

YESOD

2023 PARTICIPANTS



*Yesod is designed to **connect, up-skill, build and inspire** the next generation of for-purpose directors in a 10 month structured program offered in collaboration with The Observership Program. Yesod immerses participants in Jewish Care and best practice principles of governance.*



Ilit Golshevsky

Ilit is a solicitor who has experience in the for-purpose area. She sat on the advisory board of Save a Child's Heart, has worked for the Zionist Council of Victoria and volunteered with Community Security Group and Global Citizen. Ilit recently helped launch a sleep and settling program for newborns and young children, with international reach and a particular focus on parental wellbeing. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Law from Monash University and a Masters in Entrepreneurship and Innovation from Swinburne University. Ilit is a mother to three children and enjoys exercise, meditation and conversations with friends.

MENTOR Susie Ivany OAM

Rachi Averbukh

Rachi is passionate about protecting vulnerable members of our community. A qualified social worker and experienced policy professional, she values a collaborative approach, working with organisations to develop lasting attitudinal change. The Assistant Director of Safeguarding for Sport Integrity Australia, she previously managed the Childwise National Child Abuse Helpline, was a lecturer within the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Monash University, and has supported numerous for-purpose organisations including Tzedek, the Australian Football League, and the Salvation Army. As a parent to three children, she relishes opportunities to support communities to better protect children and young people.

MENTOR Simone Szalmuk-Singer





Rachel Bloom

Rachel is an Organisational Development Consultant and Coach with experience spanning Australia, USA and Latin America.

She is known for her calm and supportive approach and combines her extensive corporate, family business and consulting experience to provide a practical approach to individual, team and organisation-wide people solutions. Rachel is excited to contribute, learn, and collaborate with other professionals across the program.

She is looking forward to becoming more socially aware and deepen her support for the Jewish community and its future. Rachel is keen to continue as a role model to her three children around this important community responsibility.

MENTOR Sharon Gdanski

Caroline Tait

Caroline is a Special Counsel at Baker McKenzie with experience advising on mergers and acquisitions and capital markets matters. Caroline has over 15 years' experience practising at leading law firms in Australia and New York and as an in-house lawyer and at a global financial institution. Caroline is passionate about equality, opportunity, and using her varied and extensive experience to enable others to embark on a similarly meaningful and exciting career and life experience. Caroline is married with two gorgeous children and loves wintry Melbourne weather – as long as she can ski.

MENTOR Adjunct Prof. John Zelcer



Danielle Jones-Resnik

Danielle is a proud disability and feminist activist who has been involved in education and advocacy both within Jewish and wider societies. As a person with lived experience of disability, Danielle is very passionate about inclusion and accessibility for people with disabilities. Danielle recently returned to university and completed a degree in Psychology with a focus on Indigenous peoples and Women. As a community organiser and contributor, Danielle has had a strong involvement with Limmud Oz, Shir Madness Jewish Music Festival, National Council of Jewish Women Australia as well as Toastmasters International. She is bookworm and a theatre nerd.

MENTOR Michael Debinski





Gal Spira

Gal has a diverse blend of experience spanning finance, product management, legal, marketing and technology. He has held various positions within large corporations such as Westpac, AMP and ANZ. He holds a Bachelor of Law LL.B (Cum Laude) and Bachelor of Business Administration B.A (Cum laude). Gal recently relocated to Melbourne with his wife and two daughters. He is passionate about the importance of teaching financial literacy to our youth and volunteering his talent and skills to help for-purpose organisations. Outside of work, Gal enjoys hiking and camping with his family, learning new skills and photography.

MENTOR Lisa Kennett

Gilad Katz

Gilad is a senior commercial professional with experience working across a range of industries including rail, telecommunications, mining and infrastructure. He is committed to helping organisations unlock commercial value through understanding the big picture, developing a sound strategy and empowering team members. He has experience working with both private and government clients and currently works at Metro Trains Melbourne leading Metro's commercial function on the Metro Tunnel Project and the Melbourne Airport Rail Link. Gilad holds a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Property and Construction from the University of Melbourne and is married with four children.

MENTOR Steven Klein



"Yesod opened my eyes to the complex mix of skills, personality and experience that is needed to effectively govern a for-purpose organisation board and opened doors to opportunities that I never could have otherwise achieved this early on in my career." — Hannah Hammerschlag, Yesod 2020 Participant



Jonathan Posniak

Jonathan is an engineer with five years experience in the medical device industry developing implantable hearing devices and epilepsy diagnostic products. He has also spent over two and a half years in management consulting where he worked in strategic planning, innovation and customer experience. In these roles he enjoys helping people lead better lives. Jonathan is also passionate about addressing social inequality. He has volunteered with a range of not for profits including supporting entrepreneurs in India improve access to electricity, managing employment pathway programs for migrants and refugees and building the capabilities of students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

MENTOR Prof. Sharon Goldfeld

Leon Szewicz

Leon is a banking professional with over 10 years' experience in relationship management. After completing his Bachelor of Commerce in Melbourne, he undertook further studies abroad in international law and philosophy. Leon works at Judo Bank as a Director Relationships where he maintains a strong focus on developing good referral sources, building community connections and nurturing long-term relationships. Leon is an active member of the Jewish community, has served on the boards of various communal organisations and volunteers at his children's school. Outside of work, Leon has four kids, enjoys commercial aviation, watching his beloved Blues and going for a run.

MENTOR Adam Joel



"The Yesod Program provided me with invaluable opportunities to learn from some of the best and brightest not-for-profit directors in Australia and provided me with unmatched insight into the world of governance. Thanks to Jewish Care, I am equipped with the tools required for effective leadership in a non-executive director position."

— Dvora Zylberman, Yesod 2021 Participant

Miri Eckstein

Miri is passionate about creating positive change within the community. Her interests lie in Jewish education, Jewish continuity and charity and voluntary work. She is an active member of the community and volunteers regularly for various Jewish organisations encouraging those around her to do the same. Miri is committed to using her skills and experiences to contribute at a higher level for a for-purpose organisation.

MENTOR Reuben Zelwer



Nicole Small

Nicole is the Investment Director at Rampersand, an early stage venture capital fund. Prior to Rampersand, Nicole spent seven years in SEEK's strategy team, and a number of years in strategy consulting and investment banking. This journey has given her broad insight into investing, product strategy, general business operations and fast growth technology environments. Nicole is excited to apply her wealth of knowledge and experiences to the NFP sector. When not working, Nicole is busy spending time with her young family and friends, enjoying the outdoors (when Melbourne's weather allows) going for walks, riding bikes or hanging in parks.

MENTOR Andrew Schwartz

For more information please contact Louise Shostak
E: lshostak@jewishcare.org.au | P: 0419 568 569

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