Gimprich Family Foundation Grantees
Fall 2026

	NORTHERN ISRAEL	
Organization	**Description**	**Grant**
The Varda Institute for Community Building	The Varda Institute specializes in sharing practical tools and methodologies with community leaders that, when implemented, heighten belonging among community members and strengthen the community's fabric, resilience, and social cohesion. Their work encourages a culture of belonging, helping people feel valued, committed, and ready to collaborate. The Varda Institute addresses this with a bottom-up approach, equipping local kibbutz leaders and kibbutz community volunteers with practical methods to build deep-rooted resilience and social cohesion. They are launching **Home First Galilee: Community-Led Demographic Revival**, an initiative working in three critical frontline kibbutzim—Dan, Sde Nehemia, and El-Rom. By building proactive social infrastructure, Varda empowers these communities to shift from emergency survival to long-term demographic growth. Additionally, Kibbutz leaders will benefit from participating in the larger regional group (see below), where they can share their community model, best practices, and lessons learned with other community leaders facing similar issues.	$45,000
The Shahaf Foundation	Shahaf Foundation strengthens community resilience across Israel by empowering local authorities, professionals, and residents to build connected, resilient communities that can withstand crises and thrive in their aftermath. Since the outbreak of the Swords of Iron War, Shahaf has led innovative community-based emergency response and recovery initiatives, supporting displaced municipalities, cultivating community leadership, training professionals, and developing scalable models that enhance social cohesion, recovery, and long-term resilience. The **Galilee Communality Center**, initiated by Shahaf and other partners, is a comprehensive initiative designed to future-proof community development in northern Israel. The project will bring together five cohorts of 20 to 25 community workers from various local authorities for rigorous training centered on peer learning and interdisciplinary collaboration. The framework features six annual training sessions per cohort, joint learning events, and two regional peer-learning communities—including a dedicated cohort for frontline areas. By providing an open digital network equipped with practical models and a professional directory, the Center breaks down municipal silos and builds a highly coordinated ecosystem for the entire region. Cohort participants will be empowered to take their newly acquired knowledge and practical tools back to their communities and recruit volunteers to bring new projects to fruition.	$45,000
Northern Goals	Northern Goals is dedicated to reducing social gaps and driving social mobility for marginalized populations with a focus on northern Israel. They develop and implement culturally tailored programs that strengthen municipal social services, foster community resilience, and support independent living for vulnerable families and youth. Families in Hatzor HaGlilit are enduring chronic wartime stress with fewer resources than neighboring towns. To answer this crisis, Northern Goals is establishing the **Early Childhood Development and Resilience Space** within Hatzor's existing Early Childhood Center. This initiative deploys a multidisciplinary team of professionals to provide critical developmental screenings, therapy, and parental guidance to at least 80 high-need families. By embedding these resources into the local community, Northern Goals is correcting historical disparity and ensuring that the most vulnerable children in the Upper Galilee periphery receive the timely care and resilience they deserve.	$30,000

Spirit of the Galilee	Spirit of the Galilee (SOG) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing Jewish-Arab shared society, interfaith leadership, and community resilience across northern Israel. The organization operates on the principle that peace-building begins with trusted relationships across religious and cultural divides. SOG implements cultural, interfaith, and shared-society programming. One of its divisions, Hope Initiatives (Yozmot Tikva), is led by peacebuilders Ghadir Hani and Dror Rubin and integrates regional networks with expertise in trauma healing, shared leadership, and community facilitation. True regional resilience in the Galilee requires addressing both psychological trauma and deep community divides. The **Resilience Together: Inter-Community Growth Post-Crisis** program achieves this by uniting Jewish and Arab residents through dedicated healing groups in northern Israel in Tivon and Kfar Manda, Haifa, Wadi Ara, and Akko. Integrating trauma-informed therapy, spiritual care, and interfaith text study. The project builds cross-community trust and equips leaders with practical tools to promote long-term emotional well-being and social cohesion.	$35,000
Yad Shimon - Mashiv HaRuach Initiative	Mashiv HaRuach enhances the resilience of Israel's frontline caregivers, therapists, medical professionals, educators, social workers, emergency responders, and spouses of veterans coping with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), all of whom bear the emotional burden of supporting others during periods of national trauma. Through trauma-informed, group-based resilience programs, the organization aims to prevent burnout and secondary trauma while fostering enduring peer-support networks. By supporting those who provide support to others, Mashiv HaRuach contributes to the overall resilience of Israeli society. While the trauma facing Israeli Defense Forces veterans is widely recognized, the intense emotional and operational burden on their spouses remains a critically overlooked gap in care. To address this crisis, the **Breathing Space** program provides a year-long resilience framework explicitly designed for the spouses of IDF veterans living in northern Israel and coping with service-related PTSD. Developed from extensive field experience and successful pilots post-October 7, this trauma-informed initiative delivers practical coping tools, emotional support, and structured peer networks to reduce isolation.	$33,000
Organization	**Description**	**Grant**
Tamar	Mental health practitioners established Tamar to provide culturally appropriate treatments and educational solutions for Bedouin in Israel, strengthening their personal resilience and community connections. When faced with a crisis, the founding team realized they had no formal support to turn to, so they established Tamar to develop and provide innovative therapies, education, and community support, assisting thousands of children, youth, teenagers, and adults annually. Tamar seeks to reduce persistent disparities in service availability, particularly within underserved Arab and Bedouin communities, and promotes sustainable, community-driven mental health solutions. During their fieldwork, they recognized the special mental health vulnerability of young people in most Negev Bedouin communities. Bedouin adolescents in unrecognized Negev villages face severe trauma and anxiety from the ongoing conflict, yet geographical and cultural barriers cut them off from traditional care. Tamar's **Mobile Space for the Soul** addresses this by bringing a fully staffed, Arabic-speaking mental health clinic directly to five underserved villages. Instead of waiting for youth to seek help, local professionals will proactively engage over 1,000 adolescents, providing 400 hours of tailored therapy and a dedicated chat application.	$35,000
Organization	**Brief Description**	**Grant**
Bar Kaima	Bar Kaima Farm is a social enterprise helping adults rebuild their lives after trauma through meaningful agricultural work that serves the larger community. Originally, Bar Kaima worked with youth who couldn't cope with formal learning environments by offering an alternative to classroom learning. Since October 7th, the Farm has	$30,000

	supported those impacted by trauma to get their lives back on track and to complement treatments. Operating from their established farm in Moshav Beerotayim, the **Ecological Bridge to Life** program provides structured, full-day work experiences designed to restore emotional well-being. Bar Kaima collaborates directly with referring teams—including the IDF and specialized trauma NGOs—to customize farm activities, track individual progress, and ensure successful outcomes. This collaborative framework helps hundreds of participants take a break from daily stressors, regulate, do meaningful work connected to the earth, and reap the therapeutic benefits of that connection.	
The Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism	The Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism (IMPJ) is a prominent communal, spiritual, and social movement in Israel. It seeks to advance the values of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state in accordance with the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, foster Reform Jewish identity among Israel's diverse public, and exert significant influence on pluralistic religious, educational, and public discourse within Israel and throughout the global Jewish community. Following years of sustained crisis, community rabbis have served as the emotional and spiritual first responders for their congregations, leading to widespread compassion fatigue and diminished personal resilience. To protect these vital leaders and to equip them with the tools to work with community members experiencing trauma or secondary trauma, a targeted professional development and peer-learning program for 20 leading Reform community rabbis is planned: **Mental and Spiritual Resilience: Trauma Support for Rabbis and Communities through a Reform Jewish Lens**. Over twelve intensive sessions, this cohort will receive advanced spiritual and mental health care instruction from top professionals, blending reflective practice with experiential learning. Backed by subsequent individual supervision, this program equips national religious leaders with the culturally informed skills needed to heal themselves while continuing to guide their traumatized communities through ongoing suffering and transition.	$35,000
EmotionAid	EmotionAid is a non-profit organization that provides immediate emotional first aid and trauma response training. Founded in 2009 by trauma therapist and CEO Dr. Cathy Lawi, the organization aims to pioneer first responses to intense stress, anxiety, and psychological trauma to foster long-term collective and individual resilience. Moreover, this emotional first aid model can prevent the escalation of more severe mental health conditions. Nearly three years after the October 7 attacks, schools in Israel's border communities continue to endure severe emotional trauma, forcing educators to carry their own heavy burdens while supporting highly stressed students. To address this, EmotionAid, in collaboration with the Darca School Network, has developed a validated model that embeds practical emotional first-aid strategies into daily school routines - **Resilience-Building in Darca Schools**. Following a highly successful pilot that achieved a 20% reduction in educator burnout, this grant will scale the initiative across 10 Darca schools (focusing on schools on the northern and southern borders), delivering 30 hours of intensive training to 30 selected educators. By transforming these staff members into internal resilience ambassadors, the project prevents burnout, supports vulnerable students, and builds lasting emotional infrastructure in the communities that need it most.	$36,432
Habait	HaBait - Empowering Families is a nonprofit organization committed to enhancing the resilience of Israeli families, based on the understanding that resilient families form the foundation of resilient communities and a cohesive society. Since October 2023, the organization has prioritized support for reservist families through **Home in Reserve**, Israel's only long-term, family-centered program that provides structured assistance to 550 families nationwide through trained volunteers.	$35,000

	While the sacrifices of frontline soldiers are well documented, months of prolonged reserve duty have quietly fragmented the basic building block of Israeli society: the family unit. To address this crisis, HaBait is expanding its Family Resilience Model to deliver structured, long-term support to 100 additional middle-class reservist families across Israel's northern and southern peripheries. Funded by this grant, the initiative will recruit, train, and supervise 50 volunteer Family Counselors across two distinct training cohorts. By deploying these counselors to guide families through a rigorous six-month intervention, the program systematically rebuilds healthy relationships, strengthens parenting skills, and enhances financial resilience to restore overall family stability and protect the broader social fabric.	
The Partners of Fallen IDF Soldiers (GFIDF)	The Partners of Fallen IDF Soldiers (GFIDF) is the only nonprofit organization in Israel recognized by the Ministry of Defense to support bereaved partners of fallen soldiers and security personnel whose committed relationships were not legally recognized as marriage. GFIDF delivers immediate and lifelong trauma-informed therapeutic, rehabilitative, and community support. The organization's vision is for every bereaved partner to be recognized, supported, and empowered to rebuild a meaningful life while coping with grief. Since October 2023, demand for services has increased significantly nationwide. Newly bereaved partners of IDF soldiers and reservists who are not 'officially recognized' by the State are often left to navigate devastating loss in isolation. To ensure no grieving individual faces this crisis alone, this initiative is expanding its highly specialized 100-member volunteer network by recruiting and training 20 additional volunteers. These new advocates will undergo rigorous, structured training and clinical supervision to prepare them to support complex grief. By investing in professional facilitators and independent external evaluation, the program ensures the highest quality of service while actively mitigating volunteer burnout and secondary traumatic stress—ultimately guaranteeing that every newly bereaved partner receives qualified, continuous care over time.	$30,000
ICAR Collective	Integration of Fall 2026 grantees into the Ongoing Accelerating Trauma Healing Cohort	$10,000