

Hadassah Liora Sternfeld
Candidate for the 58th Southeast Council N'siah

My vision for Southeast Council is to regain our strength and momentum back that I **know** we have. We are small, one of the smallest councils in the Order, but this does not mean that we can't be **exceptional**. We have been through so much in the past year, but if nothing else, this has shown our strength and resilience more than ever before. We are still enduring an unprecedented time with unprecedented effects, but we have the power to make Southeast Council stand out to those everywhere. In order to achieve our goals, we have to follow some steps to ensure that we are as successful as possible.

- 1. Creating a more inclusive environment:** BBYO is meant to be a place for all Jewish-identifying people regardless of race, sexuality, or gender identity. However, after stepping back and taking a look at what BBYO truly is, I've realized that while we may try to be inclusive, we actually aren't as inclusive as we'd hope to be. With that being said, I intend to eliminate all gendered language from our constitution to create a more welcoming environment for those who are gender-fluid or non-binary. I also plan to hold educational sessions that will be open to the council throughout the year covering topics of *your choice*. The topics can include gender identity, racism, creating a more inclusive environment, etc. I want to ensure that our council is as inclusive as we possibly can be because we want every teen to feel welcome and at home in BBYO.
- 2. Consistent council programming:** Prior to COVID, the council only got together during conventions, which made it really hard to create a "council culture". However, due to the past year of virtual programming, we have gained many tools that will help ensure that we can have successful council programming. I will work with the S'ganim to create a council calendar to advertise our council programs, events, and initiatives. My goal would be to have monthly virtual council programming with a potential in-person programming at some point during the year, if it is safe enough to do so.
- 3. Chapter visits:** Each chapter in our council runs differently, has a different amount of members, and has its own unique set of successes and problems. The best way to help them succeed and grow is by visiting each community to gain a better idea of what the council board, staff, and myself can do to make each community the most successful. I hope to visit each community (hopefully with my co) at least once throughout my term, COVID permitting, so that we can assess each community and create a plan for success for the year.

I truly believe that by following these steps above we can have a successful and impactful year. I'm ready. Are you? We can't do this alone and we need your ideas and support every step of the way. **Let's do this.**