



**SHEVET
GLAUBACH
FELLOWS**
Inspiring The Next Generation

SEPTEMBER 2023

Shana Tova!

From the Shevet Glaubach Fellows

SHEVET GLAUBACH FELLOWS REFLECT ON THEIR SUMMERS

As the summer comes to an end and Rosh Hashanah approaches, we take a look back at the transformative experiences Fellows have had this year along with incredible stories from this summer.

Throughout the summer, our Shevet Glaubach Fellows have been actively maintaining and forming new relationships with teens from across the country. They've carried forward the leadership skills honed and the profound relationships forged during their engagement as members of the Shevet throughout the academic year in their

hometowns, as well as abroad, as Fellows have planned for, led, and directed summer programming.

As we reunite to begin the 2023-2024 cohort, we are inspired by the strength of the relationships nurtured and the shared growth achieved during the summer programs. From crafting and exchanging thought-provoking Torah content, to cultivating deep connections with their teens and other Fellows, our SGF community is blessed with a wealth of experiences to draw upon in the coming year.

With the reflections of Elul inspiring us and the promise of new year's growth, Fellows

are ready to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. Together with their communities, they are primed to embark on a journey of personal and Torah growth.

We are so grateful to the Glaubach Family for creating the programming and the relationships made possible through the Shevet Glaubach Fellowship. The opportunities that Fellows have had as a result of being a part of the Shevet would not have been possible without your help. May this upcoming year be full of simcha, mazal, health, and continued nachas.

SGF SPOTLIGHT ON

TJJ FROM A FELLOW'S PERSPECTIVE

BY: SECOND YEAR FELLOW, SARAH LEIDERMAN,
SOUTHERN FROM CEDARHURST, NY



This past summer I had the privilege of being an advisor on TJJ Southern, an undeniably life changing experience. On TJJ we explored our lineage and learned about our history through traveling from the top to the bottom of Israel. Not only did we learn the geography, but we learned about what it means to be the Jewish nation. The teens had a chance to delve into themselves and reflect not only on what it means to be a Jew, but how they want to act upon that. TJJ offered numerous opportunities to connect with those who have similar values, and gave way to establish relationships with peers and advisors that will hopefully last lifetimes. TJJ was just the beginning of a journey, one that allows young growth oriented teens to learn more about themselves and their Jewish identities.

None of this could have been possible without the Shevet Gloubach Fellowship. In the beginning of 2022 I would never have imagined being where I am today. Being involved in NCSY community based shabbatons, attending regional shabbatons and creating unbelievable relationships with teens was only possible because of this fellowship. It allowed me the opportunity to meet individuals from backgrounds both similar and different to mine, and allowed me to help to inspire and connect with the younger generations. I am so grateful this fellowship has given me the opportunity to expand my own network and to be involved in NCSY.

To highlight the impact TJJ has the ability to make, I wanted to share some stories and experiences from this past summer. There was one boy who had come on TJJ not even knowing the words shema yisroel, and has

left TJJ wrapping tefillin on the daily. Several teens had committed to keeping shabbos while on TJJ, and expressed the gratitude they had to be given the opportunity to see the beauty of shabbos and to be able to keep it for the first time in their lives. I watched teens step out of their comfort zones and connect to those they could never have imagined connecting to. But most importantly, I watched teens develop their sense of Jewish identity, and understand their importance and their ability to become leaders in their own communities. Not only did they learn about what it means to be a Jew, but they developed the tools and skill sets to give what they've learned over to others.



FROM SHEVET GLAUBACH FELLOW TO BUS HEAD

BY: THIRD YEAR FELLOW, SHALOM BRAUSER

FROM HOLLYWOOD, FL



This summer I had the great privilege to work as a Bus Head on NCSY Next Step. Although it may be lesser known, Next Step is a fast-growing, exciting program that I've seen grow from 70 teens my first summer three years ago to 119 this summer. We bring together teens of diverse backgrounds from all across the country. Some go to Jewish Day Schools, some to Community schools, and some to Public Schools. But everyone comes for the same purpose: to experience the Land of Israel in depth, by spending two and a half weeks of their summer doing internships in Jerusalem. Along with fun trips, deep learning, and inspiring Shabbosim, teens get to work in a variety of fascinating fields at the cutting edge of the startup nation, in biotech, medicine, robotics and many other areas.

Working on Next Step means meeting incredibly motivated teens, driven by

an image of what they want their future to be and committed to working towards it. As a Shevet Glaubach Fellow, I had the experiences and tools I needed to successfully come into this role, and was privileged to help them understand and shape their connection to Am Yisrael, Torat Yisrael, and Eretz Yisrael. They get to see Israel up close, seeing Jews engaged in meaningful work in the Land of Israel. They want to know: What's it all for? What does it mean? And what is my part in it?

I could talk about countless inspirational moments. The passionate singing and dancing at Kabbalas Shabbos and Tisches, the insightful questions about Judaism from every teen, the tears at Kever Rachel and the efforts to keep a first Shabbos, that unquenchable desire to learn more and connect. Even as I write this, dozens of teens are eagerly signing up for post summer learning.

Ashreinu.

But one of the most powerful moments for me this summer was at the Kotel. Our amazing director, Rabbi Jacob Bernstein, gave an impassioned speech to the whole program as we stood huddled in the Kotel plaza. Teens who had never seen the Kotel before stood next to those who were used to the site, and yet for each it was a brand new, moving experience. When we split up into chaburas at the Kotel, I asked my chabura, who sat there pensively "What would you tell your grandchildren, if you could speak to them now?" Their answers blew me away. "Don't break the chain," "Keep up the traditions," "Don't forget where you came from," "Be a proud Jew." I applauded all their answers, and turned to them and said "Don't wait to tell your grandkids. Live like that, starting today. Be the ancestors your grandkids deserve." With that, we walked shoulder to shoulder to the Kotel, cried together, and davened our hearts out together. That's NCSY Summer.

SGF SPOTLIGHT ON

SUMMER CHAVRUSA

BY: SECOND YEAR FELLOW,
AHAVA SHEER, WEST COAST
FROM PASSAIC, NJ

When Shevet Glabuch announced the summer learning program featuring Rabbi Jonathan Sack's book, "Judaism's Life Changing Ideas", I got in touch with a Norcal NCSYer to



inquire if she'd be interested in studying together over the summer. This teen participated in TJJ Action last summer and has always been connected to her Judaism and her spiritual growth. However, with time passing and life getting busier, like many NCSYers, she didn't feel a strong connection. When I asked her to learn, her initial response was apprehensive as she couldn't believe that she could possibly make time to meet with an advisor given her jam-packed summer schedule. I persisted and she finally agreed to learn once a week for 10 minutes.

During the first week we set up a call to learn, she rang while she was out and about and didn't have much time to spare. We began discussing the purpose of dedicating time to study during the summer and introduced who Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks was. By the end of the call, she agreed to schedule another call at the same time the following week. After each call throughout the summer, the ncsyer became more and more engrossed in what the book had to convey about the weekly parasha. It reached a point where she requested that we study twice a week for half an hour instead of just 10 minutes. She initiated the first call while she was out, and now she ensures that she's at home and in a quiet place to learn.

SGF INTERNSHIP

ZIPPY WILSON FROM SAN DIEGO, CA

SECOND YEAR FELLOW, SOUTHERN



This past semester I had the unbelievable opportunity, through Shevet Glabach, to intern for the 18Forty podcast. What I initially thought would be a regular editing position, blossomed into the opportunity of a lifetime. I had the privilege to work with 18Forty editor Sruli Fruchter on generating new and unique content for their Instagram page. Although daunting at first, I quickly developed the necessary video editing skills and production capabilities needed for my new role. I learned a vast amount about digital marketing as I explored the opportunities available through social media content development. As time passed I grew into my new position and slowly the 18Forty team became like a family and my internship became my creative outlet amidst my hectic and often stressful collegiate life.

In addition, the 18Forty internship provided me with the opportunity to

develop my professional skills. Through my internship I developed professional relationships with pillars of the Jewish community whom I am confident will remain mentors to me as I begin to further my career and education. My role in 18Forty allowed me to explore several different significant topics, issues, and pressing matters pertaining to the Jewish community at large, enabling me to be a more educated and sensitive member of our community. The most valuable skill I learned from my coworkers and mentors was the importance of attention to detail. With every role or task they were given they executed it with an incredible amount of sensitivity and specificity. It amazed me how much thought and care went into even the early stages of every single project I collaborated with them on. The acute focus on even the smallest of details is a skill I definitely strived to incorporate into my work ethic. I am eternally grateful to the entire 18Forty Team and Shevet Glabach for this unparalleled opportunity to develop my professional skills and create connections that I know will last a lifetime.

This summer learning initiative is crucial for numerous teens like her. Navigating high school and embarking on a spiritual journey can pose challenges. Initiatives like these assist teenagers in preserving and nurturing their connection to HaShem

and Judaism during the long summer days when a spiritual connection can be hard to come by. As summer draws to a close, we are committed to continuing our chavrusa beyond the summer and into the school year.

SGF SPOTLIGHT ON

INTERNSHIP WITH 18FORTY

BY: SECOND YEAR FELLOW, BRANDON MELAMED,
NORCAL FROM JACKSONVILLE, FL



This past spring semester I had the privilege to intern for 18Forty through the Shevet Glaubach Fellowship. 18Forty is a community-renowned Jewish media company hosted by Rabbi David Bashevkin, who is also an author, speaker, and the Director of Education of NCSY. 18Forty explores hot topics of the Jewish community by engaging with its diverse members in podcasts and other forms of media “reframing Jewish values for a modern world” and “balancing modern sensibilities with traditional sensitivities to give you new approaches to timeless Jewish ideas.”

This five-month process was a great experience and tremendous learning opportunity, on both a personal and a professional level. I have a passion for being involved in Jewish communal work and find deep meaning from it, so this opportunity in general was very appropriate to my liking. However, I’m more familiar with being an NCSY Advisor, a madrich (counselor) on various Jewish summer trips and programs for middle

schoolers, high schoolers, and college students, and working on other minor projects. This expanded my horizons within the Jewish non-profit world and allowed me to explore opportunities on a more professional level and from a business, big-picture mindset as opposed to just a personal one. I’ve thought about wanting to work for a Jewish organization on a professional level in some capacity for a while, and this introduction was very much what I needed. It opened my eyes to see that this is something I can explore on a deeper level in a very real way, and not just keeping it in my head as a thought.

Additionally, working consistently and cohesively with a global team where each member contains a different skill set was a valuable opportunity to see how the entire process of our team projects operate from start to finish, not only where I play my part, but how everyone else does their part as well. One big responsibility I had was uploading the weekly podcasts. I created the preview pages for them, and once the podcasts were recorded, edited, had associated artwork for the website, and had a summary created for them, I was able to upload the

podcast and the artwork to website and update it weekly so the audience could listen to the podcasts from the website or from third-party streaming services. Multiple times a week I would screen emails, and learned how to write emails to various clientele, from responding to audience questions and concerns to emailing senior editors at academic presses as well. Another aspect of my role was research oriented, searching for anything to help with various future projects for the organization. This included analyzing past and present survey data to look for trends in audience interaction, grant research to try to get more money for bigger projects, and finding and contacting academic presses to partner with for the new 18Forty book club that just started this summer.

Overall, this was an incredible opportunity I had to improve my professional and personal skills in research and communication and to work on a larger scale with a Jewish organization. I’m thankful to NCSY and Shevet Glaubach for providing this opportunity to myself and similar opportunities to other Fellows, and to Rabbi Bashevkin and the 18Forty team for allowing me to join them in their work for the semester. I’m looking forward to next year’s opportunities for SGF internships and programming!

HIGHLIGHTS

FELLOWS CONNECTING THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER



HIGHLIGHTS



HIGHLIGHTS



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 SHEVET GLAUBACH FELLOWS
Inspiring The Next Generation

 NCSY
Inspiring the Jewish Future

 ORTHODOX UNION





SEPT 10 6-8:30PM @YU
Rubin Shul

NCSY ADVISOR AND
SHEVET GLAUBACH FELLOWSHIP
KICKOFF XXXX

6-7PM **DINNER AND SHMOOZE**
7-8PM **SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE, R. BLACK**
FOLLOWED BY TIME TO MEET BY COMMUNITY / REGION



Featuring first annual Shevet Glaubach Fellows
Scholar in Residence for 2023-2024
RABBI GIDEON BLACK
CEO OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY NCSY

Our Scholar in Residence will connect with Fellows throughout the course of the year covering a myriad of topics, providing SGF with the tools, perspectives, and outlook to feel prepared and successful in engaging their communities and beyond.

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