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| **SOCIAL CHANGE DOMAIN** | | | | | | | |
| **STRATEGIES** | | | | | | | |
| Safeguarding Civil Society and Activists: The Civil Society Protection Hub | Advancing Religious Freedom and Fighting Religious Extremism | | Combating Crime & Violence in Palestinian Israeli Society | Strengthening Anti-Racism Initiatives & Organizations | Fighting the Occupation | | Promoting Shared Society |
| Advancing Equity in Land, Planning & Housing | | **Strengthening Gender Equality NGOs** | | Safeguarding Human & Civil Rights | | Strengthening Palestinian-Israeli Society | |
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| **The organization was established in 2012**  **DA Support (in 2023):** $35,000  **Rapid Response Support (in 2023/24)**: $30,000  **Link to Organizational Website**:  **Link to Proposal:** | | | | | | | |

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| **INTRODUCTION** |
| Brief description of the organization:  “Nivcharot” (Chosen) was established in 2012 by Haredi women to combat the discrimination of women by Haredi parties, which do not allow women to run for positions on their party lists. This historical injustice has led to the systematic exclusion of Haredi women from decision-making forums.  The organization's activities have led to significant achievements in raising public awareness of the issue. Additionally, one of Nivcharot's major accomplishments is creating a Haredi feminist identity with a distinct and unique voice. This uncompromising, authentic voice is used to promote issues of equality, democracy, religious tolerance, and public responsibility within the Haredi community.  Nivcharot also serves as a barrier against religious extremism, and its graduates have been involved in social, feminist, and democratic initiatives, including the 2023 protests.  Among the organization's recent achievements is the support of 14 Haredi women who stood for municipal elections, two of whom were elected in the cities of Beit Shemesh and Ra'anana.  The organization's activities include:  Legal battles and lobbying for equality for Haredi women in decision-making centers; representing Haredi women in various courts of law in cases that argue for equality in Haredi parties; and meeting politicians from secular parties to promote Haredi women within these parties. The organization leads the management of cases against Shas and Agudat Yisrael parties in district courts, ensuring the presence of Haredi women in hearings and monitoring legal developments.  The organization also operates the “Lobiladenu” (Not without us) project in the Knesset (an emergency grant from NIF). In this project, Haredi women representatives participate in Knesset committees, write position papers, and speak at committee meetings on behalf of unrepresented Haredi women.  Leadership groups—The organization has over 170 graduates from its annual leadership program, “HaNivcheret” (The Chosen or The Team), which is now in its seventh year. The theory of change of HaNivcheret is to work with liberal women from the Haredi community, including women from both the Haredi mainstream and from the fringes of Haredi society, in order to influence the entire Haredi community. Program graduates join the leadership network “Achotenu At” (You are our sister) and become active in various initiatives for Haredi women, which the organization supports.  Campaigns and Public Presence—The organization is very active on social media and has had a central role in the protests against the judicial overhaul, delivering more than 20 speeches at demonstrations and numerous media appearances.  After October 7:  The organization has established the “Haredi Women Partners” project, intending to recruit Haredi women for various military and home volunteer tasks. Over 200 Haredi women were recruited through a call to action for volunteer days in support of the home front. The project has received significant media coverage. |
| **The overall current expected impact of the program as a strategy for advancing NIF’s overall mission of a just and democratic Israel**:   * Especially in the current reality with the most anti-feminist government in Israel’s history, and as a mandatory component of any just society, gender equality will be advanced and anti-feminist forces thwarted in measurable ways, through the widening of public knowledge and dialogue and the strengthening of activists and organizations working with wider and more diverse (especially disenfranchised) populations, including ultra-Orthodox, Palestinians, Mizrachi. |
| **The grantee uses strategies of: leadership programs, campaigns, legal work and lobby work** |
| **These are the goals of the organization and then some relevant benchmarks outcomes on the way to achieving the goals:**  The organization's overarching goal is to promote Haredi women committed to a liberal worldview into decision-making centers.  Benchmark results on the path to achieving these overall goals include:  Goals:  - Increased number of Haredi women standing in municipal elections.  - Increased public discourse and pressure on Haredi parties to include women on their party lists.  - The development of a feminist-liberal worldview among participants in the organization's programs. |
| **Added value of this grant includes that:**  Nivcharot is the most influential organization on issues of gender equality and feminism in the Haredi community. The organization has a strong influence network and successfully collaborates with representatives from across the entire Haredi society, including very young women. The attitude change towards gender equality and feminism gradually penetrates the Haredi mainstream. The organization's work is also significant in representing the Haredi feminist, liberal voice to the broader Israeli society. For example, members of the organization presented speeches and participated in rallies aimed at halting the judicial overhaul, which they believed would be detrimental to gender equality for Haredi women. The organization's central role enables the reframing of positions and wishes of Haredi women. |
| **EXPECTED PROGRESS** |
| **Overall Expected (1-2 Years) Impact:**  Enhancing the effect of the organization on Haredi society and the involvement of graduates in feminist activism in Haredi society.  **Expected Strategic Activities (and Outputs):**  In the coming year:  - Expanding the feminist discourse within the broader Haredi society, including among Haredi men who are active on this issue.  - Increasing the number of Haredi activists among program graduates who work on gender equality issues.  - Expanding HaNivcheret group, the organization's annual leadership program.  **Expected Measurable Outcomes:**  **Indicator and Tools that the grantee/we will use for tracking progress:** |

**2024 Budget**

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| **General Support Expenses** | **2024** |
| Annual Organizational Expenses in US Dollars | $297,210 |
| % of NIF Grant out of Total Organizational Budget | 16.8% |

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| **Anticipated 2024 Organizational Income** | **$** | **%** |
| Total Assured | $49,843 | 16.7% |
| Total Likely | $197,368 | 66% |
| Total Pending | 0 | 0 |
| Recommended NIF Grant | $50,000 | 16.8% |
| **Total Anticipated Organizational Income** | **$297,210** | **100%** |

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| **RECOMMENDATIONS** |
| **2024 Staff Recommendation: $50,000**  **Staff Analysis of Risk vs. Opportunity:** High opportunity/low Risk  The organization has been active in the field for many years and has already received emergency grants from the New Israel Fund. Over the past decade, the organization has proven itself to be highly effective, even when facing financial crises, such as the budget crisis it recovered from approximately two years ago. We believe that the organization is stable, can raise funds, and has the capacity to create a significant and positive impact on its target community while maintaining a relatively low budget.  **Explain Staff Recommendation:**  Nivcharot has a significant and influential presence in the field of feminism as well as women’s organizations, and is one of the most prominent Haredi organizations. Nivcharot is not afraid to express a distinctly liberal voice on all issues, and its work cultivating leadership is meaningful and bearing fruit.  **Recommendation of Board/Grants Committee 2024:** |