



## Director of Israel Experiential Education

Teen Israel Experience Initiative  
New York, NY

### Opportunity for Impact

**An intentionally designed and well-facilitated immersive experience in Israel** has the capacity to breathe vitality, passion and commitment among Jewish teens that could directly impact the future landscape of North American Jewish life.

At this critical stage of identity development, an immersive Israel experience provides a framework that allows Jewish teens to explore many of the issues that matter most to them as adolescents and as young Jews. In fact, research shows that outside of Jewish day school (which only a small percentage of Jewish teens in North America attend), there is no greater impact on a young person's Jewish identity formation than an Israel trip with their peers.

**The Teen Israel Experience Initiative** is pro-actively inspiring a generation of teens to be more confident and proud Jews as they enter the next stage of their lives in two ways: by making an Israel experience a more attractive and accessible option for American teens and their families, and by helping to ensure the experience they have once in Israel is truly remarkable.

An Israel experience increases the likelihood of Jewish teens being more committed to their Jewish community in the long term, maintaining personal relationships with other Jews, and assuming leadership roles in the world. At a time when Jewish voices on campus need to be heard now more than ever, the Israel experience has repeatedly proven to increase the connections of young Jews to their fellow Jews and greatly enhance their connection to Israel. At scale, this experience, once normative for generations of teens, can radically transform the trajectory of North American Jewry, ensuring a vibrant and positive Jewish future for decades.

For these reasons and more, the Teen Israel Experience Initiative looks to maximize the number of American Jewish teenagers who participate in an immersive Israel experience prior to starting college.

### Position Overview

The Teen Israel Experience Initiative at The Jewish Education Project seeks a full-time **Director of Israel Experiential Education**, responsible for realizing the Initiative's overall vision by working closely with our stakeholder partners to create, execute and successfully meet the educational and experiential goals and objectives for the Initiative.

Reporting to the Executive Director of the Initiative, the Director of Israel Experiential Education will have strong knowledge of – and access to – resources for staff training, Israel trip curriculum development, pre- and post-trip participant engagement and impact measurement. The Director will create productive relationships with each of the Initiative's program partners to provide them with the best possible educational and experiential resources *for them*, at the right time, and in the right way.

### Key Responsibilities

- The Director will establish the clear experiential and educational goals, objectives and expectations of the Initiative and create and implement a multi-year plan for the successful implementation of those goals, objectives, and expectations:
  - Working together with senior leadership within the Initiative and at The Jewish Education Project, the Director will establish clear educational and experiential criteria for the Initiative and its program partners in partnership with the Initiative's myriad stakeholders and the iCenter, its Israel content and training partner.

- The Director will partner with the same stakeholders to create Standards of Excellence around Israel experiential education, staff training, pre- and post-trip participant engagement and measuring impact, and engage peers to review and share best practices to strengthen Israel experiences across the board.
- The Director serves as the primary eyes and ears within the Israel education community, keeping up to date with new opportunities and resources and always thinking creatively of new and effective ways to provide entry points of connection to Israel to American teens.
- The Director will work directly with our partner consultants and program partners on measuring the impact of the education and overall experience of the Israel trips vis-a-vis content and curriculum.
- The Director will serve as the primary liaison, convener, and supplier of resources to education directors and content producers of our Israel experience partners (Youth Serving Organizations, Jewish Residential Camps, Community Programs and Community Foundations)
  - Provides clear framework and expectations from the Initiative to program partners, works with program partners to ensure success within that framework and expectations, provides feedback loop to the Initiative from the field.
  - Convenes education-based leadership from program partners to create professional community to share best practices and peer advise.
  - Curates and shares resources with program partners.
- The Director will leverage existing relationships with organizations, resource partners, and individual educators, as well as actively pursue new partnerships to continually feed the pipeline of resources for program partners.

## Experience, Qualifications, and Competencies

- Strong leadership skills, including the ability to articulate and implement organizational mission, vision, and goals,
- Skill and experience in Israel-based experiential education and/or Israel-based experiential education administrative leadership,
- Master's Degree in a related field a plus,
- Excellent interpersonal, political, and diplomatic skills, along with the ability to lead and partner with integrity and inspiration; flexibility and openness to working with professional and volunteer community leaders nationwide and in Israel,
- A decisive and inclusive decision maker with the ability to manage details while focusing on the big picture,
- Capable of teaching others to expand the circle of skill; creativity and ability to push and inspire others to think beyond the traditional educational landscape to use new concepts and strategies,
- Entrepreneurial self-starter, creative and innovative manager, comfortable leading in fluid environments, taking risks and experimenting,
- Skill in presenting oneself and communicating in a manner that is clear, effective, and inspiring,
- An organized manager, comfortable taking strategic direction and implementing that direction on his/her own,
- Keen understanding of the Israel-based experiential education landscape and resources,
- Experience in leading and inspiring professional staff,
- Experience in project oversight (teams, budget, etc.),
- Preferably, deep familiarity with Jewish educational landscape, and direct Jewish education experience a plus,
- Problem solver with top notch planning and prioritizing skills,
- Ability to develop and cultivate trusted relationships,
- A persuasive and passionate communicator, both written and oral.

## What We Offer

- Three weeks paid time off in year 1; increasing incrementally on a set schedule
- Comprehensive health insurance
- 401k plan
- Commuter benefits
- Early close on Fridays for Shabbat and closed for most Jewish holidays
- Shortened summer hours
- A positive work environment with exposure to great learning opportunities and the chance to work with some of the top professionals in the field of Jewish Education

## How to Apply

- Please submit resume and cover letter to [careers@JewishEdProject.org](mailto:careers@JewishEdProject.org). Please include the job title in the email subject line
- The Jewish Education Project is an equal opportunity employer

**Location:** Remote until September 8, 2020 / 520 Eighth Avenue, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10018

*The Jewish Education Project aims to select, place and train the best qualified individuals based upon relevant factors such as work quality, attitude and experience, so as to provide equal employment opportunity for all our employees in compliance with applicable local, state, and federal laws and without regard to non-work related factors such as race, color, religion/creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other protected class. We encourage and support diversity and tolerance in our workplace.*