

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo



Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo welcomes new JCRC director



Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (“JFGT”) announces that it has hired Daniel Pearlman as the new director of the Jewish Community Relations Council. Daniel will start in November 2020 and will be working in transition with the current director Fagie Benstein until her retirement at the end of December 2020. “Daniel rose to the top of a pool of nearly 20 candidates

from around the country,” said Stephen Rothschild, JFGT Executive Director. “During the interview process, we were very impressed by Daniel’s communication skills, his knowledge and experiences of Israel, his commitment to Jewish values and to addressing antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and the promoting of civil discourse in a diverse and tumultuous time in our history,” Stephen said. JCRC chair, Sue Ann Hochberg said of his hiring, “We are thrilled to welcome Daniel to our community as the new JCRC director. His passion and creativity promise to move the us forward to successfully confront the challenges of our times.”

Daniel is currently the Programs Manager at Classrooms Without Borders in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Classrooms Without Borders provides programming on topics relating to antisemitism, hate, the Holocaust, genocide, Israel, Jewish history, and racial justice, and works with 125 schools in five states. In

his role, Daniel has interacted with more than 7,000 participants over the past six months alone. Daniel is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Judaic Studies. He also has a Masters degree in Nonprofit Management & Leadership from Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he graduated magna cum laude.

While a student in Israel, Daniel co-founded and managed the Lilmod Language Exchange which brought together English and Hebrew speakers to build relationships and foreign language skills. The program was such a success it was acquired and pursued by Nefesh B’Nefesh, a part of the Jewish Agency for Israel. Daniel has also worked with Hand in Hand: The Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel and is a former community relations intern with the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.

Fagie said of Daniel’s hiring, “my retirement comes with a great

sense of confidence and comfort in the future as Daniel joins our Federation team. Every generation has its own experiences, challenges and memories, firmly grounded in Judaism and they must be passed on to the next generation.” “Daniel is the future, as is his generation.” Fagie went on to say, “I plan to do everything I can to help Daniel with his transition to make him successful. He is exactly what our community needs and deserves. The future is in good hands.”

Stephen added, “Daniel is quite personable and is looking forward to building relationships in our Jewish and non-Jewish communities. We are excited about him joining us and hope that the social distancing requirements of COVID-19 will soon be a thing of the past so that you can all meet and get to know Daniel in person.” Please join the Federation in welcoming Daniel to our Toledo Jewish family.