

VIVIAN SILVER arrived in Israel in 1982 from Canada to advocate for peace. She became the longtime director of the [Arab Jewish Center For Empowerment, Equality, and Cooperation](#), which organized projects providing bridges between communities in Israel, the Gaza Strip, and the West Bank. In 2014, upon her retirement, she helped found [Women Wage Peace](#) that promotes peace-building actions among women such as joint initiatives between Israeli and Palestinian women aiming to create dialogue and foster mutual understanding.

As she grew older, her focus shifted to mentoring younger activists who would carry the torch of peace forward. Through her efforts, she left an indelible mark on the quest for peace, proving that one person's commitment could indeed make a difference in the world. [Silver was murdered during the October 7, 2023, Hamas attacks](#). (connect this to PDF file)

In memory of the five decades that Vivian dedicated her efforts and passion to bringing people together in dignity, cooperation, and mutual respect, her family and friends established the [Vivian Silver Impact Award](#). This award will be awarded annually to two women, Jewish and Arab, who show great promise or have demonstrated significant accomplishments that embody Vivian's values and actions of 1) building Arab-Jewish partnership in Israel, 2) promoting Israeli-Palestinian peace, and 3) advancing women to decision-making and leadership positions. The Lodestar Foundation provided a [challenge grant](#) to encourage others to donate to the establishment of this award.

View grant [here](#).



Vivian Silver and her sons, Chen and Yonatan Zeigen