

Marina Furman Introduction

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege to introduce you to a pillar of the Jewish community...

She was an incredible advocate for Soviet Jewry, who became a refusenik at the age of 18 and spent the next ten years fighting to convince the Soviet government to give Russian Jews the permission to immigrate to Israel. She and her family were featured in the CNN Headline article "Defying the KGB: How a forgotten movement freed a people."

She is a passionate Zionist, who was finally given permission to make aliyah to Israel in 1988 and worked as assistant to the Mayor of Raanana. Ten years later, Mrs. Furman was appointed to the position of Israel emissary to the Jewish Community of greater Philadelphia, thus becoming the first Russian-born Israel representative in the United States.

And she is an inspiring executive, who has built a larger, stronger and more inclusive community of supporters in Eastern PA and Southern NJ than Jewish National Fund has ever seen before.

Ladies and gentlemen please welcome JNF's Eastern PA and Southern NJ Executive Director, Marina Furman.