

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020



Today, the challenges for Jewish youth are greater than ever—together we are helping pre-teens and teens to navigate these challenges and to flourish.

Dear Moving Traditions Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

For 15 years, with your support, Moving Traditions has been addressing the joys and challenges of Jewish pre-teens and teens.

Today, the challenges for youth are greater than ever—and anxiety rates are spiking. From growing pressure on academic achievement, to the unrelenting 24/7 cycle of social media, to the frightening rise of hate speech and violence rooted in anti-Semitism, racism, and sexism, youth need our help.

Fortunately, we as parents, communal leaders, clergy, educators, and concerned adults are helping Jewish pre-teens and teens to navigate this terrain and to flourish.

Investing in Jewish Youth

Moving Traditions invests in the Jewish community, partnering with synagogues, JCCs, camps and other institutions to help pre-teens and teens grow and thrive. As described more fully inside, Moving Traditions:

- **Connects Jewish wisdom to social-emotional learning and contemporary understandings of gender and identity** to help Jewish youth figure out who they are, develop a moral compass, and relate to others with compassion and respect.
- **Researches issues and creates resources imbued with our unique approach** to help pre-teens, teens and their parents explore and make meaning of the issues they care about most.
- **Trains clergy, Jewish educators, and other adult mentors** to facilitate open and honest conversations and transformative Jewish experiences.

Investing in Jewish Community

Our partner program fees cover only a small percentage of the cost of Moving Traditions' highly regarded resources. To make them more affordable, we rely on individuals, federations, and foundations who share our vision to help us reach more Jewish youth, clergy and educators.

Thank you for continuing to invest with Moving Traditions in Jewish communities across the country. Together, we will ensure that Jewish youth flourish by helping them become connected to themselves, their peers, and Jewish life.

With gratitude,

Hope Suttin, Chair

Deborah Meyer, Founder & CEO



Building A Pathway to Flourishing Jewish Teens

▶ Investing in Jewish Community



“Totally engaging, one of the best training sessions I have ever attended.”

Training Adults to Mentor Youth

Prepare clergy, Jewish educators, camp leaders, and other adults at synagogues, JCCs, overnight camps, and other institutions to create safe, immersive spaces so pre-teens and teens can connect and flourish.

▶ Camp Initiative

CultureShift

Prepare senior camp leaders to train counselors to prevent sexual harassment and assault and to promote a culture of safety, equity and respect at camp.

“Communicating boundaries is part of our job.”

▶ New Model of Family Education

The Moving Traditions B’nai Mitzvah Program

enables clergy and Jewish educators to help families navigate this life stage by addressing the joys and challenges of becoming and parenting a teen.

- Framing b’nai mitzvah as ‘becoming a teen’
- Fostering dialogue between parents and pre-teens
- Addressing the social-emotional needs of 6th and 7th graders

“The family session was a good opportunity to start having meaningful conversations with my daughter.”



▶ Helping Jewish Teens Grow

Moving Traditions Teen Groups

- Rosh Hodesh for teen girls
- Shevet for teen boys
- Tzelem for trans and nonbinary teens

We use Jewish teachings and a gender lens to help teens explore the issues they care about most—such as body image, social and academic pressure, and friendship, romance, and sexuality.

With new curricula, improved vetting and training of group leaders, and increased program fidelity by our partners, the results are stronger outcomes that help our teens flourish.



“It is a fun place to chill with my Jewish friends while learning about being a male teen in today’s world.”

Teen Outcomes Even Stronger

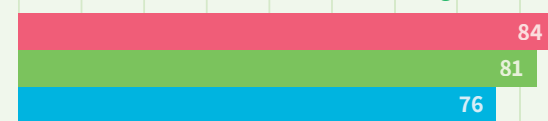
Prepared to Handle Stress and Tackle Problems



Aware of Gender Stereotypes and Inequality



Inspired to Speak Up for Social Change



Stronger Jewish Identity



0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Annual Year End Teen Evaluation Surveys conducted with Informing Change

2018-2019 2017-2018 2016-2017

▶ Kol Koleinu

Our national feminist fellowship for teens of all genders offered in partnership with NFTY, inspires participants to deepen knowledge, amplify their voices, exert leadership, and create tangible change.



“I was able to think more about my identity as a Jewish person and as a feminist, and am now able to express my ideas.”

Fellows Note Positive Change After Our Program:

More self-assured

More likely to feel confident teaching and leading peers.

More in-tune with their ideals

More likely to know the feminist issues that they care about most.

More empowered

More likely to speak up and work to change unfair circumstances in their lives.

Pre- and Post-Assessment Survey Data

Our Mission

Moving Traditions emboldens teens by fostering self-discovery, challenging sexism, and inspiring a commitment to Jewish life and learning.

National Impact

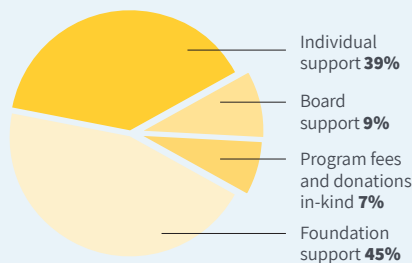
Together with our partners across North America, Moving Traditions is helping more Jewish pre-teens and teens grow into adulthood with confidence, compassion, and a lifelong commitment to Jewish community.

● Moving Traditions staffed cities ● Partners in other cities

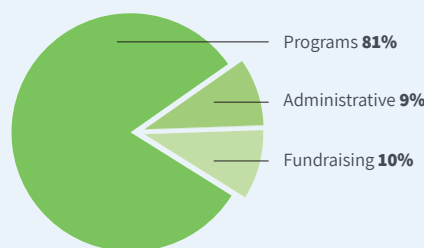


2018 Audited Financials

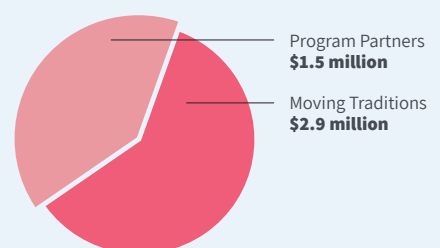
Sources of Income



Operating Expenditures



Leveraged \$4.4 million in Funds



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Contributors

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