

Cultivating the Next Generation of Giving

Concluding Report on the Impact of Honeycomb's Foundation Board Incubator Initiative

How the Incubator Supports Future Jewish Philanthropists

From 2014 through 2022, Honeycomb's Foundation Board Incubator supported organizations across the world to develop their own, local Jewish youth philanthropy programs. The program **empowers youth to become the next generation of Jewish philanthropists** by helping them hone their knowledge and skills and build an identity as a changemaker.



3- to 5-year partnerships, with seed funding & tapering direct support until programs operate independently.



Customizable curriculum that guides participants through the full grantmaking process, from identifying Jewish values to awarding grants.



Honeycomb staff coaching & cohort-based learning of fellow program site staff to support implementation along the way.

BY THE NUMBERS:

10

Program Sites

3500⁺

Youth Participants

AND
OVER

\$1 Million

Granted by Programs



OUTSIDE OF NORTH AMERICA



Australian Jewish Funders
Jewish Teen Giving Initiative
Melbourne



Israel Association of Community Centers
Magshimim
In 15 cities across Israel



honeycomb
Jewish Youth Philanthropy Reimagined

Research shows that the Foundation Board Incubator strengthened youth participants' identities as Jewish changemakers, created new community connections, and became embedded in host sites.

Over the seven years of the Incubator, ORS Impact has partnered with Honeycomb to evaluate its impact and implementation through yearly surveys with participating youth, periodic interviews with program staff and leadership, and a study on long-term impacts on youth program alumni. All findings shared in this report represent findings across the seven years of evaluation.

88%

of youth participants said they would **recommend the program** to a friend.

What makes Jewish Youth Philanthropy programs unique?

The powerful combination of engaging in **Jewish values and identity through philanthropy**



The mission to grow the **next generation of Jewish changemakers** to influence philanthropy



The level of **ownership and decision-making power** for teens

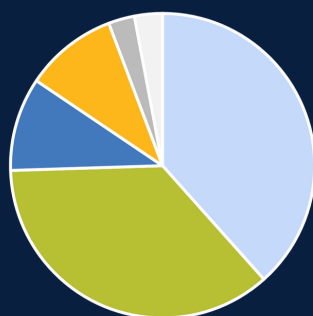


The **flexible, adaptable model** to meet different communities' priorities and needs



The **inclusivity** of teens from different backgrounds

Denominations of youth participants
Average annual %s



- Reform 38%
- Conservative 36%
- Orthodox 10%
- Jewish (No Particular Denomination) 10%
- Reconstructionist 3%
- Other 3%

For some youth participants, their Jewish Youth philanthropy experience is **one of their first formal Jewish experiences** and offers participants a pathway to connect to Judaism in a new way.




“A lot of the teens are meeting teens they would otherwise not meet, whether they’re coming from a particular temple or from a particular school...We’ve heard from many of them that this is really an opportunity they wouldn’t have had.”

PROGRAM LEAD

Youth participants become active, engaged leaders grounded in Jewish values, ethics, and identity.

Honeycomb's curriculum **integrates Jewish identity development into philanthropic learning** by exploring each participant's personal values as they relate to Jewish values and concepts like *Tzedakah*. Yearly surveys indicate that this integrated approach strengthens participants' Jewish identity and helps them develop relevant skills. According to program leaders, this integration is key to what makes the program unique and effective: it offers a **pathway to connect to Judaism in a different, applied way.**

ON AVERAGE, ACROSS 7 YEARS OF PROGRAMMING, YOUTH PARTICIPANTS REPORT:

-  An increase in their **Jewish identity**
-  An increase in their **passion for Judaism**
-  An increase in their **connection to *Tzedakah***

BETWEEN THE START AND END OF THE PROGRAM.

“There are other things that teens can do that... engage them philanthropically, but **we're the only one that does it Jewishly.** Honeycomb provides that piece. And allows [youth] to have a foot in the Jewish world.

PROGRAM LEAD

TEENS ALSO REPORTED LEARNING ABOUT:

94%
skills for
building
consensus

90%
giving
guided by
values

86%
skills for
taking
leadership



“I learned that **the change of the world is in our hands.**

TEEN PARTICIPANT

Program leaders consistently agree that the youth participants **"take the program seriously."** Teens practice key leadership skills and learn about the process and practice of philanthropy and nonprofits. But program leaders share that most important is that **the youth have meaningful opportunities to make decisions: each group must choose for itself what Jewish giving means to them, what their focus areas for giving will be, and have final say over granting the funds.**



Youth bring new perspectives and priorities, creating new partnerships and connections across Jewish organizations and the broader community.

Youth boards fund different kinds of organizations and often hold priorities that represent a **new generation of giving**. Program leaders share that in some cities, the youth participants' grants have not only created new relationships but have also begun to create **positive new impressions in the community** about who the host organization is for and what it supports.

“They've given 58 grants in the first seven years of the program. That's 58 different organizations that have really been touched by this, not just in our city, but all around the world.

SITE LEADERSHIP

Program sites have grown from seed funding to self-sustaining with Honeycomb's one-on-one support.

Program leaders value being part of a community of practitioners, and Honeycomb's ready-made curriculum - both of which are **key to launching and sustaining**.

As program sites gain more experience, leaders **adapt and expand the program** to suit their community's priorities, including:

- **Madrichim** programs to provide older students mentorship opportunities with younger teens.
- **Internship** opportunities with grantee organizations.
- Opportunities to **earn credit** in philanthropy courses at local universities.

“Teen philanthropy is something that parents have been asking us for here for years. The [Foundation Board Incubator] was a way for us to do it, and it really provided us with a framework, a model, something easy to work with, and powerful for the teens. It was great.

PROGRAM LEAD

10 of 10

original sites continued Jewish youth philanthropy programming beyond Honeycomb's Incubator support.

For more information about supporting or hosting Jewish youth philanthropy in your community, go to www.honeycomb.org.

TO READ THE FULL IMPACT REPORT, GO TO <https://honeycomb.org/studies/cultivating-the-next-generation-of-giving>

