

Jewish Federation of Ocean County Impact

YOU Made an Impact through the Jewish Federation of Ocean County – Every Day, and Now More than Ever

The Jewish Federation of Ocean County has once again stepped up in a big way, awarding more than \$60,000 in grants to vital programs and partners locally, in Israel, and around the world. The board of directors approved this first round of grants for 2026 at their March meeting.

From ensuring families here in Ocean County have enough food – including kosher protein – for Passover, to supporting organizations responding to the unprecedented challenges facing Jewish communities globally, to strengthening bridges of understanding right here at home, the Federation continues to make a unique and powerful philanthropic impact.

Supporting Those in Need for Passover and Beyond

Twice a year – before Passover and Rosh HaShanah – the Federation provides grants to help combat food insecurity and ensure that community members have what they need for the holidays. This year’s Passover grants included:

- Fulfill, the food bank serving Ocean and Monmouth Counties, to sponsor

eggs and a drivethrough food pantry for the holiday

- The Perlmutter Food Pantry in Whiting, supporting local families in need

Internationally, grants were awarded to:

- The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)
 - Yad Ezra v’Shulamit
 - The Jewish Relief Network Ukraine
- These partners are providing essential food and support to vulnerable Jews in Israel, Ukraine, and across the globe.

Strengthening Community Through Local Initiatives

Additional significant grants supported:

- Pass It On for Passover, where community members donated their hametz before the holiday, which was then redistributed to local food pantries
- Bikur Cholim of Lakewood, enabling the delivery of more than 200 kosher holiday food packages to seniors and others in Ocean County who needed assistance and connection

Helping Israel Heal and Rebuild

With the completion of grants from the

Federation’s Israel Emergency Fund, new general fund grants were awarded to help Israelis continue recovering from October 7 and the ongoing conflict. These included:

- Lev Otef, supporting former hostages and their families with innovative therapies – including dolphin therapy – that are proving remarkably effective
- Shutaf Inclusion Programs, offering inclusive camp and youth programs for children with and without special needs
- Crossroads, providing counseling and crisis intervention for Englishspeaking teens in Jerusalem
- The Lone Soldier Center in memory of Michael Levin, supporting lone soldiers who are serving without family in Israel

The Federation also continued its longstanding support for global partners including JDC, The Jewish Agency, Hillel International (with a focus on Ukraine), and World ORT.

Building Bridges in Ocean County

We are proud to continue supporting One Ocean County, the organization behind

the Common Grounds Community Garden, which brings together diverse communities across the county. This work is a meaningful part of the Federation’s commitment to fostering understanding and respect in our region.

Ongoing Local Impact

These grants complement the Federation’s yearround efforts, including:

- PJ Library
- Security resources for local Jewish institutions
- Initiatives to combat hate, in partnership with the Ocean County Culture and Heritage Commission

Your Support Makes All of This Possible

Every dollar contributed by community members is combined, leveraged, and directed where it can make the greatest impact. Thank you for helping us strengthen Jewish life, support those in need, and build a more connected and compassionate community — here at home and around the world.



Baruch Hashem, all the deliveries went out. I am sure they will be enjoyed by the recipients. Thank you to the Jewish Federation of Ocean County for making it happen!

~ Rabbi Meyer Brull of Lev Rochel Bikur Cholim