

Van Leer Group Foundation

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The Van Leer Group Foundation was originally established to be the sole shareholder of Royal Packaging Industries Van Leer NV when the Van Leer family decided to disinherit themselves in the 1950s. The Van Leer Group Foundation presently has a substantial international portfolio of investments. Its income mainly funds the projects and activities of the Bernard Van Leer Foundation, whose purpose is to enhance the opportunities open to children around the world who are disadvantaged by their social, economic or educational background, mainly in countries where the Royal Packaging Industries Van Leer company had production facilities.

As an active player in the world of organised philanthropy and a supporter of the professionalisation of the sector, The Van Leer Group Foundation sees venture philanthropy as an important new approach to philanthropy and it regards it as its task to make the connection between the world of venture philanthropy and 'traditional' philanthropy. In their own grantmaking, the Van Leer Foundations are open to mechanisms of support other than traditional grants, in addition to adding expertise and value. In Israel, for example, the Foundation contributes to the Israeli economy by having its own private equity company, thereby blending economic and social objectives.