ישראל.ביחד
Israel.Together
IMPACT 2022
Growing Impact, Together.

Dear Community Members and Supporters,

It has been an exciting and productive year, and we are proud to share with you the numerous achievements and milestones that we have reached as an organization.

Over the past year, the IAC has continued to grow and expand its reach, strengthening our presence, impact, and connection to Israel within our community and beyond.

We are also proud of the various partnerships and collaborations that we have formed with other organizations and institutions, which have allowed us to further our mission and achieve even greater impact.

Two of our new strategic initiatives include Act & Impact, which promotes pride, identity, and connection to Israel among teenagers and helps them handle challenges related to antisemitism and bias against Israel, and the Israel America Business Playground, which aims to create a multi-generational network passionate about Israeli entrepreneurship, innovation, and a culture of giving and mentorship.

We hope that this Impact Report will give you a sense of the progress that we have made and the direction that we are headed. We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to working together to build a strong and vibrant community.

With Israel at Heart,

Shoham Nicolet
IAC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Naty Saidoff
IAC CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
OUR MISSION, TOGETHER.

It is estimated that over 800,000 Israeli Americans live in the United States, contributing to various fields including academia, science, business, and culture. This community has a strong connection to Israel and its heritage.

The IAC was founded in 2007 with the goal of creating a united and engaged Israeli-American community that strengthens the Israeli and Jewish identity of future generations, the American Jewish community, and the relationship between the United States and Israel.

Through our network of over 100 IAC communities and college campuses across the country, we bring together people of all ages, backgrounds, and affiliations who are passionate about Israel.

We offer a range of programs and initiatives to help families and individuals infuse the energy, culture, and spirit of Israel into the next generation, empower new leaders within the Israeli and Jewish American communities, and stand up for Israel and the Jewish people when necessary.
CONNECTING THE NEXT GENERATION TO ISRAEL THROUGH PROGRAMS THAT EXPOSE THEM TO OUR VIBRANT CULTURE, SPIRIT, AND TRADITIONS.
Keshet gives our children the sense of belonging that we sometimes miss here. We see how important it is to be a part of a community. Keshet is so much more than a weekly program for our girls; it is a home, it is a family, and for that, we are grateful!

Fogel Family, Las Vegas

Keshet’s mission is to bring Israeli and Jewish American children, ages 4-8 and their families, closer to Israel and their heritage through engaging and interactive experiences that focus on the Hebrew language, Israeli culture, and Jewish traditions.
Many skills are needed to be successful in life. Perseverance, collaboration, creativity, management, and confidence are key. Thanks to IAC Eitanim, I’m proud to say I strengthened these skills and my love for Israel during my successful sessions. It has provided help that will last me a lifetime, and I’m grateful!

Amit Ben Yehezkel
Eitanim, Bay Area

IAC Eitanim connects Israeli and Jewish American middle and high school students to participate in a project-based learning experience that promotes entrepreneurial, creative, and leadership skills.

With mentorship by industry experts, students lead innovative projects, enhance their resumes, and develop valuable life skills while strengthening their connection to Israel and forming lifelong friendships.

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.
TEEN INNOVATION Hackathon
FROM COAST TO COAST

ISRAELI “TOP GUN” HACKATHON
NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

IMPACT HACKATHON AT GOOGLE
THE ISRAELI SOCIAL IMPACT GAME
BAY AREA

HACKATHON DC
THE IAC INSPIRES TEENAGERS AND PARENTS TO BE PROUD OF THEIR ISRAELI AND JEWISH HERITAGE, AND EMPOWERS THEM TO BECOME ACTIVISTS AGAINST INCREASING ANTI-SEMITISM, ANTI-ZIONISM, AND ISRAEL BIAS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

ACT&IMPACT

15,000 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED THROUGH FOLLOW UP WORK THAT INCLUDES ACTIVISM TRAININGS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS.
Mishelanu has taught me how to be a proactive leader on campus for Israel. It’s been my honor to get to know other Ambassadors and Fellows and the rest of the IAC community, who continue to support me in this effort every day!

Julie Koenig
Mishelanu Ambassador
Temple University

IAC Mishelanu is a student-led initiative that empowers college students across the nation to advocate for and unite around their love of Israel, strengthen their Israeli and Jewish identity, while also standing up against antisemitism and anti-Zionism.

THE HYBRID IDENTITY OF SECOND GENERATION ISRAELI-AMERICANS IS OUR “SECRET SAUCE” IN BRINGING ISRAEL’S STORY TO COLLEGE CAMPUSES
MAKING ISRAEL EDUCATION AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE AND CUTTING EDGE

IAC OFEK HUB is an educational platform offering live online courses with an Israeli focus for all ages and levels.

Our courses bring the spirit of Israel into homes and offer a variety of options, including Hebrew language learning, enrichment, and specialized Bar and Bat Mitzvah preparation.

Our vision is to make Israeli and Jewish education accessible and affordable for all, allowing every student a meaningful and cutting-edge educational journey with the guidance of top teachers from the U.S. and Israel.

“...My 9 year old just took her first trip to Israel after this class and it made the whole experience so much more meaningful for her because she has a basic understanding of the foundation of our history."

Lauren K., New York

IAC OFEK HUB offers courses that explore the history and causes of the Holocaust using videos, primary sources, survivors’ artwork, virtual tours of Holocaust museums, and survivors’ reflections and testimonies.

Our goal is to make these complex and difficult topics accessible and engaging for all students. Through learning about the tragedy of the Holocaust, we hope to inspire critical thinking about the past and our responsibility in the present.
DEVELOPING A NETWORK OF ISRAELI AMERICAN LEADERS THAT FOSTER AN AUTHENTIC CONNECTION TO ISRAEL WITHIN THE ISRAELI-AMERICAN COMMUNITY, JEWISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND AMERICAN SOCIETY.
IAC’s flagship community leadership program, Gvanim Manhigut trains Israeli-Americans to become knowledgeable, pro-active leaders in the Israeli and Jewish American communities.

Gvanim members participate in 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 develop grassroots leadership and community-building skills and embrace a culture of philanthropy, and lead local community task forces.

“Gvanim helped me connect to my Israeli-Jewish identity and gave me tools and the confidence to be a successful community leader.”

Shani M.
IAC Gvanim Alumni, Boston

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.
The IAC Eitanim Young Mentors program is a group of high school students who have excelled in the Eitanim program and have been selected to mentor middle school students. Through this initiative, these talented young people learn leadership skills and help younger students connect to Israel through innovation and entrepreneurship.

IAC LEAD is a committee of select Israeli-American and Jewish American young professionals who aspire to become leaders in their community. Members of LEAD work to create, recruit, and mobilize a community of our IAC EDGE young adults network.

The IAC Mishelanu Ambassadors is a group of select students who educate, support, train and mobilize their peers to raise awareness to and act in support of Israel and against antisemitism and anti-Zionism, on campus.

IAC Mishelanu Fellows bring Israeli culture and the positive contributions of Israel to the world, reaching thousands of students on dozens of college campuses across the United States.
ORGANIZING, ENERGIZING, AND MOBILIZING A COMMUNITY IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND FIGHTING ANTISEMITISM, INCLUDING ANTI-ZIONISM
6 Million Steps.  
6 Million Lives.

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 52,939,795 steps.

26,469 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED
FROM 46 COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

SchoolWatch.me is a platform that combats antisemitism, anti-Israel sentiment, and discrimination based on national origin in the public school system. It has successfully resolved more than 100 cases in several states in the U.S.

The platform offers professional resources to Israeli American students, parents, teachers, and educators to help them lead solutions and create more inclusive school environments that respect their unique heritage.

80% OF STUDENTS SAID THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED ANTISEMITISM
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 thousands of community members across the US to honor those we have lost. 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’Mesaprim 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.
CELEBRATE ISRAEL

IAC leads an annual coast to coast tradition of celebratory festivals that bring Israel into the heart of communities nationwide. This year we will commemorate Israel's 75th Independence Day with spectacular celebrations engaging tens of thousands in the spirit of Israeliness and love of Israel.
As part of the nationwide Celebrate Israel festivities and events, IAC community leaders organized an initiative to light up landmarks and municipal buildings in blue and white to celebrate Israel's 74th Independence Day. These buildings, which included Los Angeles City Hall, Boston's Zakim Bridge, and Florida's Guitar Hotel, among others, shone bright with Israel's national colors. This was a visually striking and meaningful way to recognize and celebrate Israel's Independence Day, and the bond between the countries.
BUILDING A MULTI-GENERATIONAL NETWORK

EXCITED ABOUT ISRAELI ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION WHICH FOSTERS A CULTURE OF GIVING AND MENTORSHIP.

ISRAEL AMERICA BUSINESS PLAYGROUND

CONNECTING BUSINESS LEADERS, START-UPS, AND INNOVATIVE COMPANIES FOR OUR FUTURE.

Israel America Business Playground (IABP) IAC’s newest platform that aims to connect Israeli and American business leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, and service providers from various industries. By bringing these individuals and organizations together, the IAC hopes to foster collaboration, create new opportunities, and build strong relationships. Our vision is to make this initiative a powerful catalyst of new ideas and partnerships between Israeli and American business communities and individuals.
A NATIONAL NETWORK OF YOUNG PROFESSIONALS INSPIRED BY ISRAEL

IAC EDGE is a nationwide community of young professionals who are passionate about Israel and seek professional networking and leadership opportunities. This community is led by young professionals who are dedicated to building connections and creating a vibrant national community.

IAC EDGE & IAC LEAD • YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

To me, EDGE is more than a network. It is home, my extended family. As a lay leader of IAC EDGE NYC, I am working to build an inviting, warm, supportive and fun community of Israeli and American young professionals today, and for the future.

Alexandra Cohen
New York Vice Chair
IAC EDGE & LEAD
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.
IAC COMMUNITY CENTERS • IAC

A historical milestone for the Israeli-American community, IAC Community Centers provide a vibrant space for Israeli-American and Jewish American community members to gather with one another, connect to their Jewish identity, and to Israel.

IAC SHEPHER CENTER, LOS ANGELES

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Isaac Shepher Z”L
1947-2022
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 $3,800,000 in grants for the Tzofim to dramatically increase the number of local chapters, strengthen Hadracha training, and Hebrew-language summer camp.

IAC IS PROUD TO BE A MAJOR SUPPORTER OF THE ISRAELI SCOUTS
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Sheldon G. Adelson Z”L
1933-2021

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PHILANTHROPIST, ISRAEL LOVER,
AND A TRUE FRIEND, WHOSE
SPIRIT WILL ALWAYS INSPIRE US.
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