

Hakhel: Intentional Communities Incubator RFP

"Hakhel" means "assemble" and is derived from the Hebrew word for "community." This project, a partnership between Hazon and Nettiot with generous support from UJA-Federation of New York, is named "Hakhel" because it aims to support and establish Jewish Intentional Communities as a new method for engaging young adults in community and Jewish life, learning, and service. This project will draw in part on the learnings of the intentional communities movement within Israel (MAKOM) over the last two decades, and the learnings of the successful first year of Hakhel.

Communities and individuals from the five boroughs of NYC, Westchester, and Long Island are eligible to apply.

Applicants are highly encouraged to learn more about the program at a one-day seminar on October 11 in NYC with Aharon Ariel Lavi, one of the two Israeli mentors of the project.

After a careful vetting process, up to three groups will be selected to be a part of the incubator, joining the six groups currently in the cohort. Successful applicants will demonstrate that their communities have a clear intentionality; have a core group or plan for building one; have a clear idea of what areas of support they are looking for; and have an outward-facing mission. If selected, your group / a representative from your group will:

- receive a modest stipend and ongoing professional mentoring,
- engage in a highly subsidized learning tour in Israel of intentional communities in early spring
- attend the second Jewish Intentional Communities Conference from December 3-5, 2015 at the Pearlstone Center in Maryland (registration and travel covered). At least one member of your group will be required to attend.

In this first year you will be expected to:

- develop a detailed long-term work place,
- run a feasibility check, and
- execute some key preliminary steps in order to reach your goals with the support of a mentor and a steering committee.

Applications can be submitted securely here, and are due October 18, 2015. Email intentionalcommunities@hazon.org with any questions.

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