



BASADEH: GROWTORAH ANNUAL FIELD REPORT - 2022

FEB 15, 2023 - 24 SHVAT 5783

Introduction	- 2
School Gardens	- 3
Workshops	- 4
The Inchwormship	- 5
Camp GrowTorah	- 6
Strategic Plan	- 7
Financials	- 8





INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the first Basadeh Annual Field Report, a collection of our first full year of quarterly field reports, where we shared highlights every 3 months. With this annual report, we want to invite you as our stakeholders—our Family—to celebrate the impact of your partnership with us.

Our mission is to cultivate a more passionate, compassionate, and sustainable future driven by Torah values. We do this through nature-based experiential and environmental Torah programming for Jewish institutions across the USA.

Your support enables us to turn this mission into action. Below is an overview of our 4 major program areas.

GARDEN PARTNERS:

26 schools & camps
1200+ classes
3200+ students



CAMP GROWTORAH

118 campers
45% on scholarship
2x 2021 camp size



WORKSHOPS

28 partner orgs
2917 students
5 states



INCHWORMSHIP

9 Inchworms
1000+ hours worked
5 gardens built



On the following pages, we dig deeper into each with more details on each of the above program offerings.

This was also the first year into our strategic plan, working with our dear friend and consultant Stephen Markowitz, so we will share progress and lessons from that process as well. We close this report with an overview of our financial model to keep you best informed.

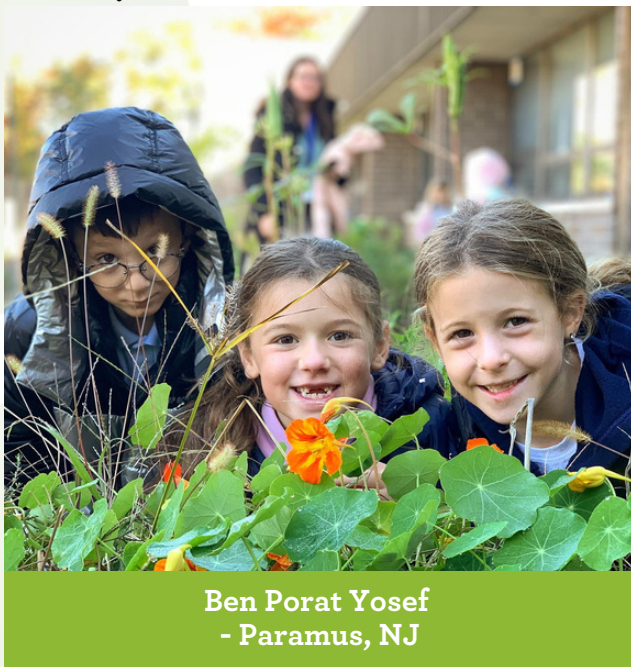
SCHOOL GARDENS



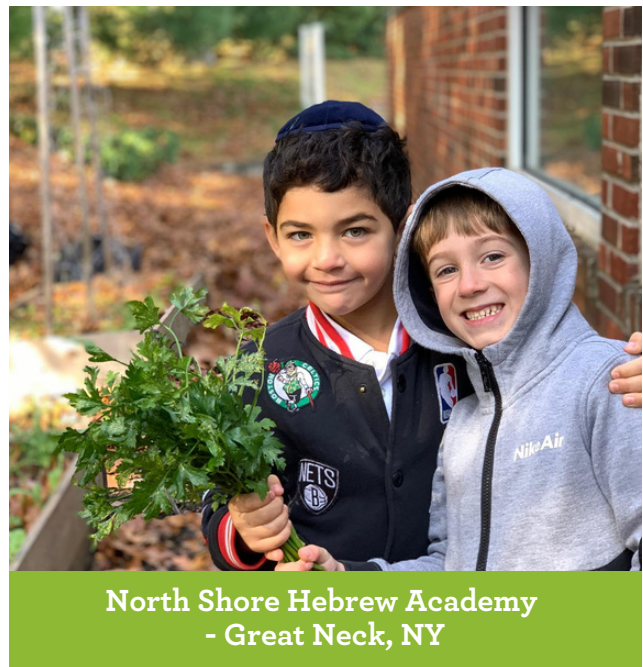
SHORASHIM IN THE NYC REGION

Our Shorashim partner garden programs are thriving under the guidance of our GrowTorah full-time educators. At each Shorashim site, we visit weekly in the Spring and Fall to teach lessons about the weekly parsha and upcoming chagim, anchored in garden activities.

In 2022 we were fortunate to partner with 14 schools in the NYC metro region: Barkai Yeshivah, Ben Porat Yosef, Yeshivah of Flatbush, The Frisch School, Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy, The Kaplen JCC On The Palisades, The Leffell School, Lev Chana - HALB, Mercaz Academy, The Moriah School, North Shore Hebrew Academy, SAR Academy, SAR Academy ELC, Yavneh Academy



Ben Porat Yosef
- Paramus, NJ



North Shore Hebrew Academy
- Great Neck, NY

ANAFIM ACROSS THE USA

In July 2022 we held our 2nd annual Anafim Training Seminar for all of the educators enrolled in our Anafim partnership. We welcomed participants from new schools to the cohort*, and returning educators shared their valuable experience and perspective with our newcomers while also gaining new skills.

Throughout the year, our Anafim educators gather monthly for continual cohort-wide professional development workshops. In addition, they meet 1-1 with our team biweekly for support and coaching on their GrowTorah garden program.

Each school customizes their program to fit their community and we are honored to partner with 9 schools: Akiba Yavneh Academy (Dallas, TX), Berman Hebrew Academy (Silver Spring, MD); Geshur Day School (Fairfax, VA); Hebrew Academy of the Five Towns of Rockaway - HAFTR (Lawrence, NY); Hebrew Academy of Nassau County - HANC (West Hempstead, NY); Hillel Torah (Skokie, IL); Ohr Hatorah (Atlanta, GA); Westchester Day School (Westchester, NY); and Yeshiva Har Torah (Queens, NY).

SHMITA WORKSHOPS



30 WORKSHOPS FOR 2917 PARTICIPANTS

27 different organizations hosted us for 30 events from planting microgreens, to making pickles, to a guided nature walk on Shabbos. Each workshop taught about the meaning behind Shmita, as well as the value of "L'ovdah ul'shomra" working and protecting this beautiful Earth that Hashem has blessed us with.

We traveled to many cities in 5 different states to create these programs including Atlanta, GA, Cleveland, Ohio, Honesdale, PA, New York, and New Jersey.



Camp Moshava IO - Honesdale, PA



Yeshiva University - New York, NY

"Grow Torah ran a rich and experiential educational program steeped in Torah for our students and their grandparents. It's not easy engaging such a large group of participants--especially considering they ranged in ages from 5-95 years old! Each participant left with more knowledge surrounding Shmita and a beautiful microgreens plant that they were tasked with growing!"

—Allison Rubin, Director of Development, Manhattan Day School

"By getting their hands dirty on a Shemittah project, our students actively engaged with the Torah that they learn in our Beis Medrash, and actually live it. The GrowTorah team are engaged, flexible, and professional - great partners for any organization to do amazing things with!"

—Alan Silverman, Director, Camp Moshava IO

"Yosef Gillers and Grow Torah are truly great additions to our program. Yosef and staff engage children, adults and all participants experientially in such a thoughtful and creative way that their activities are super popular during precamp weekends and during camp itself. Yosef orients our camping staff and enables and facilitates the planning and later implementation of truly high quality, meaningful and exciting outdoor learning programs."

—Rabbi Herschel Hartz, Yeshiva University

THE INCHWORMSHIP



9 INTERNS WORKED 1000+ HOURS

The GrowTorah Inchwormship is our summer internship program for college-age students. Some Inchworms work remotely on various projects for GrowTorah, from curriculum development to website management, while others join for in-person work days at various collaborating organizations. In 2022 we partnered with the Orthodox Union Impact Accelerator's internship program to leverage the resources of the OU for our Inchworms, and to strengthen connections between our organizations.

On June 28, the GrowTorah Inchwormship joined the Teaneck Garden Club to clear invasive weeds from an area to make space for a new initiative to build a reading garden. This project was funded in part by a grant from the Association of NJ Environmental Commissions. On June 30, Inchworms joined Yisroel Bass at the Yiddish Farm in Goshen, NY to help prepare the farm for the wheat harvest. Because their wheat is used for Shmura Matzo, our team spent the day giving the combine, barn and wheat-drying facility a deep clean, to ensure that next year's matzo would be fully kosher.

We cherish our relationships with these local organizations, helping to strengthen the network of nature-based organizations in our local region.



To honor the memory of Rabbi Joseph Friedman, his family has created the Rabbi Joseph Friedman Z"l Tzaar Baalei Chayim Initiative to teach about this special mitzvah in all GrowTorah programs, and in particular the Inchwormship. We are privileged to carry on his compassionate legacy with this initiative.

CAMP GROWTORAH



118 JUNIOR FARMERS (CAMPERS) AT CAMP GROWTORAH

We spent a gorgeous 2 weeks on the farm for the two sessions of Camp GrowTorah 2022. This year's theme was Shmita, and each day we explored a different element of the mitzvah. Specifically, we learned about how Shmita affects the land, the animals, the needy among us, and of course, our relationship with Hashem. We did this through nature exploration, arts & crafts, and farm chores in both the children's educational garden and in the farm's active production fields.

UNIQUE SCHOLARSHIP MODEL

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Mina Gillers Memorial Fund, Camp GrowTorah is available on a sliding scale. In 2022, 45% of campers made use of these funds to attend camp.



WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT CAMP GROWTORAH?

"My child had a wonderful week, was engaged and happy, learned and enjoyed the activities...it was a 10/10."

"This is the place for each child to be and reconnect. We love being part of this as a family! Can't wait for more opportunities. Great job"

"Love love love how you imbue torah into nature; also such great activities & art projects. "

STRATEGIC PLAN



PROCESS:

We are at a pivotal moment in our organizational growth, poised for significant impact. In order to do that responsibly, we devised a strategic plan to help us work in our zone of genius while staying true to our mission. In developing this strategic plan, we interviewed board members, school principals and other key stakeholders. Since 2016 we have been collecting data from our partner institutions, and our success in implementing this plan will be supported by the continued tracking and evaluation of our programs.

2022-2024 CORE PRIORITIES:

1. PEDAGOGY: Investing in and refining our pedagogical approach.
2. AGENCY: Creating organizational and individual agents of change.
3. EXPERTISE: Training and supporting educators who model excellence
4. CAPACITY: Strengthening our systems, policies, and infrastructure



THE WORKPLAN:

From these 4 core priorities, we created pillars to support each, and then we fit our projects within the pillars. In total, our team managed 95 projects, and we were able to accomplish 85% of our goals for 2022, moving steadily along bringing our strategic plan into action.

Once we finished assessing our 2022 progress, we gleaned lessons from our pitfalls and adjusted goals for 2023. We will continue to track and learn as we grow.



HAKARAT HATOV

We have been working with Markowitz Consulting for over 15 months to create this plan, track our progress, and make the necessary tweaks. The most valuable gift he has given us is the opportunity to learn from our mistakes. Thank you Stephen!

FINANCIALS

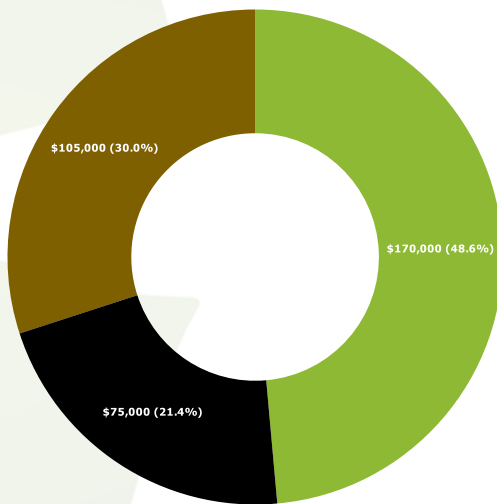


BALANCED REVENUE MODEL

The importance of operating with a diversified financial model has been a guiding principle since GrowTorah's founding. We are proud of how we balance individual donations, foundation grants, and program revenue. This enables us to be equally accountable to all our stakeholders, and creates a more balanced and stable financial backing for our organization.

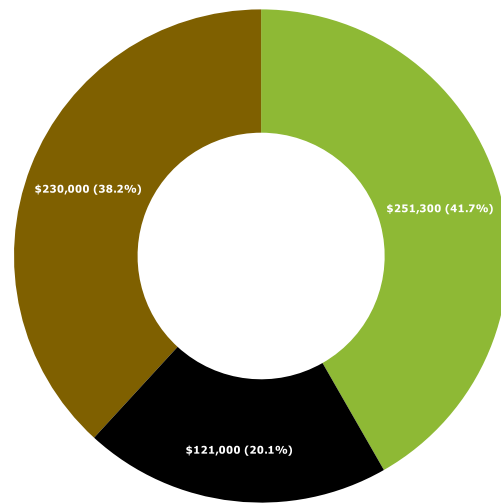
2021 REVENUE: \$350,000

- Program Revenue: 48.6%
- Grants: 30%
- Donations: 21.4%



2022 REVENUE: \$602,300

- Program Revenue: 41.7%
- Grants: 38.2%
- Donations: 20.1%



SUPPORT OUR CONTINUED GROWTH

On our website we welcome you to dedicate your gift in honor or memory of a loved one, and we encourage you to direct your support to a programmatic area you feel most passionate about.

To streamline the process and maximize the impact of your gift, we now accept DAF payments through Chariot, eliminating paper waste and processing time.

www.growtorah.org/donate



GrowTorah
EIN: 82-3282925
www.growtorah.org
yosef@growtorah.org
282 Elm Ave, Teaneck, NJ, 0766