

2010–  
2023



Jewish Community  
Foundation OF GREATER METROWEST NJ  
MACK NESS FUND

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FUND



# MACK NESS FUND

## 2010- 2023

[MackNessFundjcf.org.il](http://MackNessFundjcf.org.il)



Jewish Community  
Foundation OF GREATER  
METROWEST NJ  
MACK NESS FUND



# ABOUT US

**Since the Funds inception 18 years ago, the dedicated advisory council members of the Mack Ness Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ have awarded more than \$10 million in grants for economic and demographic development in the Negev.**

## OUR MISSION

A Strategic Focus on the Negev

The Mack Ness Fund was established in 2005 by a significant bequest from the estate of Mack Ness, a recluse vegetable farmer from Somerset County, NJ. To fulfill Mr. Ness' desire to help the people of Israel, the mission of the Mack Ness Fund is to nurture economic development in the Negev region of Israel, with a special focus on increasing the region's population and promoting economic growth.





# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



I am deeply honored and privileged to participate in the realization of developing the Negev with the endowed funds of Mr Mack Ness. The economic growth that is being accomplished daily is transforming the land physically, the State of Israel geopolitically, and elevating and improving the lives of its growing number of inhabitants. Our board and staff are all extremely grateful to be part of this endeavor, dedicated toward the goal of maximizing the impact of the legacy of Mr. Mack Ness.

**Howard Tepper**  
Chair, Mack Ness Fund





# MEET THE STAFF

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"Empowering the Negev for Economic and Demographic Growth." As the US Director of the Mack Ness Fund entrusted with realizing Mack Ness' vision, my primary goal is to identify leaders and innovative collaborative initiatives and to promote transparency, accountability and impact. At the heart of this endeavor lies a profound dedication to the people of the Negev, their dreams, and potential to transform this beautiful region of Israel into a thriving hub of quality communities, opportunity and prosperity.

## **Renie Carniol**

U.S Director, Mack Ness Fund



For me, Keren Ness is the fulfillment of the ability to influence and promote the environment in which I was born and in which I raise my children. Thanks to Mack Ness, we are given the opportunity to help an important and creative organizations in the Negev to establish groundbreaking ventures and thus develop this important and special region of the country.

## **Odelia Karutchi**

Israel Director, Mack Ness Fund



## **Howard Rabner**

Chief Financial Officer, Jewish  
Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ

# MEET THE COUNCIL MEMBERS



**Norman Weinberg**



**Marcy Lazar**



**Sanford Hollander**



**Ken Heyman**



**Gerry Flanzbaum**

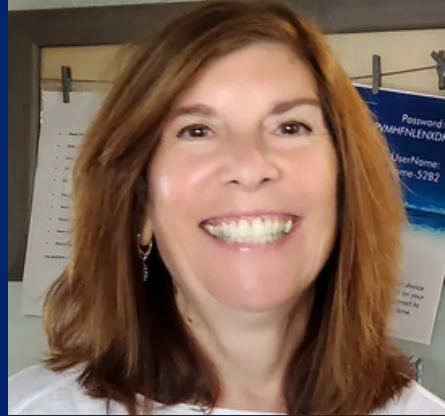


**Bob Kuchner**

# MEET THE COUNCIL MEMBERS



**Jim Shrager**



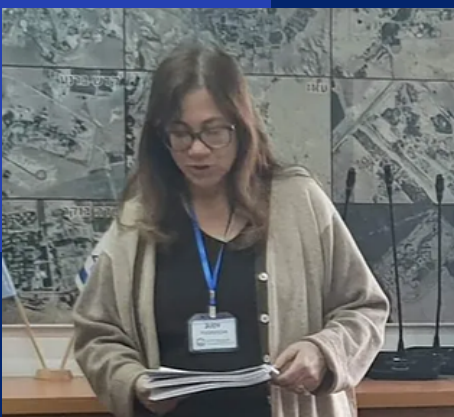
**Jean Mandell**



**Leslie Dannin Rosenthal**



**Julia Malaga**



**Judi Harrison**



**Louis Beckerman**



# MEET THE COUNCIL MEMBERS

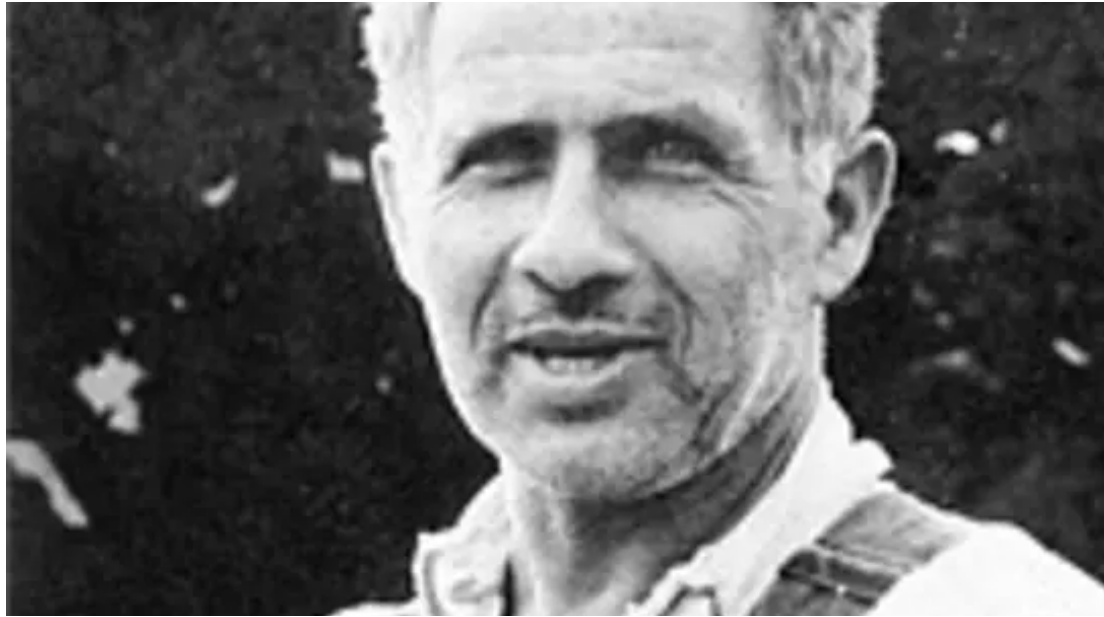


**Marsha Hoch**



**Robbie Weissenberg**

# OUR PROJECTS



## **Mack Ness Fund Grantmaking**

Annually the Mack Ness Fund seeks proposals from Negev-based non-profit institutions with a clear vision for strengthening economic development and a targeted approach that will grow and enhance the quality of life of the region's population. Start-up, new organizations are encouraged apply. In addition, pilot programs and programs expanding in scale will be highly considered.

Applicants will describe ways the organization will leverage innovation, collaborations, and strategic partnerships to tackle issues that are a part of a complex ecosystem related to growth and sustainability of the broad Negev region and/or local municipalities.

Applicants will indicate the proposed project's impact on the Negev region and/or local municipalities, specific economic development strategies to be employed, activities to occur, target population(s) that will benefit, and committed partners to be associated with the initiative.

Involvement of municipal leaders, regional councils or governmental bodies, and other key leaders in the community are encouraged.

# 2023

**Hamuta LekidumToshvei Hevel Eshkol**/AGROWTH Accelerated growth center for AgTech related start-up.

**Gvanim**/Development of a Transportation Model for the First and Last Mile.

**Elad Theatre**/ Children Theater.

**GoArava**/Sports & Wellness Tourism Industry.

**Tech 7**/Magnet Accelerator.

**Kikar Hatarbut**/Media Industry in the Western Negev - 'The Leap'.

**Arad Music Conservatory**/ PianoFest Arad.

**Switch**/Resource Development and Utilization course in the Bedouin society.

**The Fringe Theatre, Beer Sheva** /Training programs for the Technical professions of the Performing Arts.

**Meever**/Musical Ecosystem Mitzpe Ramon.

**Moona**/ Advanced Manufacturing ('4.0') Regional Training Center.

**Sha'ar Hanegev regional council**/Ag-Tech Ecosystem as a Catalyst for Economic and Demographic Regional Development.

**Tzeirim Beyeruham**/Y From Traditional Industry to Aerospace Leadership.

**Arava Development company**/The Arava Valley of Tastes - Cultivating the Culinary Culture in the Arava as an Economic Engine.



**Tzeirim Beyeruham/Y From Traditional Industry to Aerospace Leadership.**



**Elad Theatre for children**



# 2022

**Mee'ver**, Mitzpe Ramon Creativity, Culture and Music Ecosystem.

**Tzeirim byeruham**/ Applied Scientific, Pharma R&D Center in Yeruham.

**Yeruham Foundation**/From Traditional Industry to Aerospace.

**Sderot Development company**/ West Negev Animation Studio.

**Southup Sh'har Hanegev**/Ag Tech Ecosystem as a catalyst for economic and demographic regional development.

**Arava development company**/Arava Valley of Tastes.

**Monna** /Space for A change.

**Yeruham Tourism Association**/Yeruham Tourism Center.

**GoArava**/Sports & Wellness Tourism Industry.

**Or Movement**/Agro-Tech Training and Innovation Ctr, Ofakim.

**Appleseeds**/MitzpeTech: Developing a Technology Employment Ecosystem in Mitzpe Ramon.

**Eretz Ir** /Negev coalition for small business.

**Sapir Academic College**/Film & Media industry in the Western Negev.



**Mee'ver, Mitzpe Ramon Creativity, Culture and Music Ecosystem.**

# 2021

**Elad Theater**/Desert campus for the performing Arts.  
**Yerucham Tourism Association**/Tourism Center.  
**Project Wadi Atir**. Bedouin empowerment  
**Go Arava**/Sports & Wellness Tourism Industry.  
**Or Movement**/Agro-Tech Training and Innovation Ctr, Ofakim  
**Appleseeds**/MitzpeTech, Mitzpe Ramon.  
**Ramat Negev Muni**/ Frontier Agro-Tech Innovation Center.  
**Atid Bamidbar**/Bedouin Tourism Western Negev.  
**Eretz Ir** /Negev coalition for small business.  
**Ben Gurion University**/Yazamut 360.  
**Siraj** / M'HaLimudim L'Adovdah: An Enrichment.  
**Tzeirim byeruham**/Medical Cannabis.  
**Hamuta LekidumToshvei Hevel Eshkol**/Artist Hub.  
**Sapir Academic College**/Film & Media industry in the Western Negev.



GoArava/Sports & Wellness Tourism Industry

# 2020

**Eretz eir** Wix Web Design Training Course With Guaranteed Placement, in partnership with Tribe Studio.  
**Matnas Mitzpe Ramon** /Valley Lab  
**Arava Development Company** /Arava R2B "From Lab to Market"  
**Kedma**/Nir Oz Young Community.  
**Kulna** /Learning and Cultural Center Yerucham.  
**AJEEC-NISPED**/Tamar Center Atudot Ha'Negev.  
**Siraj**/ Advancing Hi-Tech in the Bedouin Community M'HaLimudim L'Adovdah: An Enrichment Program for Bedouin College & University Students.  
**Beni Shimon Foundation for the Community** /Shaping the Workforce of the Future.  
**Derech Eretz**/ Derech HaNegev Program.  
**Taub center** /Research: "Who lives in the Negev? Tracking two decades of population change".  
**Keren Shahaf**/ Young Communities in the Negev.



Kedma/Nir Oz Young Community.



# 2020

## SPECIAL COVID GRANTS

**MindCET**/Educational Ecosystem for Educator in the Negev Region.

**Ramat Negev municipalities**/Digital Businesses.

**Keren Shemesh** /Mentoring for small businesses.

**Maavarim**/Negev market.

**Start Up Center Beer Sheva**/zooming your carrier.

**Yeadim** /I team B7 - Digital business.

**Eretz ir** /The Space for communities

**Eilat Regional Council** /Digital Business.

**Eilat Community Center** /Community Center in your Home

**Yerucham tourism association**/Hackathon to Promote Tourism during Covid.

**Yerucham Science center**/Smart Tablets for the Elderly.

**Unistream**/Youth business and entrepreneurship programs in the Bedouin communities.

**Mitzpe Ramon Tourism Association** - Special Events



**Yerucham Science center/smart tablet for elderly.**



# 2019

**Yerucham Muni**/Medical Cannabis  
**Northern Negev Tourist Assn** /Metro Negev.  
**Wize**/ Hahamim Balaila Wize Negev.  
**Tech 7** /Negev Startup Accelerator Beer Sheva.  
**Beer Sheva Fdn.**/Cultural accelerator Beer Sheva.  
**Hamuta LekidumToshvei Hevel Eshkol** Artist Hub.  
**Matnas Mitzpe Ramon** /Valley Lab  
**Yanbia for a prosperous Bedouin society/ "Sama19"**  
**Sapir Academic College** Film & Media industry in the Western Negev.  
**South Up Sha'ar Hanegev**/ Accelerator for start-ups in the Southern Negev.  
**Arava Development Company** /Arava R2B "From Lab to Market".  
**Elad Theatre**/ Start-up/Expansion of Theatre in the Negev  
**JAFI** /CROWD.IL Negev  
**Keren Shahaf**/Young Communities in the Negev.



# 2018

**Keren Lev Arad**/NETGEV- Occupational Hub Arad.  
**Lev Arad Foundation**/Training Program for Practical Elect, Arad.  
**Arava Development Company** /Arava R2B "From Lab to Market".  
**Elad Theatre**/ Start-up/Expansion of Theatre in the Negev  
**AJEEC-NISPED**/Bridges to Employment.  
**Yanbia** Initiative Fdn for development of Bedouin Society in the Negev.  
**Eretz-Ir** /"The Network" Beer Sheva.  
**Eshkol Regional Council**/ Agro-Tech based Makerspace.  
**JNF Chalutza**/Agricultural Research.  
**Shaar HabNegev YAC** /Social Business Innovation Accelerator Shaar Hanegev  
**JAFI** /CROWD.IL Negev  
**Negev Council** - Collaboration Building  
**The Reut Institute**/ Western Negev The Leapfrog Center.  
**Arad Tourism Assoc**/Tourism Development.  
**Tor HaMidbar**/Eliav Community Hub.  
**JAFI** /Nitzana Vista - Strengthening Tourism Nitzana.  
**Collot BaNegev**/YAC in Hura.  
**Keren Shahaf**/ Young Communities in the Negev.

# 2017

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**JAfi** /CROWD.IL Negev.

**Negev Council.**

**The Reut Institute**/ Western Negev The Leapfrog Center.

**AJEEC-NISPED** Bridges to Employment.

**Lev Arad Foundation** /Bus. & Occup. Hub – NETGEV.

**Arad Tourism Assoc**/Tourism Development.

**Tor HaMidbar** Eliav Community Hub.

**JAfi** Nitzana Vista – Strengthening Tourism Nitzana.

**Chaluza**/Ami –Da Student Program.

**OR Movement** /Barkai Collective Impact for the Negev, Ofakim.

**OR Movement** /Students for Nachal Oz.

**Tarbut Movement** /Tarbut Community in Ofakim.

**Collot BaNegev** /YAC in Hura.

**Dror Israel** /Educators Kibbutz in Sderot .

**Keren Shahaf**/ Young Communities in the Negev.

# 2016

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**OR Movement** Barkai Collective Impact for the Negev, Ofakim.

**OR Movement** Students for Nachal Oz.

**Tarbut Movement** Tarbut Community in Ofakim.

**Collot BaNegev** /YAC in Hura.

**Collot BaNegev**/VAC Mitzpe Ramon.

**Dror Israel** /Educators Kibbutz in Sderot.

**Eilat-Eilat** /Renewable Energy Center.

**Keren Shahaf**/Young Communities in the Negev.

# 2015-

**ITworks/** Spark It.

**Negev Funding coalition.**

**Collot Banegv** /Young Adult center, Ofakim.

**Alpha** /Affordable Housing, Ofakim.

**Noah Initiative**/Ofakim.

**Arad Foundation**/care center.

**Dualis** /social business in the Negev, Beer Sheva.

**Tor Hamidbar**/Negev Hub "Betta".

**Ami-Da**/Chalutza absorption center.

**Gvanim**/Netivim young adult center.

**Arava Mop.**

**Desert stars**/leadership and social Entrepreneurship program.

**Keren Shahaf**/Young Communities in the Negev.

# 2013- 2014

**Presentense**, "Hameitz Negev Venture Accelerator".

**Keren Shahaf**/ Young Communities in the Negev.

**Arava MOP.**

**Netivim Center**, Sderot.

**Dror Israel** Educators Kibbutz in Mitzpe Ramon.

**Hashomer**, Ma'ahal v migdal.

**Kol Israel Haverim** Netuim, Ofakim.



# 2011- 2012

**Arad Absorption Center** / 2012

**Ayalim Arad** / 2012

**Clalit** /incentive Grants for Nurses, Beer Sheva/ 2012

**Arava**/ Zuqim Artist village / 2012

**Yeruham Foundation**/ 2012

**Jewish Agency for Israel**/ 2011

**Sami Shamoon College of Engineering**, Beer Sheva/ 2011

**JDC**/ 2011

# 2007- 2010

**Technoda** / 2007

**Ayalim** / 2008-2010

**Or Movement** / 2008-2010

**Ivn** / 2008-2010

**Yeruham Foundation**/ 2008-2010

**Arad Edu** / 2008-2010





# THE STANLEY STONE SPECIAL GRANT

**Stanley Stone Meoravut Hevratit (Social Involvement) Award** honors Stanley Stone, the founding Director of the Mack Ness Fund. Stanley valued innovative ideas for community-building and ways to strengthen the Negev communities.

This annual award of \$5,000 supports one selected outstanding and visionary Negev resident, associated with a registered amuta in Israel who best meets the following criteria:

- A strong lead individual proposes the development, execution or expansion of a creative, innovative solution/project to a social, economic or demographic problem unique to the Negev.
- The solution/project involves collaborative efforts among organizations.
- The lead individual will attract and leverage funds from additional funders for his/her ideas and solutions.

The organization applying, on behalf of the individual, must be a registered amuta in Israel and must have Nihul Takin status with the Registrar of NGOs (Rasham HaAmutot).



**2021**

**"Sratim al shiknim"**  
Film FESTIVAL

# THE STANLEY STONE SPECIAL GRANT

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**Moshe Nagar**

**2020**

pre - Army mechina for youth in  
Dimona



**Yael Romny**

**2021**

"Sratim al shiknim"\_  
Film FESTIVAL



**Eilon Kotler**

**2022**

producing a film about the Mack Ness  
Fund



**Nir Amitay**

**2023**

Rimon Farm for youth in risk  
establishing a bakery





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# MAKING MIRACLES IN THE NEGEV

[Macknessfundjcf.org.il](http://Macknessfundjcf.org.il)

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