

**The Nazareth Rehabilitation Centre** has significantly expanded its focus on supporting war veterans and their families, recognizing the complex challenges they face during the transition to civilian life. The Centre provides a holistic approach to rehabilitation, combining physical recovery, psychological healing, social reintegration, and spiritual support.

Since June, Nazareth has expanded a specialized physical rehabilitation program led by a professional instructor in physical training and hand-to-hand combat. This coach has extensive experience working with high-level athletes among war veterans. Currently, five veterans are actively participating in this rehabilitation process, receiving personalized training aimed at restoring mobility, strength, and confidence after injuries and trauma. The program also includes adaptive activities for those with prosthetics or limited mobility, and is set to expand in the coming months. Veterans without visual impairments also actively participate in sports training and physical activities.

Nazareth also works closely with veterans' families, offering psycho-social support for spouses and children. For these families, Nazareth offers not only shelter and basic necessities but also psychological consultations, peer support groups, and joint family sessions to help rebuild trust and communication after prolonged separation or trauma.

Children of veterans are engaged in therapeutic and recreational activities organized by the Centre's staff and volunteers, helping them regain emotional stability and a sense of normalcy. The combination of individual and family-oriented care ensures that the healing process encompasses the entire household.

Nazareth continues to be a safe and trusted space where veterans and their loved ones can begin the journey of recovery with dignity, surrounded by a community that understands their pain and walks with them towards a hopeful future.

## SUCCESS STORY

Andrii first came to the Nazareth in February 2025, after learning about the support offered to veterans struggling with reintegration and recovery. His journey began much earlier — in January 2023, when he voluntarily joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine, unable to stay on the sidelines while his country was under attack. He served for over a year, driving an infantry fighting vehicle through some of the most dangerous front-line areas. Though he suffered a few concussions, Andrii often says he felt protected by the intercession of the Mother of God.

In June 2024, he was discharged from the military to return home and care for his 20-year-old son, Dmytro, who lives with a disability and requires constant assistance. Andrii's wife, Vira, had been struggling to manage on her own, and his sense of duty to his family brought him back. At first, Andrii believed that his time at war had left no psychological scars. But once he began a course of psychological rehabilitation at Nazareth, he came to a painful realization — things were not as normal as he thought.

He noticed that his outlook on life and relationships had shifted. He had become withdrawn, apathetic, and disconnected from himself and others. Through the support of fellow veterans, professional therapy, and spiritual counseling offered at the Centre, Andrii gradually began to open up and heal. He rediscovered a passion he had nearly forgotten — cultivating exotic plants, designing garden spaces, and building a small fishing area where other veterans could come to rest, reflect, and connect.

Today, Andrii regularly returns to Nazareth with his wife and often brings their son, who uses a wheelchair. They come not only to continue their healing journey but also to support other veteran families like their own. Andrii's story is a powerful testament to the importance of community-based, family-inclusive rehabilitation — and to the resilience and renewal that are possible even after the most challenging battles.



*Andrii and his beehives*



Veteran in his garden with banana plant