



American Friends of the Israel National Council for the Child Board of Directors

President and Director:

Ms. Beth Lakenbach (Connecticut)

Beth Lakenbach is a professional educator. She retired after 32 years of teaching special education in Hartford. Currently she is a consultant to colleges around the state. Her areas of expertise include early childhood and special education. Beth mentors new teachers, assesses preschoolers and evaluates early childhood programs and their teachers. As part of a three million dollar federal grant she recently completed an evaluation of the quality of all bilingual preschool programs in an inner-city environment.

Beth has a deep interest in Jewish causes, especially those involving Israel. She has been a long time volunteer for the Greater Hartford JCC Book Festival, chairing the Book Club Initiative.

Treasurer and Director:

Ms. Lisa Levy (Maryland)

Ms. Lisa Levy is a consultant in executive and organizational performance. As a consultant, she has worked with a broad range of public, private, and not-for-profit organizations. Her consulting work focuses on executive coaching, management and leadership development, multirater feedback systems, managing complex change, interpersonal and organizational communication, team building, strategic planning and goal setting, and building an organizational climate of integrity, motivation, and productivity. Among her clients are the National Center for Health Marketing, U. S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Federal Reserve Board, Danya International Corporation, the General Accounting Office, American University, Adas Israel Synagogue and the United Methodist Church. Her recent projects include working with Senior Executive Service officers to communicate difficult performance issues to employees; strategic planning for individual divisions of an agency; coaching a CEO, implementing recommendations arising from a comprehensive study of the organization's publications program; and helping an organization build a strong working culture.

In January 2000, Lisa Levy retired from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System after serving as the head of Executive and Management Development and Organization Development. Previous to the Board, Ms. Levy was the director of the Center for Professional Development at American University. In that capacity, she co-created and implemented numerous graduate-level, professional programs.

Her accomplishments include the Master of Science in Human Resources, the Master of Science in Organization Development, the Master of Science in Information Systems, and the Master of Science in Public Communication.

Secretary and Director:

Dr. Barbara Cohen (Maryland)

Barbara Cohen is an evaluation and strategic planning consultant with a Masters of Public Health (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and a PhD in social policy (Brandeis University – Heller School). Her work has combined her interests in social and public health. Much of her work has focused on topics relevant to children, youth and families. In addition, Barbara has served on several community-based boards and chaired various committees in the local Jewish community. She has guided synagogue and non-profit organizational strategic planning processes and helped to implement suggested changes. After years of working at the non-profit Urban Institute, and then two private consulting firms, Barbara founded Collaborative Consultants where as President she provides evaluation, strategic planning and technical writing support to her clients including U.S. government agencies, non-profit organizations and international private companies.

Directors

Dr. Samuel Halperin (Washington DC)

Dr. Samuel Halperin is the founder and Senior Fellow of the American Youth Policy Forum. He has held leadership positions in academia, the federal government, a foundation and non-profit organizations for over 40 years. Dr. Halperin was President of the Institute for Educational Leadership; Deputy Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; Director of the U.S. Office of Education's Office of Congressional Relations and Assistant U.S. Commissioner of Education for Legislation; a congressional fellow of the American Political Science Association; and Study Director of Youth and America's Future.

Dr. Halperin has been awarded HEW's Superior Service Award twice, HEW's Distinguished Service Award, and the National Association of State Boards of Education Distinguished Service Award, twice the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award of Jobs for the Future, the President's Medal of the George Washington University, the Harry S Truman Award of the American Association of Community Colleges and the Lewis Hine Award for Service to Children and Youth of the National Child Labor Committee.

He has taught at Wayne State, American and Duke Universities, and Teachers College-Columbia University, and lectured at many others. Dr. Halperin has served on various boards including the Peace Corps, Secretary of the Navy's Advisory Board on Education and Training, National School Volunteer Program, Jobs for the Future and others. He is the author of *A Guide for the Powerless and Those Who Don't Know Their Own Power*. He holds a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and a doctorate in Political Science from Washington University, St. Louis.

Mr. Cary Lakenbach (Connecticut)

Cary Lakenbach heads up the firm of Actuarial Strategies, which provides a comprehensive range of life insurance, annuity and long term care design and financial analysis work for insurance companies, as well as providing non-sales guidance to small businesses and individuals regarding their insurance needs or in-force policies. Actuarial Strategies has been in business since 1991.

Cary is active in the Greater Hartford Jewish Federation.

Mr. Bernard Shavelson (Massachusetts)

Bernie Shavelson graduated from Boston University in 1955 and spent his career in the investment business. For several years he was a stockbroker and then, for 20+ years, worked as a marketing executive and editorial director for mutual fund companies. Since retiring from the corporate world in 1997, Bernie has worked as a freelance writer in the mutual fund industry.