



נטע ובנה

As We Plant, So We Build for the Future

Seeding The Future A Campaign for Our Students



On college campuses across the country Hillel has a vision that Jewish students will make an enduring commitment to Jewish life, learning, and Israel.

We are the Jewish Voice for a campus community of over 50,000 and the home-away-from-home for over 1,500 Jewish students at Kent State University and the University of Akron. After graduation, seventy percent of our students continue to make Northeast Ohio their home.

Our mission

is to enrich the lives of Jewish undergraduate and graduate students so that they may enrich the Jewish people and the world.



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Planting Today to Flourish Tomorrow

Important questions have always been at the heart of the Jewish tradition. Hillel's namesake, Rabbi Hillel the elder, is most famous for asking: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? When I am for myself, what am I? **And if not now, when?**"

An anonymous donor, with a passion for students in Northeast Ohio, responded to the question – if not now when? With a \$2 million endowment challenge grant, we have an unprecedented opportunity to plant seeds for the future and create a \$4 million endowment. As an organization, our roots will grow deeper and be strengthened for many generations to come.

Help ensure a strong and enduring Jewish future, by making a legacy seed investment in our campaign *Seeding The Future*. The \$2 million endowment challenge grant coupled with an additional \$2 million from donors will ensure the Hillel program will continue to grow and transform – planting seeds of Jewish values in our students to enrich our communities, businesses and society.

Strengthening Our Roots: Hillel's Story

Hillel at Kent State University and the University of Akron has been planting and nurturing – providing programs to help students connect with their Jewish identity, build comradery, identify advocacy and leadership opportunities, and provide a sense of community. The Cohn Jewish Student Center is the foundation for Jewish life on campus offering social, cultural, spiritual and religious opportunities for everyone.

Hillel student leaders, professionals and lay leaders are dedicated to creating a pluralistic, welcoming and inclusive environment for Jewish college students, where they are encouraged to grow intellectually, spiritually and socially. Hillel helps students find a balance in being distinctively Jewish and universally human by encouraging them to pursue tzedek (social justice), tikkun olam (repairing the world) and Jewish learning, and to support Israel and global Jewish peoplehood. Hillel is committed to excellence, innovation, accountability and results.



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Sowing Seeds for the Future

We live in a time of rapid change! We believe the Jewish way of life can make a transformational impact – for the world, Israel, the United States, and in Northeast Ohio. Never before has it been more critical to support and strengthen a student’s Jewish heritage and develop tomorrow’s Jewish leaders, innovators, advocates, and community participants.

Join us now. Our campaign will give us the funds to enhance and sustain our current programming including:

- Shabbat dinners and services
- Jewish learning classes
- Achoti, our Jewish Women’s Group
- Social Justice programs and community service opportunities
- Recruitment for Birthright Israel trips and other immersive Israel experiences



The endowment will also allow us to create new and innovative programs to meet today’s needs – and provide the flexibility to adapt programming to changing needs in the future. These can include:

- Engaging a full-time **Rabbinic/Jewish educator** in order to cultivate the highest-level of Jewish learning and engagement
- Developing one-on-one **mentorship program** matching students with Jewish community members to cultivate leadership within the Jewish community and the Global community
- **Raising Israel awareness**, connectedness, and advocacy through a full-time Israel Advocacy staff person
- **Creating an incubator of Jewish life and learning** where students develop their own programs and pathways to deepen their personal and communal identities and connections
- **Developing Jewish social entrepreneurship programs** promoting social justice and inclusion



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Growing the Next Generation of Jewish Doers, Thinkers, & Leaders



The roots of a tree extend as far underground as its branches do above...ours do too. Rooted in what truly matters – investing in our Jewish young people, so they can invest in making the world better **for such a time as this**.

For such an opportunity as this... Be part of our **Seeding The Future Campaign** as we seek to raise \$2 million and match an additional \$2 million to ensure a legacy for generations to come.

