

Ellen Schwartz is the author of *Lessons from Jacob: A Disabled Son Teaches His Mother About Courage, Hope and the Joy of Living Life to the Fullest*. She is also an inspirational public speaker for the Canadian National Bureau of Speakers.

Inspired by her son Jacob, Ellen created a program called "Project Give Back", a program designed to teach about the importance of giving, develop empathy, build character, and ignite community minded citizens.

She also co- founded [Jacob's Ladder](#) (Canadian Foundation for Control of Neurodegenerative disease). Ellen has received numerous awards, including being honoured as a 'woman of action' by the Israel Cancer Research fund.