

Jerusalem African
Community
Center



מרכז לקהילה
האפריקאית
בירושלים

JERUSALEM AFRICAN COMMUNITY CENTER (R.A.) 2016 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

JACC- Jerusalem African Community Center (A.R.) is an NGO founded in 2014, with the aim of giving support and assistance to the Jerusalem African asylum seeker and refugee community.

This past year has been our second full year as a young NGO. No doubt, there were many great challenges, but also many achievements. We are very proud to present to you our **Annual Activity Report for 2016**. In it you will find more information about our organization, this years' activities and future years' dreams.

2016 has brought with it many challenges... We had to work extra hard this year in order to keep our center open. With lots of work and the help of our supporters, we managed to overcome and reach stability.

... And many changes. Our center has grown, we have incorporated new volunteers, added new programs, and have set our fundraising goals higher, to allow for these developments in our organization. We were especially happy to welcome on board our new director, Josie Mendelson, who has managed to push us forward.

This annual report will help you learn more about us, what we do and why we do it.

We are planning new additions to our organization and our programs, to better answer the needs of the community. **We expect 2017 to be a year of expanding, strengthening and professionalizing our activity.**

JACC Director's Note

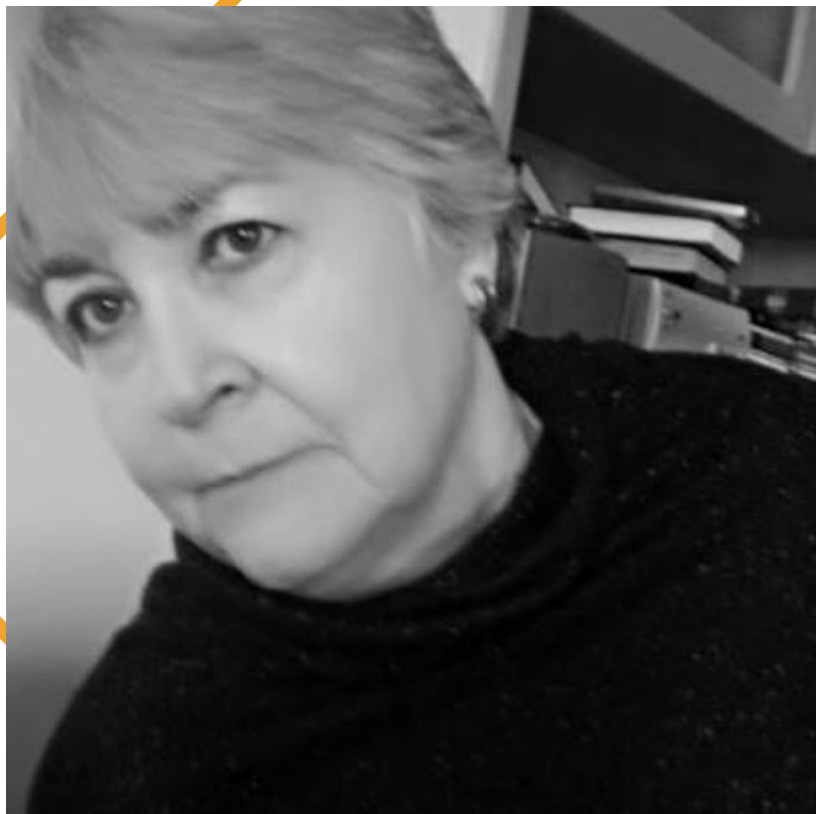
Often when I tell Jerusalemites that I am directing an organization that works with African asylum seekers in Jerusalem, their reaction is to ask in wonder "are there African asylum seekers in Jerusalem?"

Yes, there are over 2,500 asylum seekers in Jerusalem; some living under the poverty line, in sub-standard housing, doing jobs that no one else will do, running every couple of months to renew their visas, with inadequate health insurance, and I could go on and on. The miracle is that in spite of all of this, they are somehow building a life for themselves; they are a community that takes care of each other, their children go to school, they are hardworking, eager to study, they know Hebrew and if were allowed, would be valuable members of Israeli society. I feel that being director of JACC is indeed a privilege, but it is also probably the most emotionally packed position I have held. On one hand, despair at the suffering of this community, all they have endured in their home countries and on their way here and what they still have to endure, due to the government's harsh policies. On the other hand, I am overwhelmed and uplifted by the scope and the seriousness of the work of JACC's exceptional volunteers and their willingness to give unselfishly of their time, their abilities, their talents and their hearts.

JACC will do everything in its power to continue to answer the needs of the African asylum-seekers community in Jerusalem.

I hope you will help us with your continued support.

Josie Mendelson



Josie comes to JACC with much experience in management. Some of her past positions include: Establishing and directing the Arab-Jewish Kindergarten at the YMCA in Jerusalem, deputy director- Jerusalem Education Department, responsible for early childhood education, and co-director at Hand in Hand.

Who we are



In 2014, activists and volunteers, Israelis and African asylum seekers living in Jerusalem, established an organization and community center for the African community. This was the continuation of the work of a volunteer group which had been working in the city since 2007. The Jerusalem African Community Center (JACC) was founded with the following mission statement:

To promote the well-being and quality of life for African refugees, asylum seekers and persons with no civil status in Jerusalem; To create a space for the community, managed by it, to foster community leadership; To create dialogue, connections and neighborly relations between the different citizens of the city.

Currently living in Jerusalem are about 2,500 refugees, asylum seekers and migrants from Eritrea, Sudan and Ethiopia, including many families with children. Living without a resolved status in Israel, they face many difficulties : lack of support networks; uncertainty regarding the future; exploitation in the workplace; shortage of habitable housing options; difficulties in dealing with the authorities; denial of adequate health care; denial of access to welfare for treatment, support and rehabilitation. This situation puts the whole community in a vulnerable situation, affecting especially the weak: women at risk, victims of trafficking and torture, victims of violence, the sick and disabled, and children.

Who we are



In founding a community center, we aimed to create a safe and accessible **space**, a communal meeting place for adults, teens, children and families, to host social, cultural and educational activities. A place to celebrate holidays, learn, gather together and make decisions, establish a common framework of support, assistance and information. From a democratic, culturally competent perspective, based on dialogue and tolerance, the center is a meeting place to connect between members of diverse cultures from Africa and residents of Jerusalem, in cooperation with all parties involved in promoting the rights of asylum-seekers and migrants.

We have an active board comprised of African and Israeli activists, who **oversee the JACCs' activity**, including: Humanitarian & psychosocial aid; Rights awareness and promotion; Adult education program; Mentoring for children and youth; Education and extracurricular activities for children and youth; Early childhood education; Promoting resilience, community leadership and inter-culture connections. JACCs' activity is almost completely volunteer-based: we currently have 110 volunteers, and 1.5 paid staff positions.



What we do

Language classes (Hebrew & English) - One of our veteran programs (since 2008), with a volunteer coordinator for each language, running weekly groups, taught by volunteer teachers to all levels.

Psychosocial, humanitarian aid - Coordinated by a trained social worker, this program provides emotional, psychological and social support for families and individuals within the community, by skilled volunteers and social work students in training. We also provide humanitarian aid in situations where medical and financial aid is needed.

Rights Center- The rights center and support program assists the community members in fulfilling their legal, medical and occupational rights. We offer personalized assistance where it is most crucial. Once a week, our volunteers and coordinators operate a hotline at our center for walk-in cases.

Ongoing projects

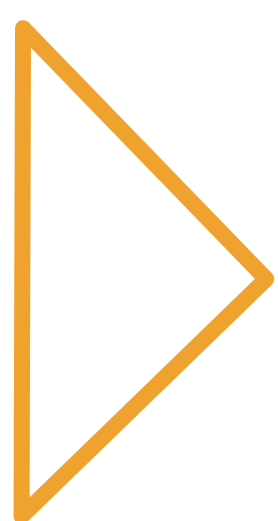
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What we do

RSD project- With changes in government policy regarding asylum seekers in Israel, there is much needed assistance in the community for filling out RSD (Refugee Status Determination) forms, as a means to try and avoid deportation. Trained volunteers, coordinated by an experienced JACC volunteer, meet with members of the community, explain the process, discuss relevant information for the RSD evaluation, and assist in filling the forms and handing them in (this project is dynamic, and is frequently adjusted in accordance with changing policies).

Tutoring Program- JACC operates a tutoring program for elementary school children, in which children meet weekly with volunteers while receiving emotional support and academic assistance. These children also receive assistance in finding low- cost (or no-cost) after-school activities that they can attend, like other children their age, such as sports groups, music lessons, etc.

Children's play room and library- As a pass-time solution for children of the mothers who attend our language classes, and in order to provide a safe space and age-appropriate toys and books for children who may not have access to them, we hold activities for children with volunteers who read with/to them, play and have arts and crafts activities twice a week.



Ongoing projects

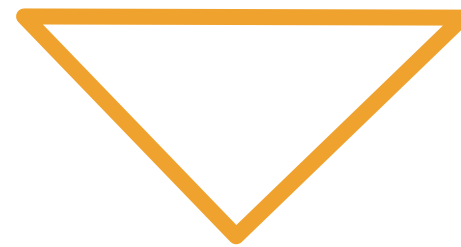
JACC

Organigram



2016 Highlights

- **January:** Christmas party at the center; volunteer training; campaign for signing up for schools; computer classes opens.
- **February:** Children's art class opens;
- **April:** IELTS prep course for international English exam opens.
- **May:** We launch a crowdfunding campaign; Annual fundraiser & cultural party at the Abraham Hostel in Jerusalem. Over 400 attended a party with music, traditional performances and food prepared by members of the community; Tevel BeTzedek & JACC community Shabbat Lunch; Volunteer training for rights program; JACC participated in Alternative Jerusalem Day.
- **June:** Our crowdfunding campaign ends with success! Tigrinya classes for children begin (collaboration with Eritrean parents' committee).
- **July:** The Board starts a consultation process with Shatil and decides that in order for the organization to grow, there is a need to find a director.
- **August:** Preparation program for 1st grade for 20 children and their parents (collaboration with the Municipal Hotline).
- **September:** Josie Mendelson takes the roll of JACC's director; Children's English classes open ; Hebrew teachers' training; English students graduation party
- **October:** Adi Schneitter Ashton begins to work as our centers' social worker.
- **November:** Intensive preparation for fundraiser and collecting items for 'silent auction'
- **December:** JACC fundraising event at the Avgar home;
Traditional "Psik" Theatre show and Hanukah party for 40 children



Standing with JACC 11

2016 in Numbers



- **109** volunteers (who regularly take part in weekly activities).
- More than **15,000** yearly volunteer hours.
- **25** weekly language classes, **105** students in total- **60** in Hebrew classes, **45** in English classes. **4** students take part in English computer class.
- **140** children have taken part in our activities in total.
- **20** children in tutoring program.
- **1,945** Facebook followers; **1,600** on the JACC mailing list.
- **1000** attending lectures, cultural gatherings and introduction meetings.
- **7** Social work students in field training support **15** people one-on-one, **5** volunteers in the psycho-social program support long term cases. In total, **23** families and individuals are provided with psychosocial aid.
- **20** interns.
- **5** children in soccer club, **4** have English tutoring, **10** in art class, **25** learn Tigrinya and English.
- **30** people received assistance in filling out and handing in RSD forms.
- **128** visits to our rights center
- **20** children and their parents participated in “welcome to 1st grade” program

The JACC Team

DIRECTOR

Josie Mendelson

BOARD

Yael Agur Orgal- Adv. to Rights Center, RSD; Adv. to volunteer coordinator

Omar Isa- Community relations

Efrem Tesfa- Community relations

Ariella Cwikel- Adv. to Psycho-social & Tutoring; Organizational Relations; Fundraising team

Ornit Yehoshua, Treas.- Coordinator of Tutoring Program;

Or Mor, Secr.- Resource Development & Evaluation Adv.; Coordinator Center Operating staff.



The JACC Team

STAFF

Josie Mendelson – Director*

Adi Schneitter Ashton- Psycho-social Aid director*

Bar Rapoport- Hebrew Program Coordinator

Hailey Dilman Sharon- English Program Coordinator

Gal Dabush- Rights Center coordinator

Shani Bar Tuvia- RSD Program Coordinator

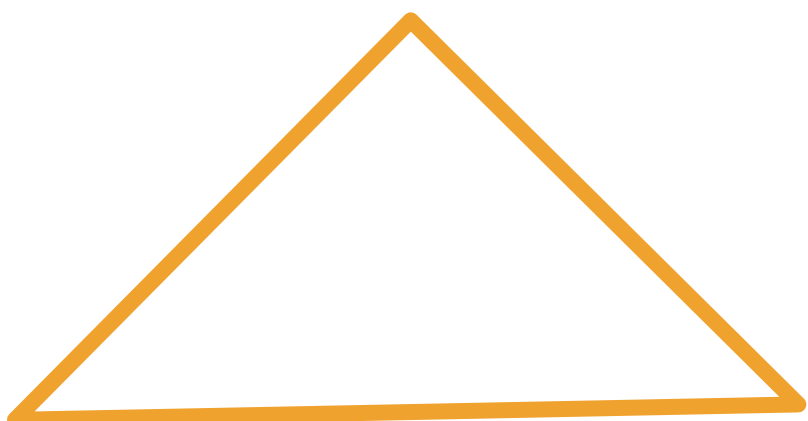
Tamar Aziz- Volunteer Coordinator

Rachel Gerber- Resource Development*

Melissa Despina Fragiadaki – Social Media

Daniella Roichman – Social Media, Fundraising

*Paid professionals. The rest of our board and staff are volunteers.



PARTNERS AND BENEFACTORS



Custodia Terrae Sanctae

ASSAF - Aid Organization for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Israel

CIMI - Center for International Migration and Integration

UNHCR - UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Abraham Hostel Jerusalem

Psik Theatre

Psychoactive

Minhal Kehilati Lev HaEar

Shatil

HIAS Israel

Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders (EMHRF)

OSSIM SHALOM - Social Workers for Peace and Social Welfare

New Israel Fund

Saint James Vicariate for Hebrew Speaking Catholics in Israel

Ladaat- Choose Well

Left Tilt Fund

ADL- Anti- Defamation League

Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism

Kav LaOved - Worker's Hotline

Physicians for Human Rights - Israel

The Hotline for Refugees and Migrants

ARDC - African Refugee Development Center

The Minerva Center for Human Rights

The School of Social Work and Social Welfare at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Jerusalem Intercultural Center

Kehilat Kol Hanesama

The Municipal Aid Center for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Jerusalem

FELM - Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission Jerusalem

Hapoel Katamon Jerusalem

Hillel- Hebrew University

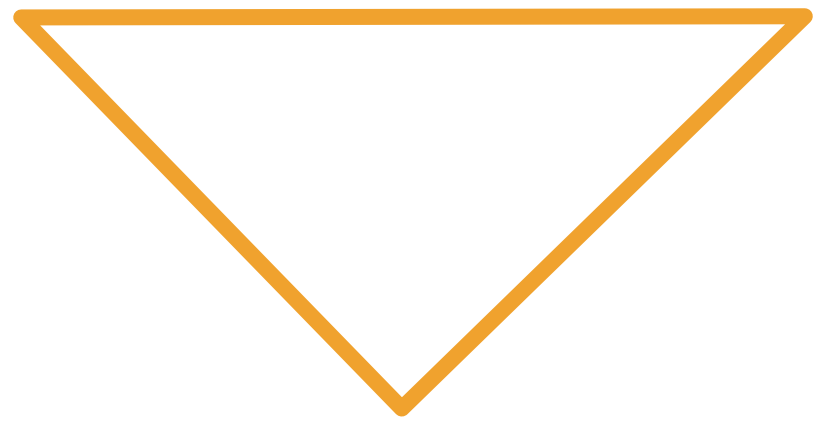
Shalom Hartman Institute

Merkaz Brera

Private and individual donors

Municipal social work department

Eritrean parents committee



Donate & Support Us

Check:

To the order of: Jerusalem African Community Center (R.A.),
Beit Yoel, 3rd floor, 33 Jaffa St., Jerusalem 9422109 Israel

By Bank Transfer:

Account no. 431087 at UBANK (no. 26)- branch no. 288
(Jerusalem).

Account name: מרכז לקהילה האפריקאית בירושלים (ע"ר)

Jerusalem African Community Center

By Credit Card:

[Via PayPal](#)

or at our website: <http://www.jacc.org.il/#!donate-eng/c8yf>

Volunteer at our center:

Learn about volunteer opportunities [on our website](#) or write to
us at volunteers.jacc@gmail.com

Jerusalem African
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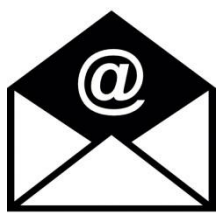
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Stay In Touch



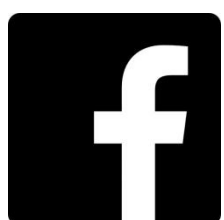
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Israel



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<http://www.jacc.org.il>



[Jerusalem African Community Center](#)

Jerusalem African Community Center
R.A 580594109

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of December 31, 2016

Jerusalem African Community Center

BALANCE SHEET

		December 31, 2016 NIS
<u>Current assets:</u>		
<u>Cash and cash equivalents</u>		
	Bank balance	108,632
	Cash balance	<u>206</u>
	Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>108,838</u>
<u>Other accounts receivable</u>		
	Donations balance at PayPal	3,496
	Rental deposit at the bank	25,000
	Checks for collection	<u>400</u>
	Total Other accounts receivable	<u>28,896</u>
	Total current assets	<u>137,734</u>
<u>Current liabilities and net assets:</u>		
<u>Current liabilities</u>		
	Employees and other accounts payable	<u>8,339</u>
<u>Unrestricted net assets</u>		
	Unrestricted net assets used in operations	113,810
	Operating surplus	<u>15,585</u>
	Total Unrestricted net asset	<u>129,395</u>
	Total Current liabilities and net assets	<u>137,734</u>

Jerusalem African Community Center

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended December 31,

	2016 NIS
<u>Activity cycle</u>	
Revenue from donations	278,424
Participation fees for Hebrew / English students	3,650
Volunteer hours- Cash equivalent	325,000
Non-monetary donations- Cash equivalent	<u>75,000</u>
Total activity cycle	<u>682,074</u>
<u>Cost of activity</u>	
Cost of activity and projects Note 2	591,355
General and administrative expenses Note 3	<u>73,954</u>
Total cost of activity	<u>665,309</u>
<u>Surplus for the period</u>	<u>16,765</u>

Jerusalem African Community Center

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1- General

Jerusalem African Community Center (R.A.) (henceforth JACC) has registered as a non-profit under the Israeli non-profit law in July 16, 2014, and has begun its activities thus after.

JACC's mission is To promote the well-being and quality of life for African refugees, asylum seekers and persons with no civil status in Jerusalem; To create a space for the community, managed by it, and to foster community leadership; To create dialogue, connections and neighborly relations between the different citizens of the city; To build a center for the community, which would function as a place to meet, learn, celebrate cultural events, to develop leadership and to make decisions. To provide knowledge with regards to occupational, medical, social and educational rights, and other issues where the need arises; To operate programs that will provide an answer to needs in the fields of education, professional development, culture, art and leisure for adults; To develop educational solutions for toddlers and children; To provide psychological, social and financial aid with accordance to the needs that will rise from the community.

Note 2- Cost of activity and projects

	Psycho-social	RSD	Children education	Rights Advocacy	Adult education	Events	Total
Activity cost	300	-	-	66	4,300	8,500	<u>13,166</u>
Salary and benefits	89,768	-	3,417	1,708	3,417	-	<u>98,310</u>
Volunteer hours	61,000	5,950	86,225	109,225	51,000	11,600	<u>325,000</u>
Non-monetary donations	10,000	2,525	-	34,355	9,910	18,210	<u>75,000</u>
Rental and maintenance center	20,000	-	19,879	20,000	20,000	-	<u>79,879</u>
Total	<u>181,068</u>	<u>8,475</u>	<u>109,521</u>	<u>165,354</u>	<u>88,627</u>	<u>38,310</u>	591,355

Note 3- General and administrative expenses

	<u>2016</u> <u>NIS</u>
Fundraising Salary	38,657
Professional Services	20,040
Fundraising costs	10,681
Others	4,013
Banking costs and exchange rate	563
Total General and administrative expenses	<u>73,954</u>