



## The Masorti Guide to Aliyah

The Masorti movement in Israel seeks to welcome every new and or potential Conservative oleh. Together with our sister organizations: Machon Schechter; the TALI Schools, the United Synagogue's Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center; the Conservative Yeshiva; Ramah day camps; Nefesh B'Nefesh and the Jewish Agency, Masorti is committed to reaching out, even before the potential oleh has made his or her decision.

In that context, Masorti recently set up a committee on Aliyah and Klitah. Some of the committees' many projects are represented in this electronic booklet that is designed to offer the reader a brief capsule description of the many and rich available resources that are available to Conservative olim. The reader will find links, enabling him or her to download more information about kehillot (congregations), institutions of higher education, Tali schools and much more.

Thank you to the project's editor, and new olah, Bonnie Ras who took over mid-stream when the original editor, Jordana Bickel — and also new olah — entered a new phase in her career with MASA, shortly after the project was launched.

My thanks also to my committee that worked directly on this project with me: Josie Arbel, Judy Gray and Ruth Ritterband. And thank to Yizhar Hess, executive director of Masorti and Emily Levy-Shochat, Masorti president for their support and understanding.

Aliyah remains an option open to every Conservative Jew, wherever he or she is to be found. It is hoped that this booklet will, in some small measure, contribute to the process which ultimately results in Aliyah and a successful Klitah.

Readers are invited to contact me with suggestions for a second edition plus reactions.

Shalom from Jerusalem.

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# The Masorti Movement in Israel

The Masorti Movement is the umbrella organization of the Masorti kehillot throughout Israel. Masorti kehillot offer spiritual egalitarian pluralistic Jewish experiences. The kehillot promote hessed and social justice activities and encourage social study and action. Today, there are 64 Masorti kehillot, havurot and minyanim throughout Israel. Many synagogues boast members from 25 different countries although Masorti is a deep-rooted Israeli organization.

To help you learn more about aliyah to Israel and how Masorti congregations support new olim, take a look at this video, produced by the Jewish Agency for Israel.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoeHj64-XQA&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoeHj64-XQA&feature=player_embedded)



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## Masorti Principles

The Masorti movement is a pluralistic, Israeli, religious movement which identifies with Conservative Judaism. The principles of the Movement, based on belief in God, combine devotion to Jewish tradition and halacha with an open and positive approach to the modern world, democracy and Zionism.

Masorti is committed to halacha and views it as a code of conduct expressing Jewish values. The Movement regards halacha as a dynamic, evolving system, shaped through constant wrestling with changing circumstances in time and place, and responsive to developments in moral and ideological positions.

### Judaism

- Belief in God is the foundation of the Torah: One God, Creator of the universe, Sustainer of life, who requires us to do that which is right and good. Jewish tradition interprets this belief in many ways.
- Recognition of the Torah, through its manifold ancient and modern interpretations, as the teaching derived from the continual search for the will of God.
- The Torah and halacha are the heritage of all Jews, regardless of gender.
- Commitment to halacha, emphasizing the concept of performing mitzvot. –
- The fulfillment of faith through actions and daily moral behavior.

- Halacha, in its very essence, is dynamic and evolving; its principles take into consideration the changing circumstances in each generation.
- The study of Jewish sources should be rooted in love and respect for the traditional study methods, while embracing academic research tools that Jewish studies employ.
- Religious faith and science can coexist. Religion engages in values, life norms and ethics. Science engages in determining facts and presenting explanations for them.

### Zionism

- The Land of Israel, the state of Israel, the Hebrew language and the sovereignty of the Jewish people over its land are vital values for the continued physical and spiritual existence of the Jewish people.
- The movement calls upon the Jews of the diaspora to participate in the challenge of aliyah and settling the land. Only in Israel does the potential exist for the total experience of the Jewish collective living with a responsibility to the entire society.
- Masorti is committed to strengthening ties between Israel and the diaspora, through mutual enrichment and by strengthening pluralistic, Zionist, Jewish education in Israel and abroad.
- The state of Israel must be a model society and a spiritual and cultural Jewish center, illuminating the whole world.
- The state of Israel must respect Jewish tradition. The state should encourage Jewish culture and Jewish-Zionist education in all its diversity, allowing for their expression in both public and private life.
- Good citizenship means loyalty to people and state, respect for the law, honor for people in daily life, protection of the environment, volunteering for the wellbeing of society, and action for social justice and tikkun olam.
- Military/national service – defense of the state of Israel and the contribution to society are obligations that fall on every citizen, men and women alike.

### Democracy

- The Masorti movement emphasizes the Jewish belief that every human being (man and woman) is created in the image of God, and entitled to respect, liberty, equality, freedom of thought, freedom of faith and social rights.
- Masorti respects the democratic system, based on the acceptance of the majority decision while safeguarding the rights of the minority.
- The movement relates respectfully to members of other faiths and religions and encourages tolerance, good neighborliness and interfaith understanding.
- Masorti raises the banner of religious pluralism and welcomes every movement, community or stream that acts in its own way to strengthen Judaism; and encourages dialogue among diverse groups and “dispute for the sake of heaven.”Unity of the Jewish people is an important principle yet, it does not require uniformity



For more information, go to [www.masorti.org/about.php](http://www.masorti.org/about.php)

## Masorti Congregations

The Masorti Movement's goal is to promote and strengthen a religious, communal, spiritual and pluralistic life in Israel. Proudly flying the flag of pluralistic and inclusive Judaism, the members, services and activities of the over 60 kehillot bring the message of Masorti Judaism to the wider communities in which they are located.

Masorti kehillot uniquely present traditional Jewish values in programs that transcend Shabbat and holiday services. Unlike most Israeli synagogues, Masorti congregations offer a broad range of social and educational programs with Jewish content for members and the wider community, from preschoolers to senior citizens. Programming includes lectures, study groups, family education and holiday celebrations. Masorti rabbis, together with the movement's Religious Affairs Bureau, provide for life-cycle events, such as circumcisions, bar/bat mitzvahs, weddings and burials.

Our kehillot range from fully-fledged communities with their own synagogue buildings, regular services, weekly study programs and other communal activities to small havurot that meet in private homes or public bomb shelters. The Movement places great importance on the development of existing and new kehillot.

On your pilot trip, Masorti invites you to contact a kehillah near to where you are staying. Our kehillot are happy to receive guests and provide any help they can. Use the map on the next page to locate congregations according to region, or print out the list of all our kehillot.



[View map](#) with locations of Masorti congregations in Israel.

For details about specific congregations, including addresses:

- [Northern region](#)
- [Jerusalem region](#)
- [Central region](#)
- [Southern region](#)

For more information, go to [www.masorti.org/about.php](http://www.masorti.org/about.php)

## NOAM

NOAM (No'ar Masorti, Masorti Youth), is a nationwide youth movement that unites youngsters, 10 to 18–years-old from Masorti kehillot and TALI schools where children from Orthodox, Reform and secular homes study. At NOAM's 20 branches, some 1700 young Israelis come together to experience the meaning of pluralism and tolerance.

NOAM members participate in weekly activities, Shabbatonim, seminars and tikkun olam – social action projects. Educational programming focuses on Jewish identity, Zionism, Jewish education, and more. All activities emphasize the importance of Jewish traditions infused with the pluralistic and inclusive outlook that characterizes Masorti Judaism. Every young person is made to feel welcome and acquires a sense of belonging.

Age-appropriate activities take place on both local and national levels. Participation in NOAM provides unforgettable experiences and the opportunity for friendship while instilling leadership skills and Jewish values.

Each year, a NOAM group volunteers for community service, following high school graduation. They may work as coordinators in NOAM chapters, fulfilling requirements for national service in the IDF.

NOAM also supports IDF Nahal (Pioneer Fighting Youth) units, in which members combine army service with community outreach. Graduates are well integrated into all programs of the Masorti movement and are often instrumental in helping the movement grow.

NOAM is run by a dedicated staff of professionals and volunteers, based in Jerusalem under the director of Omer Pickholtz eleventh- and twelfth-grade NOAM members serve as counselors for the younger age groups, while members of Garinim (NOAM graduates) lead older NOAM groups.



## Find a NOAM Chapter

### JERUSALEM REGION

- **East Talpiot:** Kehillat Moreshet Avraham, 22 Rehov Adam
- **French Hill:** Frenkel School, 20 HaEtzel Street
- **Gilo:** Shevat Achim, Tali School (Vardinon Street)
- **Katamon:** Kagan Center, Rabi 6 Tazodk Street

### CENTRAL

- **Hod HaSharon:** Tali School, 4 Golomb Street
- **Modi'in:** Yachad School, 51 Arvei HaNachal Street
- **Ra'anana:** Meged School, 103 Achuza Street
- **Rehovot:** Kehillat Adat Shalom Emanuel, 6 Miller Street
- **Tel Aviv:** 4 Elazar HaChorani Street

### NORTHERN REGION

- **Haifa:** Kehillat Moriah, 7 Horev Street
- **Karmiel:** Kehillat Hakerem, Shizaf Street
- **Kibbutz Hanaton**
- **Moshav Shorashim**
- **Zichron Ya'akov:** Kehillat Ve'ahavta, Hashmura Street



## SOUTHERN REGION

- **Ashkelon:** Kehillat Netzach Yisrael, Givati St, Corner Harel Street
- **Beer Sheva:** Kehillat Eshel Avraham, 72 Sderot Yerushalyim
- **Eilat**
- **Kibbutz Ketura:** D.N. Hevel Eilat
- **Omer:** Kehillat Magen Avraham, Marganit Street

For more information go to [www.masorti.org/youth/noam.php](http://www.masorti.org/youth/noam.php)

### Contact Information

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## MAROM



MAROM is the Masorti Movement's organization for college-age students and young adults. It provides a bridge for young people, graduates of NOAM and other youth organizations who are not yet ready to join an established kehilla. Historically, some MAROM members have pursued rabbinic ordination, eventually serving in Masorti pulpits and other key positions of spiritual and communal leadership. MAROM provides a natural home for immigrants from North and Latin America, who are already well acquainted with Conservative Judaism

The goals and objectives of MAROM are: to provide a community for students and young adults of the Masorti movement; to spread the Masorti message of pluralism, openness and equality among this peer cohort; to promote volunteerism and the ethic of giving back to the community by organizing tikkun olam, social action, projects; to assist with immigrant absorption, especially of student olim; and to offer regional and national events on campuses and in other locations where young adults gather.

For more information, go to [www.masorti.org/youth/marom.php](http://www.masorti.org/youth/marom.php)

# Education

## TALI Schools



Jews in Israel are deeply divided along religious and secular fault-lines – a divide that tears at the fabric of Israeli society. For over sixty years, this division has been fostered by Israel's school system which operates only two educational streams: religious and secular.

The TALI (Hebrew acronym for enriched Jewish Studies) network of schools provides a pluralistic Jewish Studies program 40,000 schoolchildren in [188 public schools and pre-schools](#) throughout Israel.

TALI offers the middle-way in Israel for Jewish education, tradition and the awakening of Jewish identity by bringing Jewish learning to secular Israeli classrooms. Established in 1976, TALI has been sponsored since 1987 by the TALI Education Fund (TEF) which is an educational organization operated under the academic aegis of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, supported by Jews and Jewish communities around the world, and by the Israeli Ministry of Education.

The Mandate of TEF is to provide 2,200 TALI teachers with the tools and training needed to create a Jewish environment for their school community by promoting expansion of the TALI school system, providing regular on-site pedagogical counseling for teachers, and publishing textbooks for teachers and pupils. TEF also sponsors leadership training programs for teachers and principals, and conducts teacher room workshops at the schools. TEF places TALI rabbis in schools to enrich Jewish content and experience, builds Jewish libraries for all TALI schools, and subsidizes family workshops on Jewish prayer and values. The mandate also provides for building parental leadership in the schools.

Masorti olim chadishim with young children should consider sending their children to a TALI school. Before your pilot trip, it is possible to consult with representatives from the TALI Education Fund who will describe activities and the principles of TALI education as well as help guide you in choosing a

school for your children. Once in Israel, make an appointment to visit a TALI school and meet with teachers, parents and children of the schools to help you understand the educational underpinnings of the school with its unique emphasis on a pluralistic Jewish studies curriculum. TALI schools are located throughout Israel and a mission visit to a school can easily be coordinated in such places as Jerusalem, Ashkelon, Beersheva, Haifa and northern Krayot, Netanya, Hod Hasharon Ra'anana and more.

For more information, go to [www.schechter.edu/Page.aspx?ID=109925997](http://www.schechter.edu/Page.aspx?ID=109925997)

For specific information regarding schools in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and points south, please contact TALI Education Fund Southern regional director, Dr. Avi Lavsky at [lavsky@tali.org.il](mailto:lavsky@tali.org.il).

For specific information on schools in Israel's north (all points north of Tel Aviv), please contact TALI

## The Schechter Institutes

The mission of the Schechter Institutes is to help fashion an Israeli society and a Jewish world secure in its Jewish roots and strong in its democratic values. Our Jerusalem campus is home to the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies graduate schools, Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, TALI Education Fund and Midreshet Yerushalayim – programs for Russian speakers.



### Graduate School

The Schechter Institute Graduate School, the largest Jewish studies program of its kind in Israel, offers 14 innovative interdisciplinary M.A. degree programs, <http://www.schechter.edu/Page.aspx?ID=874462104>, in Jewish studies that are designed to train Israeli teachers as Jewish educators and sponsors center and research institutes of applied Jewish studies to serve Israeli society. Our newest program, Health Care Chaplaincy, is a specialization inaugurated at Schechter that combines certification in CPE (Clinical Pastoral Certification) with an M.A. degree from the Family and Community Studies track. The unique

program's objective is to further develop the nascent field of pastoral care and crisis intervention in Israel. With 1,100 graduates and over 600 students currently enrolled, the Schechter M.A. program has carved out a vital niche among Israeli academic institutions. The Schechter's M.A. program is set up to provide a broad, interdisciplinary background in Jewish studies, to be used by teachers in their classrooms, and educational leaders in community and governmental roles. Since a large percentage of the graduate students are educators, the knowledge they gain at Schechter has immediate impact on their work in the classroom on tens of thousands of pupils.

To enroll, go to the Schechter Graduate School Hebrew website at: <http://www.schechter.ac.il/> or contact Nira Golan at [academia@schechter.ac.il](mailto:academia@schechter.ac.il).



## **Schechter Rabbinical Seminary: Israeli Rabbinic Program**

Since 1988, the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary has ordained 82 Israeli rabbis who have taken their place as leaders in Israel and throughout the world. They are addressing growing educational and spiritual needs, as spiritual educators in Tali schools, in the advocacy of women's religious rights, in communities and Conservative congregations serving new immigrants and veteran Israelis, and in congregations abroad.

### **Mishlei**

In 2011, the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary launched a new Bet Midrash program - Mishlei. The new framework is now in its second year with 20 full-time students. The program combines study of Jewish sources with academic courses leading to an MA in Jewish Studies. Outstanding students will continue on for two years of full-time study culminating in rabbinic ordination. Full scholarships and stipends are available to those students who qualify for this second phase of study.

## **Legacy Heritage Rabbinic Fellowship Program**

The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary has taken the lead in spearheading a comprehensive plan to empower spiritual leadership in Israel. With the support of the Legacy Heritage Fund, the Seminary selects outstanding rabbinical students to become Rabbinic Fellows, committed to building new Masorti kehillot and Batei Midrash (Learning Centers) in Israel. The Program, which offers a three-year scholarship for rabbinic study and supplementary training, will prepare rabbinical students to enhance the quality of life in towns and cities throughout Israel, and provide a new model for developing Conservative or Masorti communities. The Rabbinic Fellows are involved in fieldwork in communities, schools and healthcare facilities, under professional supervision.

## **Chaplaincy Program**

Five years ago, Schechter pioneered the first accredited chaplaincy program in Israel with Cecil Asekoff, the National Association of Jewish Chaplains, and Rabbi Zahara Davidovich-Farkash, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and the generous support of the New York federation. To date, Schechter has conferred 19 certificates in Clinical Pastoral Education.

Students attended an intensive summer chaplaincy program which fieldwork with classroom lectures by Schechter faculty and guest lecturers. Students perform summer field work at the Asaf Harofe Hospital Oncology and Dialysis Departments in Rishon Lezion, at the Idan Haahav senior citizens home in Jerusalem and in the home hospice unit of Kupat Holim Leumit.

For further information, contact: [rabschool@schechter.org.il](mailto:rabschool@schechter.org.il) or go to [www.schechter.edu/](http://www.schechter.edu/)

## **The Shirley and Jacob Fuchsberg Center**

The Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center campus in downtown Jerusalem is the center of Conservative Jewish life in Israel for North Americans who visit and for those who make aliyah. The impressive campus includes a coeducational and egalitarian yeshiva; a Masorti egalitarian kehillah; residence halls for youth groups, students, and other visitors; two dining rooms; an auditorium; lecture halls, and an outdoor amphitheater. The campus bustles with seminars, continuing education programs, joint programming with the Masorti movement, cultural offerings, and social action programs. In addition, our staff assists in planning touring activities, bar and bat mitzvah celebrations and other events in Israel. Programs and activities at the Center provide study opportunities, guidance, fellowship, hospitality, and experiences for visitors that strengthen bonds and build bridges between Conservative Jews in North America and Israel. Many Nativ or Conservative Yeshiva students see their experience as a stepping stone to aliyah. For more information, go to [www.uscj.org.il/index.phpadd](http://www.uscj.org.il/index.phpadd) or email Rabbi Jerome Epstein at [epstein@uscj.org](mailto:epstein@uscj.org) or email Nahum Binder at [binder@uscj.org](mailto:binder@uscj.org). Check out the Fuchsberg Center on Facebook.

When you make your pilot trip, consider staying at the United Synagogue Alan Tichnor Residence Hall and Learning Center guest house on the Fuchsberg campus. The guest house is under the management of the Israel Youth Hostel Association and is located at 6 Agron Street, Jerusalem. For special rates, identify yourself as a United Synagogue member. For reservations and prices, email: [agron-rsv@iyha.org.il](mailto:agron-rsv@iyha.org.il) or call 972-2-594-5581, or send a fax to 972-2-622-1124.



## The Conservative Yeshiva

The Conservative Yeshiva of United Synagogue, founded in 1995, offers Jews of all backgrounds the skills for studying classical Jewish texts in a supportive and vibrant, open-minded, egalitarian community where students learn, practice, and grow together. Learning is *lishma* – for its own sake – without exams or papers. The study of traditional Jewish texts requires skills of language and methodology. The Yeshiva's goal is to give students both the skills for study and the desire to continue Jewish learning and practice throughout their lives. The curriculum focuses on classical Jewish subjects including: Talmud, Tanach, Midrash, halacha, and Jewish thought.

The Conservative Yeshiva Year program also includes shabbatonim, trips, guest lecturers, and interactions with Israeli society. The Conservative Yeshiva offers, semester and short-term options. The summer program offers the opportunity for intensive Hebrew and Jewish text study in a dynamic learning community. The new Volunteer and Study program offers the opportunity of giving back to the Jerusalem community by volunteering half-day with an Israeli non-profit organization, while also studying half-day at the Conservative Yeshiva. Beginning and advanced students are welcome.

For more information or to apply, go to [www.uscj.org](http://www.uscj.org)



## **Project Oded**

The Jack and Sue Becker Project Oded\_Continuing Education program provides quality continuing education enrichment opportunities for English speaking olim and United Synagogue visitors in an open, pluralistic and flexible framework. There are 10 weekly ongoing courses. Each class meets once a week for one and one-half hours. Classes are text oriented and on-going so that students may join us at any time during the year. The educational emphasis is based on Jewish literacy. Subjects include Tanach, Talmud, archaeology, history, philosophy, parsha hashavua, Hebrew for Hebrew speakers, field trips, and more. For a schedule or for more information, go to [www.uscj.org.il/oded.php](http://www.uscj.org.il/oded.php).

## **Monday Evening Forum**

The Monday Evening Forum offers a wide range of cultural presentations with guest lecturers throughout the year. Themes include art, politics, current events, Israel society, holidays and more. For a schedule or for more information call 02-625-6386.



## Bar/ Bat Mitzva For Children With Special Needs

This is the only national program working with 40 special education schools in Israel, touching almost 300 children each year. Since the program's inception, more than 3000 young Israelis and their families have celebrated this Jewish milestone in a way most never thought possible. The special needs program began in Holon and now it is a national program. They provide Jewish enrichment for youth and adults with autism, mental retardation, hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and other special needs. The Bar-Bat Mitzva experience provides children and their families with a sense of pride, joy and accomplishment at this Jewish crossroad. The learning process culminates in a bar/ bat mitzva ceremony attended by family and friends in one of Israel's Masorti synagogues. For more information about the program, contact Zivah Nativ at [zivah@masorti.org](mailto:zivah@masorti.org).



## Jerusalem Day Camp

An outstanding Israel summer experience for English-speaking children entering grades K-9. The campers are taken on outings in and around Jerusalem. When on campus they participate in a rich assortment of fun-filled activities: sports, arts and crafts, nature, music, drama, and swimming. Many of these are related to special themes which the campers explore each week. Age-appropriate informal educational activities are integrated into the camp program. Hebrew is introduced through songs and games. For more information, go to [www.campramah.org/content/jerusalemdaycamp.php](http://www.campramah.org/content/jerusalemdaycamp.php).



# Making Aliyah – The First Steps



Nefesh B'Nefesh provides new olim with employment resources, assistance with governmental absorption, community-based guidance and support and need-based financial aid in order to make each individual's aliyah as successful as possible. To begin your aliyah process, go to <http://www.nbn.org.il/aliyahpedia/getting-started.html>.

## Pre-Aliyah Guidance and Support

Nefesh B'Nefesh provides guidance through all stages of the aliyah process. People who are at the initial stages of aliyah planning can contact us with questions about applications, education and community options, assistance in planning pilot trips, information about Israeli citizenship and queries regarding Nefesh B'Nefesh financial aid and aliyah flights. In addition, staff members are regularly available for personal consultations in dozens of communities throughout the US, Canada and the UK. The call center is available during regular North American and UK business hours and maintains toll free phone numbers, providing maximal convenience for anyone with questions about aliyah.

## Post-Aliyah Assistance

Nefesh B'Nefesh provides olim with support in navigating the challenges that they may encounter as new immigrants. The Department of Social Services offers a range of services, including a buddy program and seminars, in communities all over Israel, and conducts one-on-one consultations both before and after making aliyah. Staff members reach out to olim throughout the first year of aliyah – and beyond – with the goal of helping each individual integrate smoothly and successfully into Israeli society.

## **Group and Charter Aliyah Flights and Expedited Processing**

For most Nefesh B’Nefesh olim, the highlight of the aliyah process is a Nefesh B’Nefesh charter flight; a specially commissioned EL AL flight in which the entire plane is reserved for olim. For those who can’t join a flight, olim also have the option of joining one of the group flights, which are regularly scheduled EL AL flights that have a reserved block of seats for olim.

Making aliyah together with hundreds of fellow olim not only provides an inspiring and emotional experience, but also facilitates more efficient government processing. In cooperation with the Ministries of the Interior and Immigrant Absorption, Nefesh B’Nefesh developed software to help streamline the aliyah process on board the aliyah flights via the use of PC tablets. For a listing of upcoming flights, go to <http://www.nbn.org.il/aliyahpedia/getting-started/aliyah-processing-a-flight-logistics/1082-upcoming-flights.html>

You can watch a Nefesh B’Nefesh charter flight arrival by clicking on this link: <http://inspire.nbn.org.il/multimedia/photo-gallery.html>

## **Employment**

Employment is a key consideration for most people who make aliyah. The Nefesh B’Nefesh employment department provides olim with assistance with the job hunt, offering information about retraining, business coaching, and matching olim with professional mentors after arrival in Israel. The employment staff conducts seminars for job seekers and is also available for personal consultations. For more information about employment opportunities in Israel, go to <http://www.nbn.org.il/aliyahpedia/employment-a-entrepreneurs.htm>.

## **Government Advocacy**

New olim are entitled to a broad range of government-sponsored Zechuyot, or financial benefits, upon their arrival in Israel. Individuals who have questions about benefits or need guidance with any other element of government absorption can contact the Nefesh B’Nefesh government advocacy department for assistance at: [advocacy@nbn.org.il](mailto:advocacy@nbn.org.il).

## **Financial Aid**

Nefesh B’Nefesh provides need-based financial aid to eligible aliyah candidates following submission of a detailed financial affidavit and supporting documentation (i.e., income tax returns and bank statements). All financial aid is vested after a three year period. Any aliyah candidate who emigrates from Israel within the designated three year period is obligated to return the financial aid to Nefesh B’Nefesh.

## NBN Events and Special Projects

Nefesh B’Nefesh offers a wide range of workshops, seminars and events throughout the year. The [NBN Events Calendar](#) contains over 100 informational and social events that run the gamut from employment seminars, integration workshops, tiyulim (hikes), singles events, “couples nights out” and more. Events take place in Israel, the US, Canada and the UK, in addition to the online webinars that are available from the comfort of your own home.

## Online Resources

The Nefesh B’Nefesh website is constantly updated with current information about the aliyah process, resources, useful information and related links. Nefesh B’Nefesh discussion groups use social media to allow applicants, newcomers and veteran olim to exchange advice, contacts and community information. To learn more about aliyah, visit the Nefesh B’Nefesh [Aliyahpedia](#). For a listing of online forums, see [NBN Online](#).



# Useful Links

AACI: The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel

<http://www.aaci.org.il/>

American Zionist Movement

<http://www.azm.org/>

IDF: Israel Defense Forces:

<http://www.idf.il/english/>

JNF: Jewish National Fund

<http://www.jnf.org/>

Kibbutz Ulpan

<http://www.kibbutzulpan.org/page.asp?ln=eng>

MASA: Israel Journey

<http://www.masaisrael.org/masa/english/>

Masorti Israel

<http://www.masorti.org/>

Mercaz Canada

<http://www.mercaz.ca/>

Mercaz USA

<http://www.mercazusa.org/>

Nefesh B'Nefesh

<http://www.nbn.org.il>

The Jewish Agency For Israel

<http://www.jafi.org.il/JewishAgency/English/Home/>

United Synagogue Israel Committee

[freedman@uscj.org](mailto:freedman@uscj.org)

World Zionist Organization

<http://www.en.wzo.org.il/home/P100.jsp>