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Chief Executive Officer

The North American Jewish Leadership Network

Location Flexible

Salary: \$375,000 - \$425,000

About The North American Jewish Leadership Network

The North American Jewish Leadership Network [NAJLN] is an independent 501(c)(3) organization established as a spin-off from The Wexner Foundation and governed by its own Board of Directors. Building on Wexner's decades of investment in Jewish leadership, it develops volunteer and professional leaders with the Jewish knowledge, practical skills, and relationships to strengthen communal institutions, navigate difficult choices, and lead meaningful change.

Its work centers on three established programs:

- **The Heritage Fellowship** combines intensive Jewish learning and leadership development for volunteer leaders, deepening their capacity to guide and serve their communities.
- **The Field Fellowship** advances established Jewish communal professionals through leadership education, coaching, Jewish learning, and a sustained network of peers.
- **The Davidson Fellowship** develops emerging Jewish communal professionals, providing leadership education, coaching, and Jewish learning as they grow into greater responsibility.

As a new, independent organization with established programs and an extensive alumni network, the North American Jewish Leadership Network combines a strong foundation with significant opportunity for growth.

The Opportunity

NAJLN seeks its inaugural CEO to build and lead the organization, shape its strategic direction, strengthen its capacity, and expand its leadership development initiatives to meet the evolving needs of North American Jewish life.

NAJLN is grounded in a simple premise: the vitality of North American Jewish life depends on the quality of its leaders. It equips them with the vision, skills, relationships, and courage to meet today's challenges and shape the Jewish future.

NAJLN launches with a significant founding philanthropic commitment, an independent Board of Directors, an experienced staff, and an accomplished alumni network. Its inaugural CEO will inherit a rare combination: a new organization with a legacy of developing Jewish leaders for the future.

The inaugural CEO will have the unique opportunity to carry forward a distinguished legacy while building an institution for the future—protecting the excellence and enduring impact of its flagship programs while forging NAJLN's own identity, voice, strategy, and culture. The Board seeks a seasoned, inspiring executive with the judgment to steward what is exceptional, the vision to imagine what is possible, and the courage to lead meaningful change, all grounded in deep Jewish purpose and genuine care for people. Reporting to the newly formed Board of Directors, the CEO will lead the staff and serve as NAJLN's chief ambassador and most visible champion.

Strategy and Organizational Development

- Set a compelling vision and translate it into clear priorities that balance stewardship, innovation, and growth.
- Work with the Board, staff, and alumni to assess communal needs and explore programs and populations aligned with NAJLN's distinctive value. Guard against mission creep and bring proposed mission changes to the Board.
- Learn the organization and introduce change at a manageable pace, informed by program cycles and open to revisiting transition decisions.
- Define measures of participant and communal impact, using evidence and experience to guide learning, experimentation, and resource allocation.

Leadership Development and Jewish Learning

- Develop a deep understanding of NAJLN's programs and guide their evolution with the Executive Vice President, program directors, and faculty.
- Keep programs rigorous, relevant, pluralistic, and grounded in Torah, Jewish ideas, values, and community.
- Strengthen relationships among cohorts, faculty, and alumni, fostering thoughtful disagreement across institutional, generational, denominational, and geographic boundaries.
- Engage directly with programs to understand their impact, inspire constituents, and share compelling stories about fellows, members, and alumni.

People and Organizational Leadership

- Recruit, retain, and develop excellent staff, fostering trust, accountability, mutual support, and joy in the work.
- Respect program directors' expertise, delegate effectively, and clarify roles, authority, expectations, and boundaries.
- Lead through change with candor, empathy, and steady judgment, addressing difficult decisions and resistance constructively.
- Match growth to staff capacity, invest in needed roles and systems, create development opportunities, and build complementary staff and advisory expertise around the CEO.
- Oversee planning, budgeting, financial stewardship, operations, technology, and risk management.

Board Leadership and Governance

- Build a trusting strategic partnership with the Board and Chair, sharing timely, candid information about priorities, opportunities, risks, and results.
- Support the Board's strategic and fiduciary responsibilities and help recruit, orient, and engage members.
- Maintain clear boundaries between governance and management, strengthen volunteer-professional partnership, and ensure sound governance and compliance.

External Leadership and Network

- Represent NAJLN through speaking, writing, conferences, and communal convenings, articulating its vision and contribution to Jewish life.
- Mobilize alumni to extend NAJLN's reach, deepen relationships, and create opportunities for collaboration and philanthropic support.
- Pursue mission-aligned partnerships with Jewish institutions, foundations, and leadership organizations while remaining connected to programs and staff.

Philanthropic Leadership

- Lead philanthropic strategy with the Board and Executive Vice President, building development capacity and assigning clear responsibilities and goals.
- Personally cultivate, solicit, and steward major donors and foundations, making a distinctive, evidence-based case for investment.
- Diversify funding and create a revenue plan with measurable milestones for the next five to seven years and beyond.
- Ensure that funding relationships and initiatives align with NAJLN's mission and values.

■ Priorities for the First Three Years

- Build a sustainable revenue base with measurable progress against near- and long-term philanthropic goals.
- Strengthen core programs while creating disciplined capacity to test new approaches and respond to emerging communal needs.
- Align staffing, systems, and organizational culture with NAJLN's growth, ensuring early staff confidence and operational clarity.
- Develop an engaged Board marked by healthy relationships, strong governance, and clear strategic partnership with the CEO.
- Establish NAJLN as a respected voice in Jewish communal life through visible thought leadership, alumni engagement, and mission-aligned partnerships.

Candidates must bring the following experience, commitments, and capabilities:

- Executive experience leading an organization, including strategy, staff, operations, and budgets.
- A strong fundraising record, including securing major gifts and cultivating donors and foundations.
- Deep knowledge of the North American Jewish communal landscape, including its institutions, movements, foundations, funders, and diverse communities.
- A demonstrated commitment to Jewish pluralism and the ability to build trust across meaningful differences.
- A strong interest in leadership as a field of study and practice, and an understanding of adult learning and development.
- Experience partnering effectively with a Board and with volunteer and professional leaders.
- Sound judgment, integrity, humility, emotional intelligence, and the ability to empower staff while leading decisively through change.
- Excellent writing, speaking, and interpersonal skills, with the ability to convey an inspiring vision grounded in Jewish purpose.

Experience launching an organization or leading a major transition is especially valuable. Leadership development specialization and advanced degrees are not required. The CEO must value Torah and serious Jewish learning and ensure their centrality through staff, faculty, and scholarly expertise, without serving as NAJLN's primary educator or scholar.

Reporting Relationship, Location, and Travel

The CEO reports to the Board of Directors and leads NAJLN's staff.

Location is flexible. The CEO must be able to travel regularly for in-person work with the NAJLN team, programs, alumni gatherings, philanthropic meetings, and communal convenings across North America.

Compensation and Benefits

Salary Range: \$375,000 - \$425,000

NAJLN offers a generous health and benefits package.

If you are interested in this position, please click [**here**](#) to submit a resume and cover letter. All applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of their application.

We encourage candidates of all backgrounds to apply even if you do not meet all of the qualifications outlined above.

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[**Submit an application**](#)