



CHARLESTON JEWISH FEDERATION

2019 & 2020

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

GREETINGS

Looking back at what our Jewish community accomplished in 2019 may seem irrelevant to the world we find ourselves in today, but we would be remiss if we did not share the impact and outcomes that have been accomplished with your support.

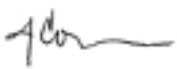
This 2019 Impact Report provides a reference point of how our greater Charleston community engaged in Jewish life before this global pandemic changed our world. Navigating through COVID-19 has created significant shifts in the way we build, sustain and secure our Jewish community.

This report represents our Jewish community's story of resilience. We are thrilled that community initiatives like LIFE & LEGACY which we proactively created in partnership with our local agencies, synagogues and day school will play a critical role in assuring our Jewish community's future financial sustainability.

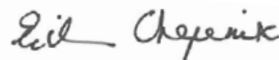
Whatever comes our way, we continue to be in the best position possible to be the strong link that honors the legacy of those leaders that built this Jewish community with the next generation - L'dor V'dor.

We are so grateful for your support in 2019 and incredibly inspired by your engagement, participation and generosity so far in 2020. This year we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to press restart and embrace the changing paradigms. Together we will come out of this tumultuous time stronger. We will become the best version of our very special Jewish community.

With gratitude,



Judi Corsaro
Chief Executive Officer



Eileen Chepenik
President



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Almost **5,000** PJ Library books distributed to over **407** local children in **281** Jewish families.

1,000+ children, parents, and grandparents attended a local PJ Library event in 2019.

In a recent survey **55%** multi-faith or unaffiliated families noted that the PJ Library books are currently their only Jewish connection.

PJ LIBRARY

BUILDING JEWISH CONNECTIONS: Shalom Baby and Shalom Parents of Preschoolers (POP)



50+ events celebrating Jewish holidays and values with **1,388** parents and children attending!

JEWISH OVERNIGHT SUMMER CAMP



\$34,250 in scholarships and first time incentives for overnight Jewish camp was provided to local families in 2019. That's a **\$10,250** increase from 2018!

“The One Happy Camper grant truly changed our ability to send our children to camp. We so strongly want them to have the opportunity to have a summer experience immersed in Jewish life and this made it possible!”

- One Happy Camper Parent

250 community members came together to root on the Riverdogs and to raise money to send local kids to Overnight Jewish Summer Camps.

JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT





For the first time, YAD hosted an event with local Israeli YAD aged community members. 40 people joined together to talk about issues between Israeli and Diaspora Jews and to enjoy some delicious Israeli dishes made by Israel Partnership 2Gether participant, Roy Talmor. This event was followed up by a successful Hanukkah event with the same group.

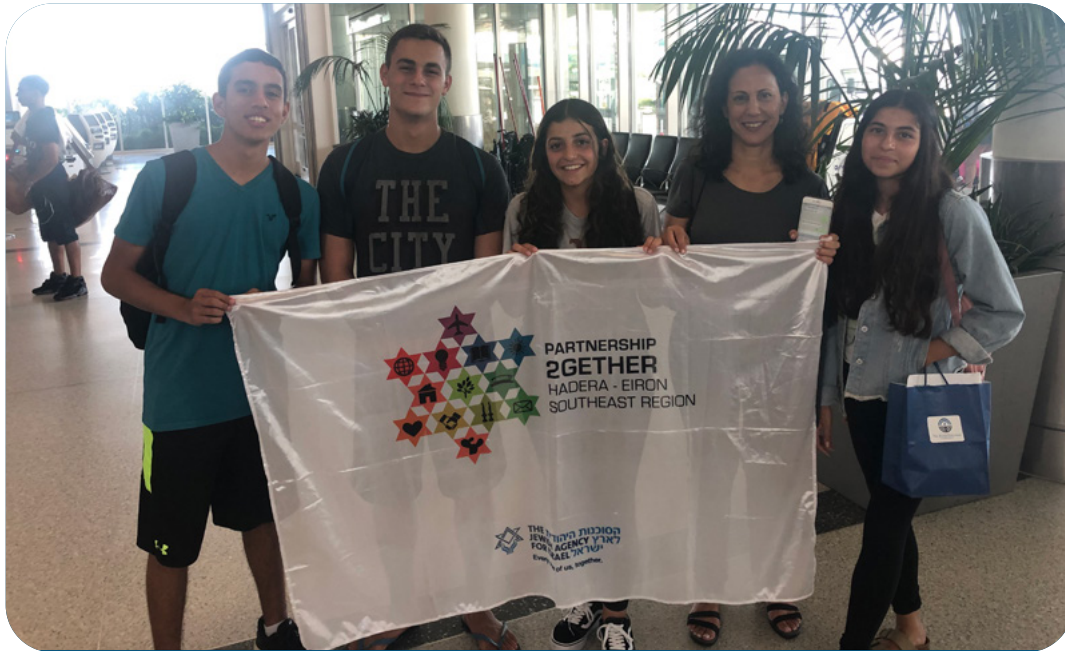
Geared towards our community members in their 20's and 30's, YAD offered **30+** events for Jewish young professionals to engage in social, educational and volunteer opportunities.



YOUNG ADULT DIVISION

PARTNERSHIP 2GETHER

15 American and Israeli participants strengthened the living bridge between America and Israel by making lifelong friendships through Partnership 2Gether.



Tikkun Olam Summer Exchange Trip, a project of Partnership 2Gether (P2G), is a once-in-a-lifetime experience to be hosted and feel a part of the family of an Israeli teen. This incredible opportunity combines touring and community service along with leadership experiences to create a lasting meaningful connection between our local teens and Israel. Strengthening these bonds helps mold our community's Jewish identity and support for our extended Jewish family in Israel and around the world. Your support ensures that we are one family with one vision for us all.

“It truly feels like everyone in Israel treats you like a part of their family. We were all so different from each other yet so similar at the same time, dealing with the same kinds of problems and insecurities. I learned an amazing amount from the Israelis - about Israel, about their lives, about new perspectives on the world, and much more that I still remember and value so strongly.”

- Lily Bluestein



32 Students are participating in the Israel Education Fellowship: a matching program that helps families save funds in order to send their children on a meaningful peer trip to Israel.

This Jewish Agency program brings a seasoned Israeli emissary to strengthen our community's connection to Israel. First Shai Bibas, and then Naama Fux, collaborated with our local synagogues and partner agencies, within our own initiatives (YAD, PJ Library) and the local schools. Together we reached hundreds of our youngest community members to strengthen their connection to Israel.



JEWISH AGENCY SHLICHIM ISRAELI EMISSARY PROGRAM

THE REMEMBER PROGRAM FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION AND GENOCIDE AWARENESS



6 Yom HaShoah proclamations read in **6** local city and county councils.

5,000 students reached by local Holocaust survivors and their descendents in **23** schools, churches and community centers.



123 teachers given the tools to teach the Holocaust to their students through professional development training.



The Remember Program provides Holocaust education and resources to our local schools, churches and community centers. Initiatives that we bring include The Daffodil Project, The Creative Arts and Writing Competition, A Holocaust Survivors Speakers Bureau and resources from the Anti-Defamation League.

1,050 elementary, middle, high and college students planted daffodils.



“Ann [Fields] (Holocaust Survivor) is a special person with a compelling story to share. I know that our students will never forget their time with her.”

- Caitlin Adelston, Educator, Porter Gaud High School

THE REMEMBER PROJECT FOR TEEN LEADERSHIP

12 students from

7 different schools participated in

12 learning sessions to bring Holocaust education to their peers.

One of the most effective ways to motivate students to stand up to hate is to provide them with the resources to teach their peers. The Remember Project: A Teen and Young Adult Empowerment and Leadership Development Program brought together students from different backgrounds to meet monthly with partners such as the Anti-Defamation League to learn how to become ambassadors against antisemitism and hate in their schools.

Schools represented include: Summerville High, Ashley Hall, Charleston County School of the Arts, Charleston Charter School for Math and Science, Wando, James Island Charter, Porter Gaud and Academic Magnet.



JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF GREATER CHARLESTON (JCRC-GC)

Members of the Charleston community gathered in front of Mother Emanuel AME Church after the MLK Day Jr Parade in January 2019. The Charleston Jewish Community marched together with leadership from the Tree of Life Congregation of Pittsburgh, PA and Mother Emanuel AME Church.



FRESH XPRESS

66,636 lbs of food distributed in **2019**

to food insecure areas across the Lowcountry in partnership with the Lowcountry Food Bank's Fresh XPress program.



PRIDE PARADE



“Marching in the Pride Parade felt like a strong expression of my Jewish value of loving my neighbor. The community’s strong reaction to our presence reinforced for me how important it is to be visible in my support for the LBGQTQ+ community and I appreciate that Federation gave me that opportunity.”

- Ellen Swick, Community Member

9 Jewish Educational Loan Funds loans totaling **\$38,426**

137 mental health counseling sessions

1,107 visits made to retirement homes, hospitals, and nursing homes

Brought cookies and other treats to **47** fire stations on Christmas day

Facilitated **685** seniors participating in social gatherings

Assisted with paying medical bills **89** times

Provided rent/utility assistance **64** times

Provided **\$8,000** to Jewish families in interest free loans



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

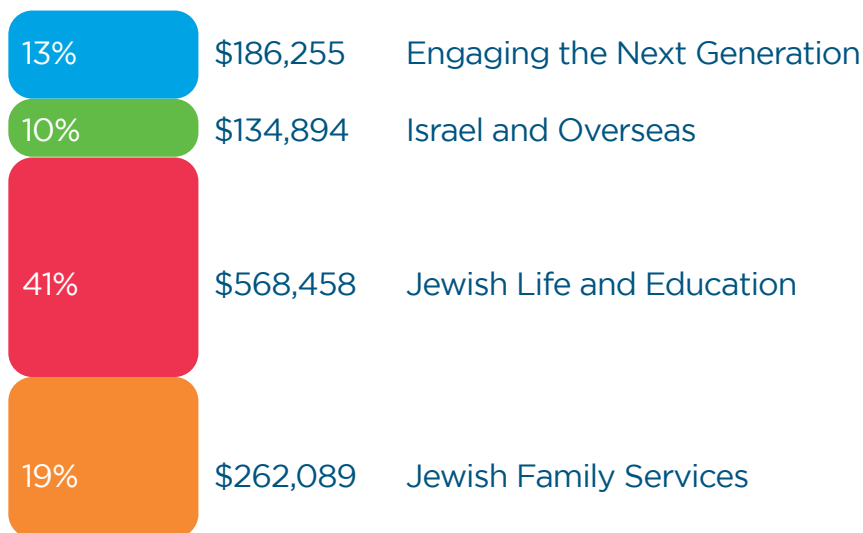
FINANCIAL

Total Assets



Total Funds Raised: \$1,379,376

2019 Allocations by Strategic Priority



Total Funds Allocated: \$1,395,306



2019 Total Expenses

- Program: \$1,151,696 83%
- Administration \$136,535 9%
- Community Financial Development \$107,075 8%

TOTAL \$1,395,306 100%



PLANNED GIVING **\$14.4 Million**

ESTIMATED FUTURE GIFTS TO THE CHARLESTON JEWISH COMMUNITY THROUGH THE LIFE & LEGACY PROGRAM

Quick Facts



\$920,000
2019 Community Campaign Dollars



23
Foundation Grants



708
Donors



40
Lions of Judah



17
Pomegranates

Community Builders Roll of Honor

\$250,000+

Anita Zucker   


\$50,000+

Manny & Elinor Cohen  




Kim Dye  

\$25,000+

Hyman & Marietta Bielsky 
Jan & Larry Lipov   
Michael & Shirley Mills  

Edwin Pearlstine 
Howard & Sandra Peskin  

2019 Jewish Community Campaign Donor Listing

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 Michael & Sharon Stricker
 Jan Studin
 Ellen & Mark Swick
 Lawrence Swillinger
 Patricia Rones & Paul Sykes
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 Mark Tanenbaum
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 Edward Tichi
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 Oscar Iluzada & Stephanie Zweben

🍎 Pomegranate Society: The Pomegranate Society is a symbol of a woman's commitment to acts of righteousness and loving-kindness. A member of the Pomegranate Society commits \$1,800 or more annually to the campaign in her name.

🦁 Lion of Judah Society: Lions of Judah play a vital role in creating social justice, aiding the vulnerable, preserving human dignity, and building Jewish identity. Leading the way by example of women's philanthropy, a Lion of Judah commits \$5,000 or more annually to the campaign in her name.

🦁🦁 Lion of Judah Endowment: A Lion of Judah who has endowed her pin at a level of \$125,000 so that she will be a Lion this year and every year, while also ensuring that the Jewish organizations that she cares about will be sustainable for generations to come.

⬠ Stars of the Campaign: Acknowledging Men and Families who have given over \$1,800

PLANNED GIVING:

LIFE & LEGACY

A partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Charleston Jewish Federation, this transformative initiative encourages legacy giving and endowment gifts to strengthen our local Jewish community for generations to come. In 4 years the program has resulted in an estimated \$14 million in future gifts to our Charleston Jewish community, with participation from nine local Jewish institutions!

To learn more or start planning your own legacy, visit www.jewishcharleston.org/legacy or email rebeccal@jewishcharleston.org.

Charleston Jewish Federation LIFE & LEGACY Society

Anonymous (6)
Ami Abramson
Shera Lee Berlin
Herbert (OBM) & Jaclyn Berlinsky
Ryan & Sharyn Bluestein
Eileen & Stanley Chepenik
Sara Sharnoff Chesley
David & Linda Cohen
Ted & Judi Corsaro
Aaron & Rebecca Engel
Brandon Fish
Harvey & Janet Friedman
Harry & Ruth Goldberg
Ellen Hoffman
Marilyn Hoffman
Marilyn Hoffman Charleston Jewish Federation Endowment
Sharon Hox
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Ellis & Janice Kahn
Bruce & Ava Kleinman
Samantha Krantz
Patrick (OBM) & Victoria Labbe

Rachel & Jim Landis
Jack & Camo Lawson
Abigail Leibowitz
Ted & Rose Levin
Larry & Jan Lipov
Spencer & Elisabeth Lynch
Eran & Jennifer Maron
Michael & Shirley Mills Endowment for Holocaust Remembrance
Carol & Allan Myself Endowment
Howard & Sandra Peskin
John & Hilary Rieck
Herb Rosner
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Rich & Shara Star
Kelly Stellrecht
Scott & Tamar Sternfeld
Stuart & Elaine Tessler
Ilene Turbow
Sally & Bob Weisman
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Charleston Jewish Family Services LIFE & LEGACY Society

Anonymous (4)
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 David & Esther Beckmann
 Susan Addlestone & Nico Berlijn
 Herbert (OBM) & Jaclyn Berlinsky
 Ben & Susan Chase
 Eileen & Stanley Chepenik
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 Patricia Rones Sykes & Paul Sykes
 Stuart & Elaine Tessler
 Louis Tick
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LIFE & LEGACY is sponsored and presented by the Charleston Jewish Federation on behalf of the Jewish Endowment Foundation of Greater Charleston and is a collaborative effort of the following area agencies, synagogues, and day school:



Hebrew Orphan Society



Charleston Jewish Federation

Ernesto Acosta
Jerry Baker
Jessica Ball
David Beckmann
Cindy & Joe Brams
David & Linda Cohen
Judi Corsaro
Robyn Wittenberg Dudley
Rebecca Engel
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Robert Vingi
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Bridget Yates
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Mindelle Ziff

Charleston Jewish Family Services

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Michael & Patricia Bagg
Barry Baker
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Avery Research Center
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Concerned Citizens of the Peninsula/Lowcountry
Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim
Synagogue Emanu-El Sisterhood
Terrace Theater Cinemas Inc.
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SO FAR IN 2020

So much of Jewish life revolves around gathering as a community. Every agency, from our Jewish day school to our synagogues, has had to react to the global pandemic, either canceling or moving services to virtual formats.

Yet, despite the challenges our community members and organizations face, your Jewish Federation continues to operate at full capacity, delivering the services and support our community needs.

Once COVID-19 became a reality, Charleston Jewish Federation quickly positioned ourselves to meet our communal needs. With your support, we provided resources to bolster all of Charleston's Jewish agencies, ensuring our Jewish community maintains financial sustainability. We gathered and shared vital information with our community, coordinated responses, and helped our agencies communicate with each other.

Our mandate to help keep you and your family and our community intact remains clear.

CJF's REMEMBER PROGRAM FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION AND GENOCIDE AWARENESS

In January and February, our Holocaust survivors and children of survivors shared their stories of courage with 3,000 students. Virtual programs and other educational resources will continue to be provided to our schools throughout the pandemic.

Although COVID-19 prevented us from being together in person for our Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Program, we reached over 1,000 community members with our Virtual Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony.

On May 27 we hosted a Zoom meeting for Dr. Esther Beckmann to share her family's story of courage and survival during the Holocaust with 82 Zoom participants and 200 views on Facebook Live. On July 9th, 1,000+ people gathered virtually to hear Holocaust Survivor, Joe Engel, share his story. Virtual programs in which Holocaust survivors, their children and grandchildren can tell their family stories are planned to continue throughout 2020.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

In May and June, we partnered three times with the ADL to provide these programs:

12 students received the Words to Action Training on how to combat bias amongst their peers through the Remember Project.

30 families came together to hear from David Hoffman, Associate Regional Director of the ADL for a workshop on how to help families talk with their children about racism and antisemitism.

Co-sponsored by the Alliance for Full Acceptance (AFFA), 60 community members joined to hear from the ADL about the necessity for hate crime legislation and steps we can take to get it passed in SC

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF GREATER CHARLESTON

500 community members of all backgrounds came together to unite against all forms of hate and bigotry, stand in solidarity against anti-Semitism at the "No Hate No Fear" Rally.

Food outreach efforts to areas of need across the Lowcountry also continue through our partnership with the Lowcountry Food Bank.



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Partnering with Charleston Jewish Family Services we are providing support through diaper and meal delivery.

Our support for families continues to evolve and develop while we listen to the needs of families raising young children across the Lowcountry. We are thrilled that enrollment in the PJ Library and Our Way program, which delivers monthly age-appropriate books with Jewish content to 350+ families across the Lowcountry continues to climb.



YOUNG ADULT DIVISION

Now more than ever our young adults are looking to connect with each other. During COVID-19 we continue to host virtual get togethers, often partnering with other communities including Nashville and New Orleans.

ISRAEL AND OVERSEAS

Before COVID-19, our community Israel emissary, Naama Fux, joined Porter Gaud Jewish middle and high school students for 8 sessions about Israeli culture, politics, diversity and geography.

On April 27th, 80 community members joined together virtually to remember and honor Israel's fallen soldiers on Yom HaZikaron - Israel's Day of Remembrance for Fallen Soldiers and Victims of Terror. Along with a Jewish religious remembrance ceremony we heard from 3 women who have been supported by the organization, Girlfriends of Fallen IDF soldiers, Naama Fux.

My congratulations on THE most emotional and moving Yom HaZikaron program. My eyes were wet almost all the way through, and definitely before the end. The film clips, the prayers and songs, especially the English translations, and learning about the heart-wrenching stories of the girlfriends of soldiers and how this organization counsels and consoles -- it was all just so moving, so important. I've been in Israel several times at this same time of year. I, too, stopped what I was doing and stood silently while the wail of the sad siren filled my head and heart. Even though I've only known one soldier who lost his life defending Israel, I feel all of Israel's pain at this special time."

- Leah Chase, Community Member

On May 26th we hosted the Israel Consul General to the Southeastern U.S., Anat Sultan-Dadon for a conversation on relations with America and Israel in the time of Corona with 50 people in attendance on Zoom and 54 views on Facebook Live.

We have had 11 community members participate in virtual Partnership 2Gether programs including a virtual tour of Jerusalem for Jerusalem Day, a Jewish Ethiopian Memorial Day commemoration, a fly over tour of Israel, cooking classes, and more.

One participant joined in Café Hafooch, a program designed to connect Israeli teens with adults from our South East consortium to discuss important topics each week. This was her take on the program:

“The teens, the facilitator and my American cohort were delightful to spend time with. I looked forward to it each Sunday. The topics and discussions each week were thought provoking and allowed us to respectfully come from similar and different perspectives, finding agreement and perhaps some respectful disagreement though not so much. Loved it from beginning to end”

- Sheila Shear, Community Member

12 community members from all all background and of all ages joined Leadership 2Gether participant, Chef Roy Talmor to celebrate Lag B’omer and learn how to make shawarma and various Israeli salads in their homes. Partnership 2Gether programs continue, connecting Israelis of all ages with our community members over shared interests.

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN A TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING

Your Federation continues to convene leadership from all community organizations for weekly discussions on best practices and to offer support to one another.

We hosted meetings with community and lay leaders alike to learn best practices from the Secure Community Network (SCN) - the national homeland security initiative of The Jewish Federations of North America & the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. We are also providing ongoing consultation to our local agencies on security and emergency management.

In May, we hosted a community wide hour of Torah and learning to celebrate the holiday of Shavuot. With participation from rabbis and community leaders, 67 community members joined the conversation and there were 303 views on Facebook.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

70 mental health counseling sessions

Charleston has received **9** Jewish Educational Loan Fund applicants for the fall of 2020.

CJFS received **23** overnight camp scholarship requests for the summer of 2020 - funds have been deferred until the Summer of 2021.

CJFS has **5** community members repaying interest free loans from our Jewish Free Loans of Charleston program.

The Kosher Food Pantry has moved locations to become more accessible to community members, now residing in the community room on The Sherman House campus. The pantry is open every Friday from 10 am to 12 pm and is officially listed on the Lowcounty Food Bank Website as well as the United Way Website. A weekly list shows the food item available and Sherman House residents are able to select from the list. Groceries are bagged and delivered to residents’ room. Non-Sherman House residents drive up, provide the list, and their bags will be brought to their car.

SENIOR OUTREACH

- 65** Visits to Assisted Living, Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes
- 47** Visits to seniors in private homes and independent retirement homes
- 12** Visits to Holocaust Survivors
- 38** Assists with transportation
- 4** Coordinated companion services for seniors
- 3** Accompanied clients to doctor appointments
- 150** Challahs delivered to seniors before Shabbat
- 42** Passover dinners delivered
- 3** seniors received coordinated hospice services
- 60** Clients received grocery deliveries

Successfully received approval for funding to provide Home Care for one of our Holocaust Survivors. This brings the total of 3 who have been approved. The home care services are being provided by Caregivers Unlimited.

Arranged housekeeping services for two seniors, who due to disabilities were unable to clean.

Assisted two families in finding qualified companions for their mothers, one who is 96 years old living alone in her home.

Assisted client with submitting an application for disability.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CHAPLAIN

- 28** visits to seniors in their private homes
- 38** visits to seniors in Assisted Living, Rehabilitation, and nursing homes
- 4** visits to seniors in the hospital
- 37** visits with a Holocaust survivor at their home
- 15** phone calls to seniors
- 2** funerals officiated for Jewish community members

THE CJF TEAM

The dedicated lay leadership and professionals at the Charleston Jewish Federation work together to strengthen and connect the greater Charleston Jewish community. Please contact us with your questions and ideas:

2020 Board of Directors

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OUR PARTNERS

Through the Annual Community Campaign and additional grants and resources, the Charleston Jewish Federation supports a network of synagogues, Jewish educational institutions, organizations, and social service agencies. We help support all ages and stages of Jewish life:

RITUAL AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Brith Sholom Beth Israel (BSBI) - Orthodox Union
Chabad of Charleston - Center for Jewish Life
Congregation Dor Tikvah - Orthodox Union
Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (KKBE) - Union for Reform Judaism
Synagogue Emanu-El - United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

SOCIAL SERVICES

Charleston Jewish Family Services

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hebrew Benevolent Society
Hebrew Orphan Society

COMMUNITY ACTIVISM AND PROGRAMMING: LOCAL CHAPTERS OF NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah of Charleston
Jewish Community Center Without Walls (JCC WOW)
National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Charleston Section

LOCAL GEOGRAPHICAL GROUPS

East Cooper: Minyanaires
Seabrook and Kiawah Island: Jews of the Sea Islands
Del Webb: Shalom Club
Summerville Jewish Community

JEWISH EDUCATION

Addlestone Hebrew Academy
Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture
The Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program at the College of Charleston

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Allocations provided to the following:
Anti-Defamation League (ADL)
Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)
Jewish Educational Loan Fund (JELF)
Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Allocations provided to the following:
Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI)
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)
Birthright Israel
Friends of the Israel Defense Forces (FIDF)
HaMidrasha
World Ort

THE 2020 COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN: BE A PART OF IT ALL!

Navigating through COVID-19 has created significant shifts in the way we build, sustain and secure our Charleston Jewish community. **Yet, with your continued support, we can mitigate future risk and provide critically needed services that support our community's future.**

Your gift will ensure that our synagogues, day school and agencies have the vital resources needed to weather whatever comes our way. **Donate today to ensure that we can continue to build, sustain and secure Jewish lives in Charleston.**

Your gift to the Federation's campaign will touch more Jewish lives locally, in Israel and around the world than any other organization. **Every contribution is meaningful!**

Recurring payment plans are available -- you don't have to pay in one lump sum.

Visit www.jewishcharleston.org/donate

or contact

Erin Boynton at erinb@jewishcharleston.org or 843-614-6491