

Funding "First Hug" via P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.

P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc. was established in 1922 by Justice Brandeis, Rabbi Stephen Wise, Robert Szold and a group of distinguished Americans' and is a registered United States 501(c)(3) charity, tax ID number is 13-6104086. PEF is a fully tax-exempt public charity organization, accept direct distribution of funds to selected and approved charitable organizations in Israel. PEF invites gifts, bequests and contributions for specific purposes and institutions. As specifically requested by contributors, PEF grants (now totaling over \$1 billion) have touched almost every facet of Israeli life. PEF benefits from site visits in Israel by its Trustees. No administrative deduction is made from contributions. Overhead is approximately 2% of grants and is met by an administrative charge on endowed funds and special contributions for that purpose. No fund-raising organization is maintained or engaged.

Contributions

A donor wishing to make a contribution to **First Hug** association should send a check payable to "PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc." and note in the memo portion of the check or include a separate note with recommendation(s) for the use of the funds if applicable. The donor should provide their name and mailing address so that their contribution can be acknowledged. The minimum contribution accepted is \$25. Please note that the donor must give us a RECOMMENDATION for the use of the funds, not a directive or an order, otherwise PEF will be unable to accept the contribution and will return the check to the donor. When recommending **First Hug**, charity please include Both: the name of the charity and its 9-digit ID number.

name of the charity: **First Hug**

9-digit ID number: **580436277**

Please make sure that your check is made payable to "PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc." You may not include any other words (such as the name of the charity) on the payee line or else our bank will not accept it and we will have to return the check.

Please mail your check and recommendation to:
630 Third Ave, Ste 1501, New York NY 10017 USA

Frequently Asked Questions

How long does it take for a contribution to be processed?

It takes about 21 business days from the date a contribution check is received and deposited for the money to become available as a grant. Once the money has cleared it is included in our next weekly batch of Direct Deposit grants (typically posted on Fridays) which is usually credited to the charity's account the following Wednesday. Holidays can be expected to delay the receipt of funds. We do NOT send grants via wire transfer. PEF no longer issues grants in the form of US dollar checks. In order to keep our overhead low and streamline our processing, we wait until a charity has accumulated at least \$500 in contributions before we issue a grant. We do not inform each recipient charitable organization of an impending grant. Donors may contact us directly to inquire about a contribution if they have not received an acknowledgment.

What percentage of a donor advised contribution reaches the intended recipient organization?

100% of contributions received are transferred to the approved charity. PEF does not charge a processing fee and transfers the US dollar amount received directly to the charity. Certain currency conversion and processing fees may be charged by the charity's Israeli bank beyond the control of PEF.

What is PEF's charity approval process, and does it fulfill the requirements of an equivalency determination?

All the organizations that we fund must first be recognized by The State of Israel as a charitable organization (Amutah). In a separate application to become and to remain approved by PEF, the organization must provide current copies of their Certificate of Amutah, Articles of Association, Section 46 – Public Entity for the Purpose of Donations (when available), Certificate of Financial Accountability, Current Financial Statement and a report in English describing the organization's activities. Our trustees and friends of PEF are enlisted on a regular basis to make site-visits and to review the activities of our approved organizations. Equivalency determination (ED) is a process by which a U.S. grant maker evaluates whether an intended foreign grantee is the equivalent of a U.S. public charity. PEF's approval process is intended to fulfill the requirements of an ED.

Does PEF comply with relevant provisions of the Patriot Act and anti-terrorist list review process?

PEF follows all recommended best practices from both the IRS and Treasury and in accordance with the Patriot Act to ensure that grants made to Israeli charitable organizations are not used to support or fund terrorism.

What percentage of my contribution is allocated for overhead?

100% of all recommended contributions received are transferred to charities in Israel without any deduction for PEF overhead. Our modest overhead (less than 2% of grants) is covered from an annual fee charged to our donor endowment funds.

Does PEF accept donations via wire transfer?

Yes. Please contact us by email (info@pefisrael.org) for details.

We strongly advise donors to ask their bank to include a memo on the transfer slip that identifies them as the donor. **Donor MUST advise us, (preferably by e-mail to info@pefisrael.org) in writing of the exact amount that they intend to transfer, their recommendation for the use of the funds (i.e. the name of the charity and any special programs to which the funds should be applied), their current mailing address, and when the transfer was made so that we can identify the transfer when it comes in. If we do not have this information from the donor in writing, we may not be able to identify or allocate the funds. In other words, if we don't receive a notification from the donor then the charity won't receive the funds.**

Contact

PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.
630 Third Avenue
Suite 1501
New York, NY 10017

Tel 212-599-1260 or Fax 212-599-5981

<http://pefisrael.org/>