

speaking of HOME

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Rachel Raz/Kibbutz Shefayim, Israel

1957 Born in Kibbutz Shefayim, Israel

1970 Rachel photographed at the kibbutz

1988 Moved to Minnesota for graduate study at University of Minnesota

2015 Social worker residing in Minneapolis



I never thought of living in the U.S. I first arrived as a nanny and dancer and later studied social work. But then, I felt the Twin Cities were truly gorgeous – a fabulous place to raise a family. Home is where you plant your garden.

Since becoming a parent I feel more part of the community. However, it was an adjustment. My culture values honesty while Minnesota culture values “niceness.” The two cultures sometimes clash. Moreover, my workplace had

no Jewish employees back then and I felt awkward taking time off for the Jewish holidays.

I’ve saved all my childhood photographs. This is a special one. I was 13...and it was the first time I ever wore makeup! Every year a Filipino dance troupe would visit the kibbutz. One day they suggested that their photographer take my photo.

Find more information on the public art project at www.speakingofhome.org