



#### **CARE** for One Another

We care for one another by helping feed the hungry, comfort the sick, aid the elderly, shelter the homeless, and support those in need or with disabilities - wherever they are in the world. We advocate for the vulnerable and fight for social justice. We also invest significant resources in preventing, preparing for, and responding to potential security threats to our community.

#### **PREPARE** for the Future

We prepare for the future by ensuring the long-term health and vitality of our diverse community. We provide the critical strategic planning and oversight needed to make life better today and for generations to come. We provide a wide range of educational programming for all ages which celebrates Jewish values and traditions. We also develop the next generation of leaders through mentoring, teaching, and hands-on experiences.

#### **SHARE Our Perspectives**

We share our perspectives by ensuring diverse points of view throughout our community are heard and respected. We reach beyond our community to bridge cultural divides and build collaborative relationships with other ethnic, racial, civic, and religious groups throughout Greater Cleveland. We provide the education and tools needed to stand up and speak out on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people. We deepen connections to Israel through personal experiences and programs that celebrate our Jewish homeland.

#### **REPAIR Our World**

We repair our world by responding in times of emergency and helping people rebuild in the wake of natural or man-made disasters. We also invest in programs and services that provide a strong safety net during times of personal crises.

# **Our Federation**

is the only organization in Cleveland that focuses on the health and vitality of the entire Jewish community. For more than 115 years, the Federation has created the critical scale necessary to drive meaningful social change and provide relief in times of crisis in ways no one person or organization could do alone. The Federation is Jewish Cleveland's hub for innovative solutions and collaborative services.

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Dear Friends.

As we look back on 2021, it's hard not to be incredibly proud of what we accomplished together. Weaved throughout this report are merely a sample of the many ways Jewish Clevelanders continued to help change and improve lives here and around the world.

Through concerted efforts and small acts of kindness, Cleveland showed why it is one of the most caring and vibrant Jewish communities anywhere. We're so blessed to be Clevelanders. There's something unique and special here. It's easy to see an incredibly exciting future.

This is not to suggest 2022 will be without its challenges. Far from it. The war in Ukraine has created a massive humanitarian crisis.

We face significant physical, emotional, psychological, and financial trauma from the COVID-19 pandemic. Antisemitism continues to spread at an alarming rate – a stark reminder that we are Jews first to those who hate. Similarly, anti-Israel rhetoric is growing louder and more caustic.

But the lessons we've learned over the past year will serve us well moving forward. For example, listening to each other allows us to harness the power of Jewish Cleveland. Maklokhet l'shem shemayim – a constructive disagreement for the sake of heaven – is not about winning an argument, but understanding each other.

We learned that technology can create even more inclusive experiences, but it only complements a strong community. It cannot replicate it. Personal phone calls and letters, outdoor get-togethers, and special deliveries are key to combating isolation and loneliness.

And, perhaps most importantly, we learned that there is a deep sense of responsibility for one another (Kol Yisrael arevim zeh la-zeh) that pulses throughout our diverse Jewish community in Cleveland – which is home to Jews of different races, backgrounds, and experiences – and radiates to our sister

communities in Beit Shean/Valley of Springs, Israel, and St. Petersburg, Russia, as well as to wherever Jews are in need.

For these and many other reasons, Jewish Cleveland is strong and growing – and our future is truly bright.

Thank you to the healthcare professionals for keeping us informed and healthy throughout the various twists and turns of the pandemic. Thank you to the local law enforcement officers – including our security provider JFC Security, LLC – for ensuring hate has no home in Northeast Ohio. Thank you to our beneficiary agencies and local day schools for their tireless and heroic efforts in support of our community. And, most importantly, thank you for all you do to make Jewish Cleveland special. Together, we are - and will continue to be – HERE FOR GOOD.

James Heller Fixe B. PCL J. David Heller **Board Chair** 

Erika B. Rudin-Luria President

# Delivering Food and Comfort in Jewish Cleveland

Twice a week, Katie, a Holocaust survivor, has meals delivered to her by a volunteer through Jewish Family Service Association (JFSA), a Federation beneficiary agency. Katie is one of hundreds of people every week in our community who receive hot meals through JFSA. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, JFSA staffers stepped up to meet the rapidly increasing demand. And once community members could resume delivery duties, a new, younger crop of volunteers emerged.

Many volunteers are not just delivering meals; they're going above and beyond to help the client. That includes picking up medication from the pharmacy, going grocery shopping, and even bringing the mail in.

"It's amazing the connections you can make in a short amount of time," said one volunteer. "Even through their masks, you can see the smiles and their eyes light up. And while I know I'm giving my time to them, I'm getting even more in return."

# Navigating Alzheimer's/Dementia Together

When Betty became the primary caregiver for her husband, Alan, after he was diagnosed with dementia, she turned to JFSA's Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Caregiver Support program for help.

"I didn't know much about dementia before my husband was diagnosed," said Betty. "JFSA enlightened me so much and our 'care navigator' is so supportive. This program has been extremely beneficial for us and we're so lucky to have it here in our community."

Betty and Alan's are just one of the more than 200 families who have benefited from the program, which specializes in providing wrap-around services through JFSA's care navigation, training and support for caregivers, and access to a dedicated geriatrician.

"This wrap-around program helps to identify how we can make the biggest impact on the quality of life for these individuals," said geriatrician Elizabeth O'Toole, MD. "And much of that research is being done because of the support this program gets from the Federation." In 2021, we took caring for each other to new heights ...



# Developing Muscle Memory Through Security Training

Helping to keep Jewish Cleveland safe - while preserving its open and welcoming spirit - has long been a top priority for the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and its security provider JFC Security, LLC. To that end, JFC Security has increased its team of highly trained security officers to support local law enforcement, as well as deployed leading-edge security technology throughout the community.

Another critical piece of the security efforts in Jewish Cleveland is community training. JFC Security has trained thousands of community members in safety classes including active shooter training, bomb threat training, and situational awareness training. These free classes occur year-round throughout Northeast Ohio and are tailored specifically for that particular synagogue, school, or organization.

"Our goal is to allow community members freedom to attend synagogue without worrying," said Stuart Deicher, executive director at The Park Synagogue. "Through the training by JFC Security, our congregants are able to see real-world observations of what could happen in many situations, and they'll know what to do in order to save their lives and someone else's life should something happen."



... at the same time, we never took our eyes off the future.

## Adding Up the Progress of STEM in Israel

Two years ago, Rabbi Yosef Lassri and his wife noticed their son, Yair - who has autism spectrum disorder - was not progressing as well as he could with his grades in school at Yeshiva.

They started to explore different options to better address his needs. That's when they met Meirav Levi, principal at the Tachkemoni Elementary School, a public and coed school in Beit Shean, Israel. After learning about the school's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) format, they decided to enroll Yair.

Today, these parents think it's one of the best decisions they have made. Since participating in Tachkemoni's STEM teaching methods and the STEM Teen Scientific Leadership program, Yair's educational and personal success has improved tremendously.

Yair is just one of thousands of children across Israel who have benefited from STEM education since the integration of the STEM approach was implemented by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland three years ago.



# The Home of Happiness Was Happy Once Again

On April 30, 2020, the Mandel Jewish Community Center (MJCC) made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Camp Wise summer due to the worsening COVID-19 pandemic. That's why when Camp Wise returned in 2021, a collective sigh of relief was heard across the community.

The first step of planning a safe and fun summer was putting in place the necessary safety protocol. The MJCC, a Federation beneficiary agency, worked closely with camping colleagues and medical professionals to take a multilayered approach to keep camp COVID free. And their efforts paid off as there were zero COVID-positive cases throughout the 2021 camping season. Throughout the past two years, the Federation also worked closely with the MJCC to support Camp Wise with the necessary financial resources and access to experts to support

"I took camp for granted for a long time," said Shayna Caruso, who was a Camp Wise camper and Shaker Heights High School student in summer 2020. "Coming back in 2021, I realized how much camp has done for me and for so many others. I just can't imagine what kind of person I'd be without Camp Wise, and I thank everyone involved for making it happen."

campers and staff on many levels.

# While our global community faced an increasing threat of antisemitism ...

# **Shine A Light on Antisemitism**

During the Chanukah season, the Federation joined with community partners and people of all faiths to celebrate the holiday with a community menorah lighting service. As part of a national initiative, the event - known as Shine A Light - brought together people from across the Greater Cleveland community to call attention to the rise in antisemitism and Jew hatred.

Although several of the speakers came from different faiths, the message from each was consistent - hate has no home in Northeast Ohio; when one community hurts, all communities hurt; and only together can we be stronger than hate.

Federation Community Relations Committee Chair Gregg Levine told the crowd, "We are here with so many other people in the community - the Black community, the Latino community, the Asian community - who are with us to celebrate Chanukah and fight discrimination."

"We all have to stand against hate of any kind," said Masroor Malik, director of Chagrin Valley Islamic Center. "We are here to support our Jewish brothers and sisters, and make sure we are standing together with all of them."

"Chanukah is a season of light and a season of shared miracles," said Andy Call, lead pastor at Church of the Saviour. "We want to shed a light on all faith communities that are under attack and it's really important for all of us to stand together."

... we stood strong for Israel and our Jewish homeland. Rally for Israel

When terrorist attacks escalated in Israel in May 2021, Jewish Clevelanders came

together to show their unwavering support for the Israeli people and the Jewish homeland at a rally hosted by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and the Israeli-American Council. On May 12, more than 500 people from our diverse Jewish community marched down Richmond Road to send a message of peace and healing across the world. Rally participants also heard inspirational messages from community leadership and clergy.

"We stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Israel, and we show support to our Cleveland community that is in pain right now as we hear the stories about what's happening in Israel," J. David Heller, Federation board chair, told the audience. "Being together at this time is so important."



# Serving Cleveland and Repairing the World

Launched in early 2020, Serve the Moment is a Repair the World program, supported by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland that combines urgent community service projects and meaningful Jewish learning for young adults ages 18-29.

The corps members commit to volunteer, learn, and reflect together, focusing on social and systemic inequities and rooting the experience in Jewish values.

For 10 hours a week for 10 weeks, service corps members volunteer with organizations like Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry and Greater Cleveland Food Bank. In 2021, members also helped launch the very successful Cleveland Vaccine Volunteer Network (CVVN) to help increase access to vaccines within Northeast Ohio.

"I'm honored to have worked with a group of dedicated individuals who felt the same urge I did to educate and protect the people of Greater Cleveland," said Bretton Keenan, a corps member who volunteered at the CVVN. "I'm grateful that I had this opportunity to fulfill the Jewish value of *piku'ach nefesh* (saving a life)."

And we never forgot that we are - and will always be - **HERE FOR GOOD.** 



## **Regaining Confidence Through Youth Futures**

Jonathan lives in Cleveland's sister community of Beit Shean/Valley of Springs, Israel. The country-wide shutdown in response to COVID-19 put tremendous financial strain on families like Jonathan's. For Jonathan, just a seventh grader, it quickly became overwhelming.

Through Youth Futures, a program supported by the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), children like Jonathan and their families receive counseling and support.

Jonathan's Youth Futures mentor, Rivi, maintained regular contact with him - inviting him to meet with her outside, away from his video games, and arranging activities with small groups of peers.

She also spoke regularly to Jonathan's parents to help guide them through their economic struggles.

Over time, Rivi could see Jonathan's confidence was growing as his friendships deepened and his resiliency strengthened.

"For children like Jonathan, small successes that can be built upon are so important," said Rivi. "With each success comes more confidence: with confidence comes self-esteem, which is the key ingredient to personal growth."





Approximately 78% more high school students in Beit Shean took the Level 5 (equivalent to AP) mathematics exam this year than in 2020-2021 - the 2nd highest increase in the country.

500+ community members participated in Jewish Cleveland's "Rally for Israel" amid the barrage of bombing by Hamas in May 2021.

95 Cleveland young adults traveled to Israel through Federation programs to participate in unique internship, study abroad, and volunteer experiences.

Through our ongoing leadership development efforts, 37 Jewish community initiatives and organizations in our sister city of St. Petersburg, Russia, raised the equivalent of almost \$31,000 (USD) from 1,180 donors in their first-ever community fundraising campaign.

Together with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), we gave life-saving support to over 80,000 impoverished, isolated Jewish seniors in the former Soviet Union who continued to receive food, medicine, and home care.

To date, PJ Library® Cleveland has shipped a total of 273,867 books and has served 6,564 children

Since 2005, Jewish Family Service Association's Horvitz YouthAbility has worked with more than 3,000 disabled and at-risk youth

Upon reopening in 2021 after a year off, Camp Wise hosted 466 campers this past summer - and had zero cases of COVID-19.

49 Repair the World service corps members served 10 organizations in the Jewish Cleveland and greater Cleveland community in areas such as food insecurity, racial justice, and mental health.

Federation helped advocate for an increase in the national Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) to \$250 million from \$180 million last year. The NSGP is used to fund inspection and screening systems physical barriers, and development of emergency preparedness plans.

More than 1,000 community members have participated in safety and security trainings since 2017.

JFC Security, LLC - Federation's security provider - has connected over 700 camera video feeds from Cleveland area Jewish agencies, synagogues, and schools, directly into the Dispatch Center for remote monitoring and real-time review.

JFC Security, LLC currently employs more than 30 highly trained and seasoned **professionals** - including former FBI agents, a SWAT team commander, explosive ordnance specialist, and five former police chiefs - to help monitor and patrol the community.

**Hebrew Shelter Home provided 1,027** nights of shelter to Jewish women and children fleeing domestic violence and homelessness.

**Approximately 75 cars dropped off** thousands of toiletry items, gallons of laundry detergent and cleaning supplies. and hundreds of school supplies for Afghan refugees arriving in Northeast Ohio

during a donation drive on Super Sunday.

Cleveland Hillel and Hillel at Kent State University hosted more than 400 events designed to strengthen the Jewish community on local college campuses.

jHUB provided 3,000 interfaith families with holiday and other Jewish resources, clergy referrals, workshops, and more.

Bellefaire JCB's Monarch School helped more than 15,100 children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum **Disorder (ASD)**, helping them achieve their maximum potential as learners and community members.

677 Holocaust survivors (288 from **Ukraine) received services** through JFSA's Holocaust survivor program, including free transportation, counseling, financial assistance, and more.

## ANNUAL **CAMPAIGN FOR JEWISH NEEDS**

Every year, Jewish Cleveland raises money for the Campaign for Jewish Needs to help ensure our community's vitality and vibrancy. We thank Campaign Chair Bradley A. Sherman for his leadership.

Every dollar makes a huge difference

\$34,023,524

FOR JEWISH NEEDS

11,379

8,398 including

**NEW GIFTS** 

CAMPAIGN BENEFICIARY AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS help tens of thousands of people in Cleveland, Israel, and around the world

Bellefaire JCB Cleveland Hillel Foundation Fuchs Mizrachi School

@Akiva High School

Hebrew Shelter Home

Jewish Community Security

Gross Schechter Day School Hebrew Academy of Cleveland

American Jewish Committee

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

Anti-Defamation League

Hillel at Miami University

Hillel at Ohio University

Hillel at Kent State University

Jewish Education Center

Jewish Family Service Association Yeshiva Derech Hatorah

Hillel Foundation for Jewish

Israel Action Network JCC Association

Jewish Telegraphic Agency (70 Faces Media)

Jewish War Veterans

Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)

Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI)

Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) Overseas Connections Committee

Joseph and Florence Mandel Jewish Day School

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage

Mandel Jewish Community Center

Menorah Park

Ethiopian National Project

thanks

BBYO

Hadassah

We sincerely thank the anonymous foundation for creating a special matching gift program, Unlock the Bonus, to inspire new and increased Campaign gifts this year.

We greatly appreciate the support of Brunswick Companies and KeyBank for the matching gift incentives they provided during Campaign.

\$78,411,032

**DISTRIBUTED TO THE JEWISH** AND GENERAL COMMUNITY

Grant distributions from donor advised funds (DAFs), supporting foundations, and special purpose funds

\$2,571,317

from the Federation's Unrestricted Endowment Fund

\$80,982,349

**FEDERATION SUPPORT** 

distributed to the Jewish and general community

#### **NEW LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS\***

Lawrence Bell Gilda Cohen Cindy & Michael Duber Mvra Samsa-Glick & Merle Glick Jennifer Korach Dorothy Soclof Katz

Wendy Lang Berinthia & Mark LeVine **Burton Randell** Sally Inglis Rich Jay Wachs

All figures on this page are from fiscal year ended 2021

## **ADDITIONAL FEDERATION SUPPORT**

Additional Federation Support includes grants from donor advised funds, special purpose endowment funds, supporting foundations and the Federation's Unrestricted **Endowment Fund.** 

No Cleveland organization impacts more Jewish lives

<sup>\*</sup> The Jewish Federation of Cleveland's Legacy Society recognizes those who have made provisions for the future of our Jewish community with an endowment commitment currently or in the future.

# **2021** BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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# COMMITTEES

The Jewish Federation of Cleveland's activities are conducted by committees of volunteers in partnership with professional staff. Committee and subcommittee chairs are listed below. Please contact them or the Federation for more information about participating in Federation activities or other volunteer opportunities at affiliated organizations.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF CLEVELAND Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building 25701 Science Park Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44122

phone: 216-593-2900 toll-free: 888-467-1125 e-mail: info@jewishcleveland.org jewishcleveland.org

#### **ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE**

Distributes resources from the Campaign for Jewish Needs, balancing local, national, and overseas needs; helps to identify immediate and long-term issues which the community and/or individual agencies need to address; helps ensure that funds from the Campaign for Jewish Needs are used effectively and efficiently

Michelle Hirsch, Chair Jared S. Miller, Chair, Subcommittee on Human Services Loree E. Potash. Chair. Subcommittee on Overseas Elisabeth W. Sherman. Chair. Subcommittee

on Education Agencies Barry S. Feldman, National Agencies Liaison Team

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Studies and plans for community needs Peter Meisel, Chair

#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Implements public affairs agenda Gregg A. Levine, Chair Kerry Kertesz, Vice-Chair

#### **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Oversees all fundraising activities Enid Rosenberg, Chair Bradley A. Sherman, General Chair, 2022 Campaign for Jewish Needs Michelle Hirsch, Chair, Women IN Philanthropy Abbie Pappas, Chair, Young Leadership Division Lisa H. Michel, Chair, Professional Advisory Council Jules Belkin, Keith Libman, Shari S. Perlmuter.

Danielle Wild. Co-Chairs. LIFE & LEGACY®

**Advisory Council** 

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Manages investment of endowment

and capital funds

Morris Wheeler, Chair

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Recommends funding for community programming and emergency needs Grant N. Dinner, Chair Matthew F. Kadish. Chair. Donor Advised Co-Chairs, Annual Meeting **Fund Advisory Committee** Alan E. Yanowitz, Chair, Foundation

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Provides guidance and oversight of the recruitment, development, and placement of qualified professional and lay leadership Scott M. Simon. Chair

Susan R. Hurwitz, Chair, ALeRT (Agency Leadership Roundtable) Marcia Levine, Chair, Gries Award Committee Kim M. Pesses, Stephen J. Weinberg, Mandel Course for Advanced Leadership

Lvnn-Ann Gries, Chair

COMMITTEE

## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Establishes marketing agenda and oversees communications activities Ilana I. Katz. Chair Penny Greenberger, Robert Greenberger,

#### **OVERSEAS CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE**

Conceives and manages projects that connect Jews in Cleveland with Jews in Israel and around the world

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# 2021 VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS















Charles Eisenman Award
Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, MetroHealth Systems

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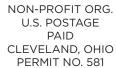
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