EDUCATION LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY

אור תורה סטון
OHR TORAH STONE



Ohr Torah Stone

THE GUIDING LIGHT CAMPAIGN

Jews all over the world are asking big questions.

ABOUT FAITH.

ABOUT SERVICE.

ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE A JEWISH STATE AND SUPPORT IT.

Throughout the Jewish world...

- **Teenagers are being pulled to the extremes.** Too few schools give students the skills to successfully blend Torah and the modern world together.
- **People and institutions need more rabbis and women Torah scholars** who are properly trained and prepared to answer today's *halakhic* and philosophical questions. They need more leaders to bring people together through our shared heritage, rising to challenges that are fracturing our society.
- **Communities across the social and religious spectrums lack the tools** to honor one another's differences and to engage with disagreement without breaking apart.
- **Individuals, couples, and families carry trauma that goes unaddressed** and profoundly affects their daily lives, goals, and dreams.

The Jewish people are feeling their way through the dark. What they need is a Guiding Light.





A Light For This Moment

There are moments when we need to think bigger. The world around us is changing so profoundly. The need for guidance, support, and leadership keeps growing. We need to grow, too.

The Jewish people are at an inflection point. They are searching for meaning greater than themselves. They want an inspiring Judaism, offered with warmth. Never forced. Always welcoming.

Around the world, Jewish students face unprecedented antisemitism on campus, often alone. And still, more of them wish to stand up proudly as Jews.

In Israel, our soldiers and their families carry a burden no generation should have to bear. Our young people want to see the unity on the battlefield translated into a more cohesive society. But first they need the space to heal and the tools to become effective leaders.

THIS IS OUR MOMENT.

For more than four decades, Ohr Torah Stone (OTS) has built institutions and programs that translate Torah into action and shape future leaders. We imbue thousands of teens and young adults with high-level academics and eternal Jewish values. We build Jewish unity and resilience in Israel. We strengthen communities abroad and bolster their bond with our eternal homeland: the State of Israel.

The Guiding Light Campaign will let us open our doors to more students, send more rabbis and teachers where they are needed, and stand beside more people who are struggling. Together, we can shape a Jewish future illuminated by Torah, strengthened by leadership, and grounded in responsibility for one another.

We invite you to become a Torchbearer. To carry the light of Torah forward with us.

With gratitude and hope,



Rabbi Dr. Kenneth Brander
President and Rosh HaYeshiva



Menachem Spitz
Chairman, Israel Board



Laurence Schreiber
Chairman, North America Board

Torah That Changes People.
People That Change The World.



EDUCATION

Be'eri Hershkovitz

Be'eri Hershkovitz was a student at our Neveh Shmuel Yeshiva High School, in Memory of Pinchas Samuel Ehrman when his father, Yossi, zt"l, a beloved school principal, fell in battle in November 2023. Be'eri still had papers to finish, exams to pass, and a dream of serving in an elite combat unit, and now he had to face it all without his dad. Our principals, teachers, and counselors stood by him and his family every step of the way until he graduated and embarked on the next step of his life's journey.

LEADERSHIP

Rabbanit Hila Naor

Rabbanit Hila Naor, a graduate of OTS's Susi Bradfield Women's Institute of Halakhic Leadership (WIHL), became the first woman to serve as a spiritual guide in an IDF combat unit. Until then, religious women in uniform had no female spiritual leader to help them navigate the complexities and challenges of army life while staying observant. Today, the role is expanding to meet the growing number of young religious women who want to share both the burden and the privilege of military service with their secular sisters.



COMMUNITY

Aviya and Ori Ezra

Aviya and Ori Ezra left Israel in the middle of the war, after Ori served 500 days of reserve duty, to serve as OTS Beren-Amiel educational emissaries in Toronto. The Jewish teens they work with are searching for their connection to Israel and their Jewish identity. The Ezras are there to help them find it.



RESPONSIBILITY

Helen Wexler

Helen Wexler had obtained a civil divorce in the United States, but her husband refused to give her a *get*, a Jewish divorce document, leaving her unable to ever remarry and rebuild her life. He had become violent, violated a restraining order, and fled to Israel. An advocate from OTS's Yad La'isha: The Monica Dennis Goldberg Legal Aid Center for Agunot took her case to the rabbinical courts, demanding a travel ban that kept him in the country until he gave the *get*. Helen is finally free.

Ohr Torah Stone has been lighting the way and transforming Jewish lives since its founding by Rabbi Shlomo Riskin in 1983.

The will is there. The proof is there.

With a track record of 33 programs and educational institutions already reaching hundreds of thousands of people, Ohr Torah Stone now has the chance to reach further than ever.

Across Israel and around the world, Jews are looking for spiritual opportunities, for meaningful connections, and for answers to the hardest questions of this moment. These stories represent what becomes possible when someone is there to engage, teach, guide, and stand beside them.

When you donate to our Guiding Light Campaign, you become that someone.

You become a Torchbearer.

Through these four core pillars, OTS is strengthening the Jewish people in Israel and throughout the world:

- EDUCATION
- LEADERSHIP
- COMMUNITY
- RESPONSIBILITY

Education





In an age of questions, we are expanding our campuses and curricula to inspire a new generation to learn, to think, and to bring Torah into every part of their lives.

OTS currently has some 5,000 students in 6 award-winning high schools around the country. All of the schools emphasize in-depth Torah study alongside academic excellence and communal responsibility.

Our campuses are bursting at the seams. Every year, we are turning away hundreds of families who want the same for their children.

Through the Guiding Light Campaign, OTS will:

- Expand our school network to improve Jewish education in the Galilee and the Golan.
- Build new high-tech science labs, libraries, *batei midrash*, dormitories, and faculty centers on campuses in Jerusalem, Gush Etzion, Lod, Carmiel, and the Lower Galilee.
- Equip state-of-the-art classrooms designed to stir a student's imagination.
- Transmit a curriculum that brings Torah into every part of modern life, so students learn to respect people who disagree with them without compromising on their own beliefs.

Leadership



We are training more rabbis and women scholars who speak to the modern world and can address contemporary issues, in Israel and across the globe.

Our 13 post-high school institutions instill Torah values and social responsibility in thousands of students every year. All of them go on to serve their country. Many of them have become IDF commanders, school principals, *halakhic* authorities, and members of Knesset.

In this challenging world, there is a desperate need for more men and women who can bring *halakhic* wisdom and guidance into modern life.

Through the Guiding Light Campaign, OTS will:

- Place more OTS-trained rabbis and female Torah scholars in communities and schools throughout Israel.
- Increase the number of female spiritual guides in the IDF from 2 to 20, thus expanding *halakhic* and emotional support to all religious women during their military service.
- Grow our *kollels* for Orthodox men and women, cultivating the next generation of *halakhic* authorities.
- Organize retreats for Orthodox rabbis and women Torah scholars, deepening their knowledge, skills, and leadership capabilities.



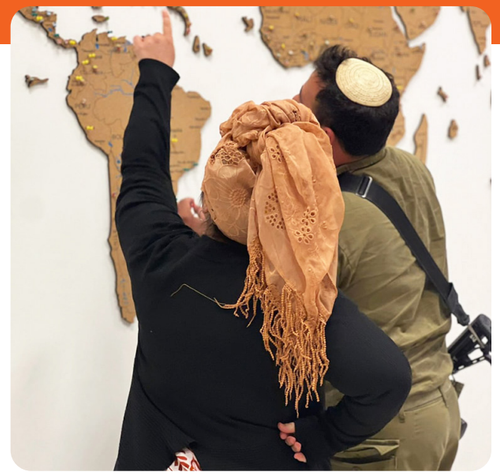
Taking Leadership to the Next Level

OTS is developing the next generation of leaders through the **Genet Institute for Leadership and Social Impact** at the **Robert M. Beren Center for Educational Leadership**, "Beit Ohr Torah" (now under construction). The Institute will run three programs: leadership for high-school students, training for OTS teachers and rabbis, and skill building for social entrepreneurs.

Community

We are uniting Jews of all backgrounds across Israel, pioneering solutions for ever-greater numbers of young religious women who wish to serve in the IDF, and expanding our global network of shlichim to strengthen Jewish communities around the world.

Recognizing the mosaic of Jews from different backgrounds in Israel as well as around the world, OTS has brought a warm, welcoming Judaism to hundreds of thousands of non-affiliated Jews, while strengthening the Israel-Diaspora bond.



In recent years, hatred and vilification of the Jewish state, as well as deep polarization within Israel itself, make the cry for unity and community more urgent than ever before.

Through the Guiding Light Campaign, OTS will:



- Continue to build bridges across Israel's religious and social spectrums by bringing spiritual and community leaders together and giving them the tools to navigate differences, find common ground, and strengthen their communities.
- Expand our emissary program aimed at strengthening Torah and Jewish life in communities and on campuses around the world by raising the number of trained *shlichim* from 320 to 500.
- Increase the number of gender-segregated units and support for religious women in the IDF.
- Provide greater support to families of reserve soldiers.

Responsibility

We are taking Torah values out of the beit midrash and into the world, freeing agunot, championing inclusion, welcoming converts, building trust with other faiths, and healing trauma.

For four decades, Ohr Torah Stone has created a network of programs that offer a new horizon for our most vulnerable populations, including *agunot* – women trapped in unwanted and abusive marriages; young adults with special needs desperate to spend a year in Israel, just like their siblings and peers; and hundreds of children, soldiers, and faculty deeply traumatized by the horrors of October 7 and ensuing war.



While the need for these programs snowballs, our resources can only stretch so far.

Through the Guiding Light Campaign, OTS will:

- Offer every OTS family member who lost a parent, a child, a sibling, a friend, or a student the emotional therapy and practical support they need to heal.
- Train greater numbers of *toanot rabbaniyot* (female rabbinical court advocates) to fight until every *agunah* receives her *get*, and provide the guidance and resources to help her rebuild her shattered life.
- Deepen interfaith dialogue through fellowships, shared learning, and international exchanges, building meaningful relationships with moderate Abrahamic faith leaders committed to listening, engaging, and working together against the weaponization of religion.
- Expand the only Modern Orthodox year-in-Israel experience program designed specifically for young men and women with special needs.
- Make our heritage and sacred texts accessible to every Jew, including those in relationships with non-Jewish partners, through classes and personalized support that can lead toward *halakhic* conversion.
- Provide critical mental-health support to students, kollel families, alumni, and faculty who continue to carry the trauma of years of terror and war.

Where your gift goes:



EDUCATION · 40%

$40M

New campuses, classrooms, *batei midrash*, and dormitories

LEADERSHIP · 20%

$20M

Rabbis and female Torah scholars, leadership training programs

COMMUNITY · 20%

$20M

Cross-community initiatives, support of IDF soldiers, rabbinical and educational emissaries to Diaspora communities

RESPONSIBILITY · 20%

$20M

Assistance for agunot, conversion classes, mental health support, inclusion programs

Education. Leadership. Community. Responsibility.

Through these four core pillars, OTS is strengthening the Jewish people in Israel and throughout the world.

> THIS IS WHAT A GUIDING LIGHT LOOKS LIKE. IT SHINES ON WORLD JEWRY'S MOST CRITICAL ISSUES: EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY, AND RESPONSIBILITY.

Join Ohr Torah Stone in its most ambitious campaign ever.

> WHEN YOU GIVE TO OUR GUIDING LIGHT CAMPAIGN, YOU'RE CHOOSING TO SHAPE LEADERS, NURTURE COMMUNITIES, AND BUILD INSTITUTIONS THAT WORLD JEWRY NEEDS TODAY.

When you become a Torchbearer...

- **You will provide** students and soldiers with Torah values and guidance.
- **You will build** a cadre of contemporary rabbis, female spiritual guides, educators, and lay leaders.
- **You will transform** communities around Israel and around the world.
- **You will ensure** that those who are often overlooked are empowered to move forward.

The end result?

A Jewish people that can face any hurdle with strength, unity, and optimism, and with the leaders and institutions needed to meet the challenges of today, thus ensuring a brighter tomorrow.

Guiding Light
OHR TORAH STONE

Your gift carries the light of Torah further. Into more classrooms. Into more communities. Into more lives. That is what it means to become a Torchbearer.

אור תורה סטון
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Join Us.
Become a Torchbearer.

Help us be the Guiding Light for Am Yisrael

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