



Trustee meeting of the Gimprich Family Foundation

Dear Community Partners,

"Mann Tracht, Un Gott Lacht" is an old Yiddish adage meaning "Man Plans and God Laughs." We had intended that this newsletter, the first since The Gimprich Family Foundation welcomed Tamara Klingler Levi to the role of Program Officer/ Israel Representative and bid farewell to Carol Goldgeier, would be a celebratory one. Instead, we are all immensely heartbroken and saddened by the events that have unfolded in Israel since the now infamous date of October 7.

The trustees of The Gimprich Family Foundation are following the events in Israel closely and stand in full solidarity with all the people of Israel and the families of those kidnapped, attacked, wounded, or killed. We are especially concerned for

vulnerable communities on the front lines of the war and those taken from their homes who continue to be missing or unaccounted. Through several emergency grants, we are working to support the most pressing needs of the affected communities where our financial support can be most impactful.

We are also very concerned by the growth of antisemitism across North America and throughout the globe.

We look forward to better days ahead filled with good health, safety, and security for all.

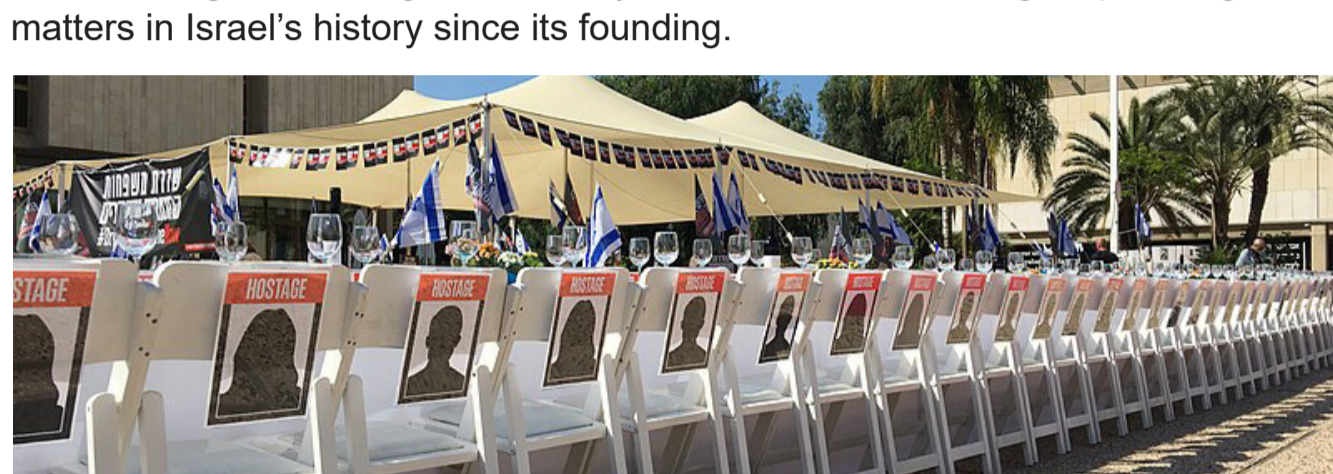
B'vracha,

Michael Schmidt,
President, GFF

Tamara Klingler Levi,
Israel Representative, GFF

COMING TOGETHER IN SOLIDARITY

Over the last several weeks, we have witnessed the winds of uncertainty in Israel and the awakening of civil engagement by thousands of Israelis. What we have observed has been remarkable. While just a few weeks ago, Israelis were actively engaged in a fierce debate about the future of Israeli democracy and society, today, these seemingly fractured groups have overnight come together in unity to address the most urgent pressing matters in Israel's history since its founding.



As we witnessed this shift, the long-time focus and sustained work of the Gimprich Family Foundation has taken on an even greater significance — supporting democratic values, pluralism, and shared society.

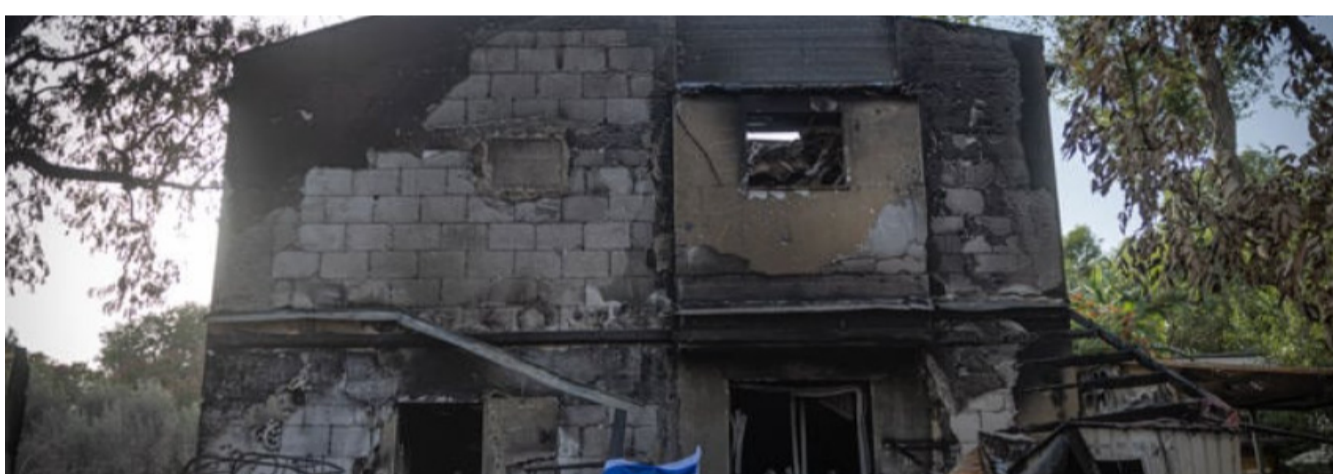
The events of October 7 strengthened our convictions and made us acutely aware of the emergency needs of so many in Israel. It also highlighted the need to be prepared for the "day after." We have every belief that Israel will succeed in this war, but we know that there will be much pain and loss, and we need to be prepared to address the myriad of needs that will emerge as a result of this war. Our fall 2023 grant award reflects the spirit of strength, resilience, and quick responsiveness to a call for action and concern for Israel after the immediate trauma. We are proud that we have significantly increased our funding awards and included several unsolicited emergency grants to support the rebuilding of Israel within the Jewish and Arab sectors. **A total of \$433,000 of funding has been approved for allocation.**

EMERGENCY GRANTS

The trustees identified three areas for immediate support among the many urgent needs: the Kibbutzim decimated near the Gaza Strip, the underserved Bedouin communities in the Negev, and support for Shacharit, which has initiated micro-funding to hundreds of social initiatives to provide relief to those impacted by the war across Israel.

A total of \$160,00 was awarded as follows:

- **The Kibbutz Movement - Takam** - \$50,000 to be divided between Kibbutz Holit, located in the Eshkol Regional Council, and Kibbutz Kerem Shalom, situated on the tip of the Gaza Strip-Israel-Egypt border. Kibbutz Holit is mourning the loss of eleven members and two migrant workers who were murdered; many others were injured, and two members are still unaccounted for, and it is likely they are hostages in Gaza. Kerem Shalom lost two members, and several others were wounded during the attack. Both Kibbutzim were profoundly impacted by the rocket barrages extensive restoration work on the infrastructure.



A building on Kibbutz Kerem Shalom, credit to Kan News.

- **The Social Venture Fund for Jewish-Arab Equality and Shared Society (SVF)** - \$50,000 in support of the Emergency Fund working to provide relief to Bedouin towns and villages in the south that are traditionally outside the social service and crisis safety net. Nineteen Bedouins were killed, and another ten were reported missing following October 7th, and many were first responders saving countless lives.
- **Shaharit** - Creating Common Cause - \$60,000 to be divided as follows: \$50,000 general funding for the organization as it facilitates the DAYBREAK Emergency Funding initiative and \$10,000 for social initiatives within the Bedouin community.

SPECIAL GRANTS

The trustees awarded two grants to notable organizations that are both valued long-time partners, each with a very specific focus.

A total of \$23,000 was granted to:



Vivian Silver z'l of Kibbutz Be'eri

AJEEC-NISPED in memory of Vivian Silver z'l - \$5,000; Vivian was a dear friend of the Gimprich Family Foundation. She was a Canadian-Israeli peace and women's rights activist who has been missing — and was previously assumed to be in captivity after the Hamas invasion of her Kibbutz, Be'eri on October 7, 2023. Vivian z'l was the former Executive Director of the Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development (NISPED) in Beer Sheva, promoting human sustainable development, shared society between Jews and Arabs, and peace in the Middle East. Later, and later joined forces with Amal Elsana Alh'jooj and established AJEEC-NISPED, a long-time Gimprich grantee.

MULTI-YEAR GRANTS

- **Sikkuy-Aufiq** - \$30,000 for work advancing shared society educational projects in the Ministry of Education. This is the second payment of a three-year grant totaling \$90,000.
- **Citizens Building Community** - \$20,000 supporting Arab community youth work in Lod, a mixed Arab-Jewish city. This is the third year of a grant totaling \$60,000.

FOCUS ON SELECT GRANTS



Moran Zer Katzenstein, CEO, and Inbal Gilboa Amir of Bonot Alternativa with David Fishman, Trustee, and former GFF Foundation president, during a summer 2023 meeting in TLV.

The trustees awarded \$170,000 to seven additional non-profits, three organizations the Foundation has previously partnered with, and four new to the Gimprich Family Foundation.

Highlights from these grants include:

- A grant of \$30,000 to **Bonot Alternativa**, an organization that was able to pivot quickly from civil activism to the creation and facilitation of the TLV Emergency Response HQ, which leverages over 100,000 volunteers for the good of the war effort.

- A two-year grant of \$30,000 to our long-time partner **Rashut Harabim**, the Jerusalem Jewish Renaissance Forum, to support the Community House that provides a venue for a myriad of Jewish-life activities and their swift response in support of those displaced families with members serving in the IDF and the entire community.



Rabba Inbar Bluzer-Shalem, founder and CEO of Rashut Harabim, and Michael Schmidt, GFF President, during an April 2023 visit to Jerusalem.

- A grant of \$10,000 was awarded to **Molad** to support work sustaining the liberal Zionism expressed by Israel's founders and working to strengthen democratic values in Israel today.

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