

All the world is a narrow bridge... but the main thing is not to fear.

Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Fund

Dear Friends, Family, and Extended Communities,

As we slowly reemerge from our pandemic hibernation, in this High Holiday season, we hear difficult news on all fronts. Economic, political, and social unrest at home and around the world highlight the unmet needs and real desperation of so many individuals and communities. For many of us, we have experienced direct and indirect loss. In this New Year, and in this context, it is often difficult to find hope. The distance that we have endured, separated from our loved ones and from our friends and colleagues, seems to be ebbing for those who are vaccinated. The disparities that have always existed have become even more stark. In many ways this makes the work to be done even more clear. Our grantees have persisted; they are truly the light shining the way into the future.

The local and global challenges that our grantees are tackling are not of their making. Still, they are shouldering the endeavors our world needs to become more sustainable, just, and equitable. They embark on their journeys with an impressive determination and awareness of the difficulties that they will face. On the following pages, we share stories from a sampling of this year's grantees who found ways to continue the work despite all.

Thirty-four years ago, when we created the Amy Adina Memorial Fund in 1987, after Adina's sudden death, we could not have envisioned that the impact of her activism would ripple through more than 1500 young adult grantees to date. Time and time again, grantees tell us that the early affirmation of an award from the Fund was pivotal in inspiring them to incorporate their values of justice into their vocations and avocations. In May 2021, I heard from Raquel, an early grantee whom I have visited many times in Israel. She made Aliyah years ago, is married, and has three teenagers. Last September, Raquel was promoted to Head of Collections of the Israel National Library. She wrote, "We are ok - sad and disturbed, but we are well. The violence within Israel is doing real social damage - especially among those centrists who had started believing that coexistence was possible (without making deep changes to Israeli society). I think we are now seeing how intertwined political identity is with economic and cultural development... I don't know what happens next, but I'm continuing to work on cleaning up the mess and hopefully learning from it."

And then there was COVID-19. Unlike other epidemics that we confront—gun violence, climate change, and institutional racism—the pandemic threatened to stop the work of our grantees. Still, the Fund continues onward, having already received grant applications for programs starting in Fall 2021 and continuing into 2022. Applicants will intern with the Set Her Free project in Uganda; Israel's Arava Center for Transboundary Water Management; the Women's Justice Initiative in Guatemala; and The Harpswell Project in Cambodia.

We are most grateful and thank you for ALL your moral and financial support, and for continuing to recommend potential grantees. We wish you health, energy, and safety in this coming year.

B'shalom,

Ruth and the entire Schulman Family



Amy Adina's activism included the pursuit of civil rights, equity and justice in Israel/Palestine and throughout the U.S. The Fund is proud to support her legacy through its investment in young people at this critical juncture in their lives.

PORTLAND, UNITED STATES

Addressing Social Crisis, Teens Learn Interdependence

Participating in one community's efforts to solve its housing crisis gave recent High School graduates **Pachie** and **Bella** a look at interdependence in action.

"I helped build more than one hundred platforms for homeless encampments," Pachie wrote. "I can imagine myself doing projects like these during the rest of my life."

While Pachie derived satisfaction from the physical labor and engineering challenges, Bella delved into the meaning of the experience and the heart of the problems underlying homelessness. She pondered the reasons behind her passion for social justice. "Guilt, anger, hope?"

Bella realized discomfort was a motivator. "As I lean into this discomfort, I am starting to recognize the grave injustices that permeate our society, forms of systemic discrimination that directly affect the populations with whom I work... I am channeling this discomfort into purpose."

Bella intends to use her discomfort to engage in the fight for a more just world for all. Thanks to her Tivnu experience, Bella knows quick fixes and easy answers don't exist.

GUATEMALA VIA WORLD WIDE WEB

Adina Funds Help New College Grad Survive & Serve

Jess was supposed to move to Guatemala in August 2020 as a Princeton in Latin America (PiLA) Fellow, but COVID-19 forced her to work remotely from the USA for the Women's Justice Initiative (WJI). Not knowing when she could move to Latin America, Jess felt adrift. "Many Fellows lived with their parents, but this was not an option for me."

Worse, Fellows only earned what they would receive in their placement country, an amount on which it is nearly impossible to survive in the United States. She supplemented her income by taking side jobs and avoided rent by taking road trips, staying with friends, or in very cheap hostels. The grant from the Amy Adina Schulman Fund helped her survive this challenging year.

Despite her personal struggles, Jess made a difference at WJI. Among other things, she persuaded the creator of a digital platform that helps law firms organize their work to design a program for the nonprofit at no cost. WJI had been keeping paper records of intakes and other legal endeavors.

Working for WJI helped Jess understand the ins and outs of grant applications, program planning, strategic organizational expansion, and communication with nonprofit donors.

After her PiLA Fellowship ended in July, Jess moved to Guatemala to work at WJI in person. In upcoming years, she envisions working abroad with NGOs that support the rights of women and the LGBTQIA+ community.



PORTLAND, USA



GUATEMALA
COSTA RICA



COSTA RICA

Promoting Shared Prosperity via Agriculture

Madhu, a Rutgers alumna and a PiLA Fellow, finished her year as Marketing & Communications Fellow at EARTH University. Madhu interviewed students from disadvantaged backgrounds studying sustainable agriculture and the challenges that face rural communities. She also collaborated with cooperatives, farmers, and public communities.

For Madhu, the benefit of working at a nonprofit university that furthers social justice via education and environmental empowerment was learning that: "social change can and should be achieved on multiple fronts, collaborating with small rural communities as well as larger institutions."

ISRAEL-PALESTINE

Serving Through Tumultuous Times

Despite spending her first two weeks in Israel (including her 18th birthday) in quarantine and coming down with COVID-19 anyway, **Alice** supported three different organizations during her year in Israel. She interned at Fem JLM, a nonprofit that helps women in tech and women entrepreneurs in Jerusalem, and at i24News in Jaffa. She also volunteered at an Eritrean Women's Community Center. After experiencing the eleven-day war alone (her roommates and other students left Israel during the conflict), Alice left Tel Aviv to stay with family at a kibbutz. Together, they attended an Israeli-Palestinian peace protest.

Now studying at Harvard, Alice wrote of her fondness for Israel and her experiences there.

Our grantees embody the ancient Jewish aphorism: *Lo alecha ha'mlacha ligmor, V'lo ata ben chorin l'hibatel mimena. It is not your duty to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it.* —Rabbi Tarfon, *Pirkei Avot 2:21*



GREECE ISRAEL-PALESTINE

GAMBODIA

ISRAEL-PALESTINE

From Contested Land to a Peaceful Shared Society

With *Torat Tzedek* (Torah of Justice), **Sally** helped de-escalate situations between Israeli settlers and Palestinian shepherds in the Jordan Valley. By accompanying the Palestinian shepherds, *Torat Tzedek* made it difficult for the Israeli Army to prevent them from bringing livestock to graze. Sally also documented the settlers' presence, so Palestinians had evidence with which to file legal complaints. Sally wrote, "Sometimes I feel we're playing whack-a-mole, shooin' settler cows off a Palestinian farmer's barley crop only to find a flock of goats from an illegal outpost eating a Palestinian olive grove!"

Noah worked for *Achvat Amim* (Solidarity of Nations), sorting vegetables in Jerusalem. Noah said creating a shared society requires bringing residents from different backgrounds together to pursue a shared need — food. Noah conducted outreach for *TINAU*, a school that teaches Hebrew and Arabic, while informing its students about complex social issues. He wrote *TINAU*'s blog, planned events, and connected with US organizations to promote the school. "I am very grateful for the recent ceasefire and that I made the choice to participate in *Achvat Amim*."

GREECE

The First Step In Solving Problems of Housing Insecurity

In Greece, as elsewhere in the world, people experience homelessness. **Vasiliki** wanted to understand Greece's housing policies and history, to eventually devise solutions for the problems that created housing insecurity and result from housing insecurity. Vasiliki, who is earning an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies with a concentration in Urban Planning, achieved their goal by interning at the Greek Ombudsman.

Corona virus restrictions impacted Greece's ability to maintain communication with vulnerable international populations and prevented Vasiliki from being able to conduct interviews in the field. "If I come back, I would meet with communities and create a workbook of solutions guided by their experiences and needs," Vasiliki wrote.

CAMBODIA

Forced Proximity Inspires Creativity & Connection

Women in Cambodia must overcome numerous barriers to access education and find safe housing away from home. The Harpswell Foundation in Phnom Penh provides a dorm for motivated, curious, and intelligent young women who want to attend universities in the city.

For **Alex**, the opportunity to work there seemed too good to be true. As a Leadership Resident (LR), Alex lived full-time with the students as a teacher, mentor, and friend. She taught formal classes and held informal tutoring sessions while getting to know the young women through group activities or daily shared meals.

Arriving in Cambodia in January 2021, the pandemic shaped her experience. Before COVID, LRs worked or volunteered elsewhere while students attended classes. COVID prevented Alex from obtaining outside employment. Her students took all classes online and stayed in the dorm most of the time. As a result, they were with Alex almost 24/7.

Since COVID tapered opportunities to explore outside the dorm, Alex had to be creative in planning activities. She made scavenger hunts and organized group cooking activities and self-care nights.

In February, an outbreak changed daily life in Cambodia. By May, the government enacted "red zones," where residents couldn't leave their homes. Meanwhile, the government provided food and water at exorbitant costs. As stress and fear around the city increased, Alex recognized she had to return home for her safety.

She felt heartbroken leaving Cambodia. "That community of young women... the way that they embrace each other, the staff, and LRs as family is something that I will take with me and strive to emulate in my life and future relationships."

AMY ADINA'S LEGACY LIVES ON

Perspectives from Past Grantee and Host Site



Amy Adina z"l with her father Mel z"l in 1985/6.

From Achvat Amim Host Site

In March 2021, the Outreach Coordinator of Achvat Amim (Solidarity of Nations) wrote, "I am reaching out with deep gratitude for the ways that the Amy Adina Memorial Fund has supported our participants in making their educational and justice journeys possible. I see [Amy Adina's] spirit and ethics reflected in our participants who are deeply committed to peace, justice, and to the dignity of all human

beings, and I am amazed at the thoughtfulness, dedication, and joy they bring to the work of tikkun olam (repair of the world)... We speak at length to help them make choices that maintain their physical and emotional well-being. It has been inspiring to be in conversation with them as they think through personal safety, how they can continue their work while maintaining wellness and lean on each other for support."



Clare N. Gives Back and Passes Justice Forward...

"It is an honor to make a donation, however small, in my mother's name (another Ruth), and in support of the Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Fund. Your support made my time in Jerusalem possible... I am now

working remotely for the NY Public library, continuing to write fiction and to support progressive causes here and in Jerusalem. May this be a better year - of more openness and connection. Sending you all my best! "

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING AMY ADINA FUND GRANTEES

To make a gift using a credit card or PayPal, click the donate button on our website, www.AmyAdinaSchulmanFund.org. (International contributors: Please donate using our website. AASMF cannot accept checks from non-U.S. banks.) The Fund accepts employer matching gifts, as well as direct IRA donations and bequests.

If you'd prefer to give appreciated stock rather than cash, contributing from your IRA, or a bequest or legacy gift, contact Ruth at ruth@amyadinaschulmanfund.org.

We appreciate any gift to the Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Fund that is meaningful to you. Much thanks for all your moral and financial support.

Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Lecture

Rescheduled Again!

The Delta variant has once again forced us to postpone an in-person lecture.

We look forward to welcoming Dr. William J. Barber II to Princeton as soon as we are safely able to do so. Dr. Barber pursues justice and equity from within the grassroots community to the halls of political power.



@StevePavey / #HopelnFocus



Becker1999 | Flickr | img_9955



@StevePavey / #HopelnFocus

Regarded as a visionary leader with a concise and urgent view of what is needed, Dr. Barber works for broad-based, lasting racial and economic justice in this country.

We at The Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Fund hope to connect with you before the next in-person lecture. Please keep a look out for an announcement in the coming weeks for a zoom gathering engaging past grantees whose work today remains an inspiration.