



Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City

2020 Year in Review

The mission of the Jewish Federation

To support Jewish living, learning and welfare in the greater Oklahoma City Jewish community; to support Jewish communities throughout the United States, Israel and around the world; and to foster understanding and cooperation between the Jewish community and the community at-large.

20/20 Vision for the Jewish Community Annual Meeting – January 26, 2020



How did the Jewish Federation engage and support members of the Jewish community in 2020?

The Jewish Federation provided a variety of programs for members of the Jewish community and for the community at-large. When the pandemic hit, we were able to move programs to a virtual format.

26 Jewish Federation programs were offered in 2020, including:

- PJ Library for Jewish children up to age 8
- Camp *Chaverim* for children ages 2-14
- Holocaust Educators' Conference
- Engaging discussions for Young Jewish Professionals (YJP)
- A weekly Torah Study class
- A monthly Jewish Book Club
- *Chai* on Life programs for seniors
- Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) *mitzvah* project with the Regional Food Bank

Many different topics were focused on throughout this year including Jewish holidays; advocacy; Jews of color; civil rights; fighting hate online; mental and spiritual health during a pandemic; parenting with love; and the arts.

The Jewish Federation was honored to facilitate 12 programs for other organizations

- Casady School
- Edmond Public Schools
- Emanuel Synagogue
- The Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice
- Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits
- Temple B'nai Israel
- United Way of Central Oklahoma

The Jewish Federation has reached 381 seniors in our Jewish community since the inception of the Senior Care program in June 2019.

- This program is generously funded by the Oklahoma City Jewish Foundation, Amy Singer and David Singer.
- With these grants the Jewish Federation has been able to fund a part-time position that focuses on outreach to our seniors through phone calls, emails, letters, programs of interest and bringing chicken noodle, matzoh ball soup and challah to those who are sick or would just like some warm soup.
- In 2020 the Jewish Federation helped some of our seniors learn the necessities of Zoom to be able to participate in our online programs.

Specific Program Highlights of 2020

- Camp *Chaverim* was held virtually, for free, reaching 50 campers. We were able to have unique visitors: Oklahoma City Police Chief Wade Gourley, Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt, and Lucas Ross. We also partnered with Lyric Theatre, Pollard Theatre and KidsAlive.
- The Jewish Federation partnered with Temple B'nai Israel, Langston University, Ralph Ellison Foundation and Respect Diversity Foundation on a three-session series *Two Community Dialogue: African American/Black and Jewish Conversations*. The series had 100 participants engage in meaningful dialogue.
- Over 300 participants enjoyed a comedy night from Tel Aviv, Israel with Benji Lovitt for his special, *Comedy During Adversity*.
- The Jewish Federation Partnered with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to host *The Upside of the Downside* with Rabbi Steve Leder, with 98 participants.



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Tzedakah – Justice

The Jewish Federation and Oklahoma City Jewish Foundation are committed to striving towards *tikkun olam*, repairing our world, by helping those in need and organizations who make an impact in the important work they do. Below is a list of our most significant 2020 allocations:

- \$2,500 Catholic Charities
 - \$2,500 Regional Food Bank
 - \$2,500 United Way
 - \$1,800 for Hurricane Laura Relief
 - \$1,800 for West Coast Fire Relief
 - \$7,750 Pandemic Grants to members of the Jewish community from the Oklahoma City Jewish Foundation
 - \$11,700 End of the year donations to 40 local, national, and international organizations
 - \$15,000 Oklahoma Israel Exchange
 - \$15,000 Hillel at the University of Oklahoma
 - \$80,000 Jewish Federations of North America - to support social welfare, social services, and educational needs of Jews around the world
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Jewish Federation Leadership

Thank you to our 2018 – 2020 leaders

President: Robert Weiss
Vice President/Programming: Stephanie O’Gara
Vice President/Development: Judy Austin
Vice President/JCRC: Jeff Kline
Treasurer: Irina Aizenman
Secretary: Jennifer Ephraim
Past President: Lori Blumenthal

Executive Director: Roberta S. Clark
Assistant Executive Director: Rachel Johnson
Senior Care Coordinator: Margo Nechtow
Administrative Assistant: Linda Phillips

Camp Chaverim

Assistant Direct/Operations: Brian Stockton
Assistant Director/Programs: Jeff Goss

Jewish Federation Partners

Thank you to our 2020 community partners

American Jewish Committee
Anti-Defamation League
The Art Hall of OKC
Be’chol Lashon
Casady School
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
Chabad Community Center for Jewish Life and Learning
Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum
Edmond Public Schools
Emanuel Synagogue
Hillel at the University of Oklahoma
Interfaith Alliance of Oklahoma
Langston University
The Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice
Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits
Oklahoma City Police Department
Oklahoma Israel Exchange
Ralph Ellison Foundation
Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma
Respect Diversity Foundation
Schusterman Center of Judaic and Israel Studies at the University of Oklahoma
Temple B’nai Israel
Tulsa Jewish Federation
United Way of Central Oklahoma