

Enrico Omri Ravenna

Executive Director | Jewish Communal Leader | Change Agent

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VALUE PROPOSITION

- Accomplished nonprofit executive with over eight years of experience leading Israel advocacy, developing high impact partnerships, community engagement, and Jewish life across diverse environments. Combines deep Israeli and Jewish identity with a passion for empowering others and cultivating pluralistic, inclusive leadership spaces.
- Recognized for a servant leadership style grounded in empathy, clarity, and operational excellence; builds replicable models of community renewal rather than one-off fixes, and is known for unifying teams and driving organizational vision and growth.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Director | Jewish Federation of Arkansas July 2025 – Present

Lead Arkansas' statewide Jewish Federation into its next chapter

Inherited a federation with a campaign dormant for years, no cohesive board leadership, and a demoralized team; in under a year, led a full organizational transformation — campaign, board, culture, security infrastructure, and national profile — building a model other small-state federations now follow.

- **Fundraising:** rebuilt a dormant statewide campaign, expanding the donor base across returning, re-engaged, and newly acquired donors, and reviving the Lion of Judah chapter and the Pomegranate Society as structured giving societies.
- **Public Affairs:** positioned JFAR as the central address for Jewish life in Arkansas; built direct relationships with FBI leadership, state senators, judges, and mayors, earning a nomination to the FBI Citizens Academy and launching a Community Engagement Council at Little Rock FBI HQ.
- **Board Leadership:** recruited a new Board President and six next-generation members to a board with no prior cohesive leadership, and partnered with the board on governance and strategic direction.
- **National Outreach:** elevated Arkansas' national profile through two feature placements in eJewishPhilanthropy and an invitation to Reut USA's AJ2026 gathering on the Renewal of American Jewry; co-originated an "emerging communities" framework, now published in eJP, reframing how federations outside the major hubs build capacity.
- **Team Leadership:** inherited a demoralized team with little autonomy under prior management; rebuilt the culture around empowerment, ownership, and trust, a shift the team itself describes as transformative, across a lean team of four plus fractional CTO and accounting support.
- **Systems & Infrastructure:** streamlined CRM, communications, finance, and grants operations; led a full digital overhaul including JHub, a new centralized community engagement platform, driving 54,946 website engagements and a 55% newsletter open rate, more than double the national nonprofit average.
- **Community Leadership:** increased programming to 18 programs and 700+ engagements from a near-zero base; unified Jewish and broader communities through sustained interfaith coalition work recognized on record as "bridge-building."
- **Community Security:** managed a \$250K Attorney General Security Grant and built JFAR into a flagship SCN partner; mobilized FBI and SCN support to reach every congregation statewide within 30 minutes of the Temple Israel (MI) shooting.
- **Financial Stewardship & Growth:** grew the balance sheet to \$3.36M in assets against under \$14K in liabilities while operating approximately 18% under budget; relocated headquarters to a mission-aligned, high-visibility space.

Associate Director of Israel Trips & Midwest Regional Director

Maccabee Task Force Foundation June 2022 – July 2025

- Led our unique 10-day geopolitical Israel Exploration Trips, delivering 8 trips over 3 years, well beyond the role's original scope, including trip planning, budgeting, education, training, recruitment, staffing, and post-trip engagement programs for more than 170 students.
- Focused on program development, developing pre-trip training orientations, analyzing key trip insights, and providing leadership development opportunities for trip alumni.
- Facilitated spaces for daring conversations centered around exploring different voices and perspectives through active listening, empathy, and togetherness.
- Led and managed strategic partnerships across a six-state region with 12 diverse campuses, overseeing grants, designing workshops and programming, and long-term student engagement with demonstrated increased sustainable value rates.

- Supported coalition-building and campus advocacy while ensuring excellence in program execution and budget oversight.
- Served as a key driver of Israel engagement strategies, guiding partner campuses and stakeholders toward aligned mission objectives.

Activism Manager | Israeli American Council (IAC) July 2021 – May 2022

- Recruited and led regional Activism Committees, increasing engagement and local donor support.
- Created and delivered Jewish activism curriculum to teens, students, and young professionals.
- Strengthened cross-organizational partnerships and Jewish identity programming.

In-House Private Investigator / Security Advisor | Howard Capital Management March 2017 – July 2021

- Developed and led security protocols, compliance, and background investigation processes for a 40+ employee financial firm, maintaining employee safety and operational confidentiality.

Founder & Instructor | ZeShalom, LLC July 2018 – 2022

- Founded and scaled a personal defense training brand for corporate teams, student groups, and private clients, partnering with educational and nonprofit institutions on community outreach.

Intelligence Force Operator & Krav Maga Instructor | Israel Defense Forces 2009 – 2012

- Served in a high-pressure special intelligence unit and trained elite units in Krav Maga; honorably discharged as First Sergeant.

EDUCATION

Georgia State University – B.A. Political Science, Cum Laude

CERTIFICATIONS

- **Global Jewish Innovation Network (GJIN)** – Innovation Fellowship, Incoming Cohort
- Negotiation Certificate – **American Negotiation Institution**
- Conflicts of Interest – **The iCenter**
- Private Investigator – **Law Enforcement & Security Specialists Academy**
- Email Marketing Professional Certificate – **Intuit Mailchimp**
- Advanced Personal Training, **Wingate Institute** – Tel Aviv, Israel

PODCASTS & PUBLICATIONS

JewishPhilanthropy (eJP)

American Jewry 'Un-Conference' Offers Concrete Plans for Jewish Leaders to Create New 'Golden Era'

101.1 FM

Weekly Guest, *The Answer*, *Where Little Rock Comes to Talk*, the Dave Elswick Show

Arkansas Alive

Interview with Pastor Happy Caldwell

SKILLS & LANGUAGE

- Strategic Planning, Execution & Program Oversight
- High-Level Interpersonal & Cross-Cultural Communication
- Leadership & Mentorship
- Fluent in Hebrew and English; conversational Italian
- U.S., Israeli, and Italian citizenships

Community Volunteering:

Advisory Board Member | Global Jewry

Instructor | Operation Blazing Sword

Instructor and General Assistance with Programming | Hillels of Georgia & Israeli American Council