

# Hope Tikvah תקווה

## Expenses vs Overhead\*

Donations designated specifically for administration  
bring GPF overhead to 0%



\*As reported by Charity Navigator

Journal of Good  
2024

# Contents

5

Quietly  
Uplifting Lives

7

October 7,  
Our Response

8

Ending Hatred

9

Alumni  
Spotlight

12

Building  
Community

13

Alumni  
Spotlight

15

Elevating the  
LGBTQ+ Community

16

Supporting  
Vulnerable Youth

20

Healing  
Community

22

Addressing Food  
Insecurity and  
Sustainability

23

Empowering  
Women

26

Welcoming  
Refugees

27

Advancing  
Inclusion

28

Caring for  
Older Adults

29

Accessing  
Education

32

Ensuring Health  
and Well-Being

36

Alleviating  
Poverty

37

Allocations

38

Financial Statement



Look for this symbol, and listen to a podcast with one of our Good People. Visit [www.goodpeoplefund.org](http://www.goodpeoplefund.org) and click the Media tab.

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## “The Fundamental Goodness of Humanity”

Cheshvan 5785/November 2024

I recently read *Choosing Hope: The Heritage of Judaism* by Dr. David Arnow, and came to better understand the notion of hope as a “belief in the fundamental goodness of humanity.” I deeply recognized this as the core reality of our collective and consequential project, The Good People Fund.

I’m certain that our 2024 *Journal of Good* – titled “Tikvah,” or “Hope” – that you hold in your hands will infuse you with the same faith and knowledge – yes, even proof – that we can outshine despair, that our individual and collective goodness and power can truly improve circumstances and change the narrative for our communities and world.

Each of our grantees – their vision and impact living in words and pictures on these pages – are exemplars of hope, representing all that is good in human intention and result. They are selfless, resilient and passionate, committed to fashioning a better present and future. And with our support, both financial and emotional, they are doing so.

The past year has challenged us all to not only respond to the moment, but more importantly to proactively create the world we want to live in and pass on to the next generation. The Good People Fund itself is no different, the breathing and growing entity that it is ... nimble in footing and sure of spirit to envision and nurture change.

Advancing that goal, and with a generous grant, we have embarked upon a strategic planning process that has brought our lay leaders and professional staff together to answer critical questions about GPF’s future trajectory. In addition, two of our board members, Steve Moehlman and Mark Nelson, combined their many years of business and finance experience to create our Maturity Model, which will be an invaluable tool as we grow our work.

Last November we brought on Julie Fisher as our first Director of Engagement. Her passion for our work shines each day as she shares ideas that are adding to our capacities. Also, Andrea Good, my right-hand person for more than nine years, is now our Director of Operations – a title capturing the scope of her contribution.

As I write, I am excited by our first-ever “(un)conference” this month, bringing together current and alumni grantees from the US and Israel. While a huge undertaking for our tiny staff, it is designed as a unique opportunity and dynamic space for collective learning and inspiration. We are beyond thankful to all who contributed to make this event possible and to bring all of our faces of hope together in New York.

Despite the very difficult times we are experiencing, I recognize each of you as part of that thread of hope. Your support is how we can bring light into our world.

I am grateful,

*Naomi*

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2024 Journal of Good



## Message from Julie Fisher, Director of Engagement

Six years ago, Gideon Ben-Ami insisted that I meet his friend Naomi. I found myself in a restaurant in Tel Aviv, about to embark on an evening that would change my life.

Standing in the back of a restaurant filled with Good People Fund grantees, I was completely mesmerized, as one by one they shared stories of their inspiring work, their voices filled with passion for their mission, and compassion for their beneficiaries.

I was hooked.

Gideon's friend was Naomi Eisenberger, the guiding force behind The Good People Fund.

I left that evening as a devoted fan and Naomi quickly became a mentor and friend. Last fall,



I joined The Good People Fund as Director of Engagement.

From the humbling experience of seeing our grantees in action, to the collaborative energy of our board and staff, every moment reinforces my gratitude for the opportunity to contribute to The Good People Fund's sacred mission.

For many years, the Journal of Good has graced my coffee table, pages filled with stories of resilience and compassion, giving me a dose of hope when I needed it most. I hope it will do the same for you, as we share the stories of our passionate, inspiring Good People and invite you to join us to support their work.

*Julie*

## Message from Beth Gansky, Board Member

**HOPE** is the superpower that allows you to believe that most things are possible.

It's that voice in your head that says you can do this.

At The Good People Fund, we offer **HOPE**.

–Hope to our grantees.

–Hope to the people they serve.

–Hope to the communities where they live.



This has not been an easy year to feel hopeful, and yet The Good People Fund continues to be inspired by our superheroes who demonstrate their extraordinary drive to make deep, uplifting impact in communities.

Thank you to our donors, friends, and supporters for allowing us to do the sacred work of spreading **HOPE**. Todah rabah (many thanks),

*Beth*

## USA & ISRAEL QUIETLY UPLIFTING LIVES, ONE AT A TIME



Photo courtesy of Eduardo Seastres

The circumstances are often searing and severe — cases of individual or family hardship coming to our attention through our network of trusted grantees, social workers, health care professionals, donors and other organizations.

We listen, and after a deep review to determine if we can make a real difference ... if possible, we'll do what we can. And lives are quietly uplifted.

So it was as we learned recently about Alexander and Anna, refugees from a conflict zone, continents away. Facing down risk, willing to sacrifice it all, they found their way to the US with their young children to claim a new start and a more certain future.

Under the guidance of a resettlement agency and later a GPF grantee, Alexander found employment in the construction industry, while Anna stayed home in their one-room apartment to care for the children, ages 2, 5 and 6.

And so for about a year, a sense of routine took hold. There was steady income to cover rent, food, utilities and other life essentials, yet not much more. But it was a positive start, better than many.

Then, the unexpected happened. Anna developed a neurological disease that began to severely affect her ability to care for the children with consistency. Lacking any familial, community or financial cushion to absorb the shock, the inevitable domino effect took over.

Alexander decreased his work shifts to help at home. Bills for prescriptions and medical care came due. Rent payments fell behind. Finally, the family was evicted, facing the prospect of separation in different shelters.

"This is the first time we've had a client get evicted, so we're in uncharted territory," wrote the founder of a refugee-focused organization, a longtime and close GPF grantee with a history of successful casework.

"We're working to devise a plan, but we don't know what they're going to do. We can't leave them hanging."

GPF answered the call and stepped in. With a modest emergency expenditure, we ensured that Alexander, Anna and the children would remain together and secure.

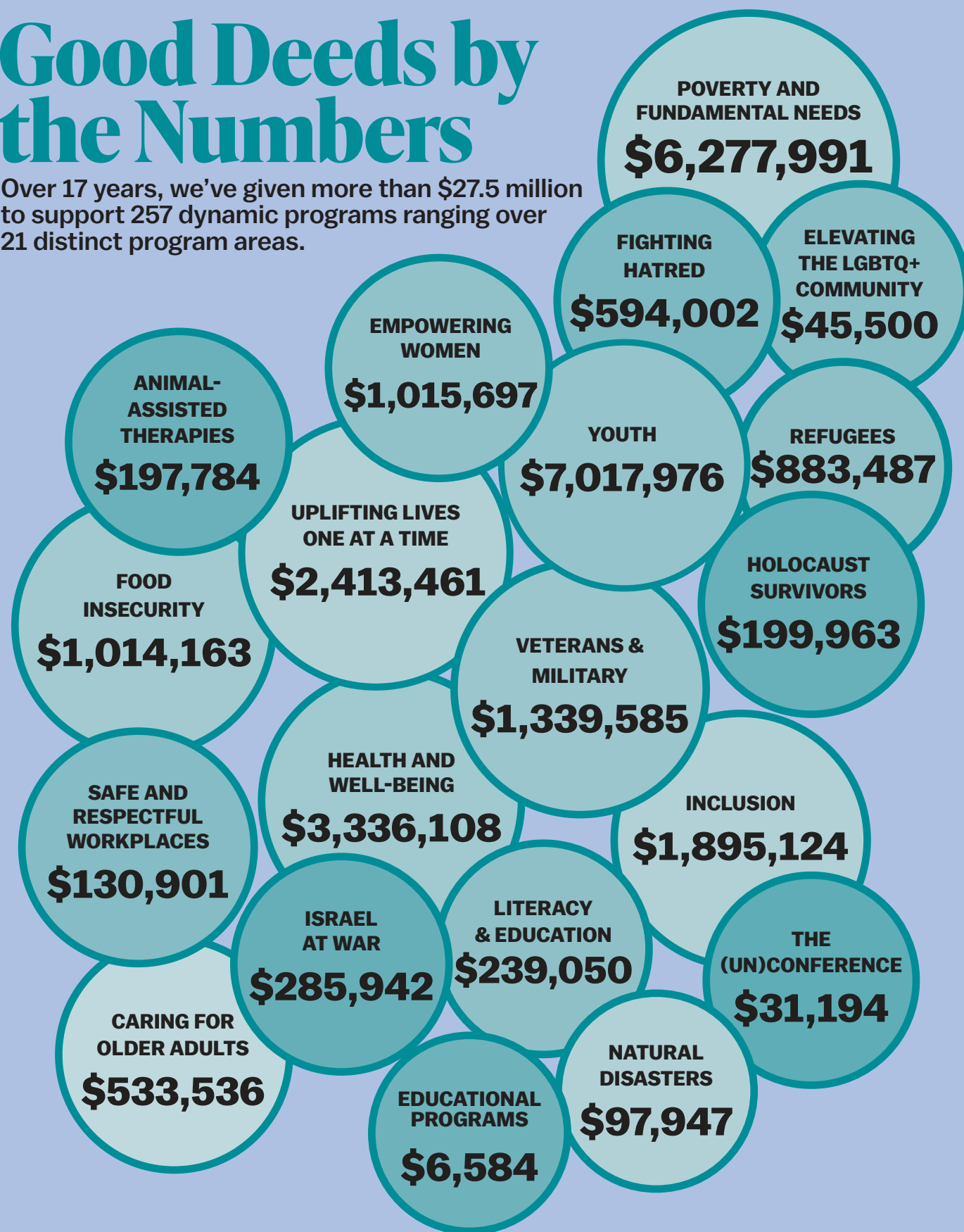
We covered the cost of a move, a security deposit and a few months of rent — buying time for the family and our grantee organization to work out a sustainable plan that includes federal vouchers for Section 8 housing, food assistance, and home care allowing Alexander to work again full time.

"I have no words for the generosity and kindnesses," Alexander told us through his caseworker. "There are angels out there."

2024 Journal of Good

# Good Deeds by the Numbers

Over 17 years, we've given more than \$27.5 million to support 257 dynamic programs ranging over 21 distinct program areas.



## October 7, Our Response

In the days, the weeks, the months — and now a year after October 7 — we have lifted our existing grantees in Israel with support, both emotional and financial. And in keeping with our core model, we discovered new, below-the-radar programs — in this case those nurturing wartime perseverance and healing — and brought them into our Good People Fund family.

At a time of unprecedented philanthropic giving for Israel, we thank all who supported our targeted response to emergent needs there, post-October 7. Here, just a few snapshots of our impact:

### An Oasis for Soldiers

At the Tzomet Amiad Soldier Refreshment Stand, IDF soldiers are stopping to pick up free sandwiches, soups, drinks and other sustenance — all prepared and served by volunteer residents of Amiad and surrounding areas in Israel's north. The canteen sits at a major intersection with continuous traffic of soldiers traveling between bases, border areas and home — a welcome oasis of relaxation and calm that The Good People Fund is proud to support.

### Creative Therapies for Young People

Maneuvering a remote control car is bringing relief to children and teenagers experiencing anxiety as a result of growing up in Israel's missile-vulnerable southern region, reports Shay Agmon, an animal-assisted therapist and Good People Fund alumni grantee devoted to helping young people with PTSD. With our support of Shay's Creative Applications of Remote Control Cars in Play Therapy program, they are showing resilience through an innovative form of therapy — as well as music, art and other forms of creativity — giving them situational control and a road to healing.



### Equine Therapy For Nova Survivors and Families, and IDF Vets

October 7 and all that has come after it are triggering events for IDF veterans with PTSD, and generating new cases among Nova music festival survivors and families ... a reality that brought Dr. Anita Shkedi — a globally known pioneer in equine therapy and a Good People Fund alumni grantee — out of retirement to establish Transcending Trauma. The organization, with our support, leverages the studied relationship between humans and horses to lift people from the vortex of trauma and create positive outcomes and futures.

### Knitting Circles, for Comfort and Community

For many people evacuated from Israel's northern and southern regions to ensure safety during the war, Ayin Tova ("A Good Stitch") provides a sense of routine and community through organized groups of knitting circles. With Good People Fund support, volunteers go to hotels with donated and purchased yarn, knitting needles, and embroidery supplies, and invite anyone who wants to sit and knit, or learn to, and experience the meditative and healing benefits of knitting and creating.





# Ending Hatred

## CIVIC SPIRIT USA Civic Learning for the Next Generation

Distressed by the political divisiveness that took hold in 2016, **Rabbi Robert Hirt**, **Virginia Bayar** and **Dr. Tamara Tweel** founded Civic Spirit to provide American students with the tools to combat feelings of alienation and despair. **Rabbi Charlie Savenor** now leads the organization and says, “Knowing how the government is supposed to work enables the next generation to become engaged members of society, hold elected officials accountable, and take their place one day as the leaders of our democracy.”

Ayelet and her classmates, students at a private Jewish high school, have learned to brainstorm and conduct research in order to take action on issues about which they are passionate. “Civic Spirit has given me the skills as well as the hope that through small actions and initiatives, we can build a better world together,” says Ayelet.

## FIGHTING ONLINE ANTISEMITISM ISR 🇮🇱 Eliminating Hateful Content on the Web

Riley is a young adult who cares deeply about creating a world of respect and tolerance. Watching the rapid spread of online hate, she wanted to take action but didn’t know how. “Then I discovered the training program by Fighting Online Antisemitism,” Riley says, “and now, through my volunteer work with them, I feel like I’m able to make a real difference.”

**Tomer Aldubi** founded Fighting Online Antisemitism (FOA) to spread awareness about the harm caused by antisemitism and online hate, and to reduce its dissemination on social media platforms. FOA works with these platforms as well as governments and volunteers around the world using advocacy and technology, including AI, to stem hate wherever it occurs. With a growing team of over 3,000 volunteers, FOA has reported – and had removed – over 60,000 instances of antisemitism on social media platforms, creating a safer online world.



## PEOPLE OF THE BOOK ISR Fostering Mutual Understanding Between Jews and Muslims

Adnan lives in a coastal province of war-torn Syria. Though his family descends from Jewish tradition, they are isolated and integrated into the local community. Arabic educational videos are his only source of information about his heritage. “I am worried we’ll forget our ancient religion,” Adnan says.

Striving for a more peaceful coexistence, **Rabbi Elhanan Miller** established People of the Book to promote understanding between Jews and Arabs. Through engaging online Arabic language content about Judaism, reaching millions globally, People of the Book dispels myths, provides factual information, and connects communities that have been divided by conflict. “Jews and Muslims have lived next to each other for centuries. We are working to foster curiosity and increase understanding,” Rabbi Miller explains.

## THE ROAD TO RECOVERY ISR 🇮🇱 Lessons in Coexistence and Friendship

Amina, a teenage cancer patient, traveled each week from her home in Nablus to the border crossing to meet her driver. “We didn’t speak the same language, but her smile reassured me,” says Amina, whose specialized treatment at a Haifa hospital saved her life.

Amina’s driver was an Israeli volunteer from Road to Recovery, founded by **Yuval Roth** as a response to his brother’s murder in a terrorist attack years ago. The organization transports thousands of Palestinians, predominantly children, to Israeli hospitals for medical treatment. Even the tragic loss of several volunteers on October 7, did not stop these life-saving rides.

Board member **Yael Noy** explains, “Every ride demonstrates the power of compassion to transcend language and borders. In each smile and shared moment, we form connections. Together, we travel paths of hope, healing, and humanity, reaffirming that kindness has no limit.”

## TAG MEIR ISR 🇮🇱 Creating a Just and Compassionate Society

When you meet **Dr. Gadi Gvaryahu**, founder of Tag Meir, the first thing you notice is his determination. In the midst of one of the most contested regions on earth, even before October 7th, Dr. Gvaryahu created Tag Meir to address the country’s growing extremism and hatred and to end racism.

The group’s focus can best be described in the words of Elana, mother of an IDF soldier, Yannai, who was killed on his army base on October 7. “Yannai replaced sleep with black coffee. I invite you all to take a cup of coffee, and take the time to deeply engage with someone who is different from you, someone you don’t fully understand or disagree with. Listen, and acknowledge the pain of that ‘other.’ This is Yannai’s legacy ... I don’t believe there is a way toward a better future but through the difficult work to see the ‘other’s’ humanity.”



## Alumni Spotlight

## TRIBE TALK USA 🇺🇸 Shifting Realities for Jewish Students

Jacob is a first-year student at a large university. He arrived feeling confident, ready to learn and eager to meet new people. However, he was shocked to encounter antisemitism and hate in his campus community. A friend brought him to a TribeTalk workshop. Jacob explains, “At the workshop I found resources, community, and support from experts. I left feeling like I knew what to do and to say. It was a tremendous relief.”

TribeTalk, founded by **Robin Friedman**, **Michelle Black**, and **Jude Sydney**, was created to prepare Jewish students and their allies to address the challenging issues of antisemitism and hatred on campuses and beyond. They offer workshops to high school and college students and their families so they are knowledgeable and prepared. As Jude says, “Our mission is to help teens and their ecosystems identify, understand and address antisemitism.”

## ITNAmerica GPF is part of “our silver thread.”

ITNAmerica’s relationship with The Good People Fund goes back almost 30 years to the days when the nascent Independent Transportation Network rented an \$80-a-month one-room, windowless office and the two-person staff took turns sitting at one desk, sharing one computer, one telephone, and one vision for the future.

Through the years of struggle, problem solving, failure, success, more failure and more success, Naomi and The Good People Fund were always there, a phone call away with a helping hand for ITNAmerica and mostly for the communities popping up across the country replicating the original ITN model in Portland.

The remainder of the story, how ITNAmerica grew from a local model program to the national organization it is today, is the rest of the silver thread.

— Katherine Freund,  
Founder/President of ITNAmerica





**“We’re building ongoing relationships that are so hard to make in our bubble-filled and polarized society. If we can have searching discussions of real meaning, we can rebuild trust ... allowing us all to thrive and advance issues of social justice ...”**

**—Matt Fieldman, Co-Founder, Rekindle**

# Rekindling Allyship, Driving Social Change

Jereme is a Black pastor and salvage company manager. Aaron is a white, Orthodox Jewish human resources executive. Both live in Cleveland but occupy disparate worlds — geographic, social and other borders creating different paths, experiences and lenses.

A friendship seems unlikely. But a tight one has nevertheless formed from their participation in the Rekindle Fellowship — bringing members of the Black and Jewish communities together to dismantle barriers, rebuild their historic relationship, strengthen the social fabric, and accelerate positive change.

Jereme and Aaron’s connection through Rekindle evolved into a collaboration establishing a satellite GED program in Jereme’s church. Beginning in the fall of 2024, it will be available to residents of an under-resourced neighborhood and equip them with a building block for the future.

“Zero chance they’d have ever met if not for Rekindle,” says **Matt Fieldman**, co-founder of Rekindle with **Charmaine Rice**. “These are two very religious guys committed to social justice in the community. They are both interested in education and making it accessible to all, but were working in parallel, not partnership. They’d be spinning their wheels if not for this connection.”

Rekindle creates an environment for impact by convening cohorts of 16 people — this fall marks the ninth one — evenly representing the Black and Jewish communities and reflecting diversity of profession, age, socio-economic

level and experience — but all participants committed to challenging dialogue and the potential of allyship.

Workshops, readings, intercultural exchanges and more play out over time, and the model is getting notice beyond Cleveland. Rekindle chapters are active in seven other cities — with six more in progress — with a playbook and curriculum giving structure.

“We’re building ongoing relationships that are so hard to make in our bubble-filled and polarized society,” Matt says, noting that historic collaborations between the Black and Jewish communities that fueled the civil rights movement in the 60s have frayed and demand repair.

“If we can have searching discussions of real meaning, we can rebuild trust, leading to partnerships allowing us all to thrive and advance issues of social justice that both communities embrace and share. Trust is the grease that allows us all to move forward.”

Jereme, the pastor, was a member of an early Rekindle cohort and said the experience, and the shared and sustained commitment to change, was so transformative that he now serves as the organization’s vice chair.

“I am compelled to ask myself, what I can do to bring the Black and Jewish communities back together? How can I expose myself and be vulnerable? How can I make humanity whole regardless of religion or cultural background or skin color? This is where we begin.”



# Building Community

## A NEW DAWN IN THE NEGEV ISR Coexistence and Cultural Exchanges Changing Lives

**NEW** “I was looking for opportunities to fulfill my hopes,” says Nahla, a 9th grader from an isolated Bedouin village in the Negev. With few options for pursuing her passion, she joined a coexistence arts program run by A New Dawn in the Negev. This transformative experience exposed her to advanced art techniques with peers outside her community. Nahla’s journey of cultural exchange helped her forge new connections. “This has made me realize that my dream can become a reality,” says Nahla.

Founder **Jamal Alkirnawi**, a Bedouin social worker, had limited options in his upbringing. Aiming to build bridges and provide more opportunities for Bedouin youth, A New Dawn in the Negev now impacts over 600 students, providing avenues for self-expression and empowerment through education and arts. “Together, we’re breaking barriers and creating meaningful connections and opportunities,” says Jamal.

## EVERYDAY BOSTON USA 🇺🇸 Sharing Stories to Build Community

Che was just the sort of person **Cara Solomon** had in mind when she began Everyday Boston, which helps people learn to speak to each other, to destroy stereotypes and to create bonds. Incarcerated as a teen, Che was released in his mid-40’s and joined the organization’s Bridge Project, which helped him learn life skills, to communicate, and to gain a sense of self-worth.

Today, Che speaks publicly about what this program has given him. “Everyday Boston is a shining light amid the choppy waters and midnight sky. Can you imagine being lost among a sea of darkness, and finding kindness, appreciation and joy in the only light that exists? That is Everyday Boston to me.” To which Cara adds, “Che is a true gift to Everyday Boston, and to the community at large. He’s full of heart and wisdom.”

## FOR GOOD PGH USA 🇺🇸 Reviving a Former Steel Town

Jacob, a high school student, was senselessly shot while walking home from the store. His name was added to a long list of young people, victims of gun violence in Braddock, PA. But gun violence is but one of the many challenges facing this once-thriving steel town.

**Kristen Maser** and **Gisele Fetterman** began For Good PGH to help residents struggling to get by. Projects cover a wide range of needs — merchandise to anyone in need at Freestore 10514, yoga classes, a dance troupe, coding classes at a nearby school and more.

For Jacob’s mom praying at his bedside, emergency resources from “The Fairy Fund” will ease her worry about the soon-to-be-due electric bill. Kristen says, “We know that many of our residents and families are just one bill or missed payment away from homelessness. We know small acts have big impacts.”

## INHERITANCE THEATER PROJECT USA 🇺🇸 Bridging Divides Through Collaborative Playmaking

**NEW** **Jon Adam Ross**, founder of Inheritance Theater Project, is an actor, playwright and educator. For the past nine years, he has used his considerable talents to help build relationships across generational, racial, ethnic, religious, political and other cultural and societal divides through collaborative playmaking. As the group engages a community, it gathers local artists as well as clergy, activists, educators, students and others to forge connections and conversation among neighbors who might not otherwise have met.

Finding herself homeless, Alicia, a Memphis artist, felt isolated and without support. But in her work with Inheritance Theater Project’s local production, she was suddenly surrounded by other local artists and says, “It was terrifying to be homeless at that time. And then to have people who didn’t even know me believe in me so much just say, ‘yeah, you’re a beautiful person, we think you can do it, let’s go for it.’ They gave me a chance to do what I love to do,” she says.

## KAVOD V’NICHUM USA 🇺🇸 End-of-Life Education and Training

Judaism has many traditions to mark important lifecycle events, but end-of-life ceremonies and rituals are often neglected. Kavod v’Nichum (honor and comfort) was started 24 years ago by **David Zinner** to support Jewish communities as they honor the deceased and comfort the living. Today, Executive Director **Sarit Wishnevski** explains, “We teach how to show up through our values as a community, to carefully accompany one another through these important and difficult transitions.”

Dozens of communities have established a chevra kadisha (holy society) of volunteers who prepare a body for burial according to Jewish law. Recently, Kavod v’Nichum facilitated trainings for the inaugural NYC Reform Chevra Kadisha. Rabbi Alissa Platcow, who helped found and grow the chevra says, “The care and thoughtfulness with which they teach is almost tangible. When preparing to participate in such a physical act, how can we imagine learning in any other way?”

## SHTETL USA A Haredi Free Press

**NEW** Most Americans take for granted their access to uncensored media. However, in Haredi (ultra-religious) communities, news is curated and censored. **Naftuli Moster**, raised in Brooklyn’s (NY) Hasidic community, knew that offering alternative news sources was how to create a safer, more just society. He created Shtetl as the first free press of its kind both for and about the Haredi community. Shtetl reports on news, politics, religion, culture and other topics that are relevant to the Haredi community as well as to those outside the community who can gain a greater understanding of the ultra-orthodox world.

Naftuli says, “The media serves a vital purpose in upholding democracy and giving the people a voice. But in the Haredi world, not everyone has a voice; Haredi media is beholden to leaders who decide whose voice gets heard, and whose doesn’t.” Shtetl is the first step in changing this reality.



## Yotsrot – Turning the Tables

*“GPF helped me start the hard work and break through.”*

I joined a GPF family that raised and nurtured me as a social entrepreneur, and validated my goal. Naomi and friends accompanied me from the beginning, when I didn’t have much to show except a dream and a plan. The establishment of Yotsrot and our growing impact is completely interlaced with GPF support.

When I started, there was almost no treatment for women on the continuum of prostitution in Israel. The inclusive approach that we led — allowing each woman to choose the pace and way she is helped over time — became the dominant model that is beginning to operate all over the country.

Fortunately, I received GPF’s trust in this vision and was enabled to follow it to the end ... and far beyond. That isn’t taken for granted.

— **Lilach Tzur Ben-Moshe**,  
Founder of Yotsrot – Turning the Tables

# Alumni Spotlight

# Creating Family... for Trans Women in Israel

Many days, Tamar leaves her job as an administrative assistant and heads into south Tel Aviv to spend some time at what she calls her “second home.”

“It’s where I can be among others who have the same kind of life experience, where there is a lot said — and a lot that isn’t — and we all understand. We all get it.”

Often the life experience includes, as it does for Tamar, some combination of being ostracized from family, being homeless, being a sex worker, being abused, being shunned by segments of society, and being on the frontlines — merely by walking through the world — for recognition and dignity.

So it is at Trans House that Tamar is among her “sisters,” as she affectionately and sincerely calls them, other trans women across generational, racial and ethnic spectrums who come here to be embraced for who they are without judgment or whispers.

**Linor Abergel**, CEO of the Israeli Transgender Association — a Good People Fund grantee organization advocating for rights and services for the trans community — established Trans House as a destination on her own continuing journey.

That included being kicked out of home at age 17 and periods of homelessness and sex work just to survive, but also enough breaks and connections along the way that she was

able to open a wig store that itself was a place of discourse and activism, before she started Trans House.

The sense of support and gender positivity permeating Trans House dwarfs its actual size. The space is a combination kitchen, dining room, library, computer center, clothing rack, cosmetics counter, rest stop and more.

Besides being a place for communal dinners, socializing and just kicking back, it’s also a venue for programming and mentorship on such topics as CV writing, interviewing skills, and social services — valuable resources for everyone at Trans House, and particularly for those desiring to transition out of sex work.

“Here we are your family,” Linor says, adding that she hopes to move to a larger space at some point, and also to open a second Trans House in Haifa. “We are your sisters, we are your moms, and we will support and be here for you as long as you want or need us. I didn’t have this, and I wish I did.”

At a recent Sunday open house at Trans House, Tamar was deep in conversation with a young woman — about 20 years old and estranged from her parents, even some friends — in the first stages of her transition.

“I looked at her and saw myself at that age,” Tamar says, “and was thinking how this place and this level of community support and access can and is making a real difference for her.”



## Elevating the LGBTQ+ Community

**BRIT HA’LEVIOT —  
PRIDE OF LIONESSES** ISR

**Support for Trans and  
Gender Diverse Youth  
and Families**

“You can start breathing. From now on you are not alone, we are with you.” These welcoming words on Brit Ha’Leviot’s website are exactly what parents need to read after learning that their child may be trans or gender diverse. For **Merav Livni Keish**, who spearheaded the organization’s development, there was no support, no information ... just a distressing realization that her son was different, was in pain and no one knew where to turn for help.

As Yael, mother of Lila — a non-binary 18-year-old — states, “With every conversation or meeting with the Lionesses, I felt more and more that I had come home to my family. A real family, that accepts and supports us. For every question I hadn’t asked, someone had already prepared an in-depth answer. For every difficulty, there was a sympathetic ear, and always there is support and good advice.”



# Supporting Vulnerable Youth

## CONNECTIONS MENTOR USA Mentoring New York's Teens

Throughout her young life, Amina has had behavioral issues. In and out of foster care, her aggressive behavior was a constant source of trouble. But then, Amina met her mentor, Sonia, whose strong but gentle support guided her throughout each crisis in her life. Sonia never gave up, and says, "Through our regular meetings ... we engaged in various activities that fostered mutual trust, strengthening our bond and commitment to the mentorship." To which Amina responds, "Sonia has given me so much advice on life and I am very thankful for it. Sonia saw light in me. She believes in me and I'm so very grateful for her. She was there for me at my lowest."

**Paul Muratore** founded Connections Mentor after retiring from a successful business career. His goal has always been "to have the young person have a stronger sense of self-worth and self-respect." Sonia and Amina have achieved that.

## ELEVATE TO EVEN PLUS USA Internships and Mentoring for Underserved Students

**NEW** Pursuing an associate's degree while working in a movie theater, Leslie's future was altered dramatically when she was offered a summer internship with the local historic preservation society. Drawing from her personal experiences in the city's public housing, she collected her neighbors' narratives for an oral history project. With her mentor's encouragement, she turned these stories into a widely-acclaimed documentary.

In her second summer as an intern, she created a film about Puerto Rican immigration. Both experiences helped her gain acceptance and a full scholarship to Emerson College to study filmmaking.

**Andrew Walker** founded Elevate to Even Plus to empower underserved and under-represented youth with access to paid internships and mentoring. "These young adults are smart and motivated, only needing a chance to gain experience and confidence. Our role is to open the door to opportunities they would not get otherwise."



## JUST IMAGINE USA Summer Camp and Beyond — Opportunities for Inner-City Kids

Kesha, a young girl from inner-city DC, had never ventured beyond her neighborhood. Thanks to a scholarship from Just Imagine, she attended summer camp and went on to receive mentoring, enrichment opportunities, and college application assistance. "These experiences helped me navigate difficult social situations, gain independence, and develop confidence to visualize a new future for myself," she says.

Now studying nursing at the University of the District of Columbia, Kesha credits her success to Just Imagine and its founder, **Abby Sondak**. Based on her own camp experiences, Abby envisioned giving inner-city students the gift of nature-filled summers to enjoy and to develop skills that would make higher education accessible.

What began as a way to share the magic of camp blossomed into a pathway of support and guidance, with over 300 children attending camp and dozens now in college.

## KAIMA HUKUK ISR Educating through Social Experience and Agriculture

Sixteen-year-old Orli joined Kaima Hukuk six months after dropping out of school. It was there that she opened up to a volunteer about suffering both physical and verbal abuse from male family members. With her permission, local authorities were alerted and she was removed from the home. Orli now lives in safe housing, has re-enrolled in school and continues to work part-time on the farm. Her social worker says, "This is where she first gained a sense of personal agency and power. We will stay by her side."

Kaima Hukuk, part of the Kaima network of educational farms, is run by **Rebecca Schunkert** and **Asaf Zaiden**. The program uses the backdrop of organic farming to mentor youth and create a safe environment for those who have struggled in other settings. Trust is formed and young people feel supported as they learn to work the land.

## MAGEN ISR Guidance and Support for Ethiopian Teens

Alon grew up in Ma'ale Adumim along with other youth of Ethiopian origin who struggled to belong. **Dr. Stuart Chesner**, a psychologist, began Magen to give support and guidance to kids like Alon and to "change lives, one at a time." Alon took part in Magen's trip to Ethiopia so that he and others could witness their rich cultural heritage and better understand their parents' sacrifices to emigrate to Israel. He offers, "It then became clear to me that living as a Jew in Israel is an incredible privilege."

Newly inspired by his heritage, Alon became an IDF paratrooper. On October 7th, his unit was one of the first to enter Gaza, where he fought bravely until being gravely injured. Initially, the doctors did not think that Alon would walk again, but after intensive rehabilitation, he has rejoined his unit and continues his service.

## SPORT - BRIDGE TO EDUCATION ISR Empowering Youth-at-Risk through Sports Programs

**NEW** Avi lives in a youth village due to an unsafe home situation. He struggled to find belonging and was doing poorly in school. Invited to join a program run by Sport - Bridge to Education, he reflects, "The program gave me a sense of meaning in these unstable times. My goal is to be a better and improved version of myself." Avi's newfound sense of belonging and success helped him build a strong identity and positive relationships.

Sport - Bridge to Education was created to help vulnerable youth gain skills, resilience, and a strong sense of community through coaching, mentorship and engagement. Founder **Dr. Rutie Pilz-Burstein** explains, "With this program, the children begin to believe in themselves, build trust and learn they can overcome difficulties. We cannot change their pasts, but we can give them a chance for a positive future."

## THE KONNECTION USA Empowering Youth in Underserved Communities

**NEW** Detroit public schools are filled with kids like Abby whose chronic absenteeism prevents them from succeeding. Her disinterest was palpable and evidenced by the poor grades she received. The Konnection was created by **Sharnese Harris** for kids like Abby, whose life changed dramatically with the support she received. The Konnection focuses on positivity — mentoring, a clothes closet, introduction to post high-school experiences and other activities.

Abby now attends close to 90% of her classes, maintains a 3.0 GPA and has become a student leader. Her success even inspired her mom to finally get her own GED. Abby enthusiastically claims, "Because of The Konnection, I now have people I can count on."

Sharnese is proud. "The Konnection's focus is on fostering strong connections with our youth and encouraging them to reach their full potential. We firmly believe in their abilities and strive to empower them to become leaders within the school community."

## WAVES OF HOPE ISR A New Kind of Water Therapy

Batya, a teenager raised in an ultra-orthodox community, had drifted from her strict upbringing. Drugs, sexual abuse and eventually schizophrenia plagued her existence. Being treated in a residential rehab center, Batya expressed a desire to learn to surf and eventually found her way to Waves of Hope, a unique program started by **Eliyahu Ben Zion**, once an Israeli champion surfer. Eliyahu began his work "to give youth who think they have run out of opportunities a second chance."

Waves of Hope provided Batya with the appropriate female instructor in an all-girl class and she now rides the waves with delight. Her physical and mental skills improved and eventually her medications were reduced. Batya's mother believes that Waves of Hope saved her daughter's life and says, "after each lesson, she glows with happiness. In the sea, she feels safe. Surfing returned her will to live."





# From Grief ... Purpose, to Save Young Lives

One student became visibly upset, triggered because a close aunt recently died from fentanyl exposure.

A guest at the high school was speaking about this lethal, synthetic opioid laced into recreational and harder drugs. And — considering 15-25 is the fastest growing age range for fentanyl-related deaths — how to prevent such outcomes.

“My aunt and her baby would be alive now if she’d had this information,” said the emotionally shaken student, Hannah, to her teacher.

The guest that day was **Beth Weinstock**, who walked into that room with her own grief, but also with a driving purpose that it fueled.

Beth’s son Eli accidentally ingested fentanyl in 2021 and died. He was just 20 at the time, a student at American University, a beloved son, grandson and brother, and a cherished friend.

Just six months later, Beth and her daughter, **Olivia**, co-founded BirdieLight, a Good People Fund grantee organization honoring Eli by spreading awareness about fentanyl in drugs, and distributing tools — primarily fentanyl test strips to use on drugs and other substances — to prevent overdoses and empower individuals over the unknown.

“There are many people doing good work in the substance use disorder space, but no one is going to middle school, high school or college students and saying, have you heard about fentanyl and can I tell you how to stay safe,” says Beth, a physician who left her

practice to devote her time to growing BirdieLight and its impact.

Over just a few years, the reach has been enormous, an estimated 60,000 students, educators, parents and others engaged in person or on Zoom, and no doubt more considering the conversations generated afterwards and the availability of BirdieLight’s digitally-distributed curriculum.

The name BirdieLight comes from a nickname Eli’s best friends in middle school called themselves, as well as a reference to how, in the wake of someone’s death, the light of those who are lost persists. And, as Olivia notes, Eli’s name is embedded right in the middle, reflecting his presence.

BirdieLight’s overall approach is decidedly and intentionally non-judgmental, removing a barrier to the message that might ordinarily exist.

“We discourage drug use at any time,” Beth says. “But we acknowledge and recognize that we can’t stop young people from experimenting. We just want to keep them safe if they do.”

Educators, like Hannah’s teacher, who have invited BirdieLight into their spaces, say the message is landing with students.

“Beth is a super-hero,” she says. “She didn’t crawl into a hole after Eli’s death. There she is, a mother who has lost her son, crossing all barriers and being so relatable, all to save lives and ensure that others don’t encounter such loss and pain.”



# Healing Community

## HEART 2 HART DETROIT USA Spreading Kindness on the Streets

When Heart 2 Hart Detroit (H2HD) founder **Larry Oleinick** first met Charline, she was living in her car. When the car broke down, H2HD had the car towed and repaired, ensuring she would have a safe place to sleep and transportation for job searching. Now enrolled in a jobs program, Charline is actively seeking affordable housing. “I appreciate everything they’ve done and are still doing to assist me,” says Charline. “Most of all, I appreciate that their smiles and support are genuine.”

Charline is just one example of the positive impact H2HD has made throughout metro Detroit. Critical assistance comes in the form of bagged lunches, clean socks, personal hygiene items and bus passes. And, says Larry, “The greatest gift we offer those we assist is reassurance that they are not alone.”

## SELAH BROOKLYN USA A Community of People in Recovery and Grounded in Jewish Tradition

**NEW** Seth has been in recovery for alcohol addiction for more than a year. In that time, he took part in several traditional 12-Step programs, each one bringing him closer to a sober life. But, missing from each of these programs was a spiritual component that many believe is so important to one’s recovery.

**Benjamin Lichtman, Arielle Krule** and **Jeremy Poole** each had their own struggles with addiction and recovery challenges for themselves and also their extended families. Those experiences brought them to create Selah Brooklyn, a NY-based recovery program that is immersed in Jewish tradition. As one of Selah’s participants says, “Selah is absolutely extraordinary. It has given me a weekly spiritual foundation in my recovery to not only practice my program, but connect with others seeking similar spiritual answers and on a similar recovery journey.”



## STREETSCAPE USA Peer Support and Outreach for Homeless People

**NEW** Life for Vinnie was not easy. Divorced, homeless, and struggling with addiction, he often had legal trouble as well. For more than 20 years, he lived on the streets, but his connection to **Jennifer Livovich**, founder of Streetscape, was what turned things around. Jen knew the streets of Boulder (CO); she was once much like Vinnie — homeless and in distress. Their shared experiences inspired trust, eventually leading to stable housing, treatment and full-time employment. Streetscape’s aftercare peer support services and other assistance helped him achieve one year of sobriety.

Jen says, “The most effective helper is an informed, trained person who has been there and done that. Streetscape’s lived-experienced peers collectively represent 15 years of living unsheltered in the community we serve ... and have a distinct trust that helps us to support and empower people like Vinnie to thrive.”

## THE FOOD PROJECT USA 🇺🇸 Using Food (and More) to Heal a Neighborhood

Maria and her three daughters faced homelessness, spending a bitter winter night huddled in and around a stroller due to lack of shelter. Their lives took a turn when they discovered The Food Project, which provided security and employment. Maria recalls, “I was struggling to find any warmth for my girls — finding a safe place changed our lives. Now we have a home and I have a job. I’m finally able to provide for my daughters.”

The Food Project offers creative solutions for vulnerable youth, families in crisis, and those experiencing food insecurity through innovative programs and advocacy. Founder **Michelle Suazo** says, “We firmly believe in giving a hand up, not just a handout. Many young families come to us without familial support. By providing the right resources and opportunities, we help them pave the path to stability and success.”



## MAGEN FOR JEWISH COMMUNITIES ISR 🇮🇱 Advocacy and Support for Survivors of Sexual Abuse

As a child growing up in the ultra-orthodox community, Sarah experienced sexual abuse, leaving her with severe PTSD and ongoing medical issues as an adult, including infertility. With Magen’s help, Sarah was able to access trauma therapy and legal recourse. She says, “It has been a long and difficult healing process. I am thankful to tell you that my life is so much better.”

Magen creates safer communities by working to eliminate the stigma surrounding sexual abuse, prioritizing the well-being of victims, and holding predators accountable. The organization offers education and resources, promotes child-safety, and advocates for survivors of abuse through the justice system.

**Shana Aaronson**, Executive Director, explains, “It’s on us, as a community, to make sure victims have the resources and support needed to come forward, to share without being shamed, and to access mental health support.”

## WITNESS TO MASS INCARCERATION USA Beyond Prison, Finding Safety and Dignity

**Evie Litwok**, once incarcerated, has never forgotten the challenges of returning to a world where imprisonment and its implications are part of your history. She began Witness to Mass Incarceration (WMI) for many reasons, but central to her drive was to give others with similar experiences a chance.

Antony, a skilled tailor, spent many years in prison but now maintains a successful tailoring shop and design studio. He has helped run WMI’s eight-week tailoring course for formerly incarcerated people seeking their own new path.

Antony is grateful for the opportunity to pass on his knowledge, stating, “I want to thank you for the opportunity, one that no one else gave me.” Evie adds, “Antony’s transformation and story illuminates the impact of our direct support, providing him with the platform and resources to thrive as a successful small business owner and mentor within his community.”



## ZA'AKAH USA 🇺🇸 Helping Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse in the Orthodox Community and Beyond

Ten-year-old Becky knew that her teacher’s actions were wrong but didn’t know who she could tell. Would she get in trouble? Would anyone care?

Becky is but one of an untold number of sexual abuse survivors from the Orthodox world, where such matters are often ignored. For **Asher Lovy**, who leads ZA’AKAH, and is himself a survivor, changing the culture is his life’s work. In the forefront of advocacy and raising awareness of these abuses in New York, ZA’AKAH has promoted the passage of several significant laws that address them.

As one survivor said, “ZA’AKAH has been helpful in several ways and knowing that they continue to publicize sexual violence cases offers me hope that we are recruiting more allies. Most importantly, the work of ZA’AKAH is lessening the stigma around survivors seeking support.”



# Addressing Food Insecurity and Sustainability

## BAGEL RESCUE USA

### Reducing Food Waste and Supporting Hunger Relief

**NEW** What began as a family service project during the pandemic, has turned into one of Atlanta's newest efforts to provide food to hungry people and reduce food waste and energy costs. **Erin Stieglitz's** visit to a local bagel store opened her eyes to the enormous waste of perfectly good food that could provide nourishment and more to hungry people. Erin says, "While a bagel seems small, it can mean so much to someone in search for nourishment and a bite of dignity."

With numbers changing daily, more than 140 volunteers have rescued almost 2 million bagels, benefitting more than 120 partner agencies. As one receiving agency volunteer says, "A [community] member came into the building one day and the first thing that hit them was the aroma of the bagels. The smell unlocked a memory and sparked joy. They were so happy to take home a bag of bagels that day."

## PESIA'S KITCHEN/EAT ISR 🇮🇱

### Food Rescue and the Environment

Samir lives in Abu Ghosh, an Arab village outside Jerusalem. Subsisting under the poverty line, his family struggled to buy food. "We were not sure what to do and someone told me about a group that delivers vegetables," Samir says. He reached out, and his family began receiving weekly produce deliveries. Eventually, Samir requested additional food to help others in his neighborhood.

Pesia's Kitchen/EAT, founded by cousins **Gideon Ben-Ami** and **Pnina Raphael**, and now joined by the next generation, **Yoni Ben-Ami**, provides food to Samir's neighborhood and many others. Inspired by Gideon and Pnina's grandmother, Pesia, who ran a soup kitchen in Volozyn (Belarus), they deliver fresh produce and dry goods, and rescue food from bakeries and restaurants. EAT, their innovative school program, teaches children about food rescue and insecurity. Gideon says, "Access to food is a human right, and we are honored to provide it to anyone hungry."

## HELPING THE NEIGHBORS

### NECHA MALKA ISR

### Quietly Feeding Hungry Families

## ZEHAVA AND KARYN ISR

### Delivering Food Packages to Families in Need

**Shira Gilor, Zehava Taub** and **Karyn Gellman** have each given new meaning to the adage of being a "good neighbor." With the help of others nearby, they provide food to Chava, a single mom with four kids, who is now being treated for cancer and unable to work. While government assistance will come, the delays in receiving payments are an unacceptable excuse to the landlord waiting for his rent. Food gift cards and two month's rent assistance has made this mother's problems a little less challenging.

In Karyn and Zehava's neighborhood, an entire corps of neighbors donates monthly to support needy families so that they will know that even with their own limited resources, the assurance of a monthly supermarket gift card will provide for the shortfall.

As Karyn says, "When people learn about our project, they are always amazed to hear about the loyalty and commitment of our donors. As one of our recipients recently remarked when I gave him his gift cards, 'This is a very big thing.'"

## ZUMWALT ACRES USA

### A Regenerative Agriculture Community

With no farming knowledge, Daniel enrolled as an apprentice at Zumwalt Acres. Inspired by his work with tree seedlings, he began to understand the importance of preserving the planet and became committed to the reversal of greenhouse gases and making positive change in the world. "The community provided by Zumwalt Acres is a lifelong one, rooted in justice and Judaism, that continues to challenge me and help me grow," says Daniel.

Zumwalt Acres has been in sisters **Remi** and **Gavi Welbel's** family for over 150 years. In this "laboratory," they combine their studies of advanced conservation methods with Jewish values to create a unique apprenticeship program employing the latest environmental practices. As one staff member says, "[Young adults] are empowered to be decision-makers and leaders, and they leave feeling more confident in their abilities to lead Jewishly-grounded lives while making impacts on the climate and ecosystem."

## I SUPPORT THE GIRLS USA 🇺🇸

### Essential Items for People in Need

When Libby fled an abusive marriage, she and her daughters found safety in a motel. With no access to her bank account, the family relied on social services to meet their needs. When one daughter had her first period, they had no menstrual supplies until I Support the Girls (ISTG) stepped in to help, sending hygiene products to their motel. "Not having menstrual products really diminishes you as a person," says Libby. "This package returned a part of our dignity."

"Sometimes the small things are the big things," says founder **Dana Marlowe**, who first created ISTG to provide proper bras to women and girls in homeless shelters. Quickly, the need for personal hygiene products became an equally important necessity and ISTG expanded its focus. With chapters throughout the USA and internationally, more and more women like Libby can stand tall with dignity.

## JGIRLS+ MAGAZINE USA 🇺🇸

### A Place to Be Heard

In the fall of 2016, Audrey participated in *jGirls+*'s first leadership cohort. The following summer, as a camp counselor, Audrey enthusiastically explored feminism and equity with her 12-year-old campers. Four years later, Hannah, one of her campers, applied to the *jGirls+* editorial board, sharing, "Audrey's enthusiasm led me to continuously read *jGirls+* and see how it is an intersection of many things I value: social activism, writing, Judaism, and art." Hannah was selected and blossomed as a community organizer, and a leader committed to Jewish feminism.

**Elizabeth Mandel** created *jGirls+ Magazine* to build a community of young people committed to Jewish feminism and to each other, as well as to contribute to a more equitable world. Of Audrey and Hannah, Elizabeth says, "It was a gift to see the ripple effect of empowering one young person with equity-centered leadership tools on everyone they touch."

# Empowering Women

## KAIMA NAHALAL ISR 🇮🇱

### A Refuge for Teenage Girls

Nava arrived at Kaima Nahalal Farm from a challenging home situation in a big city. "I was impressed by the fields and the big hearts around me," says Nava, who struggled with trauma and difficulties at school. She found solace in the community of girls and the farm's warm embrace. "The farm gave me meaning, a center point, real friendships, and a safe place to heal from my past."

Kaima's unique combination of farming, business exposure, personal enrichment, and community activities sustains the individual and the land. Director **Merav Carmi**, rooted in generations of farmers, recognizes the power of farming and friendship to repair the lives of young people in crisis. She says, "The girls work hard in the fields and begin to believe in themselves and each other. Watching them grow alongside the plants — that is the magic of Kaima."

## NIVCHAROT ISR 🇮🇱

### Amplifying the Voices of Haredi Women in Politics and Beyond

"I found a home — a place where my voice can be heard, and echo back. No longer alone, and I have sisters sharing the journey ... claiming our right, and never giving up," writes Rena, a 26-year-old divorced woman living in a closed Hasidic community. Her family does not know that she volunteers for Nivcharot, writing posts on social media and leading community events and activities. All this because she believes it is important for women to have a voice.

In 2012, **Esty Shushan** found her own voice and began a social media campaign to protest women's exclusion from Haredi

political parties. Three years later, Nivcharot was created and continues to work towards change through education, advocacy and cultivation of women leaders. Graduates of Nivcharot's leadership course have become social activists, candidates for municipal and national elections and more.

## WOMEN PALANTE USA

### Supporting Latina Entrepreneurs

**NEW** Mariana, a new mom who was struggling with postpartum depression, was also trying to find her footing in a new country. She enrolled in a "mompreneurs" class offered in her community. "In the program, I was embraced, supported, and taught the skills I needed to achieve my dream of having my own business," says Mariana. "Now I can take care of myself and my child. I believe in myself again."

**Yurani Sandoval**, founder of Women Palante (Onward), understands these struggles firsthand. Immigrating from Colombia, she earned an MBA and entered the business world as a single mother. Motivated to give back, she created Women Palante to support and train women with similar aspirations. Programs, blending business, wellness, and empowerment, provide learning, community, and mentorship. Yurani explains, "I hope we help inspire women to achieve their dreams."





# Rescuing Food, and Community

Meital was filling her tote with fresh fruits and vegetables, her two small children hugging close, a familiar scene at a farmer's market anywhere really.

But this market in West Jerusalem has a different aura. The food is rescued, meaning it would have ended up in landfill if not here. And, the prices are non-existent, meaning it's all pay-as-you-can so individuals and families facing food insecurity — like Meital's — feel welcomed and respected.

More than that, the whole environment is a seed, intentionally planted to grow personal and collective power to change lives and communities.

"I took vegetables from JLM Food Rescuers, and I felt they have a double value, nutrition and love," Meital says.

"We don't have much food at home, and now we are finally enjoying more variety. I started growing vegetables on the windowsill because I didn't want to throw away potatoes and tomatoes that had already passed."

So self-empowered was Meital by these simple acts, that a wild domino effect took over. She wanted to open up a smaller satellite market in an under-resourced neighborhood, which incentivized JLM Food Rescuers to establish a course for her and about two dozen others on how to do it, and now Meital is organizing events like cooking workshops and community meals made with surplus food and is talking to the media and the municipality on food insecurity issues.

"She is a beautiful example of one of our purposes," says **Itay Peled**, who with **Daniella Seltzer** co-founded JLM Food Rescuers — a Good People Fund grantee — in 2019.

"We are seeing people using rescued food as a base to get together as they care for other people and their community. They are creating something big."

Broadly, JLM Food Rescuers develops models for participatory and community-based urban food rescue to address food insecurity, and to create a just, decentralized and sustainable urban food system in Jerusalem.

Before the October 7 war began, 2.5 million tons of food was wasted each year, and one of every five individuals faced food insecurity. Since the war, the numbers have increased.

"We don't see ourselves as a charity organization rescuing food and giving it out," Daniella says. "We are trying to create opportunities for people to be active and change the relationship between givers and receivers, and create a ripple of positive effects in this city and beyond."

Recently, Meital created a support network for about 30 women raising families while their husbands are on active army duty. Volunteers are cooking meals for the families with rescued food.

"I feel that since I was in the army myself, I haven't done such important things," she said.

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**"We are trying to create opportunities for people to be active and change the relationship between givers and receivers, and create a ripple effect of positive effects in this city and beyond."**

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—Daniella Seltzer, Co-founder JLM Food Rescuers

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# Welcoming Refugees

## INTERNATIONAL NEIGHBORS USA 🇺🇸 Neighbors Helping Newcomers

Khatool's sense of isolation as a newcomer from Afghanistan was assuaged by the International Neighbors' (IN) volunteers who helped her acclimate and rebuild her life. Today, Khatool works as IN's program manager and has a new initiative to prevent the isolation she remembers from her own experience. The STEPS (Support, Trust, Empower, Perseverance, Succeed) Program for women meets monthly and teaches ways to deal with stress and how to thrive in a new environment.

In 2015, **Kari Miller**, a former teacher, created IN to provide Charlottesville's (VA) refugee and SIV (Special Immigrant Visa) neighbors with the skills and networks they need to move from surviving to thriving. Kari believes in the importance of community, a critical need for refugees resettling in new environs, which is why she says, "It's crucial that we are building a new community along with them."

## NEGEV REFUGEES CENTER ISR Creating a Better Life for Asylum Seekers

Samir, a refugee from Sudan, fled persecution and found safety in Israel. He juggles two jobs and two young children, and serves as a community leader at the Negev Refugees Center. Samir explains, "The center not only gives us help, it gives us self-respect. We are a part of the center."

The Center was founded by **Moran Mekamel** and a group of university students in Beersheva to assist newly arrived asylum seekers and refugees from Eritrea and Sudan. The center champions and works in partnership with the community, providing resources, encouraging initiatives, ensuring food security and housing, as well as providing access to health and legal advocacy. The Negev Refugees Center currently serves over 1,000 asylum seekers in Beersheva and 3,000 in other Negev cities, bringing much needed services and resources to isolated communities in need.



## NEW NEIGHBORS PARTNERSHIP USA 🇺🇸 Connecting Refugees to Their New Neighbors

In the summer of 2023, Anya fled Ukraine with her young son. Alone In NYC, she faced the daunting task of getting on her feet in a distant city. In the fall, her son dreaded going to school, where he had no friends and didn't speak a common language. New Neighbors Partnership matched Anya with a local mom, Sarah, who lived nearby and had a slightly older son.

On her first visit, Sarah delivered hand-me-down clothes and school supplies and the moms became instant friends. "We have experienced genuine kindness and open hearts that have made our transition immensely smoother," says Anya.

Founded by **Shoshana Barzel**, the organization matches refugee families with donor families who can contribute clothes and other necessities on an ongoing basis. "It's amazing to see how one meaningful connection can profoundly change the trajectory of a family's resettlement story," says Shoshana.

## REFUGEE ASSISTANCE ALLIANCE USA 🇺🇸 For Refugees in South Florida, A Helping Hand

Luciana escaped the gang violence that killed her father and brother in Ecuador and arrived in America as a single mother of three young kids. She works as a hotel housekeeper, earning \$15 an hour, enough to provide a roof over her family's head. But when she and the kids got sick, forcing her to miss several days of work, she could not pay the rent and reached out for help.

**Kristen Bloom** and a cadre of volunteers began Refugee Assistance Alliance (RAA) to meet the extraordinary needs of people like Luciana, who were settled in South Florida and where the cost of living soars each year. RAA provides wrap-around services to new immigrants who are struggling. Kristen says, "I have gained more than I have given. We believe refugees and immigrants make our country stronger ... everyone deserves to live in safety, community, and with opportunities to succeed."

## ACHLAH — THE HEYANUT CENTER ISR Making Families Whole

It is for people like Yossi that **Johanan Flusser** began Achlah-The Heyanut Center. Yossi's parents had him immigrate to Israel, believing that with his special needs, he would somehow do better living in Israel than he had in America. The initial arrangements that were made for Yossi were woefully insufficient and he was a "lost soul" in a strange country with no family or friends to help support him.

Johanan and the Achlah staff immediately recognized very problematic issues that were affecting Yossi's successful absorption into his new environment. Most important, his incorrect diagnosis made it impossible for him to get the benefits and the care that he needed. Today, he has a new roommate and professional guidance and Johanan believes Yossi "can in the future live an independent and normative life ... and also protect himself from himself."

## COLLECTIVE LAVO B'TOV ISR Projects for Empowerment

**NEW** Rahel has lived her entire life with developmental disabilities and the endless slights and derision projected from people around her. At work, she was criticized and taken advantage of by fellow workers and customers. Though she was blessed with a positive and spiritual demeanor, and quick to forgive this disparaging behavior, it did bother her.

When she began participating in online sessions with Lavo B'tov, she felt strengthened. **Shoshi Margolin** and **Rachel Kolette Wheeler**, formerly mentee and mentor, created Lavo B'tov to provide a space filled with respect and encouragement and free of marginalization and ridicule, for people with a wide range of disabilities.

Shoshi says, "We've created an authentic familial atmosphere ... throughout our unique approach, seeing each other wholly while transcending any stigma with genuine care, warmth and encouragement. Participants find themselves fully immersed in this environment — who wouldn't?"

# Advancing Inclusion

27

## SHAI ASHER ISR Transitional Employment in a Pastoral Setting

Noam had already had a difficult upbringing when he suffered injuries during his army service, resulting in physical and psychiatric problems. Keeping a job, supporting himself and maintaining independence proved to be nearly impossible. In Shai Asher's kibbutz-based apprentice program for young adults with special needs, he found meaningful work, camaraderie and a positive social outlet. Noam says, "For the first time in my life, I was given the chance to work with plants, something I love, earn a living, develop in a job and be in a place where I fit in."

Shai Asher, founded by social worker **Menachem Stolpner**, creates supportive opportunities for those who are overlooked or forgotten by society. "I decided to create a therapeutic work environment," says Menachem. "It is a balance between teaching and having them become more independent, but knowing there's a safety net."

## SHUTAF ISR 🇺🇸 Creating Inclusive Spaces for Youth of All Abilities

David is a happy, charming teenager who was born with developmental disabilities. He is loved and nurtured at home and in his program at school. After school, his siblings attend sports programs, but his parents struggled to find a program for David. "It was like oxygen for my child," says David's mother when she finally discovered Shutaf's inclusive, welcoming program.

Shutaf founders **Beth Steinberg** and **Miriam Avraham** recognized the formative experiences that afterschool programs and summer camps provide educationally, socially and communally.

With no opportunities available in Jerusalem for their own children with disabilities, they created Shutaf for all children. "We wanted those experiences to be inclusive — with other children, with and without disabilities," says Beth. Shutaf's programs have positively impacted hundreds of children, teens, and young adults and changed the ecosystem of inclusion in Jerusalem and throughout the country.

## SPIRIT CLUB FOUNDATION USA 🇺🇸 Helping People with Disabilities Build Strength and Confidence

When Lynne began her fitness journey, she was nervous, her father says. "She was afraid to fall because her balance was not well developed." Lynne, a young adult with disabilities, was matched with a caring trainer at SPIRIT Club who devised creative exercises to boost her confidence and skills. Her father reports that after much hard work, Lynne can now walk for three minutes on the treadmill independently, and she is proud of her accomplishments.

SPIRIT Club founder **Jared Ciner** was inspired to pursue a career in fitness after witnessing the transformative impact of structured exercise on mental, physical, and emotional well-being during his time in Africa. Merging his passion for fitness and his commitment to supporting individuals with disabilities, he established SPIRIT Club as a place that welcomes people of all abilities, including those with physical and developmental disabilities.



# Caring for Older Adults

## MUSIC MENDS MINDS USA 🗣️ Music as Therapy

Sam played the trombone in a band for many years, until he was released for missing cues. Distressed, Sam stopped playing altogether. Then he discovered Music Mends Mind's 5th Dementia Band and founder **Carol Rosenstein** encouraged his caregiver to bring Sam and his trombone to rehearsal. Sam quickly joined with the musicians and now performs onstage and on cue. Even if he misses a note, what matters is that he is socializing and engaged with his musical abilities again. "The music helped 'turn on his lights,'" says Carol.

Carol and husband **Irwin's**, z'l, love story ultimately became Music Mends Minds, an innovative program that uses pioneering research to lift the spirits of those with Alzheimer's and other neurological disorders. Though Irwin ultimately lost his battle to the disease, Music Mends Minds continues to bring hope to patients and caregivers around the world.



## RONI'S NEIGHBORS (formerly Heart to Plate) ISR The Epidemic that is Loneliness

Nessa came to Israel on her own in the 1990's. Today, as a senior, she has no children and her only relative is a distant cousin who lives hours away. When Nessa connected with Roni's Neighbors, her world opened up. Volunteers arrived with Shabbat food and visited during the week. Nessa was invited out to coffee or for dinner with her volunteer "family" and for the first time, celebrated Passover in a family setting.

For **Roni Lee**, helping Nessa and the more than 200,000 other elderly Israelis living alone became her life's passion. Together with **Matan Asulin**, she created Heart to Plate (in 2021) which has now become Roni's Neighbors after Roni's tragic death last fall at the age of 28. Roni had been reorganizing this work to address the epidemic of loneliness that plagues the country's elder population. The new multi-faceted program will offer numerous programs, utilize technology and advocacy and, ultimately, change the face of aging in Israel.

## THE SURVIVOR MITZVAH PROJECT USA 🗣️ Helping Holocaust Survivors in Eastern Europe

Holocaust Survivors Anatoli and Fina and their disabled grandson fled their home in Ukraine after their house and possessions were destroyed. Under conditions reminiscent of WWII, they made their way to temporary shelter in Moldova. The Survivor Mitzvah Project's help made it possible for them to endure the brutal winter. Fina writes, "It was a miracle ... We are deeply thankful to every good person who helps us survive."

**Zane Buzby** founded The Survivor Mitzvah Project to bring emergency aid to survivors still suffering in Eastern Europe, largely forgotten by the world. Anatoli and Fina are just two of thousands who have been helped. A new association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC will ensure their stories are told. Zane says, "Heeding the words of survivors prevents the seeds of antisemitism from taking root and helps secure a future in a world without hate."

## AL-BAQOUR ISR 🗣️ Supporting Early Childhood Development in the Bedouin Community

Nadia and her small children live in a remote Bedouin village, venturing out only for visits to the baby health center, where they first encountered an Al-Baqour library. "All my life I was told that it's forbidden to let young children touch books," reflects Nadia. With the gentle encouragement of the librarian, she embraced reading and story time, realizing its importance to her children's language development. "The library taught me the power of reading," she shares.

"We open up the world to young children and their mothers, through books and stories," says co-founder **Shlomit Somech-Lehmann**, who, along with **Dr. Foad El Sana**, a Bedouin pediatrician, created Al-Baqour to bring educational opportunities to young children lacking access. Al-Baqour provides the Negev community with libraries, puppet theaters, and learning programs — all initiatives that empower parents like Nadia, nurturing resilient communities through education and play.

## BREAKING THE CHAIN THROUGH EDUCATION USA 🗣️ Ending Child Slavery in Ghana

Beneath 23-year-old Christiana's radiant smile and friendly demeanor is a harrowing story of adversity and inner strength. At 13, she was trafficked from Central Ghana to the Ivory Coast. She spent four years as a domestic laborer, starved and physically and emotionally abused. After several unsuccessful escape attempts, social services and Breaking the Chain Through Education [BTCTE] intervened and rescued Christiana. She enrolled in boarding school and began an apprenticeship in fashion and design.

BTCTE has helped save, and continues to support, more than 100 children and young adults who have suffered devastating effects of trafficking and forced labor. Each year, founder **Evan Robbins** and his team visit each one to assess needs and provide encouragement. Christiana will graduate soon and is passionate and eager to begin her career. "This young woman's resilience and enthusiasm for her future," says Evan, "inspires us all."

# Accessing Education

29

## CARAVAN TO CLASS USA 🗣️ Advancing Education in Timbuktu and Beyond

Founded by **Barry Hoffner** in 2010, Caravan to Class has grown from building schools (17 in all) in rural villages around Timbuktu to supporting women's literacy through a scholarship program named for his late wife. "These kinds of opportunities would simply not be available to these young women without our *Bourse Jackie* program. With the help of supporters, we are changing lives forever," says Barry.

Six years ago, Fatouma was one of the first *Bourse Jackie* scholarship recipients. She graduated from university with honors and holds a job as a marketing manager at a tech start-up. She remains involved by mentoring younger recipients. Fatouma recently participated in a panel about education at the US Embassy in Mali. The Deputy Ambassador writes, "Fatouma was an incredible asset to our forum. Her comments were important, insightful, and well-spoken."

## ENGLISH B'YACHAD (Skilled Volunteers for Israel) USA 🗣️ Online Tutoring for Young Israelis

After serving as an officer in the IDF, Revital launched a volunteer program for Ethiopian Israeli youth to prepare them for more skilled positions during their army service. Despite her accomplishments, Revital was challenged by English. English B'Yachad connected Revital virtually with mentor Jan, who lives in New Jersey. Revital's proficiency and confidence in English grew, bringing her closer to achieving her dreams of working in the tech industry. Most recently, Jan provided Revital with support during the war.

English B'Yachad, an offshoot of Skilled Volunteers for Israel founded by **Marla Gamoran**, empowers young adults from Israel's less advantaged communities by helping students improve their English and thus achieve greater economic success. "Jan and Revital's relationship not only underscore the essence of the program," says Marla, "but also exemplifies the transformative power of mentorship."



# For the Voiceless, Medical Care as a Right

Her pleas for medical treatment were not unfounded, but they were ignored. For so long in fact, that when she finally got a biopsy, the lymphoma had progressed to Stage 4.

"The oncologist told me that if only I had gotten there sooner, I could have received treatment to possibly slow it down. This was pure psychological and physical horror."

The story belongs to Samara, describing the severe medical neglect she encountered and endured at an Illinois Department of Corrections prison where she was incarcerated.

Just two years ago, Samara was granted a compassionate release from prison so she could pursue more advanced and caring treatment than she could ever hope for behind bars.

Samara's story is not uncommon, says **Dr. Mark Fenig**, Founder and Executive Director of Medical Justice Alliance (MJA) — a Good People Fund grantee organization.

"There are nearly 2 million people behind bars in the US. Imagine them as the population of one large city. Imagine that city having no effective department of public health. Yes, it's unimaginable."

MJA mobilizes clinicians nationwide to volunteer as expert medical witnesses for attorneys and advocates seeking appropriate care or outright release for clients facing often life-threatening illnesses. At its core, the model removes the cost barrier to expert witness services, which can be considerable and defeating.

Founded in 2020, the organization now has nearly 400 medical volunteers throughout the country serving as expert witnesses. With over 500 cases, MJA has a success rate of 85 percent helping to secure compassionate or medical care releases.

Released after serving more than 34 years, Samara, now 64, is doing better health wise, to the extent that she is now a seminary student and a fellow of the Women's Justice Institute.

"I look back at those left behind and I'm pressing forward to do what I can to help them," she says. "I know we live in a disposable society, but human beings should never be disposable."

For Mark, the mission of MJA is rooted in simple humanitarianism.

"So many people refer to prisoners as an invisible population, and I'd go as far as to say it is the least popular population," says Mark, who practices and teaches emergency medicine in New York.

"But just because they are doesn't mean they should be punished beyond their sentences. As physicians and members of the medical community, we have the moral obligation to advocate for them to get the care they need. That is a constitutional right."

— **"So many people refer to prisoners as an invisible population ... but (that) doesn't mean they should be punished beyond their sentences. As physicians ... we have the moral obligation to advocate for them to get the care they need."**

—Dr. Mark Fenig, Founder and Executive Director of Medical Justice Alliance



# Ensuring Health and Well-Being

## A COURAGEOUS VOICE USA 🇺🇸 Keeping Kids Safe From Abuse

A Courageous Voice founder **Amy Ever** had just finished a middle school presentation on cyber safety when she was approached by Carly, a student. Visibly shaken and filled with shame and fear, Carly was uncomfortable with a boy she had been speaking to online. This “boy” was actually an adult who was grooming her. Hearing Amy’s talk, Carly came forward when she learned about the red flags around online predators. “I think this is happening to me,” Carly shared with Amy.

“It’s a powerful reminder of how vital our mission is, empowering children to identify risks and protect themselves from potential harm,” says Amy, herself a survivor. “This incident not only highlights the necessity of our program, but also celebrates the courage of the children we aim to protect.”

## CANDLES OF HOPE ISR 🇮🇸 Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support in Israel

Maya, devastated by the loss of her stillborn baby girl, found solace when a nurse in the hospital connected her with Candles of Hope. Joining its support group, she discovered a community that understood her pain, offering her empathy and companionship. “The support group was a significant anchor for me ... It was a safe place ... I felt embraced and understood during my darkest hours,” Maya says.

Candles of Hope was founded by **Elysa Rapoport** after her own devastating experience with stillborn loss. “I wanted grieving families to have access to resources and support that weren’t available to me,” she explains. Candles of Hope strives to break the taboo of infant loss, promoting empathy and support, and offering resources and assistance to bereaved families and healthcare professionals around the country.

## ISRAEL LEMONADE FUND ISR 🇮🇸 Emergency Financial Aid For Breast Cancer Patients

**NEW** Once a resident and employee of a Gaza border community, Noa and her family were forced to relocate on October 7th. Shortly after, Noa was diagnosed with breast cancer and began the arduous treatment of surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. With no job, cramped housing far from home, and a son serving on active duty, Noa’s emotional and financial well-being were being sorely challenged.

**Shari Mendes**, herself a cancer survivor, began the Israel Lemonade Fund to offer emergency grants to people like Noa. Shari states, “I was lucky. I had the financial and emotional resources to help me through this incredibly difficult experience. But all around me, I saw, and heard, that so many others were not as fortunate and were suffering real financial distress because of their illness. I knew there had to be a way to help them.”

## MARVA ISR 🇮🇸 Preserving Dignity and Autonomy Through Life Challenges

Saul, ill and homebound at 85, endured violence and abuse from his adult son who suffered from mental illness and addiction. Despite the danger, Saul explains, “I did not want to involve the police because I worried something bad would happen to my son.”

After a particularly violent incident, Saul sought help, leading to his son’s treatment in a mental health institution. Upon his release, MARVA supported the family by setting boundaries and ensuring ongoing treatment. Now Saul can live safely and peacefully.

**Dr. Mickey Schindler** and **Dr. Michal Wosner** created MARVA to support seniors facing complex challenges at the intersection of mental health, dementia, independence, and care. “Every elderly person who is suffering from abuse, it’s tragic,” Dr. Schindler says. MARVA’s innovative approach combines social work and legal advocacy to protect and support seniors with sensitivity and concern for the entire family unit.

## MYCHILD’S CANCER USA 🇺🇸 Guiding Families Through a Difficult Journey

“There is nothing further we can do for Boaz.” The Israeli doctor’s blunt assessment shocked Boaz’s parents, who had battled for years to save their son from a terminal cancer. With MyChild’sCancer’s expertise and advocacy throughout the journey, a medical expert was miraculously able to get Boaz into a US-based clinical trial and he continues his treatment here.

Years ago, Israelis **Oded Grinstein** and his wife were faced with similar challenges when their infant daughter was diagnosed with a rare cancer. Exhaustive research led them to New York doctors with extensive experience with this type of cancer. The family moved to the US and today that infant is a spirited teenager. Borne out of that heartbreak, MyChild’sCancer is now a resource for many other families facing such tragic circumstances.

As Boaz’s mother writes, “You turn the unfamiliar and frightening into something much more manageable. Where there’s a problem, you are always there to help.”

## NECHAMACOMFORT USA 🇺🇸 Jewish Infant and Pregnancy Loss Support

After Miles was stillborn, **Reva Judas**, stepped in to help his parents Debbie and Jon with both the funeral arrangements as well as their grief journey. “Reva was a guiding light through the darkness that we were enveloped in,” says Jon.

Debbie and Jon joined the NechamaComfort community, attending monthly support groups and other events. As time passed, Jon decided to pursue a master’s degree in social work and now works with Reva as an intern. “You grow through what you go through,” says Jon. “I have dedicated my life to carrying on [Miles’] legacy.”

Reva started NechamaComfort to provide the kind of support she didn’t have when she suffered the loss of her son more than 36 years ago. “This is the true work,” she says. “Helping families to never feel alone.”

WE SUPPORT AND MENTOR OUR GRANTEEES TO HELP THEM BUILD ROBUST, IMPACTFUL GRASSROOTS NONPROFITS, ENSURING THAT YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN A WORLD THAT NEEDS IT.

## SCOPE

### OUR WORLD NEEDS FIXING...

Programs we support serve a broad range of human needs and population-at-risk-from eradicating poverty to welcoming refugees.

## SCREENING

### ACCOUNTABILITY MATTERS...

We get to know our grantees and deeply and thoroughly vet their work to ensure our funds are used effectively and as intended.

## SUPERVISION

### STRENGTH IN PARTERSHIP...

Once we commit to an organization, we guide them along, offering support, expertise, encouragement, and friendship along the way.

## SPEED

### DOING GOOD CAN’T WAIT...

We work quickly, nimbly and efficiently to ensure that when urgent needs arise, as they often do, they are met as swiftly as possible.





# Hope, for IDF Vets with PTSD

He was essentially paralyzed, his lens outward and inward felt shrunken and colored and obscured.

"Depression, anxiety and loneliness gripped me, leaving me lost and unmotivated. There were months of almost complete isolation, sleep problems and a lack of vitality. I needed an escape from the darkness."

The words belong to Giora, a 34-year-old IDF combat veteran. But they could be said by any one of the tens of thousands of IDF veterans exhibiting similar symptoms — all indicators of Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), many cases going unreported or undiagnosed entirely.

At an oasis of calm and healing called Ruca's Farm — a Good People Fund grantee — Giora and other IDF veterans are finding relief and a path toward more light, sometimes after other attempts have failed.

Here, social visionary **Nir Lahav**, who grew up on a kibbutz in northern Israel, is combining his own love for the land with a deep, tangible commitment to the welfare of Israel's veterans, giving them space for needed healing and growth.

"PTSD is something everyone is aware of now," Nir says. "It wasn't like this 10 or 20 years ago. We are doing our part here to address and help ease it. We owe it to them."

The approximately 12-acre, volunteer-driven organic farm just east of Tel Aviv — which Nir named after his mother, one of Israel's kibbutz pioneers — boasts groves of fruit trees, greenhouses in which 25 types of vegetables thrive, and open fields for future growth.

The Ruca's Farm model, informed by PTSD research, offers an overall communal environment marked by mutual understanding, care and support. The agricultural work — itself a known path to reducing anxieties and cultivating connection to the world outside oneself — is surrounded by professionally led group discussions, communal meals and a variety of

other effective therapies, including yoga and even beekeeping.

For Giora, the story progresses to a better place than where it started.

"The days at the farm were full of process, coping, growth and renewal," he says. "Homemade shared meals created a sense of family, deep conversations opened a window into inner worlds, and creative activities allowed for self-expression and emotional connection.

"Slowly but surely, I began to feel a change. The loneliness faded, replaced by a sense of belonging and connection. I found the courage to step back out into the world, to return to my circle of friends and family, to finish my studies and to go back to work.

"The ranch is not just a treatment center, but a warm home for anyone in need, a place where you can find hope, compassion and support along the way. I arrived lost and hopeless, but today I am moving forward one step at a time, knowing I'm not alone."

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**"PTSD is something everyone is aware of now. It wasn't like this 10 or 20 years ago. We are doing our part here to address and help ease it. We owe it to them."**

—Nir Lahav, Founder, Ruca's Farm



# Alleviating Poverty

## FAMILY-TO-FAMILY USA

### Combating Poverty, One Family at a Time

Claude and Germaine and their five children fled Togo, West Africa, for a safer life in the US. To support them, Claude worked multiple jobs until being disabled by back surgery, forcing the family to rely heavily on SNAP benefits. When their account was hacked and temporarily suspended, funds meant for rent and utilities were spent on food and the bills piled up. Within 24 hours of hearing about their plight, Family-to-Family sent the family online gift cards for food and other necessities.

Since 2002, Family-to-Family has been helping vulnerable people — refugees, veterans, Holocaust survivors and others — by connecting generous families to those with profoundly less. Founder **Pam Koner** says, “Because we’re a small and agile grassroots organization, with no red tape to cut through, we’re in a unique position to help almost instantaneously when emergency needs arise.”

## GABRIEL PROJECT MUMBAI ISR

### Fostering Hope in India’s Slums

Priya, a young woman in rural India, lives with her mother, brother and two nieces. As the sole wage earner, she carries the burden of feeding her family. Priya had the opportunity to join the Tribal Threads program run by Gabriel Project Mumbai. She says, “I have loved to sew since I was a young child. In the beginning, I was sewing like other girls. Gradually, I took on leadership for my whole team. My financial condition is much better and I can now feed my whole family.”

Gabriel Project Mumbai provides economic, educational, and health opportunities for marginalized communities in slums and villages in India. Founder **Jacob Sztokman** says, “It is so important to recognize the skills and talents of our beneficiaries. They are our leaders whose success creates ripple effects on families and communities in underserved tribal villages.”

## ONE CAN HELP USA

### Supporting Court-Involved Families in Massachusetts

Ninth-grader Alan struggled both at home and in school. Recognizing his depression, his social worker, Nicole, encouraged him to find a hobby that One Can Help agreed to underwrite. “Boxing has given my client motivation, and a way to see himself progress as a result of his hard work.” Alan no longer struggles and plans to join the Navy. He credits the discipline he learned through boxing and writes to Nicole, “Thank you for helping me save my life.”

One Can Help, founded by attorney **Anne Bader Martin**, supports children and families involved in the juvenile court system by underwriting modest and potentially life-changing needs. “The public only hears about these children and families and their difficult life experiences after a heartbreaking disaster hits the news,” says Anne. “Then we may ask ‘why didn’t anyone do something sooner?’ So that is what we do.”



# Allocations and Index

GRANTEE	AMOUNT	PG	GRANTEE	AMOUNT	PG
A Courageous Voice	15,000	32	Magen for Jewish Communities	13,500	21
A New Dawn in the Negev	10,000	12	MARVA	9,000	32
Achlah	9,000	27	Medical Justice Alliance	15,000	30
Al-Baqour	5,000	29	Microcinema ✧	6,818	
Always By Your Side ✧	5,000		Music Mends Minds	9,000	28
Ani Shlishi ✧	40,822		MyChild'sCancer	10,000	33
Bagel Rescue	7,500	22	Necha Malka ■	23,057	22
BirdieLight	10,000	18	NechamaComfort	15,000	33
Breaking the Chain Through Education	9,000	29	Negev Refugees Center	5,000	26
Brit Ha'Leviot	18,000	15	New Neighbors Partnership	12,500	26
Candles of Hope	5,000	32	Nivcharot	19,974	23
Caravan to Class	10,000	29	October 7, Our Response	177,023	7
Civic Spirit	10,000	8	One Can Help	10,000	36
Collective Lavo B'Tov ■	49,974	27	People of the Book ■	50,760	8
Connections Mentor	7,500	16	Pesia's Kitchen/EAT ■	179,792	22
Detroit Horse Power ✧	5,000		Quietly Uplifting Lives ■	247,901	5
Elevate to Even Plus	10,000	16	Refugee Assistance Alliance	10,000	26
English B'Yachad ■	44,000	29	Rekindle	10,000	10
Everyday Boston	12,500	12	The Road to Recovery ■	53,263	8
Family-to-Family	7,500	36	Roni's Neighbors ■	35,298	28
Fighting Online Antisemitism (FOA) ■	53,271	8	Ruca's Farm ■	161,121	34
The Food Project	7,260	20	S.A.H.I. ✧	23,413	
For Good PGH	15,000	12	Sahar	16,000	
The Forgotten People Fund ■	57,216		Selah Brooklyn	12,500	20
Gabriel Project Mumbai	14,000	36	Shai Asher ■	76,924	27
Good People Learn	3,481		Shalhevet ✧	1,164	
Heart 2 Hart Detroit	10,000	20	Shtetl	10,000	13
Hello Neighbor	2,500		Shutaf ■	37,858	27
I Support the Girls	7,500	23	SPIRIT Club Foundation	13,500	27
Inheritance Theater Project	10,000	12	Sport - Bridge to Education	10,000	17
International Neighbors	10,000	26	Starting Over ✧	19,850	
Israel Lemonade Fund	11,737	32	Streetscape	5,022	20
Israeli Transgender Association	15,000	14	The Survivor Mitzvah Project	12,000	28
Jeremy's Circle ✧	369,577		Tag Meir	15,000	9
jGirls+ Magazine	12,210	23	Ten Gav ■	1,030,894	
JLM Food Rescuers ■	27,424	24	Transcending Trauma ■	36,560	
Just Imagine	10,000	16	TribeTalk ✧	161,531	9
Kaima ✧	355,519		The (un)conference ✧	31,194	
Kaima Hukuk ■	39,254	16	Waves of Hope	22,000	17
Kaima Nahalal ■	57,500	23	Witness to Mass Incarceration	13,500	21
Kavod v'Nichum	15,000	13	Women Palante	9,999	23
The Konnection	11,174	17	Yotsrot ✧	19,400	13
Kuchinate ✧	53,499		ZA'AKAH	12,000	21
LiLY-Lifeforce in Later Years	5,000		Zehava and Karyn	11,000	22
Live From Israel	3,103		Zumwalt Acres ■	22,481	22
Magen ■	20,000	17			



# Financials

For the Period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Contributions ♦	♦4,780,403
Investment Income	2,770
	4,783,173

♦ Of the unprecedented amount of money raised this past year, \$1.6M came in response to October 7 and is not expected to be repeated in this fiscal year.

	Program Services	Management and General	Fundraising	Total
Grants	4,204,400	-	-	4,204,400
Salaries*	*74,900	*16,050	*16,050	*107,000
Payroll Taxes	6,263	1,342	1,342	8,947
Administrative Support*	-	*46,540	-	*46,540
Bank and Credit Card Fees	-	-	13,884	13,884
Consulting	38,542	-	25,695	64,237
Depreciation and Amortization	364	45	45	454
Insurance	1,200	1,783	259	3,242
Marketing	31,146	-	20,764	51,910
Office	-	5,308	-	5,308
Payroll Service	178	38	38	254
Postage and Shipping	816	175	175	1,166
Professional Development	210	45	45	300
Professional Fees	-	15,725	-	15,725
Telephone and Internet	276	59	59	394
Travel and Lodging	10,897	2,335	2,335	15,567
Technology Expense	6,330	1,356	1,356	9,042
Total Expenses	171,122	90,801	82,047	343,970
Total grants and expenses	4,375,522	90,801	82,047	4,548,370

Change in Net Assets	234,803
Net Assets at July 1, 2023	406,328
Net Assets at June 30, 2024	641,131

\* these costs are underwritten by specific donations made available for that purpose

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Mariana Edelman, p. 10  
Christopher Keels, p. 18  
Jonathan Levine, p. 30  
Shay Markowitz, p. 25  
Eduardo Seastres, p. 5

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