

CONGREGATIONS BETH EL, RODEPH SHOLOM, B'NAI TORAH,  
B'NAI ISRAEL, CHABAD OF FAIRFIELD & CT HADASSAH

# CHANGING THE DESTINY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

## Our Modern Response to the Most Pressing Challenges Facing the Jewish People

"Never again!" has been our cry since the birth of the State of Israel. But how do we turn that mandate into action? Even as it was 100 years ago, Jews today are threatened in France, Ukraine, and even the streets of Jerusalem – but our ability to control our destiny has changed completely.

Join guest speaker Dmitry Shimelfarb and learn about the impact of The Jewish Agency For Israel on Jews everywhere and what you can do to be a part of this new Jewish power.



**Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:30 PM**



הסוכנות היהודית  
לארגון **JEWISH AGENCY**  
FOR ISRAEL ישראל

**CONGREGATION BETH EL, 1200 FAIRFIELD WOODS ROAD, FAIRFIELD**  
**This event is free and open to all. Light refreshments will be served.**



Dmitry Shimelfarb, known as 'Dima' to his colleagues and friends in the Former Soviet Union, Israel and North America, brings an extraordinary array of experiences to his professional role as an advocate and ambassador for The Jewish Agency for Israel's programs. Dima was born in Minsk, Belorussia in 1976, 13 years before the breakup of the former Soviet Union. Dima's first exposure to other Jewish children was in a Jewish Agency summer camp in Minsk, where he experienced for the first time companionship and a welcoming sense of chevra among other Jewish children. At age 16, Dima made the decision to make Aliyah to Israel, going to the Jewish homeland to make that sense of belonging he experienced at camp a permanent part of his life. He served in the Israel Defense Forces as an officer in a combat unit. Dima was accepted into Hebrew University and completed an undergraduate degree in International Relations and East Asia Studies. He continued his education at the IDC in Herzliya, earning a Master's in Business Administration. Dima's professional career was defined by his desire to use his experiences to engage and help others. Between 1999-2005, he served as a Jewish Agency emissary for informal Jewish education in the former Soviet Union (FSU) managing 38 summer camps in Russia, Belarus and Ukraine and building young Jewish leaders through various programs who have since become leaders in Hillel, Russian Jewish Congress and other major Jewish organizations building life in the FSU. Upon his return to Israel, Dima became the first émigré from the FSU to be appointed by then Prime Minister Netanyahu to serve as Likud's spokesman and press secretary. Six years ago, Dima moved to New York City and presently, Dima is an Associate Director of Community Relations and Major Gifts Officer for The Jewish Agency's International Development team.

*Brought to you by the Adult Education Committee of Congregation Beth El*

THIS PROGRAM IS MADE POSSIBLE  
IN PART BY A GRANT FROM THE



Federation for Jewish Philanthropy  
OF UPPER FAIRFIELD COUNTY