



# **RUCA'S FARM**

**A Rehabilitative Organic Farm**

Nir Lahav is a social entrepreneur and nonprofit leader who transitioned from the private sector to public and social impact work in Israel. He holds degrees from Tel Aviv University Law School and Pomona College (California) and is a graduate of the Mandel School for Educational Leadership in Jerusalem, where his focused on initiatives surrounding youth at risk and employment.

Nir has held senior leadership roles in several impactful initiatives. He served as Program Director of the Joint Distribution Committee's "It's a Deal", a program that empowers at-risk youth through entrepreneurship and professional skills training.

In 2008, he joined the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village in Rwanda as founding director, where he lived with his family and supported the village's development.

In 2011, Nir joined the Jewish Agency, serving as director of the Social Activism Unit, that serves communities in all demographic sectors around the country. He oversaw the unit's existing programs and led the development of national programs including Net@, Youth Futures, and Youth Villages, and initiated new frameworks such as pre-army academies and Tikkun Empowerment Centers.

In 2021, Nir founded Ruca's Farm, a therapeutic organic farm for veterans of Israel's security forces coping with military-related post-traumatic stress. He initially served as both Chairman of the Board and CEO on a voluntary basis, and today serves as Chairman of the Board, supporting the organization's continued growth and impact, providing direction in the running of the organization while actively working on the farm on a daily basis.