

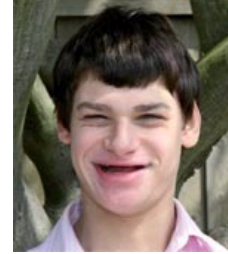
Rosh Hashanah Appeal 2008

The theme of this year's appeal is the shofar, which symbolises a call for help from Norwood. The sound of the shofar is calling for donations to help make a real difference. The blast of the shofar is a wordless cry that awakens compassion within each individual. Each piercing note speaks to the heart and tells people that they can change the world by giving to charity, so that Norwood never has to say no to the people who turn to them for help.



Rosh Hashanah is traditionally a time to help others who are less fortunate than ourselves. There are two poignant case studies in the Norwood appeal that demonstrate the vital work that Norwood does throughout the year.

The first is about Benjamin, a 16-year old boy who suffered from a lack of oxygen at birth that resulted in irreversible brain damage. He now has cerebral palsy and needs 24-hour care, as he cannot sit, stand, walk or eat without assistance.



Norwood provided his parents with counselling and practical advice to help them cope with the strain of being carers. Since he was 18 months old, Benjamin has enjoyed stays at Buckets and Spades Respite Lodge, where he has a stimulating time away from his family, while giving them a break from the routine of care, safe in the knowledge that he is receiving professional, round-the-clock support.

Benjamin's parents said: "It was nearly too much for us, and if we had not had Norwood, and the vital support they gave us, we would have had a breakdown. Buckets and Spades is the most amazing provision, and has been a lifesaver for the whole family."

Benjamin attends the Unity play scheme and residential holiday camps where he makes new friends and enjoys outdoor activities such as sailing and canoeing. He now has a support worker to smooth his transition into adulthood.

The second story is about 11-year old Jake and 8-year old Hannah, whose behaviour deteriorated following a breakdown in the family due to both parents losing their jobs. Norwood's social work team supported the parents, and identified other contributing issues including Jake's dyspraxia and Hannah's low self-esteem, a result of the bullying she was experiencing at school. In consultation with Binoh, Norwood's education and therapy service, a new school placement and a statement of special needs was obtained for Jake, and Hannah was counselled to stand up for herself.



These are just two examples of the critical work that Norwood undertakes every day of the year, providing practical and emotional support to members of our community in times of personal crisis.

To make a donation to Norwood, [go to the Donate page of our website](#) or call 020 8954 4555.

For further information, photos and interviews, please contact Michael Siva, Public Relations Officer at Norwood, on 020 8420 6900 or email pressoffice@norwood.org.uk

©2012 Norwood

Norwood Ravenswood is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under no. 3263519 and registered as a Charity no. 1059050. Registered office:
Broadway House, 80-82 The Broadway, Stanmore HA7 4HB