YOUTH RENEWAL FUND

ACHIEVEMENTS 2019
Youth Renewal Fund

Youth Renewal Fund, founded in 1989, is the US philanthropic and strategic funding partner to Darca Schools, the #1 educational network in Israel.

Together, Youth Renewal Fund and Darca are strengthening Israel’s underserved communities by providing students living in Israel’s geosocial periphery with an education that is not only comparable to, but exceeds the educational experience of their peers living in more affluent communities.

The Top High School Network in Israel: Ministry of Education Rankings Revealed

The Ministry of Education compiled, for the first time, data on the achievements of students attending private education networks that operate hundreds of high schools and that are funded with billions of NIS per year. By: Lior Datal | April 24, 2017

The government channels billions of NIS to private education networks that operate high schools but until now has never known whether these large budgets are justified. Data compiled by the Ministry of Education for the first time on the achievements of the networks reveal that most networks find it difficult to reach achievements which justify their budgets.

The education system believes that the new ranking will change the balance of powers in the high school system, and may result in a transfer of high schools in the networks - either amongst themselves or among local authorities. The Ministry of Education wishes to establish the new system in order to replace the schools’ operators that are not functioning adequately or whose achievements are low.

"Ranking first in the averages of the parameters reviewed by the Ministry of Education is the Darca Network...which also achieved the highest scores in most of the Ministry of Education individual parameters."

A letter sent by Director General of the Ministry of Education Shmuel Abuhav, to the heads of the local authorities states that a comprehensive review conducted by the Ministry of Education, whose results are published here for the first time, revealed "no significant advantage to private operation (education network) over operation by the local authority. We identify throughout the continuum ownership that performs well, alongside ownership..."

The Ministry of Education instructed all local authorities to hold, within two years, new tenders for the operation of high schools in their jurisdiction that are managed by education networks. The authorities were also instructed to emphasize data on quality of the networks that are now being published. The data is based on eligibility for matriculation certificate, dropout rates, excellence in matriculation exams and other data, as well as the percentage of students in five-unit matriculation math and English and school atmosphere. In Jewish schools, the Ministry of Education also examined IDF recruitment rates. The goal being to cause the authorities to invest the budget they receive from the Ministry of Education in educational networks that were found to be top notch, and to replace schools operators that are dysfunctional, or with poor performance.

In order to rank the networks, the Ministry of Education reviewed the accomplishments of every school operated by educational network for at least three years, and weighed the achievements into a total score in each parameter. At the same time, the data...
The Darca Vision

Israeli gaps in education are growing, locking disadvantaged youth into a cycle of poverty and threatening the nation’s prospering economy. The continued health of Israel’s social fabric and booming economy, now, more than ever, is dependent on a generation of young leaders coming from the state’s underserved communities.

The Darca network’s vision states that every child in Israel’s school system has the right to realise his potential for excellence regardless of his place of residence, parents’ education, or any other environmental factor.

Our mission is to strengthen the underserved society in Israel’s periphery, by creating a groundbreaking enriched and efficient educational system. We serve all sectors of the Israeli population regardless of their religion or political affiliations. In Darca schools, students gain access to an educational experience comparable to that available in the wealthier communities thus bridging the vast gaps in Israeli society.

Darca is anchoring further and better Humanistic-Jewish-Democratic values, tolerance and active participation in national and community life.

The Darca network serves all sectors of the Israeli population; operating and managing 40 schools and learning centers nationwide, in addition to 49 intervention programs in various schools.
Global Comparison of Education Levels: Israel Lags Behind

Compared to 25 developed countries, Israel ranks as number 23

AVERAGE LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN DEVELOPED WORLD, PISA 2015
AVERAGE ACHIEVEMENT SCORES IN 25 OECD COUNTRIES AND IN ISRAEL*

Japan: 529
Canada: 523
Finland: 523
Korea: 519
Ireland: 509
Germany: 506
Netherlands: 508
Sweden: 506
Switzerland: 506
New Zealand: 504
Norway: 504
Denmark: 503
Belgium: 502
Australia: 502
United Kingdom: 500
Portugal: 497
Hebrew speakers (within Israel): 497
Italy: 496
France: 496
Spain: 492
Austria: 491
Czech Republic: 491
United States: 488
Iceland: 485
Hungary: 481
Ireland: 474
Israel (all): 472
Slovak Republic: 472
Arabic speakers (within Israel): 394

* National average in math, science and reading exams. Israeli examinees did not include Haredi boys.

Source: Dan Ben-David, Shoresh Institution and Tel-Aviv University
Data: PISA and Israel’s National Authority for Educational Measurement and Evaluation

Shoresh Institution for Socioeconomic Research
DISRUPTIVE INNOVATION
Darca Schools is driving positive sustainable change from within the education system in Israel’s geosocial periphery.

Unlike other networks, 100% of state-financing goes directly to our schools + we add 15% in philanthropic funds to level the playing field.

We identified principals as the cornerstones for schools’ transformation. We thereby focus our resources and guidance on enhancing them and their leading team’s ability to dream and drive success.

Students benefit from cutting-edge pedagogical innovation giving them the tools they need to succeed in the 21st century.

We are the sole school network operating exclusively in Israel’s geosocial periphery.
Remarkable Results

Darca has established itself as Israel’s #1 school network, according to statistics published by Israel’s Ministry of Education.

- Unprecedented 89% network-wide matriculation rate.
- Over one-third of Darca schools receive top-rank recognition by Israel’s Ministry of Education.
- 97% of graduates go on to significantly contribute to Israeli society.
- Darca’s unique model and remarkable results are placing system-wide pressure on competing networks to adjust their standards and models.
Darca’s senior management team bring with them decades of excellence in the field. We prioritize nurturing market leaders to oversee each professional field - from school principals and teachers to pedagogy, finance and technology, our teams are seasoned experts of the highest caliber.

Our board members and our partners have established track records both as leading philanthropists and some of the best business people in the world.

We rely on a small group of generous private donors to fund all of our operating expenses, so 100% of your money goes further than ever before to benefit those that need it most.
Stats & Figures

89% Of Darca’s Students Pass The Bagrut

2,530 Teachers

22,007 Student outreach

40 Institutions

153M Budget in USD

Number of schools in town

Town
Darca’s Growth

Number of Students

Budget in USD

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
<th>Philanthropic Funds</th>
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<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>4,094</td>
<td>16.2M</td>
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<td>8,036</td>
<td>44.5M</td>
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<td>10,025</td>
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<td>2014-15</td>
<td>13,470</td>
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<td>2015-16</td>
<td>15,149</td>
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<td>2016-17</td>
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<td>2017-18</td>
<td>16,600</td>
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<td>2018-19</td>
<td>22,007</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>22,007</td>
<td>153.3M</td>
<td>19.8M</td>
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Darca’s Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Institutions</th>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>406</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>2014-15</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1,487</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>1,870</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2,530</td>
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Darca Schools Bagrut Success

National Average (2018)*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number of Graduates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>438</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>1,096</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>1,554</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>1,971</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>1,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>2,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>2,022</td>
</tr>
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</table>

* TheMarker 26.8.2019
Darca Schools vs Large Affluent Communities

Tel Aviv: 78% (2018)
Ra’anana: 85% (2018)
Kfar Saba: 86% (2018)
Darca Schools: 89% (2019)
Bagrut Rates Darca Schools

Success Stories

Darca Navon
High School, Netivot
13% 2011 → 87% 2019

Darca Maxim Levy
High School, Lod
48% 2016 → 86% 2019

Darca Menachem Begin
High School, Gedera
53% 2012 → 89% 2019
4-5 Credits - English

% of Bagrut Holders

58% 2011
64% 2012
72% 2013
82% 2014
84% 2015
87% 2016
91% 2017
92% 2018
93% 2019

59% National Average (2018)
5 Credits - Mathematics

% of Bagrut Holders

- 10% in 2012
- 11% in 2013
- 11% in 2014
- 12% in 2015
- 17% in 2016
- 20% in 2017
- 21% in 2018
- 21% in 2019

National Average (2018) = 16%
100% BAGRUT ELIGIBILITY
5 Credits English | 5 Credits Math
Darca’s Druze High School for Science and Leadership ranked #1 in the country for the 4th year in a row

OUTSTANDING SERVICE
Two Darca schools are ranked amongst the IDF’s top-five schools due to their graduates’ outstanding service.

#1 IN ROBOTICS
The robotics team from the Darca Sapir High School in Yeroham won a national competition.

LOWEST DROPOUT RATES
Darca Schools achieved the lowest dropout rates of all competing school networks

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD
Israel’s National Teachers’ Union awards three Darca schools with prestigious award in recognition of their social contribution.

FIRST DRUZE PILOT
A graduate from Darca’s school in Yarka becomes the first ever Druze pilot in the Israeli Air Force.
Darca Achievements in the Media
Darca Graduates 2019

87% IDF Service
97% Significant contribution
10% National service (Sherut Leumi)
3% Military service exemption
Additional Intervention Programs

In light of Darca’s exceptional success on the post-primary level, the network has been approached by numerous educational bodies to operate intervention programs in the elementary and junior high levels.

### Junior High School Targeted Intervention Programs

- **Students**: 2,880
- **Teachers**: 765
- **Schools**: 47
- **Municipalities**: 14

### Elementary School Holistic Intervention

- **Students**: 6,920
- **Teachers**: 685
- **Elementary Schools**: 22
- **Municipalities**: 6
Bagrut Quality
Total Bagrut Percentage Eligible for University

NATIONAL
0.58 X 0.59
Bagrut Success
Bargut Eligible for University

DARCA
0.89 X 0.93
Bagrut Success
Bargut Eligible for University

NATIONAL
34%
687

DARCA
83%
1,678

STEM

BAGRUT

54%
### Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marc Rowan-Chairman</th>
<th>Paul Schnell-President</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anne Angowitz</td>
<td>Danny Epstien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stuart Angowitz</td>
<td>David Feldman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ram Burshtine</td>
<td>Jeffrey Freed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Camens</td>
<td>Jeff Gimbel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harlan Cherniak</td>
<td>Michael Gross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Cohen</td>
<td>Scott Hoffman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie Easton</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sam Katz-Past President</th>
<th>Bennett Rosenthal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doug Korn</td>
<td>Jordan Sall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randye Kwait</td>
<td>Robert Schwartz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ken Lande</td>
<td>Jamie Schweid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bret Pearlman</td>
<td>Robert Sheft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilene Penn</td>
<td>Hope Taitz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Rosen</td>
<td>Ross Weiner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cultivating Change in the Periphery

Darca continues to grow, flourish, and expand its activities serving the many diverse communities in Israeli society. We invite you to visit our schools and witness the realization of our vision in action. Partners who choose to share in Darca’s meaningful ongoing process will have significant influences on the future of students in Israel.

To coordinate a meeting or a visit please contact us at:

www.youthrenewalfund.org or 212.207.3195

Contributions can be made via Bank Wire or check:

Account Name: Darca Schools (REGISTERED AMUTA)
Bank: Hapoalim (12)
Branch: 436 (Jerusalem)
IBAN NO # IL43-0124-3600-0000-0020-793
SWIFT ADDRESS # POALILIT

US citizens can contribute directly to our US based contact at YRF via Telephone or Mail.
To donate by mail, please make checks payable to Youth Renewal Fund and mail to:
Youth Renewal Fund
A Darca Schools Foundation
1460 Broadway New York, NY 10036

Donate by phone: (212) 207.3195
Youth Renewal Fund is a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization.