



Responding. Creating. Connecting.

ujia

Annual Report 2020

# Our Year



It is stating the obvious to say that in the shadow of Covid-19 this has been a challenging year. With your help, however, despite the challenges of the pandemic, UJIA has been able to stay focused on the mission we have pursued for 100 years: securing the future of our Jewish community, strengthening our connection to Israel, supporting those in Israel who need our help and educating the Jewish leaders of tomorrow.

Like everyone, we have had to adapt and innovate. In Israel, that meant addressing new challenges related to the pandemic to ensure support for those most in need. In the Carmiel Children's Village, for example, at-risk children who could not return home during lockdown stayed on site and continued their education, supported by UJIA. UJIA has worked with Israelis of Ethiopian heritage in Kiryat Bialik to provide necessary material support to make it through the pandemic with dignity. And with the economic challenges of lockdowns, our support for innovative projects providing employment and educational opportunities for some of the most vulnerable sections of Israeli society has never been more important.

This summer as last, travel restrictions and uncertainty meant we had to cancel Israel Tour, a life-changing rite of passage for our teenagers. UJIA was determined that British Jewish youth would nevertheless have a meaningful and memorable summer of fun, learning and Israel engagement. Our Summer Engagement Fund supported over 30 community activities for young people across the UK. And if our young people couldn't go to Israel, we boosted our efforts to bring Israel to them, providing Israeli youth leaders for every UJIA backed programme. Well over 1,000 young British Jews will have had their summer enriched by that experience. Our youth movement partners adapted brilliantly to the circumstances and we are so pleased we could support them in giving young people the formative and inspirational experiences that are vital for the future of our community.

"We will continue to invest significantly to give our young people the Israel experiences they need to become the Jewish leaders of tomorrow."

After the summer, we will continue to invest significantly to give our young people the Israel experiences they need to become the Jewish leaders of tomorrow. We're pledging extra bursaries for gap year programmes and Israel Tour 2022 so that cost will not prohibit anyone from participating. We will guarantee more places on Birthright programmes and new schemes to support post-university career development programmes.

Our commitment to the future of our community remains unwavering, but our work has had to adapt, and we must pay tribute to our staff, trustees, volunteers and partners for steering UJIA through this time. None of that work would be possible, however, without loyal, committed and passionate supporters.

It is thanks to you that we have been able to face the challenges of the pandemic and address the current and future needs of Israel and our community with strengthened resolve.

**Louise Jacobs**  
Chairman

**Mandie Winston**  
Chief Executive

# Our Values

Our values are the core principles that guide our decisions and strategic choices, and the way that we work with our staff, volunteers, partner organisations and communities.

As a Jewish organisation, we have sought the wisdom of our tradition in articulating our values.



## PARTNERSHIP

שְׁמִיעַת הָאָזֶן  
Shmiat HaOzen  
A listening ear  
Pirkei Avot 6:6



## INFORMAL EDUCATION

חֲנוּךְ לְנֶעַר עַל-פִּי דַרְכוֹ  
Chanoch l'Naar Al Pi Darko  
Teach a young person in their own way  
Proverbs 22:6



## CROSS-COMMUNALISM

כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲרֻבִּים זֶה בָּזֶה  
Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh  
All Israel is responsible one for another  
Talmud Bavli Shevuot 39a



## INNOVATION

When you have two alternatives, the first thing you have to do is to look for the third that you didn't think about, that doesn't exist  
Shimon Peres z"l – 1923-2016



## RESPONSIBILITY

וַעֲשִׂיתָ הַיָּשָׁר וְהַטּוֹב  
V'asita Hayashar v'Hatov  
Do what is upright and good  
Deuteronomy 6:18

A group of approximately 12 young people are posing on a grassy hill. Some are standing in the back row, while others are kneeling or sitting in the front. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, a dense line of trees separates the hill from a city skyline, which includes several tall buildings. The entire image has a warm, orange-toned overlay.

# OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19

# Our Response

## To Covid-19

**Covid-19 forced us to adopt new, creative methods, and we are proud of the agility shown by our staff and many partners over the course of the pandemic.**

Here are some of the ways in which we responded to the needs of our community in the UK, and supported disadvantaged Israelis whose difficult circumstances were intensified during this period of lockdown, disruption and uncertainty.



Through our **SUMMER ENGAGEMENT FUND**, we enabled **24 Jewish organisations** to provide leadership training, online programmes and day camps for almost **7,000 young people**. Funding from UJIA ensured that youth movements, schools, synagogues, community centres and other organisations could continue to offer Jewish and Israel education of the highest quality.



UJIA provided computers and additional resources for the **CARMIEL CHILDREN'S VILLAGE**. This crucial support enabled family units to care for the wellbeing of their children at a time when schools were closed. We also provided computers for disadvantaged children living in Tzfat. This proved to be absolutely essential, enabling the young people to keep up with their schoolwork and online classes, and alleviating the social isolation caused by the lockdown in Israel.



Our UJIA educators continued to support our community partners with training, expertise and outstanding educational resources to mark Jewish festivals and engage deeply with Israel. **Hundreds of children and families** learned about Israel's history, culture and society through our innovative multimedia content including the **JAMS RADIO** series, **HATIKVAH HISTORIES** podcasts and our **CHAVAYA B'CHAVA** videos, games and interactive arts and crafts activities.



Our partners **UNISTREAM** moved their annual competition for young entrepreneurs online. Thanks to UJIA's support for the project, a group of Druze teenagers from the North of Israel earned national recognition for their ecological start-up company. Unistream supports young people to learn business skills, make the world a better place, and develop the habits they need to succeed in school and later in life.



We developed and supported a range of online activities to mark Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut, including community Tekasim (ceremonies) and an online quiz and celebration run by **ETGAR**, in which **over 2,000 participants** from around the world deepened their connection to Israel.

**Hundreds of Israelis** from minority communities have taken part in UJIA programmes to boost their qualifications and skills for employment. Our partners **KEMACH** adapted their support to ensure the Haredim (ultra-orthodox Jews) they support were able to access training and development opportunities.



Working closely with our partners at the **JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL**, we provided **SHINSHINIM** for **26 Jewish organisations** across the UK. The young Israeli educators quickly moved their activities online and continued to support the young people in the schools, synagogues, youth movements and other organisations that make up our UK Jewish community.



"I believe the Shinshinim project has a profoundly positive effect on the community, both locally and more widely. We rely on the Shinshinim to bring Israel to life in our school as well as helping our children to become part of the beauty and complexity of Israeli society. During lockdown, our Shinshinim helped with Ivrit teaching and whole school activities such as Yom Ha'atzmaut, and continued to be dedicated and engaged throughout their time with us."

Head Teacher, Jewish Primary School

Recipients of UJIA scholarships at the **WESTERN GALILEE COLLEGE** volunteered in the local community of Akko to support elderly residents who were isolating at home. The students provided winter kits which included blankets, scarves and emergency lighting to ensure that their needs were suitably met throughout the periods of lockdown in Israel.



UJA

OUR ISRAEL. OUR FUTURE.

UJA

OUR ISRAEL

# OUR WORK



# Our Work

## In the UK

### UJIA is the UK's leading specialist in Israel Engagement.

By sending young people to Israel on inspirational experiences we ensure every generation of British Jews develops a deep knowledge of, and connection to Israel. Our long-term commitment as major funders of the Youth Movements, and our role in providing grants to various organisations also helps us to increase the quantity and quality of Jewish and Israel education across multiple settings. Through UJIA's own programmes for young people, and the training we provide for practitioners throughout the community, our outstanding educators create leaders who feel a responsibility for Israel and the Jewish People and who act as exceptional role models, living out the values that have been nurtured and developed through the Jewish journeys we have facilitated.

## OUTCOMES OF UJIA'S WORK IN THE UK:



IMPROVED  
KNOWLEDGE  
OF ISRAEL



ENHANCED  
CONNECTIONS  
TO ISRAEL  
AND ISRAELI  
PEOPLE



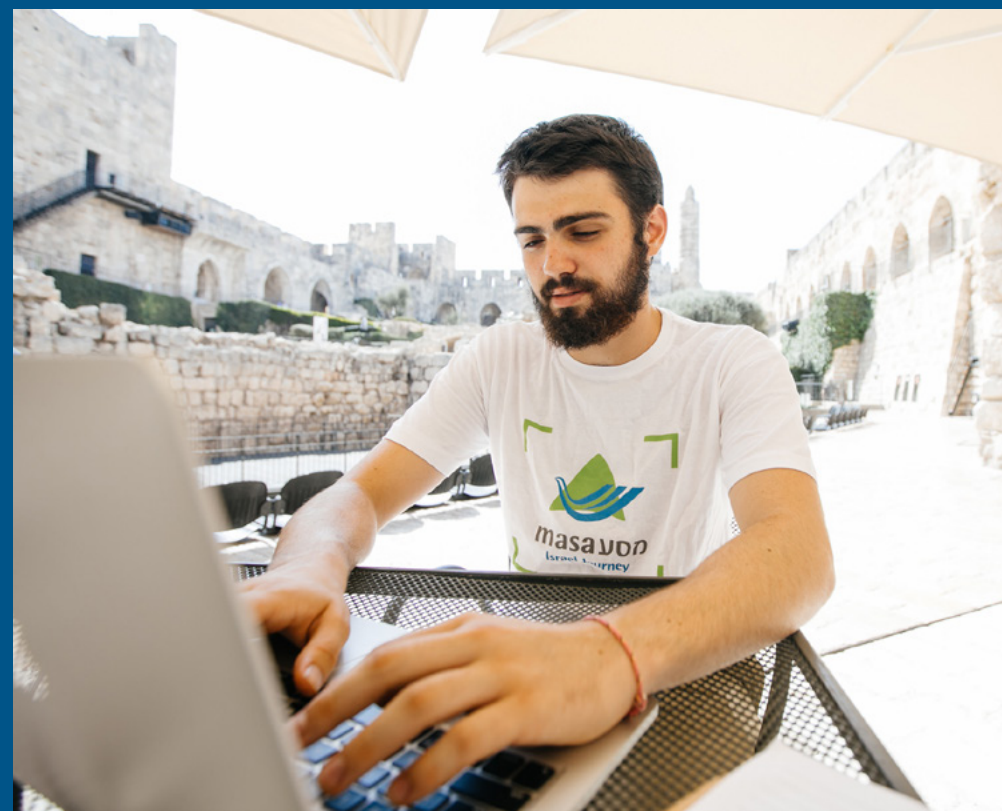
MORE  
KNOWLEDGEABLE,  
RESPONSIBLE  
AND COMMITTED  
LEADERS FOR  
OUR COMMUNITY



DEEPER  
CONNECTION  
TO JEWISH  
PEOPLEHOOD AND  
COMMUNITY

Although the Covid-19 pandemic forced us to cancel some of our flagship summer programmes such as Israel Tour and Birthright Israel, UJIA continued to ensure young British Jews spent time in Israel on meaningful programmes throughout the year. Through our partnership with **MASA ISRAEL JOURNEY**, **345 young adults** were able to spend anywhere from four months to a full year on a wide variety of programmes in Israel.

**73 participants** took part in a **GAP YEAR** in Israel, including 40 who took part in youth movement programmes. Gap years have proven to be incredibly effective in helping our young people develop a relationship with Israel, and a commitment to the Jewish People, with many alumni going on to take up notable professional and voluntary leadership positions within the UK Jewish community.



## MEET ADAM\*



### Throughout my gap year in Israel, I had some amazing experiences!

It allowed me to really see all the sides of Israel, that I would have never otherwise experienced. From Holocaust survivors to new immigrants, I've had the opportunity to meet and interact with a huge amount of people from across the whole of Israeli society, in a variety of ways. Having the opportunity to live and learn with fellow Jewish teenagers from across the world, and living with Israelis my own age, allowed me to really see Israel from the point of view of a local, rather than just a tourist and it's been the most rewarding experience.

The leadership skills and the knowledge of Judaism and Zionism I've gained, both inside and outside the classroom of Israel, are invaluable and I can't wait to pass that on to the next generation of Jewish youth, through my youth movement as well as other leadership and teaching opportunities I'll have in the future. The lessons I learned not only about my religion and Israel but also about myself, are ones I would never have learned otherwise, and I couldn't be more grateful for them.

One experience that sticks out most would be the opportunity to volunteer with Magen David Adom - Israel's ambulance service. This was incredibly unique and so rewarding, allowing me to give back to Israel, a country I love and has given me so much, as well as gain invaluable experience that better prepared me to begin my medicine degree this year. The opportunity to live in both Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, cities on complete different ends of the spectrum, was truly unique, and I gained so much. The independence and confidence I gained from living in these different cities, in a different country for the year, is something I've found so valuable these past few months.

The experiences I had, lessons I learned and friends for life I've made, I will carry with me for the rest of my life! I left Israel with a wealth of knowledge and experiences and I'm so excited to be able to bring it back to my community here in the UK.

\*Names have been changed to preserve the anonymity of participants

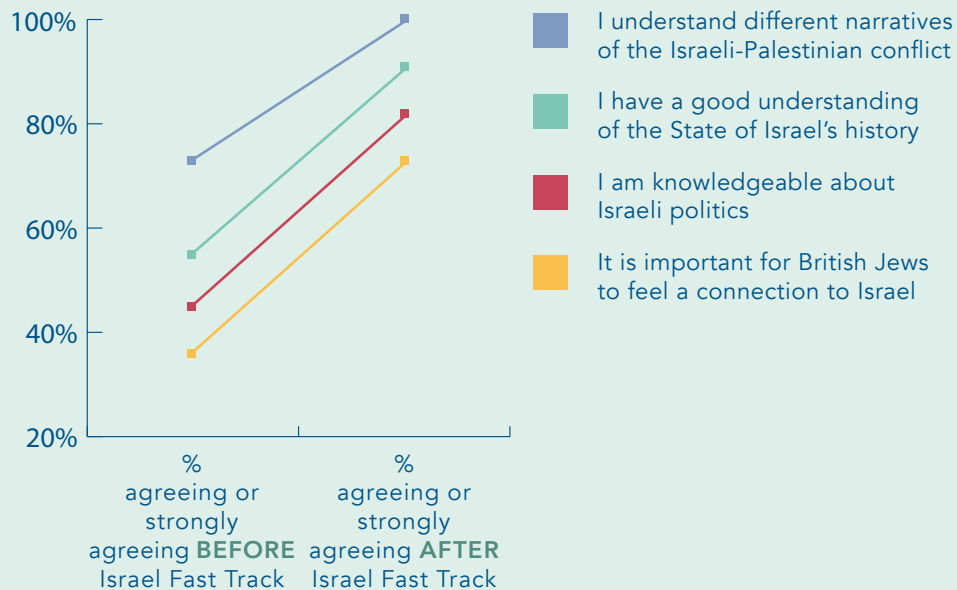
**81 participants** developed personally and professionally on **MASA CAREER PROGRAMMES**, where they were able to gain invaluable work experience and training in a wide variety of sectors, including hi-tech, education and not-for-profit. Through our post-university career options in Israel, UJIA have worked with Masa to make sure that young people can spend meaningful time in Israel at different stages of their development and continue earning an income, without having to compromise on progressing in their chosen careers.

**13 MASA ISRAEL TEACHING FELLOWS** aged between 18 and 35 took part in a 10-month programme where they taught English in schools in various under-privileged areas of Israel. The programme is heavily subsidised, so cost is not a barrier for anyone wanting to take part, and we have worked closely with the programme providers to develop a bespoke opportunity for the UK Jewish community. Living in cities such as Rahat, Ramle, Bat Yam, Rehovot, Haifa, Be'er Sheva, Nazareth, and Jerusalem, the young people immersed themselves in Israeli society, made a real impact on the children they taught and deepened their personal connections with Israel and Israeli people.



UJIA is the major funder of our community's **YOUTH MOVEMENTS**, which serve **thousands of children and young people** from all denominations and backgrounds. We began the programme year in October 2019 with the **CHAZON SEMINAR** in Israel for incoming youth movement workers. The seminar established UJIA's relationship of year-round support for the movement workers helping them to serve as inspirational leaders for the thousands of children and young people who participate in youth movement activities throughout the year. The seminar is also an important and effective way for movement workers to develop relationships with their peers from other movements, facilitating further cross-communal collaboration.

**UJIA ISRAEL FAST TRACK**, our flagship Israel education programme for Sixth Formers, entered its fourth cohort. In a series of residential and one-day seminars, the group grappled with the complexity of Israel's history and modern-day society. The highlight of the programme was a five-day trip to Israel in February, where participants met a range of exceptional speakers and educators representing a diverse range of views. Feedback from the programme was excellent and its impact is evidenced clearly through our rigorous evaluation.



"Israel Fast Track has given me a really good introduction to talking about Israel and the confidence and ability to engage further in discussions around Israel, which has already helped me in non-Jewish settings and as a youth leader."

Israel Fast Track Participant

Through our **ISRAELI BAR/BAT MITZVAH CLUB**, UJIA continued supporting synagogues and local communities with educational programmes and resources. **55 participants** approaching their B'nei Mitzvah came together in clubs in London, Manchester, Leeds and Glasgow to learn about becoming a Jewish adult through the stories of the diverse populations that make up Israeli society. Our educators worked quickly to move the programme online during the pandemic, and ensured that young people were still given this important space and nurturing environment to have fun with friends, explore their identities, and learn about Israel.

Through our partnership with the **JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL**, we employed **2 Israeli shlichim** (emissaries) who embedded themselves into the Jewish communities in Manchester and Leeds. Our shlichim are passionate and knowledgeable educators who work with the entire community to bring Israel into our lives and educational spaces in the UK. Working in schools, synagogues, youth organisations and a variety of other settings, our shlichim designed and delivered high quality programmes and events to educate the community about Israeli culture, history and current affairs. The close personal relationships developed by our shlichim far outlast the time they spend here, ensuring a deep and lasting connection to Israel for the members of our community who benefit from their passion, energy and knowledge whilst they are with us in the UK.





Through our **JAMS** (Jewish Activities in Mainstream Schools) programme, UJIA provided **over 360 educational sessions** in non-Jewish schools, up until the closure of schools in March 2020. We supported **22 schools** in London, Manchester, Leeds and Glasgow, some of whom have hundreds of Jewish pupils, whereas others have only a small number. This provision is especially valuable, as in many cases there would be no Jewish education on offer without the support of UJIA. We worked with **60 educational providers** to bring engaging Jewish content into the school environment. JAMS sessions typically take place during lunch time and cover wide-ranging topics including Jewish festivals, and Israel's history, society and current affairs.

Throughout the lockdown, UJIA provided a series of **JAMS RADIO** podcasts, ensuring continued engagement with Jewish education even while schools were closed, and supporting the young committee members to continue their leadership journeys through the JAMS programmes at their schools.

We ran a variety of activities for **YOM HASHOAH**, **YOM HAZIKARON** and **YOM HA'ATZMAUT**. To commemorate Yom HaZikaron, UJIA produced a meaningful online ceremony for the UK Jewish community, led by our staff and volunteers in Manchester. The ceremony has been viewed **over 1,400 times** on YouTube. UJIA also led assemblies and school-based sessions for primary and secondary schools throughout Manchester and Glasgow, helping the younger members of our community to connect with Israel in fun and meaningful ways on Yom Ha'atzmaut.

With funding from UJIA, **ETGAR** ran an online quiz that was played by **over 800 families** worldwide, who developed their knowledge and love of Israel while taking part in various fun activities and challenges.

We entered into a new partnership with **PJ LIBRARY**, who send children's books on Jewish themes to **7,800 Jewish children** across the UK. We created a bespoke educational resource to be included with their books dispatched for Yom Ha'atzmaut and all participating families were directed to our purpose-built website, which included fun games and interactive challenges supporting learning about Israel and Ivrit. The partnership generated great interest throughout the month of April with **over 21,000 hits** on social media. Reaching younger children is particularly important as research shows early engagement within the home to be crucial in supporting Jewish and Israel identity formation.

UJIA launched our **SUMMER ENGAGEMENT FUND**, a £100,000 open-application grant scheme to support innovative, exciting activities for Jewish young people and families. We had an incredible **71 applications** and were able to award **24 grants** ranging from a few hundred pounds to £10,000. The grantees were from across the religious spectrum of the Jewish community and from all parts of the UK, and the projects included day camps, online camps, virtual tours of Israel, posted activities "in a box" and more. In total, **over 7,000 people** participated in the various projects which all sought to enhance Jewish and Israel education in fun, interactive ways. Our success was replicated later in the year when we launched our **WINTER ENGAGEMENT FUND**, providing a further **15 grants** for innovative educational projects.

#### OUR SUMMER ENGAGEMENT FUND GRANTEES



**3** SYNAGOGUES



**5** UK CHARITIES



**3** PRIMARY SCHOOLS



**2** ISRAELI ORGANISATIONS



**1** SECONDARY SCHOOL



**1** COMMUNITY CENTRE



**8** YOUTH MOVEMENTS/ ORGANISATIONS



**1** COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING ORGANISATION

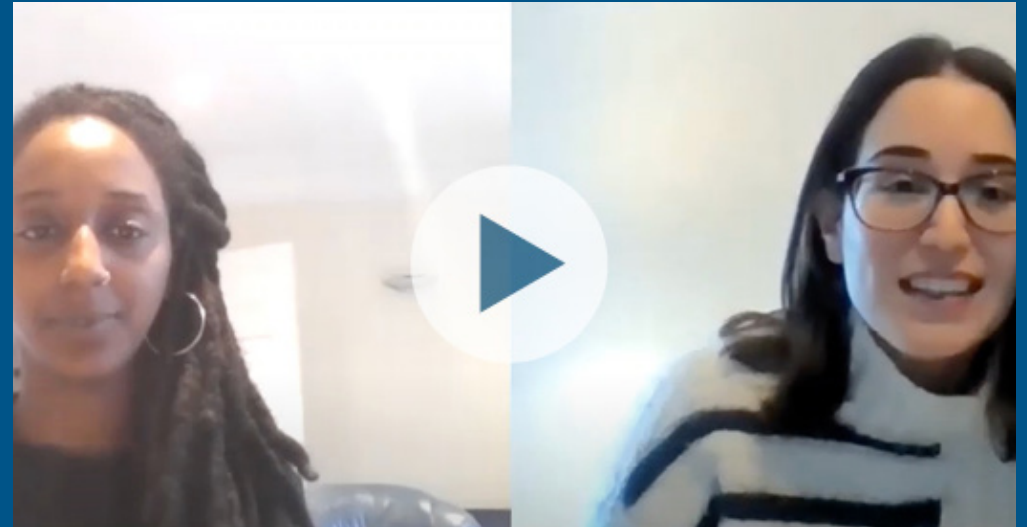
With the onset of lockdown, UJIA created a range of online resources to ensure our important educational work could continue. For Shavuot we set up a website where families could download the resources necessary to run a **PYJAMA PARTY** and learn about how the festival is marked in Israel. We produced a short-form educational story series aimed at primary school-aged young people called **HATIKVAH HISTORIES**. We also launched a weekly newsletter to share the best Israel events and resources from across the community, collating hundreds of online resources about everything to do with Israel.

We created a series of videos and activity packs called **CHAVAYA B'CHAVA** (Experience on the Farm), which was circulated nationally, incorporating Hebrew, Jewish ideas, connections to Israel and an appreciation for nature. Our shlichim also ran daily online Hebrew activities aimed at primary school-aged young people from April until July in a new programme called **IVRIT B'KEF**. On average, 20-30 young people attended each day, and one Jewish primary school was so impressed that they adopted the programme to be used as their daily Hebrew class. After taking part in Ivrit B'Kef, **82% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that speaking Hebrew was an important part of their Jewish identity.



"We love how tactile the activities are and the diversity of them such as baking, music and arts. It helps make the Jewish holidays and the teachings behind them concrete and meaningful for our whole family. We really appreciate this programme and it helps us to feel welcomed and connected to the Jewish community here in Scotland, especially during the pandemic. Thank you so much!"

UJIA Matana Club Participant



For **CHAG HASIGD**, we produced educational materials for primary schools to help pupils engage with this lesser-known Jewish holiday, commemorated in Israel by Israelis of Ethiopian descent, and the wider community. Our resources highlighted the story of the Aliyot from Ethiopia, and focused on the lives, culture and challenges of the community, while celebrating the diversity and connection of Jewish people from around the world.

We also created an online series called **RAINBOW ISRAEL** to commemorate Pride Festival in Israel. Together with Keshet UK, we hosted an online event with a panel of Israeli speakers who shared their own experiences and views on the successes and challenges in Israel's society around issues affecting the LGBTQ+ community.

We partnered with a range of other organisations to launch the **MATANA CLUB** in Glasgow, a monthly box through the post containing resources and activities connected to the festival or time of year. This proved hugely successful and has spread far beyond Glasgow, reaching **over 160 families** across Scotland. All respondents to our feedback survey felt the programme increased their enjoyment of Jewish holidays, increased their interest in Jewish learning and helped them to feel part of a wider Jewish community.



Through our core grant to the **UNION OF JEWISH STUDENTS (UJS)**, we supported **over 6,000 Jewish students**, in **over 60 Jewish Societies (J-Socs)** on campuses across the UK and Ireland. **120 participants** joined UJS at their training summit at the start of the year. This engaged them in skills needed for their roles as volunteer leaders and enabled them to deliver high quality, student-led activities for their peers on campus throughout the year.

Due to the pandemic, the **INCUBATOR** programme moved online, leading to an exceptional curation of digital art, with each piece expressing the artist's Jewish identity and relationship to Israel. **Thousands of visitors** to the website viewed the creative artwork, enabling them to reflect on their own Jewish identities as they did so. UJS also provided outstanding events catering for students with varied interests, with speakers such as Natan Sharansky, and actors from the popular Netflix series Fauda and Unorthodox.

"Participating in Incubator allowed me to explore my own identity as a progressive Jew and a grandchild of Holocaust survivors, as well as my ever-changing and evolving relationship with Israel, through my creative passions and talents"

Incubator participant (Middlesex University)



Our grant for **MACCABI GB** helped them reach **over 3,500 Jewish children and adults** through a range of sporting, educational, social and health and wellbeing activities, whilst promoting Jewish identity and the centrality of Israel. In January, **35 Israeli teenagers** participated in a series of Mifgash (meeting or encounter) activities with young Jews from the UK as part of the Maccabi Sports Exchange. The British and Israeli participants developed their friendships, while reflecting on the similarities and differences between their lives as young Jewish teenagers living in the UK and Israel. For Yom HaShoah, Maccabi GB's Yellow Candle Project distributed **50,000 candles**, enabling **over 140,000 people** to commemorate the Holocaust meaningfully and appropriately.

**RESHET**, a project of UJIA and the JLC, is an enabling unit in the field of informal Jewish education, which works with youth organisations and informal education professionals so that they are better able to enrich, inspire and enhance the lives of **over 7,000 young Jewish people**. Reshet has taken a significant leadership role in raising awareness and improving Safeguarding and Child Protection in the Jewish community, delivering training to over **1,500 communal trustees, staff and volunteers** during the course of the year and playing a central role in supporting the community's participation in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). This year, Reshet supported the seventh cohort of its highly successful, accredited Professional Development Programme for professionals working with Jewish young people. **Over 150 informal educators** took part in the Annual Reshet Conference in February and the Reshet Annual Gathering online in September. Through the provision of networking, professional development and collaboration, these events form a crucial learning opportunity for our community's educators, ensuring higher educational standards across the entire Jewish youth sector. Reshet has also taken a lead role in disseminating and providing guidance on the government's Covid-19 restrictions, providing a much-needed resource for the entire community as we moved between online and in-person programming, and throughout the ever-changing rules and regulations.



# Our Work

## In Israel

**For 100 years, UJIA has been the primary vehicle through which British Jews have supported Israel.**

Throughout our history, we have raised hundreds of millions of pounds from the UK Jewish community, and our collective impact has enabled Israel to grow and develop its educational institutions and economy.

Today, UJIA's work in Israel is focused on reducing disadvantage and inequality and increasing social mobility for the communities most in need. We support and nurture children at-risk and help lift families out of poverty, ultimately strengthening Israel.

By supporting UJIA, you can change the course of a person's life, help them overcome the disadvantage they face and give them a brighter future.

Our fundraising in the UK enables British Jews to come together to express their commitment to Israel, and our collective contribution to Israel's success remains just as powerful as ever. Together, we have changed the lives of thousands of individuals, and they in turn have brought sustainability to their families, local communities and the wider Israeli society.

## OUTCOMES OF UJIA'S WORK IN ISRAEL:



**DEVELOPMENT AND  
EMPOWERMENT OF  
YOUTH-AT-RISK**



**IMPROVED ACCESS TO  
HIGHER EDUCATION**



**INCREASED SKILLS  
AND QUALIFICATIONS  
LEADING TO QUALITY  
EMPLOYMENT**

**Two new family houses** were built in the **CARMIEL CHILDREN'S VILLAGE**. This facility for youth at risk enables children who have been removed from their biological families to grow up in a warm family home. Each family unit houses their own family plus 12 children from the village. Prior to the renovations these children were living in very difficult conditions, with damp and leaking roofs. The new houses give the children a sense of security and calm and directly impact on their behaviour and self-esteem. Through our support for the Carmiel Children's Village, **over 200 children** benefit from the stable, loving environment provided, helping them succeed in school and thrive in all areas of their lives.

**YOUTH FUTURES** is one of Israel's leading early-intervention mentorship programmes for youth at risk. Operating in 36 locations across the country, it is at its core a community-based initiative operating primarily in Israel's geographic and social periphery. At the heart of the programme are the mentors, local adults who work with the young children participating in the programme and their families. The mentors build a customised plan for each child that includes support within school as well as in the after school hours. By doing so, they support the positive development of the child while maintaining open lines of communication with the family to help them succeed in all areas of their life.

Since 2013, UJIA has been supporting Youth Futures centres in the Druze town of Horfeish and the mixed city of Akko. This year, UJIA supported the participation of **73 young people** in Akko and **45 young people** in Horfeish, helping them to develop personally, socially and academically.

## MEET NOA\*



**Noa comes from a difficult home environment and during the Covid-19 pandemic her circumstances became even more unstable.**

In order to support her siblings, Noa moved back in with her mother, who unfortunately had relapsed after signs of rehabilitation since suffering problems with addiction.

Throughout the lockdown, Noa continued working with her **YOUTH FUTURES** mentor, who supported her through the lockdown period and ensured communication lines between home and school remained open.

Noa's mentor told us how this affected her, and how the support of the Youth Futures programme made such a profound difference for Noa and her family:

"The heavy load that Noa carried at home had serious implications for her emotional wellbeing and this also affected her academic performance. Through Youth Futures, we reached out to all the relevant therapeutic sources, who immediately began assisting Noa and her family. After just a couple of months, Noa's family was closely accompanied by a social worker, who assisted Noa's mother in her rehabilitative process. We also managed to organise a local therapeutic programme for Noa and saw a marked improvement as soon as the support had begun."

Noa continues to receive mentoring and support from the Youth Futures programme. Thanks to the close relationship between Noa and her mentor, achieved through the structure that Youth Futures provides, Noa has been much happier at home, at school, and in all areas of her life.

\*Names have been changed to preserve the anonymity of participants

UJIA provides funding for the **UNISTREAM** entrepreneurship programme in Julis, a Druze town in the Galil, in the North of Israel. Unistream seeks to make underprivileged Israeli teenagers more socially mobile by teaching them the entrepreneurial skills necessary to take control of their futures and become competitive candidates in the workforce.

Every year, roughly 3,500 high school students from 85 cities in Israel create their own start-up companies in Unistream's innovation and entrepreneurship programme. This culminates in an annual competition where the young people pitch their ideas to a panel of judges, comprising many leading members in business, government and social sectors in Israel.

In Julis, UJIA supports **60 participants** through the Unistream programme. This year, one group of young people from the centre in Julis was recognised by Israel's President Reuven Rivlin when they were awarded first prize in Unistream's national competition. They wowed the judges with their start-up company 'Legenious', an ecological project seeking to replace the use of plastic water bottles with innovative, biodegradable products.





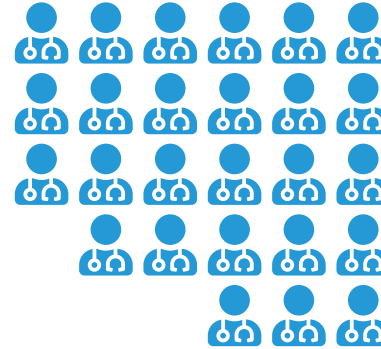
UJIA partners with local municipalities, schools and other organisations to support **THE EQUALIZER**, a football and academic mentoring programme for Israeli youth at risk.

This year, UJIA has supported **over 600 participants** in The Equalizer programme, providing them with access to extra-curricular activities, which they otherwise would not be able to afford. Through football, the coaches and mentors teach the values of tolerance, self-respect and mutual responsibility.

The youngsters meet twice a week to enjoy coaching sessions, while benefiting from help with their homework and support in preparing for exams in a study centre an additional two evenings per week. Participants also take part in monthly tournaments with their peers from other religions, cultures and backgrounds.

Alongside The Equalizer, UJIA also supports the **BOATOT** initiative, which empowers girls and young women and creates a safe space which takes into account any religious or cultural sensitivities that might prevent them from otherwise participating in sport and physical activity.

Through our scholarships for under-privileged students, UJIA supports Israelis from all religious and ethnic backgrounds to further their education and improve their career prospects, leading to happier and more prosperous lives as a result. Scholarships from UJIA help students living in the socio-economic periphery to pay for their tuition and costs of living, enabling them to prioritise their academic progress and make the most of their time at college or university.



This year, UJIA has provided **over 80 scholarships**, enabling another generation of students to succeed at **THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY, WESTERN GALILEE COLLEGE, ZEFAT ACADEMIC COLLEGE** and **TEL HAI COLLEGE**.

UJIA Scholarships have enabled **26 students** at the Zefat Academic College to complete degrees in nursing. With their new qualifications, our scholarship recipients will be able to find meaningful employment, and improve the quality of health provision in their local communities in the North of Israel.

Dear supporters of UJIA,

My name is Tamar\*. I'm 26 years old and come from Hadera, and I'm in my final year at Tel Hai College in the Department of Food Science.

Learning experiences were always difficult for me. Due to my ADD (attention deficit disorder) and dyslexia, I was unable to conduct myself like regular students and I required a lot of help from private tutors. I never thought that I would be able to successfully integrate within the world of academia, let alone in the field of science!

The Support Centre for Students with Learning Disabilities at Tel Hai College has really helped me to know and value myself and to meet the goals I always knew I could achieve. The staff at the centre are constantly attentive to both the learning and emotional aspects of my challenges, assist me above and beyond my expectations, and create a wonderful atmosphere when it comes to the learning experience.

I now tutor other students and it's extremely fulfilling that I can assist students like myself. I really love my field of study, and it shows by my grades, which wouldn't have been possible without the Centre, supported by UJIA.

As a student trying to contribute as much as possible to others, I am extremely grateful for the UJIA Jeanne Bell Legacy scholarship, which makes it easier for me financially, especially now in the shadow of the Coronavirus.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,

*Tamar*

\*Names have been changed to preserve the anonymity of participants



Through our partnership with **THE KEMACH FOUNDATION**, UJIA supports Haredim living in the Galil to gain the skills and qualifications they need to find high quality employment.

In recent years, the challenge of unemployment in the Haredi community has been particularly prevalent in social and political discourse in Israel. Not only is the lack of employment and social mobility detrimental to the community's quality of life but due to the community's rate of growth, it is essential to the Israeli economy that there are more Haredim in the workforce.

Supporting the Haredi community entering the workforce requires a deep understanding of the community's culture and values. It also means closing any educational gaps that may exist. Kemach helps Haredi men and women to obtain the qualifications they need to find employment without compromising their beliefs or lifestyles. Kemach's range of services includes scholarships to study, a job placement centre, professional guidance and mentorship services and its Haredi co-working space.

This year, UJIA has enabled **86 young Haredi adults** on Kemach programmes to acquire a higher education and a path towards financial self-sufficiency. Participants attended 26 different institutions and studied subjects ranging from accountancy and engineering to social work and computer science.

"The UJIA scholarship gives me peace of mind and the ability to study comfortably. I live on loans and couldn't afford to go to university. Unfortunately, my parents cannot help, as they do not have enough for themselves. Without the UJIA scholarship, I would not be able to study today."

Kemach participant and recipient of a UJIA scholarship

**Si3**, UJIA's Social Impact Investment Initiative, is a cutting-edge approach to philanthropy, which addresses societal issues in Israel, whilst also generating further income which can be redeployed to achieve an even greater impact. Our investment committee, consisting of **14 lay leaders** from the UK Jewish community, and our advisory committee of **40 young professionals**, play a lead role in assessing all applications and monitoring progress towards targets.

The **16 investments** in our Si3 portfolio cover a diverse range of social enterprises, including urban regeneration in Lod and Haifa, micro-finance for Ethiopian entrepreneurs and projects working with some of Israel's most vulnerable communities, including Bedouin, Haredim and children with disabilities.



**SIRAJ TECHNOLOGIES LTD.** is a social enterprise, where engineers from the marginalised Bedouin population provide first rate software development services and products. Siraj's long-term goal is to encourage more young Bedouin students to join the booming Israeli hi-tech industry. There are currently only an estimated 40 Bedouins working in the high-tech sector in Israel.

Siraj understands that there is a need to strengthen the skillset of existing Bedouin college graduates through hands-on practical experience. UJIA's investment will be used by Siraj Technologies to provide on-the-job training for promising Bedouin college and university graduates in junior positions, so that they can develop the skills they need to progress and succeed in the long-term in Israel's hi-tech sector.



UJIA supports **LOTUS**, an initiative which provides professional training and employment for traditional and religious Druze women, who work from their state of the art hub in Dalyat Al Karmel. The Lotus Hub provides a female-only working environment to accommodate for Druze religious practice and culture, and the professional support needed so that this under-represented sector of Israel's society is able to work in the lucrative hi-tech sector. Through strategic partnerships with leading tech firms in Israel, Lotus guarantees quality placements and employment for its graduates, helping them secure the income they need to support their families, and to participate fully in the Israeli economy.

Lotus currently has **32 programmers in 7 international and Israeli high-tech companies**. During the Covid-19 lockdown, the remote working facility enabled Lotus graduates to keep their jobs and to excel thanks to the high-quality facilities available at the Lotus Hub. UJIA's investment will support the next training cycle for women living in the north of Israel, so that even more Druze families will benefit from high quality employment and greater income as a result.

Through its microfinancing fund, the **KORET ISRAEL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (KIEDF)** provides loans for businesses owned by Israelis of Ethiopian descent. UJIA's investment supported KIEDF to make **15 loans** in 2020, enabling the entrepreneurs to establish thriving businesses in a variety of sectors including construction, catering, events and personal training.

UJIA's investment enabled **MIDBAR19** to provide high quality training and employment for **30 women** living in Mitzpe Ramon in the south of Israel. Upon completion of the training programme, Midbar19 participants took up roles providing marketing, administration and secretarial services to companies all over Israel. In Tzfat, **LEV19** has played a similar role for **11 women** from the Haredi community, who provide remote accounting and bookkeeping services. The ability to work from home proved especially important throughout the pandemic, ensuring graduates of the programme could continue supporting their families during the periods of lockdown in Israel.



"Lev19 is my personal miracle. Until I found Lev19 I worked in several small jobs just to get to a reasonable salary and to pay the bills. Now my salary is more than enough, and me and my family can live in dignity."

Lev19 participant

A photograph of two women sitting at a table, overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is smiling, wearing a dark jacket. The woman on the right is wearing a dark hijab and a dark top, looking directly at the camera. In the background, there are wooden cabinets with Hebrew signs: 'צוות שפה/ספרות' (Language/Literature Team) and 'צוות ערבית' (Arabic Team).

# FINANCES

# Finances

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
<b>INCOME</b>		
Voluntary Income	7,981	9,522
Investment Income	211	150
Other Income	22	108
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>8,214</b>	<b>9,780</b>

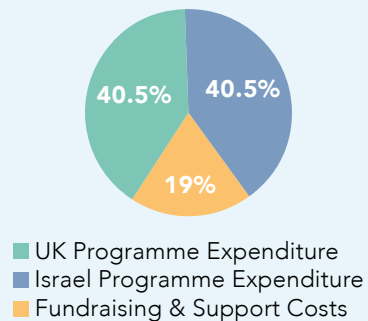
<b>TOTAL PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>6,898</b>	<b>7,941</b>
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<b>FUNDRAISING AND SUPPORT COSTS</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>1,762</b>
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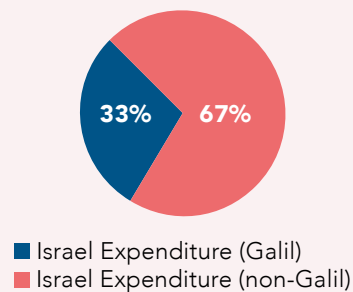
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>8,524</b>	<b>9,703</b>
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<b>NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(310)*</b>	<b>77</b>
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TOTAL EXPENDITURE =  
**£8,524,000**



TOTAL ISRAEL PROGRAMME  
EXPENDITURE = **£3,447,000**



UK PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Educational Programmes	3,113	3,125
Israel Experience	247	948
Research and Evaluation	65	55
Welfare	26	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,451</b>	<b>4,149</b>

ISRAEL PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE		
GALIL INITIATIVES		
Educational Infrastructure (Capital Projects)	236	460
Educational Programmes	801	2,053
Social Welfare and Medical Programmes	11	107
Employment and Small Business Programmes	90	82
NON-GALIL INITIATIVES		
Educational Infrastructure (Capital Projects)	1,312	82
Educational Programmes	918	720
Social Welfare and Medical Programmes	34	212
Employment and Small Business Programmes	45	76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>3,792</b>

<b>TOTAL PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>6,898</b>	<b>7,941</b>
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\* The deficit in 2019-20 was funded from unrestricted and restricted reserves.

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