



Feel right at home in Israel  
*Integration. Equality. Volunteering.*

ESRA Annual Report 2020



# Dear Friends

ESRA, founded in 1979 as a non-profit volunteering organization, is Israel's largest English-speaking community network, aiding the integration of olim, old and new, while working toward equality in Israeli society through its education and welfare projects.

With the outbreak of the pandemic, ESRA was quick to adapt the way it works. We met the challenge of developing new solutions for providing services, enabling us to meet the growing needs of Israelis and of our community members. These new developments also place ESRA on track for meeting the future.

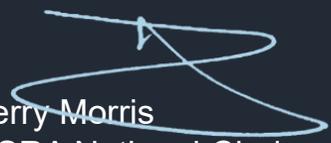
During 2020, our work focused on providing financial first aid through ESRA's *Welfare Fund*, to those who had been hardest hit due to COVID. We continued our project, *Students Build a Community*, to ensure students are enabled to continue their studies and continue their mentoring of schoolchildren. In order to continue our nationwide *English Tutoring Program* we rethought the concept and managed to get everyone online, and we also offered English speakers a supportive network through online social and cultural activities, personal support and volunteering.

This year, the ESRA family is expanding. We are welcoming English speakers to our new *ESRA 40+ Community* with options and opportunities tailored to suit busy lifestyles. We are also spreading our wings abroad and inviting English speakers around the world to volunteer in Israel by becoming an online tutor in our very successful *English Tutoring Program*. By sharing their gift of English with Israeli children, they can connect to life in Israel and influence its wellbeing.

We are proud to announce that ESRA has received the Midot Seal of Effectiveness for commitment to results-driven projects, constant improvement, leadership, and social impact.

We believe that if each and every one of us reaches out to give an Israeli family, student, or new oleh, the support they need to turn adversity into opportunity, then together we rise to the challenges and can look forward to a brighter year ahead.

Thank you for supporting ESRA.

  
Terry Morris  
ESRA National Chairman

  
Sunny Marshansky  
ESRA CEO



# ESRA makes the most of your contributions

In 2020: Sums Invested and Resulting Impact

**NIS 6,734,000**

Total Projects & Activities  
Including NIS 1m from project partners  
(municipalities & other nonprofits)

**3,516**

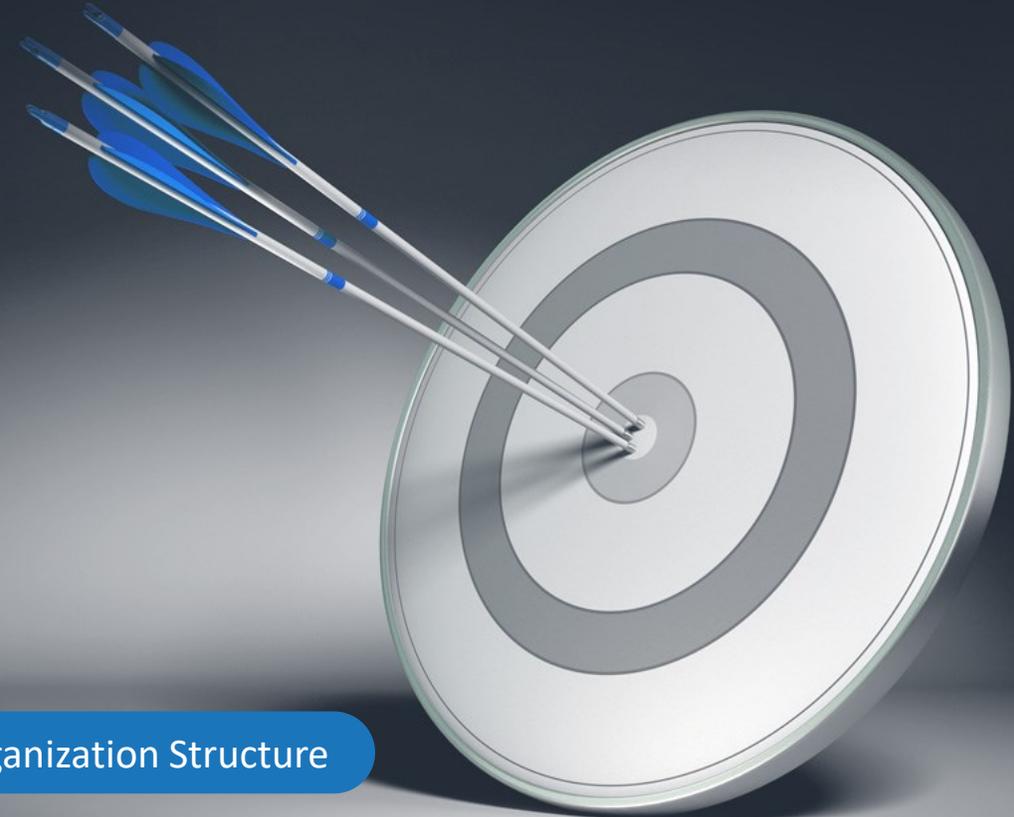
Children, students, and families  
gained educational enhancement;  
received financial first aid

**14,975**

English speakers engaged  
in social networking, cultural  
activities & volunteering

**87%**

Of ESRA members/participants  
feel more integrated  
according to ESRA Survey 2020



[Introducing ESRA's Partners](#)

[ESRA on Hebrew GuideStar](#)

[ESRA Organization Structure](#)

Numbers unaudited.

# Integration

In 2020

## Social & Cultural Activities

224 online events were held with an average of 67 participants per event, broadening interests and widening the social network.

## Personal Support

67 ESRA befrienders and professional counseling volunteers reached out to help people experiencing emotional difficulties.

## Volunteering

86,128 volunteer hours were invested in impacting society through volunteer activities in diverse areas from financial management to law, producing and distributing the ESRAmagazine, mentoring and English tutoring.

ESRAmagazine



# Volunteering

## ESRA English Tutoring Program

### Distance Tutoring

Help students on Zoom with their English studies. No experience required. Professional guidance provided.

### Chat Away

Taking English out of the classroom. Enhancing the speaking skills of students after school.

### Homebound

Retired qualified English teachers instruct children who are homebound throughout the year due to illness.

### Native English Speaker Enrichment

Language enhancement for native English speaking Israeli children.

**Share your gift of English with Israeli children**

[Join here](#)



Recommended by  
Israel Ministry of Education

# Equality

In 2020

## ESRA Welfare Fund

ESRA raises funds and elicits donations, investing its resources to meet the increasing need for welfare support to Israelis adversely impacted by the pandemic. **253 families and students received grants totaling in excess of NIS 398,000.**

## Education and Welfare Projects

Our projects focus on enhancing educational achievement and social skills, promoting academic enrichment and excellence, all with the ultimate aim of creating equal opportunity for growth and development.

Several projects had to be frozen due to lockdowns, but ESRA's flagship project ***Students Build a Community*** not only continued despite challenges, but went into high gear during the Corona period.



# Students Build a Community (SBC)

Despite COVID still on track!

Running successfully for 14 years, SBC has expanded to include 5 communities in Netanya and Akko, with new projects in Tel Aviv and Rishon Le Zion scheduled to open in 2021, and more cities lining up.

The project provides financially stressed students with housing in disadvantaged neighborhoods where, in return, they each mentor a group of local academically struggling schoolchildren and become social activists in the community. **Impact in 2020: NIS 1,615,000 (includes municipalities' contribution).**



## Children

### 87% Improve Academically

196 elementary school children showed improved social skills and a 27% increase in grades from the start of the project.

## Students

### 98% Continue Toward Degrees

49 students kept children on track with schoolwork, while managing to carry on with their studies in law, sports instruction, business management and more.

## Community

### 7,130 Volunteer Hours

Were invested in supporting children and their parents through this difficult period, enriching the community and delivering food parcels during lockdowns – to the sick, the elderly, and to Holocaust survivors.

[Donate here to give them a better future](#)



They need our support. We need yours to continue giving it.  
Please donate generously.

Tax Creditable

British Pounds

US Dollars

Israeli Shekels

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