

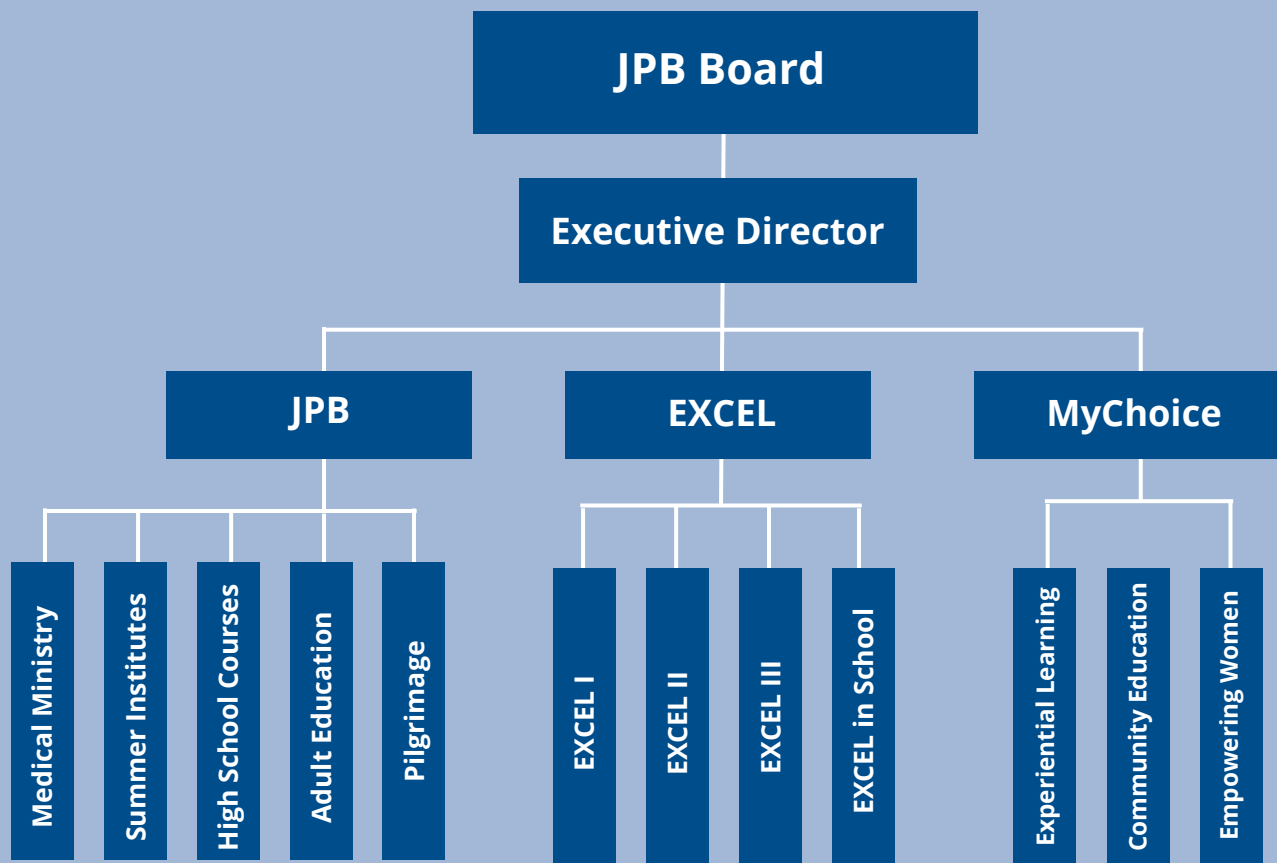
Jerusalem **Peacebuilders**

2023 Annual Report



Jerusalem שלום peace

Peacebuilders



In times of darkness in the Holy Land, the work of JPB offers sparks of light... Like lingering embers in a fireplace, given the right conditions and a little bit of oxygen these sparks can grow ablaze with light and energy. Every financial gift to JPB helps kindle these sparks, and our ongoing support represents much-needed oxygen... Our work today expands the possibility that the next generation will be ablaze with hope for a better tomorrow.

— Rabbi Steve Gross



A Message from Our Executive Director

2023 opened with hope -- and its autumn began with sound, fury, and fear. The Hamas attacks of October 7 plunged all the peoples of the Holy Lands into an unprecedented uncertainty.

Jerusalem Peacebuilders staff quickly devoted themselves to caring for JPB youth and adult participants with online dialogues, counseling, and learning sessions. This attention by the staff prevented the JPB family from rupture and chaos. While formal programming in the Holy Lands paused, demand for presentations on peacebuilding in the Middle East reignited in the United States.

In wartime and peacetime alike, JPB continues to invest in the future of the Holy Lands one leader at a time. Our programs impacted over 2,300 participants this year, with over 10,000 students impacted by our EXCEL alumni teachers.

It is only with the trust and support of our community that Jerusalem Peacebuilders could endure. JPB raised a record \$615,000 in 2023, receiving \$270,000 in December alone. Notable gifts included \$75,000 from the Spaulding Foundation, \$40,000 from the Lofberg Family Foundation, \$20,000 from the Wood Trust, and \$11,000 from Congregation Etz Hayim at Hollis Hills Bayside (Queens, NY). Over 40 new donors contributed to the Winter Appeal. JPB was also awarded three multi-year grants for \$150,000, \$100,000, and \$100,000.

This outpouring of generosity represents both a response to the horrific situation in the Holy Lands and an expression of the trust placed in our interfaith operations and mission.

Because of you, we forge on into 2024 with our path illuminated by the enduring lights of your support.



Peace, שלום, سلام,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas +". The signature is stylized and fluid.

The Rev. Canon Nicholas Porter
Executive Director
Jerusalem Peacebuilders

One Mission

Jerusalem Peacebuilders is a nonprofit organization with a mission to create a better future for humanity across religions, cultures, and nationalities. Integral to that mission is the belief that the future of Jerusalem is the future of the world. To that end, JPB facilitates transformational, person-to-person encounters among the peoples of Jerusalem, Israel, Palestine, and the United States. JPB's interfaith programs focus on connecting Jews, Christians, Muslims, Druze, and Alawi with one another and with opportunities, relationships, and skills they need to become future leaders for peace. Peace drives our mission and partnerships power our programs.

Twelve Team Members in 2023

Fr. Nicholas Porter
Executive Director

Zak Adileh
Jerusalem Area Co-Director

Areej Masoud
MyChoice Director

Deacon Jack Karn
Program Director

Sarah Benazerah
Senior Educator

Haig Kazazian
MyChoice Project Manager

Dr. Elias Farah
EXCEL Co-Director

Arielle Goodman
Educator

Mtr. Katie Kirk
Porter Fellow

Bonnie Rodriguez
Bookkeeper

Rana Khoury
Jerusalem Area Bookkeeper

Carolyn Diaz
Communications Intern



Ten Types of Transformational Experiences

1. In-School High School Programs in the Holy Lands: 10
2. In-School High School Programs in the United States: 2
3. Workshop Programs for Community Support: 7
4. Summer Youth Leadership Institutes in the United States: 2
5. Interfaith Youth Group in Houston: 3
6. EXCEL Teacher Training Institutes: 4
7. MyChoice: Women's Civic and Economic Empowerment Program: 1
8. Adult Lectures, Sermons, and Workshops: 38
9. Graduate Programs in the United States: 4
10. Pilgrimage/Educational Travel: 3

Total number of programs: 70

Total number of direct teaching hours: 1589

Total number of JPB participants directly impacted: 2329

Total number of students directly impacted by EXCEL teachers: 10,000



Jerusalem Peacebuilders...provides a hopeful path to peace by their core mission and programs. The youth program provides a generation of youth a safe space to develop their self-identities, understanding of each other, and communication and leadership skills... these programs touch thousands of lives.

— Dr. Danna Kurtin, JPB Board



Jerusalem  Peacebuilders



Summer Youth Institute Participants

2023: 40 participants in 2 programs (CT & TX)
2022: 68 participants in 4 programs (CT & TX)
2021: 65 participants in 3 programs (Holy Lands)
2020: 60 participants in 3 programs (online)
2019: 85 participants in 4 programs (CT, TX, VT)



My daughter has been back from camp for a week now and I can see how thankful she is for the experience she had. Every day she has a new memory to share with us. Thank you for the fruitful experiences you gave all the kids. Thank you for your commitment to keep the kids safe and secure.

— JPB Parent



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I am very proud of our children who express what they believe and what they have acquired during their participation in JPB camp, which brings hearts together and builds one and only one way to live: in peace.

— JPB Parent



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EXCEL Summer Teacher Training Institute Participants

In 2023, we doubled our pre-pandemic participation!

2023: 50 participants in 4 programs (Jerusalem (2), Nazareth, Cambridge University)

2022: 38 participants in 2 programs (Cambridge University and Jerusalem)

2021: 20 participants in 1 program (Jerusalem)

2020: program cancelled due to COVID-19

2019: 22 participants in 1 program (Cambridge University)

EXCEL Partners in 2023:

St. Catherine's College, Cambridge University

St. George's College, Jerusalem

Oranim Academic College of Education, Israel

Retorika for Multiculturalism, Israel

US Embassy, Israel



Crisis Impact

In October 2023 and beyond, our Holy Lands team built six programs for high school youth and educators to process their experiences in community, and often checked in with JPB participants daily.

Interfaith Impact

Our community includes Jews, Christians, Muslims, Druze, and Alawi, with great variation in how faith is observed and practiced.

Global Impact

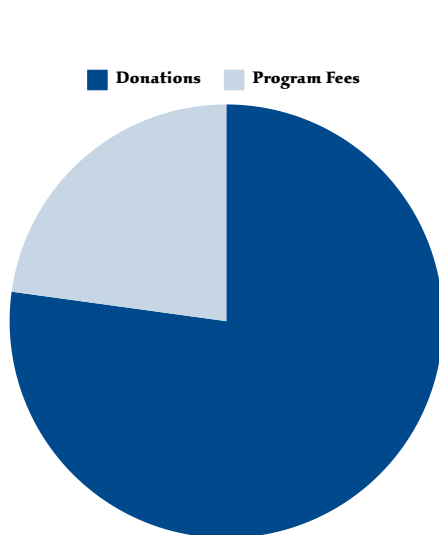
Holy Landers in our 2023 programs: 1,012

Americans and others: 1,396



2023 Financial Overview

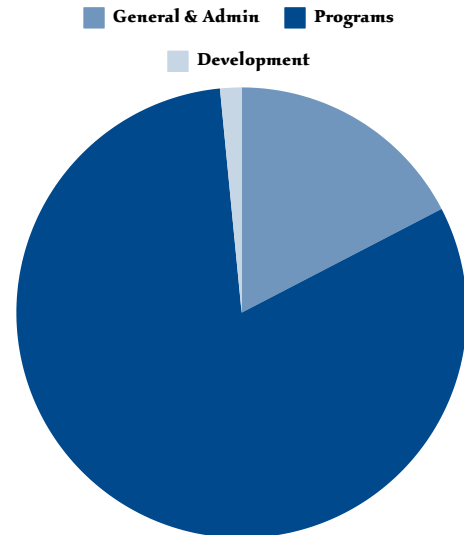
- The vast majority of JPB's support comes from individuals, family foundations, and worshipping communities.
- Income in 2023 exceeded expenses by \$166,415.06, to be used for investment in new programs, staff training, and growth in educational peacebuilding.



2023 Income: \$796,855.15

Donations: \$614,947.08 (77.2%)

Program Fees: \$181,908.07 (22.8%)

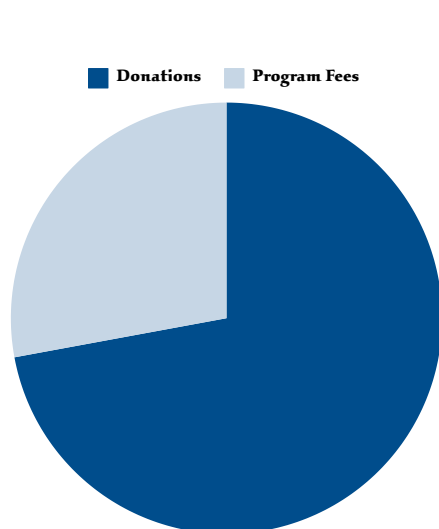


2023 Expenses: \$617,496.38

Programs: \$500,655.90 (81.1%)

General & Admin: \$107,345.11 (17.4%)

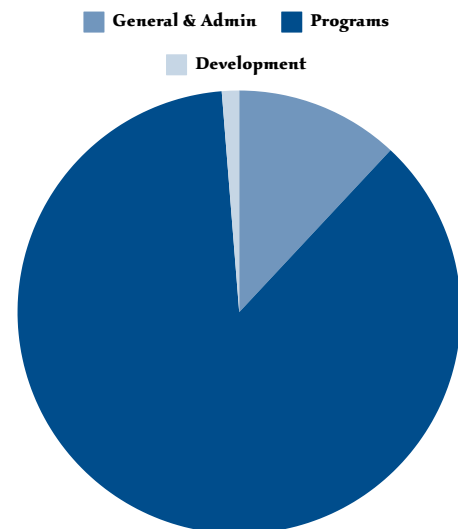
Development: \$9,495.37 (1.5%)



2022 Income: \$767,148.48

Donations: \$545,891.96 (72.1%)

Program Fees: \$211,277.15 (27.9%)



2022 Expenses: \$789,443.12

Programs: \$685,100.86 (86.8%)

General & Admin: \$94,398.38 (12%)

Development: \$9,944.08 (1.2%)

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Data

Our M&E data is prepared by Emily Brown, our special Monitoring and Evaluation Intern from Yale University. Emily has worked with us since Summer 2022.

EXCEL Data

According to robust participant surveys statistically analyzed by Emily, EXCEL showed substantial evidence of success, with results showing strong evidence of program success and aligning closely with program objectives. This year, Emily combined her findings on EXCEL I and EXCEL III, helping us understand participant growth across programs. Some of our strongest change took place in participants' confidence in their peacebuilding and communication skills, and understanding the concept of 'othering':

"I am confident in my general skills in peacebuilding and communication."

Statistically significant increase pre- and post- program in both EXCEL I and EXCEL III **and** between EXCEL I and EXCEL III respondents

"I understand the concept of 'othering' and how it applies to communication and collaboration between different groups."

Highly statistically significant increase pre- and post- program in both EXCEL I and EXCEL III

Other questions indicating distinct positive results for the program also reflect increased confidence, for example, "I have strong leadership skills," "I feel confident in my ability to communicate effectively within a diverse group," and "I feel confident when discussing peacebuilding and conflict analysis when talking to other peacebuilding educators."

Summer Institute Data

Summer Institute respondents changed their opinions significantly between the pre- and post-program surveys on a number of questions, with great implications for the success of these programs. They show significantly higher levels of engagement with and knowledge of different elements of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. They are much more likely to believe that their actions, as individuals and within their communities, are able to effectively make an impact on the conflict: the questions below are examples showing significant increases after students' time at Summer Institute.

"Peace between Israelis and Palestinians is possible in my lifetime."

"I am personally invested in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

"I sympathize with Palestinian Arabs."

"I sympathize with Israeli Jews."

"What I do helps building bridges between Israelis and Palestinians."

"What I do can play a part in removing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

We give thanks for our supporters.

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