



An MDA medic filling up a small oxygen cylinder at an MDA station

JULIS MDA STATION

CONSTRUCTION OF OXYGEN CYLINDER ROOM

The Druze Community in Israel

The Druze community is an ethnoreligious minority numbering one million worldwide. Despite developing out of a branch of Shia Islam, the Druze do not consider themselves Muslims, and have maintained a distinct identity. In Israel, approximately 152,000 Druze live primarily in the Galilee, Carmel, and Golan Heights in the north. Druze Israelis are native Arabic-speakers.



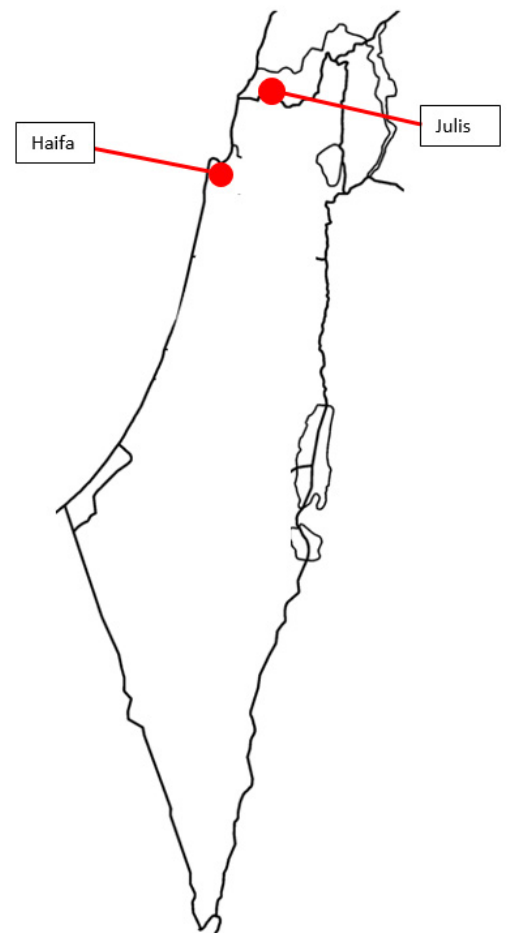
Julis MDA station

Julis is a Druze village and local council in northern Israel, near the city of Acre, with a population of nearly 7,000 people. Due to its geographical location and its proximity to main highways, in 2019 Magen David Adom began operating a dispatch point in Julis, mainly as a back up to the 7 dispatch stations of the surrounding region. In 2024 a new station was built in Julis.

In 1984, Sliman Kawas, a Druze MDA paramedic was tragically killed when a truck crashed into his ambulance while he was transporting a wounded woman to hospital. Kawas is remembered for his loyalty and sacrifice to help others as one of the first Arab-Israeli paramedics. 40 years later, many members of his family have continued his legacy by dedicating themselves to helping others by either working or volunteering for MDA and many of them were present at the new station's opening event. "We grew up without a father and dreamed from childhood of following in his path to save lives and help others," said Lubna Kawas Hanu, Sliman Kawas's daughter. "We are proud to belong to MDA, we now have so many people who can save lives."

The Julis MDA station operates 24/7 and is staffed by teams of paramedics, medics and volunteers. The station consists of:

- **A main building (53 m²) with 2 crew rooms, a lounge, bathroom and kitchenette**
- **A training centre (53 m²) with a classroom, office, toilet, and kitchenette**
- **A bomb shelter (15 m²), to protect the teams, which also serves as a storage area during peacetime.**
- **An ambulance shed to accommodate 1 ambulance and 1 Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU)**



Oxygen Cylinders - Essential life-saving equipment

Oxygen cylinders containing medical grade oxygen are an essential piece of life-saving equipment on all Magen David Adom ambulances. Regular air contains approximately 21% oxygen whereas medical grade oxygen contains at least 99% oxygen. Medical emergencies that may require the use of oxygen include: Shock, Sepsis, Major trauma, Cardiac arrest and resuscitation, among others.



The Need for an Oxygen Cylinder Room at Julis MDA Station

Each time an ambulance team returns to their MDA station after a call out, they must re-stock their medical supplies and refill their medical grade oxygen cylinders. Because there is currently no oxygen cylinder room on-site at Julis MDA station, the teams must refill their oxygen cylinders at other MDA stations which wastes valuable time and this delay could cost lives. We therefore need to construct an Oxygen cylinder room at Julis MDA station to enable ambulance crews to refill onsite and allow the ambulances to return to full activity more quickly. The room will be built as an independent lightweight structure and will be equipped with industrial-sized oxygen cylinders, storage area for smaller portable cylinders and a switchboard system to manage and monitor the refilling process.

ITEM	COST
Oxygen cylinder room - Construction of the room and equipment	£40,000