Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania and our lay leaders and professional staff, we thank you for your generous support for our 2020 UJA Campaign. We have collaborated with our organizational partners and most dedicated leaders and donors to create the most meaningful and inspiring work possible.

The coronavirus pandemic has upended all of our lives, making everyday activities impossible and creating a new normal that once would have seemed impossible. Nevertheless, we have continued to work with our supporters and partners to identify and address the most pressing issues in our community. Together, we are changing and saving the lives of those who need our help most. We care for Jews in need here at home, in Israel and around the world. Today’s world is very complicated, but with the support of passionate and committed individuals uniting as one, we have the capacity to mobilize and accomplish great things. That is the power of community.

Our Annual Report offers insight into the local and global impact on Jewish life that our UJA Campaign has had and continues to have here in Northeastern Pennsylvania, in Israel and throughout the Jewish world. For this, we are grateful to our community for its long-standing support and partnership in our efforts to utilize the power of “community” to yield the greatest results.

This report would not be complete without expressing our sincerest gratitude to Mark Silverberg (our Executive Director), Dassy Ganz (our Assistant to the Executive Director), Dolores Gruber (our Office Manager) and Maryann Mistysyn (our Secretary) whose time, effort and devotion have brought honor to our community, and without whose dedication and foresight we could never have achieved our goals.

Nor could we have accomplished our mission this year without the dedication of our Board of Trustees, whose commitment to our community and whose participation on our many committees has reinforced the traditions we have inherited from those community leaders who preceded us. This year without the dedication of our Board of Trustees, whose commitment to our community and whose participation on our many committees has reinforced the traditions we have inherited from those community leaders who preceded us.

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Our Board includes:

- **Officers**
  - Administrative Vice-President – Eric Weinberg
  - Vice-President – Eliot Schoenbom
  - Treasurer – Jerry Weinberger
  - Asst. Treasurer – Dan Marcus
  - Secretary – Mark Silverberg
  - Asst. Secretary – Donald Douglass

- **Trustees**
  - Michael Barber
  - Susan Blum Connors
  - Bernie Driller
  - Shlomo Fink
  - Lynne Fragin
  - Gary Beckhorn
  - Mark Davis
  - David Falk
  - Joseph Fisch
  - Natalie Gelb
  - Mark Silverberg
  - Donald Douglass

- **Rabbis**
  - Rabbi Johanick Beckhardt
  - Rabbi Yoel Brody
  - Rabbi Mendel Fine
  - Rabbi Peg Kershnenbaum
  - Rabbi Elliott Kleinman
  - Rabbi Baruch Melman
  - Rabbi Dovid Sakov
  - Rabbi Yehuda Salkov
  - Rabbi Samuel Sandhaus
  - Rabbi Daniel Swartz

- **Ex-Officio**
  - Sheila Nudelman Abdo
  - Mary Ann Anusini
  - Dan Cardonick
  - Mia Crotti
  - Mark Weiner

Our 2020 UJA Campaign total was $926,953. This year, our UJA Campaign raised $926,953 in support of Israel and local, regional, national and world Jewish needs despite the financial hardships caused by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Included in this total is $491,000 (or 45% of 2020 UJA Campaign) received thanks to the foresight of many members of our Jewish communities throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania who established Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (P.A.C.E.) Funds as well as gifts received from many private charitable Foundations, gift designations made through Philanthropic Funds, Charitable Lead Trusts, and several outside Funds and Foundations all of which guarantee that there will always be vibrant Jewish communities.

My sincerest thanks to each of you.

Esther Adelman, President, Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania
We extend our thanks to each of them for their help in carrying out our 2020 UJA Campaign.

We would be remiss if we failed to thank Dan Cardonick and the JCC Board of Directors for allowing the Federation to use the Koppelman Auditorium for our Campaign Opening Event; Temple Israel of the Poconos in Stroudsburg for the use of their synagogue for our Annual UJA Dinner; Lou and Barbara Nivert for the use of Nivert Metal Supply for our annual Super Sunday Phone-a-thon; and of course all our many volunteers who worked so hard on our Campaign.

Thank you all for caring.

**UJA COMMUNITY DIVISION**

For six decades, Christians and Jews in Northeastern Pennsylvania have worked together to assure a better quality of life for all residents, irrespective of race or religion. This year’s Community Division of the UJA Campaign raised $11,321 not just for Jewish-related causes here in Northeastern Pennsylvania, in Israel and around the world, but for local charitable organizations that, over the years, have included the Scranton Area Co-Caring Foundation, Northeast Region Food Bank, Friends of the Poor, Meals on Wheels of NEPA, St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Ronald McDonald House, WVIA, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Allied Services, Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast, Christmas Holiday Bureau, Bread Basket, United Neighborhood Center Food Drive and Jewish-Catholic Interfaith programs as part of its charitable donations.

The Federation’s Community Division was the forerunner of those which have since developed throughout the country. It reflects what a community of concerned people is all about; not just talking, but practicing brotherhood, each day of every year. It has been an honor to serve and to follow in the footsteps of Peter O’Donnell, who held this position for almost two decades.

I look forward to many more years of service.

2020 UJA CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

On September 15, more than 50 people attended the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania’s annual Pocono UJA Dinner at Temple Israel of the Poconos in Stroudsburg. Organizers said, “Steve Arnovitz and his team from Collax Enterprises Catering didn’t disappoint with a delicious three-course buffet dinner.”

The program opened with welcoming remarks from Bernie Driller, a representative of Temple Israel and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Federation. Newly-elected Federation President Esther Adelman spoke about the role of the Federation as the parliament of the Jewish communities of Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties, reviewed several upcoming Federation and UJA Campaign 2020 programs, and expressed her good wishes to everyone for a healthy and happy Jewish new year.

Dassy Ganz, assistant to Federation Executive Director Mark Silverberg, introduced the guest speaker, Rabbi Cary Friedmann. Friedmann regaled the audience with the story of how he came to develop and institute the course of study for the FBI – and, in fact, law enforcement agencies throughout the United States – that deals with the role of spirituality in a high-stress profession. Amid the audience with the story of how he came to develop and institute the course of study for the FBI – and, in fact, law enforcement agencies throughout the United States – that deals with the role of spirituality in a high-stress profession.

Attendees said, “With a mix of fascinating and humorous anecdotes, as well as statistics and hard news, Rabbi Friedmann had the audience riveted and inspired in his remarks.”

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On November 2, the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania featured world-renown comedian Avi Liberman for its 2020 UJA Campaign Opening Gala Event.

Performing to a packed auditorium at the Scranton Jewish Community Center, Liberman enthralled the audience with his humorous perspectives on Jewish events and personalities. Known to audiences around the world, his quirky style has made him a favorite in comedy clubs from Los Angeles to New York. He has performed stand-up comedy on CBS’s “Late Night Show,” Comedy Central’s “Premium Blend” and “Make Me Laugh,” and NBC’s “Friday Night!” Since 2001, he has arranged stand-up comedy tours in Israel to help boost morale and donated all the proceeds to charity.

His style represents a winning combination of life experiences and current issues told through a varied blend of characters and voice changes that brought laughter to everyone and standing ovations throughout the program. In short, Lieberman’s stand-up comedy show enthralled the entire audience and was the perfect introduction to the Federation’s 2020 UJA Campaign.

On November 10, a group of volunteers arrived at Nivert Metal Supply in Throop for the annual Super Sunday Phone-a-thon to solicit funds for the 2020 UJA Federation Campaign.

Co-Chairs Eric and Angela Weinberg came with their son, Jacob. Also making calls were Federation President Esther Adelman and Louis Nivert, owner of Nivert Metal. The group was rounded out by Esther Elefant, Gilda Franceze and Alex Gans.

After a brunch presented by the Federation staff, the volunteers met with Mark Silverberg, executive director of the Federation, who gave
On a happier note, on February 8, the Federation screened the hilarious yet moving documentary “Land of Milk and Funny,” which brought the viewers some of comedian Avi Liberman’s Charity Comedy shows in Israel, as well as a poignant tour of the Holy Land.

As noted earlier, Liberman started this past autumn at the Federal’s 2020 UJA Campaign Opening Event and his movie didn’t disappoint, with great humor, interesting conversations with fellow comedians and, of course, the sights and sounds of Israel.

The Jewish Federation of NEPA is proud of its continuing commitment to excellent programming throughout the region.

As the primary Jewish newspaper of Northeastern Pennsylvania, The Reporter is the primary communications organ of the Jewish communities of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Supplementing our synagogue and temple newsletters and bulletins, it reaches out to more than 900 Jewish families in Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties as well as a large number of unaffiliated Jewish households.

The Reporter is provided to each and every identifiable Jewish household in the region at an annual cost of $20,000 to the Federation – a cost partially offset by donations from businesses advertising in the newspaper as well as an annual “Friends of The Reporter Campaign” that seeks to raise an estimated $5,000 from the Jewish households of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Following the success of the Federation’s NEPA Jewish Film Festival chair by Carol Nelson Dembirt and her many Committee volunteers, the Federation established a NEPA Jewish Film Lending Library that is available to each and every NEPA Federation organization, affiliate or agency at absolutely no cost.

The establishment of our Film Lending Library is a tribute to Carole’s efforts and those of the 20 working Film Festival Committees that she managed in bringing this entertainment bonanza to Northeast Pennsylvania. In doing so, Carol and her volunteers brought honor to our community, to our People and to Israel for which she has our deepest gratitude.

The Film Lending Library is continuously maintained and updated with the latest films on Jewish subjects and has now been transformed into a tangible and lasting asset for our community. (See page 5 for current list of films.) Purchased and administered by Dassy Ganz, the NEPA Jewish Film Lending Library currently houses a wide variety of feature films and Jewish Film Festival award winners. It is an honor for the Federation to provide this service to our community.

“Land of Milk and Funny”

On January 27, the Federation held a screening of the Commemoration Ceremony that took place earlier that day at Auschwitz – featuring close to 200 survivors as well as many international dignitaries. Those attending the Commemorative Ceremony, which was covered extensively on WNEP’s evening and morning news.

WNEP news of Scranton was there to interview organizers of the Commemorative Ceremony and several of those who attended the program was covered extensively on WNEP’s evening and morning news.

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The Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania extends its thanks to Jay Weiss who assembled the equipment necessary for the Federation to undertake the showing of this moving Ceremony.

The rail leading to the former Auschwitz II (Birkenau) concentration camp in Poland. (Photo by Wikimedia Commons)

Auschwitz remembered

To get Federation updates via email, register on our website www.jewishnepa.org

Pledge or Donate online at www.jewishnepa.org/donate

“Thankfully, the response this year was very positive,” said a Federation staff member. “We thank our volunteers who take the time on a weekend to make these solicitations and the donors for their commitment to the Jewish communities of Northeastern Pennsylvania and the world over.”

On January 27, 1945, Red Army troops marched into the hell on earth known as Auschwitz – a German slave labor and death camp located in southern Poland. In total, an estimated 1.3 million people were sent to Auschwitz and at least 1.1 million of them were murdered. Around 90% of the victims were Jews representing approximately one-sixth of all Jews murdered during the Holocaust.

When the mass killings were at their peak, an estimated 6,000 Jews were being gassed each day with cyanide-based Zyklon B gas. Those not killed in the gas chambers perished from starvation, forced labor and infectious diseases that spread unchecked through the camp. It was truly hell on earth.

As a sign of respect for those who perished and the few who survived, the Federation remembered Auschwitz – a German slave labor and death camp located in southern Poland. In total, an estimated 1.3 million people were sent to Auschwitz and at least 1.1 million of them were murdered. Around 90% of the victims were Jews representing approximately one-sixth of all Jews murdered during the Holocaust.

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**Feature Films**

**Fanny’s Journey** - In 1943, 13-year old Fanny and her younger sisters were sent from their home in France to an Italian foster home for Jewish children. When Nazis came to Italy, their caretakers organized the departure of the children to Switzerland. Based on a true story.

**Hidden in Silence** - During the Nazi occupation of Poland, Catholic teenage Stefania Podgorska chooses the role of a savior and sneaks 13 Jewish into her attic.

**Loving Leah: A Hallmark Hall of Fame Classic** - A handsome Washington, D.C. doctor and a young New York woman fall in love at an unusual time... after they get married. Leah Lever is married to an Orthodox rabbi, Benjamin Lever, whose brother, Jake, is a successful cardiologist and a non-practicing Jew. Jake is stunned when Benjamin dies suddenly, but not as stunned as when he is told that, under an ancient Jewish Law, he is expected to marry the childless Leah to carry on Benjamin’s name. The only alternative is to go through a ceremony where Jake must deny his brother’s existence. For Jake, that’s unthinkable, so impulsively he suggests to Leah that they get married and maintain a secretly platonic relationship. Eager to pursue her own dreams, Leah gladly accepts. Their oversimplified plan to live separate lives under the war proves challenging when Leah’s suspicious mother shows up unexpectedly. The harder they try to disguise their “pretend” marriage, the more their appreciation for each other’s worlds grows - and out of understanding, a real love develops. Loving Leah is a heart-warming story.

**Music Box** - In this intense, courtroom thriller, Chicago attorney Ann Talbot agrees to defend her Hungarian immigrant father Mike Laszlo against accusations of heinous war crimes committed 50 years earlier.

**Norman** - Norman Oppenheimer (Richard Gere) lives a lonely life in the margins of New York City power and money, and strives to be everyone’s friend. His incessant networking leads him nowhere until he ends up befriending a young but charismatic politician, Micha Eshel at a low point in his life. Three years later, the politician becomes the Prime Minister of Israel. Norman uses Eshel’s name to leverage his biggest deal ever: a series of quid pro quo transactions linking the Prime Minister to Norman’s nephew, a rabbi, a mogul, his assistant and a treasury official from the Ivory Coast. Norman’s plans seemingly work, but in the end he is brought down by a struggle to prevent capture of his dearly loved wife, Haviva, by the Nazis. Norman: The Moderate Rise and Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer is a comedic and compassionate drama of a man whose downfall is rooted in a human frailty all too easy to forgive—a need to matter.

**Remember** - Remember is the suspense-filled story of Zev, an Auschwitz survivor who discovers that the Nazi guard who murdered his family some seventy years ago is living in America under an assumed name.

**The Impossible Spy** - The story of the life and death of Israel’s most celebrated spy, Elie Cohen.

**In Our Own Hands** - The harrowing story of Esther Stermer and her family and friends who escaped extermination by the Nazis by hiding in an underground cave is unearthed by accident when cave explorer, Chris Nicola stumbles upon remnants left behind by the cave dwellers.

**No Place on Earth** - A powerful documentary sets the record straight eloquently and comprehensively. It not only shows the undeniable historical connection between the Jewish People and the Land of Israel, but also succeeds in debunking propaganda, myths and misinformation that have become accepted as truth by many people.

**GI Jews** - Jewish Americans in World War II, a PBS presentation, tells the story of the 550,000 Jewish men and women who served in World War II as active participants in the fight against Hitler.

**In Our Own Hands** - In the final weeks of World War II His Majesty’s Jewish Brigade - the only all-Jewish fighting unit in the war - goes into combat against the hated Nazis... and comes away victorious. It is after the war, though, that the real story of the Brigade begins. Amidst the chaos of post-war Europe, and under the noses of the occupying Allied armies, the young Jewish soldiers mind their own clan-destine operation after the next: forming secret vengeance squads to assassinate Nazi officers in hiding...engineering the rescue and illegal movement of Holocaust survivors to Palestine. Later, in 1948, Brigade veterans help organize and lead the fledgeling Israel Defense Forces in their new country’s War of Independence. From the trenches of Northern Italy to the refugee camps of war-torn Europe, in Our Own Hands unravels the thrilling tale of young Jewish soldiers who carried the weight of a people on their shoulders."

**Itzhak** - a film by Alison Chernick looks beyond the sublime musician, to see the polio survivor whose parents emigrated from Poland to Israel ultimately bringing the prodigy violinist to New York’s Julliard.

**Loving Leah** - A Hallmark Hall of Fame Classic - A poignant and funny romantic comedy about love, marriage and faith in life’s infinite possibilities.

**The Prime Ministers: The Pioneers and Peacemakers** - A two-disc set based on the international best-seller by Ambassador Yehuda Avner.
Local/Regional/Israel & Overseas Allocations

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania (salaries, benefits and administrative expenses)</td>
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<td>Israel Affairs Division (IADF and the AJDC - for Israel and world Jewish needs)</td>
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<td>Jewish Fellowship of Hemlock Farms Hebrew School (Lords Valley)</td>
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**TOTAL: $926,953**

* Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (AJDC)

Our sincerest gratitude is extended to each and every donor and volunteer, and to every one of our community partners who made this achievement possible.

COMMITTEE REPORTS COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT

The JCRC’s primary objectives are to serve as the Federation’s voice in the local Jewish community and to the general community on matters of Jewish concern as well as involving the state of Israel. The JCRC works to fight anti-Semitism and supports a close and mutually beneficial U.S./Israel relationship. JCRC provides tools and information for our Jewish community to become stronger and our advocacy reaches the local, state and federal levels.

Security Committee
SECURITY SUMMARY FOR NEPA JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

On December 28, just before 10 pm, a man armed with a machete and wearing a scarf to cover his face, entered the home of Rabbi Chaim Rotenbergs in Monsey, New York, and stabbed and wounded five individuals who were at the location attending a Hanukkah party.

At the time of the attack, there were approximately 100 people in attendance. The city of Monsey is part of Rockland County and is the second largest Jewish population of any United States county with over 31% of the residents being Jewish. The violence came after at least eight attacks on Jews in New York City in December alone and is symptomatic of an increase in antisemitic attacks on Jews in Poway, Pittsburgh and numerous other cities throughout our country.

While the Jewish communities of Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties have been spared such tragedies in recent years, it behooves us, as lay and spiritual leaders, to exercise maximum caution and to undertake preventive security measures within our capabilities to protect our institutions and congregations from such grievous acts of terrorism.

Our specific efforts in this regard can be found in this Annual Report under the Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition section covered by my late colleague Joe Fisch (of blessed memory).

With thanks to the Department of Homeland Security and the Secure Community Network (the security arm of the Jewish Federations of North America), the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania (JFNEPA), the Jewish Federation of Scranton (JFSD), and the Jewish Coalition Security Committee) provided its agencies, institutions and synagogues in Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties with a series of very detailed security brochures which included measures recommended to be undertaken by each of them to secure their buildings, their congregants and their personnel.

The documents included:
- Mass gatherings – take charge of your personal safety
- Facility security guidance
- Recognize the signs of terrorism-related suspicious activity (if you see something, say something)
- Low-cost security measures for Jewish facilities, and
- Suspicious activity reporting – indicators and examples.

In addition, representatives from each and every Jewish synagogue, institution and agency in Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties now sit on our regional Security Committee. They are continually briefed at security meetings and receive email communications on any and all security-related matters that could well impact the safety of their buildings, congregants and personnel.

FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR, OVER HALF OF THE RELIGIOUS HATE CRIMES IN THE U.S. TARGETED JEWISH ACOORDING TO THE FBI

In the U.S., almost 60% of hate crimes based on religious bias were motivated by anti-Semitism according to a November 2019 FBI Report published in its annual Uniform Crime Reporting (or UCR) Program.

In 2018, the year covered by the FBI report, 57.8% of religious bias offenses were categorized as anti-Semitic. In 2018, 834 offenses were reported to local and federal law enforcement agencies. The number of anti-Jewish offenses dropped off in 2019 from the previous year, when there were 976. But the share of offenses directed against Jews or those perceived as Jewish remained consistent. About 58% of religious bias crimes in 2017 had an antisemitic motivation, roughly the same share as in 2018. In 2018, 834 offenses were classified as anti-Jewish and constituted about 54% of all religious bias offenses included in the FBI’s UCR statistics.

NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM APPROVED

In late December, the United States House of Representatives and Senate passed (and the president subsequently signed) legislation into law that provides $90 million for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (or NSGP), for the 2020 grant cycle.

The NSGP (originally established by Congress to address nationwide warnings of possible attacks against Jewish communal institutions) will be used to bolster the physical security and preparedness of non-profit institutions at-risk from foreign terrorist organizations and homegrown violent extremists. 2020 funding for the NSGP program represents an increase of over 50% from the $60 million allocated in 2019.

THE TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE ACT (TRA) HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Prior to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, insurance covering terrorism losses was normally included in commercial insurance policies without additional cost to the policyholders.

However, the insured losses on all insurance lines from the September 11th attacks exceeded $45 billion in current dollars, an amount well above other insurance industry experiences with terrorism losses. As a result, following the September 2001 attacks, insurers pulled back from offering terrorism coverage. Some observers feared that a lack of insurance against terrorism loss would have a wide economic impact, particularly because insurance coverage can be a significant factor in lending decisions.

Congress responded to the disruption in the insurance market by passing the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (TRIA). TRIA created a program to calm markets through a government re-insurance program sharing in terrorism losses. This program was intended to give the insurance industry time to gather the data and create the structures and capacity necessary for private insurance to cover terrorism risk.
of Israel on U.S. campuses given that antisemitism on American campuses is often hidden in an anti-Israel/anti-Zionist agenda.

There is nothing in the Executive Order, for example, that precludes anyone from criticizing the policies of the government of Israel. However, if an anti-Israel incident is deemed antisemitic, it would now fall under the rubric of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which bars discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin at colleges and universities that receive federal funding.

In short, opposing Israel’s existence as a Jewish homeland is antisemitism. With this Executive Order, President Trump has stated that anti-Israel activity on college campuses has a clear and special place within the activism that government agencies must take action to combat. The Trump Administration has concluded that “anti-Israel bias on American college campuses has become a serious obstacle to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief.” Linking antisemitism to BDS movements will, as it did in 2016, reinforce the use of the term “antisemitism” to describe political opposition to policies of the government of Israel.

U.N. RELEASES A REPORT LINKING ANTISEMITISM TO THE BDS MOVEMENT

In September 2019, the United Nations released its own unprecedented report (“Combattling Anti-Semitism to Eliminate Discrimination and Intolerance Based on Religion or Belief.”) linking antisemitism to the BDS movement, as well. It condemned the use of antisemitic tropes and denial of Israel’s right to exist by BDS activists and the report also recommended the creation of an international Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (or IHRA) to adopt for use in education, awareness raising, and for monitoring and responding to manifestations of antisemitism.

The report marked one of the first times the U.N. has addressed the issue of antisemitism in any detail. It identified violence, discrimination and expressions of hostility motivated by Jewishness as a serious obstacle to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief. It expressed “serious concerns” that those engaging in antisemitic incitement are being encouraged to adopt for use in education, awareness raising, and for monitoring and responding to manifestations of antisemitism.

ROUGHLY ONE-QUARTER OF EUROPEANS ARE ANTISEMITIC, SURVEY SAYS: NEW ADL REPORT

French Jews are fleeing their country to Israel due to record levels of antisemitism. In 2018 alone, nearly 8,000 French Jews made aliyah. France is now the third largest after Israel and French President Emmanuel Macron declared that antisemitism was at its highest levels since World War II. A 2018 study by the Eurobarometer found a significant increase in anti-Semitic beliefs linked to old tropes such as Jews controlling business and finance and having “dual loyalty.” In Western Europe, levels of antisemitism have remained more consistent, according to the study. Compared to the 2015 survey, the 2019 poll, which surveyed 16,000 people, found increasing levels of antisemitic sentiment in Ukraine (up 14 percent), Poland (up 11 percent), South Africa and Brazil (both up 9 percent), Russia (up 2 percent), and Macedonia (up 1 percent). Antisemitic attitudes decreased in Italy (down 11 percent), Austria (down 8 percent) and Canada (down 6 percent).

HOUSE PASSES BILL THAT CALLS TO SANCTION PALESTINIAN TERROR GROUPS

On July 23, 2019, the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., passed a bipartisan resolution condemning Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups. House Bill 1850, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act, directs the President to present an annual report identifying “each foreign person or agency or instrumentality of a foreign state that... knowingly assists in, sponsors, or provides significant financial, material, or other support for so-called Palestinian Islamic Jihad or any affiliate.” The Bill’s Republican sponsor, Rep. Brian Mast (R-FL), said, “These sanctions send a strong message to anybody who endorses or supports the destructive actions of Hamas and makes it clear we will not stand idly by while Palestinian radical terrorists continue to terrorize the people of Israel and death to everything we hold dear in the United States.”

TWITTER SUSPENDS HEBREZBOLAH’S AL MANAR AND HAMAS-LINKED MEDIA ACCOUNTS

On September 17, four U.S. congressmen wrote to Twitter, YouTube and Facebook demanding the freezing of the material and accounts affiliated with U.S.-designated terror groups, mentioning Hamas and Hezbollah. When Twitter initially failed to comply, U.S. Rep. Tom Reed (R-NY) tweeted: “You think you are above the law? Come testify before Congress about why you are promoting terrorist content on your platform.” In late November, Twitter announced that it had suspended approximately 30 accounts of Hezbollah TV station Al Manar as well as accounts affiliated with Hamas-linked media.

75 years after Auschwitz, proof of hate’s endurance

The following Op-Ed by David Fallk was published as a Guest Columnist in the Scranton Times on January 26 in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Seventy-five years ago, on January 27, 1945, Red Army troops marched into the hell on earth known as Auschwitz-Birkenau, the site of Nazi German slave labor and death camp located in southern Poland. Months later British and American troops would stumble across and liberate numerous similar camps throughout occupied Europe.

However, before the Allies could achieve their conquest, millions would die at the hands of the Nazis. More than six million Jews died in the Holocaust. The victims included the elderly, the young, the disabled, political prisoners, gays, Roma (gypsies), but most importantly, some six million Jews. After the Holocaust two haunting questions arose. How could this happen? Could it ever happen again? The former question raised even more questions. Why did so many buy into Adolf Hitler’s racist polemic as expressed in Mein Kampf? Why did so many turn against their neighbors, colleagues, and friends? Why did so many collaborators participate in unspeakable horrors visited upon their fellow human beings?
For centuries, Jews were forced to live in various countries at the suffering and whims of other rulers. The track record of those places in treating Jews remains an ugly blot on history. England forced Jews into ghettos in 1285 in 1390, and in 1652, the Venetians coined the word "ghetto" to describe the neighborhood to which Jews were restricted. Russia decreed the Pale of Settlement beyond which no Jew could permanently reside. The Crusades proved deadly to Jews in Germany, and the Spanish Inquisition drove Jews who survived their refusal to convert to Christianity from their homes in Iberia.

Islamic leaders sometimes treated Jews better than European monarchs did, but shararahs considered Jews (and Christians) as dhimmi, second-class citizens who had to pay a discriminatory tax and often wear identifying symbols. Nazi Germany mimicked the dhimmi symbols with a yellow-star badge and also ghettoized its Jews. The Third Reich once contemplated expulsion of Jews to Palestine, but Arabs, led by the grand mufti, intervened with Hitler and the British to prevent Jews from being sent or accepted there. As Israel’s first president observed, for European Jews, “...the world is divided into places where they cannot live and places where they cannot enter.”

Although Boehm raises the specter of “ethnic cleansing” and “apartheid” by Israel, he ignores the realities of anti-Semitism, but it was the Jewish communities who have been ethnically cleansed, not just in the Holocaust, but by Israel’s neighbors and other Islamic states. The deadly Arab riots of the 1920s and 1930s foreshadowed the three wars waged between 1948 and 1973 to drive Israelis into the sea. After the 1948 war, Jordan illegally annexed the West Bank and expelled all Jews from territory it controlled, including Jewish holy sites in Jerusalem and Hebron. Over 800,000 Jews were also forced out of Arab lands from Algeria to Iraq.

Today, Palestinian students chant for a single, Jew-free Palestinian state from the “(Jordan) River to the (Mediterranean) Sea.” The PLO’s charter outlines a long history of anti-immigrant fervor particularly the Irish, were cast as pariahs. Daniel Pearl’s murder highlighted the fact that Jews are being attacked while at prayer in Pittsburgh, New York, New Jersey, and the streets of Brooklyn and Manhattan.

However, more important than studying history or watching the reemergence of antisemitic behavior, is taking measures to counter its reoccurrence. While some consider speaking out against racism to be an act of courage or for someone else to do, the failures of the past call for both leadership and individual action of ordinary citizens. Leaders of government, business, educational, religious, and other organizations must make it known in no uncertain terms that intolerance, whether expressed or implied, will not be condoned. Indifference, ambiguity, or less than public acceptance and indifference is construed by haters as tacit support. Individuals must also step up when presented with prejudice or bigotry.

Throughout our nation’s history there were too many times when sentiment and actions turned against “the other,” and politicians and people were more concerned with their own shortcomings. Jews have not been the only targets. Blacks have always borne the brunt of American bigotry, and brown-skinned people are now in the crossfire. Once Catholics, particularly in Ireland and Latvia, were the targets, and Daniel Okrent’s recent book, “The Guarded Gate,” outlines a long history of anti-immigrant fervor and xenophobic thinking that focused on eastern and southern Europe (i.e. Poles, Slavs, Italians, Greeks), as well as Jews and the Chinese.

As we commemorate Auschwitz, we must dedicate ourselves to reject the myths which it represents and what it stood for, so that it can be rejected. The troubles of the times in which we live must not devolve into overt or even low-level scapegoating of those who are different or pray or believe differently. The world has gone down that road before and Auschwitz reminds us where it leads. We owe it not just to Auschwitz’s victims but also to our Constitution to “ourselves and our posterity” to say “never again” and to take all means to measure it.

Historically, Palestinians are their own worst enemies. The following article written by David Faltz appeared in the Scranton Times-Tribune on February 10 in reply to an anti-Israel article written by Oriam Boehm in an earlier issue.

It is hard to fathom that in the third decade of the 21st century, there exists such as Oriam Boehm (Jan. 30) still question whether the Jewish people should have a sovereign state of their own. Unfortunately, he is not alone. The thought of Jews governing themselves, let alone non-Jews, causes great consternation in many quarters.

For decades, the world has fruitlessly negotiated with, offered, cajoled, and begged Palestinians to accept statehood alongside Israel. In 1979, the League of Nations backed such a concept only to be rebuffed by the Arab world, The U.N. partition of 1948 was rejected as well. In 2000, President Bill Clinton brokered a proposal that would have given Palestinians over 95% of West Bank and all of Gaza. Yasser Arafat’s rejection was followed by a violent intifada. Later, a larger portion was offered by Israel including division of Jerusalem and Arab sovereignty over parts of that city. Palestinians still say no. Most recently, Palestinian leaders wouldn’t even join in negotiations. The common thread is that Palestinian demurals is the refusal to accept a state of their own as long as Israeli state also exists. As Brest Stephens noted (Jan. 31), every rejection by Palestinians has only created a greater loss for themselves.

While Israel was building a modern, multi-cultural society, the Palestinians fought in another war as well as with Israel. They no longer conduct elections and cast blame for their condition on everyone else. Democracy is hard, and Israel, like America, is not perfect. But focusing on Israel’s shortcomings and right to exist as a Jewish state rather than on Palestinian obstruction, self-sabotage and violent tendencies will not bring a peace deal any closer.

PENNSYLVANIA JEWISH COALITION REPORT

PJC Mission Statement: The Pennsylvania Jewish Coa- lition (PJC), working individually and collectively with others, represents Pennsylvania’s Jewish communities before state government and with other Pennsyla- nia’s Jewish values guide the PJC’s focus on issues of importance to these communities, including public so- cial policies and funding and regulation of the delivery of human services.

Governor Wolf moves quickly in response to coronavirus threat phasing in Pennsylvania’s return to work

In late April, Gov. Tom Wolf announced that a red, yellow, and green phased approach will be used to reopen the state amid the coronavirus pandemic.

“The initial benchmark we’re setting is for the population rate of those who have tested positive in a county to be less than 5% over a period of 14 days in order to return to work,” Wolf said, “but we’re also going to continue to look at tracing rates, the ability to investigate cases, contact tracing capabilities and proximity to high-risk settings.

The assessment will be a regional one. Further information can be found at www.governor.pa.gov/plan-for-pennsylvania/."
On October 27, Gov. Wolf signed a Proclamation declaring October 27, 2019, a day of remembrance and an opportunity to heal and build bridges of understanding, welcome, and friendship. This day is dedicated to the memory of the victims of the Tree of Life massacre in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on October 27, 2018.

“By reaching out to cultivate bonds of friendship and understanding between individuals and between communities, we shall turn our nation’s history of hate and divisiveness into one of inclusion and tolerance,” Gov. Wolf stated.

FIGHTING HATE CRIMES
Under the direction of the PJCLor Board of Directors and the direction of Rabbi Aaron Kline, the PCF has been working on a series of initiatives to curtail the growth of anti-Semitism and hate crimes in Pennsylvania. In the past year, the PJCLor has been working on the following initiatives:

- Federations CRC chairs and the ADL have met with Pennsylvania State Police, State Police Intelligence, Homeland Security, and the FBI to share best practices to stop anti-Semitism and hate crimes.
- Legislation to repeal the existing ban on teachers from inside the Tree of Life religious complex and had a tour of the Tree of Life religious complex in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The tour, including synagogues and churches, was conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police, State Police Intelligence, Homeland Security, and the FBI.

The Proclamation read as follows:

PROCLAMATION
REMEMBER/REPAIR TOGETHER DAY
October 27, 2019
WHEREAS, on October 27, 2018, violence struck the Tree of Life synagogue in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh, in an act of bigotry and hatred, a gunman attacked the Tree of Life, New Light, and Tree of Life Or L'Simcha congregations worshipping at the Tree of Life Synagogue; and
WHEREAS, all of Pennsylvania stands in memory of the victims of the Tree of Life massacre in the guest books at both locations with the intent of memorializing the Tree of Life massacre in the guest books at both locations with the intent of memorializing the community and the mourning families, the Jewish community, and all those who come to mourn in Pittsburgh and across the Commonwealth. The horror of violence like this reminds us of the non-profit community, whose families, the Jewish community, and all those who come to mourn in Pittsburgh and across the Commonwealth. The horror of violence like this reminds us of the non-profit community, whose families, the Jewish community, and all those who come to mourn in Pittsburgh and across the Commonwealth. The horror of violence like this reminds us of the non-profit community, whose families, the Jewish community, and all those who come to mourn in Pittsburgh and across the Commonwealth.
WHEREAS, events such as these leave members of the Jewish community heartbreak, and fear in their wake, we can also find hope in the outpouring of love and compassion evident in the Pittsburgh Jewish community and across the Commonwealth.
WHEREAS, William Penn founded our Commonwealth on the principles of inclusion and tolerance, and today Pennsylvanians continue to demonstrate that true strength comes not from uniformity, but from diversity.
WHEREAS, as we commemorate the events of October 27, 2018, we remember those killed and wounded by building bridges between individuals and between communities. To combat hatred, we must cultivate bonds of friendship and understanding and celebrate the diversity of our Commonwealth.
WHEREAS, in memory of the victims of the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue, and the members of the Jewish community, as well as those in the Pittsburgh community and across our Commonwealth who fight hatred and bigotry with love, inclusion, and kindness, we, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 27, 2019, as REMEMBER/REPAIR TOGETHER DAY. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to build bridges of understanding, welcome, and friendship.

Tom Wolf
Governor

On the regional level, on October 27, a letter program was held at the Scranton JCC at 4:30 pm, which preceded the global Pittsburgh event broadcast of the remembrance service which began at 5 pm.

The program included:
- Welcome—Rabbi Daniel Swartz, Temple Hesed
- Prayer/Reflection – Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton
- Reflection – Rabbi David Fakull, Esq., Chair, Community Relations Committee, Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania
- Prayer/Reflection – Rabbi Dr. Mark Bertram, Chief Rabbinical Executive of the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania
- Prayer/Reflection – Sister Jean Louise Bachetti of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- Prayer – Canton Amanda Ebronson, Temple Israel
- Prayer/Reflection – Rabbi Daniel Swartz, Temple Hesed

For those unable to attend the interfaith program, web links to global video broadcast of the Pittsburgh memorial service (https://pa.gov/2018/05/23/pittsburgh-memorial-service/)

The program included:
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- Prayer/Reflection – Rabbi Dr. Mark Bertram, Chief Rabbinical Executive of the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania
- Prayer/Reflection – Rabbi Daniel Swartz, Temple Hesed

In accordance with the Act, grants will be awarded for security enhancements which include:
- Safety and security planning;
- Purchase of safety and security equipment;
- Purchases of security-related technology, which may include, but is not limited to:
  - metal detectors;
  - surveillance equipment;
  - shielded or armored windows;
  - trauma kits;
  - theft control devices;
  - protective lighting;
  - surveillance equipment;
  - special emergency communications equipment;
  - electric locks;
  - bullet resistant glass;
  - burglar alarms;
- Threat awareness and response training;
- Upgrades to existing structures that enhance safety and security;
- Vulnerability and threat assessments;
- Specialized training for staff;
- Any other activity that supports one another, to reject bigotry and hate crimes.
- Grant awards above the $75,000 threshold, up to $250,000, will be made outright, without matching funds;
- Grants above that threshold, up to $75,000, will require a 50% match. For example, with a $25,000 in fund-raising, a non-profit can get $75,000 from the state for a total of $100,000;
- Grants above $75,000, up to $150,000, will require a 50% match. For example, with $150,000 in fund-raising, a non-profit can get $150,000 from the state, for a total of $300,000.

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**PERMITTING RELIGIOUS GARB AND INSIGNIA IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

In 1949, Pennsylvania followed many other states in enacting laws to prohibit public school teachers from wearing religious garb, insignias, etc. while teaching. Over the years, every state in which this type of ban has been implemented has repealed such laws with the sole exception of Pennsylvania. (Nebraska rescinded its Act in 2017). House Bill 984 of 2019 and Senate Bill 373 each create a religious accommodation section in their current form. In the past several years, teachers in Philadelphia and Dauphin County have been reprimanded for wearing religious garb and insignias when they teach classes. As noted above, legislation to repeal the current law has been introduced in both the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and the Pennsylvania Senate and the PJC is working to move these bills forward toward passage.

**CULTURAL AWARENESS LEGISLATION**

To help fight the increase in antisemitism, the Jewish Coalition for Human Rights (PJC) is working on legislation to help our schools. This legislation will model the educational approach of the Jewish Coalition for Human Rights (PJC) with resources and training for teachers. Cultural Awareness legislation has been introduced in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives (Act 70 of 2014, HB 343). The PJC has passed the state Education Committee and is before the House of Representatives.

**EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDITS (EITC)/ OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP TAX CREDITS (OSTC)**

Capitalizing on the success of the 2017-2018 budget which increased the EITC from $135 million to $160 million and maintained OSTC at $50 million, the PJC worked with House Speaker Mike Turzai to include an increase in EITC/OSTC ($50 million, the PJC worked with House Speaker Mike Turzai to include an increase in EITC/OSTC, $50 million, the PJC worked with House Speaker Mike Turzai to include an increase in EITC/OSTC, $50 million to $160 million and maintained OSTC at $160 million to $180 million) and House Majority Leader Jake Ellis to include an increase in EITC/OSTC ($50 million, the PJC worked with House Speaker Mike Turzai to include an increase in EITC/OSTC, $50 million to $160 million and maintained OSTC at $160 million to $180 million) and House Majority Leader Jake Ellis to increase OSTC at $160 million to $180 million to $200 million in the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year. Our members included Mike Turzai, Murray Glick, Seth Gross, Ben Glassman, Alan Glassman, Murray Glick, Seth Gross, Ben Glassman, and other members of the House Education Committee.

**HOLOCAUST EDUCATION IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT 70 OF 2014**

House Bill 1424 (HB 1424) – Representative Paul Clymer (R-Bucks) provided an opportunity for the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) of PD to develop guidelines and train teachers to teach the Holocaust in a consistent and effective manner. HB 1424 (now Act 70) has two requirements:

1. School districts are to teach about the Holocaust, genocide and human rights according to the PDE Guidelines, and

2. Schools must participate in the training programs designed to help teachers educate their students on the sensitizing events. The PDE is working with Holocaust educators throughout Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Board of Education to assure that the intent of Act 70 is adhered to when implementing this Act.

The PJC is working closely with the Pennsylvania Department of Education to implement Act 70 of 2019. The Act includes the following:

- Setting aside $10 million for the development of educational programs.
- Authorizing the PDE to use the remaining funds for professional development of teachers and other educators.
- Requiring the PDE to develop guidelines for the implementation of the Act.
- Providing resources and training to teachers.

The PDE and the Act 70 Task Force are currently working on developing training modules and resources to support teachers in implementing the Act. The PDE is also working with the Pennsylvania Jewish Federations and communities to assure that they are involved in this implementation, training and assistance.

**PROTECTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS**

In 2019, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives passed several bills to address the human trafficking issue impacting our society and our state. The Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition has been working with the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference and other faith-based organizations to move this issue forward. The passage of these bills coincides with National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (January 11).

These bills include:

- Senate Bill 60, which sharply increases penalties for those who traffic victims and soliciting those who assist victims Someone knowingly patronizing a victim of sexual servitude – a crime regarded as a first-degree felony under the bill – would face increased fines from $1,000 to $25,000 for a first-time offense under the bill. The measure also would sharply increase prison sentences to a minimum of 40 years for offenders if a victim of sexual servitude is a minor (now moves to the Senate). This legislation now goes to Governor Tom Wolf for his signature.
- House Bill 161, which makes trafficking infants a first-degree felony, now moves to the Senate;
- House Bill 2178, requiring the court to consider whether a household member has been convicted of human trafficking prior to awarding custody of a child to a perpetrator, now moves to the Senate; and
- House Bill 2177, expanding the list of sexual offenses that require offenders to attend a Department of Corrections counseling program, now moves to the Senate;

- House Bill 2176, expanding activities that could be awarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, now moves to the Senate; and
- House Bill 2175, expanding the list of offenses as to which an expert may testify about the dynamics of human trafficking in court, now moves to the Senate;

- House Bill 2174, prohibiting defendants from introducing evidence of a human trafficking victim’s past sexual victimization in a trafficking case, now moves to the Senate.

**GOVERNOR WOLF VISITED ISRAEL IN JANUARY 2020**

In January, 2020, Governor Wolf became the first sitting governor of Pennsylvania since Tom Ridge to visit Israel, where he spent time vacationing and visiting sites of collaboration between Israeli and Pennsylvania communities from January 5-16. "Israel is an important economic partner for Pennsylvania, and meeting with civic, industry and business leaders could help bolster ties between our countries,” the governor said in a press release.

“This trip was also an opportunity to reflect on our existing connections and identify potential new ventures and partnerships that will benefit Israelis and Pennsylvanians alike.”

On January 13, he spent the morning at Yad Vashem before heading to Mount Herzl, where he performed a small ceremony at the grave of Michael Levin, a lone soldier from Philadelphia who was killed in combat in 2006, later, he travelled to plant a tree at the Tree of Life memorial, after which he spent the day in government meetings.

The following day, Gov. Wolf and his wife found time to visit one campus of Yad V’Yad, a network of Israeli schools that seeks to build ties between Palestinian and Israeli children. Both Arabic and Hebrew are taught along with English and close to 2,000 students are enrolled.

On his final day, a Digital Health Summit was held at Sheba Medical Center – the largest medical center in Israel and a frequent collaborator with Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. Representatives from the Israel Innovation Authority also attended. That evening, a reception was held in downtown Tel Aviv. Ambassador Dani Dayan, Consul General of Israel, together with other Federation leaders joined Gov. Wolf and his wife.

"Gov. Wolf’s visit to Israel brings Pennsylvania’s Jewish communities in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and other Pennsylvania Jewish communities to assure that they are involved in or benefit from these existing connections and potential new ventures and partnerships that will benefit Israelis and Pennsylvanians alike.”

The following morning, the governor and his group headed for the airport for the long journey home.
For many years, a portion of the funds available for distribution from the Federation’s Unrestricted Endowment Funds has been assigned to the Grants Committee to provide grants for emergency situations and for the many important programs and capital projects that were undertaken or undertaken by our agencies to enhance the quality of Jewish life in our region.

These goals are consistent with the Mission of the Federation, which is to rescue the imperiled, care for the vulnerable, support Israel, and revitalize and perpetuate the Jewish communities of Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike, and Wayne counties and throughout the world.

On October 18, Governor Tom Wolf signed a Proclamation declaring Sunday, October 27, a Day of Remembrance in Pennsylvania and ordered all state flags at all Commonwealth facilities, public buildings and grounds to be flown at half-staff from sunrise until sunset in recognition of the one-year mark of the antisemitic attack on the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh (October 27, 2018).

He also endorsed an extensive security grants program (details of which appear in this Annual Report, pages 270, 271). This program, authorized by the Pennsylvania Board of Trustees empowered the Federation’s Security Committee to recommend grants for varying amounts for the protection of Jewish religious institutions and agencies in our four counties and throughout the world, as well as to provide ongoing support for many of those institutions.

The Emmanuel Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania has been paying a percentage of the value of the Federation's Unrestricted Endowment Funds (UEFs) to Jewish social service agencies that provide critical services for those in need. The Interfaith “Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising” held in Tobyhanna, prospective and new congregation members, and working poor, an annual Golf Outing and "Feed the Hungry" program held at B’nai Harim and designed to serve the homeless and working poor, an annual Golf Outing and Dinner, a Winter Reunion Luncheon for members and friends in Florida, an annual IFJCC Shabbat (Honesdale), Temple Hesed (Scranton), Chabad of Tobyhanna State Park, a Break the Fast evening at Lake Naomi Clubhouse, and many other programs that have successfully attracted new members to the congregation.

In addition, the congregation actively promoted and participated in many of the featured programs, some of which included a "Black to our Roots" program honoring Black History Month at the Abelford Center in East Stroudsburg, participation in "Souptember" at the Salem United Church of Christ, attendance at a "Commemoration Service" at Zion United Lutheran Church in Brodheadsville commemorating the memory of the senseless killings of several African Americans – a program "designed to build relationships and break barriers in Monroe County" and a "Stop the Hate" interfaith vigil against hate violence that was held at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Pocono Pines.

Based on the above, it was the unanimous view of the Grants Committee that programs such as those offered by Congregation B’nai Harim merited the financial support of the Federation. This view was shared by the Federation’s Executive Committee and the Federation’s Board of Trustees, both of which approved the grant.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC FINANCIAL GRANTS

On March 24, the Executive Committee also approved the unanimous decision of the Grants Committee to issue an emergency grant of $10,000 to the Jewish Community Center and $7,500 to Jewish Family Services to assist both agencies financially during the coronavirus crisis that has paralyzed their institutions and their ability to pay salaries and provide services to their clients, members of our Jewish community in general.

In addition, the Executive Committee approved a second decision of the Grants Committee allowing it to use discretion in issuing emergency grants, any of the Federation’s funded Jewish educational institutions in an amount not to exceed $5,000 should funding requests be received from those institutions for similar purposes.

For the time and effort involved in all of the work that the Federation has been engaged in, the Grants Committee is grateful to our Jewish communities throughout this pandemic. They include Gary Beckhorn, Lynne Fragan, Alan Goldstein, Leah Laury, Ed Monsky, Reece Oslinker, Goeff Steigman, and many others who have consistently provided support and help to the Federation and our Jewish communities in a time of need.

The Federation's Investments Committee is responsible for the investment of the Federation's assets portfolio of which includes Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) Funds, Restricted Endowment Funds, Philanthropic Funds, and Unrestricted Endowment Funds.

Investment Committee members meet quarterly with our Chief Financial Officer, in order to review our Funds' performances and asset allocations which include large growth, large value, mid-value, small cap, non-U.S. equity, fixed income and other asset classes. In addition, the Investments Committee oversees the management of the Federation's investment portfolio to ensure the Federation achieves a significant return on its investments while maintaining the integrity of Federation funds for the future.

According to the terms of the Federation’s Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) Fund Agreements, distributions must not exceed 4.5% of the value of each year's fund, computed as of December 31 of any given year, and that amount must be distributed on or before January 31 of the following year to the Federation’s annual UJA Campaign. The low distribution percentage is designed to ensure these Funds will continue to produce income for the Federation’s annual UJA Campaign in perpetuity.

Funds were also disbursed this year, on the same percentage of the value of the Federation's Unrestricted Endowment Funds (UEFs), which has been computed as of December 31, of any given year, and that amount must be distributed on or before January 31 of the following year to the Federation’s annual UJA Campaign. The low distribution percentage is designed to ensure these Funds will continue to produce income for the Federation’s annual UJA Campaign in perpetuity.

Funds were also disbursed this year from a percentage of the value of the Federation’s Unrestricted Endowment Funds (UEFs), which has allowed the Federation to assist some of its agencies in covering a portion of their financial losses resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. These agencies include the Jewish Community Center and $7,500 to Jewish Family Services of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

In addition, a U.E.F. grant of $32,237 was used to reduce a portion of the Federation’s annual general operating expenses thereby increasing the amount of funds available to be allocated to our educational, social, recreational, cultural and religious institutions and agencies in Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike, and Wayne Counties and throughout the world. In addition, the Federation has been paying a percentage of the value of the Federation’s Unrestricted Endowment Funds (UEFs), which has allowed the Federation to assist some of its agencies in covering a portion of their financial losses resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. These agencies include the Jewish Community Center and $7,500 to Jewish Family Services of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Similarly, a significant multi-year general operating expense grant was awarded to the Federation over the past three years with the same purpose. In November 2017, the Federation was informed by Robert Kelly, Chairman of the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, that the Foundation had approved a three-year $450,000 general operating expense grant to the Federation that would be paid out at the rate of $150,000 per year over the following three years and would be paid to the Federation on an annual basis, thereby increasing the amount of funds available to be allocated to Federation’s many agencies.

The first General Operating Expense grant of $150,000 was approved in March 2018. In March 2019, the second grant of $150,000 was approved by the Weinberg Foundation and this year, in
In accordance with the resolution approved by the Federal Reserve, all the funds held in a separate interest-bearing money market account are also being used to reduce the Federal Reserve's operational expenses in the amount of $200,000 per year for each of the next nine years thereby increasing the amount of funds available to be allocated to Federal agencies and to Jewish needs around the world.

The Federation was also fortunate this past fiscal year in receiving a series of grants from several Foundations including a grant from the Scranton Area Foundation/Robert H. Spatz Foundation, which was awarded to the Holocaust Education and Resource Center (H.E.R.C.), to offset the expenses incurred for H.E.R.C.'s Teen Symposium on the Holocaust. A second grant of $20,000 was also awarded to H.E.R.C. by the Schwartz-Mack Foundation for our annual Holocaust Symposium.

Over and above these much-appreciated Foundation grants, this year, the Federation benefited from a large estate settlement in 2019. The termination of the Pearl Weisberger Revocable Living Trust case in Florida resulted in a settlement that awarded it $209,516, which was added to the Federation’s Unrestricted Endowment Fund. Our sincerest thanks is extended to the legal efforts of attorney Jerry Weinerberg in bringing this matter to a successful conclusion. For the above reasons, it is important to recognize those who have established Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (P.A.C.E.) Funds, Philanthropic Funds, Unrestricted Endowment Funds and Restricted Endowment Funds with the Jewish Federation for Life Endowment Program. These benefactors have ensured the survival and long-term stability of our Federation and its many agencies and institutions because they believed it was their responsibility to support the continuity of Jewish life in Northeastern Pennsylvania by establishing these many Funds.
Due to the rapidly developing situation surrounding the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and our concern for the health and safety of our survivors and valued guests, it became clear that the 32nd Annual Teen Symposium on the Holocaust, scheduled for May 5-6 at the Hilton Scranton and Conference Center, needed to be postponed. As of press time, there had more than 1,778 registered students and teachers, who were extremely disappointed to miss the opportunity to meet several Holocaust survivors face to face. Participants would lose the increasingly rare opportunity to experience “living history” in a very personal setting.

During these unprecedented times, the Holocaust Education Resource Center remained committed to fulfilling their mission through virtual programs as they present the lessons of the Holocaust. It became obvious that we needed to move to a vastly different approach, that of a virtual environment. We recognized that it created added challenges to teaching about this complex topic effectively. However, recognizing the importance of the subject matter, we felt the urgency to proceed.

With the assistance of past contributors to Holocaust Education, we were able to procure opportunities for students and teachers to experience several presentations of Holocaust survivors. The Holocaust Awareness Museum from Philadelphia, along with its President Chuck Feldenberg, and Program Manager Annethe Toomey played a pivotal role in creating a virtual Teen Symposium on the Holocaust for the students and teachers of Northeastern Pennsylvania. We are exceedingly grateful for their help in making the event come to fruition.

Several school districts were excited to have the opportunity to expose their students to the testimonies of the survivors. Teachers, who were quarantined in their homes, wow the digital sessions of the Holocaust survivors into their Zoom learning environment. They were directed to register with the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center. Registration was free but limited to 250 devices per session. After they completed the registration process, they would get an invitation to attend the Zoom presentation.

Several survivors, who would have been in Scranton for the symposium, agreed to participate in the virtual educational opportunity. Survivor presentations were spread throughout the week of May 11-14. Each guest speaker shared his/her unique testimony, which encompassed memories of close family and friends. Some remained sole survivors; others were lucky to survive and reunite with one or more survivors. Participants took a journey into the fears, emotions, and experiences that cannot be found in history books.

At the conclusion of each presentation, a question and answer period yielded many interesting questions and further discussions. The Q & A period has proven to be an opportunity for students to ask the survivor about their experiences and learn from each other.

Our honored guest presenters were:

### Ruth K. Hartz – Survivor

Ruth Hartz was a 4-year-old, hidden child during the Holocaust, raised in the French countryside in France. During that time, she had to change her name to Renée to hide her Jewish identity.

In addition to being sheltered by an ordinary French farm family, she spent six months in a small Catholic convent to avoid capture by both the Vichy French Police and the Gestapo. When

In 1941, her family was deported from Germany to a holding camp in Latvia that was surrounded by frozen water, though no fences, and guards patrolled the perimeter. In the spring of 1942, they were transferred to the Riga ghetto and were crammed into the remaining family members. He remembers always being cold and from his window he could see people being moved onto trucks. Within a few weeks, they moved to a small bunker outside the ghetto. He did not know this is where Peter tried to learn his ABCs, but at the same time learned about fear and death. He was 6 years old. His father continued to work as an auto mechanic for the Germans, though he was not paid.

In the beginning of 1945, they were transferred to a work camp deeper in Riga, where daily for the last several months, a demented and uncooperative prisoner, the Russian army attacked the camp and Artur saved a German officer’s life. This changed the course of the family’s existence. The offender arranged for the Stern family to be hidden in the Riga prison, rather than be returned to the ghetto. In January 1944, the family was once again put on a truck by the Germans and deposited at the Springe School in Philadelphia where she worked for 22 years.

In 1999, she published her childhood memoir, “Tu t’appelles Renée.” In 2005, a French translation, “Tu t’appelles Renée.” She is also the director and producer of “A Legacy of Goodness,” a DVD about her rescuers.

### Michael Herskovitz – Survivor

Michael Herskovitz was born in Budoža, Czechoslovakia, in 1928. In 1938, the Germans invaded his small town. Within weeks, his father lost his grocery store.

Forced to wear yellow Jewish stars on their clothing, Michael, his brother and his family were transported to a ghetto.

In April 1944, the Nazis placed 15-year-old Michael and his family on cattle cars. They were not told where they were going. Then they arrived at Auschwitz. Michael’s family, along with other families, was selected for either immediate death or for the labor camp. “All you could hear were soldiers holloering, dogs barking, gunshots, and people screaming and crying.”

In late 1944, Russian troops advanced on Poland. After six months in Auschwitz, Michael was transferred to Mauthausen and Gusinkirchen, work camps in Austria.

One day in May 1945, Michael awoke to gunshots and shouting. The German guards had disappeared the night before. A Jew and a kindly librarian helped him. Michael contracted typhoid fever and was sent to a hospital to recuperate.

Michael moved to Israel where he lived, worked and fought for the Israeli Army. Later, Michael married in 1957 and moved to Israel where Artur saved a German officer’s life. This changed the course of the family’s existence. The offender arranged for the Stern family to be hidden in the Riga prison, rather than be returned to the ghetto. In January 1944, the family was once again put on a truck by the Germans and deposited at the Springe School in Philadelphia where she worked for 22 years.

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### Peter Stern – Survivor

Peter Stern was born in Nuremberg, Germany, in March 1936. His father, Artur, was an auto mechanic and a soldier in the Nazi army. In December 1938, the family moved to Berlin where Peter tried to learn his ABCs, but at the same time learned about fear and death. He was 6 years old. His father continued to work as an auto mechanic for the Germans, though he was not paid.

In the beginning of 1945, they were transferred to a work camp deeper in Riga, where daily for the last several months, a demented and uncooperative prisoner, the Russian army attacked the camp and Artur saved a German officer’s life. This changed the course of the family’s existence. The offender arranged for the Stern family to be hidden in the Riga prison, rather than be returned to the ghetto. In January 1944, the family was once again put on a truck by the Germans and deposited at the Springe School in Philadelphia where she worked for 22 years.

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### David Tuck – Survivor

David Tuck was born in Poland.

In 1929, in Botfalva, Czechoslovakia, Michael Herskovitz was born.

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Your 2020 UJA Campaign gift did a world of good: $127,083 from our 2020 UJA Campaign ($926,953) was directed to Israel and Jewish assistance overseas through the Jewish Agency for Israel (or JAFI), enabling it to carry on its services to Jews in need in Israel and around the world as defined below.

The Jewish Agency has a long history of responding quickly to crises, and this is no different this pandemic. The Jewish Agency, which established independent and strengthened vulnerable populations in the social and geographic periphery, even before it makes programs to strengthen the community that mobile Amigour housing for the elderly, Youth Futures and Choosing Tomorrow. Jewish Agency Loan (JAFI) has details on all employees who are in quarantine and expeditions abroad are also prohibited. JAFI’s Aliyah, Absorption and Special Operations Unit, in coordination with the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, is sharing information with olim who need to be quarantined. For olim who may not require quarantine, JAFI has explained to them the implications of making aliya at this time as it seeks to protect their health as well.

All delegations and missions: Any mission or delegation set to leave or come to Israel has been canceled or will be postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic,” which provides updated information for new immigrants.

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(b) brings "Israel to your community" through a variety of Jewish education and communal programs such as shlichim (emissaries), Partnership2Gether and programming for Jewish in Russian-language countries;

(c) encourages "Jewish Social Action" through Young Villages, Youth Futures, and Jewish Agency/AmiGour subsidized housing; and

(d) facilitates aliyah by helping immigrants integrate into Israeli society through intensive Hebrew-language immersion programs in Israel and residential programs for immigrants ages 18-35. In 2018, 28,000 people made aliyah to Israel.

It is funded by UJA, major Jewish communities and Jewish Federation across the US, Canada, Australia and others and donors from Israel and around the world. The dozens of programs it supports or operates benefit well over 250,000 immigrants and Jews worldwide each and every year.

**SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S PROGRESSIVE JEWISH STREAMS**

The Jewish Agency is also the premier advocate for religious pluralism in Israel, championing the recognition of Conservative and Reform Judaism and allocating millions of dollars annually for projects that promote diversity of religious expression in Israeli society.

In 2019, the Jewish Agency supported Israel's progressive Jewish streams by allocating $3.1 million to educational programs earmarked for Reform programs (40%), Conservative programs (40%) and Masorti (30%) in Israel, which included UJA funds provided to the following organizations and their programs:

- Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism (Reform)
- Hebrew University College (Reform) – Jewish Insitutes for Urban Affairs
- Masorti Movement (Conservative)
- The TALI School Network and Israel Reform Movement elementary school networks (Reform)
- Hebrew Union College (Jewish Studies and the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary (Conservative)
- Midreshet Yerushalayim
- United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
- Steinhardt
- OU Israel (Orthodox)
- The International Young Israel Movement (Orthodox)
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah programs
- Services for youth-at-risk

This support significantly bolsters the presence of these movements in Israel, strengthens their impact, and help ensure essential religious diversity and inclusion for the next generation.

In 2019, the Jewish Agency provided financial assistance to 27,084 people from all over the world, helping Jewish students connect with student organizations, campus study abroad offices, Jewish and Israel studies departments, local Jewish Federations, Israeli consulates and Israeli communities, and the Jewish state. It was launched as a partnership with the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary (Conservative), the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Jewish Union, North America, Germany, Australia and other regions. The aims of the Israel Fellowships program are to "create an ongoing Israeli presence for Jewish students in North America and provide them with opportunities to serve as a voice for Israel on their campuses." Nearly 90 Israel Fellows were sent to campuses in North America, South America, and other regions.

- **Shlichim** (Jewish Agency "emissaries") – The 1,800 shlichim from 60 countries who live, study and work abroad, in Canada, South Africa, South America, and other regions. They are certified by the Ministry of Education.
- **Onward Israel** – The program is fully subsidized by the Israeli government, and they receive a free air ticket to Israel, room and board, health insurance, trips, and extracurricular activities. Participants receive different types of scholarships, including full scholarships for computer science, and other fields.
- **Israel Fellows to Hillel** involves Israeli young Jews who study at US universities. The program is fully subsidized tuition, a free air ticket to Israel, room and board, health insurance, trips, and extracurricular activities. Participants receive different types of scholarships, including full scholarships for computer science, and other fields.
- **Jewish Federations across the US, and foundations** – A funding partner for the Jewish Agency, which operates, among other things, a program that allows Israeli students to study and earn a high school diploma in Israel.
- **Masa** (Jewish Agency “emissaries”) – The 1,800 Masa graduates from 60 countries who live, study and work abroad, in Canada, South Africa, South America, and other regions. They are certified by the Ministry of Education.
- **ISRAEL EXPERIENCES**

The Jewish Agency’s Israel Experience programs bring Busacouses and high school students from around the globe to Israel to get to know the country and to deepen their Jewish identities.

These programs include:

- **Taglit-Birthright Israel** provides 10-12 day educational trips to Israel for Jews ages 18-35 from around the world, completely free of charge. Since its inception in 2001, more than 500,000 Jews from 67 countries have participated in this 10-12 day free and often life-changing Israel experience, exploring their Jewish identity and relationship to the Jewish people, building partnerships with Jews around the world, and gaining a new perspective on the lessons of Jewish history.
- **Shavei Israel** (or emissaries) – The Shavei Israel organization helps immigrants from Ethiopia, the Soviet Union only an estimated 20% of the 800,000 Jews in the Soviet Union who left their homeland and immigrated to Israel during the Soviet period and the period that followed. The organization was established in 1989 to help these Jews return to Israel and today it is working to bring over 100,000 new immigrants to Israel every year.
- **Onward Israel** – The program is fully subsidized by the Israeli government, and they receive a free air ticket to Israel, room and board, health insurance, trips, and extracurricular activities. Participants receive different types of scholarships, including full scholarships for computer science, and other fields.
- **Jewish Federations across the US, and foundations** – A funding partner for the Jewish Agency, which operates, among other things, a program that allows Israeli students to study and earn a high school diploma in Israel.

- **Fighting anti-Israel sentiment on campus**
- **Programs for Russian-speaking Jews** – "Almost three decades after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russian-speaking Jews are everywhere around the world across the broad expanse of what is now the FSU and the world, helping Jewish students connect with the Jewish state.
- **Research**

Programs for Russian-speaking Jewish students – “Several programs are designed to help Russian-speaking Jewish students connect with the Jewish state. These programs include: (1) "Seif" (Jewish Agency "emissaries") – The 1,800 Seif graduates from 60 countries who live, study and work abroad, in Canada, South Africa, South America, and other regions. They are certified by the Ministry of Education.
- **Israel Fellows** – The program is fully subsidized by the Israeli government, and they receive a free air ticket to Israel, room and board, health insurance, trips, and extracurricular activities. Participants receive different types of scholarships, including full scholarships for computer science, and other fields.
- **Masa** (Jewish Agency “emissaries”) – The 1,800 Masa graduates from 60 countries who live, study and work abroad, in Canada, South Africa, South America, and other regions. They are certified by the Ministry of Education.
- **Onward Israel** – The program is fully subsidized by the Israeli government, and they receive a free air ticket to Israel, room and board, health insurance, trips, and extracurricular activities. Participants receive different types of scholarships, including full scholarships for computer science, and other fields.
- **Jewish Federations across the US, and foundations** – A funding partner for the Jewish Agency, which operates, among other things, a program that allows Israeli students to study and earn a high school diploma in Israel.

- **ISRAEL EXPERIENCES**

The Jewish Agency’s Israel Experience programs bring Busacouses and high school students from around the globe to Israel to get to know the country and to deepen their Jewish identities.

These programs include:

- **Taglit-Birthright Israel** provides 10-12 day educational trips to Israel for Jews ages 18-35 from around the world, completely free of charge. Since its inception in 2001, more than 500,000 Jews from 67 countries have participated in this 10-12 day free and often life-changing Israel experience, exploring their Jewish identity and relationship to the Jewish people, building partnerships with Jews around the world, and gaining a new perspective on the lessons of Jewish history.
- **Shavei Israel** (or emissaries) – The Shavei Israel organization helps immigrants from Ethiopia, the Soviet Union only an estimated 20% of the 800,000 Jews in the Soviet Union who left their homeland and immigrated to Israel during the Soviet period and the period that followed. The organization was established in 1989 to help these Jews return to Israel and today it is working to bring over 100,000 new immigrants to Israel every year.
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The Jewish Agency’s Fund for Security following a spike in requests for assistance in the aftermath of the Israel-Gaza War of 2014 (Operation Protective Edge).

During Operation Protective Edge, the Jewish Agency arranged for children from Israeli areas in the line of fire to enjoy “days of respite” for fun activities in regions less likely to experience conflict. Based on the success of this program, the Jewish Agency’s Fund for Victims of Terror was established to help more than 200 people whose lives were directly affected by the rocket attacks. In addition, 100 bomb shelters were renovated in the region during Operation Protective Edge. The Fund responded to massive rocket attacks fired into southern and central Israel by the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terror group in Gaza. The Fund provided immediate victim assistance, including emergency medical care through the Jewish Agency’s Summer Respite Camp which offers children a reprieve from their daily hardships. The Fund also provided emergency monetary aid, and helped the development of contingency plans that help the development of local organizations to assist populations in need in Israel.

The Jewish Agency’s Fund for Victims of Terror representatives visit the border communities to distribute aid and provide psychological support. The agency also provides services and grants for recuperation efforts for families who have lost loved ones and for individuals rebuilding their lives. Within 48 hours of a terrorist attack, The Fund for Victims of Terror representatives visit the area affected by the attack to provide immediate assistance and emotional support. The Fund also provides emergency funds to help families and schools in the areas affected by the attacks.

The Fund for Victims of Terror also provides assistance to organizations that support the community in the aftermath of terrorist attacks, such as the Ministry of Finance. The Fund for Victims of Terror provides immediate assistance to those who have lost family members, homes, or property in terrorist attacks. The Fund also provides long-term assistance to help families and individuals rebuild their lives. The Fund for Victims of Terror also provides psychological support and counseling services to help those affected by terrorist attacks.

The Jewish Agency’s Fund for Victims of Terror is committed to helping those affected by terrorist attacks in Israel. The Fund provides immediate assistance, long-term support, and psychological services to help those affected by terrorist attacks.

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During the spring of 2019, the Jewish Agency received $500,000 from the Jewish Federations of North America to help relieve suffering in southern Israel caused by Hamas’ “kite arsons” and to provide trauma counseling and support for a growing number of Israelis who have been impacted by increased rocket attacks from Gaza. The funding allowed hundreds of children from Israel’s southern border communities to participate in the Jewish Agency’s Summer Respite Camp which offers children a reprieve from their daily hardships. JAFI grants were also made to local organizations to purchase and distribute essential items, such as radio transmitters and emergency kits, to bring immediate and volunteer American firefighters to Israel, and to support trauma counseling for the most vulnerable.

This is the essence of what the Jewish Agency does. Israeli taxpayers should support this important work because it strengthens the bonds between Israel and the Jewish communities around the world.

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The Jews of Eastern Europe were now safe but their future was uncertain. As the Warsaw Ghetto was being liquidated, JDC responded and transformed for the first time into an organization that could support Jewish life in Eastern Europe. JDC was able to move quickly to provide funds for those who had been helped during the Holocaust and to support Jewish life in the newly emerging democratic countries. JDC provided fencing and building materials to enable the Jews of Eastern Europe to build the synagogues and community centers that were the core of Jewish life. JDC provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in Eastern Europe.

JDC has provided assistance to Jews in Eastern Europe since 1921. JDC has been instrumental in helping to establish the Jewish Community Centers and libraries in Eastern Europe. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in Eastern Europe. JDC has been instrumental in helping to establish the Jewish Community Centers and libraries in Eastern Europe. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in Eastern Europe.

JDC has been active in the former Soviet Union since the 1990s, providing assistance to Jews who were struggling to rebuild their communities after the collapse of the Soviet Union. JDC has provided support to Jewish organizations, schools, and synagogues in the former Soviet Union. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in the former Soviet Union.

JDC has been active in Asia since the 1950s, providing assistance to Jews who were struggling to rebuild their communities after the end of World War II. JDC has provided support to Jewish organizations, schools, and synagogues in Asia. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in Asia.

JDC has been active in Latin America since the 1930s, providing assistance to Jews who were struggling to rebuild their communities after the end of World War II. JDC has provided support to Jewish organizations, schools, and synagogues in Latin America. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in Latin America.

JDC has been active in Africa since the 1940s, providing assistance to Jews who were struggling to rebuild their communities after the end of World War II. JDC has provided support to Jewish organizations, schools, and synagogues in Africa. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in Africa.

JDC has been active in the Middle East since the 1950s, providing assistance to Jews who were struggling to rebuild their communities after the end of World War II. JDC has provided support to Jewish organizations, schools, and synagogues in the Middle East. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in the Middle East.

JDC has been active in Europe since the 1910s, providing assistance to Jews who were struggling to rebuild their communities after the end of World War II. JDC has provided support to Jewish organizations, schools, and synagogues in Europe. JDC has also provided scholarships for Jews to attend universities and colleges, thus enabling them to become professionals who would help rebuild Jewish life in Europe.
In addition, the JDC’s Ashkelon program has trained social workers who trained with families at risk, to provide special care during emergency situations and crises. The social workers were provided with the cooperation of the governments of other nations where it has a presence, with Israel the relationship is more of a direct partnership.

Working together, JDC and the Israeli government have strengthened the capacity of local agencies to respond to emergency situations, particularly for the elderly, at-risk youth, the chronically underemployed, and new immigrants.

JDC assists in building and maintaining Israel’s social strengths including management of the JDC provided emergency assistance as well. JDC’s partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provides the necessary funds and provide the immediate and long-term needs of residents living alone who may need special help, and can detect the presence of a tumor in an organ even when the exact location of the tumor is unknown.

The social workers were provided with the cooperation of the governments of other nations where it has a presence, with the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terror rocket attacks from Gaza into southern and central nations where it has a presence, with Israel

Medications developed by Israeli technicians are frequently based on feedback gathered from patients, allowing for more targeted and effective treatments. In addition, Israel is a leader in the development of medical technologies, with companies such as Clalit Technological Solutions deploying thermal cameras at hospitals to screen for coronavirus.

In 2019, a new device called MyEye 2.0 was introduced to the market. Developed by Israeli company Innospheres, MyEye 2.0 is a type 1 diabetes management system that uses a combination of technology, including a smartphone app, to monitor blood sugar levels and provide real-time insulin delivery. This innovation has the potential to revolutionize diabetes management for millions of people around the world.

In 2020, another Israeli innovator, Clara, developed a new treatment for stroke patients. Clara’s technology is based on a combination of machine learning and artificial intelligence, allowing it to analyze a patient’s medical history and create a personalized treatment plan.

In addition to these medical breakthroughs, Israel has also made significant progress in the fields of digital health and artificial intelligence. For example, the Tel Aviv-based company, Clarity Health, has developed a platform that uses machine learning to analyze medical data and predict patient outcomes.

Medical Breakthroughs

- Coronavirus/measuring body temperatures from a distance - Israel’s AnyVision Interactive Technologies is developing thermal cameras that can measure body temperature from a distance and are capable of determining whether a high temperature is caused by disease.

- Leukemia - Israeli researchers have developed a new therapy for treating leukemia. The therapy, developed by the Technion and the Rambam Medical Center, uses a combination of chemotherapy and immunotherapy to treat the disease.

- Diabetes - Israeli researchers have developed a new device that can monitor blood sugar levels in real-time. The device, called the Diabetes Management Device (DMD), uses a combination of wireless technology and advanced algorithms to provide a more accurate and convenient way to manage diabetes.

- Alzheimer’s - Israeli researchers have developed a new therapy for Alzheimer’s disease. The therapy, developed by the Sheba Medical Center, uses a combination of stem cells and immunotherapy to treat the disease.
Israelites surgically performed the artificial meningitis implant on November 11, 2019. (Photo by Active Implants LLC)

designed to optimize the efficacy of the treatment based on the individual’s treatment and condition.

**Chemotherapy** – Researchers from Hebrew University recently published a new technique that singles out cancer cells from healthy ones, enabling cancer treatment to target the invasive cancer cells and not the patient's healthy cells. The new method can identify the cancer cells and find out which patients would benefit from a certain treatment. The new technique, called “Photodynamic Therapy,” works by using a dye that is taken up by cancer cells and then activated by light to destroy them.

**Skin cancer** – Tel Aviv University researchers claim to have made a breakthrough in skin cancer research – Until now, a big question faced by cancer researchers was how to prevent the spread of melanoma. The new study, published in the journal “Nature Communications,” shows that a new method of skin cancer detection, called “Photodynamic Therapy,” can prevent the spread of melanoma.

**Pancreatic cancer** – A new treatment developed by Tel Aviv University could induce the destruction of pancreatic cancer cells, eradicating the number of cancerous cells by up to 90% after two weeks of daily injections of a small molecule known as PJ34. The treatment is currently being tested on mice and can take another two years before it could be available for human use. A reported 77% of patients suffering from pancreatic cancer die within five years of diagnosis.

**Lung cancer** – Israel’s Body Vision Medical has completed a $20 million funding round to commercialize and manufacture its disposable lung navigation catheters which received U.S. FDA approval last year. In a first of its kind, the catheters can be inserted into the lung and used to guide doctors to the location of cancerous tumors.

**Men’s Health** – Researchers from Tel Aviv University recently published a new technique that singles out cancer cells from healthy ones, enabling cancer treatment to target the invasive cancer cells and not the patient's healthy cells. The new method can identify the cancer cells and find out which patients would benefit from a certain treatment. The new technique, called “Photodynamic Therapy,” works by using a dye that is taken up by cancer cells and then activated by light to destroy them.

**3D design saves coral reefs** – Biologists from Israel’s Technion and Ben Gurion University have designed and printed 3D-printed coral reefs that can be used to restore damaged coral reefs. The new design allows the reefs to be printed on-demand and be placed in areas where coral reefs have been degraded.

**New Israeli satellite aims to deepen understanding of the universe** – The Weizmann Institute of Science has partnered with the Israel Space Agency to launch a new satellite designed to study the universe. The satellite, called UVeye, is a Tel Aviv-based company that develops a unique semiconductor design and patent-pending technology that will allow it to manufacture and commercialize its disposable catheters.

**Efficient propulsion for a head. Temi can answer questions, order groceries, and fetch things for you.**

**Virtual reality for the elderly**

**Temi by Robotemi**

**U.S. Air Force tests Israelis rifitting device**

**MayMaan Research, LLC has developed a compact and lightweight communications system for unmanned vehicles.**

**UVeye is a Tel Aviv-based company that develops a unique semiconductor design and patent-pending technology that will allow it to manufacture and commercialize its disposable catheters.**

**EViation Aircraft**

**Alice by Eviation Aircraft**

**Weathering a cyber attack**

**ECONcrete**

**ECONcrete develops sustainable concrete for constructing ecologically active structures and buildings as well as in urban landscapes. The company uses “a technique known as bio-mimicry, relying on the shapes, textures and size of natural systems to provide inspiration.”**

**ECONcrete was named to the list of “World’s Most Innovative Companies” of 2019.**

The company was also featured in an episode of the web series Nas Daily.
Agricultural Breakthroughs

Israel offers cutting-edge agricultural innovation – Tevel Aerobotics: Technologies is currently testing its fleet of autonomous airborne robots for fruit harvesting. These small drones use artificial intelligence vision algorithms, orchard mapping and data, and balancing and maneuvering algorithms to autonomously pick apples and oranges from trees autonomously.