Dear Friends,

About two years ago, our world changed overnight. Over the past many months, we have learned to have a deeper appreciation for what it means to come together as a community. This period also represents yet another testament to our community’s unique spirit.

Facing unprecedented challenges, our organization and our community, showed resilience, adaptive thinking, and an innovative spirit. These attributes allowed us to continue our work without missing a beat. We have proudly maintained our commitment to keep our community strong, active, and connected to Israel, no matter the obstacle.

Therefore, we are especially excited to share with you this Impact Report, which brings to life our achievements over the past two years, as well as plans for the upcoming ones, with a clear goal of continuing to grow our coast-to-coast community with Israel at heart.

Thanks to your partnership and support, we have not only maintained, but we have also expanded our activity and impact, facing the multifaceted challenges of the present, while preparing for new opportunities ahead.

For the upcoming year, we are committed to focusing on three strategic areas:

- Connecting our next generation to Israel through cutting edge programs that infuse the energy, culture, and spirit of the Jewish State.
- Activating our community by organizing, energizing, and mobilizing in support of Israel and against anti-Semitism.
- Developing a network of young leaders who are strengthening a pro-Israel sentiment in the US and building bridges to Israel.

Most importantly, we are committed to building and strengthening our community, making sure that any person with Israel at heart will have a home.

Your generosity and involvement are what makes this vision possible. For that we are immensely thankful.

We are confident, in the year ahead, that together, we are positioned to create even brighter future for our children, and for our two homes - here in the United States, and in Israel.

With heartfelt thanks,

Shoham Nicolet
IAC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Naty Saidoff
IAC CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
OUR STORY

Over the past decade, the Israeli-American Council (IAC) has led the transformation of the Israeli-American immigrant experience, into an emerging voice in the Jewish American community. We are indeed becoming the home for Israeli and Jewish Americans with Israel in heart. It is estimated that more than 800,000 Israeli Americans live in the United States today. As a vital component of American society, Israeli Americans play a major role in social activism, academia, culture, and innovation. IAC is one of the fastest growing and largest Israeli-American organizations in the United States, serving a vibrant community of Israeli and Jewish Americans who are passionate about Israel.

With more than 105 communities across the nation, the IAC’s effectiveness and success is the direct result of its ability to organize, activate, and engage a community nationwide through cutting-edge programming and activities, developing and empowering community leaders and establishing strategic partnerships. We are determined to secure a future of strong, resilient, and interconnection between the Jewish people and State of Israel, while strengthening the bond between the people of the United States and the people of Israel.

BUILDING AN ACTIVE COAST-TO-COAST COMMUNITY WITH ISRAEL IN HEART AND SPIRIT
Inspiring our young generation’s passion for Israel, it’s energy, culture, heritage and spirit.
Through engaging and interactive experiences, Keshet inspires young Israeli and Jewish American children ages 4-7 and their families to connect to Israel and each other through the Hebrew language, Israeli culture and Jewish traditions.

Keshet makes it possible for our girls to connect to Israeli culture while building meaningful relations in our community.

Klein Family, New Jersey
IAC Eitanim brings together Jewish and Israeli-American middle and high school students for an immersive, innovative, project-based learning experience that fosters participants’ entrepreneurial, creative and leadership skills. With the mentorship of industry leaders and experts, they strengthen their connection to Israel, deepen their unique Jewish identities, and ignite their “Israeliness”.

IAC EITANIM

Igniting Teen Excitement for Israel Through Innovation and Entrepreneurship

42% of participants are mildly involved or not involved in youth organizations

70% of participants do not attend Jewish day school

2859 Teens Connected to Israel and Jewish Identity

IAC EITANIM is named after Major Eitan Balachsan Z”L, commander of the IDF Paratroopers Commando, who was killed in a special operation in 1999.

Being a part of Eitanim has taught me so much about not only entrepreneurship and innovation, but also how important and necessary it is to be active in the Israeli and Jewish communities.

Tamir Z.
Eitanim Alumni, Los Angeles
Mishelanu’s unique, student-led initiatives have brought the spirit of Israel to the heart of college campuses across the U.S. Thousands of students who participate in Mishelanu activity strengthened their Jewish identity and deepened their love for Israel. Reaching 95 campuses and collaborating with partners such as Hillel, Stand With Us and ICC, Mishelanu empowers students to become active as they explore and strengthen their Israeli and Jewish identities, building dynamic campus communities centered around Israel.

4000+ College Students Engage In Israel Related Activity

557 Leadership Fellows & Ambassadors On College Campuses

THE HYBRID IDENTITY OF SECOND GENERATION ISRAELI-AMERICANS IS OUR “SECRET SAUCE” IN BRINGING ISRAEL’S STORY TO COLLEGE CAMPUSES

I have become an even larger advocate for Israel while meeting some amazing people along the way. I’ve found my forever home with the Mishelanu community.

Talia A.
IAC Mishelanu Fellow, San Diego State University

64% Do not participate in any other pro-Israel campus organization

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MAKING ISRAEL EDUCATION AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE AND CUTTING EDGE

OFEK HUB is an innovative educational platform featuring live content and online courses with an Israeli flavor, for all ages and levels. No matter the subject, each course brings the spirit of Israel into the heart of every home.

Featuring Hebrew and enrichment courses for everyone, OFEK HUB also offers specialized Bar and Bat Mitzvah courses where students learn about community building, engage in social justice activities and study Hebrew text as they prepare for this important milestone.

Our vision is to make Israeli and Jewish education accessible and affordable, allowing every student to continue a lifelong Jewish educational journey guided by the best teachers from the U.S. and Israel.

Ofek makes learning Hebrew easy! My teacher is awesome and I love playing the games. Learning is fun!

Ari S. Chicago

LEARN. REMEMBER. HONOR. NEVER AGAIN.

OFEK HUB offers a variety of courses that explore how and why the Holocaust happened, using videos, primary resources, survivors’ artwork, virtual tours of Holocaust museums and survivors’ reflections and testimonies. Our approach is to make these complex and painful issues accessible and engaging for all students. Learning about the tragedy of the Holocaust inspires each of us to think critically about the past and our responsibility today.
A NATIONAL NETWORK OF YOUNG PROFESSIONALS INSPIRED BY ISRAEL

IAC EDGE

EDGE is the national network for Israeli and Jewish young professionals who are passionate about Israel. EDGE offers young adults in their 20s and 30s professional networking and leadership opportunities from coast to coast.
Throughout the years, the IAC has created a formula that combines Jewish traditions, Israeli culture, and community building. The result is a unique experience that brings together Israeli and Jewish American families, who connect together over our heritage and traditions.

IAC GVANIM LIMMUD
гоונים לימוד
Led by community members, Gvanim Limmud creates a space for dynamic discussion and havruta-style text study. Traditional (Bible, Talmud) and modern (Hebrew and Jewish literature and poetry) texts expose participants to diverse interpretations and allows for open discussions about the challenges facing today’s Jewish-Israeli American community. Gvanim Limmud strengthens the participants’ connection to Jewish and Israeli culture and helps to create a common language.

“The in-depth reading of the text made me fall in love with my Jewish culture. I feel so excited and freedom to ask questions and to give my own interpretations.”

Yael, San Francisco

CONNECTING TO JEWISH TRADITIONS, ISRAELI-STYLE

38,000 Celebrated Shabbat, Jewish holidays, & Israeli traditions

984 Gvanim Limmud Alumni

2200 Participants in Gvanim Limmud National Events
IN THEIR DEATH, THEY COMMANDED US TO LIVE

Zikaron, or Remembrance, plays a central part in Israeli culture and traditions. Through our community-based memorial ceremonies and intimate group meetings, we create powerful experiences that connect the community to Israeli and Jewish heritage, history and core values.

Every year we gather to honor those we have lost. During the pandemic, we held our first national Yom Hazikaron Ceremony, Israel’s Remembrance Day, partnering with over 50 Jewish organizations, connecting 1400 families from coast-to-coast.

The Israeli tradition of Zikaron ba’Salon (“Memory in the Living Room”), features meaningful conversations with Holocaust survivors and their families.

Through our Zochrim u’Masparim initiative (“Remembering and Telling”), IDF veterans and bereaved families of fallen soldiers share their stories in intimate parlor meetings with the larger American Jewish community.
NEW LEADERSHIP

Developing a network of young Israeli-American and Jewish American leaders sparking a pro-Israel sentiment in United States.

מנהיגות חדשה
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

IAC’s flagship community leadership program, Gvanim Manhigut, has trained more than 1,100 Israeli Americans to become knowledgeable, pro-active leaders in the Israeli and Jewish American communities. Participants in this program are participate in-depth conversations about their multifaceted identities, meet with community leaders and influencers, and learn from experts about the Jewish American history and landscape. They have develop grassroots leadership and community-building skills, embraced a culture of philanthropy, and lead local community task forces.

Gvanim Alumni
Leadership Network

Gvanim helped me connect to my Israeli-Jewish identity and gave me tools and the confidence to be a successful community leader.
Shani M. Gvanim Alumni, Boston

WOMENS LEADERSHIP NETWORK

IAC Gvanim Ramon

IAC Gvanim Ramon is a community of Israeli and Jewish-American women’s lay leadership who are engaged in a year-long program that develops their leadership and community-building skills. The program features a mission to Israel, where they focus on creating a deeper connection with their Jewish identity and the impact that has on their families.

In Partnership With:
IAC Eitanim Young Mentors program is an amazing group of our most talented high-school Eitanim participants from around the country who learn mentorship and leadership skills while working with middle school students.

IAC Mishelanu Fellows bring Israeli culture and Israel’s positive contributions to the world, impacting thousands of students on nearly 100 campuses across the United States.

An elite group of student ambassadors who educate, support, and train students to raise awareness and rapidly mobilize on campus to combat anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism messaging and activity on campus.

A select committee of successful young Israeli-American and Jewish American professionals who aspire to become leaders in their community. LEAD members create, recruit, and mobilize an entire young adult community.
MOBILIZATION

Organizing, energizing, and mobilizing a community in support of Israel, and the Jewish people.

שינוע קהילתי
The Israeli-American community has a distinct identity and authentic voice. Acts of antisemitism and anti-Zionism are acts of discrimination based on national origin, which ultimately creates an unsafe and hostile environment for Jewish Americans and Israeli Americans alike.
OUR GOAL IS TO MOBILIZE COMMUNITIES AND GROW GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY TO COMBAT ANTISEMITISM AND CHANGE PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT ISRAEL

OVER THE PAST YEAR, WE MOBILIZED MORE THAN 20,000 IAC COMMUNITY MEMBERS NATIONALLY, AS WE LED EFFORTS AND CAMPAIGNS ACROSS THE U.S.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST AND THE RISE IN ANTISEMITISM WITH #6MILLIONSTEPS

ENSURING CALIFORNIA’S ETHNIC STUDIES CURRICULUM IS INCLUSIVE TO JEWS AND FREE OF ANTISEMITISM

LEADING OVER TWO DOZEN COAST TO COAST RALLIES TO BRING TOGETHER THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL AND AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

FIGHTING AGAINST THE HATEFUL BDS AGENDA IN DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE U.S.

ENGAGING 20,000 COMMUNITY MEMBERS NATIONALLY
As Israel faced yet another extended round of continued missile attacks from the Hamas terror organization, our community was faced with an escalation of antisemitic incidents nationwide. The IAC initiated and led the mobilization of tens of thousands of community members in partnership with other national, regional and local organizations. From coast-to-coast, dozens of IAC communities came together, with great determination, pride, energy, passion, and unapologetic love for Israel.

**TZAV 8 COAST TO COAST RALLIES**

This year the IAC led an international effort to remember the 6 million lives lost in the Holocaust and to bring attention to the alarming resurgence in antisemitism across the world. Thousands of people from our communities and across the globe collected more than 20,000,000 STEPS.
In the face of frequent cases of bias, harassment and discrimination against Israeli and Jewish American students, the IAC launched a new website called SchoolWatch.me, designed to contribute to a safe school environment and reduce incidents of antisemitism, anti-Zionism, national origin discrimination and hate.

This year alone, we trained over 2,600 teens, college students, young professionals, and community leaders through a variety of courses and workshops, creating partnerships with schools, synagogues, youth groups and organizations across the country. Our courses equipped participants with tools to combat antisemitism and anti-Zionism.

Following last year’s massive community mobilization that led to the rejection of an antisemitic and anti-Zionist model curriculum, IAC’s latest campaign led to over 10,000 people filing complaints with the California Board of Education demanding assurances that the new Ethnic Studies curriculum would not contain antisemitic or pro-BDS narratives. The IAC is committed to expand its fight against the threat of hostile anti-Zionist rhetoric and content in public education.

FIGHTING NATIONAL ORIGIN DISCRIMINATION

SCHOOLWATCH.ME

ACTIVISM IN ACTION

CALIFORNIA ETHNIC STUDIES MODEL CURRICULUM

EDUCATING & TRAINING

EDUCATING & TRAINING

CALIFORNIA ETHNIC STUDIES MODEL CURRICULUM

FIGHTING NATIONAL ORIGIN DISCRIMINATION
IAC LIGHTS UP THE SKY IN BLUE & WHITE

Council members and community leaders from coast to coast led an initiative to light up landmarks and municipal buildings in blue and white to celebrate Israel’s 73rd Independence Day. From Los Angeles City Hall to Boston’s Zakim Bridge and Florida’s Guitar Hotel, and many, many bridges and buildings in between, Israel’s national colors shined bright as part of our nationwide Celebrate Israel festivities and events.
CELEBRATE ISRAEL: POWERFUL COMMUNITY-WIDE ISRAEL FESTIVALS

IAC began an annual coast to coast tradition of celebratory festivals that bring the Israel into the heart of communities nationwide. This year’s festivities were hybrid in nature, with both a live production broadcast from Israel as well as in-person activities within Covid-safe environments.
The IAC National Summit has emerged as one of the largest high-profile conferences in the Jewish world, bringing together thousands of community members together with public officials and leaders in business and philanthropy, technology, medicine and education, as well as social activism and cultural change.
ADAPTING QUICKLY TO NEW & DYNAMIC REALITIES

In mid-February 2020, with a strong sense of how COVID-19 could spread across the US, the IAC began preparing the organization for a new reality. This planning and foresight enabled the IAC to shift 2,000 program participants overnight from in-person programs into online activities while simultaneously launching a set of new innovative programs.

By the first day of lockdown, the IAC had already reached into thousands of homes across the nation, bringing hope, smiles, and Israeli energy. By the end of March 2021, IAC had produced over 650 live events touching the lives of over 65,000 participants. We have proudly maintained our commitment to keep our community resilient, active, and connected to Israel, no matter the obstacle.

Since the launch of IAC Care in April 2020, more than 1,000 Israeli-American volunteers joined our community-based, social-responsibility network, supporting medical teams, Holocaust survivors, and families in need.
GLOBAL E-SUMMIT: THE NEW TOMORROW INNOVATION SUMMIT

In June 2020, the IAC and the Peres Center for Peace and Innovation brought together extraordinary Israeli and American entrepreneurs, business leaders, academics, and thought leaders for a series of captivating discussions on our new reality in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. More than 4000 people took part in the three-day online summit.

11,100 PARTICIPATED IN VIRTUAL SUMMITS

INNOVATION IN EDUCATION SUMMIT

The time of unprecedented crisis also brought with it one of the most significant opportunities the Jewish world has ever encountered. To inspire change and innovation, the IAC together with Tel Aviv University Online (TAU) Innovative Learning Center, brought educators from around the world for a two-day online summit to reimagine the future of education. Together with senior executives from EdTech and education innovation, leading academics and practitioners, over 4000 participants learned best practices and models to take back to their formal and informal learning environments.
IAC IS PROUD TO BE A MAJOR SUPPORTER OF THE ISRAELI SCOUTS

The Tzofim - Israeli Scouts - works to foster our next generation’s passion for and connection to Israel, strengthening their Jewish and Israeli identity.

Over the past years, the IAC provided nearly $3,500,000 in grants for the Tzofim to dramatically increase the number of local chapters, strengthen Hadracha training, and Hebrew-language summer camp.
The Israeli-American Council is grateful to our most generous partners who have invested over $1 million to the IAC

DR. MIRIAM ADELSON & SHELDON G. ADELSON Z”L
DEBBIE & NATY SAIDOFF
MIRI & ISAAC SHEPHER
CHERYL & HAIM SABAN
GILA & ADAM MILSTEIN
DORIT & SHAWN EVENHAIM

THE IAC THANKS ALL OF OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS WHO HELP US BUILD OUR COAST-TO-COAST COMMUNITY WITH ISRAEL AT HEART
At the heart of our new leadership are our regional Council Members. These lay leaders are focused on our regional and national efforts to build strategic relationships to the Jewish American community, to other immigrant communities, and to engage others to become involved in civic engagements, as voices of the Israeli-American immigrant community.

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- Ronen Schwartzman, Council Member, New York

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- Adi Livyatan, Council Member, Los Angeles

**GVANIM RAMON TASK FORCE CHAIR**
- Adi Livyatan, Council Member, Los Angeles

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- Rachel Davidson
- Ran Fuchs
- Amir Richutsky
- Ronen Schwartzman
- Tal Shuster
- Jacky Tepitzky
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Sheldon G. Adelson Z”L,
A visionary, an Entrepreneur, Philanthropist, Israel Lover, and a True Friend, whose Spirit will Always Inspire Us.
IAC’s Club members represent our movement’s most generous investors in our work. Your deep belief in our mission coupled with a powerful donation provides the inspiration and funding to achieve our critical mission.

MAKE AN IMPACT
JOIN AN IAC CLUB TODAY

For more information: iacclubs@israeliamerican.org

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