



*Today,  
Tomorrow,  
Always.*



Jewish Federation  
OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

2022 IMPACT

# *A Message from* Jack Maizel



I hope you all have your seatbelts buckled because we — our Federation with you — are going places! And I don't mean just our CommUNITY Trip to Israel next year. But if you haven't signed up already for that transformative trip, please do so soon.

The focused and tireless efforts of Federation have such a significant impact on the quality and strength of Jewish life in San Diego, Israel, and around the world. We also quickly respond to support Jews and others in moments of crisis, such as the war in Ukraine.

This Impact Report offers just a snapshot of our achievements last year. These achievements were possible thanks to the partnership, the genuine teamwork between our generous stakeholders and effective professionals. Together, we not only plant the seeds for a strong and vibrant community, we also water and nurture the seedlings to maximize their vitality and opportunities for success.

I hope you take great pride in all that you enable. Our community's generosity allows Federation to shape a better and more secure tomorrow. Thanks to you, Federation can do all that it does. So please enjoy this report and be sure to visit the website to learn more about our areas of impact. I urge you, fasten your seatbelts because we are going places with great momentum and clear direction!

On behalf of the people whose lives we touch and the current and future generations that will benefit from the work we do today, I thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Maizel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

**Jack Maizel**  
**Board Chair**

# *A Message from* Heidi Gantwerk



When I speak about Federation, I get a little excited. My already quick talking accelerates even more. But I can't slow down when there is so much to share and so much to do! This past year followed two of the most challenging years in our organization's (and our community's) history. Jewish community remained mostly online; those in need grew needier, and anti-Israel sentiment and antisemitism and antisemitic violence increased around the world and in San Diego. The need for Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) is more pressing than ever. Yet we saw generosity, kindness, creativity, and inspiration emerge and that energy, that renewed understanding of the importance of community, fueled our work this past year.

We re-ignited our partnership with our sister region Sha'ar HaNegev with multiple visits back and forth between our communities. We launched powerful new leadership development programs and brought many of the region's synagogues together for a Community Security Institute that will make everyone safer. We convened a professional working group that is creating a more coordinated and comprehensive response to Jews in San Diego who are struggling financially. We helped hundreds of young people in San Diego go back to camp and travel to Israel. And we have planned an extraordinary CommUNITY Trip to Israel, May 4-11, 2023. If you have never been or if you have been 100 times, you will not want to miss this once-in-a-generation experience. This report is really your story of how your generous support helps create a vibrant, caring, connected, and enduring Jewish community. We are grateful, as we continue to build the future of local Jewish life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heidi Gantwerk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

**Heidi Gantwerk**  
**President & CEO**





*Today,  
Tomorrow,  
Always.*

### **A Vibrant, Caring, Connected and Enduring Jewish Community**

Federation's singular role as connector and convenor has had and continues to have a profound impact that is felt deeply throughout the San Diego Jewish community. By working with partner organizations, community leaders and philanthropists, we help address urgent and perennial needs — from enhancing security at local institutions to supporting seniors experiencing poverty, to countering antisemitism, and more. At the same time, we shape the future of Jewish life by training and developing leaders of tomorrow, supporting and strengthening the Jewish identities of local youth and teens, and building long-lasting connections to Israel. We are proud of the vital role we play in San Diego Jewish life, for individuals, families, our Jewish institutions, and our community as a whole.



**Jewish Federation**  
OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY





# Creating a *Vibrant* Jewish Community

We invest in Jewish leaders who help build a bright Jewish future in San Diego. Federation provides space for learning, growth, and networking.



## Developing the Leaders of Today and Tomorrow

When young and veteran community members want to build their skills and capabilities as leaders, they turn to Federation's leadership training opportunities. In these programs, they communicate with, grow with, and learn from one another and develop a community of peers ready to lead and create San Diego Jewish life.

- We build community leaders through programs such as the Pauline Foster Women's Leadership Institute, an 18-month program for accomplished leaders to elevate skills and grow their networks.
- We strengthen the community through strategic leadership grants to agencies, day schools, and synagogues. We also fund and facilitate professional development opportunities to train our community's professionals.
- We invest in young leaders through teen programs such as the Peer Leaders Fellowship and The Global Ambassador Program, which instill concepts of global connection and responsibility.







# Israel and Overseas

When people have their own personal relationship with Israel and Israelis, they feel a greater connection to the Jewish people, our shared history, and our collective future. Through Federation, San Diego Jewish community members of all ages can meet Israelis, experience Israeli culture, and learn about and travel to the country.

## People-to-People Connections

- We deepened and expanded the partnership with our sister region, Sha'ar HaNegev, through GESHER, an 18-month program that brings together executive leaders from the Lawrence Family JCC, San Diego Jewish Academy, Hillel of San Diego, Seacrest Village, Jewish Family Service of San Diego, Jewish Federation of San Diego County and leaders in Sha'ar HaNegev.
- We are planning the CommUNITY Trip to Israel, May 4-11, 2023, the only trip that will bring together people from across the San Diego Jewish community for a powerful, VIP, personally customized Israel travel experience.
- Based on the recent success, we have grown our program bringing Shinshinim, young Israeli emissaries, to San Diego and now have 16 Shinshinim working for the year at local Jewish institutions, engaging our San Diego youth and families in meaningful Israel experiences.







# Caring for Jews in Need

We are crafting and implementing a robust strategy to support Jews experiencing poverty in our community. The needs are great, and our response must be as well. We pay special attention to local Holocaust survivors to ensure their days are spent with dignity, security, and a sense of community.



## Combating Jewish Poverty for the Long-Term

In collaboration with exceptional agency partners including Hebrew Free Loan, Impact Cubed, Jewish Community Foundation, Jewish Family Service of San Diego, Seacrest at Home, and The Kindness Initiative, Federation creates systems and networks that help to minimize the number of Jews experiencing poverty. Together, our community is making a difference.

- We convened the Working Group on Jewish Poverty and Stability, comprised of community partners that address these challenges every day and that have a shared vision for how we can face them together. We are committed to making the San Diego Jewish community a national example of a networked, caring community.
- We provide a safety net for our community's most vulnerable through our funding partnership with KAVOD SHEF (Survivors of the Holocaust Emergency Fund). We have dispersed grants totaling \$160,000 to help pay for the dental, vision, medical, emergency home services, and food needs of our local Holocaust survivors.





# Crisis in Ukraine

Our Federation is one of more than 146 communities that make up Jewish Federations of North America. And when the crisis began in Ukraine, we were there.

When people fled the war, seeking food, shelter and medical care, we were there. And now, as refugees look to resettle and restart, we are still there on the ground, providing resources to address the ongoing needs of those who left everything behind in search of safety.

The reason we can be in Ukraine now is because we've been there all along. We build the foundation for a strong community today so that we can respond to urgent needs of tomorrow and help ensure flourishing Jewish communities around the world always.

When the need is great, we are reminded that the strength of our community is greater.

## Federation's Impact by the Numbers:



**\$73.5 million**  
raised from across  
North America



**32,325**  
Olim from Ukraine  
and Russia  
have made aliyah  
to Israel



**37,800+**  
refugees provided  
with vital  
necessities



**36,902**  
calls received on  
various emergency  
hotlines



**2.7 million**  
pounds of  
humanitarian aid  
distributed



**18,000**  
Jewish elderly  
supported in  
Ukraine



**239,851**  
people have  
fled Ukraine







# Community *Security*

Every member of our community deserves to engage and participate safely in Jewish communal life. Through our partnerships with Secure Community Network (SCN) and Anti-Defamation League (ADL), Federation is prioritizing and enhancing Jewish San Diego's safety, security, and preparedness.

This work began following the shootings at the Chabad of Poway. Federation, in partnership with ADL San Diego, hired a Community Security Director and led efforts to strengthen physical security and improve security practices and procedures at Jewish institutions across the community. In 2022, we convened the first cohort of the San Diego Jewish Community Security Institute with nine local synagogues coming together for six months to learn and develop best practices in security. The Institute culminated with each synagogue's drafting an annual security plan and receiving a \$10,000 grant from Federation to show communal support for their efforts to increase security.

Additionally, Federation, Leichtag Foundation, and Jewish Community Foundation worked with local institutions to ensure they received federal and state grants allocated to nonprofit organizations for security assistance resulting in over \$3 million for local security projects.



**Coming this year:** We will welcome the new Federation Community Security Director, under the guidance of the Secure Community Network, to lead a robust community-wide process to increase preparedness and response for all local Jewish institutions.





# Board of Directors

**Jack Maizel** Board Chair\*

**David Bramzon** Immediate Past Board Chair\*

**Larry Katz** Vice Chair & Secretary/ Treasurer\*

**Silvana Christy** Vice Co-Chair Campaign\*

**Seth Krosner** Vice Co-Chair Campaign\*

**Graeme Gabriel** Jewish Community Foundation Board Chair

**Lisa Pearl** Women's Philanthropy Board Chair\*

**Sabrina Kerbel** Women's Philanthropy Campaign Chair

**Heidi Gantwerk** President & CEO

## Directors at Large

Simone Abelsohn\*

David Bark

Julie Datnow

Theresa Dupuis\*

Allison Hauser Erickson

Uri Feldman

Kira Finkenberg\*

Myra Giesener

Judi Gottschalk

Lisa Kornfeld

Lori Polin

Robert Rubenstein\*

Jeff Schindler

Elliot Scott

Howard Somers

Guri Stark

Laura Vainer-Mekler

\*Executive Committee Member

## Our Mission

Inspired by Jewish values, we broaden and deepen engagement in Jewish life to strengthen Jewish identity, foster dynamic connections with Israel, and care for all Jews in need.

We mobilize our community's resources, leaders, and organizations to address the community's most critical needs, creating profound impact locally, in Israel, and around the world.

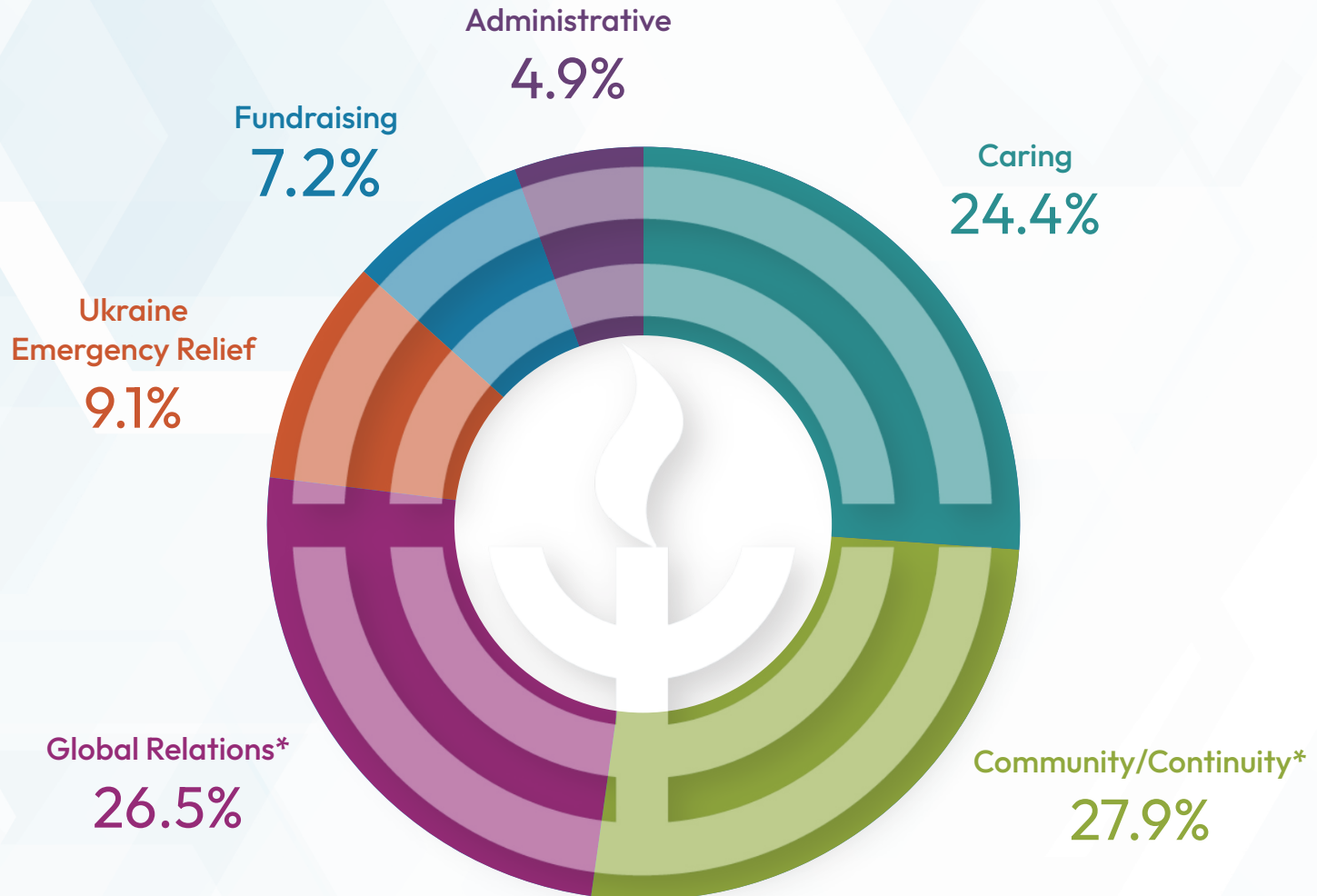




# Financials

Total Dollars Raised

\$6,474,041



\*Includes underwriting for the 2023 CommUNITY Trip

*Join us for*  
**The CommUNITY**  
*Trip of a Lifetime*



MAY 4-11, 2023

*and*

AN UNFORGETTABLE POST-  
TRIP EXTENSION TO THE UAE  
MAY 12-15, 2023



Learn more about our impact

Jewish Federation of San Diego County  
4950 Murphy Canyon Road  
San Diego, CA 92123  
[jewishinsandiego.org](http://jewishinsandiego.org)

