



Position: JIMENA's Director of Community Engagement

About the Sephardic Leadership Institute

The Sephardic Leadership Institute, which will be launched in the beginning of 2022, will serve as a hub for training, networking, and knowledge for Jewish communal leaders and institutions who are actively working to become more inclusive of diverse Jews, including those of Sephardic and Mizrahi descent. The integration of traditional Sephardic knowledge and modalities into Jewish communal spaces has the potential to broaden and strengthen communal understandings and Jewish approaches to issues of diversity, inclusion, contemporary political issues, and Jewish identities and experiences. One major goal of the institute is to utilize the knowledge, expertise, and evolving Sephardi approaches of rabbis, scholars, thought-leaders, educators, and activists in formulating recommendations and guidance for the larger Jewish community on how to actively become more inclusive not just of Sephardic Jews, but of Jews of diverse backgrounds. JIMENA's goal is for the institute to serve as a centralized Sephardic and Mizrahi Jewish communal hub that provides a space for Sephardic and Mizrahi leaders to engage in community building, learning, publishing, and convenings. Such a space will provide a platform for Sephardic leaders to showcase and share their knowledge and expertise with the larger Jewish community. In year two and three Sephardic Leadership Institute aims to implement an Israeli, community-based coalition model that serves every single Sephardic and Mizrahi Jewish communal institution in the United States.

We are seeking a dynamic and creative leader to refine the vision and lead the strategy and implementation of the newly created Sephardic Leadership Institute. The ideal candidate has a proven track record of success in program design and development and is a natural self-starter. This individual must be comfortable working with diverse Jewish communities and leaders and has a passion for elevating the profile, voices, leadership, and place of Sephardic and Mizrahi community leaders, scholars, educators, rabbis and activists.

Essential Functions

- Work closely with JIMENA's team on strategy, planning, and establishing short- and long-range objectives and goals of the Sephardic Leadership Institute; a newly created hub for Sephardic Jewish communal and lay leadership and allies. Together we will set and pursue engagement targets.
- Develop, implement, coordinate, and manage the activities and administration of the Sephardic Leadership Institute. Proposed activities include Jewish leadership development initiatives including the scaling of the [Sephardic Leaders Fellowship](#), conferences, publishing, and coalition building.
- Develop governance for various committees within the institute. Provide oversight and support to these committees.

- Work closely with the [Sephardic Leadership Advisory Committee](#) and diverse Sephardic and Mizrahi community partners including rabbis, educators, scholars, lay-leaders, and Jewish communal professionals. Build and strengthen relationships between diverse Sephardic Jewish communal leadership in the USA with a long-term eye on coalition building.
- Serve as a liaison and partner to diverse Jewish-American institutions from legacy institutions to start-ups and develop strategy and communications to strengthen and support their DEI efforts. Represent and advocate for the needs and positionality of diverse Sephardic and Mizrahi communities in Jewish American spaces, particularly those with a focus on DEI.
- Write press releases and public relations documents.

Qualifications and Requirements

- An understanding of the general landscape of Mizrahi and Sephardic communities throughout North America. You don't need to be an expert but this position will require a high degree of cultural competency and the ability to connect deeply with diverse Sephardic and Mizrahi leaders. A passion for Sephardic and Mizrahi Jewish life is a must!
- Creative and visionary team leader who has demonstrated success in creating community engagement programs with impact.
- Experience conceptualizing, developing, executing, and managing community engagement projects both independently and with a team.
- Excellent listening and communication skills with experience in group facilitation.
- Self-motivated and able to develop and implement strategic goals independently.
- Able to positively represent the Sephardic Leadership Institute in a variety of Jewish communal spaces including to donors, academics, rabbis, advocates, and to Jewish communal professionals.
- Experience developing and managing high-level, volunteer committees with a focus on implementation of strong governance.
- 5 years of Jewish communal engagement work and bachelor's degree in a relevant field.

Compensation range 60,000 – 80,000

Benefits include medical, vacation, sick pay, holidays (including Jewish), and retirement plan.

TO APPLY

Please send a copy of your resume with a cover letter to info@jimena.org. Include in the Subject Line: Community Engagement Director. All applications and inquiries will receive a response and will be kept strictly confidential.

www.jimena.org

*** Please Note - Must have received or be willing to receive the COVID-19 vaccination by date of hire to be considered.