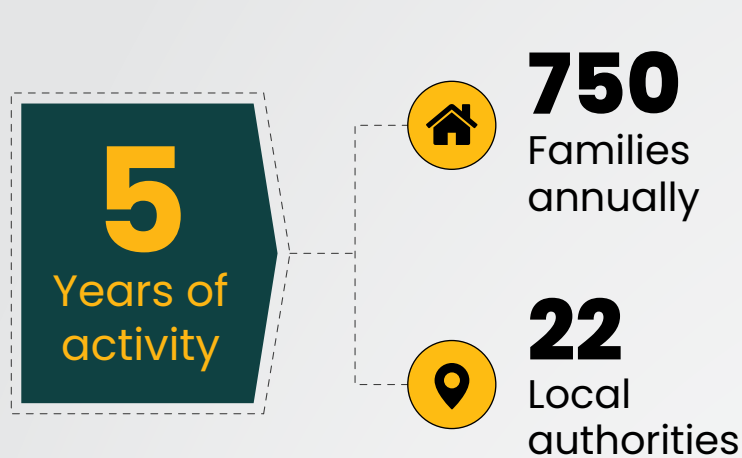
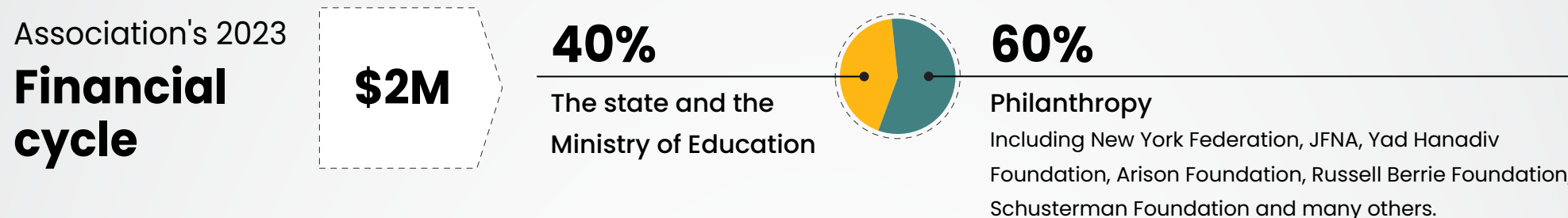


## Sunflowers – The place for orphans in Israel



Sunflowers, the largest association in Israel for orphaned children and adolescents. In our five years of operation, we have developed models that provide assistance to hundreds of orphaned children and adolescents. Our success and the increasing demand for our services have led us to become the primary organization for widows and orphans of the IDF, the Mossad, the organization for victims of terror, and more. Alongside are our efforts to advocate for policy change and public awareness for civilian orphans in Israel, they have made us the leading organization in Israel specializing in orphans and their families.

Throughout this period, Sunflowers continues to be an anchor for hundreds of orphaned families in Israel (of which 40% are living in poverty and receive no government support). We are continuing our efforts by opening new support centers in peripheral areas and for orphans in the Arab society, creating awareness through research and public relations, and advocating in the Knesset.



In a unique, groundbreaking research we conducted along with Tel Aviv University, Bar Ilan University, 30 associations and the Ministry of Welfare, we found that

### The neglect of the state and the objective difficulty of orphanhood in childhood create destructive consequences



## 775 New orphans since October 7<sup>th</sup>

In Sunflowers, we are there for those orphans - so they will not end up in these dark places.

### How we operate for the war orphans?



### The budget for the entire project stands on \$2.1 million

Most of the funding had already been raised, but there is still a significant amount remained in order to fully execute the project.

A while ago, two siblings, a brother, A (10) and a sister, T (12) joined our program. On October 7th, their father participated in the Nova party in the south. When they woke up that day and began understanding what is happening, the mother had tried calling the father but could not reach him. They did not know what had happened to him for 7 days, then they were told he was murdered and was found dead in a nearby shelter in which he was probably trying to hide. T finds it harder to talk about her loss, but A's first sentence when he came to our activity center was: "My father was murdered". In one of our meetings, I asked the kids to bring with them to the activity an instrument that could be helpful in coping with loss. To my surprise, A brought a toy gun, saying it would help him protect his family from Hamas. In another activity I asked all the kids to bring pictures of when they were little. T brought a picture with the father. When A saw that picture in my hand, he tried to take with force and said 'bring me my father back' while crying...

R, a coordinator in Sunflowers' activity center in which the family participates.

We cannot leave them behind once again. In these days when we unite for national resilience, let us not forget the orphans. It is in our hands to transform their story from one of trauma and risk to a story of success and hope. This national mission requires unique dedication.

**Join us.**

