

# WITH YOUR SUPPORT, THE FEDERATION...

## ADVANCES A SHARED SOCIETY IN ISRAEL

For 67 years, our Federation has celebrated Israel and her vital place in our hearts and community. Through grantmaking and programs, both here and in Israel, we strive to build bridges to Israel's people and culture, and to support Israel as a democratic Jewish state and the historic home of the Jewish people.

The Federation fulfills this mission by partnering with Israeli nonprofits, donors, foundations, and the public sector to reduce poverty through education, job training, and employment programs; encourage volunteerism as a tool for social and economic mobility; and support the full range of Jewish expression in Israel.

We also connect our local Jewish community to Israel through experiential travel and engagement opportunities, and by supporting dozens of Bay Area organizations that provide Israel education and programming.



## USES VOLUNTEERING AS A POWERFUL TOOL FOR PROMOTING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SOCIAL MOBILITY.



Social and economic inequalities weaken Israeli society. Among developed nations, Israel has one of the highest poverty rates and a slow pace of social mobility. Social gaps fall mainly along religious, ethnic and economic lines, exacerbating tensions among those left out. We believe all Israelis should be able to fulfil their potential irrespective of the circumstances of their birth.

The Federation's programs employ volunteerism as a means for developing solidarity, mutual understanding and tolerance among young people, while strengthening social cohesion and promoting active citizenship.

One example is AJEEC-NISPED:

### AJEEC-NISPED The Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment and Cooperation - Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development

This joint effort brings together a cohort of Arab Bedouin and Jewish high school graduates for a year of shared community service to promote mutual respect between cultures and create a more just Israel where both populations enjoy civil rights and opportunity.

## PREVENTS POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION, JOB TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT.

Israel today has one of the highest underemployment rates in the developed world, and the second largest gap between the rich and poor. 1.8 million men, women and children live below the poverty line. Poverty and discrimination have obstructed access and opportunity, and lack of education compounds the problem.

The Federation partners with grassroots organizations and the Israeli Ministry of Education to promote entree to high-quality educational programs from preschool to post-graduate work. Our numerous programs offer vocational training in technology, engineering, and design, and open doors to securing lasting employment opportunities.

One example is Mifras:



**MIFRAS** Mifras stimulates entrepreneurship among hundreds of school principals, creating a network of change-makers within Israel's formal education structure. Acting as leaders of their professional communities, principals are transforming the educational system by sharing acquired knowledge and innovative programming, benefiting Israeli students of all backgrounds.

## BUILDS A SOCIETY OF INCLUSION, EQUALITY, AND JUSTICE FOR ALL OF ISRAEL'S CITIZENS.



Although Israel's diverse population brings a multitude of traditions, religions and history that make Israel a dynamic and culturally rich nation, ongoing divisions often leave Israeli society polarized. Social and religious tensions present obstacles to democracy. There is a central struggle between Haredim (the ultra-Orthodox) and the secular, among other divisions that prevent unity and common cause.

The Federation's programs promote the full expression of Jewish identity in all its many forms. These programs bridge the gaps – be they social, cultural, geographic, or political – and facilitate dialogue and joint-action, tackling root causes of conflict, alleviating tensions, and developing solutions.

One example is Gvanim:

**GVANIM** Gvanim ("hues" in Hebrew) is a Federation-led initiative that creates a cadre of dynamic leaders to spread the message of Jewish pluralism to ever-widening circles of Israelis by developing and implementing projects across the country – in schools, community centers, the media, and the army. This leadership program bridges gaps between the secular and Haredim, and everyone in between.

To support our work in Israel or to learn more, visit [JewishFed.org](http://JewishFed.org), email [SiggyR@sfjcf.org](mailto:SiggyR@sfjcf.org), or call 415.512.6290.

