

## Virginia-Israel Partnerships receive \$3 million R&D Funding

February 7, 2024 (Richmond, Virginia) -- Three Virginia-Israel partnerships were awarded a total of \$3 million for R&D projects funded by the BIRD Foundation - the U.S. Israel Binational R&D Fund. The projects were evaluated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) of the U.S. Department of Commerce and by the Israel Innovation Authority.

Virginia again outperformed every U.S. state, capturing three of the 10 grants in this funding cycle. The Virginia-Israel partnerships that received \$1 million grants each are:

**Israel Aerospace Industries (Lod, Israel) and MELD Printworks (Christiansburg, Virginia)**  
To develop large civil aviation components utilizing Additive Friction Stir Deposition technology.

**Sheba Medical Center (Ramat Gan, Israel) and Serpin Pharma (Manassas, Virginia)**  
To perform a Phase II clinical trial to provide a targeted therapeutic to restore immune balance for patients with acute myocardial infarction. [Press Release](#)

**Tissue Dynamics (Rehovot, Israel) and ATCC (Manassas, Virginia)**  
To develop an advanced organoid kit for cardiac toxicity assessment.

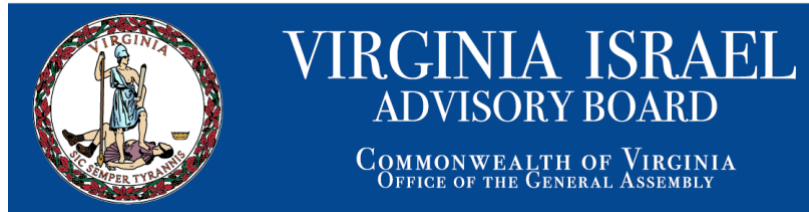
“BIRD grants create lasting partnerships between Israeli and Virginia companies, which then build their commercial operations in the Commonwealth,” said Dov Hoch, Executive Director of the Virginia Israel Advisory Board. “Virginia has again outperformed every state in both dollar value and number of grants received (three of 10).”

BIRD grants are promoted in the Commonwealth by the VIAB BIRD Steering Group, a 15-member public-private consortium of state-wide organizations including: The Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade; Virginia Manufacturers Association; Virginia Innovation Partnership Corp. (VIPIC); Lighthouse Labs; Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Virginia Tech Carilion (VTC); Fairfax County; Arlington Economic Development; Alexandria Economic Development Partnership; Hampton Road Business Alliance and Dominion Energy Innovation Center.

## Virginia BIRD Grants Steering Group



Virginia Israel Advisory Board - Office of the General Assembly  
Capitol Square, 1001 Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219



**The Virginia Israel Advisory Board (VIAB)** is a state agency that enhances educational, cultural, and economic ties with Israel. In the realm of economic development, the VIAB facilitates Israeli companies to build their U.S. operations in Virginia, which increases investment and jobs in the Commonwealth. VIAB officially represents the BIRD Foundation, which has awarded 28 grants to Virginia-Israel R&D partnerships.

**The BIRD Foundation** promotes collaborations between U.S. and Israeli companies in various technological sectors. BIRD is funded by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the U.S. Departments of Commerce (Office of Science and Technology Cooperation); State; Treasury; Homeland Security and Energy, as well as the corresponding Israeli government ministries. BIRD provides grants of up to \$1.5 million for collaborative product development. **BIRD Foundation Press Release**

**Contacts:**

Dov Hoch, Executive Director  
Virginia Israel Advisory Board  
1001 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219  
[dovhoch@viab.org](mailto:dovhoch@viab.org) 804 484 9097

Limor Nakar Vincent  
BIRD Foundation  
[Limorn@birdf.com](mailto:Limorn@birdf.com)