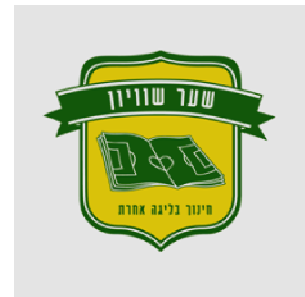




אגודת המפגש הבין דתי (ע"ר) جمعية اللقاء بين الديانات
INTERFAITH ENCOUNTER ASSOCIATION



"Meeting on the Pitch"

Background:

"Meeting on the Pitch" is a joint initiative of the NGOs The Equalizer, JVP Community and the Interfaith Encounter Association, which aims at creating two mixed Jewish-Arab football teams in Jerusalem.

The Equalizer is a sportive-social-educational project which aims to form a proper environment for children of neighborhoods and communities of the social Israeli periphery of the Jerusalem district, Haifa District, the Upper Galilee, the Negev and Ramla-Lod.

Within the framework of the project, soccer teams are organized in neighborhoods and schools for children aged 10-12. University students volunteer to orchestrate the teams' many activities which include: receiving training from a certified coach, access to study centers managed by additional university students (this is not an activity), and the participation in various social activities such as trips and excursions, as well as the much anticipated monthly festive tournament which brings together all of the teams from the different districts.

The Interfaith Encounter Association works to promote genuine coexistence and sustainable peace, through joint community building on the grassroots level, using interactive interfaith dialogue as its vehicle. The apolitical and all-inclusive approach of the organization and its activities enable it to successfully recruit a very wide range of participants. As of this date the IEA has founded 53 ongoing community-groups of interfaith encounter – from the Upper Galilee to Eilat and from Jericho to Tel Aviv.

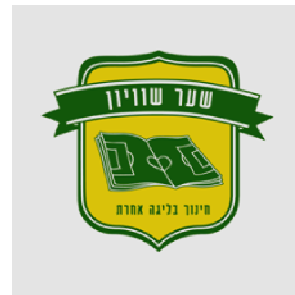
The non-profit organization, called Bakehila ("in the Community" in Hebrew), is an instrument for strengthening impoverished population centers in the city of Jerusalem.

Dr. Margalit, a leading Israeli venture capitalist, founded and manages Jerusalem Venture Partners (JVP) and is dedicated to bolstering Israeli society.

Since January 2013, The Equalizer has operated a team comprised of Jews and Arabs in the French Hill neighborhood in northeast Jerusalem. The neighborhood's population is comprised of 15% Palestinian Arabs, whereas most of the rest of the 85% are Jewish. The team, made up of children between the ages 10-12, has met once every two weeks for informal educational activities of interfaith encounter, once a week for joint football training led by a professional coach, and has represented their neighborhood in the monthly district tournament.



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Goals:

- Educating the children about the religion, traditions, and culture of their teammates.
- Building friendships between the children through participation and cooperation on the football field and in the sphere of the educational activities.
- Creating a communal identity through the team-building process and the joint representation in the districts tournaments.

Program for 2013-14:

French Hill:

- Continuation of the program preserving the model from last year, and maintaining the core group of children taking part.

Beit Safafa and Gilo

- Creation of a mixed team involving children from the neighborhoods Gilo and Beit Safafa.
- The team will train once a week in a neutral setting, and will take part in informal educational activities once every two weeks.
- The team will be comprised of children from study centers operated by "JVP Community" in both neighborhoods.

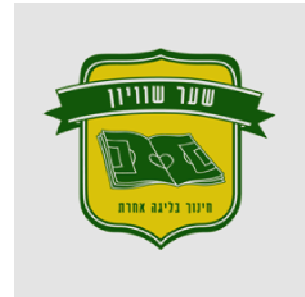
Costs of operation:

French Hill:

- Coach Salary- 9,500 NIS
- Transport to tournaments- 1,500 NIS
- Sports equipment- 2,500 NIS
- Instructors salary + Budget- 3,500 NIS
- Project and district management- 5,500 NIS
- Budget for field trips and excursions- 2,000 NIS
- Rental of space for educational program- French Hill community center- 5,400 NIS
- Total: 29,900 NIS



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Beit Safafa and Gilo

- Coach Salary- 9,500 NIS
- Transport to trainings and meetings from both neighborhoods- 12,000 NIS
- Transport to tournaments- 2,500 NIS
- Sports Equipment- 2,500 NIS
- Project and district management- 5,500 NIS
- Budget for field trip and excursions- 2,000 NIS
- Accompanying and directing the team instructors- 3,500 NIS
- Total: 37,500 NIS

Further reading:

The Equalizer – www.league.org.il

The Interfaith Encounter Association - interfaithencounter.wordpress.com

JVP Community- www.jvpvc.com/jvp-community

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