



Montefiore Endowment

Montefiore
Jewish Leaders
in Jerusalem



Dear Lucien Gubbay,

We, as participants in the inaugural Montefiore Jewish Leaders course, would like to thank you for making the wonderful experience of the past ten days possible. We are all incredibly grateful to you and to the trustees of the Montefiore Endowment as a whole, for having the foresight to create this much needed program which we hope will have a tangible impact upon the UK Jewish community for years to come.

For us, it has been an incredible privilege to meet and speak with such a diverse array of Jewish leaders in the beautiful surroundings of Mishkenot Sha'ananim, which is a testament to the longstanding relationship between Anglo-Jewry and Jerusalem, as facilitated by Sir Moses Montefiore. These ten days have provided us with a rare opportunity to think deeply and seriously about Judaism, Israel and the leadership roles we can play in our own communities. The course has been incredibly inspiring and empowering! It has challenged us to question and create, to consider the challenges of Jewish life and our responses to them. This has meant listening carefully to the perspectives of others and incorporating them into our own. As the wonderful Rabbi Levy constantly stressed to us, we can do far more together than apart. This program was a wonderful reflection of his ethos both in the makeup of the participants and the diverse array of speakers invited to address us.

For all of us, this experience has been informative, stimulating and inspiring, but more than this, it has enabled us to come up with realisable ideas for the revitalisation of our communities. We are returning to the UK motivated to contribute to Jewish life in all its forms. Each has found within him/herself a newfound passion to lead within the community, in accordance with the values of Moses Montefiore. The people we have met, many of them not much older than ourselves, have shown us the power of people to transcend political and religious divides in order to build united communities. They are helping us to devise our own models for the development of Jewish life in the UK. Their inspiration provides us with a focus for the kind of diverse, open and committed Jewish community our generation needs.

We look forward to updating you on our progress.

With immense gratitude



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The Montefiore Leaders 2015

Adam Cobb
Daniel Temko
Elan Shuker
Evelyn Taylor
Hannah Goldstein
Hilary Davidson
Joseph Hyman
Michael Blank
Rachel Shaw
Shirly Piperno
Sophie Ross
Yoseph Citron
Abigail Hayton
Zita Ferenczi