



Uri Carmel

Words From Our CEO

At the end of a (short) trip to the USA where I met with new and old partners, I realized how important and critical the ideas of community resilience and coping are, both here in Israel in the face of the ongoing war and there in the US in the face of antisemitism that is flooding communities. Without a doubt, the state of emergency in which we find ourselves since October 7th only strengthened the fact that places where communities were organized succeeded and continue to succeed in dealing with this extended emergency period in a more effective way.

Neighbors' Day, which is happening tomorrow in hundreds of locations across the country, is an opportunity to celebrate with gratitude and togetherness our local communities, whose strength and resilience have proven to be so essential. In places where there exists difficulty in community organization, this can be an opportunity to be a catalyst and to strengthen the feeling of local togetherness. I warmly invite you to join, wherever you are in the world, to be part of this movement towards together - set up a table and break bread with your neighbors! It's that simple.

In continued doing and faith,  
Uri

## Being a Good Neighbor

Neighbors' Day 2024

In Hebrew, Neighbors' Day is actually called Neighbors' Holiday with an emphasis on celebrating good neighborliness and strong community connections. This year, though, it's hard to call it a holiday in any language, and it's hard to celebrate when our country and our people are going through such tragic times.

It is, however, important for us to preserve the tradition, one which we helped import to Israel from Europe some half a decade ago, so we're presenting to you Neighbors' Day 2024 - We're in This Together, happening mamash now in Israel! Traditions are important to our personal and collective resilience, and they remind us that there is also some stability and security amongst the chaos. Especially this year, it is clear to us that a good neighbor is a necessary element of our lives, and this day is wholly dedicated to strengthening these connections.

And we are over the moon at the amount of Neighbors' Day celebrations that are taking place all over Israel in partnership with EretzIr, the JDC, and Israel's Service for Community Work.



## Around the States & Back

EretzIr on the Road

Both Uri, our CEO, and Megan, our Director of Partnerships, are back in Israel after a whirlwind trip to the United States to meet with new and old friends alike. If you were among those we visited with, first, we'd love to say thank you. Your support, your interest, and your hospitality made this one of EretzIr's best trips to the United States!

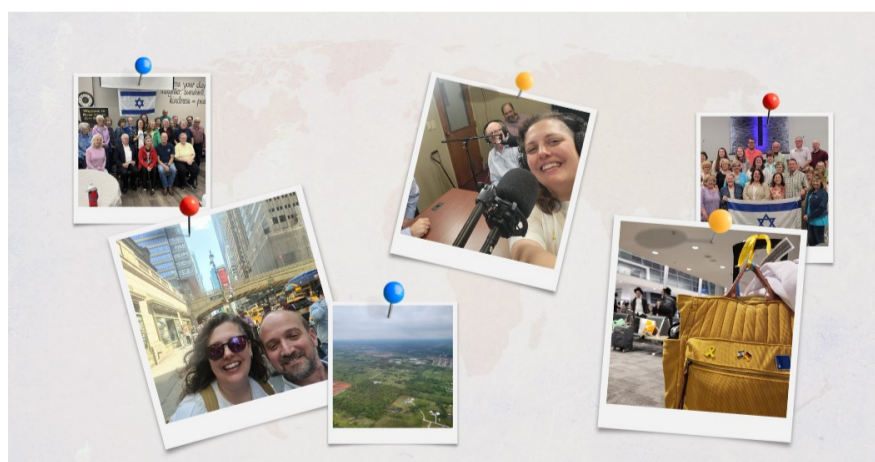
We find ourselves in challenging times in Israel and abroad, but we think that focusing on some of the good that is coming out of local communities and social entrepreneurs in Israel's periphery can remind us to search out those having a positive influence on the places that we live. And it's a source of hope.

So how to sum up the trip other than just saying, "Wow"? Here are some numbers: we met with 4 churches which hosted 7 different events, 2 Jewish communities, 3 civic organizations, 1 university, 1 mayor, 3 philanthropic foundations, and lots of private, one-on-one meetings - over 300 people learned about EretzIr in 6 different cities in 3 different states over the course of 15 days!

We can't wait to build on this connection. Please don't hesitate to be in touch. We miss you already!

See if you can spot yourself in our trip album on Facebook

Take a look



Eretz-Ir is a professional, organizational, and economic platform that enables and encourages the influence of residents on the space around them. We help active residents who want to create positive change in their environments to organize by helping them develop professional tools and meet like-minded partners, while increasing their sense of ability to create cities that are simply good to live in, specifically in Israel's periphery regions.

Help us continue to serve these champions  
of civil society and social action.

Donate Now!

