

# Moishe House Annual Report: A Behind the Screens Look at 2020



@mhannualreport

For Moishe House, last year quickly became a master class on young adults' enduring commitment to creatively building Jewish community around the world.

2020 was full of the stories of Moishe House and Moishe Pod residents, Moishe House Without Walls (MHWOW) hosts, Jewish educators, and staff members pivoting and redefining what exactly "community" could look like. New traditions, new methods and new bonds developed, and in many ways our global network never felt more connected, even when people in all corners of the world were primarily staying home.

I had the honor of spending the past year feeling inspired by the dedication of the emerging leaders in our network who continued to build community and understood the importance of connections for their peers.

We realize that overall we were lucky, and that the reality of the pandemic and economic crisis created hardships and heartbreak for so many. We hope that seeing some of our favorite memories from the year and impact made by our community builders can provide some light and inspiration as we look forward to the future. Thank you for playing a role at Moishe House during this historic year and for helping us reimagine what is possible.



David Cygielman  
FOUNDER & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

In the midst of a global pandemic in 2020, tens of thousands of Moishe House staff, community builders and participants around the world created and participated in spaces for their Judaism, **to learn, to listen, to find joy, to connect with each other, to give back, and continued to build community.**

**Annual Impact:**

**7,347**  
virtual and  
in-person programs  
in

**30+**  
countries

engaged

**58,782**  
unique young  
adults





# SPACES TO LEARN

Our new reality and lack of togetherness in a physical space only increased the demand for meaningful Jewish learning opportunities in 2020.

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MH community builders hosted

**2,800+**

Jewish Learning & Holiday Programs



MOISHE POD MORRISTON

*Shabbat Dinner*



MH Paris-Republique Selichot Service



*Queer Torah & friendship*

MH Portland

MH BARCELONA

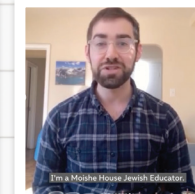
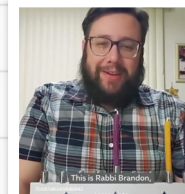


*Virtual Shabbat*

MH pursued virtual experiences featuring communities and community builders around the world.

## SPARKS OF LIGHT HANUKKAH ((LIVE))

A live series spotlighting community members sharing new approaches to celebrating Hanukkah.



A Shabbat-themed Instagram live series hosted by different residents around the world.



Spain

Rome

Cape Town

# Spaces TO LISTEN

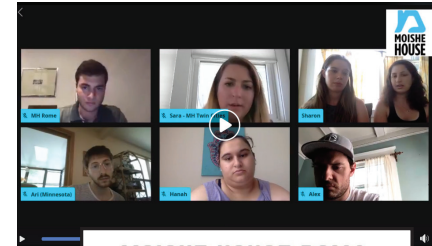
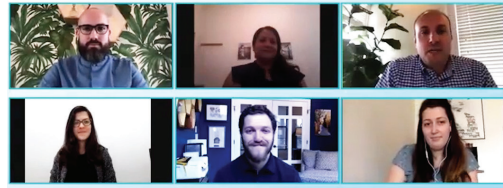
With so many people suddenly feeling so alone, creating **spaces to listen** and share was more important than ever in 2020.

Throughout the year, the voices of Jewish leaders were elevated worldwide.

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A weekly series featuring 36 Moishe House residents from 11 countries sharing their unique perspectives and experiences on the ground throughout various stages of the pandemic.



**MOISHE HOUSE ROMA**  
*meets*  
**MOISHE HOUSE TWIN CITIES**  
Sunday June 7  
9 PM - ITALIAN TIME  
2 PM - MINNEAPOLIS TIME



MH Twin Cities and MH Rome  
Racial Injustice Discussion



MH Montreal Canadian  
Jews of Colour Gathering



An anti-racism conversation with  
4 Black MH community builders and alumni.



# SPACES

*to Find Joy*

As the world shut down, MH staff created unique virtual experiences, merging immersive and virtual elements to get people away from just sitting behind their screens and meaningfully connected to others around the world.

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HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS TOOK ON NEW LIFE AS IMMERSIVE LIVE COMEDY ZOOM EXPERIENCES



SHAVUOT NIGHT LIVE



# Jewcy

AN INTERACTIVE, DATING-THEMED TU B'AV VARIETY SHOW

CAMP NAI NAI NAI PIVOTED AND PROVIDED VIRTUAL IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES KNOWN AS EXPEDITIONS ENGAGING OVER 2,800+ PARTICIPANTS



EXPEDITION NAI

THE WORLD'S LARGEST VIRTUAL GLOBAL COLOR WAR



EXPEDITION FOR A CAUSE

A SERIES OF TIKKUN OLAM-BASED CHALLENGES



WINNING TEAM!



EXPEDITION LOVE

IN THE SUKKAH

A MATCHMAKING EVENT FOR JEWISH SINGLES





# SPACES

*to connect with*

## A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

For the first time in Moishe House's history, MH residents and MHWOW hosts were invited to a Global Training Conference, albeit virtually.

**400+**  
MH RESIDENTS AND MHWOW HOSTS

**28** COUNTRIES     **50+** PEER- AND STAFF-LED LEARNING SESSIONS

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# COUCH CON



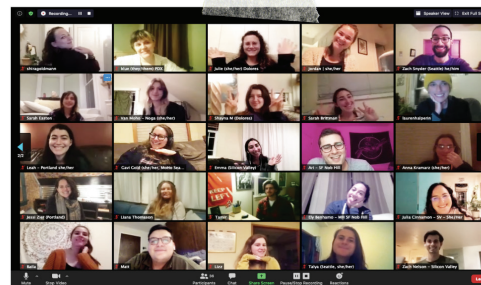
### LATIN AMERICAN HOUSES

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA  
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO  
MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY  
PORTO ALEGRO, BRAZIL  
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL  
SANTIAGO, CHILE  
SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL

HOUSES COLLABORATED VIRTUALLY ACROSS GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES, BRINGING GREATER CONNECTION AND AWARENESS FOR MH'S GLOBAL JEWISH COMMUNITY.



GLOBAL SHAVUOT



### NORTHWEST MOISHE HOUSES VIRTUAL GATHERING



GLOBAL SHAVUOT FESTIVAL  
VIRTUAL IDEA CRAWL  
MAY 29-30, 2020  
MOISHE HOUSE



# Spaces to Give Back

Moishe House leaders knew that one of the best ways they could foster connections was to participate and engage others in **tikkun olam**, repairing the world.

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MHWOW Host Jeremy Levin



MH Odessa  
Groceries for the Elderly

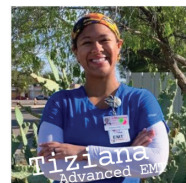
## 330

Tikkun Olam Programs  
in 2020



JewBer Food Delivery

We are especially appreciative to our community builders this year who worked professionally on the frontlines, balancing both community and personal needs. Some include:



MH leaders, participants, and alumni came together to participate in our annual, peer-driven fundraising campaign:

**WE ARE** 2020  
MOISHE HOUSE

**\$91,000**

raised through

**1,270**

unique donations  
(primarily Jewish young adults)

**27**

countries

We were honored to plug into, support and in some cases benefit directly from the following crisis-related large-scale efforts in the Jewish community.



Pledge to Protect raised funds for and accessed large quantities of PPE for frontline workers.



Raised support to provide interest-free loans and grants to maintain the infrastructure of Jewish life across the US.



Provided support and resources to mobilize Jewish young adults in 100,000 acts of meaningful service and learning throughout the pandemic.



# SPACES TO *Continue* TO BUILD COMMUNITY

A world on pause couldn't stop the demand for meaningful connections and Jewish community around the world.

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**18**  
NEW MOISHE HOUSES  
AND MOISHE PODS OPENED  
THEIR DOORS IN 2020.



MH Philadelphia-RSJ



Moishe Pod Paris



Moishe Pod Albuquerque



Moishe Pod International LA



MH London-Hackney



MH Atlanta-RSJ



Moishe Pod Memphis



Moishe Pod Queens-Bukharian



Moishe Pod Morristown



Moishe Pod Stamford



Moishe Pod Sydney



Moishe Pod Buffalo



Moishe Pod Helsinki



Moishe Pod Zurich



MH Moscow - Zamoskvorechye



MH Toronto-Annex



MH Los Angeles-RSJ



Moishe Pod San Diego-Queer



# ...ALL FROM HOME

Through the dedication and flexibility of Jewish young adults around the world, in 2020, Moishe House reimagined and pushed beyond the boundaries of physical spaces and became more about a **concept, an idea, and a feeling.**

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**141**

HOUSES AND PODS

**5,798**

PROGRAMS

**31,914**

UNIQUE  
YOUNG ADULTS



MH Nob Hill Tu B'av

**"OUR MH IS THE ONLY CONSISTENT THING I HAVE HAD THROUGHOUT QUARANTINE. ALTHOUGH THIS HAS BEEN A HARD TIME, SEEING THE SAME FACES SHOW UP EVERY SHABBAT TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND GET FULLY INVESTED IN VIRTUAL EVENTS HAS ONLY PROVEN TO ME THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY. THESE CONNECTIONS CAN GET US THROUGH ANYTHING."**

Samantha Magnes, 25,  
MH Mosaic-Fairfax Resident



Retreatiyul Peer-Led Retreat  
Tiberias, Israel



MH Shanghai  
First In-person Program



MH NYC Upper West Side  
*Sukkot Dinner*

**47**

JEWISH LEARNING  
RETREATS

(virtual and in-person)

**1,521**

PARTICIPANTS



Rebecca Powell  
MHWOW Host  
Brookline, MA

Sukkot Shabbat

**419**

MHWOW HOSTS

**1,549**

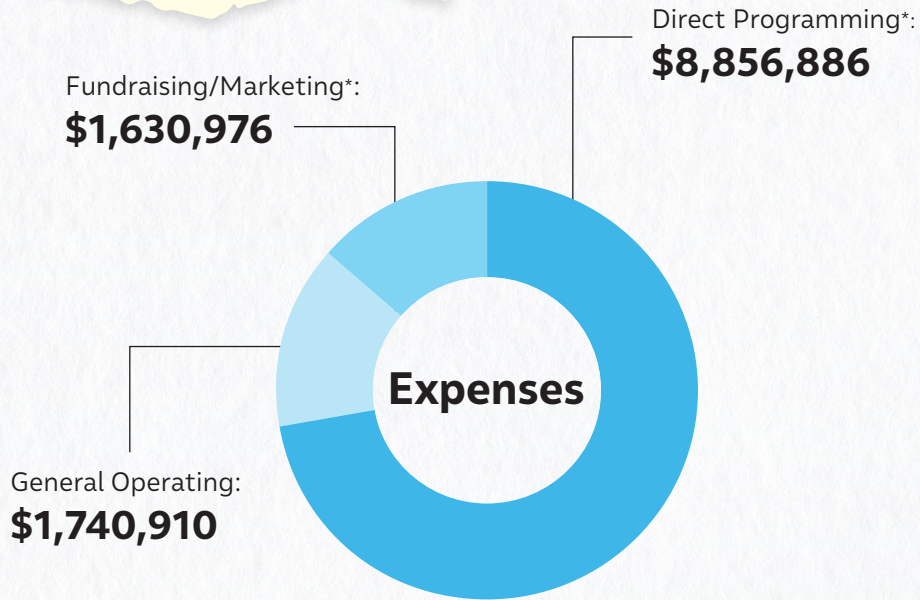
MHWOW  
PROGRAMS

**8,344**

UNIQUE  
YOUNG ADULTS  
AT MHWOW PROGRAMS



# 2020 FINANCIALS



Unaudited. \*Decrease related to pause of in-person programming due to Covid-19. MH was also a recipient of PPP support.

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and Justin Bregman**

*\*Endowment created to support  
Moishe House St. Louis.*



# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

This year in particular, we're grateful for the ongoing generosity and increased flexibility from our very loyal and supportive donor base.

**1,735**  
unique donors  
in 2020

**~50%**  
of donors are  
under the age of  
**35**

## ANNUAL GIVING

**\$250,000+**

Anonymous

Genesis Philanthropy Group

Jim Joseph Foundation

Leichtag Foundation

Maimonides Fund

one8 Foundation

The Rubin Family Foundation

Charles and Lynn Schusterman  
Family Philanthropies

UJA-Federation of New York

## ANNUAL GIVING

**\$100,000-\$249,999**

Anonymous

Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston

Crown Family Philanthropies

EJF Philanthropies

Edward Fein Foundation

Joyce and Irving Goldman Family Foundation

Jewish Community Response & Impact Fund

Koret Foundation

Koum Family Foundation

Leifer Family Fund

Michael and Andrea Leven Family Foundation

Howard and Geraldine Polinger Family Foundation

Tina and Joe Wolf

## ANNUAL GIVING

**\$25,000-\$99,999**

American Jewish Joint Distribution  
Committee (JDC)

Americans for Ben-Gurion University  
Anonymous (3)

The Associated: Jewish Community  
Federation of Baltimore

Jarrold and Shiva Beck  
Jeffrey and Janet Beck  
Dottie Bennett

Canadian Forum of Russian-Speaking  
Jewry

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The Friend Family

Benji Friend and Jackie Frey

Jason Friend and Alina Katz

Genesis Prize Foundation

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Robin and Bennett Greenspan

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Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles

Jewish Federation of Greater Washington

Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey

Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati

Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of  
Metropolitan Chicago

Ken and Roneet Kahan

The Kallick Family

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Russ and Leslie Robinson

The Rodan Family Foundation

The Alvin Segal Family Foundation

The David S. and Karen A. Shapira Foundation

Bernard and Etta Weinberg Fund of the  
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

## ANNUAL GIVING

**\$10,000-\$24,999**

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Alan B. Slifka Foundation  
Anonymous  
Carl and Joann Bianco  
The Breman Foundation  
Lewis Brunswick and Rebecca Matoff Foundation  
Philip Chosky Charitable and Educational Foundation  
Sandy and Jean Colen  
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The National Lottery Community Fund  
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Sherman Family Foundation  
Singer Family Foundation

Thalheimer-Eurich Charitable Fund  
Kevin Waldman  
Aaron Weitman  
Howard and Diane Zack  
M.B. & Edna Zale Foundation  
William and Sylvia Zale Foundation  
Jay and Diane Zidell

## ANNUAL GIVING

**\$2,500-\$9,999**

Anonymous (3)  
David Hatchwell Antaras  
Sylvan T. Baer Foundation  
Nancy Barasch  
Sharon and Ron Baruch  
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Judiska Församlingen i Stockholm

Kaplan Family Foundation  
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United Jewish Campaign  
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Zalick Foundation Fund  
Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland

**Thank you to the**  
**1,515**  
**donors that gave**  
**up to**  
**\$2,499**  
**in 2020**





# Alumni-Driven Ambassador Circle

Ari Abramson	Zachary Demby	Derek Holodak	Natanya Meyer	Joshua Schwartz
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Aliza Baskir	James Fleishman	Jerome Kelman	Lisa Oldfield Sitomer	Ellie Sterns
Bradley Baskir	Jordan Friedman	Anna Kernus	Elaine Potter	Jake Sullivan
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Ely Benhamo	Hannah Maia Frishberg	Jakob Khazanovich	Dave Press	Leora Tarshish
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Loren Berman	Donna Fuks	Todd Kirschen	Cheryl Pruce	Ben Varhula
Rebecca Blady	Samuel Fuks	Sam Korallnik	David Raygorodsky	Klara Alexandra Vesela
Julie Bock	Simona Gilman	Dammara Kovnats Hall	Laura Reader	Diana Warth Bregman
Jeremy Borovitz	Eden Gobuty	Joshua Kramer	Erika Rief Hornstein	Nathan Wasserman
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*Moishe House alumni who have committed to making an annual contribution of at least \$180*

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[www.moishehouse.org](http://www.moishehouse.org)





**MOISHE  
HOUSE**

| Inspiring  
Jewish  
Homes