



Jewish Federation
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

Impact Report 2020-21

Federation touches more Jewish lives **on the planet than any other organization**

In places like Eastern Europe, where elderly Jews with no pension would have to choose between buying medicine and heating their homes — if we weren't there to help them. And in places like Cuba where, without us, there would be no Jewish learning opportunities, rabbis or holiday celebrations.

When a family in our community can't afford to pay for Jewish camp. When a single mother loses her job or a older adult needs help around the house and human warmth. Wherever there is a need, we are there to sustain and strengthen Jewish life.

We do this by funding and supporting a world-wide network of organizations that do two things:

1. Care for people in need here at home, in Israel and around the world.
2. Nurture and sustain the Jewish community today and for future generations.

The Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley is focused on addressing the most pressing issues facing our community every day.



Jewish Federation
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY



You rose to the occasion – every moment

Dear Friends,

This Was Our Moment! What a challenging year. Certainly not the one we expected as the pandemic continued. Despite still meeting across screens, we came together as a community to help one another navigate the ongoing pandemic and to support one another through the challenges.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of professionals and volunteers throughout our Jewish community, food reached the hungry, the older generation were cared for, those in need were provided with financial support, our students were able to learn anywhere, and summer camp still took place. We launched meaningful virtual programming at Federation and raised funds to continue making a difference in the Lehigh Valley, in Israel, and around the world. Our community was able to ensure vital programs and services continued to be provided in a safe and healthy manner. And we were able to do all of this and more because This Was Our Moment and YOU made it happen.

With the support of passionate and committed individuals uniting as one, we have the capacity to mobilize and accomplish great things. The Jewish Federation and our partner agencies are here for you — at all moments! We can take great pride in our community's response to the pandemic and of the resilience of our Jewish community institutions and their leadership. When we come together, great things happen. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the professional staff at the Federation, thank you for your unwavering support, partnership, and belief in the work we are doing on behalf of our Jewish community. We look forward to seeing you in person and to getting together!

With sincere appreciation,



GARY FROMER
President



JERI ZIMMERMAN
Executive Director



Why the Jewish Federation?

Because THIS IS OUR MOMENT.

When a single parent **LOSES THEIR JOB.**

When a child needs **A SCHOLARSHIP** to experience Jewish education.

When a Holocaust survivor is alone and **STUCK AT HOME.**

Now, more than ever, the Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley is here for our community. Through your gift, every moment a Jew is in need is our moment to rebuild the world.

Areas of Impact

Addressing food insecurity

Supporting older adults

Education for all

No place for hate

Israel and overseas aid



Addressing food insecurity

Through our support of Jewish Family Service, we help to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. Their Community Food Pantry is the area's only one with a kosher section. Monthly Mazel Meals also bring kosher food made from scratch to local residents for whom cooking is a hardship.

Serving 130 families a month

Federation supports the Jewish Family Service Community Food Pantry, the only food bank in the 18104 zip code. Their choice model preserves the dignity of each client, and their kosher section serves Jews across the Lehigh Valley.

1,045 Mazel Meals delivered this year

Provided by the Jewish Family Service, volunteers deliver these kosher meals with a smile to older adults and others across the Valley each month.

5 lunches and snacks per week

The Federation helped provide volunteers and distribution of the C.B.S. Kosher Food Program to provide nutritious kosher meals for all children under the age of 18 from all schools, regardless of family income, during the height of COVID-19.





Supporting older adults

Our older adults are never forgotten by the community. Federation supports both the Jewish Community Center, who boasts programs like Friendship Circle, Yiddish Club and Silver Sneakers, and Jewish Family Service, which is always finding new ways to keep older adults connected.

Phone-A-Friend & Friendly Visitor Programs

Jewish Family Service volunteers help older adults who are in need of companionship stay in touch with the community through the Phone-A-Friend and the Friendly Visitor Programs. They also host monthly meetings of Schmooze & Schmear, a retired men's discussion group.

The GO Program

The Jewish Family Service partners with ShareCare Faith in Action for the GO Program to meet the transportation needs of older adults.

57 active members

in the Jewish Community Center's Friendship Circle

499 registered participants

in the Jewish Community Center's Silver Sneakers program



Education for all

Education is part of the rhythm of Jewish life. From local synagogues' Hebrew Schools and the JCC's Early Childhood Education Center to the Jewish Day School and Holocaust education for local public schools to Yachad University and Yiddish Club, Federation funds Jewish education *l'dor v'dor*.

Keystone STAR 4

We support the early childhood education program at the Jewish Community Center, along with a summer camp program, a fitness and aquatic program, and community events open to everyone.

Jewish Day School

We're educating the next generation of Jewish leaders at the Jewish Day School who will work to make the world a better place.

Specialized groups for all

Our groups provide a collegial experience for women, young adults, health care professionals and anyone interested in friendship and philanthropy.

Adult education

We offer adult education, like Yachad University, and resources for teachers to use in their classrooms.

Jewish causes

Federation advocates for causes that are important to Jewish people and provides forums to develop greater understanding of Jewish issues here and around the world.

Caring for kids

For over 10 years, we have supported programs for more than 800 children and teens like PJ Library, which provides free books to local Jewish families.



No place for hate

As antisemitism and extremism rise throughout the world, so does our commitment to combatting them. Through our security planning and preparedness, we keep our Jewish organizations safe and show that the Lehigh Valley is no place for hate.

A collection of over 1,000 books, visual and audio media, curricula, artifacts and art

Our staff and volunteers provide free Holocaust education in local public schools, focusing on building tolerance and reducing prejudice, through the Holocaust Resource Center (HRC).

Institute for Religious and Cultural Understanding

Our community works with the Institute for Religious and Cultural Understanding at Muhlenberg College, which strives to create a community engaged in the pursuit of understanding and analyzing how religion and culture impact our neighborhoods and our world.

\$84,000 in grants for our local synagogues and agencies

The Jewish Federation received a \$10,000 grant from JFNA to help Jewish agencies and synagogues to help with their applications. The money helped synagogues and agencies apply for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program at the Federal Level, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency at the State level, resulting in over \$84,000 in grants.

\$5 million for 2022 and \$10 million for 2023

In addition, we successfully lobbied with other Jewish Federations in Pennsylvania and secured \$5 million for 2022 and \$10 million for the 2023 application process.



Israel and overseas aid

With programs run by our community *shlichim* and our relationship with our Partnership2Gether region of Yoav, we keep our ties to Israel strong. Federation supports worthy causes in Israel and around the world.

Over \$3.6 million

is allocated to our community, Israel, and Jewish communities in need around the world.

Israel and 70 countries

around the world received our support.

We build person-to-person connections

through immersive experiences, study opportunities and special programming, building bonds that span people, communities and countries like our relationship with our P2Gether community of Yoav.

Those bonds aren't just built one-to-one

but also through programs we plan and administer, together with our partner agencies, to assist the Israeli people directly. We provide learning and growth opportunities.

We empower younger generations

through these partnerships to identify Jewishly and to build community.

80,000+ poor Jewish elderly in the former Soviet Union

were helped by our partner, JDC, including the uninterrupted provision of food, medicine, and homecare.

Our partner, JDC, aided scores of struggling Jewish families

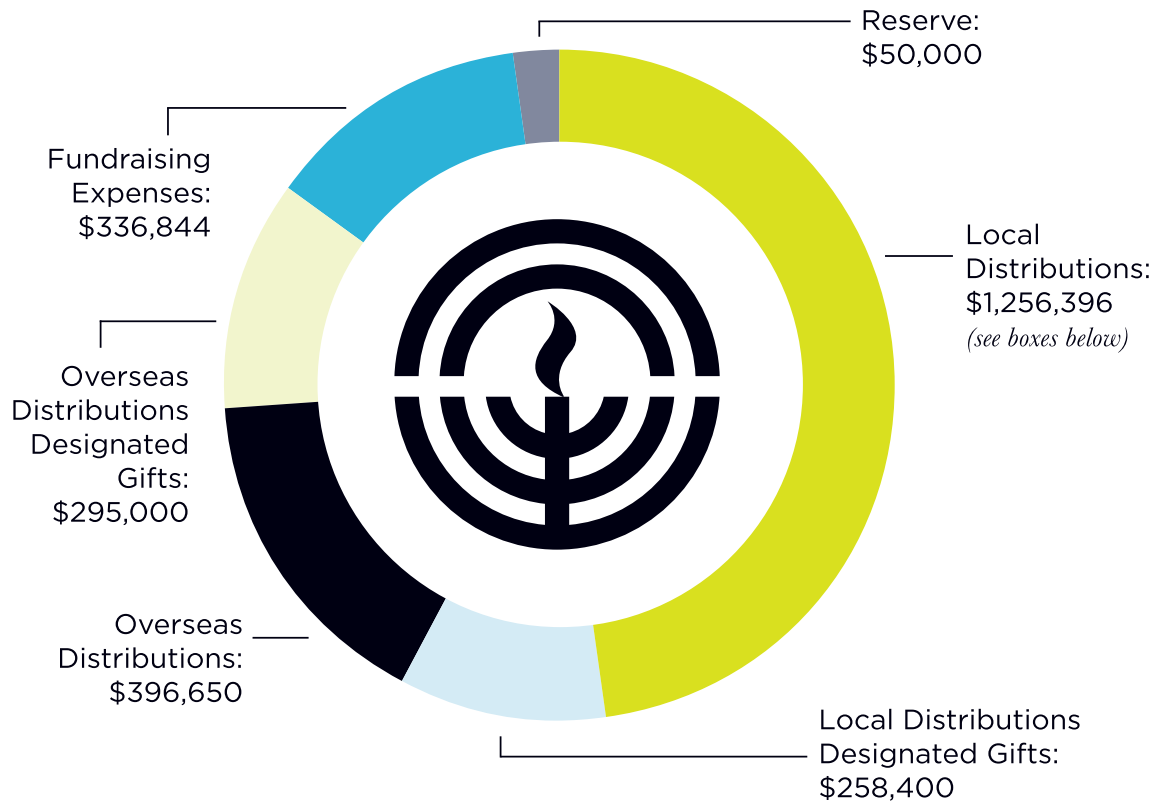
hard-hit by the pandemic's economic fallout in Israel, Europe, Latin America, and North Africa.



making a difference

AT THE JEWISH FEDERATION

total distributions: **\$2,593,290**



local distributions: **\$1,256,396**

Jewish Community Center: \$328,000	Jewish Family Service & Jewish Fund for Human Needs: \$115,000	Bethlehem & Easton Community Grants: \$21,500
Jewish Day School: \$310,000	Jewish Education Services & Jewish Continuity Grants: \$35,000	Federation Admin: \$172,883
Jewish Federation Community Building: \$236,163	University Hillels: \$21,500	Other (Institute for Religious & Cultural Understanding, LVKC, Orphan Cemeteries, etc.): \$16,350
Designated Gifts: \$258,400		

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*Denotes Flex or Part Time

this is our MOMENT



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