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# Kitchen Duty in Home Economics Department

All Institute students prepare for independent living in the Institute's new home economics department. Eight new modern kitchenettes have recently been completed, and each student can benefit from state of the art facilities for cooking and home economics. Basic food preparation and cooking and cleaning skills are taught in the kitchen. Instructors are very methodical as they also ensure each pupil strengthens



*Daniella practices ironing skills in the Institute's model apartment*



*Carefully chopping a salad, Lior learns skills that he will use all of his life*

organizational techniques.

The Home Economics department includes the latest electrical appliances, and all of the modern equipment is available for the use of the students as well as community center participants who can utilize the facilities in the afternoons. In addition to cooking facilities, a model apartment enables students to get accustomed to housekeeping skills vital to an independent life. A vacuum cleaner and iron are there to be used, beds are to be made, and clothes should be neatly folded in the closets. Even a television and stereo are important to prepare each pupil for the independent life skills he will need in life.

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## One of the Institute's Most Outstanding Employees

"This is an exciting year, full of change and excitement," explains Soly Hassid, director of the Institute's Therapeutic Unit. Soly has worked as a JIB social worker for fifteen years, and in that time she has watched a generation of young people move out into the world. Not only has she studied social work, but her office is lined with shelves of dolls and toys, allowing children to express themselves through drama therapy which she finds very helpful.

"We see our work at the Institute as all-encompassing, and it is not unusual to find the social work staff meeting with teachers, counselors,



*Soly Hassid*

nurses, volunteers, parents and anyone else that has contact with our pupils," explains Soly. "We try to put together all the pieces of the puzzle

that comprise each student." A data-bank of information has been built up, and Soly realizes the importance of a unified plan for every pupil. For this reason, psychologists, (including a neuro-psychologist), a psychiatrist, physical and occupational therapists and social workers confer to best understand every individual.

"Over the years I feel as if I have deepened my understanding of the students and their problems," Soly adds. "My work at the Institute has been a real learning experience." Certainly, Soly and the staff at the Therapeutic Unit have helped to enhance each child's personal development.