



LEADERS ASSEMBLY 2018: THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE
March 18-20, 2018 in Baltimore, MD

Youth Leadership: An Answer to the Teen Engagement Challenge
Monday, March 19 from 1:30PM-3:00PM

SESSION PRESENTER(S):

Eitan Goldstein and Elana Bloomfield, Habonim Dror North America

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Habonim Dror North America is a progressive Zionist youth movement built on the principles of collective responsibility and youth leadership. Through this lens, Habonim Dror camps are building teen leadership development programs that engage teens Jewishly, meaningfully, and long-term, and empower them to be future Jewish leaders.

Camp shows us that teens have a natural capability to be leaders. Teen engagement programs can harness this inclination by asking teens themselves to play a central role in shaping their own experiences, and the experiences of the wider community. When given the opportunity to take responsibility, teens develop the skills and understandings to be driven, self-directed leaders.

In this session we will delve into aspects of Habonim Dror's Bonimot Tzedek teen leadership program. This includes group visioning and action planning, cultivating a sense of ownership, and developing meaningful relationships with mentors. Together, we will explore how elements of Bonimot Tzedek can be implemented in various kinds of Jewish camps and youth organizations and result in long-term teen engagement.

BIG IDEAS FROM THIS SESSION:

Teen programming must be grounded in the experiences and needs of the teens themselves. Consider doing an assessment of the needs of teens in your community.

The discussion of teen needs is an important one to deepen. Research and teen voices play an important part in this.

Please follow our facebook page and website for posting about Bonimot Tzedek, the program that we highlighted and are developing, in order to track the implementation and application of principles that we delved into during the session.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/HabonimDrorNA>