



## **Kehillot: M<sup>2</sup>'s Community Fellowships**

### ***Elevating educators. Strengthening Jewish life.***

#### **About M<sup>2</sup>**

M<sup>2</sup>: The Institute for Experiential Jewish Education's mission is to promote a proud and inspired community of Jewish educators who possess the personal and professional capacities to help learners find meaning and relevance in Jewish life. We run a broad range of training programs for educators and provide educational consulting services to organizations. With offices in New York, Chicago, and Israel, we are a nimble, cutting edge, and incredibly warm team that is guided by our five organizational values: generosity, humility, rigor, innovation, and integrity.

#### **About Kehillot**

Kehillot: M<sup>2</sup>'s Community Fellowships is a pioneering initiative empowering mid-career Jewish educators (5-10 years of experience) with the skills, networks, and vision to strengthen their communities and shape the future of Jewish life.

Launching in 2025 in **Boston, Toronto, and the Greater D.C. Area**, Kehillot selects up to 25 leading educators and engagement professionals in each community to build a local Jewish ecosystem through shared learning, hands-on application, and professional support.

This **18-month fellowship** includes:

- **Seminars:** Three four-day, holistic seminars (taking place in each of the three cities) over the 18 months brings together the three local communities to learn and grow together.
- **Community of Practice:** Each community will have, individually, a mix of in-person and virtual gatherings.
- **Ongoing Support:** Before and in-between each seminar, fellows will meet with their local Community Convener, M<sup>2</sup> faculty, and additional stakeholders to support applying the experience back in your workplace.
- **Peer Networking:** Stronger ties with peers and each local Jewish community.
- **Local Impact:** Focus on strengthening the community where fellows live and work.

#### **Fellows Will Gain:**

- **Professional Knowledge and Skills:** Engage with cutting-edge pedagogies, methodologies, and values-based learning to enhance their work.
- **Local & Broader Engagement:** Rooted in their community, with insights and collaboration from peers across North America.
- **Vision for Jewish Communal Life:** Strengthen their personal and communal educational vision while learning from diverse Jewish landscapes.



## **Seminar Themes**

Each seminar focuses on key areas to enhance leadership and deepen community engagement. As each seminar is hosted in a different community, fellows will get to see three distinct models of Jewish communal life in Boston, D.C., and Toronto.

### **Seminar 1: Values in Action**

Location: Boston

October 2025

This seminar will explore the core principles that guide Jewish communal work, emphasizing the role of Jewish values in professional development. Through a values-driven approach, participants will enhance their capacity to lead, address complex challenges, and foster meaningful connections within their communities.

#### **Key Topics:**

- Grounding leadership in Jewish values
- Navigating difficult communal conversations
- Developing strategies for impactful engagement
- Building strong and connected communities

### **Seminar 2: Exploring the Dimensions of Jewish Life**

Location: Toronto

June 2026

How can we better understand the Jewish lives of those we serve and design experiences that reflect their full potential? This four-day seminar will introduce M<sup>2</sup>'s 18x18 Framework, guiding participants in mapping their communities, identifying gaps and opportunities, and crafting more multidimensional Jewish experiences. Through interactive learning and peer collaboration, participants will leave with concrete strategies to collaboratively strengthen Jewish life in their work and across their communities.

#### **Key Topics:**

- Mapping Jewish Life in Our Communities
- Designing Expansive and Intentional Jewish Experiences
- Aligning Educational Vision with Communal Needs
- Consider New Directions of Jewish Life



### **Seminar 3: Designing Powerful Experiences**

Location: Washington D.C.

January 2027

The structure, sequence, and rhythm of an educational experience shape its impact in profound ways. This seminar will explore how intentional design and facilitation create opportunities for growth, transformation, and personal meaning-making. Participants will gain practical tools for crafting experiences that engage, resonate, and leave a lasting impact.

#### **Key Topics:**

- Designing immersive and impactful learning experiences
  - Facilitating with structure, rhythm, and purpose
  - Applying creative approaches to program design
  - Creating opportunities for personal meaning-making
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#### **Who Is This For?**

Kehillot is designed for mid-career Jewish professionals in Greater D.C., Boston, and Toronto who:

- Have 5-10 years of experience in Jewish education, community leadership, or engagement.
- Are actively involved in design, facilitation, or strategy of education and engagement professionals.
- Hold titles such as Program Director, Assistant Director, or Community Manager.
- Are committed to strengthening their local Jewish community and integrating Jewish values into leadership and practice.

*If one or more of these requirements do not fit your situation, but you are interested in learning more, apply! We will be in touch.*

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## The Details

- **Cost:** Kehillot is valued at \$17,500 USD for each participant. Thanks to national and local funders committed to investing in the future of Jewish life, tuition is set at **\$1,500 USD / \$2,200 CAD**. Tuition covers double occupancy in hotels; an optional \$1,000 USD / \$1,400 CAD supplement will cover single occupancy.
- **Commitment:** Fellows are expected to attend all three in-person seminars, required Community of Practice gatherings in their local community throughout the program, and engage with their Community Convener on a regular basis, as detailed in the program schedule.
- **Program Timeline:** Applications open April 23rd. Applications will be reviewed and interviews will take place in June 2025. Program launches with a local Community of Practice in August/September 2025 and runs through March 2027.

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## Ready to Join the Kehillot?

**Kehillot** is your chance to grow, connect, and lead within a supportive network of Jewish professionals. If you're ready to make an impact in your community, apply today.

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Kehillot: M<sup>2</sup> Community Fellowships are made possible with support from national funders, local funders, and local federations.