

Applying to the Mack Ness Fund 2024-2025

The Mack Ness Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ (JCF) is a philanthropic fund, [Macknessfundjcf.org](https://www.macknessfundjcf.org). The Fund aims to advance and strengthen Israel's Negev region. Annually, the Mack Ness Fund awards grants to NGO's and Amutot that support strategic collaborative projects that increase the population, build culture and resilience, expand employment and innovation opportunities, and spur economic growth.

Grant Period: July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025

The grant duration is one year. However, the Mack Ness Fund will consider funding for a second or third year, depending upon performance and growth potential.

Timeline for the Mack Ness Fund- 2024-2025 Grant Process

- **Prospective grantee meeting** - on zoom, See announcement on our website: <https://www.macknessfundjcf.org/>
- **Track One– Letter of Intent (LOI) Application Deadline:** December 1, 2023
- **Responses to LOI:** December 18, 2023
- **Full Application Deadline:** January 17, 2024
- **Site visits for finalists:** March 3-7, 2024
- **Grant award announcement:** May 15, 2024.

Requirements for Applying

All organizations applying for funding **must have** registered Amuta status in Israel and must have Nihul Takin status with the Registrar of NGOs (Rasham HaAmutot) and must be Negev-based.

For the Mack Ness Fund Grants 2024-2025, there are two tracks:

Track 1- General Grant Cycle for NGO's and Amutot

Track 2 - Community building, resilience and strength (Response to Iron swords").

Track 1 - General Grant Cycle for NGO's and Amutot	Track 2 - Community building- Strengthening resilience as a response to "Iron Swords".
Seeks proposals from Negev-based non-profit institutions with a clear vision for promoting economic development and a targeted, clear approach that will grow and	Seeks proposals from Negev-based non-profit institutions with a clear vision for promoting community building and strengthening resilience.

enhance the quality of life of the region's population.

- We encourage applications from start-up, **new organizations or returning projects** that have been successful with a prior grant and are expanding significantly.
- We seek **pilot programs and expansion projects** that are innovative, likely to be impactful, replicable and scalable.
- The application should specify need/issues that are a part of a complex ecosystem related to growth and sustainability of the broad Negev region and/or local municipalities.

• Priority will be given to proposals that describe:

- * A strong visionary leader/lead individuals
- * Organization with a track-record of success, and ability to complete the work in a timely fashion.
- * Committed partner organizations. There should be a clear plan with benefits for each partner.
- * Leveraging funding from different funding sources, public and private is important to the reviewers.

Involvement of municipal leaders, quasi-governmental or governmental bodies, university and business leaders in the community is encouraged but not required.

As a response to the Iron Swords war, the Mack Ness Fund aims to encourage community building and resilience initiatives.

- The application should specify community needs and sustainability of the western Negev region and/or local municipalities around the western Negev.

The application should describe a project that addresses one or more of the following topics:

- Demographic growth - strengthening the attractiveness and establishing the infrastructure to absorb new residents and prevent negative immigration.
- Community development - processes that support building community capacities, cross-sector connections, and capabilities.
- A social and/or cultural program that combines community healing through resilience-supporting activities.

To apply to this track please click here:

<https://forms.gle/8K4SgDgRvYDtTyQEA>

Letter of Intent for Track 1- due December 1, 2023.

A first step in applying, is to submit a brief Letter of Intent, describing your proposed project to odelia@jfedgmw.org.il. Your letter should briefly describe all the following information, **in no more than two pages**:

- o - Title: Track 1, and Name of program for which you are requesting support
 - o - Contact person and information
 - o - Organization name and address, website
 - o - What is the parent organization's annual budget:
 - o - **Amuta Number: Amutah status in Israel:**
 - Year established and current mission: Note the year established and summarize your organization's mission (2 sentences)
 - Phase of project (select one and describe): start up, scaling up, continuing to expand with new partners or enhancements, working toward sustainability, or other.
 - Needs. Specify 2-3 distinctive, salient needs and/or issues that you plan to address.
 - Project Description.
- o List and describe three key goals and activities associated with your project,
- o Tell how your efforts will achieve your goals, and ways that your proposed project is unique, innovative, interesting, collaborative, meaningful and timely.
- o Describe the long-term vision of your proposed initiative.
- o Indicate measurable results at specific points in time and ways that you will monitor and measure results. How do you intend to iterate improvements?
- o Geographic focus: Which cities/towns/regional councils will be targeted?
- o Describe target audiences and number of projected beneficiaries/programs. o Describe any foreseeable challenges.
- Partnership: List and describe organizations and/or municipalities that have agreed to partner with your organization/you on this project? Describe their roles and responsibilities.
 - Outreach and promotion: How will the project be marketed to both prospective participants and the communities? How will results be shared, how often, and to whom?
- o Budget and Funding Request (please list in \$US):
- Overall (full) budget,
Intended specific request from the Mack Ness Fund.
- Amount the parent organization contribute.
Other funding will be used -note if confirmed or pending.