

This is Who We Are.





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Cover photo: Ramin Mazur



Photo at left: Arik Shraga. Photos at right: Valerie Terranova

A Message from Our Leadership

This was a year of crisis and healing. JDC responded powerfully to the conflict in Ukraine and the ongoing threat of COVID-19, while continuing our core work far and wide. As you read this year's report, we hope you'll be inspired by our around-the-clock emergency efforts and discover impactful highlights from critical programs in Israel and in communities around the globe.

Our decades-long presence and local community partnerships positioned us with the expertise, infrastructure, and heroic professionals to save Jewish lives. In numerous conversations with refugees in Europe and those who remain in Ukraine, we heard stories of resilience and dedication from people who, despite having their lives overturned by the conflict, have focused on helping their fellow Jews and neighbors.

Hanna Pysana, an artist and teacher in Odesa long involved in JDC's volunteer efforts and JCC activities, is one example. After being evacuated by JDC to Moldova, she sprang into action, helping coordinate our refugee relief efforts. Reflecting on the importance of this work she said: "I think that if we all are responsible to each other — we are all connected. And I can feel good, if someone else feels good. And if all people feel good in the world, I think the world would be different. It's a global kind of thinking."

Hanna's words echo Jewish tradition and a special connectedness that motivates JDC's timeless mission. Just as we will be there for Ukrainian Jews on the long road ahead, so too will we journey as partners with people and communities worldwide in charting their future. We can only do this with your help. And we are very honored and thankful to have your unwavering support in this life-saving work.

We would especially like to extend our deep thanks for the extraordinary generosity of our esteemed partners, including: Jewish Federations across North America through

cooperation with JFNA and UIA Canada; the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany; the Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation; the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation; World Jewish Relief (UK); the Jack Buncher Trust; the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews; and other key philanthropic partners. Our ability to carry out our mission also lies in the boundless commitment of our Board of Directors and global staff.

For all of this, we are eternally grateful and energized to continue lifting lives for generations to come. 🌍




Mark B. Sisisky
President




Ariel Zwang
CEO



This is Who We Are. The Global Jewish 9-1-1.

For more than a century, JDC has been at the center of the saving of lives at times of crisis — and our expertise in doing so has been forged in history. From our founding in 1914 — when a group of American Jewish philanthropists aided starving Jews in Ottoman-era Palestine at the outset of WWI — JDC became a lasting lifeline to the global Jewish community and beyond.

Tracing the arc of modern Jewish life, we have been there for Jews in danger and great need. From the Holocaust to the founding of the State of Israel, from Operation Solomon to Argentina’s financial collapse, and from terror attacks to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been there to aid Jews and Jewish communities. We have been there for millions of people ravaged by strife, conflict, and disasters of all kinds. →

Below: In the early days of the conflict, subway stations became makeshift bomb shelters for Ukrainians in cities like Kharkiv and Kyiv. Opposite below: This 1922 photo shows a group waiting for the opening of the JDC soup kitchen in present-day Zaporizhzhia — part of a large-scale effort that helped nearly 2 million Jews survive famine. Opposite above: Holocaust survivor and JDC client Gallina Rashba receives a warm meal from her homemaker in Odesa.

Photos: Pavel Dorogoy



In dozens of countries over the course of the last 108 years, we were there. And as the global Jewish 9-1-1, we continue to be there — acting as the frontline of care, community, and healing — exemplified today in our response to the Ukraine crisis.

Jews and Jewish communities in Ukraine were forever changed on February 24th, 2022.

As devastating images began pouring in, and the world grappled with how to handle the unfolding conflict, JDC was already on the ground providing aid to Jews living under fire, those willing and able to evacuate, and the thousands of refugees fleeing to neighboring countries.

JDC’s ability to quickly mobilize and respond in far-reaching and effective ways was not by chance. Our long history, infrastructure, and partnerships in the former Soviet region and Europe meant that we were not only there on February 24th; we’d been working hand-in-hand with Ukrainian Jews, other Jews in the post-Soviet space, and European Jewish communities for decades leading up to that day.

Over 30-plus years, JDC worked across the former Soviet Union to save Jewish lives and build Jewish life. In Ukraine alone, through our network of 18 Hased social welfare centers, thousands of volunteers,



Over 30-plus years, JDC worked across the former Soviet Union to save Jewish lives and build Jewish life.

and local staff, JDC served an estimated 37,000 Jewish elderly and 2,500 poor Jewish children and their families prior to the crisis.

JDC began preparing for what might unfold well before February 24th, mobilizing our vast local humanitarian relief network. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and 2014 Ukraine crisis made JDC’s network especially well-versed in emergency planning and implementation. In the months leading up to the conflict, JDC began providing additional food, medicine, and other supplies — to mitigate economic strife and prepare the Jews and Jewish communities we care for in the event of a worst-case scenario.

When that time came, we did not skip a beat. We were able to quickly aid the tens of thousands we already served and tens of thousands more we previously did not. For those who fled to the majority of Jews who remained, JDC became a symbol of hope, of life, and a promise to assist when all else seemed lost. We carry forward that commitment into the future as we aid those facing increasing need, rebuild what was destroyed, and help others build new lives whether in Ukraine or in countries they now call home.

This is simply who we are. This is what we do. 🌐



Photo below: J. Kogan. Photo above: Inna Vdovichenko



Since Our Earliest Days, Aiding Those in Need.



1915 WWI

World War I devastated the lives of Jews in Europe and Ottoman Palestine. Desperate and hungry, they had no one to turn to — until JDC delivered \$1.5 million of support, along with 900 tons of food and medicine.



1930s WWII

JDC draws upon its resources to rescue and aid refugees in their flight from Nazi Europe to locations across the globe — subsidizing medical care, Jewish schools, welfare activities, vocational and agricultural training, and loan funds for German Jews, while also helping tens of thousands to emigrate. By 1940, JDC was aiding Jewish refugees in over 40 countries.



1945–1947 DP Camps

After World War II, tens of thousands of newly liberated Holocaust survivors had nothing to their name. JDC shipped 227 million pounds of supplies to help them rebuild, as well as support the religious activities that were equally necessary for a true recovery.

1948–1950 Operation Magic Carpet

In what was called "the largest human airlift in history," JDC chartered close to 450 flights to airlift nearly the entire Yemenite Jewish community to the newly formed State of Israel. Prior to the flights and after the Yemenite Jews arrived in Israel, JDC organized educational, vocational, and language instruction classes to prepare immigrants for their new lives in Israel.



1949 Spiking Needs in Israel

With the new Jewish state under tremendous pressure to absorb Holocaust survivors, immigrants with disabilities, and the elderly and chronically ill, JDC partnered with the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Government of Israel to create Malben, a new national framework for providing care.

Photos: 1915: Photographer Unknown. 1930s: Photographer Unknown. 1945-1947: Al Taylor. 1948-1950: Al Taylor. 1949: Photographer Unknown.

1962 Rescue of Algerian Jewish Community

When Algeria became independent, nearly its entire Jewish community sought refuge in France, fleeing harassment. JDC helped them evacuate and supported the French Jewish community's massive expansion of services to absorb the newcomers, as well as successive waves of North African émigrés.



1989 Armenia Earthquake Airlift



In response to a devastating earthquake in Armenia in 1988, JDC financed and arranged an El Al airlift of more than 60 victims of the earthquake, most of them amputees, from Armenia to Israel. Once there, they underwent extensive rehab and were fitted for prosthetic limbs, returning home seven weeks later.

2001 Argentina Financial Crisis

Starting in 2001, when Argentina's economy collapsed, JDC mobilized a national network of Jewish organizations to deliver food, medicine, and other crucial supplies to more than 36,000 Jews in Buenos Aires and 14 remote communities.



2010 Haiti Earthquake

When a magnitude-7 earthquake struck Haiti, JDC mobilized immediately, working with on-the-ground partners to provide food, medicine, and other vital necessities to help earthquake victims rebuild their lives. JDC programs impacted more than 300,000 Haitians — 1 out of every 10 people affected by the catastrophic disaster.

1979 Support for Cambodian Refugees

To assist Cambodian refugees fleeing to Thailand to escape the Khmer Rouge regime, JDC established its first "Open Mailbox," which has allowed the American Jewish community to direct non-sectarian aid to those affected by natural and man-made catastrophes.



1991 Operation Solomon

When rebel forces closed in on Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, JDC helped plan and execute Operation Solomon, airlifting over 14,000 Jews to safety in Israel in just 36 hours.



2020–Present COVID-19 Pandemic

When the COVID-19 virus struck, JDC adapted its already vital life-saving services and community building programs to meet emerging needs introduced by the pandemic, while continuing its care for thousands of vulnerable clients.

Photos: 1962: Jean Mohr. 1979: Photographer Unknown. 1989: Shlomo Arad. 1991: Photographer Unknown. 2001: Luciana Betesh. 2010: Lee Celano/Getty Images.



In Ukraine, Decades of Care and Community.

1924-1938 Agro-Joint

JDC founded agricultural settlements and promoted an agrarian lifestyle for Jewish families in the newly established Soviet Union with the creation of Agro-Joint in July 1924. Consequently, 70,000 Jews were resettled in Ukraine and Crimea and taught to work the land and manage livestock in communally run settlements. In 1938, Agro-Joint was forced to dissolve by the Soviet regime, marking the last time JDC has a formal presence in the region until 1989.

Photo: Photographer Unknown.

Photos: 1952-1989: Photographer Unknown. 1989: Roy Mittelman. 1990: Josef Shuster. 1993: Josef Shuster. 2014: Rachel Calman.

1952-1989 Maintaining a Covert Lifeline to the Jews in the Soviet Union

JDC helped fund a continuous flow of banned Jewish cultural materials to the USSR's isolated Jews. Later, JDC sustained Jewish "Refuseniks" facing government retaliation by shipping them packages of goods from secret addresses in Europe.

1989 JDC Formally Returns to the Soviet Union

For the first time since 1938, JDC is invited to return to the Soviet Union. JDC quickly resumed its operations, prioritizing the rehabilitation and revitalization of Jewish life among Soviet Jews. JDC supports the training of educators, religious leaders, and communal professionals; builds Judaic libraries and imports Russian-language Jewish books and materials; and creates facilities for and implements an astonishing range of Jewish cultural and religious activities.



1990 Operation Passover

Nearly 11,000 Jews take part in JDC's Operation Passover, which brings Jews across the Soviet Union together for communal seders, with many celebrating the holiday for the first time.



1993 Hesed System

Hesed Avraham, JDC's first community-based welfare center in the former Soviet Union, opens in St. Petersburg, Russia. JDC established centers in cities such as Kyiv, Odesa, Minsk, and Moscow over the next two years. Today, there are 64 Heseds.



2014 Ukraine Crisis

JDC, through its Hesed network, provided food, medicine, and continued care for affected clients, in addition to supporting thousands of IDPs (internally displaced people) and those refugees who fled east in the midst of the crisis.



2022 A Lifeline for Tens of Thousands

In hundreds of locations across Ukraine, JDC has been serving more than 35,000 Jewish elderly and vulnerable families through its network of JDC-supported Jewish Community Centers (JCCs), Hesed social welfare centers, Active Jewish Teens (AJT) chapters, volunteer centers, and more. Today, in the face of the current crisis, this vital work continues.



Photo: Arik Shraga



Voices of the Ukraine Crisis

“A crisis like this is never just a local issue. Maybe that’s why the situation is uniting people and uniting communities — we’re seeing such resilience and cooperation, and we’re seeing people helping each other. Today we’re not the ones in need, but you never know what might happen tomorrow.”

— Sasha Friedman, director of Szarvas, the JDC-Ronald S. Lauder Foundation international Jewish summer camp in Hungary

Photo: Arik Shrager



Photo: Misha Kovalev

Voices of the Ukraine Crisis

“JDC is everything to us. We can’t imagine our lives without it. Jews don’t abandon each other, so please keep helping us.”

— Evgen and Emilia (pictured) Nikitin, JDC clients in Dnipro, Ukraine

When the first explosions sounded on February 24, 88-year-old Natalia Berezhnaya found herself plunged into a sort of traumatic time travel.

“What am I feeling right now? Fear is not the word. It’s just that I can’t wrap my mind around the fact that in 1941, I had to hide in the basement of this building, and I’m going to have to do it again now,” said Berezhnaya, a Holocaust survivor and retired teacher who lives alone in Odesa and depends on JDC and the Claims Conference for food, medicine, and homecare. “I feel like I’m dreaming, like I’m having a nightmare.”

Berezhnaya is among the tens of thousands of elderly Ukrainian Jews and at-risk children and families — all clients of JDC before the conflict — who stayed in the country as the crisis began and who continued to receive life-saving humanitarian assistance even as rockets fell and air raid sirens blared. →

Inside Ukraine, Continuing Life-Saving Aid

Opposite: Holocaust survivor and JDC client Natalia Berezhnaya hugs her homecare worker, whom she credits with her survival during the Ukraine crisis.



Photo: Inna Vdovichenko



Leading up to this crisis, JDC-supported Hesed social welfare centers began to stockpile food, medicine, and other essential supplies to ensure Jews in need would have what they needed to survive, said Anatoliy Kesselman, director of the Hesed in Odesa.

“We hope that peace will come soon, but we don’t know what’s waiting for us, so we try to look two or three steps ahead, like in a chess game,” he said. “We’re all working at 150 percent. Twenty-four hours a day, day and night, without switching off our phones, we’re in contact with our clients, so that they don’t feel isolated or alone, so they know we’re here for them.”

Across Ukraine, JDC and the Hesed system employ more than 3,500 homecare workers — many of whom have been paired with the same elderly Jews for years, developing a bond that begins to feel like family.

Though her job has now become exponentially more difficult, Valentina Smirnova — a homecare worker in Odesa — said it’s also become more important.

“It’s very hard to get to work between the sirens, but we must work. She’s become a member of my family,” Smirnova said of the 90-year-old woman she’s looked after for more than two years. “We’re all happy we have our JDC, and I’m so grateful to all those who

help our ‘babushkas’ — the Jews of Ukraine. Believe me, at this terrible time, that help keeps them alive.”

As for Berezhnaya, she said her homecare worker is “my life — my eyes, my legs, my hands.”

“It’s tough to live in this world alone,” she said. “If not for JDC, I wouldn’t be able to survive. How can I not thank G-d for that?”

In some cities, JDC organized evacuations to help bring Jewish community members to safety in hotels and retreat centers in Western Ukraine — places like Truskavets, about 50 miles southeast of Lviv.

Boris Spivak and his wife lived in the hard-hit Saltivka neighborhood of Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second-largest city. When shelling partially destroyed their apartment building, they became internally displaced people (IDPs).

“We hope that peace will come soon, but we don’t know what’s waiting for us, so we try to look two or three steps ahead.”

Photo at left: Yura Malenko. Photo at right: Konstantin Gerasimenko

Photo: Konstantin Gerasimenko

Opposite: Across Ukraine, JDC continues to care for more than 35,000 vulnerable elderly Jews and at-risk families. Below: Workers at a JDC humanitarian aid warehouse outside Odesa transport food packages.

“I’m very grateful to JDC for giving us an opportunity to stay here — in great conditions, with good food and medical support,” he said of his time in Truskavets. “It’s very, very hard, but the most crucial thing is when we’re given human kindness and understanding — that’s the greatest relief, as is the feeling that JDC will always care about us.”

The Truskavets group also included a number of Jewish educators and communal professionals from the besieged Black Sea city of Mykolaiv — like Iryna Pavlishcheva, who continued to run online Shabbat celebrations, programs for children and parents, and psychologist sessions for the elderly from the IDP camp.

She said the facility gave her and others the chance to “rest and work at the same time.”



“It meant we could continue our work and feel that we were all together, even though so many people have left the country or moved to other parts of Ukraine,” Pavlishcheva said. “It gave us the opportunity to continue all of our efforts from peacetime, and it was a quiet environment for our grandchildren — giving them the feeling of a real summer vacation, even during war.”

Also critical to JDC’s continuing operations inside Ukraine are a number of warehouses and hubs located across the country, storing tons of humanitarian aid flown into bordering countries and then brought into Ukraine on trucks.

“We’ve gathered often-used staple foods that can be stored for a long time and can help our clients survive in case of the closure of supermarkets, like we experienced in the first weeks of the crisis,” said Oksana Galkevich, the head of JDC’s humanitarian aid team and deputy director of operations in the former Soviet Union. “Even a basic 10-kilogram package can save someone’s life.”

The central Ukrainian city of Dnipro emerged as a key site for both evacuations and humanitarian aid distribution, said Oleg Rostovtsev, director of the city’s Hesed Menahem social welfare center.

In the process, facilities that used to house concerts and clubs for the elderly were transformed into critical components of JDC’s relief effort, he added.

“People used to perform here and recite poems. You’d hear laughter. Now it’s humanitarian aid, diapers, everything you need to rescue elderly people, everything we’ve received thanks to JDC and its partners,” Rostovtsev said. “We’re doing all we can so that people can live, so that they can stay healthy. If we don’t help them, who will? We thank G-d for everything we can do, and we’ll continue to save lives because it’s only us together who can do it.”



VIDEO: Natalia’s Story
Learn more about Natalia Berezhnaya and hear from her homecare worker about JDC’s important work inside Ukraine.

Scan with your phone camera, or visit [JDC.org/ar21s1](https://jdc.org/ar21s1)



Opposite: Iryna Verveda, a member of the Odesa Hesed team, speaks to Jewish refugees boarding a JDC bus to evacuate to safety in Moldova and beyond.

Evacuating the Most Vulnerable Jews

When Pini Miretski began creating JDC's technology solutions to provide remote care and community connections for elderly Jews under lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic, he had no idea the seniors' smartphones would play a critical role in rescuing some of them during the conflict in Ukraine.

These older adults were among the nearly 13,000 Jews of all ages that JDC has evacuated from Ukraine since Feb. 25, the day after the crisis began. These complex operations entailed round-the-clock work and coordination by dozens of JDC staff and volunteers in Ukraine, Israel, and border countries like Poland and Moldova. →

Photo: Inna Vdovichenko

Together, they organized transportation, including buses, vans, and cars; care along the journey; and logistical support through treacherous conditions. The convoys often traveled through bombardment and destroyed infrastructure, frequently taking back roads to avoid main highways. These trips often took several days to reach safety. Once they crossed the border, JDC and its partners provided these thousands of Jews with food, medical care, accommodation, psychosocial support, and connections to local Jewish communities.

The convoys hailed from cities under siege and drew from the more than 1,000 locations in Ukraine where JDC works to care for needy Jews and build Jewish life. These operations are another chapter in the organization's century-plus history of rescuing Jews from crisis zones and danger, including during the Holocaust and the siege of Sarajevo in the 1990s.



This legacy is not lost on Miretski, whose involvement in these efforts is deeply personal. He was 11 when his family made *aliyah* from Kyiv to Israel in 1991 as the Soviet Union disintegrated, and like other Jews under Communism, his relatives suffered from quotas on education and discrimination in the workplace. During World War II, his grandmother, a Holocaust survivor, was evacuated by the Soviets, leaving Ukraine to find safety in present-day Kazakhstan.

“Life goes full circle,” Miretski said. “I was fortunate to be in a position to help and to offer a lifeline to people who reminded me of my grandmother and so many family members I grew up with. After years of being in contact with these JDC clients, and understanding the impact our work has on their very survival, I knew we needed to act fast, especially for those who were bedbound and ill.”

Miretski was part of a special team dedicated to medical evacuations of very sick, frail, and homebound Holocaust survivors and other Jewish elderly. This delicate operation was carried out with the Claims Conference, JDC's longtime partner in the care of tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors across the former Soviet Union. In fact, it was the Claims Conference that advocated for these rescues when attacks intensified on major cities home to many Holocaust survivors aided by JDC's Hesed social welfare center network.

With up to 50 people working on each individual rescue, the team began by coordinating with the local Hesed to identify survivors willing to make the journey and counseling them every step of the way. Multiple conversations among homemaker and social workers, families, and the elderly offered solace and comfort before the journey. Many were held over JDC-supplied smartphones — technology that became a lifeline during the pandemic and again throughout the conflict.

These discussions were made more harrowing given the trauma many Holocaust survivors suffered, especially as the early days of the crisis reminded them of events they experienced during World War II.

Left: An elderly Ukrainian Jew with complex medical needs is evacuated from Odesa. Opposite: Members of Ukraine's Jewish community wait to board a JDC evacuation bus at the train station in Odesa.

Photo: Iryna Verveda

“We were not just making the evacuations happen — we were holding their hands and making the journey with them.”

“Certainly one of the biggest challenges was providing peace of mind to these seniors and supporting them in their decision. We were not just making the evacuations happen — we were holding their hands and making the journey with them,” Miretski said. “We needed to ensure that the unpredictable was predicted ahead of time, as they trusted us to bring them out of the conflict.”

Rescue teams would arrive at the home of the survivors and, in some cases, had to carry elderly down flights of stairs on a stretcher, into an ambulance waiting nearby. JDC and Claims Conference professionals in five countries across three continents worked together to plot a safe route and get the evacuees across Ukraine to Poland.

At the border, the survivors were either transferred to another ambulance or crossed directly over to make the journey to Germany or to countries like Austria, Israel, Moldova, and Poland. In Germany, the Claims Conference, together with the German government and local Jewish social service agencies, arranged for their long-term care in nursing homes in cities like Berlin and Dusseldorf.

Among them was Galina Ploschenko, a 90-year-old from Dnipro in eastern Ukraine. During the Holocaust, Galina's father fought in the Red Army and she, her mother, and aunts were evacuated to Central Asia.

When she was rescued, Ploschenko was bedridden and alone, terrified by the blasts outside and the booms that grew louder and louder.

After the team arrived to rescue her, she made a days-long trek to an old-age home in Hanover, Germany. There, she recalled her relatives killed by



the Nazis, her love of music, and how singing helped her stave off her fears.

As she told *The New York Times*: “I really want to sing, but I don't know that I can anymore. I don't have the voice for it. So instead, I just remember all the times I sang before.”

It's a feeling that hits home for Miretski, who has been part of more than 170 rescue operations to date.

“I think that in many ways this operation embodies one of the core principles of JDC — no one will be left behind,” he said. “No matter what, we are there to do the impossible for Jews in need.” 🌐



VIDEO: Anna's Story
Follow along as Holocaust survivor Anna Polyakova is evacuated from Kharkiv, Ukraine.

Scan with your phone camera, or visit [JDC.org/ar21s2](https://jdc.org/ar21s2)

Providing Humanitarian Aid to Refugees

When Galina Chornobyl, 95, crossed the Ukrainian border into Siret, Romania, she wasn't sure what to expect, and she didn't have a set plan: She just knew she needed to leave.

"I fled because of fear. I saw it from my window when the Kyiv TV tower was bombed. I didn't want to die under the rubble of a destroyed building," said Chornobyl, a longtime JDC client. "I ran so fast I forgot to take my dentures with me."

But as soon as Chornobyl and her daughter Olga Goriachko saw the word "Hesed" on the side of the JDC-Federation of Romanian Jewish Communities (FEDROM) tent, they knew they'd be ok. →

Opposite: A former volunteer turned JDC client, Galina Chornobyl fled Ukraine when she saw the Kyiv TV tower bombed from her apartment window, finding comfort and support at the JDC-FEDROM tent just over the Romanian border.

Photo: Arik Shraga





JDC worked around the clock in border countries like Hungary, Moldova, Poland, and Romania to feed, clothe, and house tens of thousands of refugees.

“The chance to save Jewish lives daily gives us the energy to work around the clock.”

“It was like an oasis in the desert. They surrounded us immediately, offering food, water, help, comfort, and support,” Goriachko said. “We got to our people.”

Within minutes, Israel Sabag, the JDC country director for Romania, had secured the pair temporary accommodation in a Bucharest hotel, and soon after, they were set up in their own apartment in the city — just two of the more than 39,000 refugees JDC had already provided with vital necessities like food, medicine, and psychosocial aid in the first five months of the crisis alone.

“The chance to save Jewish lives daily gives us the energy to work around the clock,” Sabag said. “We’re living through history, and JDC’s experience doing

this work since 1914 is what gives us the tools and responsibility to respond immediately to the needs of thousands of people coming from Ukraine.”

Across Europe, JDC and local Jewish communities worked to meet refugees at the border and house thousands of Ukraine’s Jews in temporary shelters — Jewish Community Centers (JCCs), hotels and guesthouses, retreat centers, and more.

Before the crisis began, Liudmila Mechina was working as the chief administrator at JCC KEDEM in Chişinău, Moldova, but within days of the Feb. 24 invasion, she began overseeing three sites in the city’s suburbs that housed hundreds of refugees before they were sunsetted.

“People came to us exhausted, angry, panic-stricken, and terrified after everything they lived through, but after a few days, you’d see them calm down a bit,” Mechina said. “Everybody here put in 100 percent of their physical and mental effort, and the refugees began to understand that we were here to help them.”

Photo: Anna Galatnova and Iliia Bugaev

Photo: Ioana Moldovan

When Viktoria Bykova made the decision to flee — a multi-day journey that saw her driving at night with her headlights off on roads that had been set with mines — she was met at the border by Darek Plochocki, the security guard at the JDC-supported Warsaw JCC who volunteered to be the first set of helping hands people saw as they crossed into Poland.

A Jewish communal professional in her hometown of Melitopol, she said it felt meaningful to know the same organization that supported her Jewish community in Ukraine was responsible for housing and feeding her family in Poland.

“Just after we crossed the border, Darek and others in JDC blue jackets approached us, asking questions and making sure we were ok. When we saw them, we breathed a sigh of relief — these were our people, our Jewish community, and everything was going to be fine,” said Bykova, who helped run children’s activities in the Warsaw Hampton Inn where she and her two children lived for more than three months. “JDC has a big soul — big enough to give warmth and support to so many people.”

For Karina Sokolowska, the JDC country director in Poland, that’s what it’s all about.

“Even months into this, we’re still housing hundreds of people in Poland, still providing daily programming for children and teenagers, still trying to integrate people into local Jewish community life, but it’s not only about providing food or shelter. It’s about embracing them,” she said. “Each family comes to us with their baggage and their trauma, and it’s our job to try to help make these horrific circumstances a little easier. It’s important to us, and I hope the families we’re privileged to host feel it, too.” 🌐



VIDEO: Klara and Raisa’s Story

Connect with the powerful testimony of two Ukrainian women who found refuge at a JDC shelter in Moldova.

Scan with your phone camera, or visit [JDC.org/ar21s3](https://jdc.org/ar21s3)

Answering the Call for Ukraine's Jews

For years, Evgenia Kasap and her family received JDC humanitarian assistance — food, bedding, school supplies for her two sons, and more.

Then, overnight, she traded places: She became the voice on the other end of the line for Jews needing emergency aid and human connection as they fled Ukraine.

“It was a call from within — simply, help people,” said Kasap, now a key leader at the JDC-supported volunteer center in Chișinău, Moldova. “JDC provides people with help, ensures they’re not alone or forgotten, and works to unite Jewish people all over the world. This was one way I could give back.” →

Photo: Anna Galatnova and Iliia Bugaev

Opposite: After years of receiving JDC support for her family, Evgenia Kasap jumped into action when the Ukraine crisis began, manning an emergency hotline in Moldova.

Since the conflict broke out in February, JDC has operated emergency hotlines in collaboration with Jewish communities in Ukraine and nine other European countries. Five months into the crisis, hotline staffers in Ukraine, Moldova, and Israel had already fielded 60,000 calls and counting.

With every phone call, Kasap and other hotline operators deliver critical help to those with nowhere else to turn — and the need is immense.

“We work from 8 in the morning until 10 at night,” Kasap said in early March, just a few weeks into the conflict. “Very often, people call at night and don’t know where to go. They ask us to help them find a place to stay, and so we work quickly — doing whatever we can to find a place that can take them in.”

The JDC hotlines are a lifeline for Ukraine’s Jews, a source of both practical assistance — accommodation, transportation, and medicine — and connection to community for those in danger. Terrified callers, many sheltering from bombs and other threats, hear the supportive voice of someone who speaks their language and can guide them to safety.

“We receive calls from people who are trying to get out of harm’s way, or from refugees who have already



The hotlines can also save lives, with operators often serving as the first sign of hope for those caught in immediate danger.

arrived and don’t know where to go,” Kasap said. “We do all in our power to support them and direct them on their journey to whatever’s next.”

The hotlines can also save lives, with operators often serving as the first sign of hope for those caught in immediate danger. They’re also the first people to alert JDC’s on-the-ground team that someone needs help.

That was the case for Pola Barkan, a native Russian-speaker who works as the director of venture development at Hackaveret, JDC’s social innovation hub in Lod, Israel. When the crisis began, Barkan put that role on pause to help staff JDC’s Israel-based hotline.

One night, she received a call from a mother in Kharkiv, breathless and frantic.

“She told me, ‘I’m sitting in a basement with my month-old baby and I’m running out of formula,’” Barkan recalled.

The mother of an infant herself, Pola jumped into action, connecting the woman with local volunteers who rushed to assist her and her newborn.

“As mothers, we always try to do the best for our children. We’re willing to sacrifice everything for them, whatever it takes,” Barkan said. “When I learned that our colleagues on the ground reached her and gave her the formula she needed, I could finally breathe again.”

Barkan’s story is a testament to the seamlessness of JDC’s call-center system.

When an incoming JDC hotline call is marked as urgent, data about the

Left: Volunteers work the phones at the call center housed in Chişinău’s KEDEM JCC.

Photo: Anna Galatnova and Iliia Bugaev

Photo: Ami Tesler

The Hamal — or situation room — at JDC’s Jerusalem campus was the nerve center for quick, data-driven decisions about the organization’s humanitarian response.



situation is directed to staff and volunteers at JDC-supported Hesed social welfare centers in Ukraine who, in many cases, already have deep relationships with the callers. Once they’re alerted, Hesed staff work to quickly meet the needs of the vulnerable and elderly.

It all happens thanks to the Hamal — the Jerusalem-based “situation room” that gathers real-time data about traffic at various border crossings, open beds in refugee camps and centers across Europe, and messages received by call-center operators like Kasap and Barkan.

“Once the conflict began, we quickly realized that a lot of information was flowing in. The Hamal organizes this data, helping JDC make informed decisions,” said Shay Kognitsky, who manages innovation projects for JDC’s former Soviet Union team and coordinates situation room operations. “On a day-to-day level, someone might need to be evacuated, and someone else might need food, water, or medicine. The Hamal is responsible for presenting the bigger picture, making a picture from a puzzle.”

The “puzzle pieces” include data submitted by call-center operators, as well as information flowing in through social media, government sources, and

other aid organizations. JDC staffers like Kognitsky then evaluate the raw material to understand where help is needed and how to prioritize multiple emergency requests.

“Ultimately, these decisions save lives,” he said. “And in the future, perhaps we can use a tool like the Hamal in peacetime. We can leverage this data to show people — people like our supporters and future generations studying modern Jewish history — the full picture of our response.”

For Kasap, answering calls in a Jewish Community Center located 1,100 miles from the nerve center in Jerusalem, it all comes down to the people on the other end of the line.

“We try to give moral support to those who are left alone and, if possible, provide them with medical supplies and food,” she said. “There are so many stories and so many calls. We’re always trying to help as much as we can.”



VIDEO: Pola’s Story

From her desk in Jerusalem, Pola helped save lives in Ukraine. Discover why working at JDC inspires her.

Scan with your phone camera, or visit [JDC.org/ar21s4](https://jdc.org/ar21s4)



Mobilizing Volunteers to Serve the Neediest

Above: After crossing the border into Moldova, Kristina Gladunova began volunteering at the JDC refugee camp where she and her daughter were living. Opposite: In many European Jewish communities, existing volunteers — like Florentina Lavi in Bucharest, Romania — pivoted to focus on the Ukraine crisis.

Photo: Mikhail Kalarashan

When Kristina Gladunova boarded the bus that evacuated her from Ukraine, she couldn't have imagined she'd soon be assisting JDC — the same organization that helped rescue her family.

Before the crisis, Gladunova was living in Odesa, raising her toddler daughter and working in marketing as a project manager. But soon after the first rockets fell, she left everything behind — her husband, her parents, and her job — to flee to safety at a JDC refugee center on the outskirts of Chişinău, Moldova.

That's when she discovered a new purpose: volunteering to help her fellow refugees.

“In the beginning, I needed to act, to do something useful. I can't sit still,” Gladunova said. “The second day I was here, I went to the JDC office and asked what I could do to help.” →

Gladunova and her daughter are just two of the tens of thousands of refugees that JDC has assisted since the Feb. 24 invasion. As a volunteer, Gladunova paid it forward, playing a key role in coordinating logistics at the facility where she, too, was making a new home — figuring out room assignments and preparing for the buses that took other Ukrainian Jews to their next destinations.

“Every bus you sent to the airport, you felt like, ‘Check! Someone else made it,’” she said. “History has brought us Jews together — it's in our blood now. Even on a global level, in different parts of the world, Jews help and support each other.”

That same sense of mutual responsibility powered Hanna Pysana — an artist and Jewish educator living in Odesa before the crisis and a graduate of JDC's Metsuda leadership program — in her volunteer efforts.

When the conflict began, Pysana boarded a bus to safety in Moldova and quickly joined JDC's humanitarian response — giving back to fellow refugees facing similar challenges.



“I volunteer because I'm human, just like them. I want to live — and I want to make sure they can, too,” Pysana said. “We are home for people right now, and our task as JDC is to provide people with a feeling of safety and the understanding that life goes on.”

The Ukraine emergency also catalyzed existing volunteers in European Jewish communities — people like Florentina Lavi in Bucharest. She has volunteered with her city's JDC-supported Jewish

Phot: Ileana Szasz

“I’m also happy because I can give them a piece of happiness. That’s so important right now.”

Community Center (JCC) for years but took a few weeks off work shortly after the crisis began to take a more active role in the Romanian Jewish community’s refugee response.

“I try to help as much as I can. I listen to their stories, and I give them everything they need — even hugs, even kisses,” said Lavi, who put together aid packages for Ukrainians and helped to find them transportation and accommodation. “I have tears in my eyes, and it’s hard, but I’m also happy because I can give them a piece of happiness. That’s so important right now.”

Working to provide emotional, logistical, and educational support, JDC Entwine deployed

volunteers who have played a key role in assisting refugees in countries like Poland and Hungary.

Early into the crisis, Entwine partnered with the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), who led the creation of the Ukraine Volunteer Hub — a centralized address for those wanting to support Ukrainian refugees. Since March, nearly 100 skilled, Russian-speaking volunteers from North America have been placed at sites operated by JDC and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI).

“Volunteers deployed through the Hub have brought critical expertise and capacity, and they’ve helped JDC meet the extraordinary needs on the ground,” said Shaun Hoffman, Entwine’s executive director. “This experience has provided important support in response to the crisis, but it’s also had a transformative impact on the Jewish identities of the volunteers, and they’ll bring that back to their home communities — it’s the value of global Jewish responsibility in action.”

And for one Entwine volunteer — Klementyna Pożniak, stationed in Krakow as a Global Jewish Service Corps Fellow — the work was especially personal.

Photo: Arik Shrager



Right: Volunteers helped to coordinate housing, meals, cultural activities, and more at JDC refugee camps like this one in Vadul lui Vodă, Moldova. Opposite: Many volunteers were graduates of programs like Metsuda, JDC’s flagship leadership training initiative in the former Soviet Union.



Photo: Mikhail Kalarashan

A native of Poland, she has spent months assisting JCC Krakow in its efforts to house, feed, and provide humanitarian aid to Ukrainian refugees. Pożniak was also able to find housing for the family of an Entwine colleague originally from Kyiv — the kind of interconnected humanitarian response that “shows the strength of our global community,” she said.

For Pożniak and other volunteers, each individual action — every article of clothing provided, every hotel room secured for a refugee family — adds up to a powerful large-scale response.

“It’s still amazing to me that I get to do this. I’ve always seen JDC as the 9-1-1 of the Jewish world, and it’s very humbling to be just one cog in that machine,” she said. “What we’re doing here may seem like a drop in the bucket, but each drop creates a ripple, and you never know where that will lead.” 🌐



VIDEO: Kristina’s Story
Hear directly from Kristina why she’s so proud to partner with JDC and why our work assisting refugees like her is so critical.

Scan with your phone camera, or visit [JDC.org/ar21s5](https://jdc.org/ar21s5)



Photo: Courtesy of Avery Hart

Extending Care to All Ukrainians

When Dr. Avery Hart first heard the news coming out of Ukraine in late February, he knew he had to help.

A retired internist from Skokie, Illinois, Hart quickly sought out an organization that could use his skills and landed on NATAN Relief Worldwide — the Israeli NGO that connects volunteers with people impacted by natural and man-made disasters and which has partnered with JDC since the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

Within a week, he was on the ground in Przemyśl, a Polish city less than 10 miles from the border with Ukraine, working at the JDC-NATAN medical clinic housed inside a massive refugee absorption center there. →

Opposite: Dr. Avery Hart, far left, was one of dozens of medical volunteers who worked with Ukrainian refugees at the JDC-NATAN clinic in Przemyśl, Poland.



Left: The JDC-NATAN medical clinic served 20,000 clients in the first six months of the Ukraine crisis alone. Opposite: Other JDC non-sectarian interventions included telemedicine technology and the shipment of medical supplies to Ukraine and border countries.

Like other volunteers, Hart was stationed for two weeks at the clinic, the first of its kind in the area. In those early days of the Ukraine crisis, when the flurry of refugees streaming over the border was at its peak, he and his team saw men, women, and children with ailments like high blood pressure, dehydration, and complications from chronic conditions they had left untreated as they fled.

For Hart, certain cases were hard to shake: the woman from Mariupol who desperately needed thyroid medicine no longer available in her besieged city, the diabetic elderly gentleman with blood sugar five times the normal level, the patient in kidney failure who had gone days without dialysis.

“Obviously, from a medical point of view, we’re trained as professionals to keep moving and not get weighed down too much,” he said. “But at the same time, it’s inevitable that you think about what these folks were experiencing.

Since March, the clinic — which features an improvised pharmacy and the ability to conduct ultrasound scans of pregnant women, among other critical medical interventions — has treated 20,000 refugees.

It’s just one of the many non-sectarian efforts spearheaded by JDC today as it leverages more than a century of experience responding to global crises and a special expertise in bringing medical support to areas in need.

“The moment the Ukraine emergency happened, we knew that we had a vital role to play in JDC’s response,” said Avital Sandler-Loeff, executive director of JDC’s disaster relief and international development arm. “With our decades of crisis relief experience and deep understanding of how to be effective during the most tenuous and complex emergency situations, we knew there was a great need for the type of quality non-sectarian intervention that JDC could offer.”

JDC worked to meet the needs of refugees in countries like Poland and Bulgaria, where it partnered with a local company to introduce Israeli telemedicine devices to local doctors, enabling them to virtually connect with Russian- and Ukrainian-speaking doctors located hours away who could properly diagnose and provide care for refugee children.

And its initiatives also extended into Ukraine itself.

In partnership with the Israeli government and the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies, JDC helped establish a field hospital in Lviv, the western Ukrainian city that emerged as a hub for internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees looking to cross the border.

“The moment the Ukraine emergency happened, we knew that we had a vital role to play in JDC’s response.”

Photo: Courtesy of Avery Hart

Top photo: Diana Szeinberg. Bottom photo: Solomon Stas Shamis, NATAN Head of Mission, Team 7

The hospital included separate wards for children and adults, an emergency room, a delivery room, and a primary care clinic, also hosting telemedicine training for doctors there. The only facility of its kind in Ukraine, it treated more than 6,000 people in a single month.

Elsewhere in Ukraine, JDC provided assistive devices like wheelchairs and crutches to Kyiv and Odesa residents injured during the conflict.

As the crisis evolves, JDC is looking ahead to the possibility of providing prosthetics to new amputees and expanding its support to hospitals across Ukraine by offering additional training to medical professionals.

Through it all, the organization is driven by a desire to help people who find themselves in harm’s way — like Stefania Pani, 83, a grandmother who arrived at the refugee center in Przemyśl after fleeing Ukraine and sought treatment at the JDC-NATAN clinic for a complex leg wound.

After a period of time where she’d visit the clinic twice a day to have her dressing changed, Pani was eventually well enough to be discharged and was given temporary shelter at a nearby convent, where another volunteer doctor now supervises her recovery under the guidance of JDC-NATAN.

“I thought I was left alone, that I didn’t know what to do, but then you came to me,” Pani said of the care she received. “I will pray for you every night, and I’ll remember you for the rest of my life.”

For Hart, the feeling is mutual — he considers himself transformed by his experience in Poland and is committed to celebrating the inspiring power of a humanitarian response fueled by Jewish values.

“It’s about a broad generosity of spirit and a readiness to pitch in and help people that are in need anywhere,” he said. “JDC does this work with a Jewish foundation and with Jewish people, and in the process, shows the world what Judaism is really about.”



VIDEO: Avery’s Story

Hear directly from one medical volunteer why his time at the JDC-NATAN clinic was so impactful.

Scan with your phone camera, or visit [JDC.org/ar21s6](https://jdc.org/ar21s6)



Across Europe, Integrating Ukraine's Jews

Maxim Delchev was just a child in the late 1990s when Bulgaria suffered through financial instability in the wake of the Communist government's collapse, but he still vividly recalls the way that JDC and other international Jewish organizations helped his friends and neighbors in their hour of need.

Twenty-five years later, Delchev — now the director of Jewish education for Shalom, the umbrella organization for Bulgarian Jewry — said it's the memory of those lean years that's helping power his community's response to the crisis in Ukraine. →

Opposite: Maxim Delchev, who heads up Bulgarian Jewish educational initiatives, said his community's response to the Ukraine crisis is influenced by the help JDC provided them in the 1990s.

Photo: Solomon Frances





Top photo: Maciej Wodyk. Bottom photo: Kateryna Kharuta

“I remember my grandmother going to the synagogue to receive food packages from JDC, paid for by Jews in the United States simply because there were Jews in need in Bulgaria,” he said. “Now we’re in a similar situation — we don’t know these people, but we know they need help. I’m happy we’re able to do what other people did for us. That’s our response to Ukraine. It wasn’t a question. It’s opening our doors and saying, ‘You are welcome.’”

The Bulgarian Jewish community continues to integrate the refugees — connecting them with open apartments, inviting them to camps, holiday celebrations, and other community gatherings, and enrolling Ukrainian students in Sofia’s Jewish day school.

For Julie Georgieva, Shalom’s director of client services and membership, it’s a response in line with her community’s mission and values even during peacetime.

She said she smiles each time she sees a Ukrainian family at a community event like a Purim party or Passover Seder, and she was especially proud that when Shalom posted a questionnaire shortly after the Feb. 24 invasion asking community members to help the new arrivals, more than 200 people responded — a significant percentage of the Bulgarian Jewish community.

“In times of crisis, we can really see how strong our community is, and our people definitely stepped up,” said Georgieva, whose mother is originally from Kharkiv, Ukraine. “It’s a serious source of stress to lose your friends and your classmates, to be in another country where you don’t speak the language. I believe we’ve helped these families feel secure, safe, and very welcome.”

Georgieva’s is just one among many European Jewish communities that have partnered with JDC to absorb Ukrainian refugees and connect them with Jewish life in their new cities.

In Poland’s capital, the JDC-supported JCC Warszawa began putting out many of its communications in Ukrainian, along with the usual Polish and English, and Ukrainian refugee children were welcomed to Atid, the annual Polish Jewish summer camp.

Opposite top: Polish Jews and Ukrainian refugees joined together for a community Passover retreat. Below: Ann Kobtseva — a refugee from Odesa, Ukraine — holds the JDC Haggadah she received when she attended a Bulgarian Jewish community seder.

“We showed up for our fellow humans in need — because those are the values that drive us.”

The JCC also hosted a series of “refugee Shabbat” events designed to make new Ukrainian members of the community feel especially welcomed and wanted, said Marta Saracyn, the center’s interim director.

“We may still be a growing community, but we have enough to offer people who have come here. We can give them a sense of security and a chance to breathe, and we’re there emotionally,” she said. “We didn’t turn away and pretend it wasn’t our business. We showed up for our fellow humans in need — because those are the values that drive us.”

It’s a response that means the world to Ukrainian refugees like Ann Kobtseva, who fled Odesa with her elderly mother and settled in Sofia in early March.

A few days into her time in Bulgaria, Kobtseva remembered to check in with the Jewish community, though she was unsure what to expect when she rang the doorbell of the Shalom building on Aleksandar Stamboliyski Boulevard.

Instead of a brush-off or just well-meaning words, she said she was met with action and tangible support — an affordable apartment to rent, invitations to community gatherings, and a volunteer who adopted her and her mom and visits frequently to bring groceries, deliver yarn for knitting, and help with household tasks.

“I get the chills when I talk about it. Here we are in wartime, living almost the same life as if we were at home. We have our own place, and we have people who care about us,” Kobtseva said. “They took care of us — not like we were friends or visitors or refugees, but as a part of the community.” 🌐



VIDEO: Olena’s Story
Learn how Olena, a JDC employee from Kharkiv, Ukraine, connected to the Bulgarian Jewish community as a refugee.

Scan with your phone camera, or visit [JDC.org/ar21s7](https://jdc.org/ar21s7)



In the first six months of the crisis alone, JDC assisted more than 39,000 Ukrainian refugees — people like Katya Shynderova, a former Jewish communal worker from Konotop, Ukraine, who found shelter at the JDC-supported KEDEM JCC in Chişinău, Moldova.

Photo: Arik Shraga

Global Highlights

JDC ARCHIVES



Leonard Bernstein receives a bouquet from a young concert attendee at the Feldafing DP camp, Germany, May 1948.

Another major focus for the Archives was the creation of an online exhibit — featuring never-before-seen video footage, photos, text documents, and first-person accounts — devoted to exploring the “morale-boosting tours” JDC organized to help uplift the mental well-being of Holocaust survivors by bringing popular artists, Leonard Bernstein among them, to perform in the displaced persons (DP) camps in Europe. The Archives also awarded its 2021 JDC Archives Documentary Film Grant to Phyllis Lee’s “After the Final No,” which will explore themes of resilience and post-traumatic growth at Foehrenwald, the last Jewish DP camp to close in 1957.

JDC’s Global Archives continued its critical work documenting the history of the organization. One highlight this year is an oral history project in which 18 retired senior JDC staff who served from the 1970s until the early 2000s were interviewed by veteran peers. These new testimonies — along with an online finding aid created to assist researchers — will offer historians and the public access to first-hand reflections from those tasked for decades with engineering JDC’s swift response to major global events.

The Archives team has also worked to index 11,000 JDC case files from post-World War II Czechoslovakia and over 76,000 case files from JDC’s work with Soviet and other Eastern European transmigrant refugees. Families are now able to request their entire case files — a major genealogical resource for those assisted by JDC’s Vienna and Rome offices during the Cold War.

Photo: JDC Archives

JDC ENTWINE



Building on its deep expertise in designing and implementing immersive experiences, JDC Entwine quickly pivoted during the COVID-19 pandemic to adapt to the new reality and create a robust set of virtual engagement offerings for young Jews: virtual global service opportunities, travel options, giving circles, and book clubs, among other offerings. And as international travel ramped up again in early 2022, expectations of pent-up demand for global experiences played out; since re-launching its flagship week-long Insider Trip program in late 2021, JDC Entwine has seen a 250 percent oversubscription rate, with more than three applicants for every spot available on trips to countries like the United Arab Emirates, Rwanda, Greece, Israel, Argentina, and more.

Additionally, Entwine continued to expand one of its most successful pandemic innovations: Domestic Insider Trips taking place within the U.S. — a highly accessible and less expensive option for Entwine’s target audience. Entwine now offers an extensive hybrid program platform — an approach that has successfully engaged nearly 15,400 Jewish young adults through both in-person and virtual touchpoints in 2021 and 2022.

ISRAEL

In November 2021, JDC and the Government of Israel (GOI) signed an historic five-year contract, which will ensure that JDC remains a major partner in developing social services and increasing opportunities for all Israelis. This agreement, which encompasses all of JDC’s initiatives in the country, will bolster investment in some of the country’s most pressing social issues: breaking cycles of poverty among the most vulnerable, improving the wellbeing and resilience of older adults, fostering inclusion and independent living for people with disabilities, and providing access to opportunity for all.



Earlier that year, the GOI also approved the JDC Eshel-developed Optimal Aging Dashboard as the country’s National Index for Optimal Aging in Israel, which will now serve as a “north star” for Israel’s elderly sector. The dashboard codifies a shared set of indices for determining and measuring the extent to which Israel’s older adults are healthy and living independently — metrics that will guide policy-making, budget allocations, and program development.

These developments will allow JDC, along with its partners — the Government of Israel, municipal leaders, the business sector, and NGOs — to continue the vital work of driving systemic change with regard to Israel’s most complex social challenges.

SZARVAS



After two summers without in-person programming due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Szarvas — the flagship JDC-Ronald S. Lauder Foundation international Jewish summer camp in rural Hungary — reopened in summer 2022, with hundreds of campers from across Europe and the world joyfully returning to an updated and refreshed campus. The improvements were made possible thanks to the generous support of more than 20 donors to a capital campaign that also served to cement an endowment that will guarantee the camp's strong and sustainable future.

With major refurbishments of existing facilities as well as the addition of some new installations, the renovations — which include partial winterization, allowing the grounds to be a resource for Jewish communities year-round — mean Szarvas will thrive as an incubator of Jewish leadership development in Europe and beyond for years to come.

LATIN AMERICA

When Argentina's economic downturn was worsened by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, JDC quickly stepped in — creating a temporary program called the Community Social Safety Net that brought relief to close to 1,300 “new poor” families across the country. Developed in partnership with the Tzedaka Foundation, AMIA — Buenos Aires Kehilah, the Chabad Foundation, the Federation of Jewish Day Schools, and 14 Jewish communities in the provinces, the program helped families who had not previously sought financial aid from the community but were hard hit by the pandemic, assisting them with food, housing expenses, and medicines.



In the last two years, in addition to providing direct assistance, JDC has also developed and expanded two programs, in partnership with AMIA, focusing on the long-term goal of promoting self-sufficiency.

The first program, Maavar, assists with job-market integration. Maavar built a network of Jewish organizations, such as day schools, JCCs, and synagogues, that work together to help community members (particularly age 45+) re-integrate into the job market. So far, over 300 people have participated in Maavar, with the program continuing today.

Virtuali, a program promoting digital literacy among older adults, helps close the digital gap and reduce the isolating effects of the pandemic. With the help of 100+ trained volunteers, the project has already reached 150 older adults, and involves a personalized, one-on-one learning and teaching process. In 2022, JDC continued to engage more volunteers and participants in Virtuali.

Top photo: Iszak Daniel. Bottom photo: JDC Latin America

AFRICA & ASIA

JDC continued its proud history of comprehensive, impactful welfare support for the Jewish community of Morocco, where the organization has worked since 1940.

JDC entered Morocco during World War II, when it provided food, medical care, and vocational training to Jewish refugees escaping Nazi-occupied Europe. To assist many of the 300,000 local Moroccan Jews living in difficult conditions, JDC helped support OSE (Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants), an organization that worked to secure medical services for the country's poorest Jews. OSE still operates today.

Building on these efforts, in 1949 JDC launched a full-scale assistance program that supported, among other things: homes for the elderly; Jewish school systems and nutrition programs within these schools; milk distribution stations; infant clinics and preschool centers that helped combat malnutrition and child mortality; and vocational training to help fight poverty. Today, JDC works in partnership with the community to provide social welfare assistance to the needy and support Jewish education and cultural programming for this small but dynamic community of about 1,500 Jews.

In 2021, 430 vulnerable Jews received assistance through the OSE medical clinic, which reaches clients in six cities. In addition, JDC partnered with the Moroccan Jewish community to continue to care for the most vulnerable elderly Jews — 23 residents of the Maison du Bel Age old-age home in Casablanca, and six residents of another facility in Tangier; 65 individuals across the country also received material support and humanitarian assistance.



Top photo: Nejra Hadžic. Bottom photo: Dorith Benmoha



EUROPE

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, vaccine access was limited or rare in some European countries — Bosnia and Herzegovina among them. When Serbia, eight hours by bus, received a supply of vaccines and invited citizens from neighboring countries to get inoculated there, JDC stepped in quickly to finance a bus caravan from Sarajevo to Belgrade — a powerful echo of the organization's work to evacuate 2,100 Jews, Muslims, and Christians in 11 bus convoys during the siege of Sarajevo in 1992.

JDC's investment and support, in partnership with the Bosnian and Serbian Jewish communities, meant that 231 people were vaccinated in Belgrade — approximately one-third of the adult population of the Bosnian Jewish community.

“My message is simple — thank you,” said Vlad Andrie, the community's welfare department director. “Without you, we wouldn't manage to sustain our Jewish life.”



Inside Ukraine and in border countries, young volunteers were critical to JDC's response — like this group of Moldovans, pictured here assisting a Ukrainian refugee at a shelter outside Chişinău.



Photo: Anna Calatronova and Iliia Bugaev

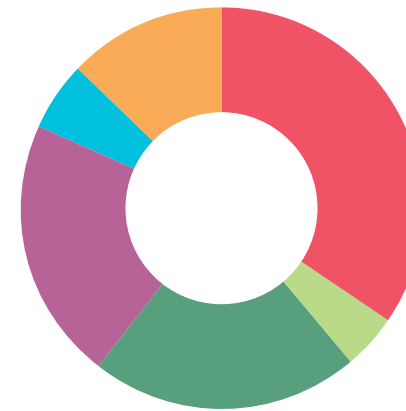


2021 Global Expenses (Actuals)¹

Total Expenses (In U.S. Dollars)		Total Expenses (In U.S. Dollars)	
Africa & Asia	1,401,782	JDC Israel	110,437,333
Egypt	49,248		
India	299,073	Latin America	2,324,200
Morocco	562,593	Argentina	1,362,666
Regional Programs	82,496	Brazil	14,927
Tunisia	172,819	Chile	23,862
Turkey	235,553	Cuba	177,362
		Regional Programs	76,857
		Uruguay	11,575
		Venezuela	656,951
Entwine	3,816,178		
		Multiregional	4,876,623
Europe	13,916,632	JDC Archives	1,791,812
Baltics	1,914,346	Special Grants	3,084,811
Bulgaria	1,106,538		
Czech Republic	80,328	Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute	9,669,498
Former Yugoslavia	156,096		
Greece	592,134		
Hungary	2,290,355	Total Regions/Functional Areas	306,696,327
Poland	1,207,719		
Regional Programs	5,887,809		
Romania	637,372		
Slovakia	43,935		
		Program Delivery	2,877,365
Former Soviet Union	155,961,502		
Belarus	9,522,587	Total Program	309,573,692
Central Asian Republics & the Caucasus	5,026,704		
Moldova	4,741,454	Administration & Finance	12,682,901
Russian Federation	71,793,773	Fundraising & MarCom	11,907,388
Ukraine	64,876,984		
GRID	4,292,579	Total	334,163,981

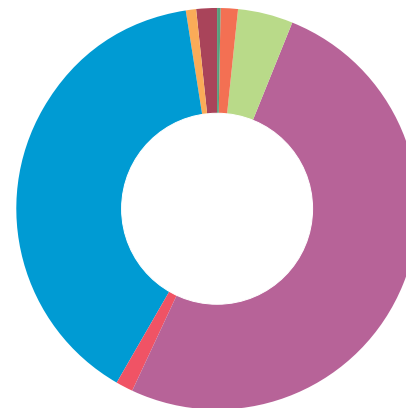
¹These figures differ somewhat from those in the audited financial statements on pages 55–57 because the convention for recognizing revenue and expense, as well as expense classification can vary, and because the combination of affiliated entities included in this report on our spending differs from the entities consolidated in the audited financial statements.

2021 Revenue

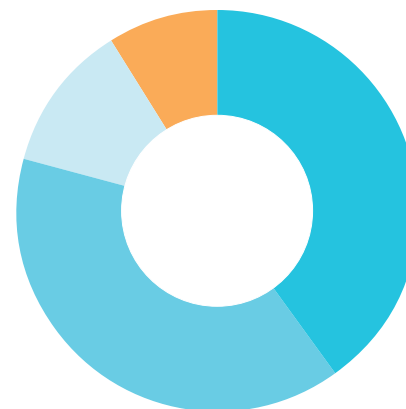


Total Revenue	Percentage
Claims Conference	34.7%
Endowment Draw	4.3%
Foundations & Individuals	21.6%
Government	21.3%
JDC Board of Directors	5.4%
JFNA/Federations System	12.7%
TOTAL	100.0%

2021 Expenses



By Region/Functional Area	Percentage
Africa & Asia	0.5%
Entwine	1.2%
Europe	4.5%
Former Soviet Union (FSU)	50.8%
GRID	1.4%
Israel	39.2%
Latin America	0.8%
Multiregional	1.6%
TOTAL²	100.0%



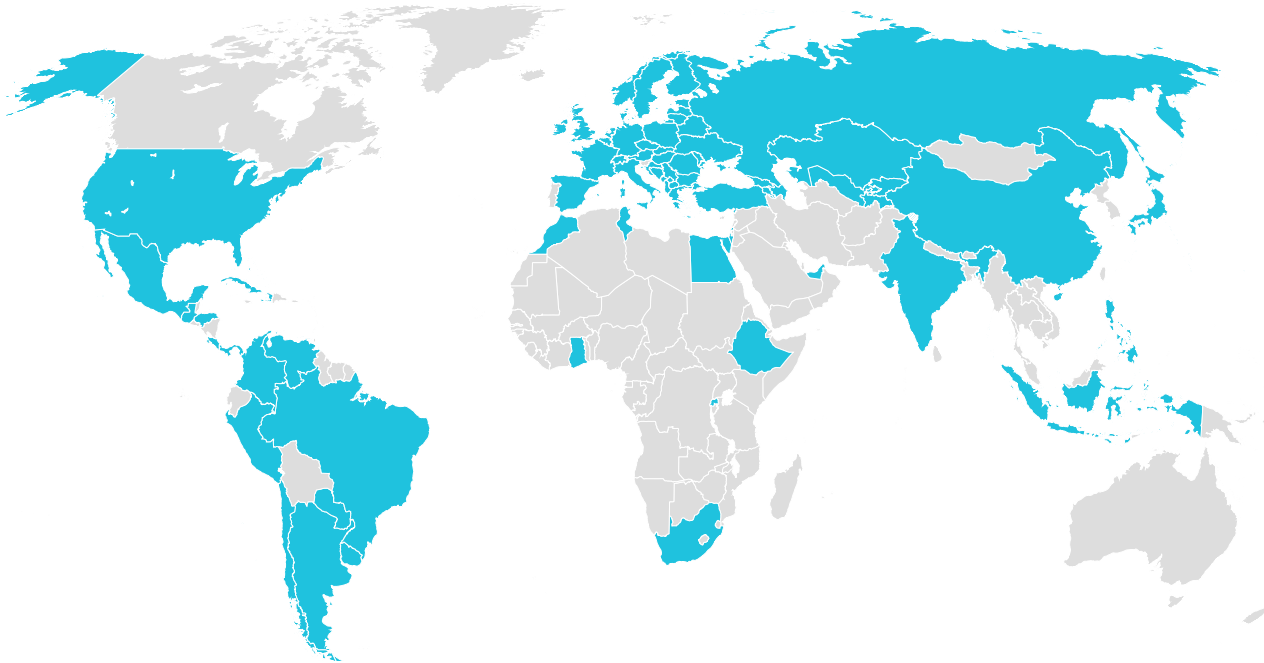
By Program Area	Percentage
 Saving Jewish Lives/Care	91.2%
 Care for Nazi Victims in the FSU	40.2%
 Innovative Social Services in Israel	39.2%
 Other Care Programs	11.8%
 Building Jewish Life/Community Development	8.8%
TOTAL²	100.0%

² This total corresponds to the Total Regions/Functional Areas line in the 2021 Global Expenses table, opposite.



JDC’s Global Reach

Today, JDC’s urgent mission continues: rescuing Jews and others in danger and crisis, alleviating hunger and hardship, and renewing and connecting Jewish communities. Each year, JDC impacts more than 1 million lives worldwide.



New York World Headquarters	Latin America Argentina Bahamas Brazil Chile Colombia Costa Rica Cuba Guatemala Haiti Honduras Mexico Panama Paraguay Peru Uruguay Venezuela	Europe Albania Austria Belgium Bosnia & Herzegovina Bulgaria Croatia Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Ireland Italy Latvia Lithuania Kosovo Montenegro Netherlands N. Macedonia	Norway Poland Romania Serbia Slovakia Spain Sweden Switzerland 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 Philippines Rwanda Singapore South Africa Tunisia Turkey UAE
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Consolidated Financial Information

The following is a summary of the audited Financial Statements for The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. (JDC) for the year ended December 31, 2021. 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 2021	Consolidated Statement of Activities 2021
Assets Cash & Cash Equivalents \$79,678,483 Cash Pending Investment Purchases 6,124,256 Investments 705,743,475 Grants Receivable 24,414,947 Contributions Receivable, Net..... 33,520,949 Other Assets..... 22,372,550 Fixed Assets, Net..... 53,145,785	Revenues, Gains & Other Support Contributions..... \$147,247,067 Grants 192,128,748 Other Income 5,548,919 Investment Return Used for Operations..... 24,930,019
Total Assets \$925,000,445	Total Revenues, Gains & Other Support \$369,854,753
Liabilities & Net Assets Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses..... \$29,577,127 Pension Plan Obligation 16,146,428 Other Liabilities to Employees 35,024,596 Annuity Obligations..... 2,403,990 Loans Payable..... 12,012,535 Due to Others..... 3,573,018 Total Liabilities \$98,737,694 Net Assets \$826,262,751	Expenses Program Services \$310,128,423 Supporting Services Management & General 20,624,228 Fund Raising..... 9,826,468 Total Supporting Services 30,450,696
Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$925,000,445	Total Expenses \$340,579,119
	Changes in Net Assets Changes in Net Assets Before Other Changes..... \$29,275,634 Excess of Investment Return, Net..... 67,002,143 Contributions for Capital Projects 8,142,833 Gain on Disposal of Fixed Assets 1,162,530 Pension and Non-Qualified Plans Adjustments 5,374,462 Changes in Net Assets \$110,957,602 Net Assets — Beginning of Year \$715,305,149
	Net Assets — End of Year \$826,262,751



Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses

	Program Services					Supporting Services		
	FSU	Israel	Europe	Other	Total	Management and General	Fund Raising	Total
Grants to Supported Organizations and Affiliates								
Saving Jewish Lives	\$134,655,585	\$64,686,397	\$4,439,851	\$2,118,938	\$205,900,771	\$-	\$-	\$205,900,771
Building Jewish Life	\$4,928,802	\$-	\$3,479,977	\$658,505	\$9,067,284	\$-	\$-	\$9,067,284
Other/Multifunctional	\$-	\$2,766,819	\$57,550	\$1,547,577	\$4,371,946	\$-	\$-	\$4,371,946
Wohl Grants to Others	\$-	\$1,830,000	\$-	\$-	\$1,830,000	\$-	\$-	\$1,830,000
Regrants	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,119,138	\$1,119,138	\$-	\$-	\$1,119,138
Totals of Grants to Supported Organizations and Affiliates	\$139,584,387	\$69,283,216	\$7,977,378	\$5,444,158	\$222,289,139	\$-	\$-	\$222,289,139
Other Expenses								
Payroll, Benefits, and Other Staff Costs	\$11,303,508	\$35,914,703	\$4,423,521	\$6,726,188	\$58,367,920	\$12,042,669	\$7,157,690	\$77,568,279
Conferences, Seminars, Media, and Public Relations	\$462,159	\$4,016,584	\$145,280	\$261,954	\$4,885,977	\$47,421	\$276,050	\$5,209,448
Consultants, Professional Services, Supplies and Other Expenses	\$3,725,167	\$9,366,589	\$1,306,023	\$2,693,106	\$17,090,885	\$5,422,907	\$2,005,689	\$24,519,481
Occupancy, Facilities, Equipment, and Repairs	\$1,683,175	\$1,085,750	\$302,810	\$802,369	\$3,874,104	\$1,975,241	\$168,154	\$6,017,499
Travel	\$127,927	\$42,478	\$49,188	\$189,396	\$408,989	\$147,085	\$46,746	\$602,820
Building Impairment	\$-	\$160,772	\$-	\$-	\$160,772	\$-	\$-	\$160,772
Interest Expense	\$22,056	\$429	\$15	\$504,605	\$527,105	\$127,907	\$15	\$655,027
Depreciation and Amortization	\$1,466,705	\$854,571	\$185,894	\$16,362	\$2,523,532	\$860,998	\$172,124	\$3,556,654
Total Expenses 2021	\$158,375,084	\$120,725,092	\$14,390,109	\$16,638,138	\$310,128,423	\$20,624,228	\$9,826,468	\$340,579,119
Total Expenses 2020	\$156,420,529	\$119,035,330	\$50,553,830	\$14,485,452	\$340,495,141	\$19,283,044	\$11,627,036	\$371,405,221

Thank you for being
our partners in saving
Jewish lives and
building Jewish life.



Photo: Alexander Vdovichenko



Celebrating Our Supporters



Wohl Foundation

Wohl Foundation Trustees with JDC Professionals visiting the JDC Wohl Society Garden at JDC's Jerusalem Campus (L to R: JDC's Shoshana Aharon, Clare Edwards, Wendy Aryeh, Andrew Lugg, JDC's Arie Doobov, Pat Stanton and Howard Stanton), June 2022.

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation



Photo above: Haggit Erez. Photos below: Adi Kenan

Left: Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation Trustee Nimrod Goor affixes a *mezuzah* in the newly renovated Weinberg Lobby on JDC's Jerusalem campus, as Arie Doobov looks on, April 2022. Right: Opening of the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Lobby, at the newly renovated JDC building in Jerusalem (from L to R: Arie Doobov, Weinberg Trustee Nimrod Goor, Sigal Shelach, Weinberg Professional Rafi Rone, Weinberg President & CEO Rachel Monroe), April 2022.



Our Partners in Chicago



Left: JDC CEO Ariel Zwang and JUF CEO Lonnie Nasatir in conversation at the JDC-JUF event hosted by Linda Schottenstein Fisher and Howard and Lori Friend at Congregation Am Shalom, Glencoe, Illinois, June 2022. Right: JDC-JUF Event host Linda Schottenstein Fisher, Glencoe, Illinois, June 2022.

New York City Ambassadors Symposium



Photos above: Bob Kusel. Photos below: Romina Hendlin

Top left: JDC Ambassadors Kenneth and Amy Goodman with event chair Max Morris at the May 24 JDC Ambassadors Symposium in New York City. Top center: JDC Ambassadors Kathy Kantor and Paula Saginaw at the Symposium in New York City. Top right: JDC's Anna Allen with JDC Ambassador Richard Behrman. Bottom left: JDC Ambassadors Myra Levine-Harris and Monica Barach at the Symposium in New York City. Bottom center: JDC Ambassadors Frank and Ellen Hagelberg. Bottom right: JDC Ambassadors Linda Spilka and Mitch Weseley.



JDC's Board at Work

Welcome Back Reconvening Board Dinner

JDC's Board convened in person in NYC in May 2022 for the first time since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.



Top left: JDC Board member Alan Leifer with JDC's Michael Novick and President Mark Sisisky at the Welcome Back Reconvening Dinner on May 23 in NYC. Top right: JDC Board Members and Ambassadors at the May 23 Welcome Back Dinner in New York City (from L to R: Jodi Schwartz, Debra Cohen, President Mark Sisisky, Kate Belza O'Bannon, Dena Rashes, and Marcia Leifer). Bottom left: JDC Board Members at the May 23 Welcome Back Dinner in New York City (from L to R: Board members Noah Rabinsky, Ellie Davis, Sophie Hearne, Bill Kahane, and JDC's David Zackon). Bottom right: JDC Board members Julia Winston, Carol Levy, and Merav Mandelbaum.

Photos: Romina Hendlin

Standing in Solidarity: Board Fly-In to Poland



Left: JDC Board members Jonathan Art and Claire Ellman with Rabbi Shalom Ber Stambler, Chief Rabbi of Chabad in Poland, during the Board Fly-In, April 2022. Right: JDC Board members and Professionals participating in JDC's Board Fly-In to Poland outside of JCC Warsaw (from L to R: Amos Lev-Ran, Lisa Gurwitch, Lisa Kohn, Etta Zimmerman, Claire Ellman, Jonathan Art, Agata Rakowiecka, Annie Sandler, Perry Teicher, Stefan Oscar, Laurie Rosenblatt, Noah Rabinsky, and Sarah Allen).

Boutique Board Trip to Israel



Top: JDC Board members and Professionals participating in this summer's Boutique Board mission to Israel (from L to R: Michael Hartal, Andrea Fram Plotkin, Anat Kutner, Neil and Lisa Wallack, Reeva Ninio, Sigal Shelach, Ariel Zwang, Ran Rovner, Nina Shenker, Matthew Greenberg, Annie Sandler, Keri Warshawsky, Susan and Mark Sisisky, Jane Weitzman, Art Sandler, Sarah Allen.) Jerusalem, July 2022. Bottom left: JDC Board Member Neil Wallack with wife Lisa Wallack at the new JDC Jerusalem Campus, July 2022. JDC Board member Annie Sandler with President Mark Sisisky outside the Sandler-Weitzman Café at the new JDC Jerusalem Campus, July 2022.

Photos above: Piotr Kulisiewicz. Photos below: Yossi Zamir



JDC Supporters

JDC’s operations across the globe are made possible thanks to the special partnership we share with JFNA and Jewish Federations across North America. Federations’ annual support for these operations serves as the foundation upon which we are able to respond in times of crisis and emergency and provide life-saving assistance to Jews in harm’s way. In 2022, JFNA and Federations’ emergency campaigns are funding historic levels of urgently needed services for tens of thousands of Jews in duress within Ukraine and those being absorbed as refugees in neighboring countries.

Jewish Federations

United States JFNA Network of Independent Communities	District of Columbia The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington United Jewish Endowment Fund of Greater Washington	Iowa Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines Jewish Federation of Sioux City
Alabama The Birmingham Jewish Federation	Florida Jewish Federation of Broward County Jewish Federation of Florida’s Gulf Coast Jewish Federation and Foundation of Jacksonville, FL Jewish Federation of Lee & Charlotte Counties Greater Miami Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Greater Naples Jewish Federation of Greater Orlando Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County Tampa Jewish Community Centers & Federation Jewish Federation of Volusia & Flagler Counties	Kansas The Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation
Arizona Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona	Georgia Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta Augusta Jewish Federation Savannah Jewish Federation	Kentucky Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass Jewish Community of Louisville Inc.
Arkansas Jewish Federation of Arkansas	Illinois Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago Jewish Federation of Peoria Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford Jewish Federation of Southern Illinois, Southeastern Missouri and Western Kentucky Jewish Federation of Springfield IL	Louisiana Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans North Louisiana Jewish Federation
California Jewish Federation of the Desert Jewish Long Beach Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles Jewish Federation of Orange County Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region Jewish Federation of San Diego County Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin & Sonoma Counties Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara Jewish Silicon Valley Jewish Federation of Ventura County	Maine Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine	Maryland THE ASSOCIATED: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore
Colorado JEWISHColorado	Massachusetts The Jewish Federation of the Berkshires Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford The Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts	Missouri Jewish Federation of St. Louis
Connecticut Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc. Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County UJA Federation of Greenwich Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut	Michigan Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit Flint Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids	Nebraska Jewish Federation of Omaha
Delaware Jewish Federation of Delaware	Indiana Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana Jewish Federation of St Joseph Valley	Nevada JewishNevada
	Minnesota Minneapolis Jewish Federation St. Paul Jewish Federation	New Hampshire Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
	Nebraska Jewish Federation of Omaha	New Jersey Jewish Federation of Atlantic and Cape May Counties Jewish Federation of Cumberland, Gloucester & Salem Counties The Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey Jewish Federation of Ocean County The Jewish Federation of Princeton Mercer Bucks Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon & Warren Counties Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey
	Nevada JewishNevada	New Mexico Jewish Federation of New Mexico
	New York Buffalo Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Central New York Jewish Federation of Dutchess County Jewish Community Federation of the Mohawk Valley & Jewish Community Center of Utica NY UJA-Federation of New York Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County New York Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester Jewish Federation of Rockland County	North Carolina Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill Greensboro Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Raleigh Cary Winston-Salem United Jewish Appeal
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	Oregon Jewish Federation of Greater Portland	Tennessee Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga Memphis Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee
	Pennsylvania United Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley The Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania Jewish Community Alliance of Northeastern Pennsylvania Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh Jewish Federation of Reading PA Inc.	Texas Shalom Austin Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas Jewish Federation of El Paso Jewish Federation of Fort Worth & Tarrant County Jewish Federation of Greater Houston Jewish Federation of San Antonio
	Rhode Island Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island	Utah United Jewish Federation of Utah
	South Carolina Charleston Jewish Federation Columbia Jewish Federation	Virginia Jewish Community Federation of Richmond United Jewish Federation of Tidewater United Jewish Community of the Virginia Peninsula
	Tennessee Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga Memphis Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee	Washington Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle
	Texas Shalom Austin Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas Jewish Federation of El Paso Jewish Federation of Fort Worth & Tarrant County Jewish Federation of Greater Houston Jewish Federation of San Antonio	Wisconsin Jewish Federation of Madison Milwaukee Jewish Federation
	Utah United Jewish Federation of Utah	Canada Calgary Jewish Federation Jewish Federations of Canada — UIA Federation CJA Jewish Federation of Edmonton Hamilton Jewish Federation London Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Ottawa UJA Federation of Greater Toronto Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver Windsor Jewish Federation Jewish Federation of Winnipeg



Annual Giving

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the thousands of supporters whose incredible care and generosity have made it possible for us to impact tens of thousands of lives around the world. Below we recognize those who contributed \$5,000 or more in 2021 to support JDC’s many life-saving and life-lifting programs around the world. Our supporters who have given \$10,000 or more toward JDC’s core funding and humanitarian relief efforts appear in bold with recognition of their advancement of our global mission.

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JDC evacuated more than 12,900 refugees from Ukraine in the first six months of the crisis alone.



Photo: Ioana Moldovan



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Carol and Ted* Levy
Liza Levy
Shari Levy
Nancy and Michael Levinson
Shirley Liebowitz* and Jack Liebowitz*
Judy and Robert Mann
Joseph & Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds
Debby and Ken Miller
Harriet Ramras Miller*
Laura and Jerrold Miller
Jay and Sara Minkoff
Linda Mirels
Joanne Moore
Jenny Morgenthau
Max Morris and Bob Hale
Adolph Moses Trust
Karen and Neil Moss
Ruth and David Musher
Tina Novick* and Michael Novick
Elizabeth Osher Del Pico and Mark Del Pico
Suzanne Parelman
Irene Kronhill Pletka
Polinger Family
Sandra and Lawrence Post
Barbara and Stan Rabin
Dena and Michael Rashes
Reuben B. & Helga M. Resnik Foundation,
Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee
Patty and Charles Ribakoff
Sylvia Robinson* and Donald Robinson*
Leslie Rosen
Michele and Stanley Rosen
Susan and Alan Rothenberg

George Rothstein*
Dr. David Rowe Foundation and
Ariea Mizrahi, Florida
Annie Sandler
Art Sandler
Philip Schatten and Cheryl Fishbein
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Golda Schoenbaum*
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Harvey Schulweis and Barbara Benerofe
Bridget Ruth Shaw*
Honey Sherman* and Barry Sherman*
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Singer Family Foundation
Susan and Mark Sisisky
Carol and Irv Smokler
Edgar Snyder
Barbara R. Sobeloff*
Sheila Spiro and Gregory Bearman
Linda and Jerome Spitzer
Susan and Jeffrey Stern
Harriet and Marc Suvall
The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation
Marilyn Taub
Louis B. Thalheimer and Family
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Ilsa Maurer Wagner*
Caryn and Steven Wechsler
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Penni and Stephen Weinberg
Melvyn and Gail Werbach
Jane and Stuart Weitzman
Patricia Werthan Uhlmann
Charalambos Vlachoutsicos*
The Wilf Family
Jackie and Bertie Woolf
Sandy and Tim Wuliger
Robert Zalkin*
Etta and Raymond Zimmerman
Felice Zimmern Stokes
Mary and Harold Zlot

*Deceased

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This list reflects formalized pledges and realized gifts received through August 31, 2022.

The Wohl Society

JDC’s premier Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Society recognizes supporters who have achieved the highest level of philanthropic support for JDC of \$18 million+ since 2015, 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.



- The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation**
- The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews**
- The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews of Canada**
- The Jack Buncher Foundation**
Jack Buncher z”l, Founder
Bernita Buncher z”l, Chair
- Jewish United Fund of Chicago**
- The Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation**
- UJA-Federation of New York**
- Marshall Weinberg**

Listing reflects society membership as of June 2022.

Opposite: A young Hillel volunteer helps put together a food package at the JDC-supported Hesed social welfare center in Odesa, Ukraine.

Photo: Inna Vdovichenko





The Schiff Society

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.

Members of the Schiff Society are honored with an inscription on the Schiff Wall, located at JDC’s Jerusalem campus.



Lifetime Giving of \$3 Million+

- Abraham and Sonia Rochlin Foundation
- The Andrea and Charles Bronfman Philanthropies
- Dr. Arthur and Hella Strauss Endowment Fund
- Atlantic Philanthropies
- The Azrieli Foundation
- Helen Bader Foundation
- Isabel and Alfred Bader
- Madeleine and Mandell L. Berman
- Penny and Harold Blumenstein
- Carol and Edward Kaplan Family Foundation
- Chais Family Foundation
- Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies
- Claims Conference — The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany
- Jane B. and John C. Colman
- David and Inez Myers Foundation
- Dorothea Gould Foundation
- The Edmond J. Safra Philanthropic Foundation
- Alfred and Gail Engelberg
- Everett Foundation
- The Fred and Rita Richman Family Foundation
- Elaine M. Galinson
- Glickman Family
- Nancy and Stephen z”l Grand
- Irving and Toddy Granovsky & Family
- Nancy and James Grosfeld
- Marilynn and Ron Grossman
- Heyman-Merrin Fund
- Joseph & Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds
- The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation
- Herbert and Nell Singer Foundation
- The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation
- The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews
- The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews of Canada
- The Jack Buncher Foundation
- Joan and Irwin Jacobs

- Jim Joseph Foundation
- Lisa and Victor Kohn
- Liquidnet Holdings, Inc.
- Mary L. and William J. Osher Foundation
- The Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation
- Vivian and Edward Merrin z”l
- Kadas Family Charitable Foundation
- Professor Stanley Mills and Barbara and Jack Kay
- Milton & Madeline Goldberg Endowment Fund
- The Naomi Prawer Kadar Foundation
- Lawrence S. Phillips
- Helen and Henry Posner, Jr. and Family
- Stan and Barbara z”l Rabin

Schiff Society Wall at the Jerusalem JDC Campus.

- Dena and Michael Rashes
- Rashi Foundation
- Corky and Gene Ribakoff
- Robert and Myra Kraft Foundation
- The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation
- Ruderman Family Foundation
- The Russell Berrie Foundation
- Ruth E. and Dr. William Hy Ross Foundation
- Annie and Art Sandler
- The Schimmel Family
- Secunda Family Foundation
- The Skirball Foundation
- Carol and Irv Smokler
- Linda and Jerome Spitzer
- Ted Arison Family Foundation
- Louis B. Thalheimer and Family
- Andrew H. and Ann R. Tisch
- Elizabeth and Michael Varet
- Viterbi Family Foundation
- VIVMAR Foundation
- Marshall M. Weinberg
- Jane and Stuart Weitzman
- The Wilf Family
- William Rosenwald Family Fund
- Jacqueline Woolf
- World Jewish Relief
- Lawrence L. and Leonore Zusman
- Anonymous Donors (9)

Lifetime Giving of \$1 Million+

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- Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation
- The Applebaum Foundation
- Etty z”l and Claude E. Arnall
- Bank Leumi le-Israel
- The Baron De Hirsch Fund
- Nora Lee and Guy Barron
- Dr. Georgette Bennett and Dr. Leonard Polonsky
- Bernard van Leer Foundation
- Carl and Joann Bianco
- Ellen H. Block/Block Family Foundation/Hassenfeld Family Foundation
- Bring Back Hope Initiative (Vancouver, Canada) Gary Segal, Founding Chair
- Brookdale Foundation
- Dr. Sidney N. and Sylvia Busis
- The CLAWS Foundation
- Caesarea Edmond Benjamin de Rothschild Foundation
- The Dalia and Eli Hurvitz Foundation
- Sandy and James Danto
- Dorset Foundation
- Erika and Kenneth Witover Family Foundation
- FJC — A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds

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- Laura Gurwin Flug Family Fund
- Martha and Donald Freedman
- The Friedberg Charitable Foundation
- Amy and Mort Friedkin
- Gandyr Foundation
- Gelfand Family Charitable Fund
- Genesis Philanthropy Group
- George and Martha Rich Foundation
- Merle and Barry Ginsburg
- Google.org
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- Nancy Hackerman
- The Hassenfeld Family
- Anita Hirsh
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- Howard and Leslie Schultz Family Foundation
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- The Joseph Lebovic Charitable Foundation
- Irene and Edward H. Kaplan
- Thomas S. Kaplan and Daphne Recanati Kaplan
- Arlene Kaufman z”l and Sandy Baklor
- The Kirsh Foundation
- The Kronhill Pletka Foundation
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- Maks & Lea Rothstein Charitable Youth Trust
- The Marc Rich Foundation for Education, Culture and Welfare
- Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation
- Debby and Ken Miller
- Laura, Jerry, William and Eric Miller
- The Milton A. and Roslyn Z. Wolf Family Foundation and Caryn and Steven Wechsler
- Mimi and Peter Haas Philanthropic Fund
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- Roderick Morton
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- Daniel and Jane Och
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- Nigel and Lynne Ross
- S. Daniel Abraham Foundation
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- Susan and Mark Sisisky
- Edgar Snyder
- Leon Sragowicz
- Robert B. Sturm
- Jane and Leopold Swergold
- The Trump Foundation
- Patricia Werthan Uhlmann
- UJIA UK
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Penni and Stephen Weinberg
- William Davidson Foundation
- Etta and Raymond Zimmerman
- Anonymous Donors (9)

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This list reflects society membership as of December 2021.



The Warburg Society

Established in the spirit of JDC’s founder and first president, Felix M. Warburg, the Warburg Society honors those who have given \$250,000 or more within the span of five years to JDC since the society was created in 2015, helping to ensure that we continue our critical mission around the world.

We thank our Warburg Society for accepting the holy mission of *Arevut* (mutual responsibility) and *Tzedakah* (charity).

Aaron Straus and Lillie Straus Foundation	John C. and Jane Colman	Google.org
Abraham and Sonia Rochlin Foundation	Geoffrey J. and Marcia Eppler Colvin	Ben and Elizabeth Gordon
Madlyn and Leonard Abramson	Alfred and Helen Coplan	Trudy Elbaum Gottesman and Robert W. Gottesman
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Applebaum Family Philanthropy	The Dalia and Eli Hurvitz Foundation	Irving and Toddy Granovsky
The Applebaum Foundation	Sandy and James Danto	Roger Greenberg and Cindy Feingold
Etty z”l and Claude Arnall	David and Inez Myers Foundation	Harold Grinspoon
Aronow Foundation	Dr. David Rowe Foundation and Ariea Mizrahi, Florida	Nancy and James Grosfeld
Jonathan Art	The Diane P. and Guilford Glazer Fund	Ronald and Marilyn Grossman
Dr. Arthur and Hella Strauss Endowment Fund	William Donner	The Growing Hearts of Africa Foundation
The Asper Foundation	Andrea and Michael Dubroff	Richard and Lois Gunther
The Azrieli Foundation	Louise A. Eder	Joseph and Phyllis Gurwin
Daniel J. and Linda Bader	The Edmond J. Safra Philanthropic Foundation	Nancy Hackerman
Nora and Guy Barron	Elias Family Charitable Trust	Danielle and Michael Hackel
Alan and Jane Batkin	Alfred and Gail Engelberg	The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation
The Bavar Family	Caryl Englander	Sylvia Hassenfeld and Ellen H. Block
Hillel and Mitzi Becker	Heinz and Ruthe Eppler	Helen Bader Foundation
Robert M. Beren	Alejandro and Mariana Ergas	Herbert and Nell Singer Foundation
Helene and Adolph J. Berger	Henry J. and Edith Everett	Ronne and Donald Hess
Elaine Berke and Family	Zachary Fasman and Andrea Udoff	Heyman-Merrin Family Foundation
Mandell L. and Madeleine H. Berman	Jeffrey Feil	Barbara Hochberg
Bernard van Leer Foundation	Larry and Barbara Field	Horwitz and Zusman Families
Angelica Berrie	Eva and Gerry z”l Fischl	Howard and Geraldine Polinger Family Foundation
Max N. and Heidi Berry	Linda Schottenstein Fisher	Immerman Foundation
Carl and Joann Bianco	The Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ)	The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews
Leslie and Lynn Bider	Martha and Donald Freedman	The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews of Canada
Ellen H. Block/Block Family Foundation/Hassenfeld Family Foundation	Morton L. and Amy Friedman	The International Youth Foundation
Penny and Harold Blumenstein	Sylvia, Harold, Lewis and Diane Friedman	Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation
Wendy and Mike Brenner	The Friend Family	Joan and Irwin Jacobs
Amy A. B. Bressman and Robert I. Bressman	Howard and Loren Friend	Alan and Liz Jaffe
Arthur and Jane Brody	Jack A. and Susan Frydrych	Karen Jaffe
Andrea and Charles Bronfman	Fondation Gabriel Tamman	Michael and Linda Jesselson
Stuart and Diane Brown	Elaine and Murray Galinson	The Joseph Meyerhoff Family Charitable Fund
Bernita Buncher	Rani and Sandy Garfinkle	Kadas Family Charitable Foundation
Dr. Sidney N. and Sylvia Busis	Gelfand Family Charitable Trust	Neil and Dora Kadisha
Stanley and Pamela Chais, Chais Family Foundation	Genesis Philanthropy Group	Barry and Susan Kahan
Sorrell and Lorraine Chesin	Ambassador Joseph B. and Alma Gildenhorn	Elizabeth Anne and William M. Kahane
Stanley Chesley and the Honorable Susan J. Dlott	Merle Z. and Barry Ginsburg	Tricia Kallett and Craig Klosk
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The CLAWS Foundation	David and Brenda Goldberg	Irene and Edward Kaplan
Debra and Steven Cohen	The Goldrich Family Foundation	Arlene Kaufman z”l and Sanford Baklor
Elliott and Judith Cohen	Lawrence Goodman	Barbara Green Kay and Prof. Stanley Mills
David and Nancy Colman		Earle and Judith Kazis

The Kirsh Foundation
Klarman Family Foundation
The Knapp Family Foundation
Lisa and Victor Kohn
S. Lee and Margery Kohrman
Jonathan W. and Judith R. Kolker
Susan G. Komen
Koret Foundation
Myra H. and Robert Kraft
The Kronhill Pletka Foundation
Harvey and Constance Krueger
Alice L. Kulick
Stuart S. Kurlander and David L. Martin
Hon. Ronald S. and Jo Carole Lauder
Murray and Linda Laulich
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Adele and Herman Lebersfeld
Joseph Lebovic
Alan and Marcia Leifer
Matthew and Nicole Lester
H. Fred and Velva Levine
Ruth and David Levine
Dr. Michael and Nancy Levinson
Carol and Ted Levy
Shari Beth and Harold Levy
Arlene and Myron Lieberman
Stephen E. and Sheila Lieberman

The Linda and Herman Friedman Philanthropic Fund
Jayne Lipman and Bob Goodman
Lisa and John Pritzker Family Fund
Cathi and David Luski
Kris and John MacDonald
The Maimonides Fund
Maks and Lea Rothstein Charitable Youth Trust
Merav and Shlomo Mandlebaum
Robert and Judy Mann
Kathy Manning and Randall Kaplan
Bernice Manocherian
William and Cynthia Marcus
The Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation
Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation
Edward and Vivian Merrin
The Michael B. Rukin Charitable Foundation
Debby and Ken Miller
Laura and Jerry Miller
Milton and Madeline Goldberg Endowment Fund
Mimi and Peter Haas Philanthropic Fund
Judith Mogul and Daniel Kramer
Joanne Moore
Roderick Morton
The Moshal Family
Karen and Neil Moss

Ruth and David Musher
Sandra Muss
Jessica and Chuck Myers
Naomi Prawer Kadar Foundation
Rebecca and Larry Newman
Jane and Daniel S. Och
The Opportunity Fund
Joseph H. and Suzanne Orley
P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.
Martin and Susan Paisner
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Claudio and Penny Pincus
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Reinhard Frank-Stiftung
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Charles K. and Patty Ribakoff
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George and Martha Rich
Richman Family Foundation



The Warburg Society symbol is a replica of the Passover seder plate that JDC distributed in 1948 at Foehrenwald and other Displaced Persons Camps in Germany, where we were helping to care for 250,000 stateless Holocaust survivors following World War II.

A special edition of this historic seder plate was produced to honor members of the Warburg Society for their vision and support of JDC.

Fred and Rita Richman
David and Kim Robbins
Joseph and Lucille Ross
Ryan Memorial Foundation
Donald M. and Sylvia Robinson
Edythe Roland
The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation
Michele and Stanley Rosen
Philip and Tomoko Rosenfeld
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Samis Foundation
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Nathan and Karen Sandler
Sandra and Lawrence Post Family Foundation
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Nina Saslove
Philip Schatten and Cheryl Fishbein
Jacob and Vered Schimmel
The Schimmel Family Foundation
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The Schultz Family Foundation
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Jodi J. Schwartz and Steven Richman
Secunda Family Foundation
Gary and Nanci Segal
Gene and Lee Seidler
Betsy and Richard Sheerr
Nina and Joseph Shenker
Honey and Barry Sherman
Lydia P. Shorenstein
Paula Sidman
Joyce Silberstang and Richard Rosen
Beryl and Lainey Simonson
Singer Family Foundation
Susan and Mark Sisisky
Drs. Irving A. and Carol Smokler
Terri and Michael Smooke
Edgar Snyder
Richard G. and Judith Spiegel
Jerome and Linda Spitzer
Susan and Jeffrey Stern
Shale Stiller and Ellen Heller
Gloria and Rodney Stone
Robert B. Sturm
Geraldine and Gabriel Sunshine

Ari Susman
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Jacqueline Woolf
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Patricia and Emanuel Gantz
Joyce Zeff
Etta and Raymond Zimmerman
Harriet M. and Jerome Zimmerman
Harold and Mary Zlot
Susan Zohn
Lois Zoller
Louis I. and Mary G. Zorensky
Larry and Leonore Zusman
Anonymous Donors (28)

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This list reflects society membership
as of April 2022.

A family of Ukrainian
refugees receives
a Passover food
package at their
temporary housing in
Bucharest, Romania.

Photo: Ioana Moldovan



JDC Entwine Volunteers

JDC would like to thank the 145 young adults who in 2021 collectively contributed over 14,500 hours of service and peer exchange to meet diverse challenges in more than 11 overseas communities. After nearly two years of pandemic, when vulnerable communities across the globe are still struggling, these leaders’ time, leadership, and commitment have had a lasting impact on the Jewish world.

Community Reps 2021

Alyssa First
Zachary Golden
Jacob Gottlieb
Laura Gottlieb
Victoria Groysberg
Danna Gutman
Alyssa Katz
Elissa Katz
Joseph Levin-Manning
Danielle Orensheim
Eden Pecha
Katerina Rouzina
Layah Schreiber
Neil Stein
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Erin Vaystub
Lauren Zabel

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Hannah Bloomberg
Ashira Boxman
Miriam Broches
Madeline Budman
Diane Chernoff
Deborah Dahan
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Margo Feeney
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Anya Slavinsky
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Brian Cook
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Alan Kamenezky
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Jessica Rae Levin
Rebecca Levine
Gal Shimon Levy
Ido Mahatzri
Tomer Moked
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Brett Satovsky
Brit Stein
Neil Stein
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Hannah Moses
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Hannah Bloomberg
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Goldie Davoudgoleh
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Liora Eiger
Anna Epstein
Rachel Fadem
Liam Faigen
Jamie Field
Tim Gaylord
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Jacob Gottlieb
Laura Gottlieb
Claudia Halpern
Maddie Herrup
Alyssa Katz
Jessica Katz
Andrew L
Spencer Luckner
Michal Marcus

Karen Martin
Tomer Moked
Sarah Nabagala
George Roberts
Sarah Roberts
Avery Robinson
Rachel Rosenbaum
Liat Rosov
Abigail Rubin
Ken Schneider
Shelby Schostak
Jacob Smith
Bari Steel
Jeff Stombaugh
Sade Storthz
Mika Struhl
Oron Tal
Aaron Torop

Participants discuss global Jewish responsibility on Entwine’s inaugural ReJoint Alumni Leadership trip in Israel.

Photo: Tamir Elterman





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Listed below are those who served on the JDC Board of Directors in 2021.

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Martha Freedman
Merle Ginsburg
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Sandra Post
Michele Rosen
Linda Schottenstein Fisher
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Jane Swergold
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International Council

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Stephen Bayer, *West Hartford, CT*
Teresa Bazbaz, *Bal Harbour, FL*
Kate Belza O’Bannon, *San Francisco, CA*
Elaine Berke (z”l), *Sherman Oaks, CA*
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Lesile Bider, *Beverly Hills, CA*
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