

Yesod

2019 Participants

Yesod is designed to **connect, up-skill, build and inspire** the next generation of not-for-profit directors in a 12-month structured program that immerses participants in Jewish Care and best practice principles of governance.



Nussen Ainsworth

Nussen is a legal academic and an Accredited Specialist in Mediation with the Law Institute of Victoria. His passion is conflict resolution. He practices, researches and teaches in this area. Nussen previously practised as a solicitor at a commercial law firm in Melbourne.

He is an active member in the community and sits on a number of professional committees and not-for-profit boards.

Sub-Committee: Building

Mentor: Lisa Kennett



Vanessa Cohen

I have had a varied and global career in law, major events, entertainment, start-up, retail, property, politics and now education. I thrive in bringing my skills and past experiences into new environments and believe that continual learning provides a critical path to enjoyment and success.

I am thrilled to now be working with the Australian Friends of Tel Aviv University. I have had significant voluntary experience with not-for-profits including UIA in Melbourne and Sydney and the Jewish Federation and AIPAC in Los Angeles. I look forward to deepening my support for the Jewish community.

Sub-Committee: Quality & Service Review

Mentor: Susie Ivany



Laura Davis

Laura has a Bachelor of Arts and a Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing and Management from Monash Business School. Laura began her career in sales and business development. She has worked across a large range of industries in business development, management and marketing. Laura began a consulting business in 2001 where she advised big business and SME on strategic sales and marketing initiatives for over 10 years.

Laura is currently the Director at Vital Chi Wellness, a natural medicine clinic in Melbourne, which is dedicated to supporting patient's health and wellbeing.

Sub-Committee: Building

Mentor: Adam Joel



Noah Jacobson

Noah has experience in turnaround, transformation, restructuring and business consulting across a range of industries including manufacturing, engineering, retail, property, professional services and the financial sector.

Noah delivers advisory services to a diverse group of clients that include large financial institutions, public sector and medium to large corporate entities. Noah's focus on transformation outcomes, crisis management and commercial solutions is aided by his strong business fundamentals and financial experience.

Sub-Committee: Finance & Audit

Mentor: Michael Schoenfeld



Alex Kats

Alex Kats has over 15 years' experience working in and around Australian government institutions, and has worked in all three tiers of government. He has worked for a federal MP, for multiple government departments and for government funded institutions. Though normally based in Melbourne, he has also lived and worked in Sydney, Canberra, London, New York and Jerusalem, where he worked for government departments and other public sector or cultural institutions.

Outside of work, Alex has been an active volunteer at a range of organisations within the Jewish community and at large communal events. He is currently a volunteer and on the board of the Council of Christians and Jews, and Impact for Women. He is involved with the William Cooper Legacy Project, and a community representative on the Southern Metro Regional Advisory Council of the Victorian Multicultural Commission. He is also a long time mentor with Jewish Care's YAP program. He is eager to learn more about governance and the workings of Jewish Care.

Sub-Committee: Quality & Service Review

Mentor: Mike Debinski



Stephen Machet

Stephen is a Senior Consultant within the Deloitte Robotics and Cognitive Automation practice, specialising in the automation of business processes to create better digital experiences for customers and staff.

Stephen has experience in robotic process automation, technology strategy and solution design, subscription billing and payments, working across the telecommunications, finance and public sectors.

With a passion for empowering teams to make social change, Stephen has served as a non-executive director of the Australasian Union of Jewish Students and participant of the Observership Program. He continues to mentor volunteers and staff on financial management, auditing, fundraising, human resources, and international programs.

Sub-Committee: Finance & Audit

Mentor: Rohan Filer



Jackie Rotman

Jackie is a Strategy Manager for Bellamy's Organic, having recently joined the ASX listed company after 4 years in Management Consulting at PwC. This role allowed Jackie to work across industries and capabilities, and developed her interest in corporate strategy.

Jackie is excited about the opportunity to be involved in the Yesod program, which she is hoping will allow her to develop her leadership capabilities while giving back to the community.

Sub-Committee: Building

Mentor: Jeffrey Appel



Josh Rutman

Josh started his property career at CBRE almost a decade ago and he now jointly leads the Melbourne Middle Markets and Melbourne City Sales divisions and is responsible for a diverse collection of agency and operations staff.

Josh forms part of the CBRE Melbourne Leadership Board and, together with this team, he has strived to redefine the model for commercial agency in Melbourne which has seen the CBRE offering consistently deliver abnormal results for clients as well as a highly innovative customer service model.

Sub-Committee: Building

Mentor: Andrew Schwartz



Tali Shabat

Tali is passionate about aligning business and people strategies to create organisational capabilities that deliver results. She has extensive HR experience, having led diverse and complex HR initiatives across the APAC region. Tali is committed to the professional development of others through mentoring at the Australian HR Institute (AHRI) and Females in IT & Telecommunications (FiTT), as a Victorian Councilor of AHRI, and as a board member of the Jewish Professional Women's Network.

She is excited to collaborate with other professionals in the Yesod program, and understand how the Jewish Care Board and sub-committees make strategic decisions that impact our community in a meaningful way.

Sub-Committee: Quality & Service Review

Mentor: Simone Szalmuk-Singer



Louise Shostak

Louise is a degree-qualified accountant practicing as a bookkeeper for many years across a broad range of industries and business types. She provides organisation and planning advice to small business.

Louise is passionate about the Melbourne Jewish community and feels strongly about our obligation to look after our people in need.

She is looking forward to learning more about how our leading welfare organisation is run, and working with other Yesod participants to make a positive difference.

Sub-Committee: Finance & Audit

Mentor: Frank Ajzensztat



Eli Shmerling

Eli is a Paediatric Doctor at the Royal Children's Hospital and passionate about supporting vulnerable children and their families. Eli is a previous leader at B'nei Akiva and piloted their now established youth leadership development program. He believes our community thrives on its connectedness and a strong identity.

Sub-Committee: Quality & Service Review

Mentor: Sharon Goldfeld



Ben Tuszynski

With over 12 years' banking experience across major banks both in the UK and Australia I have built extensive experience in Financial Structuring, Credit Assessment and Relationship Management. I have built a compelling reputation for supporting customers achieve their strategic and financial goals across a range of industries. Over the last 2 years I have been part of the inaugural team building Australia's newest and most trusted Business Bank - Judo Capital.

Sub-Committee: Finance & Audit

Mentor: Reuben Zelwer