



Fellows in Southwest come together for Shabbos

A NOTE FROM RABBI GREENLAND



RABBI MICAH GREENLAND
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Amid this dark and difficult time, I wanted to brighten your day by sharing with you a few of the incredible initiatives that NCSY is currently implementing.

Our hearts are broken as we continue to hear news out of Israel. Israel is our Homeland, and we all have family and friends who are experiencing these atrocities. The losses of life and communities, the devastation and trauma that all our people are going through. Although we feel far, we are all connected and when our people are suffering, we jump into action.

For teens this can be especially challenging, as they balance their identities at home, school and in their social circles. As the primary teen organization of the OU (Orthodox Union), we are taking a “Head, Heart, Hands” approach - we’re giving teens a way to process intellectually what’s happened, connect emotionally with it, and then, practically, give them something they can do. Head, Heart, Hands.

Making a difference

- NCSY Adopt a Soldier: 4000+ students have received names

of soldiers to pray for, including 500 names requested from the Mir Yeshiva in Israel | [Pray for IDF](#)

- NCSY Shmirah Project: commitments to a 15-minute time slot to learn or daven and have protection for our soldiers 24/7 | [Shmirah Project](#)

Making a commitment

- Tzitzit & Candlelighting Campaign: more than 1,000 men and women had decided to take on additional mitzvot in honor of their Israeli brethren. Boys have donned tzitzit daily, while women are lighting shabbat candles each week.

Making a connection

- Summer revisited: thousands of students reconnecting with Israeli counterparts from their 2023 NCSY “Best Summer Ever” trips to share their support and make sure they do not feel alone | [Sending Our Love - NCSY Summer](#)

- Writing Letters: notes to chayalim and Israeli families to express support

In addition, we have prepared our staff through Mental Health Training for the challenges of difficult conversations & have taken steps to increase security at

SGF SPOTLIGHT ON

DALLAS

BY: SECOND YEAR FELLOW, MOSHE BENHAMU
FELLOW FOR SOUTHWEST, FROM BROOKLYN, NY



It was the beginning; The beginning of the Torah, the beginning of NCSY Shabbaton season, and the beginning of a new era. The Shabbat of Parashat Bereshit in Dallas, Texas was the first of many things for many teens in the chapter. To start off, it was the first shabbaton run by the new city director, Abby Stock, and the first shabbaton of the New Dallas NCSY teen board. I, along with two other Shevet Glaubach fellows, landed late Thursday night and I was a little apprehensive. This is my second year as a SGF in Dallas and I was a bit nervous about a potential change in the “Dallas” vibe I’ve gotten so accustomed to. But everything good begins somewhere, even if beginnings are often nerve racking.

The Shabbaton was a tremendous, smashing success. The buildup to Shabbat on Friday was exactly how I remembered: All hands on deck, and in Dallas that means everyone; From the staff to the teens to the supermarket to the caterer. Hopping in cars, running to and from stores, setting up tables and chairs, making sure all

the hosts got gifts, and that all the teens knew where to go, Friday was a bustling, busy, hectic day for NCSY Dallas. As I rushed back to my host’s house with only 25 minutes to get ready myself, I smiled as I thought “Wow it’s great to be back”.

Shabbat itself is a sight to behold in Dallas. Kabbalat Shabbat the boys went to shul and quite literally created their own musical, spiritual atmosphere during an otherwise mundane shabbat praying experience. But the real showstoppers happened on the girls’ side of things, where we invited all the women in the community to the house to light candles and have a Kabbalat Shabbat experience themselves. I wasn’t there myself, but the teens were all talking about a one-of-a-kind experience of unity and strength in that room, with the singing feeling as though it was going straight up to Hashem as Hashem descended down to sing the songs with them.

And this feeling of unity was something that was piercing throughout the Shabbaton, as we struggled together to make sense of the horrors of the October 7th terror attacks

in Israel together. There were incredible speakers and even more incredible thoughts and questions from the teens themselves. We engaged in meaningful and important dialogue about the state of the Jewish people and the state of the world as a whole, a theme permeating throughout Parashat Bereshit. By the end of the weekend, the teens as a whole bonded on a deep, meaningful level about the collective Jewish nation and their own Jewish identity.

As someone who was privileged to watch this truly incredible shabbaton, I feel almost humbled to see what kind of impact NCSY can have. The Shevet Glaubach Fellowship has allowed me and many others to have the ability to play a part in the formation of the future of the Jewish people, something that is being put to the test in this time of war. To quote a pasuk in Bereshit וַיְבָרֵא אֱלֹקִים אֶת-אָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצֶלֶם “אלקים” “And God created humankind in the divine image, creating it in the image of God”. Just like Hashem is capable of creating and molding the world, so too is humankind. Dallas NCSY showed me what it looks like to see people coming together, dedicated to molding the world for the better and creating light in these dark times.

FACES OF THE FELLOWSHIP



DANIEL STERENTHAL

MONTREAL, CANADA

Hi! My name is Daniel Sterenthal, and I am from Montreal. I am currently studying Biology at Yeshiva University. This summer, I was an advisor on TJJ and had a blast, and I would love to continue my growth with NCSYers. Being a part of the Montreal team will facilitate the continual growth and relationship with many campers.



DANIELLA WEIL

SOUTHFIELD, MI

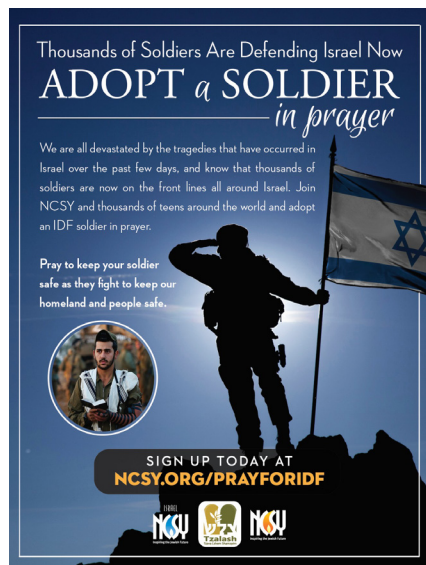
Daniella Weil grew up in Southfield, MI and is currently attending Sy Syms School of Business at Stern College for Women. She is looking forward to the exciting opportunities that the NCSY Shevet Glaubach Fellowship has to offer including getting to know many teens from around the country and having the privilege of learning with them and from them.



NOACH LERMAN

SOUTH BEND, IN

Noach Lerman is a sophomore at Yeshiva University in the Yeshiva Program and studying physics and economics. He's originally from South Bend, Indiana but moved to Silver Spring, Maryland when he was ten where he attended the Berman Hebrew Academy until he graduated. After spending 2 years at Yeshivat Hakotel, Noach decided to spend his summer with New Jersey NCSY's TJJ program as an advisor. He's excited to continue expanding his relationships with the teens he bonded with over the summer and to meet new teens. Thanks to the Shevet Glaubach Fellowship he'll be able to attend many of New Jersey NCSY's events and he can't wait.



A NOTE FROM RABBI GREENLAND (CON'T)

events in the coming weeks.

We have also been asked to share our perspective with the outside world and consider that a part of our charge | [Good Morning America \(10/11\) - Guidance for Teens](#)

All in all, we continue to empower teens and their communities to bring positive change to their own lives by expressing their love for am yisrael in their own way. Mi K'amcha Yisrael, who is like your nation Israel.

May we continue to experience only good news in the coming days, weeks and months.

DENVER**BY: FIRST YEAR FELLOW, ARIELLA ADDI**

FROM FAIR LAWN, NJ






On Oct. 12th, I headed off to Denver for our kick off weekend, Shabbos XP. Let's just say it was a pretty amazing shabbos as I got to see firsthand the true beauty and great impact of NCSY and SGF. Our first event for the weekend was our amazing Friday night oneg. As the teens rolled in you could see just how excited each of them were to be there. The room was filled with ruach and laughter as everyone hung out and enjoyed the amazing shabbos treats. One of the teens then gave an inspiring dvar torah, connecting the parsha to what we are going through today as a nation. Even just that one aspect showed me the beauty of NCSY. It showed that it doesn't matter where you come from or how much torah you know, each person is capable of drawing inspiration from the torah and sharing it with others. Just that one seemingly simple act can have such an impact on not only the giver of the dvar torah but those receiving it too, inspiring them to do the same. Shabbos day was even better as

we had an awesome teen minyan in shul followed by advisor chaburas. By Shema of Shacharit we had just the perfect amount for a minyan! There were so many other minyanim we could've gone too instead of scrambling for one, but yet NCSY still decided that we should have our own NCSY Denver teen minyan? I would've never thought twice about just easily joining the main shul instead of scrambling and having to set up our own. This seemingly small aspect made the biggest impact on each of the teens, as each of them felt a greater responsibility for our amazing shabbos davening. We then came together in chaburas to learn about resilience in the torah and how we could relate it to our current times. After that, we had an awesome shabbos lunch, filled with more amazing divrei torah and singing. On Motzei Shabbos, our NCSY group gathered at the bowling alley for an amazing night of fun, where we not only enjoyed bowling and arcade games but also deepened our bonds and connections,

exemplifying how NCSY enhances relationships through enjoyable events. Sunday we ended off with an amazing social action event for Israel, where we split up Tehillim, made cards for chayalim and learnt more about Israel. We also had the chance to hear from an IDF special forces veteran, Zevy Friedman, who spoke to us about what he did in the IDF and how we could all take part in helping Israel now. It wasn't too hard to notice how much effort NCSY put into the weekend which I have no doubt made it memorable for each of the teens. There was one big thing I took away from this shabbos that I'll never forget. It's something that I noticed right away and couldn't stop seeing over and over again. It was how amazingly united each of the teens were. Each of them showed beyond incredible middot to each other despite how many teens there were. They were all super inclusive and supportive of each other. I couldn't help but think how much NCSY has helped them foster these relationships and continue on their journey to being the best they can be. I'm super grateful to NCSY and SGF for giving me this amazing opportunity and I can't wait to see what comes next!


HIGHLIGHTS

LEARN & EARN

LEARN WITH A GLAUBACH FELLOW AND EARN NCSY DOLLARS

Get \$10 NCSY Dollars per 30 minute chavrusah session* with a Glaubach Fellow. NCSY Dollars can be used towards scholarships for NCSY Summer, Gap Year programs, NCSY events or NCSY swag!



*Limit one session per week
For more information, ask your local NCSY Director.



HIGHLIGHTS



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