

### Collaborative Problem-Solving: Listening, Communicating, and Making Decisions

*Specialty Track 2*

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<b>TOPIC (S)</b>	Team Building, Group Dynamics
<b>SUMMARY</b>	In order to be effective in accomplishing goals, the members of a team need to send messages, receive them, and, ultimately, reach consensus around next steps. At camp, though, it can be difficult to find the time to go through this process with intention unless there's a clear method in place, so in this session participants explore proven tools and techniques for collaborative problem-solving.
<b>GOALS:</b>	Participants will feel confident in their ability to work with others on solving problems. Participants will be able to facilitate team exercises to develop problem-solving skills. Participants will understand that collaborative problem-solving is a multi-step process.
<b>AUDIENCE:</b>	15-25 participants, 18+
<b>TIMING:</b>	Specialty Track - 75 minutes
<b>APPENDICES:</b>	Appendix--Shore_SpecialtyTrack2
<b>MATERIALS NEEDED:</b>	Appendix only--see above (share a link to a non-editable version of the Google Doc and have each team make a copy for themselves)
<b>SET-UP DETAILS:</b>	If in person, a large room with enough tables to accommodate teams of 4-6 team members.

### SESSION TIMELINE

#### Session (75 minutes) -- Collaborative Problem-Solving

- 00:00-00:10 Mind Meld
- 00:10-00:20 Objectives for the Session
- 00:20-00:25 Ma Nora HaMakom Hazeh (breathing, centering): **You're Not Alone**
- 00:25-00:55 Starting Up a Startup
- 00:55-01:05 Discussion: Reflections on the Experience
- 01:05-01:15 Discussion: Unique & Shared Goals

### SESSION OUTLINE:

00:00-00:10 Session leader explains the guidelines to Mind Meld (see Appendix), does an example with one participant, and then splits the group up into teams of 2 (or 3 for one group if needed based on numbers).

00:10-00:20 Session leader introduces the session topic, ABC's for the session, and connects the topic with the opening activity. Session leader also emphasizes the concept that the session itself is a model for how they can run the same or similar sessions at their camp.

00:20-00:25 Session leader facilitates a quick breathing/centering exercise and brief group learning session/discussion connecting teamwork with the concept of Emunah by using the following points and prompts while reading the room:

- **Teaching:** The awesome value of a team is that you're not alone.
- **Discussion Question:** Have there been times where you've felt alone on a team-- why was that?

00:25-00:55 Session Leader explains the guidelines for the Starting Up a Startup experience, and then sends participants back into their Mind Meld teams of 2 for 10 minutes to work on Part 1 (their shared team goals). After all participants return to the main room/group, the session leader sends them back into their teams of 2 for 10 minutes to create their startup idea using two of their words from the Mind Meld activity. After all participants return to the main room/group, the session leader combines teams to create teams of 4 and send them back into their new, larger teams for 10 minutes to combine ideas and create a new startup collectively.

00:55-01:05 Session leader facilitates a group dialogue using the following prompts and reading the room:

- What did you come up with?
- What changed or stayed the same after combining teams into teams of 4?

01:05-01:15 Session leader facilitates a reflective group dialogue using the following prompts and reading the room:

- What does it mean to have shared goals?
- What role do individual goals play in creating shared goals?
- How can we bring these concepts back to our camp rooms and camps?

### BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP & SHIFTING TO IN PERSON:

In order to best adapt this program for in camp use I would suggest:

- Be sure to have good workspaces and surfaces for teams to use as they plan, work through decisions, and write down their ideas
- For Mind Meld, if in person, participants can just say their words out loud to each other (instead of sending them in the chat when online). In this case, though, it is important that teams have a place to write down their Mind Meld words after they are done since they will need to reference them for the Startup experience
- It is valuable for all participants to come back together in between the 3 parts of the Startup experience to ensure everyone stays at a similar pace and that they all understand what to do when