



JDC *on the*
FRONT LINES

2016-2017
Annual Report



**Saving Jewish Lives.
Building Jewish Life.**



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A Message from Our Leadership

"I don't know any organization that can be compared to the Joint. In the most impassable corners of the world, you let the people you serve keep their dignity and hope." So said the late Shimon Peres, z"l, when he addressed JDC's centennial celebration in Jerusalem three years ago as President of Israel. His words capture the essence of JDC: our mission is saving Jewish lives and building Jewish life throughout the world.

This is certainly true in the former Soviet Union (FSU). For more than a quarter century, JDC has brought life-sustaining support to the world's poorest Jews. In 2016, 126,617 needy Jews—110,933 elderly and 15,684 children and families—benefited from the services provided by the *Hesed* network of social welfare centers that we established with our partners after the fall of the Communist regime.

Elderly Jews live on pensions of as little as two dollars per day in the region. Cost hikes, a stagnant economy, a protracted conflict, and a severe lack of government services create unimaginably difficult conditions for elderly Jews, many of whom are alone.

We are proud to partner with the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, providing care for Holocaust survivors in the FSU and Eastern Europe, who suffered the double trauma of Nazism and Communism. With the Claims Conference, we provide life-saving services to these aging and increasingly infirm Jewish heroes.

Under the leadership of Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (IFCJ) enhanced its critical operational partnership with JDC, making a major commitment to the IFCJ Lifeline for Food and Medicine to ensure that the impoverished elderly Jews we serve in the FSU, including Holocaust survivors, receive the basic necessities that are critical to their survival.

In addition to saving Jewish lives in the FSU, we also are building Jewish life. JDC has established JCCs, camps and family retreats, and Jewish educational and leadership

training opportunities. This revival of Jewish life would have been unimaginable just a few decades ago. These programs have inspired thousands of Jews, including a rising generation of young people, to engage actively in their communities and build a Jewish future in the FSU.

There is a synergy between our missions of saving Jewish lives and building Jewish life. By helping needy people, JDC has built an infrastructure of volunteers and community leaders imbued with the will, enthusiasm, and tools to invest in their communities and care for their most vulnerable members.

In Israel, JDC's partnerships with the government produce nationwide social initiatives that help needy Israelis to help themselves. Tevet empowers Israelis from every community—Israeli Arabs, ultra-Orthodox Jews, Ethiopian

immigrants, and many others—to enter and advance in the workforce so they can participate more fully in Israel's dynamic economy. Israel Unlimited promotes accessibility and bolsters independence for people with disabilities, while Ashalim's new, holistic initiative for families living on the margins addresses their

full range of needs. Eshel's efforts to promote retirement planning—and, more generally, Eshel's expertise in improving senior citizens' security and quality of life—were highlighted at a recent UN conference on aging as part of the Israeli mission's presentation.

In Europe, JDC fosters resilience, bringing Jewish leaders together to enhance their crisis management and planning skills as they grapple with the threats of terrorism, anti-Semitism, and xenophobia. At the same time, we promote increased participation in diverse Jewish cultural programs, camping, training, and networking opportunities. Many of these activities are now led by graduates of earlier programs, who developed proud Jewish identities as participants in JDC initiatives.

In Latin America, we promote innovation, as well as cooperation among Jewish communities. JDC also helps communities in North Africa and Asia maintain key aspects



"OUR MISSION IS SAVING JEWISH LIVES AND BUILDING JEWISH LIFE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD."

of Jewish life. Our newly re-named GRID (Global Response. Innovative Development.) program, formerly called the International Development Program, offers a response to human suffering that is steeped in Jewish values and leverages JDC's deep experience with rescue and relief, our access to Israeli technology and expertise, and our close ties with local Jewish communities and other NGOs throughout the world.

JDC Entwine continues to expand its reach, building community at home through service abroad. Entwine brings millennials from North America, the UK, and an increasing number of other countries together in support of JDC's work. We enhance their Jewish knowledge through innovative toolkits and activities and enable some 450 young adults annually to put Jewish values into action through service opportunities. Generous support from the Jim Joseph Foundation, the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, Jane Weitzman, the William Davidson Foundation, Genesis Philanthropy Group, the Pears Foundation, and many others powers this effort to cultivate an active engagement in Jewish life and a commitment to global Jewish responsibility among those who represent our Jewish future.

In today's uncertain world, we are grateful to Jewish community Federations across North America who, in partnership with JFNA, are a steadfast source of core unrestricted funding and generous supporters of our priority programs and emergency responses around the globe. We also deeply appreciate the trust and support we receive from the Claims Conference, the IFCJ Lifeline, the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, the Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation, the Swiss Banks Settlement, World Jewish Relief, and many other individuals, foundations, estates, and partners around the world.

We extend our hearty congratulations to UJA-Federation of New York, which is celebrating its centennial year, and offer our sincere appreciation for our century-long partnership and for the amazing impact our work together has in Israel, the FSU, Europe, and beyond.

As always, we deeply appreciate the profound commitment of the JDC Board, whose wisdom and support are

indispensable to our work. We are pleased that our Board now includes a cohort of rising young Jewish leaders from across America. We also salute the creativity, dedication, and professionalism of JDC's global staff.

The Board members and friends of JDC who have made a commitment to date to our Second Century Campaign (SCC) are following in the footsteps of our founders, whose response to a call for help placed JDC *on the front lines* in the quest to sustain Jewish lives and Jewish life in the early days of World War I. The SCC guarantees our ability to continue to play this role for the next century and beyond, so we can always answer the call of needy Jews and Jewish communities across the globe. 🌍



Stan Rabin

Stanley A. Rabin
President



David Schizer

David M. Schizer
Executive Vice President & CEO



Caring for the World's Neediest Elderly Jews

Tsilla Gorshkova wakes up every winter morning before dawn—she's learned that 6 a.m. is the best time to load her kitchen furnace with firewood so her small wooden cabin stays warm in frigid Siberian temperatures.

A former kindergarten teacher, the 81-year-old is one of two Jewish residents of Socialnaya village, a tiny hamlet in the Russian Far East tucked between Khabarovsk and Birobidzhan, the capital of the Jewish Autonomous Region, an area where Jews in the Soviet Union were told they would be sent to build a "Jewish homeland" that never came to be.

Living on just a few dollars a day, Gorshkova would likely go hungry without the food packages and holiday supplies she receives from JDC and the global Jewish community.

She's come to count on the flour, canned fish, sugar, and other supplies JDC provides.

"They're Jewish, and that's why they help me—because I'm Jewish, too," she said. "Thank you for helping us, for not forgetting us."

Gorshkova is one of more than 100,000 elderly Jews helped by JDC across the former Soviet Union (FSU). Her care is coordinated by the Birobidzhan branch of the Khabarovsk *Hesed* social welfare center.

Elderly Jews in the FSU are the poorest in the world. Many are Holocaust survivors, and all lived for decades under a Communist regime that discriminated relentlessly against Jews, consigned them to poverty, and dismantled Jewish institutions.

Albina Sergeeva, the Birobidzhan *Hesed* branch's coordinator, manages JDC's welfare response in the five districts surrounding the city: food cards for the supermarket, heating help during the region's harsh weather, warm winter clothing and boots, free or discounted medicines and dentures, and much more.

"The help is really multi-faceted, and for these Jews, very important," she said. "For the neediest Jews, there's really nowhere else to turn besides JDC."

Sergeeva said she can't imagine what life would be like

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for elderly Jews without the assistance they receive from the global Jewish community.

Gorshkova's village has just two stores. Both are located far from the main road and their prices are far higher than what her clients in larger cities encounter.

"Those Jews who live in those faraway places, they need a lot of help," Sergeeva said. "What senior citizens receive in pensions is far from sufficient to meet people's needs. We help because we can, and for our clients, it's nice for them to know they haven't been left alone with their problems in their old age, that they are able to trust they'll receive attention and care."



Despite the difficulties of life in Socialnaya, Gorshkova doesn't like to complain.

After all, this is the only life she's ever known.

"We live like we've always lived. We're Far Easterners. We're used to the cold, and anyway, winter was warm this year," she said with a laugh, despite temperatures dozens of degrees below freezing. "No matter what, you have to keep moving. Movement is life."

Sergeeva says that when she looks around at the thousands of remote and impoverished Jews like Gorshkova who have been helped, there is much to feel proud of.

"Year after year we are reminded that thanks to the work of JDC, the life of Jews and of the Jewish Autonomous Region has become better, richer, and more substantive." 🌐



At the Vanguard in Supporting the World's Poorest Jews

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany is our esteemed partner in providing life-sustaining services to impoverished Holocaust survivors in the FSU and Eastern Europe, and under the leadership of Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, our operational partnership with the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews ensures that the elderly Jews we serve in the FSU, including these heroic survivors, have the food and medicine they desperately need. We are also proud to partner with the Jewish Federations of North America and World Jewish Relief in providing this life-saving support.



With New Approach, Helping Israel's Most Vulnerable Exit Poverty

A single mother to four children, Pnina T. knew she was in a rough spot—financially, emotionally, and spiritually.

"I was in a very bad mental state. I had fallen into a rut, and I couldn't escape it," she said. "Life was bitter for me and my children, and I was ashamed to ask for help."

Then someone referred her to Families First, JDC's innovative poverty intervention program for Israeli families at risk.

The initiative, operated together with Israel's Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Social Services and the Rashi Foundation, pairs struggling parents with social workers and mentors who can help them chart a path forward with dignity—toward financial literacy and a more hopeful future for their families.

Some 450 social workers and mentors work with 3,000 families and 9,300 children through welfare bureaus in 94 Israeli municipalities. Families meet with their social

worker and mentor on a regular basis, working together to create achievable goals and balanced budgets.

"These are good people," Ruti said of the team. "They gave me a chance to turn my life around and change it in ways I could never have dreamed of."

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Working with her mentor, Ruti developed a personal finance regimen, budgeting her income and expenses and beginning to make regular monthly payments on a large loan she had taken out that had held her back for years.

She also enrolled in a nine-month evening course, an educational leap that has led to a stable job in special education.

Beyond Pnina's own progress, she is full of gratitude for the new lease on life Families First afforded her and her children.

"My success and the success of other families is your



"It's a different world for us now. I have hope, and I can dream about things," she said. "Before, it was hard for me to see any light in my life. We were stuck, but they pulled us out of that cycle."

Sheri L., a single mother of three and cosmetician-in-training, has been participating in Families First for about two years.

Though she'd received welfare services before, she said she's struck by the care and attention her mentor and social worker bring to the work, even providing their personal cell phone numbers to clients for around-the-clock advice and assistance.

success," she said. "I will thank you all of my life."

Eyal Kahalani, head of the Welfare and Social Services Department in Ramle, said the Families First initiative succeeds in its main goal—getting families off welfare rolls in Israel—because support professionals like him tailor their approach to each family, matching resources and tools to specific needs.

"The system used to be that we'd give and they'd take, giving them a handout," he said. "Now, we see the family as the leaders of the process. We're their partners in helping them get what they need."

The program bolsters families beyond assisting them with their finances. Other help can include educational support—like coursework, GED classes, and more; employment or small-business counseling; accessing benefits and government allowances; enrichment and tutoring for children; clothing and furniture donations; school supplies; baby equipment; and more.

Heeba R., a married mother of six and an Israeli Arab, works as an educational aide, a job she got with help from Families First.

For her, the program changed everything: She and her husband paid off debts, learned new trades, and opened a small business.

Some 1,900 families have been evaluated at six-month intervals, tracking that shows the holistic Families First model has the potential to improve families' financial situations in a short period of time. Pnina, Heeba, and Sheri are among the nearly half of the participating families who have lessened the severity of their poverty or moved out of poverty entirely.

"When I started the process, I had a lot of bills and a lot less self-esteem—but now I'm in a better place. I'm happy and I'm economically independent," Sheri said. "This is a dream for us single mothers. We used to be the ones no one cared about, but now we can take care of ourselves. I never thought it would happen." 🌍



Explore JDC's Work through Photography

A group of JDC supporters and Israeli philanthropists devote their time and photographic talent to document JDC's work strengthening global Jewish communities. The cohort, called **JDOCU**, hopes to bring attention to the stories of these communities—and JDC's activities. Inspired by their work, **JDC Ambassadors** in the U.S. formed a group of their own, organizing exhibits and photo expeditions. Proceeds of JDC photo exhibitions help JDC serve people and communities in need.



In Kiev, New JCC Delivers State-of-the-Art Jewish Culture and Social Services

Anna Bondar knows very well just how critical it is for Ukraine's Jews to have a vibrant Jewish community and cultural hub.

"Last year [2016] was not the easiest year for the country, so it's important people know they have a place where they can receive support, talk to other members of the Jewish community, and forget about their problems for a while," said Bondar, the 30-year-old director of the Halom Jewish Community Center (JCC) in central Kiev.

Officially dedicated in November 2016, the Halom JCC offers programs spanning four generations. A showcase for Ukraine's renaissance of Jewish culture and thriving Jewish life, Halom—"dream" in Hebrew—also highlights the power of community-building and the tenacity of the Jews who engage in that work.

"When you enter Halom, you immediately feel its warmth, as if it's home," Bondar said. "Everyone there

smiles, asks how you are doing, and even stops to discuss the day's news. The center is filled with the laughter of children and the voices of the elderly singing their favorite Jewish songs. It is vibrant and alive, which is so important, especially now."

Volunteers of all ages are central to Halom's approach, helping foster a spirit of community service in Ukraine's post-Soviet generations and even giving an outlet for active, engaged elderly.

Lidia Horelik, 71, has volunteered at Halom since it opened its doors, viewing service as an extension of her Jewish identity.

"For me, it is important to be needed, to help people, and to give them joy through organizing celebrations like concerts," she said. "I enjoy being in demand, and there are so many activities at Halom where I can apply my energy, while continuing to discover hidden talents I wasn't aware of until now."

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Halom serves as a connector for Jewish cultural, educational, community, and social service programs and activities. In addition, the center helps to catalyze teen leadership, and organizes a youth club, leadership training programs, Sunday school, a cinema club, vocational assistance program, summer camps, weekend retreats, Shabbat experiences, and tours to historic Jewish sites in Kiev.

Innovating JDC's approach to elder care, Halom also houses a senior club that offers a range of activities for the mobile elderly. This marks the first time that this type of center is located outside of a JDC-supported *Hesed* social welfare center, traditionally the home for these programs. Jewish Family Service, the Jewish community center program that aids at-risk families and enables needy children to engage in traditional community activities, as well as assists displaced Jews from Ukraine's east in integrating into their new location, is also located within the multipurpose facility, which brings together Jews of all types, backgrounds, and interests.

"I'm proud that Halom is a place where different generations can join together in various programs," Bondar said. "For example, we have cooking

classes where the elderly can share their cooking expertise with children as they make meals as a team. We also have big Jewish holidays and events where all four generations of Halom's Jews can rejoice and have fun, no matter their age."

For Bondar, Halom's mission is to ensure that the Jewish future in Ukraine is more than a fervent hope—it's a promise and a guarantee.

"There's a whole generation of young Ukrainian Jews who find out that they're Jewish and want to connect to the Jewish world, but they don't know how. There are many Holocaust survivors like my grandparents, for whom the thought of having a Jewish home where they can get together and sing Jewish songs and eat challah is something they could never have dreamed of some 50 years ago," she said. "Halom is here to ensure that every community member's dreams about the Jewish future in Ukraine will come true." 🌍



Travel with JDC

To be there, on the ground, and see how JDC's work changes lives is the best way to grasp the role JDC plays in helping the vulnerable and nurturing Jewish communities. Visit [JDC.org/letsgo](https://jdc.org/letsgo) to explore JDC's travel opportunities, and view this video ([JDC.org/TravelwithJDC](https://jdc.org/TravelwithJDC)) to see how JDC supporters connected with the people we help and the programs we facilitate in Russia and beyond.



In Hungary, Catalyzing Jewish Non-Profits at Innovative Incubator

For the Centropa Foundation—a non-profit Jewish historical institute dedicated to preserving 20th-century Jewish family stories and photos from Central and Eastern Europe and the Balkans—JDC’s Mozaik Hub in Budapest was a game-changer.

“With their partnership, we were able to take a step back and look at our organization from a broader, more strategic point of view. The process helped us identify many problems and challenges we face—things we hadn’t seriously considered before,” said Marcel Kenesei, who heads up Centropa’s Hungary office. “In Budapest, the Mozaik Hub is becoming the professional backbone of the NGO sector.”

Opened in May 2015, the Hub—part co-working space, part non-profit incubator—offers support to emerging Jewish professionals in the form of weekly lessons on best practices in arenas like project management, financial planning, marketing, and more. Mozaik also houses five non-profits full-time, among them Centropa.

The Hub is a powerful symbol of JDC’s belief and investment in the revival and resilience of Hungary’s Jewish community.

Increasingly, community organizations are able to improve their capacity to execute powerful initiatives, said Zoya Shvartzman of JDC’s Europe team—launching everything from a Talmud learning program targeting women to a “charity taxi” helping volunteers deliver donations of clothing and household items to the needy.

“IN BUDAPEST, THE MOZAIK HUB IS BECOMING THE PROFESSIONAL BACKBONE OF THE NGO SECTOR.”

“We are proud and excited that the Hub is even an option, considering both the history of Hungarian Jewry, with the Holocaust and Communism, and the current context—a community of 100,000 Jews with only 15 percent who are affiliated,” she said. “By creating an incubator for Jewish organizations and projects, we’re able to build

local capacity, give space for new and innovative community efforts, and diversify the number of entry points into Jewish community life.”

In 2016, the Hub touched some 150 organizational, professional, and lay leaders—providing a total of 500 hours of consultancy and mentoring to five resident organizations, nine affiliated organizations, five “Hub-Up” start-up initiatives, and three partner institutions and programs.

These organizations, in turn, reach thousands of other participants—a powerful ripple effect.

For Centropa, the sessions on finances and communication proved to be the most helpful, Kenesei said.

“Before the Hub, we basically didn’t go to any trainings. We now see how important these workshops are,” he said. “The Mozaik Hub is the very first initiative in Hungary to not only provide funding for promising Jewish projects and organizations, but also nurture and train them in how to be more sustainable, how to enhance their impact, how to think and plan strategically—in other words, how to grow up and improve as a Jewish non-profit.”

Mozaik also coordinates five community forums on pressing topics for Budapest’s Jewish community, bringing together some 60 people from 18 organizations on a regular basis to discuss youth in the Jewish community, LGBTQ inclusion, social responsibility, community journalism, and community networks and representation.



Shvartzman said the Hub is a key component of JDC’s broader strategy in Europe: “to foster communities that are vibrant, resilient, inclusive, responsible, self-sustainable, creative, and strong.”

“Alongside supporting our core community programming—welfare programs, Jewish camps, JCCs, Limmuds, gatherings, leadership development, and more—we nurture communities with strong and vibrant Jewish ecosystems,” she said. “The Hub plays a role by encouraging, supporting, and incubating NGOs and grassroots initiatives working to advance Jewish life, community, and values.”

Two years in, the Hub is the Hungarian Jewish community’s “innovation pipeline,” said Mircea Cernov, Mozaik’s director.

He said that more than any particular seminar or training, he’s perhaps most proud of helping to change the NGO sector’s culture.

“The Jewish community in Hungary is now more open, just, and responsive to the needs of all its members,” Cernov said. “Dialogue, strategic thinking and planning, impact measurement, innovation and sustainability, cooperation ... they’re truly part of the community’s language today.” 🌍



Join a JDC Giving Circle Today!

To magnify your philanthropic impact, consider joining a **JDC Giving Circle**, like the JDC Impact Network supporting the Mozaik Hub, or the Friends of the JCC Budapest circle that currently works with the flourishing Balint Haz JCC in Budapest. To learn more about leveraging your support for projects of your choosing through collective action, visit JDC.org/GivingCircles.



Inspiring New CEO Spotlights Bulgarian Community's Sustainability

Growing up in Communist Bulgaria, Julia Dandolova hated the regime's dark colors and forbidding public spaces.

That's why she designed her office to be "open, bright, and comfortable" — new optimism and energy reflecting her new role as the CEO of Shalom, the Bulgarian Jewish community's governing body.

The walls of her central Sofia office are covered with vibrant photos of community events, young leaders at summer camps, holiday celebrations, and memories of her own Jewish journey since connecting to her Jewish roots at the age of 12.

"The pictures are so I don't forget why I'm here," said Dandolova, 39.

"They make me feel proud. The word 'Jewish' didn't mean anything to me 27 years ago, and now I'm here."

Hers is a position that never existed before March 2017.

It never needed to.

But as Bulgaria's Jewish community of about 5,000 sustainably developed new institutions and initiatives, building capacity over the nearly three decades since Communism fell, its leaders realized the need for a manager like Dandolova, who worked for JDC as its

Bulgaria country director for 13 years before assuming her current role.

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"The community is maturing, and without the support of JDC, it would never have been possible," said Dr. Alek Oscar, the 39-year-old president of the Bulgarian Jewish community. "There is hardly a person better prepared for this job than Julia. She knows the community, she knows the people, and she has the sensitivity and understanding needed to be the CEO."

As a child, Dandolova's only exposure to Jewish identity came from the "Jewish Cultural House" sign perched over the entrance to the building where her grandfather played backgammon and her grandmother read poetry



with other elderly Jews. The building is now home to the Jewish Community Center where her office is located.

As she grew up, attending camps and then staffing them, deepening her involvement in the Jewish community at every turn, Dandolova learned how to be a leader.

“What JDC was doing in Bulgaria for all those years was not just providing services and giving food packages and sending people to teach us something,” she said. “What I love, and what I’ve realized, actually, is that JDC was teaching us how to do it by ourselves.”

Dandolova said it was humbling and a bit scary to be offered the CEO job.

“For 13 years, everything I did was about telling people, ‘It’s in your hands. You can do it. Don’t get discouraged. Try again. It’s your community,’ encouraging them. And so when they offered me the job, it would have cheapened all of that if I said no,” she said. “The Jewish community in Bulgaria is already 27 years old. We’ve passed through childhood, through our teen years, and we can’t say anymore that we are young and inexperienced.”

Once, Dandolova thought her days of Jewish learning might be behind her — she’d shifted to being the teacher, spending so many years teaching others about Jewish culture and traditions, strengthening a whole generation’s Jewish identity.

But one day, her daughter, then a student at Sofia’s fast-growing Gan Balagan Jewish kindergarten, came home with a challah recipe Dandolova had never seen before.

That’s when she knew: Her daughter had a true Bulgarian Jewish identity, not something imported from America or Israel, but something homegrown.

Now, Dandolova looks to the future with hope and pride, and with gratitude for the partner she has in JDC.

“We’re very passionate about who we are, and we really believe we have something special to give to the Jewish world,” she said. “But communities need mentors, too. We need reminders. We need somebody to help us see the bigger picture. Being a self-sustainable community does not mean going it alone.” 🌐



Hear Julia's Story

Visit [JDC.org/Julia](https://jdc.org/julia) to hear Julia Dandolova describe how JDC helped shape her Jewish identity and motivated her to take on the responsibilities and challenges of communal leadership. Learn how her story parallels the progress of a community now coming into its own, one that has grown in capacity and is moving steadily forward on the path to self-sustainability with JDC’s assistance.



In Turkey, Celebrating Community's Unique History, Exciting Future

A former *madrich* (counselor) in the Turkish Jewish community, Sami Levi worked for 20 years in the seafood business before realizing his passion wasn't business administration—it was Jewish peoplehood.

Two years later, Levi, 45, is now the Jewish studies coordinator at Istanbul's Ulus Jewish School and an adviser for Göztepe Kültür Derneği, a Turkish Jewish youth group.

"When I was a *madrich*, my dream was to be a professional *madrich*. But in those years, that was impossible in Turkey," he said. "When the school gave me this opportunity, it was a chance to realize my dream."

Along with Senior JDC Entwine Global Jewish Service Corps Fellow Joey Leskin, Levi has worked to develop and implement a pioneering new curriculum that emphasizes Turkish Jewish history, culture, and traditions. The initiative is supported by a grant from JDC.

Targeted at middle and high schoolers, the curriculum includes lessons like an overview of Diaspora Jewry in the 21st century, an examination of Maimonides' levels of charity, and a study of the motivations and characteristics of the Sephardic Jews who settled in Turkey in the 1400s.

"I TRY TO HELP EVERYONE UNDERSTAND THERE'S A POINT TO BEING JEWISH IN TURKEY."

"It's allowing them to engage with their own history and explore with a bit more depth and a bit more breadth what Judaism can mean to them," said Leskin, 28, a London native. "When the Turkish Jewish community is thought about, it's often discussed in a very historical way—the Spanish inquisition and so on. For me, it was important for the kids to understand all of that, but also to get a really accurate picture of who they are right now and the strength of the infrastructure they do have."

Turkey has about 15,000 Jews, and its young people participate in a wide variety of pan-European programs coordinated by JDC like Junction; Leatid; the annual Resilience Summit in Barcelona; and Szarvas, JDC

and the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation's international Jewish summer camp in rural Hungary.

Yasmin Eskinazi, 14, doesn't attend the Jewish day school in Istanbul but went to Szarvas in the summer of 2016 and participated in a Turkish Jewish tour of Israel led by JDC-trained *madrichim* in the summer of 2017.

She said JDC programs like Szarvas help her find her place in the global Jewish family.

"At Szarvas, it was such a great experience to learn new dances, have fun like crazy, and feel like I'm not in the minority, the way I feel when I'm in Turkey," she said. "As I heard the different folk songs, I felt so happy and proud to be Jewish."

Leskin, the Entwine fellow who has served in Turkey for two years, said he's "obsessed with the community."

Beyond his responsibilities with Levi at the school, he helps advise a young professionals group and trains *madrichim* at two to three leadership seminars annually.



"I try to bring animation and energy. Having me around, having someone here makes these young adults feel like there's something to work toward, that there are people from outside trying to help who are interested in their community," he said. "I try to help everyone understand there's a point to being Jewish in Turkey."

Having a JDC envoy like Leskin on the ground in Turkey helps the country's Jewish community find its place in the global Jewish community, said Gabi Behiri, 25, the community board's youth representative.

"When they notice they have the same goals and challenges as their brothers and sisters the world over, they understand they have a role in this global family and become more attached to their identity," said Behiri, who helps coordinate Turkish participation in programs like Szarvas or BBYO's annual International Convention in the United States. "JDC is an important organization for Turkey. It connects us to the whole Jewish world." 🌐



Global Leaders Insider Trip

With generous support from JDC Board member Stephen Lieberman and his wife, Sheila, JDC Entwine piloted its **first-ever Global Leaders Insider Trip** this year, bringing 18 young leaders from 11 countries to India for a hands-on visit to JDC and its partners' programs and a Shabbat spent with the Jewish community in Mumbai. One participant said the experience highlighted "the strength of a global Jewish community and the strength of my peers."



New Educational Tools Deepen Engagement for Jewish Millennials

As 10 young professionals gathered around a Shabbat dinner table in San Francisco, one man took a moment to address his companions, all of whom had signed up for a special meal focused on Turkish Jewry.

dinner experience with icebreakers, creative translations of prayers and ritual moments, and conversation starters that foster serious discussions on identity, travel, and more.

“My family is actually Turkish, and I’ve never had the opportunity to share that at a Shabbat gathering before,” he said. “It’s amazing to be around a table and share my story with folks who understand.”

It’s the kind of comment that’s music to Analucia Lopezrevoredo’s ears. The 29-year-old is a passionate JDC Entwine alumna and the Bay Area manager for OneTable, an Entwine partner that helps millennials host and attend unique Shabbat dinners.

Some of those gatherings, like the Turkey-focused one, employ JDC Entwine’s new Global Shabbat Toolkit, which helps facilitate a meaningful Shabbat

“TO ME, JDC IS PROBABLY THE SINGLE MOST SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATION THAT CONNECTS ME BEYOND BEING JUST JEWISH.”

“I use the toolkit and serve a dish that represents a place or Jewish community I’ve come to know through Entwine. I tell them, ‘What we’re eating here today is likely being served at their table,’” she said. “That just kind of spirals into some really beautiful conversations about what it means to be a global Jewish citizen.”

Lopezrevoredo is one of the early adopters of the toolkit and two other exciting new Entwine initiatives—as a co-chair of a recent Entwine Insider Trip to Morocco, she helped lead Entwine’s unique new educational curriculum that asks participants to engage with the Talmudic value of “areivut” or guarantorship; and she attended re:entwine, a fall 2016 weekend retreat designed to deepen

engagement and equip alumni with the skills needed to host their own local programs.

Lopezrevoredo, a Jew of Peruvian descent, said Entwine dovetails with her “passion for creating an awareness of Jewish peoplehood.”

“To me, JDC is probably the single most significant organization that connects me beyond being just Jewish,” she said. “And JDC Entwine is the young adult platform that allows people to see it firsthand. It allows you to stay connected and learn continuously.”

Entwine was able to develop the Global Shabbat Toolkit, Insider Trip curriculum, and re:entwine retreats thanks to the generosity of the Jim Joseph Foundation, which has invested heavily in the platform’s educational and training capacity.

For Sarah Eisenman, JDC Entwine’s Executive Director, the value of the new programs is clear: They’re a way to enhance the Entwine experience, to ensure it continues beyond what happens overseas, and to empower alumni to integrate these experiences into their own personal Jewish narratives.

“We are working to catalyze the current generation of young Jewish adults to see global Jewish awareness, connection, and responsibility as core to their identity,” Eisenman said. “Creating meaningful experiences with sophisticated educational content, providing training for our alumni leaders, and giving them the tools to

create their own experiences is key to this mission.” It’s a message that’s beginning to resonate more and more.

Over 80 young Jews from across the U.S. and the U.K. attended the re:entwine gatherings, with one held on the East Coast and one on the West; two more sessions are scheduled for fall 2017. The new trip curriculum has already been implemented on 14 trips, impacting more than 250 young people. And more than 100 individuals have taken part in Shabbat celebrations using the toolkit to initiate organic discussions on global Jewish communities and responsibility.



Jeremy Nagel, a 29-year-old nurse in New York City and former Global Jewish Service Corps Fellow in Mumbai, India, said the JDC Entwine community is a welcome chance to reconnect with like-minded individuals.

In addition to participating in re:entwine, he recently hosted a Global Shabbat in partnership

with the organizations REALITY (an initiative of the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation) and OLAM that drew 70 young professionals and utilized the toolkit to facilitate conversations on transformational global service.

“It brought me back. I felt lost in my work and I forgot that I enjoy having meaningful Shabbat dinners and learning about Jewish communities,” he said. “JDC Entwine events are what keep me involved, reminding me that there’s more to my life than my job, my friends, and winding down after a long week at work.” 🌐



Weitzman-JDC Fellowship for Global Jewish Leaders

Founded by JDC Board member Jane Weitzman and her husband, Stuart, the **Weitzman-JDC Fellowship for Global Jewish Leaders** has brought JDC Entwine and Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion together to foster a deeper involvement in global Jewish issues among HUC graduate students. Overseas study visits are a part of this initiative, and this year’s inaugural mission left participants “grateful for the opportunity to learn about Jewish Argentina” and appreciative of JDC’s “great work.”



Youth Movement Inspires New Generation of Post-Soviet Jews

It's easy to celebrate Active Jewish Teens (AJT)—JDC's flourishing Jewish youth group movement connecting 2,600 teens in 50 cities across Russia, Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus, and more—on the macro level, but Alla Magas prefers to savor it on a human scale.

Magas remembers the story of a boy from a small Russian city who participated in his first AJT seminar and was instantly hooked; he's now part of the group's leadership team, serving as a congressman in its peer-led government.

"After that first seminar, I received a call from his mother, and she was crying as she told me how he'd changed his whole vision of his future," said Magas, 31, AJT's project manager. "Something changed in him, and he understood he was responsible for the future of his Jewish community."

In just three years, AJT has grown to galvanize its members in local chapters throughout the former

Soviet Union (FSU), provide volunteer opportunities, and bring teens together at an annual conference just like their teenage peers in JDC-BBYO partner communities around the world.

The initiative now has four different tracks: AJTeam, an international *madrich* (counselor) school for graduates of the youth movement; AJTravel, a chance for teens from across the FSU to visit their peers in other cities and make new friends; AJT Contest, monthly competitions between individuals and cities to win a trip to the JDC camp at Szarvas or the youth leadership camp in Bulgaria; and AJT Government, which gives teens a chance to be elected to AJT parliament or become AJT president and influence the movement's programmatic direction.

Eva Stupka, 15, is an AJT leader in Chisinau, Moldova—for her, the youth group has helped her realize she's proud to be Jewish.

**"AJT HELPED ME BELIEVE THAT THE
FUTURE IS GREAT—MORE TEENS,
MORE CITIES, MORE COUNTRIES."**

"AJT helps you develop a try-anything spirit, and it's helped me believe that the future is great—more teens, more cities, more countries," she said. "To be a Jewish teen in Moldova is great, too. You can develop yourself in different ways, try things out, and discover who you want to be."

Each teen participates in AJT for one year before "graduating", and all of the movement's members are expected to complete a volunteer project benefiting their local Jewish community.

Stanislaw Apenko, the 21-year-old coordinator in Kharkov, Ukraine, said AJT is helping catalyze the potential post-Soviet Jews who feel they are a part of and are committed to improving the Jewish future.

"Being a Jew in Ukraine is about feeling like you're not alone, that you always have support and great opportunities," he said. "Our aim is to educate teenagers who will be able to create exciting projects, participate in leadership development, and maybe one day even work in the Jewish community."

Teens have spearheaded more than 100 volunteer projects across the FSU.



What's most radical about AJT, Magas said, is that it puts teens at the forefront, transforming them from passive consumers of Jewish programming to the spark of energy, optimism, and innovation that powers communities forward.

Teens, Magas explained, are perhaps the best pathway to sustainability and continuity for the Jewish communities of the FSU. "These days, you can see that teenagers are everywhere in the FSU. They volunteer, lead projects, conduct Shabbat services, celebrate holidays, create new programs, and more," she said. "It's a new Jewish generation."

That goes for Magas, too—and her remarkable journey from being one of the only active Jewish teens in her small city of Poltava, Ukraine, to empowering thousands of her peers in five countries.

"I'm 31, and I'm learning from teens that everything is possible," she said. "They teach me how to dream—and never stop." 🌍



New Kaplan Initiative Empowers Jewish Professionals

Founded with a milestone contribution from JDC Board member Carol Kaplan and her husband, Ed, **the new Kaplan Leadership Initiative** will enhance the management skills and Jewish knowledge of Jewish community professionals in Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Latin America. The Initiative will build a deeper understanding of Jewish peoplehood, encourage networking and partnerships, and foster self-sustaining communities that are vibrant, connected, and poised for the future.



Empowering Women Across Latin America to Transform Their Communities

The director of Jewish studies at the Beth Jewish day school in Buenos Aires, Valeria Judith (Iehudith) Nahmías was one of 30 Jewish women from seven Latin American countries who came together in her native city in April to network with peers, forge cross-border connections, and acquire new tools for activating women in their home communities.

"I welcome the chance to embrace an idea, an initiative, another viewpoint," Nahmías said.

Called "Women and Community Involvement: New Challenges," the three-day conference she attended was organized by JDC in partnership with CLAM, the Latin American Maccabi Confederation, and with the participation of seven other local organizations.

The gathering zoomed in on issues of leadership, gender, Jewish values, community development, and communities at risk, with the overarching goal of empowering Jewish women to play increasingly

major roles in Latin America's Jewish communities and organizations.

As a key convener of the diverse range of such organizations, JDC was uniquely positioned to set the meeting's agenda and to bring its power of innovation to bear on issues that sometimes go unexamined in the region's local communities.

Hailing from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela, the women visited local Jewish institutions, especially LeDor VaDor, the flourishing senior home and multigenerational facility JDC helped the Buenos Aires

community plan and develop soon after Argentina's 2001-02 financial implosion.

Participants were especially inspired by the gathering's open forums, where they were invited to share the most spectacular leadership experience they ever had and to discuss new models for communal life.

**"ONLY BY PARTICIPATING,
CARING, AND BEING PART OF
SOMETHING TOGETHER CAN
WE GROW STRONGER."**

“The group or institutional space offers you a wide range of possibilities that one doesn’t have alone,” said Diana Wang, president of Shoah Generations in Argentina and a conference speaker. “But it also offers limitations.”

So creating an open space, like an informal coffee gathering, “invites us to talk, (it’s) a starting point to talk just about things that matter to us,” a younger participant explained.

A lawyer as well as an educator, Nahmías was impressed by the gathering’s focus on “different prototypes and perspectives.”

“We all exchanged ideas, experiences, know-how—and we also projected actions, collaboratively, that would help us succeed in handling the dilemmas that Latin American organizations have to deal with,” she said. “All the professionals were really motivated ... trying to figure out ways to replicate successful experiences in their communities.”

Other participants echoed her thoughts, welcoming the opportunity to interact with people who have other ways of thinking and discover ideas they can implement upon their return home.



In the months since the conference, Nahmías has shared course content and other educational materials with local and regional organizations, especially with a contemporary from Brazil she met during the confab.

That spirit of camaraderie was key, she explained. “I was really moved by the atmosphere. We all enjoyed a very meaningful and enlightening Shabbat dinner,” she said.

The gathering has also had personal ramifications for Nahmías, impacting the way she will participate, from now on, in her local congregation.



“I have been a member of Lamroth Hakol (a Conservative synagogue on the northern outskirts of Buenos Aires) for more than 16 years,” she said. “This meeting encouraged me to become a lay leader, promoting different actions, ideas, and projects, because only by participating, caring, and being part of something, all of us together—professionals, volunteers, members, and board members—can we grow stronger... and become a model for ourselves as well as for other organizations.” 🌐



Latin America Committee Study Mission

In regions undergoing political or economic challenges, a study mission by JDC Board members can bring new clarity to our strategic goals. On their **Buenos Aires study mission in May 2016**, Latin America Committee members—including Robert Mann, David Horwitz, and Jaynie Schultz, the past and current committee chairs and the vice chair, respectively—met with leaders of programs and institutions that were established or strengthened as a result of JDC’s emergency response to Argentina’s 2001-02 financial crisis.



Sparking Tikkun Olam with Global Jewish Communities

Before Typhoon Haiyan ravaged the Philippines in November 2013, the island nation's small Jewish community of about 1,500 largely kept to itself.

But that all changed when JDC showed up to deliver critical post-disaster aid and help sustainably restore livelihoods and rebuild schools.

"Since JDC arrived, our community has radically transformed—we've found that by helping others, we not only help them but ourselves," said Lee Blumenthal, president of the Manila-based Jewish Association of the Philippines. "It's strengthened our community and opened the eyes of everyone, adults and children, to see that there is a world out there that lives differently from our own."

Since the typhoon, the Jewish community has partnered its preschool with one in a hard-hit area and

in February, it held a Shabbaton weekend at Mambusao Elementary, meeting local Filipino partners and participating in a tikkun olam social action project.

Martin Fabraquel, Mambusao's principal, said it would have been impossible for his community to rebuild the school—now also used as an evacuation site and multipurpose center—without the support of JDC and the local Jewish community.

"It's those relationships that provide us with the strength to keep providing our children with the best education possible, no

matter the situation," he said. "Knowing there are people who care about our story restores our faith in humanity."

The school now proudly displays Israeli flags in classrooms and corridors as a symbol of the strength of its bond with the Jewish people.

"SINCE JDC ARRIVED, OUR COMMUNITY HAS RADICALLY TRANSFORMED—WE'VE FOUND THAT BY HELPING OTHERS, WE NOT ONLY HELP THEM BUT OURSELVES."



The first call JDC makes when responding to disasters is to local Jewish communities, said Orly Fruchter, JDC's Philippines coordinator.

Engaging them in emergency relief and ongoing sustainability efforts is a key part of JDC's international development work. In addition to the relationship in the Philippines, Jewish communities in Peru, Ecuador, and Macedonia were key pieces of JDC's responses to those countries' recent natural disasters.

JDC is committed to responding to emergencies on behalf of Jews worldwide, integrating best-in-class global, Israeli, and local expertise and providing opportunities for local partners to become empowered, too.

When it came to the Philippines, that process wasn't just about the local Filipino educators and fishermen impacted by the typhoon—it was about Jewish community members ready to come into their own as neighbors, advocates, and volunteers.

"Reaching out to the Jewish Association of the Philippines enabled us to be more impactful together while also engaging in a mutual conversation about the Jewish values that drive our work, like tikkun

olam," she said. "When we called them, we not only reconnected with a community JDC had previously helped during World War II—we uncovered a community that had become disconnected from the global Jewish world."

During the Holocaust, more than 1,000 Jews were issued rare travel visas to work in a Jewish family's cigar factory in Manila—a joint initiative of JDC, the Frieder family, and the country's then-president, Manuel Quezon.

For Blumenthal, it's a profound honor for the Jewish community of the Philippines to continue its relationship with JDC—and to be able to distribute aid to its neighbors, not just receive it.

"JDC was there then and it is there now," he said. "None of this would have been possible without them. Even if we had the will to help out locally, we didn't have the knowledge of how to go about it. We learned that from JDC, and now we're active partners in cultivating a Jewish response to disasters." 🌍



JDC Introduces Tikkun Olam Ventures

Tikkun Olam Ventures (TOV) is a new initiative to bring Israeli agricultural technology and training to smallholder farmers across the developing world. With generous support from Seth Merrin and Laura Gurwin Flug/ Danielle Flug Capalino, JDC is piloting TOV in vulnerable rural communities in Ethiopia, offering access to loans, business development training, and links to markets in addition to Israeli technologies that have been adapted to local needs.



Google Partnership Highlights JDC Archives' Rich Treasures

Visitors to the Google Arts and Culture website, a visionary digital platform created by the Google Cultural Institute (GCI), can now view the iconic August 1914 cablegram that led to JDC's founding—and brought life-sustaining aid to Jews in Ottoman-ruled Palestine and in Europe following the outbreak of World War I.

They can also see a heartfelt plea sent to JDC 31 years later by a newly liberated Holocaust survivor in Warsaw, confident that her four-word request would bring desperately needed assistance: "I Live Require Help."

Both items are part of the JDC Archives page that went live this January on GCI's website, and can be found at www.google.com/culturalinstitute.

Joining the ranks of world-renowned institutions like the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the U.S. National Archives, the British Museum, Russia's Hermitage Museum, and Israel's Yad Vashem, JDC is now a full-

fledged "partner institute" in this Google initiative, which seeks to "bring the world's cultural heritage online."

This new digital platform gives unprecedented visibility to the rich holdings of JDC's Global Archives—some three miles of text, 100,000 photographs, and 3,500 audio and visual recordings (including oral histories and historic broadcasts and films) that document JDC's record of activity in over 90 countries from 1914 to the present.

"In significantly expanding our digital presence and becoming part of a family of institutions known the world over for their legendary holdings, we are ensuring that our 100-year-plus

effort to rescue those in danger and provide relief for the neediest will gain new attention," explained Jane Weitzman, who chairs JDC's Archives Committee.

JDC launched its GCI presence with a two-part, annotated version of its centennial exhibit, which was

**"OUR 100-YEAR-PLUS
EFFORT TO RESCUE THOSE
IN DANGER AND PROVIDE
RELIEF FOR THE NEEDIEST
WILL GAIN NEW ATTENTION."**

presented at the New-York Historical Society from June to September 2014, using GCI tools to digitize the selected items.

Through curated, multimedia exhibits like this and others already in the works, the JDC Archives can acquaint people worldwide with JDC's critical role in cotemporary Jewish history, and the profound impact it continues to have on Jewish life, Jewish lives, and the field of humanitarian assistance.

Online visitors to the JDC Archives page can explore a seamless assemblage of captioned photographs, documents, artifacts, films, and audio recordings. One click connects the viewer to relevant contextual information and links to other items on the Archives website: archives.jdc.org. Additionally, GCI gives its partners the opportunity to engage with their audiences on mobile devices through its free Google Arts and Culture App.

JDC's current exhibits include heart-rending images and eye-opening documents that may surprise even those well versed in JDC history—like the 1926 letter from John D. Rockefeller conveying an unsolicited \$100,000 contribution to JDC's agricultural resettlement project in the Soviet Union.



Other highlights include a 1921 photo of artist Marc Chagall at a JDC-funded school for orphans in Russia, where he taught art; excerpts from JDC films detailing the plight of European Jews seeking refuge from the Nazis; and a Passover Haggadah distributed by JDC in the DP camps in April 1948, a small but precious part of its massive post-Holocaust assistance program. Created by camp residents on the eve of Israel's birth, the cover artfully portrays their own yearning to begin life anew in Israel. Or marvel at a pair of eyeglasses held together by string, wire, and rubber bands—the treasured possession of a Soviet Jew who lacked the means to replace them until JDC was able to come to his aid in 1991.

Those who discover a personal connection to JDC's work through this GCI platform might find this quote from a 1957 "Guide to Overseas Operations" especially meaningful. Written by legendary JDC leader Charles Jordan, it is equally relevant today:

"This is the miracle of JDC, that it ... can work on a global scale dealing with tens of thousands of people and, at the same time, lend a patient ear and a helping hand to the troubles of the individual." 🌐



Images from the JDC Archives in the Google Cultural Institute

OPPOSITE Armenian earthquake survivors are airlifted to Israel by JDC for treatment and physical therapy, 1989.

TOP RIGHT JDC Jewish Service Corps volunteer Andrew Rehfeld leads children in song in Thane, India, 1990.

ABOVE An Operation Magic Carpet flight brings Yemenite Jews to Israel with JDC's help, 1949.



Schiff Oral History Project

Through the **Schiff Oral History Project**, JDC's Jacob H. Schiff Society members are creating video accounts of the motivations behind their philanthropy and the impact they are making on global Jewish life through their generous support for JDC. These videos are personally meaningful to their families and, added to the JDC Archives, will enrich the record of JDC's work and inspire generations to come.

A CLOSE-UP LOOK

JDC Australia: Coming Full Circle

JDC played a storied role in a most important chapter of Australian Jewish history, helping the Australian Jewish community embrace and resettle thousands of Holocaust survivors and become the strong, vibrant community it is today. And now, the helped have become the helpers, as Australian Jewry steps up its efforts to ensure that JDC can continue its important work across the globe.



“WE ARE PLEASED TO ENCOURAGE THE AUSTRALIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY—A ROLE MODEL IN AIDING FELLOW JEWS AND ISRAEL—TO ELEVATE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN JDC’S GLOBAL WORK, ENSURING A STRONG AND VIBRANT JEWISH FUTURE THROUGH THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS VITAL ORGANIZATION.”

ABOVE Former Senator **Joseph Lieberman** with his wife, **Hadassah**, and JDC Australia President **Eva Fischl OAM**, as the Senator accepted the role of **Patron of JDC in Australia**, a position previously held by Nobel Laureate **Elie Wiesel**, z”l.

RIGHT Ten young families joined together to form Australia’s first JDC Giving Circle, chaired by JDC Australia Vice President **Kevin Kalinko** and his wife, **Shelly**. The group elected to support the Children’s Initiative in Russia’s Urals & Volga region, as well as Jewish camping for young Jews in Poland. Their program included a separate kids’ session for the younger members of each family.





“THEY ASKED US ABOUT OUR HISTORY AND SHARED OUR DAILY LIFE—EVERYTHING JUST FLOWED AS THOUGH WE HAD KNOWN EACH OTHER ALL OUR LIVES. OUR SHARED IDEAS AND THOUGHTS MARKED THE BEGINNING OF A BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP.”

ABOVE So said **David Tacher**, President of the Jewish community in Santa Clara, as the Australian Mission to Cuba ventured beyond Havana to visit the smaller JDC-supported communities in his city and in Cienfuegos.

RIGHT Former Israeli Defense Minister and IDF Chief of Staff **Moshe (Bogie) Ya'alon** was the keynote speaker at JDC Australia's 2016 galas in Sydney and Melbourne, where he praised JDC for being the Government of Israel's long-standing partner in tackling some of the country's most difficult social challenges.



2016 Global Budget¹

Total Expenses (In U.S. Dollars)

AFRICA & ASIA	1,930,736
CHINA & EAST ASIA	47,138
EGYPT	25,000
ETHIOPIA	55,081
INDIA	305,753
MOROCCO	648,234
REGIONAL AFRICA & ASIA PROGRAMS	330,210
TUNISIA	264,320
TURKEY	255,000

ENTWINE	4,673,477
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EUROPE	41,580,371
BOSNIA/HERZEGOVINA	754,966
BULGARIA	3,383,065
CROATIA/SLOVENIA	48,500
CZECH REPUBLIC	51,490
ESTONIA	1,919,850
GERMANY	346,910
HUNGARY	17,948,959
LATVIA	3,536,730
LITHUANIA	1,594,384
POLAND	1,139,144
REGIONAL EUROPEAN PROGRAMS	5,146,889
ROMANIA	4,518,000
SERBIA/MACEDONIA	1,096,628
SLOVAKIA	94,856

FORMER SOVIET UNION	120,879,828
BELARUS	5,504,791
CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLICS	7,646,845
MOLDOVA	4,530,759
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	49,571,440
UKRAINE	53,625,993

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	5,552,946
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Total Expenses (In U.S. Dollars)

ISRAEL RESEARCH INSTITUTES	11,460,286
MYERS-JDC-BROOKDALE INSTITUTE	9,075,712
TAUB CENTER FOR SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES	2,384,574

JDC ISRAEL	84,174,900
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LATIN AMERICA	2,318,015
ARGENTINA	1,697,801
BRAZIL	43,880
CHILE	6,000
CUBA	278,000
GENERAL LATIN AMERICA	199,667
URUGUAY	48,667
VENEZUELA	44,000

MULTIREGIONAL	3,866,916
JDC ARCHIVES	1,407,290
PROPERTY RECLAMATION	628,890
SPECIAL GRANTS	1,737,836
TRANSMIGRANTS	92,900

TOTAL REGIONS/FUNCTIONAL AREAS	276,437,475
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PROGRAM DELIVERY	3,127,092
PARTNERS DIRECTLY TO PROJECT	19,401,052

TOTAL PROGRAM	298,965,619
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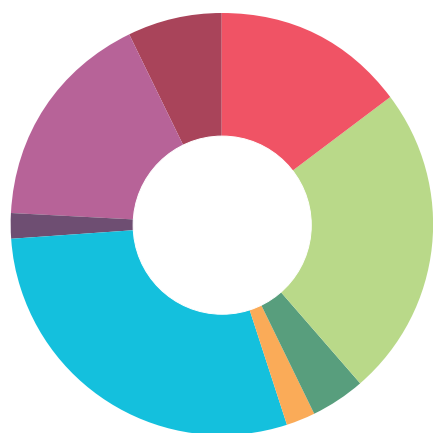
FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION & FUNDRAISING	24,808,029
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TOTAL	323,773,648
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¹ Updated 2016 Plan (as of December 2016)

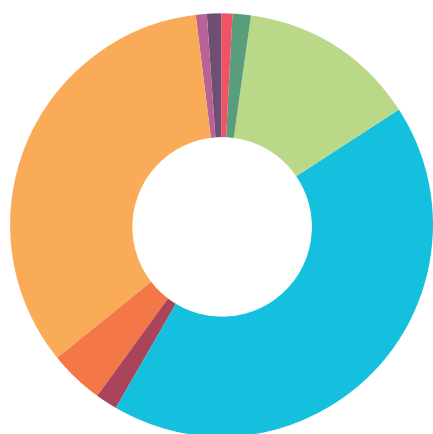
² This total corresponds to the Total Regions/Functional Areas line in the 2016 Global Budget table.

2016 Revenue

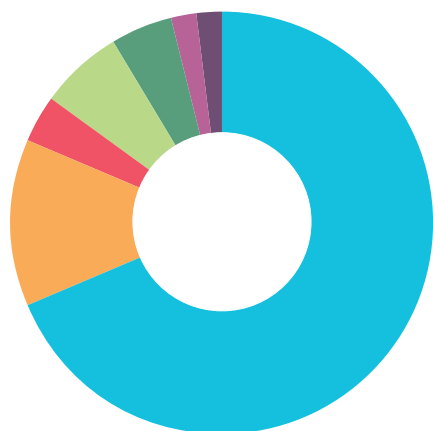


TOTAL REVENUE	Percentage
JFNA/FEDERATIONS SYSTEM	15.4%
FOUNDATIONS & INDIVIDUALS	23.7%
JDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS	3.9%
ENDOWMENT DRAW	2.6%
CLAIMS CONFERENCE	30.8%
OTHER RESTITUTION	2.5%
GOVERNMENT	15.1%
PARTNERS DIRECTLY TO PROJECT	6.0%
TOTAL	100.0%

2016 Budget Distribution



BY REGION/FUNCTIONAL AREA	Percentage
AFRICA & ASIA	0.7%
ENTWINE	1.7%
EUROPE	15.0%
FORMER SOVIET UNION	43.7%
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	2.0%
ISRAEL RESEARCH INSTITUTES	4.2%
JDC ISRAEL	30.5%
LATIN AMERICA	0.8%
MULTIREGIONAL	1.4%
TOTAL²	100.0%



BY PROGRAM AREA	Percentage
WELFARE & SOCIAL SERVICES	68.7%
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AT RISK	12.9%
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	3.6%
STRENGTHENING JEWISH LIFE	6.3%
RESEARCH	4.8%
NON-SECTARIAN	2.0%
ENTWINE	1.7%
TOTAL²	100.0%



JDC's Global Reach

Today's urgent mission for JDC is rescuing Jews and others in danger and crisis, alleviating hunger and hardship, and renewing and connecting Jewish communities. JDC impacts millions of lives worldwide.

NEW YORK

World Headquarters

ISRAEL

LATIN AMERICA

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Cuba
Ecuador
Haiti
Mexico
Panama
Peru
Uruguay
Venezuela

EUROPE

Albania
Austria
Belgium
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Macedonia
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Romania
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
UK

FORMER SOVIET UNION (FSU)

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Georgia
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Moldova
Russia
Tajikistan
Ukraine
Uzbekistan

AFRICA and ASIA

China
Egypt
Ethiopia
Ghana
India
Indonesia
Japan
Morocco
Nepal
Philippines
Sri Lanka
Tunisia
South Africa

Consolidated Financial Information

The following is a summary of JDC's audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2016. For a copy of the full Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report, email Ophir Singal, JDC Chief Financial Officer, at financials@JDC.org or access at www.JDC.org/financials.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

2016

ASSETS

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$53,107,714
Investments	487,065,782
Grants Receivable	16,939,305
Contributions Receivable, Net.....	26,749,368
Other Assets.....	13,570,439
Fixed Assets, Net	47,565,548

Total Assets	\$644,998,156
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LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$63,473,397
Pension Plan Obligations.....	19,716,691
Annuity Obligations.....	2,301,775
Loans Payable.....	21,253,997
Due to Others.....	20,239,635
Total Liabilities.....	\$126,985,495
Net Assets	\$518,012,661

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$644,998,156
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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

2016

REVENUES, GAINS (LOSSES) & OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions, Net.....	\$137,304,616
Grants.....	138,189,508
Other Income	8,235,878
Investment Gain.....	23,706,182

Total Revenues, Gains (Losses) & Other Support	\$307,436,184
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EXPENSES

Program Services.....	\$277,884,275
Supporting Services	
Management & General.....	23,429,503
Fund Raising.....	9,691,293
Total Supporting Services.....	33,120,796

Total expenses	\$311,005,071
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CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Change in Net Assets Before Other Changes.....	\$(3,568,887)
Pension & Post-Retirement Benefit Adjustment.....	(396,231)
Change in Net Assets	(3,965,118)
Net Assets (Deficit) - Beginning of Year	521,977,779

Net Assets (Deficit) - End Of Year	\$518,012,661
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Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses

PROGRAM SERVICES

	Africa/Asia	Europe	Israel	Latin America
Grants to Supported Organizations and Affiliates	\$2,748,193	\$35,582,204	\$59,178,834	\$1,508,442
Payroll, Benefits, and Other Staff Costs	\$700,923	\$3,564,865	\$15,887,465	\$857,480
Conferences, Media, and Public Relations	\$1,920	\$451,823	\$3,291	\$5,779
Contracted Services, Supplies and Other Expenses	\$305,477	\$1,032,667	\$7,915,871	\$155,142
Occupancy, Facilities, Equipment, and Repairs	\$24,422	\$177,019	\$868,541	\$236,963
Travel	\$123,864	\$556,578	\$213,823	\$42,775
Other Expenses	\$95	\$128	\$341,607	\$-
Building Impairment, Net of Change in Deferred Tax Liability	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Interest Expense	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Depreciation and Amortization	\$-	\$6,581	\$455,166	\$5,610
Total	\$3,904,894	\$41,371,865	\$84,864,598	\$2,812,191

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SUPPORTING SERVICES

FSU	Multi Regional	Total	Management and General	Fund Raising	Total
\$101,308,920	\$9,753,876	\$210,080,469	\$-	\$-	\$210,080,469
\$11,668,684	\$5,136,745	\$37,816,162	\$13,212,083	\$6,463,224	\$57,491,469
\$490,397	\$504,174	\$1,457,384	\$491,942	\$285,810	\$2,235,136
\$3,711,769	\$914,242	\$14,035,168	\$5,043,554	\$2,181,907	\$21,260,629
\$1,651,274	\$614,409	\$3,572,628	\$1,901,282	\$58,752	\$5,532,662
\$1,288,082	\$1,733,168	\$3,958,290	\$740,267	\$592,309	\$5,290,866
\$-	\$157	\$341,987	\$898,807	\$241	\$1,241,035
\$4,605,797	\$-	\$4,605,797	\$-	\$-	\$4,605,797
\$-	\$-	\$-	\$744,270	\$-	\$744,270
\$1,549,033	\$-	\$2,016,390	\$397,298	\$109,050	\$2,522,738
\$126,273,956	\$18,656,771	\$277,884,275	\$23,429,503	\$9,691,293	\$311,005,071

Period Ended December 31, 2016

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JDC's premier Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Society recognizes individuals and foundations that have achieved the highest level of philanthropic support for JDC of \$18 million+ over their lifetimes, and who serve as an inspiration to all those who care about global Jewish life. Wohl Society members are commemorated in the Wohl Garden at JDC's Jerusalem campus.

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The Jacob H. Schiff Society honors philanthropists and their families whose exemplary generosity in contributing \$1 million+ over their lifetimes to JDC has brought light to its mission of sustaining a vibrant and thriving global Jewish community today.

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