

Jewish Federations have invested billions of dollars to strengthen Israeli society and develop the Jewish State

We are proud of the nearly 100 years of Federation investment that helped establish the Jewish State and that continues to support Israel through building infrastructure, protecting the country's most vulnerable citizens, supporting aliyah and absorption of immigrants, and advocating for a more inclusive, pluralistic society.

1948: Thanks to funds raised by UJA Federation campaigns, some 50,000 newcomers, mainly Holocaust survivors, reach Israel's shores.

1948-49: Through Operation Magic Carpet, the UJA Federation Campaign helps rescue more than 50,000 Yemenite Jews. Campaign funds also bring 125,000 Iraqi Jews to Israel on Operation Ezra.

1964: Israel Education Fund (IEF) is created as a supplementary UJA major gifts program to fund capital projects, social programs, and scholarships in Israel. Since its founding, IEF has built more than 1,000 high schools, day care centers, senior citizens centers, libraries, sports facilities, and regional colleges.

1985: Through Operation Moses, UJA Federation Campaign helps rescue 7,000 Ethiopian Jews.

1986: Soviet refusenik Natan Sharansky arrives in Israel; UJA joins 250,000 in a Washington Freedom Rally to pressure the USSR to free other Soviet Jews.

1987: A UJA Assembly resolution directs the Jewish Agency to support programs fostering religious pluralism in Israel.

1989: UJA initiates Passage to Freedom, raising \$46 million for Soviet Aliya

1990: Operation Exodus, which will become the largest emergency fund-raising event in Jewish history, is officially born. UJA funds help more than 185,200 reach freedom in the Jewish homeland.

2001: The Ethiopian National Project (ENP), a partnership between UJC, the Jewish Agency, JDC, the Government of Israel, and the Ethiopian-Israeli community, is launched to facilitate the successful absorption of Ethiopian immigrants.

2002: In response to relentless terror, UJC and the Federations of North America launch the Israel Emergency Campaign, raising hundreds of millions of dollars for critical needs including security and life-saving medical equipment, as well as financial help and trauma relief for terror victims.

2003: Help launch Masa, to encourage Jewish youth to spend a semester or a year in Israel and help them build a life-long relationship with Israel and a firm commitment to Jewish life.

2005: UJC and the Federations of North America undertake Operation Promise, an ambitious effort to raise millions of dollars to bring Ethiopian Jews to Israel, help mainstream the Ethiopian-Israeli community, feed poor, elderly Jews in the Former Soviet Union and strengthen Jewish identity among young Russian Jews.

2006: In response to the war in Lebanon, UJC and the Federations of North America launch a second Israel Emergency Campaign, which provides trauma counseling, enrichment programs, and economic assistance to Israeli children and adults affected by the war. IEC continues to help vulnerable Israelis, including those threatened by Kassam rockets launched from Gaza. A total of \$350 million dollars is pledged in the course of just five months.

UJC helps found Sheatufim: The Israel Center for Civil Society, which works to strengthen the social vitality of Israel by developing and advancing a civil society that is pluralistic, proactive, influential, professional, and collaborative. Other founding partners are Zionism 2000, the Sacta-Rashi Foundation and the Gandy Foundation.

2008: During Hanukah, Israel begins Operation Cast Lead, a three-week military campaign aimed at stopping rocket fire from Gaza. Jewish Federations raise \$7M to address immediate needs and to lay the groundwork for long term resilience for the Israeli communities in the Gaza region.

2010: A massive fire in the Carmel Forest fire claims 44 lives, scorches more than 10,000 acres of pine forest, and burns 100 homes and structures, making it the deadliest forest fire in Israeli history. More than 17,000 people are evacuated. In total, Jewish Federations raises and allocates some \$2.7 million to help Israel respond and recover from the fires.

2012: Israel launches Operation Pillar of Defense, an eight-day military campaign sparked by an intense round of rocket fire from Gaza aimed at Israeli civilians. Once again, Jewish Federations open a fund to address immediate needs and to secure the long-term needs of the Israeli communities in the Gaza region.

2014: In response to the kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenagers: Israel launches Operation Protective Edge, a military campaign against Hamas forces in Gaza that includes a ground invasion aimed at destroying Palestinian tunnels used to smuggle weapons into the coastal enclave and launch attacks against Israel. As in previous conflicts, Jewish Federations open a fund to address immediate needs and to plan for long term resilience for the Israeli communities in the region. More than \$30M is allocated collectively by Federations.

2016: Five days of massive wildfires see 180 people injured, thousands of homes damaged or completely destroyed, hundreds of thousands of residents evacuated, and a total of 32,000 acres of natural forest land burned. Some \$1.18 million is allocated by Federations to support urgent needs following the blazes.

2017: Religion and state issues, and the lack of religious pluralism in Israel, come to a head in 2017, particularly as the government votes to backtrack on its commitment to the Kotel Compromise that would have seen more equal access for all streams of Judaism at the Western Wall. Federations play a central role in negotiations and are active in efforts to ensure that all Jews feel at home and equal in the Jewish state.



2018: For months, southern Israel suffers under nearly constant attack by flaming kites and balloons sent from the Gaza Strip to the neighboring Israeli fields and communities. The attacks cause hundreds of fires, destroy thousands of acres of Israeli fields and forests, and caused millions of shekels in damages. JFNA allocates \$400,000 to help local organizations to respond to the fires and to minimize the psychological consequences for the residents, especially the children.

2021: Israel launches Operation Guardian of the Walls, an eight-day military campaign sparked by rocket fire from Gaza towards Jerusalem and intercommunal violence within Israel. Jewish Federations open a fund to address immediate needs and to build resilience for the Israeli communities affected by the violence. \$1.85 million is allocated to help Israel respond and recover.

2022: Federations help 15,000 Ukrainian olim fleeing from the Russian invasion. Operation Tzur Yisrael, renewing family reconciliation of Ethiopian Jews, begins in 2021 and continues, again with Federation support.

