



Summer Newsletter

A Personal Message from Israel from Stephen Bisk, JOIN's Executive Director

The situation in Israel is deeply concerning. I am a realist - on Wednesday we purchased an expensive battery and solar panels emergency energy system. A soldier whose family lives close to me just succumbed to his wounds last week. Funerals, shivas, and life-altering wounded is the world I now live in. I look into wet, grieving eyes that will never fully return. Our soldiers, thrust into gravest danger are those of my friends, neighbors, and our own. It is real. It is close. It is personal.

The situation gets more and more concerning. No longer "just" Hamas, but Hezbollah, Iran, and all of their proxies are poised to pounce, and the world turns against Israel. Waiting for the expected "response," promised to be severe.

Yet, so much is so normal. I am not sure how to convey this to you. Maybe this is our normal. In Israel, difficult and dangerous circumstances is the norm. For me - my life is immersed daily with those mired in the greatest difficulties and suffering. Perhaps since I am older already, and have a heart satisfied by a deeply meaningful life helping so many people, so vitally and powerfully.

There is a sense of mission all around me. People going beyond to help others, expressions of unity, and caring. There is a feeling of resilience, of fortitude, of commitment to weathering the storm.

So - I mourn with the fallen and injured. I stock our "safe-room" with water, food supplies and emergency items. I say special prayers - for soldiers, for hostages and for Israel's survival - many times each day. Then I flip back to the daily routines, with great concerns for today and tomorrow in the back of my mind, and a heart full of hope and resolve.

Hoping and praying for an end of the war, of the hostage situation, of the pain and suffering of so many around me. I thank you for caring and for doing what you can.

Stephen Bisk

JOIN Day Camp 2024

Youth from low socio-economic backgrounds already spend the rest of the year grappling with pressures and strife at home and at school. A long, empty summer while their friends are at camp and their parents at work is a sure recipe for trouble. JOIN subsidizes 600 children annually in 3-week day camps that provide fun activities and sports together with healthy bonding with peers and counselors, in a safe and nurturing environment.



Annual Young Leadership Summer Soirée

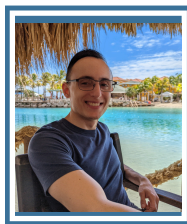


One hundred young leaders came together for the Summer Soirée, an annual fundraising event for Young Leadership. The gathering took place at Ansā in Union Square, an Israeli startup.

Proceeds from the event will support the organization's Emergency Campaign, aimed at providing resources and trauma therapy to individuals in Southern and Northern Israel who are in need.

The event featured social media influencer, actor, and CEO Zach Sage Fox as the headliner. He has been actively working to raise awareness about the demonization of Israel, anti-Semitism, and the current issues affecting the United States, Israel, and abroad.

The fundraiser emphasized a spirit of unity and hope for the upcoming generation of leaders.



Welcome to the YL Board

Zachary Tanenbaum is a dynamic entrepreneur, currently running his own startup specializing in automated integration testing and managing a hedge fund focused on trading biotech stocks.

Zachary's favorite project is JOIN's Bolster Education. We are so excited to welcome him to the team!

Congratulations to

Young Leadership Board Member, Mordechai (Moti) Iluz, on his marriage to Shani Debby



The Impact of One of Jerusalem's Most Selfless Men The Jerusalem Soup Kitchen

For over twenty years now, JOIN Israel's Jerusalem Soup Kitchen has provided a warm and welcoming space for Jerusalem residents in challenging situations. The soup kitchen distributes two thousand to three thousand dollars of food products every day, totalling almost a million dollars each year. The program primarily consists of the distribution of food packages to dozens of low-income families residing in Jerusalem, as well as the operation of the soup kitchen itself, which serves lunch and dinner daily.

The success of the Jerusalem Soup Kitchen is due to the dedication of Yaakov Ostrovsky, its co-founder and Project Coordinator. Formerly a professional pianist, Yaakov made aliyah from the USSR and, along with a partner, engaged in community building to support the influx of Russian immigrants in the 90s. His efforts attracted those in need of social welfare, and Yaakov extended his support to low-income families across the city. This led him to open the soup kitchen with JOIN Israel, which he began through establishing connections with food distributors for daily food donations. Yaakov takes no salary, viewing this work as a personal mission and calling to help those in need.

Click here to read more ...

How to Donate

Credit Card:

www.joinisrael.org

Check:

135 Rockaway Turnpike,
Suite 101
Lawrence, NY 11559

Venmo: @joinisrael

Stock & other donations:

Contact FJC (212) 714-0001
or fjc@fjc.org

EIN Tax ID: 13-3643245

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

TRIBUTE GIVING

Honor someone you love by helping someone in need. Give in honor, memory or celebration today.



JOIN Israel offers Tribute cards! Mark a special date or occasion for your friends and family.

- Memorial/Condolence
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah
- Wedding/Anniversary
- Birthday
- Speedy Recovery
- Thank you
- Holiday

Executive Director: Stephen Bisk | Director of Development: Alex Schieber

Board of Directors: Bryan Weingarten (President), Maurice Dayan (Vice President), Doug Cohen, Natalie Eisen, Daniel Goldberg, Linda Greenblatt Gordon, Jeffrey Keswin, Jeffrey Kleinhaus, Anna Knoll, Daniel Nir, Lauren Rieder, Selig Sechzer, Rick Smilow and Neil Wessan