



REQUEST FOR Gordon Lentzner Community Impact GRANT PROPOSALS 2026

Jewish Long Beach is pleased to announce the availability of funds for grants.

Application Deadline: March 2, 2026

About Jewish Long Beach

Over the course of six years beginning in 2020, the integration of the following organizations established and grew the Jewish Long Beach organization: Jewish Federation of Greater Long Beach and West Orange County, Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Long Beach and West Orange County, and the Barbara and Ray Alpert Jewish Community Center.

Jewish Long Beach's current Strategic Plan establishes broad priorities and a philosophical lens through which to carry out the functions of the agency in service to our mission. Jewish Long Beach's mission, vision, and aspiration for the future make up the heart of the strategic plan.

Mission: Guided by Jewish values and culture, we seek to inspire the community by improving lives, building bridges of understanding and inclusion, and supporting the Jewish people here, in Israel, and around the world.

Vision: To build and sustain, now and for future generations, a vibrant Jewish community committed to fostering tikkun olam (repairing the world) and the well-being of all people through visionary leadership, giving, and meaningful experiences for all.

Strategic Aspiration: Jewish Long Beach will unite and activate participation across our entire community.

Grants Goal: Unite and activate participation across our entire community.

The strategic aspiration serves to help inform Jewish Long Beach's selections through 2026, including which projects and programs Jewish Long Beach will fund. As a grant provider, Jewish Long Beach seeks to support projects and programs that:

- (Unite) Welcome and connect all ages/life stages/backgrounds around a set of shared values and experiences;
- (Activate) Create engagement that inspires community members to 'choose Jewish' in their daily lives;
- (Participation) Engage participation of a much larger portion of our community; and
- (Across our Entire Community) Expand our reach, consistent with our mission, complementing the experiences that we can provide today.

Jewish Long Beach wishes to fund programs that support this strategic aspiration, especially in those areas that are not currently a core focus of JLB, by utilizing the skills, talents, connections, and resources of other organizations in the community.

Specifically, for the 2026-year Jewish Long Beach is seeking to support programs that create opportunities for engagement and build connection for the following populations: school age children, teens, and young adults.

One of the goals of the grants program is to use these resources to benefit the greater good of the entire Jewish Long Beach community. We will prioritize programs that have the potential to impact beyond the typical target population. For example, this might include offering training sessions to share best practices with the broader Jewish community, organizing discussion panels, or hosting mixer events with activities designed for all age groups.

Grant Amount:

Organizations may apply for grants for up to \$20,000. The grant period is one year. Organizations can apply for and may be eligible for no more than two grants.

Jewish Long Beach encourages collaboration between organizations within Long Beach and West Orange County as well as between Jewish organizations in Long Beach and West Orange County and Jewish Organizations in Israel or other parts of the world. Agencies and synagogues are encouraged to think innovatively about such collaborations that are joint and/or simultaneous. Collaborations on one project may be with another agency or synagogue, or they may fund new Jewish networks for business, cultural, language, or economic ties in Greater Long Beach, the country, Israel, or other parts of the world. The grants committee has the option of adding up to \$10,000 to awards where we determine that two or more organizations have come together in innovative and collaborative ways.

Funding Process:

Jewish Long Beach has an online grant application.

- All grant applications must use this form: [CLICK HERE](#)
- Awarded funds must be used during the project's specified timeframe. Any unused funds will revert to Jewish Long Beach. An extension may be granted upon request at the sole discretion of Jewish Long Beach.
- Applications for new, creative, and innovative programs will be given priority. Repeat applications, or applications for ongoing programs will be given lower priority.
- Funds may not be used for any other program or for other organizational operating expenses.
- All grants will need to be approved by the Jewish Long Beach Board of Directors.
- Jewish Long Beach offers a separate scholarship program. Therefore, scholarship grant applications from organizations will not be considered as part of the Gordon Lentzner Community Impact Grants Program. [Click here to learn more about our Scholarship program.](#)

Application Requirements: To be in compliance with the requirements of this grant, applicants must agree to the points listed below:

- Local Jewish Community Agencies, Organizations, and Synagogues are eligible to apply.
- Each organization must provide its EIN number.
- While Jewish Long Beach (JLB) may support applicant organizations in a myriad of ways, JLB cannot be designated as a collaborative partner in grant applications.
- Applicants must attend one of the two virtual JLB Grants Information Sessions, February 10 (7:00 pm) or February 23 (7:00 pm)
- Applicants commit to demonstrating measurable outcomes as a result of the funded program based on the template provided by Jewish Long Beach.
- First time applicants need to furnish JLB with their Articles of Incorporation.

- Applicants commit to acknowledging Jewish Long Beach in all promotional materials related to funded programs and projects (including social media and electronic communications).
- Applicants must agree to provide copies of all publicity and media coverage at the time of dissemination and as part of the final report.
- Applicants will be asked for verbal progress reports throughout the year. A final written evaluation report – describing outcomes of the program – will be required at the end of the grant period on an online form provided by Jewish Long Beach.
- Applicants must have submitted a final written evaluation report for any 2023-24 awards on the form provided by Jewish Long Beach in order to be eligible to apply for grants in the 2026 cycle. Any exceptions must be approved by the CEO of Jewish Long Beach at the time of application.

Notes on the 2025 Grants Committee Research Project

In 2025, the Jewish Long Beach Grants committee conducted a research project in which we connected with each of our community partners and previous grant recipients to explore our partners' goals, needs, and obstacles. The needs shared with us are represented in the following themes:

- **Programmatic Expansion:** Program expansion specifically in the following areas: older adult services, mental health, teen programs, young professionals, or geographic reach to serve more people or new demographics.
- **New Infrastructure/Capital:** New building construction or significant renovations to accommodate growth or modernize facilities.
- **Programmatic Hosting:** Space needs – several organizations expressed interest in co-creating or hosting events at the JLB campus.
- **Addressing Antisemitism & Preserving Jewish Heritage:** Examples include antisemitism and holocaust education, raising awareness, fighting antisemitism, maintaining and promoting Jewish identity and contributions.
- **Shared Resources & Expertise:** Marketing and outreach support, in-kind staff resources/expertise in areas such as HR, Financial, Marketing, and tapping into community connections and networks
- **Networking Among Organizations:** JLB facilitating networking across organizations within the Jewish Community and in the broader community
- **Security & Safety:** Security and safety concerns are ongoing. JLB's partnership with SCN has systems in place to support these needs.

The Gordon Lentzner Community Impact Grants Program is focused on supporting program expansion in alignment with our strategic aspiration. While we recognize through our research, that our community partners have other pressing needs, if these are not aligned with JLB's strategic goals, these are not eligible for this round of grant funding. However, our research findings have provided valuable insights into the current and potential role of Jewish Long Beach in supporting our partners in other ways. Jewish Long Beach remains committed to bringing organizations together and serving as a resource. We will use the insights from this research to continue to reimagine the grants program and improve how we partner with our community in the future.