Applying to the Mack Ness Fund 2027

The Mack Ness Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ (JCF) aims to advance Israel's Negev region. Through grants to NGOs and Amutot, the Mack Ness Fund supports strategic economic growth, expands opportunities for residents and communities, strengthens local economies, and fosters innovation throughout the Negev.

Timeline for the Mack Ness Fund Grant Process

Requirements for Applying

All organizations applying for funding **must have** registered Amuta status in Israel and must possess current Nihul Takin status from the Registrar of NGOs (Rasham HaAmutot).
The grant duration is one year. The Mack Ness Fund may consider continued support for a second or third year based on strategic priorities, project performance, demonstrated impact, and growth potential. Please note that the Mack Ness Fund will not extend grants for capital improvement/building projects.

Orientation Meeting

All prospective applicants are invited to participate in an orientation meeting on **October 15, 2026, building number 5 Gev Yam Negev - Beer Sheva** The session will provide information regarding the Fund's priorities, eligibility requirements, and application process, and will include an opportunity for questions and discussion.
Registration is required in order to receive meeting details and updates: https://forms.gle/bA2kyhB9Jnd2Ezv8A

FUNDING PRIORITIES 2027

Building a Strong, Resilient, and Thriving Negev

The Mack Ness Fund seeks innovative and impactful initiatives that contribute to the long-term growth and resilience of Israel's Negev region.

Priority will be given to projects that address immediate challenges while promoting forward thinking and preparing for both future opportunities and challenges.

1. Economic Growth and Employment

- Supporting entrepreneurship, innovation, and start-up initiatives.
- Workforce development, vocational training, and employment pathways.

- Programs addressing workforce shortages in key sectors.
- Initiatives that create sustainable economic opportunities for local residents.

2. Community Resilience and Population Growth

- Programs that encourage residents to remain in or return to the Negev.
- Community-building initiatives that strengthen social cohesion and local leadership.
- Efforts that attract new populations and support long-term community development.
- Projects that improve quality of life and access to essential services.
- Initiatives to improve and strengthen the regional health ecosystem.

3. Agriculture, Environment, and Regional Assets

- Revitalization and advancement of agricultural activity.
- Agro-tech innovation and agricultural workforce development.
- Regional environmental sustainability initiatives.
- Projects leveraging the unique assets and opportunities of the Negev.
- Development and implementation of sustainable, revenue-generating tourism ventures that strengthen the Negev's economy and showcase its unique regional assets.

4. Capacity Building and Local Leadership

- Strengthening municipalities, NGOs, and community organizations.
- Developing local leadership and management capacity.
- Creating sustainable organizational infrastructure and partnerships.

5. Strategic Partnerships and Regional Collaboration

- Collaborations involving municipalities, regional councils, government agencies, educational institutions, businesses, and nonprofit organizations.
- Projects with potential for replication, scaling, and long-term regional impact.

The Fund will prioritize proposals that demonstrate:

- Clearly defined goals and measurable outcomes.
- Strong leadership and implementation capacity.
- Innovative approaches to significant community needs.
- Long-term sustainability beyond the grant period.
- Strategic partnerships and collaboration.
- Leveraging additional funding sources.
- Potential for meaningful and lasting impact across the Negev region.

Letter of Intent (LOI) - *Due October 25, 2026*

Organizations interested in applying for funding through the Mack Ness Fund are invited to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) no later than **October 25, 2026**.

To submit an LOI, organizations must complete the online application form:

LOI Submission Form

Only organizations that submit an LOI through the online form, and are selected to continue in the process, will be invited to submit a full proposal.

For additional information, please contact:

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Good Luck!