

JAFI Shlichim Road Trip - P2G 2025

Ziv Shemesh



Ziv Shemesh is the community shlichah in Nashville, originally from Modiin.

She served five years as a combat fitness officer and Krav Maga instructor in the military, spending her final months in a rehab center helping injured soldiers heal from trauma through physical psychology, outdoor training, and mindfulness.

Motivated by the rise in antisemitism and the events of October 7th, Ziv chose to serve Israel differently—on the international stage. After completing her service, she joined Birthright Israel while applying for shlichut.

For Ziv, shlichut is about building deep connections and sharing her Israeli story to bring the community closer to Israel.

Tal Bahar



Tal Bahar, Jewish Agency Israeli Shlichah (emissary) at the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond. Tal is originally from Rehovot, brings a wealth of experience and passion to her work in community, education, and advocacy, and is here to build a bridge between Israel to the Jewish and General community of Richmond.

In the Summer of 2023, Tal came to Richmond as a camp Shaliach at Weinstein JCC Camp Hilbert. Tal's dedication extends beyond the current crises, as she's participated in numerous missions across North America since the age of 16, promoting the Israeli voice and collaborating with Diaspora Jewry. Tal holds a background in youth group work and education, including over seven years in the Israeli scout movement, a year in the pre-military leadership

academy "Tavor" and three years of service in the IDF's Education and Youth Corps as a commander and an officer.

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During the Israel-Hamas war, Tal actively engaged in Israeli advocacy efforts, volunteering her time, and even returning to Richmond, Virginia, to meet with local officials and the Jewish community. Tal eagerly anticipates sharing her knowledge and love for Israel, and since June 2024, she is in Richmond as the Jewish Agency community emissary and meets a wide range of populations and age groups in Richmond.

Ofer Musan



Ofer Musan is a second-year Shaliach at the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga. Originally from Ramat Gan, Israel, Ofer brings with him a deep connection to his homeland, shaped by his unique family story and diverse experiences.

Growing up in an Israeli youth movement, Ofer developed a passion for community building and education. Throughout his career, he has worked with a wide range of communities, including Olim Chadashim (new immigrants), Bedouins, and students from 53 different countries at a Tel Aviv-based international school. His mission in Chattanooga is to strengthen the connection between the local Jewish community and Israel, fostering meaningful dialogue and engagement. Arriving in Chattanooga just one week before October 7th, Ofer experienced that pivotal day from a dual perspective—both as an Israeli and as

someone newly immersed in American life. Since then, he has taken it upon himself to engage with diverse communities in Chattanooga, sharing Israel's story, advocating for understanding, and speaking with both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences about the war and its impact.

Beyond advocacy, Ofer brings his deep love for Israeli culture to the community. Through engaging presentations on Israeli music, sports, and theatre, he offers a vibrant and authentic glimpse into the richness of Israeli life, helping to bridge cultures and foster a deeper appreciation for Israel's dynamic society.