

Hidden Sparks

Students in Jewish day schools with emotional or behavior difficulties are at risk of falling through the cracks. Mainstream teachers are often ill equipped to recognize issues like a memory or attention deficit; even when they do, they may lack the tools to effectively address these learning issues. Hidden Sparks believes that every child has a “hidden spark” waiting to be uncovered and understood, and works to help train and empower teachers to best uncover it. Hidden Sparks also strives to change school culture, offering professional development programs for schools to increase their ability to support students with learning difficulties, providing weekly on-site coaching for teachers to help them better identify and address the needs of students who are struggling in their classrooms. Additionally, it supports the school with monthly workshops aimed at grooming internal faculty to be experts in diverse learning.

The program, which began in 2007 as a pilot in seven Jewish day schools in the New York area, now partners with over 50 schools in the U.S. and Israel, and offers Hidden Sparks Without Walls, a series of free hour-long live webinars in the field of diverse learning. By helping Jewish educators catch and address learning issues early and effectively, Hidden Sparks boosts a student’s performance and self-worth; the teacher and school benefit in equal measure. To date, Hidden Sparks has trained 190 coaches in 65 Jewish day schools and reached over 1,600 teachers, changing the trajectories of thousands of children’s lives and ensuring these children can reach their full potential in school and life.



Partnering with Jewish day schools to help improve teaching for struggling and all students and helps schools cultivate internal expertise, systems, and a positive school culture to foster success for all students

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founded
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2016 expenses
\$695,000

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George Rohr Foundation

parent org founded
1993