

ROSSING CENTER



ROSSING CENTER
FOR EDUCATION AND DIALOGUE

מרכז רוסינג
לחינוך ולדיאלוג
مركز روسينج
للتربية وللحوار

FOR EDUCATION AND DIALOGUE





Dear Friends,

2021 was inundated with challenges worldwide, the most obvious being the continuing Covid-19 crisis, which tested all spheres of life. After years of hateful, fear-mongering discourse, intolerance and indifference to blatant inequalities in our midst, the election of a new government brought something of a shift in public discourse, and perhaps in beginning to address some of the most pressing concerns. Between the elections and formation of the coalition government, however, the month of May saw the outbreak of hostilities with tragic outcomes in the cost of human lives, especially in Gaza, and the violent rage in Israel's mixed cities severely disturbing if not damaging their delicate social fabric.

Even as national policies and violence continued to test our strengths as citizens, community leaders, and advocates for equality, we have sharpened the focus of our critical mission to make a shared society a reality for thousands of individuals. We cultivated new partnerships, expanded our programming and staff, and hosted exciting and impactful events. In the heart of the mixed city of Ramle, our *Open House*, launched at the very end of 2020, resounded with activity throughout 2021, proving its potential as a dynamic grassroots hub for interreligious, intercultural and intergenerational activities designed and implemented by taskforces of students – all of them residents of Ramle.

At the overall organizational level, the Rossing Center engaged new audiences across the globe in webinars on interreligious dialogue vis-à-vis issues such as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the role of women, racism, dialogue and action. We also ended 2021 with our first ever – and highly successful – crowdfunding campaign and are immensely grateful for the warm response, interest and support for our work.

Looking back on 2021, with all its challenges and changes, one thing remains abundantly clear: a shared existence between populations in conflict is only possible if members of society are willing and prepared to rewire their learned conceptions of difference, to be vulnerable in sharing their fears and difficulties, to actively participate in a dialogue of trust and inclusion, and to not only believe, but indeed insist on the creation of a truly shared society. The Rossing Center worked and will continue its work in 2022 to deliver educational, intercultural, dialogical, and inclusive frameworks to people from all strata of our society in our ongoing mission to change the way we encounter, speak, listen to, think about and act toward one another. Our impact is made visible by all our programs, which grow and morph year by year, sometimes month by month, in correspondence with the changes and conflicts of the troubled society in which we live. This impact is driven by our dedicated team of educators, organizers, administrators, and all participants of our programs. And this impact is made possible by our supporters, collaborators, and partners, who share in our vision and wish to walk with us into a better future.




Dr Sarah Bernstein
Executive Director

What?


If Israelis and Palestinians have the desire and capacity to build inclusive societies, then they will do so.




How?



Change the Israeli Education system holistically to instill values and teach skills of inclusivity



Change the dynamic in mixed Jewish and Arab spaces in Israel from exclusive to inclusive



Engage Jews and Arabs in Israel in non-mixed areas to value and practice inclusive living



ROSSING CENTER FOR EDUCATION AND DIALOGUE IN 2021

70
Schools and
Colleges

9,089
Participants

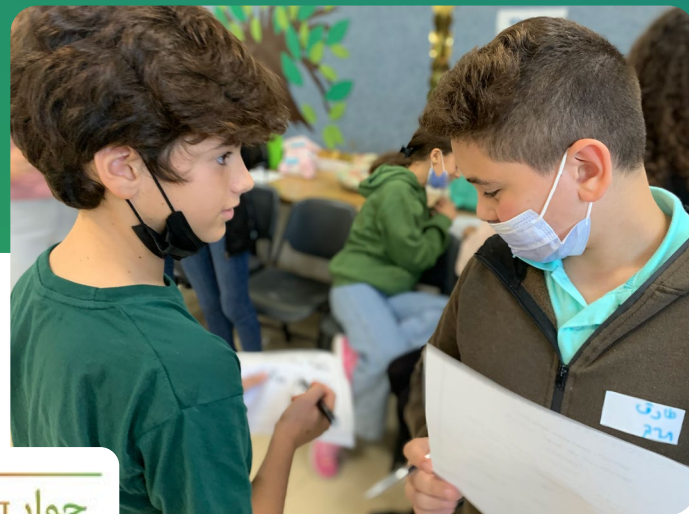
2,482
Hours of
Activities
and Events

48,381
Views of
Educational
Content

DIALOGUE AND IDENTITY

2021 saw the dramatic expansion of our Jewish and Arab school-twinning program from 24 to 38 schools in the current 2021-22 school year. Thus, in November, in between pandemic waves, in the first of the program's 2021-22 series of themed encounters, over 1,200 Jewish, Muslim and Christian students, aged 10-13, met in person and began to get to know each other – to talk, to play, to learn and share knowledge of each other's religious traditions and cultures.

These encounters, whether in person or online, are organized and facilitated by their teachers, two from each school, who have been trained by *Dialogue and Identity* program staff in this partnership program of the Rossing Center with the TALi Education Fund and in cooperation with the National Network of Christian Schools in Israel.



حوار דיאלוג
وهوية זהות

In 2021...

For the most part, health measures forced the transition to virtual programming and program staff, school principals and teachers demonstrated great resilience, commitment, flexibility and innovative thinking in making this work effectively. Project staff successfully created a wealth of live virtual activities, games and quizzes that stimulated excitement, cultivated curiosity, and created opportunities for connection. They also converted the students' paper workbook, 'My Journal in *Dialogue and Identity*' to an online (and environmentally more sustainable) version, creating an easily replicable resource as the program continues to scale. As an online alternative to the in-person experiential visits to each other's houses of worship, a series of videos were produced to introduce the synagogue, church and mosque, exposing the students to these settings and life cycle ceremonies. Students themselves created virtual school tours with smartphones, introducing each other to their respective learning environments, and enjoyed a sense of independence as they brought their peers into their lives at home and at school.

While the adaptation to online has thus been a

remarkable achievement – and even relieves the school-hosting teachers from additional tasks (e.g., refreshments preparations), and reduces travel time and costs, the general consensus among project staff, school principals, teachers and especially the students themselves, is a definite preference for the in-person paired school encounters and we are all hoping that 2022 will thus see the resumption of this format as much as is possible.

Meanwhile, whether in person or online, *Dialogue and Identity* has continued to build the skills of Jewish and Arab educators across northern and central Israel to engage their students in constructive conversations about identity and to see each other as equal members of society. The fact that after each encounter, the participants look forward with enormous enthusiasm to the next is perhaps the best indication of a breakthrough in creating in these young lives, both the recognition that it is possible to live together in an inclusive society – and the will to do so.



This project is co-funded by the European Union

Teacher:

"I believe wholeheartedly in the program; I feel a sense of mission. It doesn't matter if it happens in the virtual space or in the physical space."

Students:

"I really enjoyed meeting and learning about the other kids – who are now my friends!"

"I found all the sessions very interesting. It added so much to my knowledge. At the end of the session, I was always so happy and content, I'd learned new things and got to know other kids."

"As a Muslim girl, I've not had the opportunity to learn about Judaism – and today I learned so much!"

"I had a lot of fun and learned a lot about Muslim and Christian culture too."

42
School
Principals

96
Teachers

1,847
Pupils

EDUCATING FOR CHANGE

This 30-hour training program gives teachers in Jewish and Arab schools and teacher training colleges tools for facilitating classroom discussions around conflictual issues. Employing SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) tools and approach to creating a safe space for individual expression among their middle and high school students, teachers enable opportunities for their students to move away from extremist and racist positions and toward respect for diversity and difference.



In 2021...

Up until January 2021, the Ministry of Education only permitted 'techno-pedagogic' teacher training enrichment courses while schools were in pandemic lockdowns. Thus, when the green light was finally given for teachers to participate in *Educating for Change*, the full 30-hour course had to be concentrated into the second half of the school year and was delivered online. Despite these challenges some 150 teachers in 11 schools completed their training at the end of the 2020-2021 school year, and another 280 teachers in 14 schools began their *Educating for Change* participation in the 2021-22 school year – with the support, commitment and participation of their school principals and core

leadership staff. Although the teachers have less opportunity to put their acquired skills into practice in the classroom, due to the pressures of constantly changing health regulations, they did report that these skills were of great benefit during the May 2021 hostilities, helping students to deal with their emotions - their fears, anger, anxieties etc. Furthermore, over 50 former participant school principals and teachers responded immediately and positively to the *Educating for Change* invitation to a 'refresher' session to support principals and teachers in handling conflictual classroom discussions during that period.

Similarly, in the wake of the May events, the Rossing

Center collaborated with teacher training institution, Seminar HaKibbutzim College of Education, Technology and the Arts, to conduct a 'mass' workshop at their end-of-year conference. Present at the workshop were over 100 pedagogical counselors from a range of fields, who support trainee teachers. After an opening lecture, the pedagogical counselors took part in *Educating for Change* workshops in order to understand why and how



discussions should be conducted in the classroom. The Rossing Center has in fact increased the program's focus on this crucial arena of the education system – teacher training institutions, thereby equipping teachers from the outset of their careers with *Educating for Change* skills and tools to promote an inclusive discourse culture. As such, we conducted courses at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, David Yellin College of Education and at Levinsky College of Education where in addition to two teacher training courses, *Educating for Change* staff also conducted an intensive three day program for the college's senior staff introducing them to the program's principles and methodologies. The demand for the program from the pool of training colleges continues. Thus, in the second semester of the 2021-22 academic year, we will be conducting two more courses at Levinsky College, one of which is specifically in its new 'political education' stream, and two courses at Beit Berl College's Arab Academic Institute of Education which trains teachers for the country's Arab education system.

What participants said:

"I took from the course my place as a classroom teacher is not to produce change in students' opinions but to lead to discourse that's respectful and enables different opinions to be heard without being judgmental."

"The course gave me many tools to cope with students' different reactions – how to react as a teacher – how to be empathetic even if it's difficult to empathetically accept what's said in some situations."

"I understood that when I begin to look at my students not simply as 'students' but at what else is going on in other spheres of their lives, then my empathy increases."

"I had a lot of fun and learned a lot about Muslim and Christian culture too."

557
Teachers and
Trainee Teachers

20
Schools

4
Teacher Training
Training Colleges

582
Hours
Training

MEETING PLACE

The goal of *Meeting Place*, a Rossing Center partnership program with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Center for the Study of Multiculturalism and Diversity, is a more inclusive campus environment for students of all faiths and backgrounds: Jewish, Muslim, Druze, Christian; Israeli and Palestinian. Although the students attend classes alongside one another, there is all-too-often little interaction between them. *Meeting Place* offers a safe space for learning and discussing together how the texts in their own and each other's faiths, cultures and traditions address wide-ranging themes of interest, such as identity and belonging, the significance of Jerusalem, gender and relationships – and to jointly develop projects promoting a more inclusive campus. In this way, *Meeting Place* generates interaction among students of different faith and national identities that is both natural and normal. Another program component, *Dialogue Circles*, trains Israeli and Palestinian students to facilitate discussions between their peer students on campus, further encouraging a norm of interaction and open conversation around issues however conflictual, rather than mistrust and hostility.



What participants said:

“...It's a very special experience to go through the process with a group that changes you as a person. I get to learn about others and myself through dialogue with the other. There's an atmosphere of openness and safety which encourages learning and sharing. The program challenges who we are and our complex identities – but most important of all, how we relate to who's different from us.”

“There is another way..., when the Hebrew University Mount Scopus campus was sealed off... because of the rioting at the entrance..., twelve people, men and women – Jews, Arabs, Palestinians and those tired of defining national identities, some more religious and some less, but all from the three religions which for hundreds of years have been spilling each other's blood in this tiny piece of land – we sat together and ate the Iftar meal... that breaks the daily fast in the month of Ramadan... – because there is another way.”

“Until Jerusalem and all started to go up in flames – literally – in the current round of hatred – I'd found our meetings interesting and I'd learned so much, but since then I've realized just how important and amazing these meetings are, and above all - not to be taken for granted.”

In 2021...

Four *Meeting Place* interfaith study groups met during 2021. First, a Mount Scopus group and a Givat Ram group completed their academic 2020-21 year-round program. Not only did the students and facilitators have to cope with the continuing challenge of rapidly changing Covid conditions and meetings thus fluctuating back and forth between in-person and virtual, but the May outbreak of violent hostilities posed a whole new dimension of 'challenge'. This was felt directly and immediately by the Mount Scopus *Meeting Place* group which was in session at the very moment that clashes raged at the campus gates. With admirable skill, the facilitators engaged the students in deep reflection around the difficult issues they faced and, in this 'safe space', the students themselves demonstrated their commitment to the program and dedication to each other as is evident in their words quoted here. Further proof of their cohesive strength was evident in the project initiatives they and their Givat Ram peers chose to implement in the wake of the hostilities. On Mount Scopus, the group held a successful open session for fellow students on the concept of 'Justice and Treatment of the Other' and at the entrance to the library on Givat Ram, the student group created an interactive visual display about Jerusalem, engaging the participation of visitors to the library, some of whom joined a *Dialogue Circles* discussion on the meaning of Jerusalem in their lives. Also in mid-May 2021, *Meeting Place* staff and students held a late-night Shavuot Meeting Place open-to-the-public outdoor study session in the grounds of the YMCA on Jerusalem's King David Street, attracting over 60 participants.

Since then, another two groups on each campus completed most of their study sessions within the program's more intensive semester-based format for the 2021-22 academic year and began working on their project initiatives. Most of these would be for implementation

during the second semester, though one made an early and well-received debut: a 'Book Exchange' where the buses stop at the entrance to the Givat Ram campus. The books are on topics and themes addressed in *Meeting Place*.

Meanwhile, the ten student-facilitators who had begun their *Dialogue Circles* training at the end of 2020 made their facilitation debut in the spring of 2021, leading in Jewish-Arab pairs a series of discussions on conflictual issues among Jewish and Arab students participating in the 'Desert Spring' Hebrew-Arabic language exchange program. Following on from this piloting of *Dialogue Circles*, the university's Diversity Center then invited the Rossing Center's *Meeting Place* staff to facilitate a series of *Dialogue Circles* conversations in early November for some 120 first and second year nursing students at the Ein Kerem Faculty of Medicine campus – thus successfully expanding the program's presence to all three Jerusalem campuses.



58
Student Group
Participants

400
Student Project
Participants

3
Campuses

235
Activity
Hours

[JERUSALEM CENTER FOR JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS]

The Jewish-Christian relationship is and has always been a complex matter in any setting, and none more so than in the Holy Land, where the majority population is Jewish and local Christians comprise a small community within the larger Arab minority. The inspiration for and role of JCJCR – founded by the late Daniel Rossing in 2004 – was to bring knowledge and understanding of this unique relationship and the history of Christianity and Christian communities in the Holy Land – to ‘multipliers’, to those in a position to share this knowledge and understanding with still broader audiences. Thus, for the past 16 years, JCJCR has targeted teachers and trainee teachers, tour guides and trainee tour guides, government officials, army officers and educators, and young adults in pre-and post-national service leadership programs. In addition, JCJCR provides consulting and information services, lectures and study tours for public and government institutions, diplomatic missions, and the media.



Trainee teachers:

“An in-depth, varied and fascinating course, creating significant involvement with the subject and presenting complexities which raise more questions and curiosity for further learning!”

“...The course opened up a whole world to me that I will of course continue to explore and learn from and about!”

Young leadership students:

“It was fascinating to dive with Hana into the depths... to study Christian theology and about Christians here today.”

“I loved the ways she tried to connect us to the issue in the tasks she gave us and the reference to Christian communities in Israel and their relevance... in our daily lives.”

In 2021...

In the academic sphere, courses, lectures and study tours were conducted at several teacher training institutions (see JCJCR’s partners below) to the tremendously enthusiastic reception from the students. JCJCR also enriched the capacities of well over a thousand qualified and trainee tour guides to introduce Christianity’s past and present, its communities, sites, festivals and traditions of pilgrimage in the Holy Land, in a knowledge-based, sensitive portrayal to the public at large, to local and international visitors.

The ‘Colleagues Forum’ – a professional What’s App group established by JCJCR in response to the many professional tour guides affected by the pandemic’s impact on the tourism industry – continued its mainly online meetings. The intellectually stimulating forum with over a hundred members offered an arena for mutual support as well as new thinking around shared issues and controversial topics in the complex context of tourism, the three Abrahamic faiths and contested space in the Holy Land.

JCJCR’s services continued to be much in demand among young adults in *‘mechinot’*, Israel’s pre- and post-army education, leadership and community service frameworks, such as the Bina Secular Yeshivah, Midreshet Ein Prat, Tzahali, Faran and others serving young adults from overseas. In the Bina course, groups of 2-3 explored different New Testament stories, researched interpretations, and then presented the story to their class peers in creative ways, such as enacting the story.

Among the incredibly wide-ranging groups and institutions from Israel and overseas which have requested and participated in study tours and lectures (in-person and online) over the past year were the Amcha Holocaust survivors’ organization, students from the Universities of Michigan and Notre Dame, the New North London Synagogue, a group of conservation architects,

National Security College students, and many more.

In addition, JCJCR’s Facebook, a rich fountain of knowledge with over 3,000 followers, became a particularly relevant educational resource tool this year when in-person activity was not possible. Via the Rossing Center YouTube channel, JCJCR’s rich resource of educational videos attracted over 19,000 views and two new videos – on Christian festivals and on clerical attire – completed the set of eight Hebrew language videos for tour guides.

Finally, the Rossing Center and the Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research co-published a new edition of Dr. Amnon Ramon’s book, ‘Christianity and Christians in the Jewish State’, updated and in English, bringing Dr. Ramon’s hugely important research to a still wider audience in the Holy Land and abroad.

Among JCJCR’s partners:

Teacher Training Institutions

- Kerem Institute for Teacher Training
- David Yellin Academic College of Education
- Seminar HaKibbutzim
- The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Tour Guide Training Institutions

- Yad Ben Zvi Institute
- The Israel School of Tourism and its Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem branches
- Wingate Institute
- Kinneret College
- Nazareth Tourism and Cultural Association

4,682
Local and Overseas
Participants

773
Activity Hours

19,247
Training Video
Views

HEALING HATRED

Healing Hatred was developed originally by the Rossing Center together with the Hebrew Union College and Holy Land Trust as a cross-border conflict transformation tool to replace often ineffective traditional forms of dialogue. Using the tools of spiritual counseling to address deep trauma and fear, *Healing Hatred* helps participants understand the impact of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on their individual lives at the deepest level and fosters trust and a sense of commitment between participants. It allows them to share their experiences of violence in the context of national conflict constructively, rather than remaining mired in dead-end competitive victimhood. Furthermore, in bringing participants together around shared concerns, they are able to find common ground and work constructively together towards common goals.



Healing
Hatred



In 2021...

Having started out as a ‘stand-alone’ project, *Healing Hatred* has evolved into an integral and highly effective methodology in Rossing Center programs, such as *Open House* and *Meeting Place*. In *Meeting Place* the students from both campuses, Mount Scopus and Givat Ram, joined together for a two-day *Healing Hatred* seminar in March 2021. In their post-questionnaire survey and in interviews with the external evaluator, both Jewish and Arab students rated the seminar as the most valuable and crucial contributing factor in their *Meeting Place* experience, through which they had acquired the tools to engage in open discourse. The resulting group

cohesion enabled them to plan and implement campus projects together. This was clearly an outcome for the subsequent cohorts of students from the two campuses, one group of whom implemented the Givat Ram Book Exchange project shortly after their participation in the second *Healing Hatred* seminar in December 2021.

At the *Open House*, the ‘Women Stories’ student taskforce participated in a series of six *Healing Hatred* sessions from February through March 2021 and for them too, the experience of introspection and deep listening to each other played an enormously significant role in building the skills they would need (a) in listening

attentively and sensitively drawing out the narratives of their older women interviewees and (b) in planning and organizing the exhibition and its accompanying publication.

In parallel, a Women’s Stories taskforce recruited by our Bethlehem-based partner, Holy Land Trust, also participated in six *Healing Hatred* workshops led by facilitators trained by the Rossing Center *Open House* and *Healing Hatred* Director, Vivian Rabia. The Bethlehem taskforce, comprising 10 Christian and Muslim women students, from diverse backgrounds in the larger Bethlehem region including from refugee



camps and also one student from Hebron, went on to interview 11 older women. The Bethlehem Women’s Stories exhibition was held in August 2021 under the auspices of the Bethlehem Municipality at the Bethlehem Peace Center to an enthusiastic audience and was covered by Palestine TV.

Healing Hatred seminars will continue to be conducted with the new cohorts of student taskforces in Ramle and Bethlehem recruited in the late autumn of 2021. Similarly, the Ramle intercultural taskforce will also participate in a *Healing Hatred* seminar as will the students at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem who will train as *Dialogue Circles* facilitators in our *Meeting Place* program.

What the participants said:

“Each of us has been on their own ‘mountain train’ and each has ‘got off at a different stop’. The Spiritual Questionnaire taught us to observe the journey and look at things we hadn’t seen before.”

“I’ve always been one who just listens and accepts, but here I felt more confident to speak without being judged and ‘categorized’.”

“I gained here the capability for discourse, the core of our encounter. I learned a lot about myself here.”

“It was interesting to hear things that are not usually spoken... here it was possible to talk openly about everything.”

81
Participants

5
Healing Hatred
Seminars

80
Activity
Hours

OPEN HOUSE

Situated in the heart of Ramle, the *Open House* under Rossing Center management since 2020, is fast becoming a dynamic grassroots hub of interfaith, intercultural and inter-generational activity – designed, implemented and sustained by the residents of Ramle’s highly diverse Jewish and Arab communities. With a view to contributing to Ramle’s transition from a mixed to a truly shared city, *Open House* combines a bottom-up and top-down strategic approach, reflected in our successfully initiated collaboration with the Ramle Municipality and its associated institutions, (e.g., the Ramle Foundation, Center for Youth and Development of Human Capital, and the Center for Community Mediation and Conflict Resolution) bringing their support to our *Open House* grassroots Arab-Jewish activities.



In 2021...

Open House continued its first two initiatives:

The Ramle Women’s Stories project, in which taskforces of Arab and Jewish women students gather older women residents’ narratives – their experiences and perceptions of the city’s history – in preparation for an *Open House* exhibition and publication.

Intercultural Taskforces of Arab and Jewish students who plan and organize *Open House* events bringing Jewish and Arab residents from across the city together to celebrate cultures, traditions and festivals of the very diverse Arab and Jewish communities.

Over the two halves of 2021’s academic years, 24 students participated in the Women’s Stories project and 20 in the Intercultural Taskforces. In order to build the Jewish and Arab students’ capacities to work cohesively together, each taskforce first participates in the Rossing Center’s *Healing Hatred* seminars – (see the *Healing Hatred* section of this report). The Women’s Stories taskforces also undergo training in interviewing and photography techniques. The first Women’s Stories exhibition will be held around International Women’s Day in March 2022. The second taskforce, who started meeting in the autumn, will soon begin interviewing the

Ramle women residents whose stories they will tell.

Despite Covid challenges, the first Intercultural Taskforce was able to hold a highly successful ‘Iftar’ event at the end of Ramadan, attended by Ramle residents and city council members. Another 2021 challenge was the outbreak of violent hostilities in Ramle in May, in the wake of which our *Open House* staff took action, holding a *Dialogue Circle* discussion, “Talking Together: This is Our Home” bringing together Jewish, Christian and Muslim Ramle residents, young and old, with the direct participation of the mayor who also spoke and



addressed their concerns. Towards the end of the year, the second intercultural taskforce organized a much-enjoyed Hanukkah-Christmas party attended by some 100 Ramle residents, children included.

Enabling a safe space for open discussion and cooperation is a Rossing Center methodology employed across many of our programs – and the *Open House* is no exception. Its complex past, like many homes in Ramle and in Israel, once the property of a Palestinian Arab family and then of an Israeli Jewish family since 1948 – and thus its symbolism of the larger Israeli-Palestinian conflict, provides the opportunity for open discourse, however difficult. We thus choose to share the ‘narrative’ through film and discussion with all who visit the Open House, and all who participate in our programs there through the year.



4
Student
Taskforces

40
Student
Participants

150
Participants
in Public Events

470
Visitors

Students in the Women’s Stories taskforce:

“I knew that life is complicated – but to have heard first-hand the life stories [of the women] - this is something that will stay with me!”

“I experienced how though we’re all women ‘cut from very different cloths’ – I could identify with every single one – in one way or another.”

Visitor at the Intercultural Taskforce’s Iftar event:

“The event was fantastic – such a festive atmosphere! We learnt many new things about Ramadan which I heard for the first time regarding this important month in Islam.”

Public Engagement 2021 – Website, Webinars, Videos, Facebook

49,259 Rossing Center Website visits

14,134 Know Your Neighbour visits

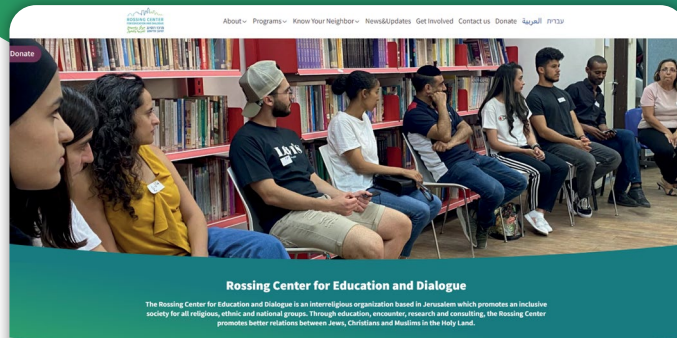
142 Countries of Know Your Neighbour visits

19,247 YouTube Views

636 Webinar Attendees

15,000 Times of Israel Blog Views

Our new website was unveiled:



Our Goals

- Create and deepen relationships across religious lines despite differences and disagreement
- Contribute to understanding and appreciation of the other's religious/cultural/national narratives, traditions, beliefs and practices
- Combat prejudices and negative stereotypes

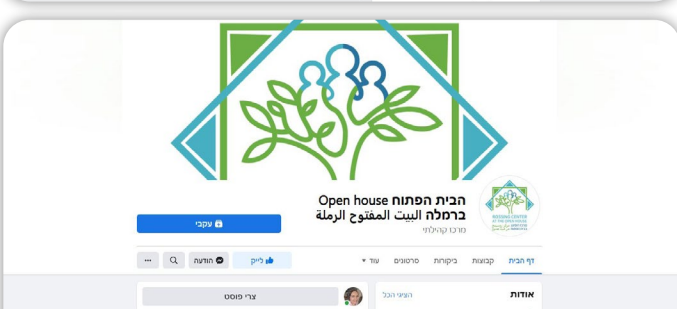
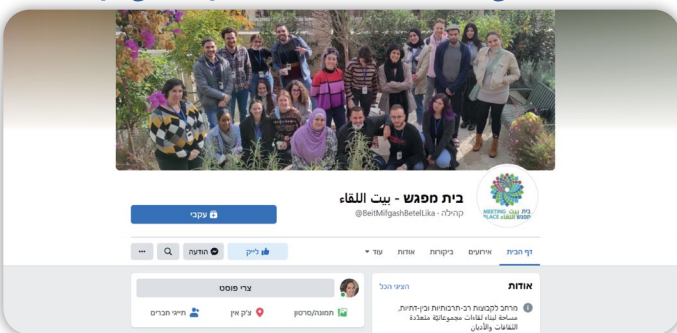
Our Programs

- JCJCR**
Teaching the past and present of Christian communities in the Holy Land to Israeli teachers, tour guides, pre- and post-national service youth and IDF educators.
- ADASHA**
Brings groups – interreligious or interested in interreligious issues – to Israel and exposes them to an "across the spectrum" educational experience of religious and political narratives and perspectives.
- Meeting Place**
Promoting a more inclusive campus for students, Jewish, Christian and Muslim – Israeli and Palestinians – through joint study and dialogue groups.
- Open House**
Spurs curiosity, knowledge, intercultural communication and relationship-building among Israel's Jewish, Christian and Muslim schoolchildren.
- Healing Hatred**
An innovative model for interreligious dialogue based on the tools of spiritual counselling.
- Know Your Neighbors**
A reliable, simple and coherent database for exploring the Holy Land's three Abrahamic faiths.

We produced a Promotional Video for our highly successful December 2021 Crowdfunding Campaign



Two Rossing Center programs created Facebook pages: Open House and Meeting Place



Rossing Center 2021 Webinars

*Between Dialogue and Action
January 12, 2021*



*Women in Inter-religious Dialogue
March 15, 2021*



The Influence of The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict on Interreligious Dialogue May 18, 2021



*Racism and Interreligious Dialogue
October 20, 2021*



*Christianity & Christians in the Jewish State
December 9, 2021*



OUR STAFF



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Executive Director



Hana Bendcowsky
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Director



Hussam Elias
Dialogue and Identity
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Cami Mizrahi
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Ophir Yarden
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Vivian Rabia
Open House and
Healing Hatred Director



Gal Eblagon
Meeting Place
Director



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Educating for Change
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Hannan Haddad
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Dr. Pamela Lubell
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Salpy Arakelian
Office Manager



Keren Hendin
Strategic Initiatives
Director



John Munayer
Communications
and Meeting Place
Coordinator



Nily Nevo
Open House and
Municipal Education
Departments Coordinator

New Staff in 2021



Rasha Abdeen
Educating for Change
Administrative Assistant



Michal Fisher
Educating for Change
Program Coordinator



Hiba Janadri Abu Khadra
Dialogue and Identity
Program Coordinator



Fethiya Arafat Haddad
Dialogue and Identity
Program Coordinator

OUR DONORS

With heartfelt thanks to all the institutions, foundations and individuals who have so generously supported our work throughout 2021; to all in Israel and overseas who contributed to our first ever crowdfunding campaign and the wonderful ambassadors whose efforts made it a resounding success. We are immensely grateful and thank you all.

GENERAL SUPPORT

- Act Church of Sweden (Uppsala, Sweden)
- Bischöfliches Hilfswerk MISEREOR e.V. (Aachen, German)
- B8 of Hope
- B'ruchah At Fund
- Richard and Marcia Cohen Charitable Fund
- The Gimprich Family Foundation (New York, USA)
- Leichtag Foundation
- Rabbi Amy R. Perlin, D.D.

PROJECT SUPPORT

- ACN International Kirche in Not (Königstein, Germany)
- Deutsche Verein vom Heiligen Lande (Köln, Germany)
- Evangelische Kirche im Rheinland Düsseldorf, Germany
- Evangelisches Missionswerk in Deutschland (Hamburg, Germany)
- Anonymous Family Foundation
- FELM (Helsinki, Finland)
- Nitzan Fund (Jerusalem, Israel)
- Kerk in Actie (Utrecht, Netherlands)
- Kindermissionswerk "Die Sternsinger" (Aachen, Germany)
- Missio Aachen (Aachen, Germany)
- P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc. (New York, USA)

We look forward to your continuing partnership and support for our mission to promote an inclusive society in Israel for all religions, ethnic and national groups.

If you would like to support our work, please contact us at:

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To make a donation (tax exempt in USA), please see our website at:

<https://rossingcenter.org/donate>

The Rossing Center for Education and Dialogue is an interreligious organization based in Jerusalem which promotes an inclusive society for all religious, ethnic and national groups. Through education, encounter, research and information services, we foster better relations between Jews, Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land. We believe that understanding, respect, justice and equality will enable us all to live in peace.

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The Rossing Center for Education and Dialogue is named in memory of the late **Daniel Rossing (1946-2010)**. Founder and first Director of the Jerusalem Center for Jewish-Christian Relations (JCJCR), Daniel Rossing received the 2009 Mount Zion Award for his outstanding contribution to dialogue between the different religions and cultures in the Holy Land, and his enhancement of mutual understanding between Jews, Christians and Muslims.