



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

Federation Never Closes: An Open Letter to Our Community

Dear Friends,

THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU. In the midst of the greatest health, economic, and social upheaval in generations, the Charlotte Jewish community has responded as it always does — with generosity and commitment.

Federation's role has never been more vital. Our work ethic and commitment to the community remain as steadfast as ever. Our 2020 Annual Campaign continued uninterrupted, ultimately surpassing our goal of \$4.5 Million! **As a result, Federation will distribute more funds to our local and global Jewish communities than any year in our 81-year history!**

As the pandemic precluded conventional operations, Jewish agencies across the greater Charlotte region swiftly transitioned to new modalities. We were inspired to see the energy and innovation that emerged, even as we mourned the loss of in-person connections in our synagogues, schools, and community programs.

Despite the circumstance-based distractions, disruptions, and added responsibilities of 2020, Federation continues to deliver on its mission, vision, and strategic objectives, providing high-impact programs and services to our community:

- **JewishCharlotte Emergency Response Fund:** Federation launched the JewishCharlotte Emergency Response Fund within weeks of the shutdowns. With record-breaking speed, we raised more than \$500,000 from 535 generous donors! The resultant distributions were a vital lifeline to local agencies, offsetting lost revenue, and funding unbudgeted remote work and reopening expenses.
- **CJE:** The Center for Jewish Education has provided access to diverse Jewish content, fascinating authors and speakers and eBooks, as well as virtual and in-person classroom and curriculum resources for educators and teachers.
- **Community Relations:** Our JCRC continues its aggressive assault on antisemitism, working with community partners to combat online hatred and respond to incidents in our region, as well as providing training, expertise, and programming to individuals and agencies engaged in Israel advocacy.
- **Racial Justice:** Federation is committed to engaging in the hard work of racial justice, in alignment with our mission, values, and strategic objectives to build a more just and ethical

world. You can learn more about all the ways Federation is pursuing racial justice in our community on our website, www.jewishcharlotte.org.

- **Israel and Global Jewry:** Federation continues to connect our community with Israel and Jews around the world. We've heard from Israeli authors and chefs and celebrated holidays with hundreds of our friends in Hadera, thanks to our decades long Partnership 2Gether programs. We commemorated Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut with Jews from around the world. During these challenging times, the Jewish people are more unified than ever!

Federation enriches the lives of Jews locally, in Israel, and around the world and preserves Jewish values, goals, traditions and connections today and for the future. We are proud of the extraordinary work of our Board, volunteers, and staff, and that of our fellow community agencies. Despite the tough times and inevitable challenges ahead, we remain confident in our ability and resilience. Like the Jews before us, on whose shoulders we stand, we will persevere.

Kol Yisrael arevim zeh ba zeh. Today, more than ever before, we are indeed responsible for one another.