

This expertly designed, three-day laboratory will offer a deep-dive into some of the most important and complex issues facing the Jewish community using a specific approach:

DISCOVER:

We begin with in-depth learning and evaluation around each subject, laying the groundwork for co-creating solution-oriented outcomes.

DEFINE:

Then, we synthesize our learnings and insights in order to clearly articulate the questions we want to consider and answer.

EXPLORE + BUILD:

Here we engage in problem-solving activities and facilitated discussions aimed at identifying exciting new ideas and existing bright spots.

PLAN + ACT:

Finally, we will evaluate the implications of our new ideas for our local Federations, for our neighbors and for our broader society. It's here that we work together to determine what it all means for the future.

Participants are asked to apply this approach in one of three tracks:

Jewish Security & Empowerment

From the rising danger of anti-Semitism, hate crimes and targeted violence, to political divisions that threaten to divide our communities – as Jews and as part of a people – we must collectively define what it means for us to be secure. Throughout the lab, we will explore the threats to our collective security and will examine the impact of the efforts to delegitimize the Jewish state. The Lab will help us, as a system, chart our course forward in working through these challenges.

#EngageJewish

Organized Jewish life in the 20th century was rooted in how Jewish life was lived – taught in the synagogue, socialized within the walls of the JCC and delivered through a rote curriculum. Today, we – particularly younger Jews – are just as likely to consider our home address to be yourname.com as 222 Maple Street. We check out books on our iPhone rather than the library. 21st century Jewish education must evolve to fit the reality of how we live and learn today. The Lab will enable us to discuss and evaluate what engagement really means, how we can pursue our Jewish communal goals, how we must adapt and how we can to shape a strong, brighter, Jewish future.

Action for Good in the 21st Century

There are so many challenges facing our communities today. So many needs that call out for our support. It's hard to decide where to focus. While we wish we could cover them all, for the 3-day Lab, we have identified three of the top issues facing our social service agendas today: poverty, aging and disabilities. In partnership with the Weinberg Foundation and the Jewish Funders Network Affinity Group on Jewish poverty, we will think through what our communal agenda should be and discuss the challenges of balancing universalism and particularism in Jewish life.

