationships, generating caring, positive attitudes and a sense of belonging; Based on encouraging involvement and accountability, tolerance and mutual trust.

It is the right and the obligation of every person of any religion, origin, gender, nationality and social class to be responsible for their actions and consciously involved in determining their future and forming their environment.

Every person deserves a chance to learn from the outcomes of their behavior, and to take responsibility in the presence of their community and family.

Every person deserves the help and support of their community in mending the harm they have suffered or caused, and in making amends. Restorative justice includes and involves victims, offenders, their families, community members and, professionals

## Thereby:

**We call upon Citizens** – to initiate improvements in their living conditions and environment, to take responsibility for their behavior and its consequences and to practice tolerance.

**We call upon Communities** - to encourage community-building processes; to support process conflict resolution on the basis of restorative principles, to take an active part in them and adopt them as a way of life.

We call upon State agencies, business and social organizations - to integrate restorative processes in their internal conduct and relations with the authorities and the public, and promote community initiatives supporting these processes..

**We call upon Authorities** - to foster, encourage and adopt initiatives supporting Communal relationship building, and offer ways to resolve small scale and wide-range conflicts the basis of the restorative principles as part of existing conducts or in additional to them.

Authors
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Prof. Uri Yanay
The Hebrew Univresity of Jerusalem

Dr. Ora Bar-Gil Empowerment – projects for restorative justice development

Eli Avidar Association for advancing a different way Eti Rahamim
The Restorative justice forum

Dr. Beni Yakov Tel Aviv University

Batia Gilad
The Korczak educational
institute of Israel

David Senesh Levinsky College of Education Dalia Tauber The Israeli Center for Restorative practices Dr. Tali Gal University of Haifa

Liora Ozer Kedem - children and youth association

Nava Keidar Mozaica – The center for conflict resolution by agreement

15, 5 4116

Adv. Nurit Bacharach Mozaica – The center for conflict resolution by agreement

Kedem - children and youth association

Arafat Ismail

Dahmash Village Association

Penny Leist

Penny Leist Betsedek – Restorative justice or sex offences Adv. Dr. Zvi Gabay

Adv. Dr. Zvi Gabay Kedem - children and youth association Shelly Duek
Association for advancing a different

