
Formerly Friends of Yemin Orde



ImpactIsrael

Elevating education and lifting lives the Village Way

IMPACTISRAEL WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER, JEREMY BARNETT

Los Angeles-based marketing executive brings business and Jewish communal leadership to ImpactIsrael's volunteer Board of Directors.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Bethesda, MD – ImpactIsrael (formerly Friends of Yemin Orde) is pleased to welcome Jeremy Barnett to its Board of Directors, effective January 1, 2020. Barnett is a marketing executive from Los Angeles and longtime Jewish communal leader and volunteer. He was unanimously elected by his peers at ImpactIsrael's board meeting on Nov. 19, 2019, in New York City and will serve a three-year term. ImpactIsrael is the philanthropic partner of Yemin Orde Youth Village and Village Way Educational Initiatives, both located in Israel. The Village is home, school and safe haven for 430 at-risk youth from around the world. Village Way Educational Initiatives expands the Village Way educational methodology, first modeled at Yemin Orde, to 55 partner youth villages, therapeutic residential communities and high schools with high populations of at-risk youth, including schools in Arab communities. Today, the Village Way educational methodology has impacted 22,000 youth and 2,500 educators in Israel. Visit impact-israel.org, email team@impact-israel.org or call 202.237.0286.



Robert Arogeti, ImpactIsrael board chair, said he is thrilled by Barnett's participation on the board and honored by the generosity of his time to help advocate for quality education and a brighter future on behalf of Israel's marginalized youth.

"Jeremy's insights as a marketing professional will greatly benefit our new communication strategies, especially as we launch our new name and new brand, nationwide. I look forward to

working with him on collaborative insights gained from his business and Jewish leadership in the Los Angeles community,” Arogeti said.

Barnett first visited Yemin Orde Youth Village in 2018 at the suggestion of his tour guide while in Israel. He returned to the Village in 2019 on ImpactIsrael’s customized trip that focused on learning opportunities about how the Village Way educational methodology is leading efforts to catalyze change for Israel’s at-risk youth.

"I am honored and energized to be a part of Impact Israel. The Village Way methodology serves as a shining example of how we can be our best selves, collaborating to elevate young people and vulnerable communities in Israel and around the world,” Barnett said. “Though Israel is recognized as the 'Start Up Nation' for all of its technological innovation, I believe her greatest contribution to the world will be the innovation in education and social service emerging from the Village Way."

Barnett grew up in Philadelphia and has lived in Los Angeles since 1991. As a teen, he attended Camp Ramah in the Poconos and is a long-time “Ramahnik.” He served on the professional staff at the Brandeis-Bardin Institute (now American Jewish University) from 1991-1994, and later returned to its Board in 2000. He also served on the boards of his children’s Jewish day schools and his synagogue.

Professionally, Barnett serves as the Co-Global Marketing Leader for Tokio Marine HCC., a leading specialty insurance provider in the U.S., based in Los Angeles. His professional experience also includes marketing expertise in the technology and entertainment industries.

Barnett earned a Bachelor’s degree in English from Rutgers University and a Master’s degree in Educational Technology from San Diego State University.

About Yemin Orde Youth Village and Village Way Educational Initiatives

Yemin Orde Youth Village is home, school and safe haven to 430 at-risk youth from around world. It’s teens live in a safe and loving home environment, have a top-rated education and are surrounded by positive adult role models. The Village operates 24/7, 365 days a year, and offers exceptional extra-curricular programs and therapeutic services not typically offered at other youth villages and schools in Israel. Its successful educational methodology, called the Village Way, is a model of excellence in Israel and enables fragile youth to develop leadership skills, self-esteem, cultural identity and hope for the future. Graduates remain connected to the Village for life.

Village Way Educational Initiatives (VWEI) was created to extend Yemin Orde’s successful educational methodology to other youth villages and public high schools in Israel, including schools in Israeli-Arab communities. Today, VWEI partners with 55 educational communities in Israel and has touched the lives of 22,000 youth and 2,500 educators. The goal is to expand to 91 educational communities by 2026 and reach 55,000 youth and 4,100 educators.