

Learning Session 13/12/2018

Topic: Young Adults – Engaging future generations to Partnership and develop new leaders

Tzahar/Palm Beach

The challenge/need

In Palm Beach

To create a long-term leadership succession plan by enabling young professionals to become active leaders in communal organizations whose boards are predominantly comprised of older aged lay leaders.

In Tzahar

Being that our three municipalities are separate entities with minimal collaboration between the three, the program geared towards young professionals aimed to create an intra-regional leadership cadre which would assist in the development of the region.

The process:

In Palm Beach

The first cohort in 2009 required a lengthy recruitment process to build a cadre of young professionals who were interested in being potential community leaders. The course focused on gaining an in depth understanding of the community, leadership skills, Judaic context and joint learning and then integrating participants into activity communal positions.

In Tzahar

A unique program was built focusing on connecting participants to their Jewish roots, their local region the global Jewish community with social responsibility being a key focus. Initial participants were recruited through a variety of avenues including alumni of other partnership programs.

The solution/Result

In Palm Beach

Alumni have become active in communal life, creating a long-term sustainable community. They are on each Jewish Federation committee with the long term goal of having them become board chairs in the future.



The program creates cohorts of peers who engage with each other throughout the program but more importantly continue to connect on a professional, communal and social level thereafter, creating a tapestry of leaders who are in regular contact.

In Tzahar

The program leads to community action with the group initiating and developing projects that they have identified as imperative to creating a significant change to their region such as the English Enhancement program for 5th and 6th graders which is one example of this.

In general

Participants connect with their colleagues, visiting each other's communities and learning first hand of the challenges and opportunities they face, generating discussion and creating partnerships, working together for the benefit of both communities.

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