

JEWISHCARE ANNOUNCES NEW CEO

'Broad' experience

AJN STAFF

JEWISHCARE has announced the appointment of Lawson Broad as its new CEO following an extensive local and international search.

Lawson, who will take over the role in December, brings a wealth of experience in the social services sector having most recently served as CEO of Somerville in the Northern Territory, where he significantly expanded the organisation. His hands-on experience with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and commitment to culturally sensitive service delivery aligns with JewishCare's mission to provide essential support to the Jewish community.

"We are thrilled to have Lawson join us as CEO," said JewishCare president Jason Sandler.

"His deep understanding of the social services sector, coupled with his commitment to serving specific communities, gives us complete confidence in his ability to lead JewishCare at this critical time for our community.

"Throughout the selection process, Lawson demonstrated empathy, leadership and a genuine curiosity about our community."

Lawson said he is honoured



Jason Sandler (left), Lawson Broad.

to lead an organisation that plays such a vital role in the Jewish community.

"I look forward to learning more about the unique needs of this community and working closely with the staff, volunteers and board to continue delivering high-quality services," he said.

"My experience of JewishCare so far has been welcoming and supportive. It is clear to me the importance of this organisation and its impact within the community.

"I am eager to help strengthen JewishCare's long-term sustainability. My focus will be on ensuring that we operate from a position of financial strength in meeting the needs of the Jewish community and setting the highest standards of customer satisfaction as we continue to provide culturally safe services that honour the dignity and respect of all those we serve."

'IT REPRESENTS TRIUMPH OVER EVIL'

Inspired to support Nir Oz

CARLY ADNO

A GROUP of Australian men went on a self-planned mission to Israel earlier this year and have returned determined to help rebuild the devastated Kibbutz Nir Oz community.

Rob Lederer, along with Anthony Weinberg, Brett Strous, David Rothman, Dean Milner, Gil Baron, Grant Abrahamson, Greg Blumenthal, Marc Reid and Mark Schwarz, visited the kibbutz to see for themselves what happened there.

"The devastation was incredible," Lederer told *The AJN*.

"We just wanted to go there and help out where we could, or just be there for support and really be part of the whole thing."

Nir Oz was one of the hardest-hit of the southern communities on October 7; 117 out of its 400 residents were either killed or kidnapped. There are still 29 hostages from Nir Oz held captive in Gaza.

"We came back thinking about how we could do something that's really significant and meaningful to Nir Oz," said Lederer.

"Because there's so much devastation over there and the government obviously can't do it all."

With the help of JNF, the group has set up a fundraiser to purchase a tractor to help with



The group visiting Kibbutz Nir Oz.

the healing and redevelopment of the kibbutz.

Rotem Cooper, whose mother Nurit was released from captivity, but tragically his father Amiram was murdered after four months

"We must rebuild Nir Oz stronger and better."

as a hostage, is grateful his community is being remembered and supported during such immense hardship.

"We must rebuild Nir Oz stronger and better, so that the displaced community and the

hostages will have a safe place to return to," said Cooper.

"More than that, reconstructing Nir Oz – which has become a symbol of the atrocities committed on October 7 – will be a top priority to our friends, the West and humanity. It represents triumph over evil."

A poker night has been arranged to help with the fundraising, which Lederer hopes will bring the community together in an uplifting way.

"It will be a fun night, but everyone knows it's for something serious," said Lederer.

The event will take place on October 30. For more information, or to register, visit jnf.org.au/poker

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