

*KAHILLAH * COMMUNITY * K'LAL YISRAEL
JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD * CHESED * KINDNESS
COMPASSION * TZEDAKAH * CHARITY
TIKKUN OLAM * REPAIR THE WORLD * KAHILLAH
COMMUNITY * K'LAL YISRAEL * JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD
CHESED * KINDNESS * COMPASSION * TZEDAKAH
CHARITY * TIKKUN OLAM * REPAIR THE WORLD
KAHILLAH * COMMUNITY * K'LAL YISRAEL * JEWISH
PEOPLEHOOD * CHESED * KINDNESS * COMPASSION*



2019-2020 Annual Report
Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley

*TZEDAKAH * CHARITY * TIKKUN OLAM
REPAIR THE WORLD * KAHILLAH * COMMUNITY
K'LAL YISRAEL * JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD * CHESED*

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Our Values

K'lal Yisrael
Jewish Peoplehood

Chesed
Kindness and Compassion

Tzedakah
Charity

Tikkun Olam
Repair the World

Kahillah
Community

Chinuch
Education

President's Report

by Michael Kirsch, Interim President



The 2019-20 year has been a time of many changes and challenges, as well as many successes, at the Federation. I could not be more proud to be part of an organization whose volunteer members have shown such dedication and willingness to contribute both time and resources, and whose staff has demonstrated such commitment, flexibility, and creativity, in the face of unprecedented events. Throughout the year, the Federation has continued to provide support to those in need both locally and around the world; programming (in sometimes modified form to fit the times) and education that is tailored to fit the

needs of our community; and engagement and advocacy with respect to issues of importance to the Jewish people. Indeed, the Federation's ability to continue to serve the Jewish community in these challenging times has reinforced the vital role that the Federation plays.

I can't summarize this past year without first thinking about the loss of our president and dear friend Lisa Lerman z"l. Of course, the loss of Lisa is most strongly felt by her family and friends who loved her and whom she loved. But Lisa's absence is also felt by the Federation and its community members, volunteers, and staff who relied on her friendship, insight, judgment, humor, and level-headedness, as well as her ability to bridge communities and inspire all those whose lives she touched. Lisa had great hopes and goals for the Federation, and her dedication has been an important inspiration to me, the executive committee, the

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Lisa Lerman: Our Inspiration. Our Leader. Our Friend.



Lisa Lerman, of Blessed Memory
President, Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley 2019

"Lisa's absence is also felt by the Federation and its community members, volunteers, and staff who relied on her friendship, insight, judgment, humor, and level-headedness, as well as her ability to bridge communities and inspire all those whose lives she touched."

If you wish to make a donation in Lisa's memory, the Lisa Lerman Community Bridge Endowment Fund has been established at the Jewish Federation to help underwrite programs that strengthen the connections between Jews in our community regardless of observance or affiliations.

Renewed Focus, Energy, and Effort

Executive Director Report by Moshe Kruger

Welcome to our Annual Report for 2019-2020. We hope you like the new user-friendly format of our Annual Summary. Please take a few moments to read the program highlights of how you've made a difference by providing gateways to Jewish life in our communities both here and abroad.

This past year was marked with many personnel changes. In addition to Shani Kramer and Rowan Kelley coming in as new directors of programming and Jewish Family Services respectively, the Federation hired a new executive director in March. At the same time a novel disease called COVID-19 changed everything, including for the first time in the Federation's 75-year history, our annual meeting is being convened virtually. And then of course the devastating blow in November when we lost our beloved president Lisa Lerman to cancer.

Since late March, our response to the dreadful coronavirus pandemic has shown the Federation at its best. Despite new and unprecedented challenges, the Federation prevailed with resilience, resolve, and an outstretched hand. Thank you for making lives better through generously giving to our Passover-COVID appeal. Your caring gifts supported JFS wellness checks and food assistance to the most vulnerable in the community. These past few months also force your JFED team to reimagine its busy line up of Spring programs. Your heart-felt support and participation in our virtual programming of the 10th Annual Jewish Film Festival, Yom HaAtzmaut celebration, and Yom HaShoah observance are greatly appreciated.

Together, we've tackled a global pandemic with ingenuity in the past

two months while staying true to our mission to be here for the Jewish community. This year will be etched in our collective memory as a Passover in a pandemic, families on Zoom, solo Seders, and broken traditions.

While the earth trembled during the COVID-19 crisis, the Federation's professional staff and Jewish Family Services guided by our shared Jewish values were tireless, responsive, and strong. Our mandate that *all of Israel are responsible for one another will both guide us through the coronavirus storm and provide the roadmap to a brighter and more promising Jewish future.*

To this end, as I listen to your concerns and learn more about the needs of the community, I welcome your questions and input to translate our values into action.

For example:

- ◇ How can we ensure that we continue to grow Jewishly as individuals, both spiritually and intellectually?
- ◇ How can we translate the values of loving kindness into creative programs for the diverse members of our community?
- ◇ How should our Jewish community interact with other communities of faith in our region?
- ◇ How can we honor the elders of our community who have taught us so much about generosity of spirit and mutual responsibility?
- ◇ How can we raise Jewish children who radiate a secure and proud Jewish identity while honoring and cherishing the values of our pluralistic society?



In many small Jewish communities across America the purpose of the Federation is to support Jewish communal life. Our community is blessed with wonderful Jewish institutions including a highly regarded human services agency in JFS, a community center on 28 acres, a thriving Hebrew Day School, and various congregations that provide the spiritual nourishment of our diverse family.

As we celebrate our 75th birthday of the Federation amidst a pandemic that reminds us we are all interconnected, it is important to reconnect and renew our sense of purpose. I'm thrilled to join you in this mission with a deep conviction to connect as many people in our community to our unfolding Jewish story. The journey requires all of our diverse insights, perspectives, and personalities. Your participation makes all the difference! Together we can make our community healthier, safer, and stronger.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Moshe Kruger'.

Moshe Kruger
Executive Director

Board of Directors

2019 - 2020

Lisa Lerman z"l—President
Michael Kirsch—Interim President
Mona Medow—Vice President
Cristyne Porile—Vice President
Sorah Stein—Secretary
Mara Boettcher—Treasurer
David Ravitch—Immediate Past President
Anne Feferman
Marlene Hollenkamp
Dov Honick
Lisa Levin
Sarah Nerenberg
Jason Schwartz
Jennifer Schwartz
Alon Shemesh
Simon Springer

Nominated Slate

2020-2021

Michael Kirsch—President
Anne Feferman—Vice President
Alon Shemesh—Vice President
Mara Boettcher—Treasurer
Megan New—Secretary
David Ravitch—Immediate Past President
Abbie Davis
Joshua Eisenman
Elisheva Lerman
Jennifer Schwartz
Simon Springer
Marlene Hollenkamp
Dov Honick
Sarah Nerenberg
Cristyne Porile
Jason Schwartz

A Special Thank You to Our Dedicated Staff!

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The Jewish Federation Kindly Thanks Ben Davis, Executive Director, 2014—2020



During his six years as Executive Director, Ben Davis helped strengthen and guide the Jewish Federation in the right direction. His dedication to our community was reflected in the many successful programs, events, and improvements that happened under his leadership. Although he will be missed on staff, we are thrilled that Ben and his family will continue to be valued members of our community as he establishes his own consulting firm in the coming months.

Chesed Kindness and Compassion

Inspiring hope to those most in need among us through our compassionate Jewish Family Services and Food Pantry



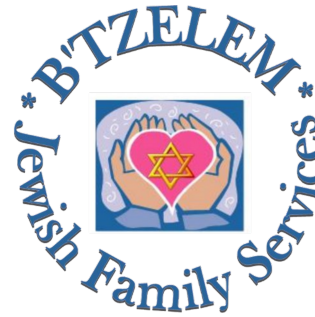
2019-2020, 5779-5780 has been a year of great change at Jewish Family Services (JFS). New personnel on the JFS staff include Rowan Kelley, Director and Charmagne LaFortune, Associate. Here are a few highlights from Jewish Family Services this year.

Facing COVID-19: Person to Person Calling

The Person to Person Program goal was to provide a timely human touch and response to the COVID-19 crisis to ensure the health and wellbeing of current and past JFS clients. By acting proactively, JFS staff contacted over 100 households in the community to assess needs.

Between staff and trained volunteers, two dozen isolated community members are currently receiving check in calls, or food assistance.

JFS will continue to maintain contact with current and former clients, and anyone in the community who has concerns about isolation, getting groceries, or getting to needed appointments. Additionally, we will continue to evaluate the most effective methods to assist the community through these trying times.



JFS Food Pantry & Gas/Grocery Card

Goal

Ensure every household in Jewish Michiana has food on the table and gas in the tank.

Outcome

Over 200 monthly draws from the program accessed by 27 households and 65 community members.

Rowan's Viewpoint

Food insecurity is a problem for some seniors and families with children in our Jewish community. Pick-up and delivery services have been instituted during the coronavirus pandemic to ensure food security and basic necessities are being provided to all clients in need.



Students at the South Bend Hebrew Day School helping make mishloach manot to be distributed to our JFS clients!



Our Mission

The Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley is the central resource to embrace, connect and support Jews locally and globally through social services, coordinated fundraising, community outreach, and educational programs.

Chinuch Education

Promoting lifelong education and learning through educational opportunities for all age groups

Youth Programming:

Goal

Through Jewish values, fun activities, and Tikkun Olam, we work to connect the diverse youth of our community.

Outcome

One event among several successful joint projects of South Bend Jewish Youth headed by Rabbi Akiva Gutnicki and our JFED Youth Group coordinator and Shlichah, Chen Nissan was the gathering of over 20 youth and their parents for a morning of volunteer service at the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

Chen's Viewpoint:

"There are two things we should give our children: one is roots and the other is wings." Author unknown.



Our Dedicated Camp Ideal 2019 Staff

Health & Safety Fair

Goal

Create a health & safety event targeting children with community-wide appeal.

Outcome

Over 100 people attended the fair and engaged in experiential learning activities related to home safety, fire prevention, and physical fitness.

Shani's Viewpoint:

This new JFED event provided a new and exciting offering to the community at large. While most participants attending this inaugural event were from the Jewish community we believe teaching children about health and safety is always relevant and will continue to gain traction.



Camp Ideal by Karin Wasserman



My beloved community, I cannot believe it has been a year since I left. Exactly this time last year, we started another amazing summer-time of Camp Ideal.

Last year we had more than 40 campers from different backgrounds join the Ideal family. We enjoyed many fun activities at camp: swim-

ming at Fuller's Beach, hiking at the National Parks. We did a lot of arts and crafts, cooking, Hebrew Through Movement, kickboxing, gaga ball, Kabbalat Shabbat, intergenerational lunches, and other fun experiences.

The most important feedback, in my opinion, is from the children. Here are some of their thoughts of camp: "I like to come to Camp Ideal because I feel belong here" said Rebecca Galperin. "Everybody is so kind and nice to me and I really enjoy all the fun activities we do at camp. "Camp Ideal is like a big family," said Sarah Cossman. "I've gone to Camp Ideal for many years and I love being with my Jewish friends! My favorite part at camp is learning Hebrew in a fun way and the intergenerational lunches because I get to spend time with my family and friends!."

Camp last year was so successful because of the outstanding staff: Amanda Hager, Sari Gansburg, Izzy Frank, and Leslie Marcum. Your devotion and patience are immeasurable and it's thanks to you that our campers had such a wonderful and safe summer. A big Todah is to everybody who took part to make camp a wonderful experience: Sheri Alpert, Emily Benedix, Rabbi Companeze, Dan Cossman, Ben Davis, Lizzie Fagen, Rabbi Feferman, Rabbi Friedland, Samara Gold, Rabbi Gutnicki, Shani Kramer, Mike Krueger, Rabbi Nebel.

Finally, thank you dear community for supporting Jewish education. Without you, we wouldn't be able to have such a successful camp. Unfortunately, the horrific pandemic prevented camp activity this summer, however, we are looking forward to next year.

K'lal Yisrael Jewish Peoplehood

Bringing Jews of all backgrounds, affiliations, and observance levels together under one roof



The 10th Annual Michiana Jewish Film Festival in Virtual Format!

Founded in 2011, the Michiana Jewish Film Festival (MJFF) brings superb, and sometimes cutting edge and controversial, Jewish-themed cinema to the greater Michiana community. In partnership with the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at the University of Notre Dame, we have presented 80+ films in a decade's-worth of film festivals.

Our 10th anniversary film festival was presented virtually, to accommodate the pandemic restrictions. It required us to, for instance, create a new way to sell and distribute tickets and track sales by film, within a very short timeframe. While there were a few bumps along the way, we staged a successful adaptation of past festivals, had an understanding audience, and got feedback consistent with our past festivals.

The highlight of this extraordinary experience was to open up our collective imaginations to the broader possibilities that could be available to us, both for future film festivals and for other potential film-based programs.

The culmination of this year's Film Festival was a panel discussion featuring leaders from the Black and Jewish communities of South Bend discussing the film "Shared Legacies: The African- American Jewish Civil Rights Alliance." Little did we know that just 11 days after this panel discussion took place, our nation would be shocked by the brutal murder of George Floyd.

Moving forward this year, our Federation will continue to explore ways to foster our Federation's growing relationship with the organized Black community of South Bend with the goal of doing our part to fulfill one of our Federation's core values, Tikkun Olam.



Challah Bake ~ Evening of Unity: Tribute to Lisa Lerman z"l

Goal

A tribute to Lisa Lerman z"l to bring the women of our community together for an evening of unity, tears, laughter, and challah making.

Outcome

Over 100 women braved icy wintry conditions to celebrate community, tradition, and Lisa's legacy.

Shani's Viewpoint:

When you add laughter to tears and mix in hundreds of pounds of flour you get a united South Bend and delicious tasting challahs!



Momentum Project

by Megan New

The purpose of the Momentum year long journey is to empower women to connect to Jewish values, engage with Israel, take action, and foster unity, without uniformity. Our group of six local women joined women from our Partnership region and from around the world on a 10 day trip to Israel.

Once we returned our goal was to engage women in our community to channel their energy and passion personally, professionally, and communally, and to have them continue their journey through education. In Israel, our local group of women formed bonds not only with each other, but also with women around the world, and with women from our Partnership region.

Since the trip we have continued to meet on monthly basis to discuss current events, taken in inspiring Jewish wisdom, and volunteered locally. Our year of learning will conclude with a celebration in December. Momentum has not only helped us grow personally, but has empowered us to take action in ways that resonate with ourselves.

Kahillah Community

Connecting Jews of all ages through social gatherings, community celebrations, and recreational activities

Teen Programming

Goal

Organize activities designed to strengthen Jewish teenager identities and their connection to the community and to Israel.

Outcome

Events to achieve this goal included a being a Jewish minority in a non-Jewish environment workshop with Sarah Nerenberg, an Israel cooking party, and Israel on Campus: Challenges and Opportunities program developed in collaboration with the Community Relations Committee.

Chen's Viewpoint:

To encourage teens to embrace Jewish values we need to find ways for them to live and love their Jewish values by creating opportunities for them to explore Jewish issues and traditions. We hope to challenge our teens to discover their own path to an authentic relationship with Judaism and being a caring, giving, and ethical human being.



Wine and Canvas for Young Adults

Goal

Our events are geared to create a social life to help young Jewish adults connect to their peer group in the community.

Outcome

The Wine and Canvas event had 14 participants for a creative painting with the word "Shalom"



Chen's Viewpoint:

Special shout out to the programming committee that included Abbie Davis, Sarah Feldbaum, Ben Finnan, and Allen Stenberg.

Yom HaAtzmaut Israel Independence Day

Goal

To celebrate Israel's ethnic and religious diversity.

Outcome

Five virtual events organized into a one day celebration included a conversation with a mother of fallen soldier, and presentations on Ethiopian Jewry, by an Arab resident and education specialist from Western Galilee in collaboration with Partnership2GEther, and by our very own Megan New representing the Women's Momentum Group. The icing on the cake was our reunion with 12 former shlichim. All together, the event garnered over 500 Facebook views.

Chen's Viewpoint:

The coronavirus forced us to be creative in our programming. As a result of this challenge, we are stronger, more connected, and resilient. We may have different religions, different languages, different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race.

Kahillah Community

Connecting Jews of all ages through social gatherings, community celebrations, and recreational activities

Purim Carnival

Goal

Bring the community together for this holiday that commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman as recounted in the Book of Ester.

Outcome

A great turnout of 120 guests filled the Community Center. Children played games, ate hamantaschen and elected the King and Queen of Shushan.

Chen's Viewpoint:

This annual event truly brings together people from all sectors of our community to celebrate this fun and joyous holiday.



Pancakes in the Sukkah

Goal

Engage community in a fun and educational pre Sukkot event.

Outcome

50+ community members attended a family-friendly pancake brunch. Many helped to build the community Sukkah while children enjoyed a treasure hunt and story and adults painted candle sticks.

Shani's Viewpoint:

This community event proved creating a multi-tiered program for children and adults of all ages is a formula for success.

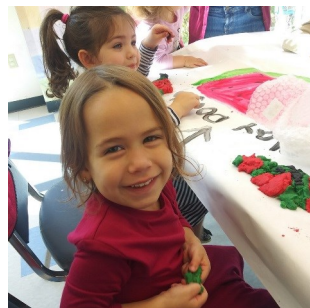
Connecting through Holiday

Our holiday outreach initiatives bring joy into the lives of our community members who are at risk. Four times throughout the year (Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, Mishloach Manot for Purim and Maot Chittim for Passover), Jewish Family Services staff and volunteers assemble and deliver holiday appropriate gifts to isolated community members and engage them in conversation.

Throughout the past year, holiday gift deliveries impacted over 50 households, approximately 138 individuals in our community. These regular contacts with community members allow JFS staff and volunteers to conduct wellness checks and address issues or difficulties individual households or community members are having. This year Maot Chittim distribution took place during the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. JFS staff and volunteers worked together to ensure that every household in Jewish Michiana was able to have a safe Seder at home this year.



Our holiday gift program allowed JFS to maintain contact with about 10% of the households in our area throughout the year. Our staff and volunteers being able to connect with so many people in our area helps to provide a safety net for the community.



Tikkun Olam

Repair the World

Acting to repair the world through advocacy, outreach, and vocal condemnation of anti-Semitism



Israel Programming: Resilience Under Rocket Attacks

Goal

Expose community to the reality of life for Israelis living near the Gaza border of the threat of Hamas rocket attacks.

Outcome

A Sderot resident, Amit Matiyahu used the power of personal story telling to share how the people of Sderot and southern Israel are determined, courageous, and resilient to live normal lives in an abnormal situation.

Chen's Viewpoint:

This was a powerful event organized by Shlichah Chen Nissan and sponsored by the CRC who collaborated with the Jewish Federation of NW Indiana and Rabbi Feferman of Temple Israel to reach a wider audience.



Interfaith Relations

Our Community Relations Committee (CRC), under the leadership of chair Barb Lerman set the goal of building a relationship with the African-American community of South Bend. To begin that process, we reached out to Michael Patton, President of the local chapter of the NAACP and a pastor of a local church.

In February 2020, a special 8-day Israel trip sponsored by Partnership2gether (P2G) for non-Jewish Community Opinion Leaders (COL) provided the perfect opportunity to help build this relationship. Michael Patton was a guest of P2G on the trip and he was also accompanied by his wife Tina along with Bob Feferman, Community Relations Director.

As Michael Patton wrote in his article for our Federation newsletter, "This was a memorable and historic trip that will forever be etched in our hearts... We are more sensitive, knowledgeable, and informed of the plight and impact of the Jewish community all over the world."

Yom Hashoah: Holocaust Memorial



Goal

With the resurgence of hate crimes and antisemitism over the last few years, the program goal was to educate community members around the topic of Crimes of Complicity: the Role of the Bystander from the Holocaust to Hate Crimes in America.

Outcome

The Zoom talk presented by professor Amos Guiora and sponsored by the Okon Family Endowment for Holocaust Education drew participants from 40 households. Participants gained insights into the research professor Guiora published and used in legislation to require citizens to assist others who are suffering or are threatened with a crime or an emergency.

Shani's Viewpoint:

The idea for this timely topic came from Ina Rosenberg who represents the Okon Family Fund. Together, we can and must be stronger than hate. We will stand and fight for a world free of racism and bigotry in all of its forms.

Tikkun Olam

Repair the World

Acting to repair the world through advocacy, outreach, and vocal condemnation of anti-Semitism

My Israeli Story

Goal

To present a positive image of Israel through the personal story of Shlichia Chen Nissan and her family.

Outcome

A PowerPoint presentation was developed and Chen gave her presentation to classes at Bethel College, St. Joe High School, Sinai Synagogue and Temple Beth-El

Chen's Viewpoint:

Person to person communications continues to be one of the most effective way tools to create understanding, goodwill and sustainable human connections.



Israel Advocacy for High School Students

In March 2020, we held a virtual event titled "Israel on Campus: Challenges and Opportunities." This was a joint project of our Shlichia Chen Nissan and the Community Relations Committee (CRC). The goal was to provide the high school students of our Jewish community with the information necessary to have a successful Jewish experience in college and the tools to deal with issues related to Israel on campus. We also invited parents and community leaders to participate.

Our guest speaker was Nate Strauss, Coordinator for Israel engagement at Michigan State University Hillel. In his talk, he provided the students with an understanding of the importance of Hillel for Jewish life on campus. We also gave the students a copy of the book, "Letter to My Palestinian Neighbors" by Yossi Klein Halevi as a resource to learn the Israeli narrative of the conflict.

This event provided an opportunity to frame the discussion of Israel on campus in a positive framework.

Maintaining Bi-partisan Support for Israel

With the upcoming election season, it is important for the American-Jewish community to ensure that support for Israel does not become a "wedge issue." In October 2019, the Community Relations Committee (CRC) held an event titled, "Maintaining Bipartisan Support for Israel: Lessons from the American Jewish Committee (AJC)." Our keynote speaker was Melanie Maron Pell, Managing Director of Regional Offices for the AJC.

Since Ms. Pell accompanied South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg on an Israel trip sponsored by AJC, she was able to explain the importance of his trip for creating an understanding of Israel.



Former South Bend Mayor, and past Camp Ideal camper, Pete Buttigieg shares his AJC experience at our 2018 Annual Meeting

After his trip, Mayor Buttigieg told an AJC conference, "It was extraordinary to see firsthand the achievements of what's taking place in Israel, as well as to see the geographic immediacy and the intimate boundaries of a territory that we hear so much about on the news but don't often really take the trouble to go and understand."

Partnership 2 Gether Annual Report 2019-2020



By Francie Davis

The Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley had the honor of hosting the annual Partnership Summit in South Bend from July 14 - 16, 2019. About 70 participants from the Central Area Consortium, Budapest, and the Western Galilee gathered here to share successes and generate goals while fostering relationships and strengthening connections that create our shared Jewish identity. The three days were packed full of presentations, discussions, and workshops, plus meals and entertainment with a local flare.

A great deal of thought and planning preceded the summit, of course. We know South Bend is a special place and were eager to provide a meaningful experience for our guests. My husband (Ben Davis, Executive Director at the time) asked me to lead a collaborative art project that participants could do together and leave be-

hind as a commemoration of the summit. I am inspired by the beautiful mosaic at the Western Galilee Medical Center and remember well placing my own piece when the panels were traveling throughout the consortium during their creation. In December 2019 I got to see the finished work on display at the hospital. It is exciting to be a small part of something much bigger.

We are all free to engage in this wonderful opportunity to build friendships and strengthen mutually beneficial ties to our Israeli, American, and Hungarian peers. YOU have a home in Israel! YOUR Partnership home includes Budapest and 16 American cities! Meet these people. I promise you won't be sorry. It's not theoretical. You meet members of our Partnership through engaging programming and events, then you get to see them over time when you travel and when they travel, and now on Zoom it's so easy! We are more together.

Which brings me to the details of the collaborative art project we created out of fused glass during the summit. Everyone was invited to make their own three-inch square of glass, depicting anything they chose that might convey something personal. It was a lot of fun! Some participants were naturals and others felt a long way outside their comfort zone. I am very grateful to JoAnne Lopatin and Diane Sarnat for their gracious assistance in helping me facilitate the busy hands-on project that day. Next step was a drive to Benton Harbor, Michigan, where, thanks to Lynne Clayton, I fired the individual squares in two large kilns at Water Street Glassworks. This



made them much less delicate for the drive to Cincinnati, Ohio, where I worked with Lauryn Jones at Brazee Street Studios to lay out the tiles in a gigantic kiln to fuse them into four Stars of David comprised of 18 tiles each. I chose this design to emulate the Partnership 2Gether logo. To complete the art installation, I called none other than the very talented Larry Piser, of Piser Designs. We put our heads together to come up with a plan. After many hours and much hard work, Larry and I installed the completed pieces at last. They represent the individuality of each artist and their home, together comprising a beautiful big picture. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts. There is great beauty in each of us, and together, we are more. This is what Partnership is about, and it's here for you.

During this process we stumbled three times. I'd like to acknowledge the devastating losses of Dave Clayton, David Piser, and Lisa Lerman, of blessed memory. You live in our hearts forever.



2020 Leadership Development Awards

Robert Simon Leadership Development Award 2020 Recipient is Megan New

The Robert Simon Leadership Development Award is awarded to an individual who is selected by the board as being an up-and-coming leader in the Jewish community. Through their volunteering and contributions, this individual will have shown a commitment to the Jewish Federation and the larger Jewish community.

Betty & Sam Schpok Spirit of Federation Award 2020 Recipient is Babs Waks

The Betty and Sam Schpok Spirit of Federation Award is presented as a life time recognition award. Given to a member of the community who has dedicated their time and energy to the Jewish community of St. Joseph Valley over the course of many years, in many ways. Nominees should be active in two or more Jewish organizations within the community. This award is selected by committee, and nominations are accepted from the community. We will announce our 2020 during our Annual Meeting.

2020 College Scholarships Recipients

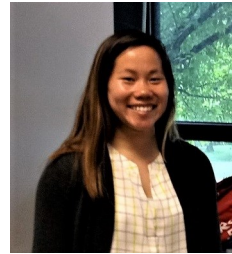
The **Kapson Scholarship** helps Jewish students from our area attend a university, college or technical institute in Indiana. A committee of Jewish community members will review eligible candidates based on the motivation of the student to receive a higher education along with merit and financial needs. Scholarship amounts are based on need and number of applicants.



Maggie Cronk
Indiana University



Charles Freel
Indiana University



Tessa Schrager
Indiana University



Andrew Wayne
Butler University



Naomi Freel
Indiana University

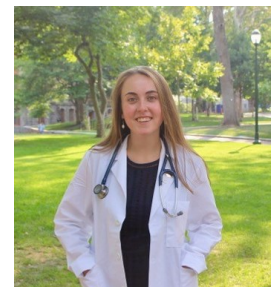


David Safur
Purdue University

Neil and Leah Silver Advanced Degree Scholarship

For our graduate students we have the Neil and Leah Silver Advanced Degree Scholarship.

This fund provides support for a scholarship for Jewish students from our service area to attend an accredited university graduate program. Unlike the Kapson and Roland Scholarships, this scholarship is available to students attending universities outside the state of Indiana.



Nicole Wayne
Perelman School
of Medicine,
University of
Pennsylvania



Liora Wulfsohn
Indiana University

Thank you to our Scholarship Committee

Jay Brockman
Mary Fisher
Sandy Roland-Hall

Carol Kapson
Craig Kapson

Pam Rubenstein
Carole Silver

board, and our staff as we have faced other challenges during this year. I know that her memory will continue to inspire us as we move forward into the future. And thanks to the generosity of Lisa's parents, Marsha Brook and Fred Kahn, and Ron and Ann Silverman, as well as her in-laws, Barb and Dave Lerman, Lisa's legacy will continue in a more tangible way through the Lisa Lerman Community Bridge Endowment Fund. That fund will support programmatic efforts to bring the entire Jewish community together, and support an award for Federation volunteers who further that goal. I encourage those of you who wish to contribute to the Federation in Lisa's memory to do so in the name of that fund.

The Federation also experienced change with the departure of our long-time Executive Director, Ben Davis. I had the good fortune of working with, and learning from, Ben during my four years as Treasurer, and his decision to step down after more than six years as our Federation's professional leader leaves us with the challenge of trying to replace his storehouse of experience and knowledge. Fortunately, we will not need to replace the friendship he has provided to so many of us, as he, Francie, and their family remain members of our local Jewish community.

The final significant challenge the Federation faced this year was the impact of COVID-19 on all of

us. On short notice, we had to re-envision how the Federation could continue to provide the many programs, benefits, and services upon which the community relies. While some things are difficult to replace in a virtual environment—most notably, the spirit and camaraderie of gathering together in person at our beautiful building and grounds—our dedicated and creative staff, working with many volunteers, were able to provide an almost seamless transition. Perhaps most importantly, our Jewish Family Services staff and volunteers began planning and strategizing as to how to address the COVID-19-driven needs of our community even before the full scope of the pandemic became apparent, so that we were able to meet the expanded demands on JFS services despite the limitations on in-person contact. We also successfully pivoted to virtual on a number of our other programs, including Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut activities (which gave us a chance to have an online reunion with the majority of our shlichim from the past two decades) and a very successful and enriching virtual version of the Michiana Jewish Film Festival.

This year of change also brought many good things, perhaps most significantly the arrival of Moshe Kruger, our new Executive Director. When we agreed

to hire Moshe with a start date of March 23, none of us knew that he would be arriving in the midst of the COVID-19 challenges. However, thanks to the support of our Director of Operations Emily Benedix, as well as Ben's transitional help, Moshe hit the ground running. His enthusiasm, creativity, and dedication enabled him to step into the position, quickly gain the confidence and support of both the staff and Federation leadership, and ensure that the Federation was able to successfully navigate challenging circumstances. While many of you might not yet have had the opportunity to meet Moshe in person, he has enthusiastically reached out to a wide range of community members in a virtual way. I look forward to working closely with Moshe, and I am confident that the Federation and its members will benefit in many ways from Moshe's leadership in our community.

Perhaps the biggest lesson of this year has been the reinforcement of how important the Federation is to our Jewish community. We often think of the Federation in terms of its building and facilities. While these are very important to us, and we all look forward to a time, hopefully soon, when we will again be able to gather together there, the past few months have shown us that the Federation is so much more than its build-

ing and campus. Indeed, the COVID-19 situation has caused us to prioritize the things that are most important to the Federation and Jewish community and to think about how we can best fulfill our mission. I hope that the lessons learned will enable us to serve the community even better once circumstances return to a more normal setting. And, perhaps most importantly, the situation has reinforced how fortunate we are to have volunteers, donors, and staff who make all that the Federation does possible.

Change is a part of life, including the Federation's life. While much of the change we experienced this past year was in reaction to circumstances imposed upon us, I hope that in the coming Federation year, any change we experience will be intentional and in furtherance of goals that we set for ourselves. I am confident that, given the dedication of our volunteers, donors, and staff, 2020-21 will be a year in which we continue to build on the Federation's many strengths, and we continue to fulfill our mission to embrace, connect and support the Jewish community, both locally and globally.

Tzedakah Charity

Supporting Jews locally and globally through coordinated fundraising initiatives and philanthropic opportunities

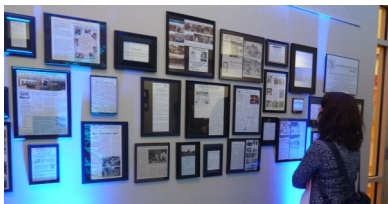


*"Look how far
we've come....."*

*Imagine how far
we could go....."*



The walls were covered with 75 years of history in the form of articles from the past seven and half decades of the Federation's Our Community News.



2020 Annual Campaign

Thank you to our Campaign Co-Chairs Mona Medow & Jennifer Schwartz for all they've done to make this year's campaign a success! As of June 10th, our 2020 Campaign total is \$408,491 with 324 pledges recorded. This number includes campaign donations from nine campaign designated endowment funds.

Thursday, September 19, 2019 Kicking Off Our 75th Anniversary

On Thursday, September 19th we launched our 75th year in style with our 2020 Campaign Kickoff. Over 80 people joined us as we welcomed Ms. Ariella Rada of the Israel Consul for Academy and Community Affairs to the Midwest. Ms. Rada spoke on the diversity of Israel, sharing the story of her family's arrival in Israel from Ethiopia in 1984.

A special highlight of our event was a gallery exhibit of various highlights from the Our Community News, dating back to the first issue published in July of 1946.

Super Sunday Sunday, December 15, 2019

Super Sunday was a super success in December. Thanks to our 22 volunteer callers we were able to raise \$13,800 dollars over the course of the day, and through follow up calls. Thanks to the hard work of our Super Sunday Chairs Cheri Schuster and Terri Hoffman, our diverse group of volunteers were able to reach out to our members with the opportunity to support our Jewish community.

If you have not yet made your 2020 Campaign pledge, there is still time. Please visit our website at thejewishfed.org, mail a check to the Jewish Federation with 2020 Campaign in the memo, or call us and we will be happy to discuss options on how to give back today.

Our Community Newsletter: An Important Announcement

We are excited to announce a plan we can all support because it will save the Federation time and money!

- ♦ Starting in August all issues of OCN will be sent by email.
- ♦ We are maintaining a current list of email addresses for all Federation members.
- ♦ If you are unsure whether we have your current email and phone numbers, please email Sheri Alpert at sheria@thejewishfed.org.
- ♦ Communicating by email will save time and money and will allow the board and professional staff to communicate with you more expeditiously.
- ♦ If you do not have an email address, please contact Sheri Alpert at 574-233-1164, and we will continue to send OCN mailings to you by regular mail.

Impact Report

See the impact your gift makes.

Community
Engagement,
Building and
Operations
34%

JFS Programs and
Services
23%

Local Cultural and
Educational Programs
31%

Overseas and Non-Local
Allocations and Memberships
12%

Jewish Family Services (JFS)

Food Assistance
Emergency Financial Aid
Professional Staff and Services
JFS Programming & Lunches
Transportation Services

Local Jewish Cultural and Educational Programs

Local Programming and Events
Community Relations Committee
Shlichah Program
Camp Ideal
PJ Library
Local Educational Allocations

Overseas and Non-Local Allocations and Memberships

Partnership2Gether
Jewish Agency for Israel
American Joint Distribution Committee
World ORT
Jewish Federations of North America
Indianapolis JCRC
ADL

Community Engagement, Building and Operations

Building & Grounds Maintenance
Utilities
Marketing & Communications
Annual Campaign
Administrative and Facilities Staff
Professional Development

Your generous support is what makes it possible for the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley to make an impact in Jewish lives both locally and internationally. Your campaign dollars help ensure we can provide a variety of programs and services while adapting to the changing needs of our community.

If you have not had the opportunity to make your 2020 Campaign pledge we invite you to contact the Jewish Federation to make your most generous pledge today!

Make a pledge today to make a lifelong impact in our community.

Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley Unaudited Statement of Financial Position As of December 31, 2019

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash & Equivalents	\$ 127,582.27
Endowments	\$ 9,990,181.56
Accounts Receivable	\$ 233,977.35

Total Current Assets	\$ 10,351,741.18
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Fixed Assets

Simon Building	\$ 2,855,464.34
Land	\$ 84,000.00
Vehicles	\$ 64,070.20
Furniture & Fixtures	\$ 337,233.79
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	\$ (1,771,208.39)

Total Fixed Assets	\$ 1,569,559.94
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Total Other Assets	\$ 77,172.72
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Total Assets	\$ 11,998,473.84
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities (Accounts Payable)	\$ (1,542.60)
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Other Liabilities	\$ 3,831,992.36
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Total Liabilities	\$ 3,830,449.76
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Equity

Net Assets	\$ 7,251,973.02
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Net Income	\$ 916,051.06
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Total Equity	\$ 8,168,024.08
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Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 11,998,473.84
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