

Bringing Israel to Long Beach

Sharon Kenigsberg | Director of Community Development, Jewish Long Beach

Beach Hillel received a 2021 Impact Grant from Jewish Long Beach to bring an Israel Fellow to Long Beach. The Israel Fellow program is conducted in partnership with the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), which in turn partners with Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA). Jewish Long Beach is a member agency of JFNA.

The impact grants available from Jewish Long Beach focused on two thematic areas: Building Jewish Life and Igniting the Power of Community. Within those themes, agencies were asked to submit grants that pertained to four strategic areas: Jewish Education; Community Engagement, Jewish Pluralism and Engaging with Israel and the Jewish world. The grant awarded to Beach Hillel covers all four of these areas and partially funds the Fellow position.



Beach Hillel was delighted to welcome Yarin Yosef Shachagi to our community as the new JAFI Israel Fellow. Yarin will engage with Jewish students to help build their connection to Israel and with non-Jewish students, helping to build a better understanding of the complexity of the region. "Having an Israel Fellow working with students on campus creates a relationship with the land of Israel that cannot be taught in a book. Yarin will introduce Israeli culture, history, and a view of the current landscape that students will be able to relate to," said ChayaLeah Sufrin, executive director at Beach Hillel.

In addition to working for Beach Hillel, the Israel Fellow will be a wonderful resource to have in the wider community to help bridge the gap between Jews in Israel and Jews here in America. "Yarin has proposed partnering with each agency and synagogue on a biweekly basis to bring more Israel programming to Long Beach. This may be teaching Hebrew, Israeli cooking classes, starting a book club, etc., that community members will enjoy. This can truly be a collaborative way for the whole community to engage with Israel," added ChayaLeah.

Yarin was born in Petah Tikva and raised in Mazkeret Batya. He served as a Staff Sergeant in the Israeli Defense Force (IDF). During his first year, he served as head of office for the colonel of IDF's Ammunition Center. Afterwards, he served as a commander in the IDF School of Logistics, guiding the young recruits and educating them on professional standards and procedures, as well as military matters. Later, he was responsible for instructing new commanders on leadership skills. Yarin feels that these experiences prepared him for his role as a *shlichut* (cultural emissary).

After his military service, Yarin went on to complete his Bachelor of Arts in Education and Jewish History from Tel Aviv University. During his studies he volunteered in the Levinsky Library as a Hebrew and English teacher for immigrant minorities, both children and adults. Moreover, Yarin has taken part in the Tel Aviv University Model UN, a student-led leadership program that puts the study of diplomacy and negotiation at the forefront of its work.

Recently, at the Museum of the Jewish People at Beit Hatfutsot, Yarin worked as a museum guide. In addition, he worked in the student union of Tel Aviv University as a student's rights commissioner.

His experience working with American youth, began as a counselor at a Jewish Reconstructionist Federation camp in Pennsylvania in 2013 and later, in 2016, as an Israeli guide for a United Synagogue Youth Summer Israel Pilgrimage group. For the past two years, Yarin worked as an Israel Fellow at Hillel of Silicon Valley.

"I'm super excited to take part in Beach Hillel as I believe in the importance of strengthening Jewish identity and the bonds between Israel and the different Jewish communities across the globe," said Yarin. "I look forward to getting to know the students, share with them my Israel experience and have a meaningful year together," he added.

For more information about Jewish Long Beach Impact Grants contact Sharon Kenigsberg at sharonk@jewishlongbeach.org.

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THIS LABOR DAY IT'S Back to SHUL

HIGH HOLIDAYS 5782 WITH THE SHUL BY THE SHORE

<p>ROSH HASHANA MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6</p> <p>Candle lighting 6:53pm Service 7:00pm</p> <p>TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 7</p> <p>Shachris 9:30 am Mincha /Maariv 6:30 pm</p> <p>WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 8</p> <p>Shachris 9:30 am Mincha/Maariv 6:30pm</p>	<p>YOM KIPPUR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15</p> <p>Candle lighting..... 6:40 pm Kol Nidre 6:45pm</p> <p>THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER, 16</p> <p>Shachris 9:30am Mincha /closing service..... 5:45pm Fast ends7 :34 pm</p>
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High Holiday Services will be taking place at the **EXPO ARTS CENTER**
4321 Atlantic Ave, Long Beach, CA 90807

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