



This newsletter comes at a time of great conflict and turmoil within Israel and across her borders, in the United States, and in many Jewish communities worldwide. For many Israelis, the October 7th events served as the impetus for intense volunteerism, increased outreach to the vulnerable, and an opportunity to pivot organizational work to support societal groups impacted by the war. We see a slow and cautious return of grantees to core missions, with nuanced shifts in programming directly resulting from the lessons learned over the last nine months.

The trustees and staff at the Gimprich Family Foundation are keenly attuned to the events happening in Israel and around the world. We are following developments with great concern, seeking conversations with thought leaders to discuss the situation, and receiving updates from the Foundation's representative on the ground in Israel, Tamara Klinger Levi, as she experiences this war firsthand. In March, trustees expressed solidarity during their visit to Israel to attend the Jewish Funders Network conference and also participated in site visits and meetings with GFF partners and potential grantees. The events in Israel are happening against the backdrop of an unprecedented rise in antisemitism around the world.



Lod - (L-R) David Fishman - Trustee, Amin Eljamal - Chair Citizens Build Community & Michael Schmidt, GFF President.

The Foundation's Spring 2024 board meeting was an opportunity to discuss pressing issues, ask difficult questions, and review grantee applications. The Foundation has responded to the events of October 7th and the critical need for ongoing emergency support in many sectors, particularly in the realm of mental health and efforts to assuage the impact of post-trauma.

The spring 2024 grantees are doing vital work toward creating a stronger and more cohesive Israeli society while tackling some of the significant challenges that Israel faces today. A total of \$381,000 in funding was approved, comprising emergency, multi-year, and traditional grants to seven additional organizations.

EMERGENCY GRANTS

Israel is in the midst of a national trauma, and the ever-growing demands for mental health support landed on an already underfunded and understaffed mental health system. The Gimprich Trustees were impressed by the nonprofits' ability to pivot and rise to meet the challenges quickly and provide much-needed assistance to those most vulnerable.

A total of \$86,00 was granted to:

- **Hostages and Missing Family Forum** - \$50,000 to support the Forum's victim-centered treatment approach, recognizing that the victim possesses expertise concerning their difficulties and needs. Professionals engage with families to clarify their needs and craft an Anchor Model Plan of treatment based on the information meticulously gathered. This grant supports mental health treatment. Learn more [here](#).
- **SafeHeart** - \$36,000 in support of mental health treatment provided by therapists focusing on clients impacted by trauma while under the influence of psychedelics and with a non-judgmental approach to survivors of the trance-festival terrorist attacks. These efforts are supported by approximately three hundred therapists, including clinical psychologists, psychotherapists, psychiatrists, and social workers, all experienced in trauma and psychedelic harm reduction. Learn more [here](#).



Photo taken at the site of the Novo Festival in southern Israel during Michael Schmidt's, GFF President site visit.

MULTI-YEAR GRANTS

- **Rossing Center** - —\$30,000 will go toward efforts to create a more inclusive Israeli society through educational programming that meets the challenges that Jewish and Arab educators, pupils, and students are now facing. This is the second payment of a two-year grant totaling \$60,000. Learn more [here](#).
- **Center for Women's Justice** - \$20,000 supporting community engagement through an English-language Podcast, [Voices of Women at Wartime](#). The podcast provides "unique perspectives and testimonies of women in their own words—a candid conversation that is sometimes hopeful, sometimes heartbreaking, and always essential as Israel navigates wartime." Learn more [here](#).
- **Economic Empowerment for Women** - \$15,000 was awarded to facilitate two additional (four in all) microenterprise programs. This grant recognizes the significant impact of helping diverse Israeli women from low-income backgrounds improve their economic situation by becoming financially independent. This is the second and final grant of a two-year \$30,000 grant. Learn more [here](#).

FOCUS ON SELECT GRANTS

The trustees approved grants totaling \$230,000 for seven additional nonprofits. Four of the seven are nonprofits the Foundation has previously partnered with, and three are new initiatives. Four programs received multi-year grants.

Highlights from this group of grantees include:



(L-R) Lihi Shmueli - Deputy Director Israel Hofsheet, Michael Schmidt - GFF President & Uri Keidar - Executive Director Israel Hofsheet during a 2023 visit in Israel.

- A two-year grant of \$30,000 to [The Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism](#) to support Rabbinic Spiritual Relief for Victims of Terror and Evacuees. The initiative provides spiritual solace to victims of the attacks and evacuees following October 7th. The grant supports four outstanding female rabbis who provide pastoral counseling, resilience workshops, prayer circles, special services, accompany hostage families, provide therapeutic support, personal visits, social action projects, enrichment in evacuees' temporary schools and, all with a focus on the peripheral region in Israel. Learn more [here](#).
- A grant of \$25,000 was awarded to [The Association of Ethiopian Jews](#) to support the work of closing inappropriate Ethiopian Israeli criminal cases. The Israel Police have had a poor track record regarding the Ethiopian-Israeli community, including over-policing, racial profiling, and increased police violence. Despite this being well-documented and not a new phenomenon, measures towards improvement have been slow. This initiative, together with the larger goal of changing perceptions between Ethiopian Israelis, police, and municipality workers, will improve coordination and broaden the initiative nationwide. Learn more [here](#).



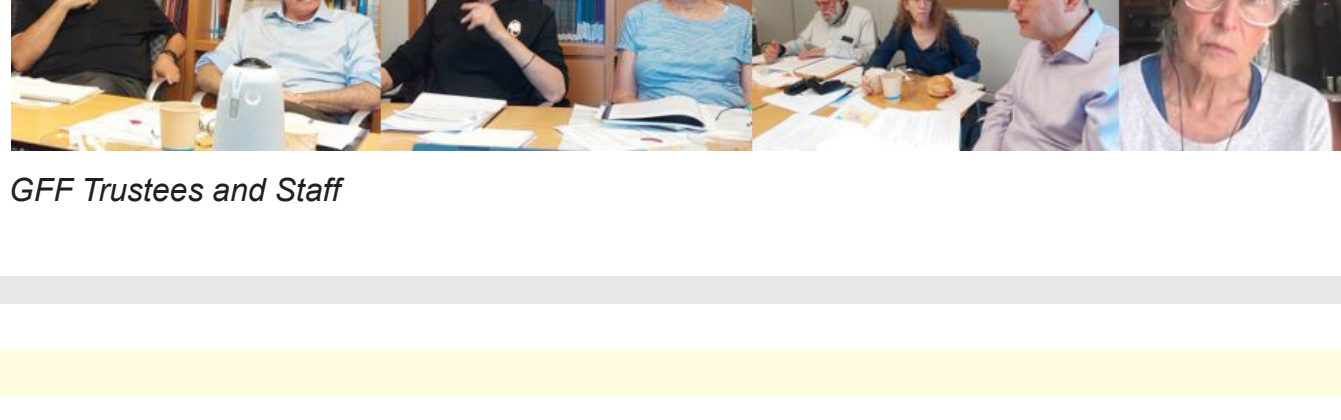
An IMPJ volunteer organizing care packages for victims.



Bustan's diverse leadership group.

- A two-year grant of \$35,000 was made to Tikkun for [Bustan](#) - Shared Environment - in the northern city of Nof Hagalit (formerly Nazareth Illit). In collaboration with several local environmental organizations, Bustan will promote the sustainable development of Nof Hagalit's surroundings through community engagement. Residents will join efforts in preserving and transforming local areas into recreational hubs. The second part of the project, Community Gardens, builds on the success of the City's first-ever community garden by developing an additional community group and garden in the Har Yona neighborhood and will develop infrastructures for an urban community gathering center, offering courses and partnerships with other organizations. Learn more [here](#).

The Gimprich Family Foundation proudly supports the State of Israel during these challenging times. The Spring 2024 docket reflects the desire to provide much-needed emergency funding while thinking about the day after – the day when peace will reign.



GFF Trustees and Staff

THE GIMPRICH FAMILY FOUNDATION BOARD

Michael Schmidt, President
Bart Dolmatch, MD, Treasurer
David M. Fishman
Talya Fishman, PhD

Rabbi Eric Wittstein, Vice President
Judy Dolmatch
Leora Fishman, MD
Amy Strauss Josefek

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Tamara Klinger Levi, Program Officer and Israel Representative
Noa Gottlieb, Administrator

www.gimprich.org

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think would find it of interest.

If you are not currently on our distribution list and would like to join, please send an email to representative@gimprich.org