



Combined
Jewish
Philanthropies

2024-2025 | 5784-5785

Donor and Volunteer Recognition Report



Inside

Letter from Rabbi Marc Baker.....	3
Letter from Laurene Sperling and Aron Ain	4
In gratitude to you	5
Together, we thrive	6
Our community of supporters.....	8
Investments in our community.....	9
CJP's Israel Emergency Fund	10
2024–2025 Donors	12
CJP's Center for Combating Antisemitism	30
Lion of Judah Society	32
Ben-Gurion Society.....	37
The Miriam Fund	38
Legacy giving.....	40
Gifts in kind and sponsorships	43
CJP volunteers	44
Awards	54
Honoring those who led the way.....	58

This report recognizes donor commitments through June 30, 2025. We have made every effort to ensure that the information, donor intent, and recognitions in this report have been captured as accurately as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Darshana Shakya, Development Operations Specialist, at darshanas@cjp.org. CJP respects the wishes of those donors who have asked to be listed anonymously in this report. The identity of all donors is known to CJP.

Cover photo: Nearly 3,000 community members, allies, and leaders joined together for An Evening of Remembrance and Hope at the Wang Theatre to mark the one-year anniversary of October 7, 2023.

Dear Friends,

Last Hanukkah, I spent 10 days in Israel. I was with 25 community members on a CJP solidarity mission.

Day after day, we met with extraordinary people; some grieving, some responding to needs across the country, and some rebuilding and reimagining Israeli society.

Like my previous visits to Israel since October 7, 2023, it was both devastating and inspiring. Yet, this time, as our CJP group visited an Israel Defense Forces base on the Gaza border to celebrate Hanukkah, the festival of lights, I felt something different. During our time with the young soldiers, we laughed, danced, and hugged. We lit the menorah and shared a meal that our mission participants helped to cook. We sang songs of miracles, strength, and rededication from more than 2,000 years ago that seemed like they had been written just for this moment.

As we boarded the bus for the long drive to Jerusalem, I thought about how we could — and how we would — move forward. And in the months since that visit, as Israel was once again in conflict, I reflected on our collective will, not only to survive, but to turn our trauma and tears into growth. This is what we do — in Israel, in Greater Boston, and around the world.

This is what it means to be Jewish.

As I focus on what's in front of us, I remain deeply grateful for your partnership and trust. Beyond showing up in so many ways for Israel, you've helped us find the joy in being Jewish. You've made sure we can send our children to Jewish preschools, day schools, and overnight camps. You've brought young families together to share Shabbat dinners and build community. You've allowed us to care for those in need, fight Jewish hate at every turn, and keep our Jewish institutions safe and secure.

In the pages ahead, you'll read about how your support lifts our community — and keeps us going. As I look back on what we accomplished this year — CJP's 130th anniversary — I see all the ways we have drawn meaning and inspiration from each other, our purpose, and our legacy. Through the highs and the lows, we've never forgotten that we're forever bound to one another by the roots of a shared history and united by a common desire to repair the world.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to CJP, to a brighter Jewish future, and to a better tomorrow for all. May we continue to find resilience in the face of challenges, strength in our community, and promise in the possibility of what lies ahead.

With blessings,



Rabbi Marc Baker

President and CEO



Dear Friends,

Every year tells a story, and this one was a tale of resilience, strength, and possibility.

Through the pain that began on October 7, 2023 and has continued with the rising antisemitism around us, we've never given up hope that we can make things better.

At CJP, we're gathering in community. We're embracing the joy of being Jewish. Amid the ongoing trauma of the past two years, we're forging ahead — just as the generations who came before us have done time and again.

We have no other choice. We are a People with purpose.

As we transition leadership on the Board of Directors, we are both so grateful for your ongoing generosity, trust, and partnership. Please read on for our reflections from the past — and a look ahead to where we're going.

With deep gratitude,

Laurene Sperling and Aron Ain

Past Chair, Board of Directors and Chair, Board of Directors



A LOOK BACK — FROM LAURENE

As a young girl living in North Carolina during Israel's Six-Day War in 1967, I vividly remember my parents and other synagogue members urgently buying bonds to support the effort from afar.

In that time of crisis, they knew they had to answer the call.

Fast forward more than five decades. On July 1, 2023, I became CJP Board Chair. The world was shifting back to pre-pandemic norms and CJP was focused on ensuring the success and stability of our next generation.

Three months later, on October 7, Israel was once again in crisis. It was an existential moment that united us, challenged us, inspired us, and made us realize we had to mobilize in new and different ways.

Once again, we had to answer the call.

With your support, CJP did just that — and so much more.

We strategized, we innovated, we rallied, we donated, and we reimaged. We launched an emergency fund for Israel and redoubled our efforts to fight antisemitism here at home. We brought hundreds in our community on missions to stand in solidarity with Israelis and bear witness to the devastation of the Jewish homeland.

We focused on the present, and we thought about the future. We nurtured the seeds of opportunity in front of us, and became a stronger, more impactful organization.

As I look back on my tenure, it was our ability to do so much important work at once that makes me most proud.

Thank you for always helping CJP rise to the moment — and for never losing sight of the possibility of brighter times ahead.

A LOOK AHEAD — FROM ARON

I grew up on Long Island, the fourth child of five. I'm a big believer that you learn from those around you, and I've been most impacted by my parents, Jack and Pearl.

As quiet activists and community leaders, my mom and dad showed me how one person can make a meaningful difference.

This has stayed with me. I am grateful that my parents taught me about the importance of giving back.

With that in mind, I became a volunteer with the Jewish Family Service of Metrowest Friendly Visitor program. I was paired with Malcolm, an elderly man who needed companionship. Over several years we became great friends. From Malcolm, I learned about kindness, humility, and our Jewish value of caring for others.

Now, as CJP Board Chair, I will continue to live out my parents' legacy.

I'm humbled to serve an organization that, for more than a century, has created so much joy and dealt with so much hardship — and through it all, has always gone from strength to strength.

Today, we are once again at an inflection point, with competing priorities and a complex global environment. These dynamics offer an opportunity to shape our future as we engage the next generation in the beauty of Jewish life, support those who need a helping hand, keep our Jewish institutions safe, and continue to stand with Israel.

We have so much to do now and in the days ahead. I ask you to join me in this sacred work. I feel the wind of my parents at my back as together, we move CJP into the future.

In gratitude to you



JESSICA R. MYERS

Committee on Development, Chair

Thank you for always raising your hand to say *hineni* (here I am) when our Jewish community is in need. Over the past year, I've been so proud of CJP — and all of us — as we've worked together in countless incredible ways. Guided by strong leadership and a clear vision, we've created powerful impact in Boston, Israel, and beyond. I'm grateful for all you give and do in service of our community, and I'm honored to continue to help lead CJP toward a brighter future.



MATTHEW SIDMAN

2025, 2026 Annual Campaign, Co-chair

Over the past year, I've seen firsthand how CJP invests in so many innovative and exciting ways to create a stronger Jewish community. CJP's mission is only possible because of you. Thank you for your time, your dollars, and your passion for Jewish life. I am honored to co-chair CJP's Annual Campaign, and know that together, we will continue to go from strength to strength.



MICHELLE BLACK

2026 Annual Campaign, Co-chair

I believe that CJP is at the core of our thriving and diverse Jewish community in Boston. I'm proud to co-chair our 2026 Annual Campaign, and help CJP continue to be a strategic and collaborative organization. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but with your collective support, we can meet the needs of the current moment — and beyond. Thank you for your ongoing trust in CJP.

Together, we thrive



In a year marked by continued challenges for our Jewish community, your generosity has transformed uncertainty into hope. Despite the ongoing war in Israel and rising antisemitism at home, your support has enabled CJP to nurture vibrant Jewish life throughout Greater Boston.

Because of you, we've strengthened our Jewish day schools and synagogues while creating meaningful connections between teens and young adults locally and in Israel. Your generosity has sustained Jewish artists and cultural programs, ensuring our rich traditions continue to flourish even in difficult times.

With your investment and trust, we have become the convener of local efforts to combat antisemitism, working with colleges and universities, high schools, local activists, and civic and business leaders.

Your commitment has also made a tangible difference in addressing critical basic needs, from tackling food insecurity to supporting mental health services for those struggling in our community.

Thanks to you, our Communal Security Initiative helped Jewish preschools, summer camps, synagogues, and organizations throughout Greater Boston, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont ensure their spaces were safe, welcoming, and accessible.

Each achievement, each life touched, each moment of Jewish joy stems directly from you. Thank you for standing with us always and for making everything we do possible.



Through our Stronger Together initiative, Greater Boston's 14 Jewish day schools share best practices and support one another to sustain a thriving and connected day school community. CJP also invested more than \$1.5 million to support 2,100 students in Jewish day schools.



We're creating people-to-people connections. *Mifgash*, Hebrew for "encounter," brings young leaders from Haifa to Boston, gives them a chance to connect to American Jewish young adults and Jewish leaders, and enables them to bring home insights and make an impact in their communities.



Through CJP's Mental Health Initiative, our partners, including Jewish Family & Children's Service (JF&CS) and Gateways, fielded hundreds of calls from community members in need, matched 295 people with therapists, and supported mental health capacity building for 30 organizations serving Jewish youth, including schools, synagogues, and camps.



In partnership with CJP's Center for Combating Antisemitism, CJP's Communal Security Initiative made a profound impact on community safety, awarding \$1 million in physical security infrastructure grants to more than 275 community partners and training, educating, and empowering more than 3,000 community leaders to create and maintain safe and secure environments.



CJP supports 23 local synagogues through a grant pool for families with young children. The grants help connect them to Jewish life through a variety of programs, including Mini-Mitzvah Makers, a collaboration between Lexington's Temple Isaiah and Temple Emunah, where this year, more than 100 families participated in service and learning opportunities.



CJP and our partners — Jewish Family Service of Metrowest, JF&CS, Yad Chessed, and Yachad — delivered over 2,500 complete Passover meals through the Seder in a Box program, ensuring people across our community could celebrate the holiday with dignity and joy.



As the largest worldwide funder of the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, CJP supported 240 families — including Shelly and Malki Shem Tov, whose son Omer was held captive for 505 days. This past May, the Shem Tavs visited Boston to meet the community who helped support efforts to bring Omer home. Altogether, approximately 1,000 individuals were provided with psychological services, financial aid, and advocacy travel.



CJP's Center for Combating Antisemitism trained more than 1,500 local professionals — from campus staff to industry leaders — on understanding antisemitism with a focus on high-impact institutions such as Harvard University and Mass General Brigham (the state's largest employer).



CJP is creating more inclusive and affirming environments for LGBTQIA+ individuals and their loved ones through sponsoring and participating in the Keshet Shivyon Equality Cohort. This year-long program helps Jewish organizations develop action plans to bring about meaningful change.



We helped more than 400 new and returning children experience the magic of Jewish camp through One Happy Camper grants and needs-based camperships, which totaled over \$900,000. We're expanding our efforts to strengthen Jewish summer camps so they can continue to be a cherished destination for Jewish life, learning, and, of course, fun.

Our community of supporters

BY THE NUMBERS



10,530

individuals, families,
and foundations made
gifts to CJP

9,545

returning donors

985

new donors

372

members of the
Dor L'Dor Legacy
Society



29

new Donor Advised
Funds created



690

people volunteered
through 63 CJP committees,
task forces, and
working groups



5,372

community members
attended a CJP event



2,615

community members
attended a CJP event
for the first time

Extraordinary investment in our community and beyond: \$313 million

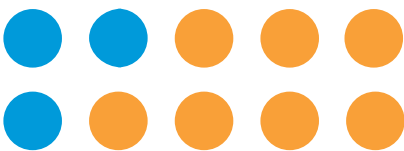
\$64 million

CJP's community investment and supporting services



\$249 million

10,540 CJP Donor Advised Fund (DAF) grants to 3,312 charities



30%

of dollars granted supported CJP and organizations serving the Jewish community and Israel

70%

of dollars granted supported broader needs locally and globally, including healthcare, the environment, education, and civil rights

CJP DAFs are managed and invested by CJP, and assets are subject to CJP's exclusive legal control. All grants are recommended by individual fund signatories and are reviewed and approved by CJP. Grants support a wide range of donor interests beyond CJP's areas of focus and may not conflict with CJP's mission.

For more information on the impact of your support, visit cjp.org/ourimpact.

Managing and stewarding our community's resources

CJP is proud to provide donors and Jewish organizations access to philanthropic and investment platforms.

791 funds total \$2.1 billion

CJP's DAF program includes 791 funds that total \$2.1 billion. We offer donors at all ages and stages of life a low-cost, easy-to-access opportunity to manage and optimize their giving in ways that significantly benefit the Jewish community and beyond.

84 organizations

CJP strengthens 84 organizations through the Jewish Community Endowment Pool, LLP (JCEP). Nearly all local Jewish educational organizations, social services partners, and synagogues — along with Jewish organizations from across the country — participate in JCEP.

For detailed financial statements, please visit cjp.org/fiscal-transparency.

Israel Emergency Fund

BY THE NUMBERS

Over 21 months — and through the extraordinary generosity and trust of our donors — our Greater Boston community and Israel have been partners in the process of responding to crisis and scaling immediate solutions after the trauma and terror of October 7, 2023.

Starting on October 8, more than **6,700 donors** rallied in support of Israel, helping to raise over **\$59 million**.

The numbers below reflect our investments in Israel after October 7 through the Israel Emergency Fund. While every dollar of the fund has been allocated to assist the people of Israel, our work is only just beginning.

\$14.31
MILLION

Community-specific rehabilitation

Keeping members of displaced communities temporarily together while they wait for safe returns home; once communities returned, funding crucial areas of work to promote stability and resiliency

\$5
MILLION

Economic relief

Stabilizing Israel's economy by supporting its small- and medium-sized businesses, which have been disrupted by evacuations and lengthy military deployments of business owners

\$7.13
MILLION

Emergency trauma and mental health support

Providing acute care to victims of the war and vulnerable populations, including soldiers, reservists, and their families suffering from PTSD

\$1.20
MILLION

Supporting Shared Society

Investing in high-impact partnerships that strengthen vulnerable populations and promote a more equitable Israeli society

\$9.35
MILLION

Emergency social services

Accelerating the delivery of basic services to victims of the war living in frontline communities, including education, medical services, and welfare programs

\$1.50
MILLION

Volunteer mobilization

Supporting the thousands of volunteers in Israel who have mobilized to respond to the crisis

\$1.33
MILLION

Local support for Haifa

Providing support to the most vulnerable residents of Boston's sister city of Haifa, and acute services to evacuees displaced to the city during the crisis

\$13.25
MILLION

Leveraging collective impact

Joining with federations across the country and Canada, CJP contributed to The Jewish Federations of North America's Emergency Fund.* These funds have supported everything from providing loans to thousands of Israel's small businesses to medical and trauma relief.

\$4.40
MILLION

Donor designations to priority areas

Donor-designated gifts made directly to priority areas identified by CJP's IEF Task Force

CJP is advancing a bold vision for the future. We are continuing to invest in Israel's changemakers and innovators, and strengthening and significantly increasing our support for Israel education and travel experiences.

The new and fortified partnerships, the groundbreaking solutions to complicated challenges, and our dedication to Israel's healing and rebuilding serve as additional testament to our ongoing — and endless — commitment to our homeland and its people.

*In total, JFNA has released more than \$829 million in support of Israel and its people. JFNA's emergency fund has released \$246.21 million, while another \$583.49 million has been designated by local federations across North America.



SHERRIE AND JEREMY DELINSKY

Stepping up in a Time of Need

It was a game-time decision.

On New Year's Eve 2023, Sherrie and Jeremy Delinsky were still figuring out their end-of-year giving. They knew they wanted to do more for Israel after the October 7 attacks — but felt overwhelmed by all the ways they could make an impact.



To us, CJP's non-political form of activism is appealing. CJP's CCA has the right infrastructure, influence, and voice to get attention.

Through an internet search, the Delinskys found CJP — and on the spot, made their first gift to support its Israel response.

"We quickly realized that the right path forward for us was through CJP because they had already done all of the vetting and relationship building in Israel," says Sherrie. "It felt like an important moment to step up for the Jewish community, and we knew that CJP was the best entry point for us."

Just over five months later, Sherrie and the couple's two oldest children, Ruby, now 18, and Max, now 15, traveled to Israel on CJP's parent-teen solidarity mission. They didn't know anyone else on the trip, Sherrie says, but felt called to be in Israel to stand with the Jewish homeland.

"Our time in Israel with CJP was really inspiring and emotional," says Sherrie. "It

was life-changing to see the resilience of the people we met, to be with others who were feeling the same way, and to bear witness to what was happening."

Raising a hand to help

After the mission, Sherrie and Jeremy (who first crossed paths as children in Sunday School at Wellesley's Temple Beth Elohim!) knew they wanted to rebalance their philanthropic resources and give more Jewishly. They met with CJP President and CEO Marc Baker, did some more research, and then made their first gift to CJP's Annual Campaign.

"We decided that our support of CJP should extend beyond Israel," says Jeremy. "CJP is an incredibly efficient organization, and we knew that our funds would be well-used throughout the community for many things we prioritized. We began to view this as a long-term relationship."

To Sherrie, who grew up in the shadow of her grandparents' escape from Romania during the Holocaust, the gift was an opportunity to continue her own Jewish legacy.

"I've always felt an obligation to do what I can to honor my grandparents and their story," she says. "It's what drove me to want to bring up my own children with strong ties to our Jewish past and a focus on living out our Jewish values."

In addition to their Annual Campaign gift, the Delinskys decided to establish a CJP Donor Advised Fund (DAF). Through their DAF, Sherrie and Jeremy made a three-year grant to support a mental health resilience center at Or Hadash, the Haifa synagogue where Max had his bar mitzvah in 2023.

"I have a lot of faith in CJP," says Jeremy. "CJP has several funds under management,

very sophisticated fund managers, and the mechanisms in place to give to organizations in the United States that route investments to Israel. It just made sense."

Stand up and fight

With three children (the couple also has a daughter, Wrenna, 9) enrolled in independent schools, the Delinskys are passionate about CJP's Center for Combating Antisemitism (CCA) — and its work to address and prevent antisemitism in K-12 classrooms and on college campuses.

"We realize that our kids will go through major life transitions in environments that might be quite hostile to them," says Jeremy. "We believe that the Jewish community needs to stand up and fight. To us, CJP's non-political form of activism is appealing. CJP's CCA has the right infrastructure, influence, and voice to get attention."

To Sherrie and Jeremy, being Jewish has always been an important part of their individual and family identities. The past two years, they say, have been a reminder that living Jewishly requires vigilance, community, and investing in a partner like CJP.

"After October 7, we really had an awakening about where we could make a difference," Sherrie says. "Since then, we've reinforced to our kids that being Jewish is a culture, a history, an ethnicity, a connection to a place, a people, a language, and so much more. This has become a primary focus for us, and through CJP we can step up, pool our resources with others, and amplify our impact."



MARIAH RICH COLLINS AND JAMES COLLINS

Strengthening the Heart of the Local Jewish Community

A mutual friend tried to set them up in high school, but it wasn't until they were both students at Brandeis University that Mariah Rich and James Collins met and fell in love.

While they had different backgrounds — Mariah grew up in a Reform Jewish home in Belmont and James in a large Irish Catholic family from South Boston — the two quickly discovered a common passion for giving back to the community.

Now, nearly 20 years and three young children later, Mariah and James continue to live out their shared core value through their involvement with CJP. Over the past decade, they have steadily increased their support of CJP's Annual Campaign; in 2023, they also partnered with CJP to aid Israel after the October 7 attacks.

"When we started our family, we began to think about our philanthropy differently," says Mariah. "It's become increasingly clear to us that CJP is really the heart of the local Jewish community, and that having a vibrant, thriving Jewish community in Boston is critical to helping families like ours feel a sense of belonging. We want to be part of contributing to that."

In addition to their giving, Mariah has participated in the CJP Women's Philanthropy Leadership Series and served on CJP's Families with Young Children Advisory Committee.

"With a full-time job and three kids, I've prioritized CJP because I enjoy building connections and learning with like-minded people," she says. "It feels good to be part of something."

An inclusive Jewish community

As an interfaith couple that's raising Jewish

children, it's been important to Mariah and James to find inclusive Jewish spaces. For them, it's been CJP and their synagogue, Beth El Temple Center in Belmont.

"Because of CJP's support of local Jewish programs and institutions, we've become friends with Jewish families both within and outside of our temple," says James. "CJP has helped us broaden our Jewish network, create strong connections to our Jewish community, and ultimately, become better parents."

Their family is also part of the Jewish LGBTQIA+ community. Mariah's parents, Sharon Rich and Nancy Reed, have long been involved with CJP and Jewish life in Greater Boston.

"Both our synagogue and CJP embrace Jewish diversity and differences, which is really important to us," says Mariah.

Following in their footsteps

Growing up, Mariah looked to those who came before her to help guide her Jewish path.

Her great-grandfather, Max Atlas, was an early supporter of the State of Israel and once hosted Golda Meir at his Houston home. Her grandparents, Hershel and Hilda Rich, were deeply committed to multiple Jewish organizations, including the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston.

"Being Jewish is a fundamental part of who I am, the values that I want to bring into the world, my family's history, and the legacy I want to leave," she says.

In 2017, Mariah and James — in partnership with Mariah's family — created the Rich/Collins Community Leadership and Impact

Fellowship (R/C CLIF), which provides mini-grants to Brandeis undergraduates who develop, implement, and lead local community impact projects. It was inspired by a similar program founded by Hershel and Hilda at Houston's Rice University.

"We were both very engaged in the Waltham community at Brandeis," says James. "With the fellowship, we wanted to create a full-spectrum leadership experience for students to learn what it means to be a true community partner."

Teach your children well

Beyond their connections to CJP, their synagogue, and Brandeis, Mariah and James are also active in the Jewish affinity group at Buckingham Browne & Nichols School in Cambridge. James is a 2005 graduate, and the couple's three children, ages 8, 6, and 4, attend the school.

Through the group, parents, students, and faculty have a space to celebrate holidays and gather for Jewish events in the community.

"We do everything we can to educate our kids to be proud Jews," says James.

Mariah says their family also has a strong desire to help sustain Jewish life for generations to come.

"A few years ago, my daughter asked why being Jewish was so important to me," she says. "In that moment, I recognized that we must make that clear every day in everything we do. CJP is a critical piece of the Jewish puzzle for us. If we don't step up to protect our community's infrastructure, who will? It's our responsibility."



THE BUSSGANG FAMILY

From Generation to Generation: A Joyful Jewish Life

As a freshman at Harvard College, Lynda Doctoroff met Jeff Bussgang. While she didn't know it at the time, she had both found her future husband — and begun her own joyful Jewish journey.

Lynda, whose family moved often due to her father's job, grew up without a strong sense of Jewish practice and tradition. Jeff, the son of a Holocaust survivor, was raised in a tight-knit Jewish community in Lexington.

"Jeff was a huge influence in helping shape my commitment to building a strong Jewish identity for myself — and for when we started a family," Lynda says.

After they both graduated in 1991, Lynda moved to New York City for a career in musical theatre. Two years later, she returned to Boston to work at educational nonprofit Facing History & Ourselves, an experience, she says, that cemented her desire to live by Jewish values.

"It fills our souls"

Lynda and Jeff married in 1994. Soon after, says Jeff, they joined Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley and "got swept up" in Jewish life. Eventually, Lynda went to work for Hebrew SeniorLife and the couple enrolled their three children, Jackie, JJ, and Jonah at The Rashi School.

Over the years, the Bussgangs got more involved with CJP. Lynda participated in the Cynthia and Leon Shulman Acharai Leadership Program, Women's Philanthropy, and The Miriam Fund. Jeff helped lead two missions to Israel for venture capital and business executives.

"We really cherish the Boston Jewish community," says Jeff. "Through it all, we've seen CJP as the unifier of our

family's Jewish life. Being active in CJP has allowed us to be in partnership with — and to develop friendships with — folks from across towns, across synagogues, and across Jewish denominations."

As they learned more about CJP, Jeff and Lynda wanted to give more. In 2020, they started to make multiyear gifts to support the Annual Campaign, allowing CJP to better meet the community's rising needs.

"We're very leadership driven in our giving," Jeff says. "We like to support leaders we believe in, and CJP has a world-class team, top to bottom. Through CJP, we have found joy in Judaism and joy in giving. It fills our souls."

A family affair

With Lynda and Jeff as parents, Jackie says she and her brothers grew up in a household filled with Jewish joy. As a teen, she explored Jewish life through overnight camp and youth group. While in college, she was active in Hillel. And now, as a married young adult, she and her husband Josh have turned to CJP.

"We were looking for ways to engage Jewishly as a couple, and we've found that CJP has appealing events for our age and our lifestyle, along with opportunities for growth, leadership, and learning," she says.

Earlier this year, both Jackie and Josh were matched with opportunities through CJP's Hineni Volunteer Network, which connects community members with local Jewish organizations that need support. Jackie signed on to the Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Boston Young Professionals Committee, and Josh joined the JCC Greater Boston Development Committee.



Through CJP, we have found joy in Judaism and joy in giving. It fills our souls.

"My parents have been amazing role models as leaders and volunteers," says Jackie. "They pour so much time, passion, and money into CJP and the Jewish community, and so much love into everything they do. From them, I've always known I wanted to have my own robust Jewish life."

For Josh, his in-laws have shown him the importance of giving back to the Jewish community, a value, he says, that he now holds close.

"I have a real love of Judaism because of the Bussgangs," he says. "They've helped me build a strong sense of Jewish life in my marriage with Jackie, which I know we'll carry into our future family."

"Step up and give back"

Nearly 35 years after she leaned into her own Jewish identity, Lynda says she feels an even greater responsibility to serve the Jewish community. The best channel to do that, she says, is through CJP.

"These are hard times, and we all need to be strong, good, and generous people, who step up and give back," she says. "It's a total privilege that our whole family is positioned to do that. We've all found ways to be involved that are fulfilling, both directly with CJP and its partners. CJP is a huge piece of our family."



MICHELLE BLACK, ROBIN FRIEDMAN,
AND JUDE SYDNEY

Empowering the Next Generation

In 2019, three friends and mothers — Michelle Black, Robin Friedman, and Jude Sydney — sat together at an ADL (Anti-Defamation League) conference that highlighted the troubling rise of antisemitism on college campuses.

As the trio, who had nine teenagers between them, headed out, Robin sounded an alarm.

"Our kids are so not prepared for what's coming," she recalls saying to Michelle and Jude, who agreed. "They don't know what they need to know."

The three came up with an idea: They would coordinate a one-day seminar in May 2020 to educate rising college students from New England about campus antisemitism.

So, Michelle, Robin, and Jude began their own listening tour, having coffee with nearly 100 parents, educators, teens, and Jewish professionals to learn more about how students were experiencing antisemitism, what resources already existed, and what gaps were left to fill.

Then came the COVID-19 pandemic, and the seminar was canceled. Michelle, Robin, and Jude were forced to pivot — and TribeTalk was born.

It takes a village

With the help of 25 college interns and the guidance of local experts, the three spent the summer of 2020 creating the TribeTalk website. It included tools, resources, and webinars to help future college students (and their parents) understand various campus climates so they could ultimately choose the right school.

"We saw a big need for all of these offerings," says Michelle. "We decided to just lean in as three moms and see what

we could accomplish."

Five years later, TribeTalk has blossomed into a full-service nonprofit organization focused on educating and empowering students at middle schools, high schools, and colleges to respond to antisemitism in their communities and on social media. Its signature offering is an interactive "Standing Strong" workshop, which explores the history of antisemitism, how to recognize it, and what to do about it.

"We are raising a village of students together," says Jude. "TribeTalk is here to help families navigate all of the challenges of modern antisemitism. We always tell them that if we don't have the answer, we will get it. We want families to know they're not alone."

With the rise in Jewish hate since the October 7, 2023 attacks on Israel, TribeTalk has redoubled its efforts to provide students with tools and tactics on how to fight antisemitism. To date, TribeTalk has run more than 100 trainings for nearly 8,000 students at schools, summer camps, and community centers around the country.

"I grew up with a very strong sense that everyone should have an opportunity to practice our beautiful Jewish religion free from discrimination and harassment," says Robin. "What we're doing is important because we're helping students and parents navigate a new world."

Support from CJP

Early on, Michelle, Robin, and Jude — who are all longtime CJP donors and volunteers — met with CJP professionals to share their vision for TribeTalk.

The idea, they say, was enthusiastically

received. CJP signed on as their first funder (and continues to support TribeTalk to this day), helping the three test and iterate their original curriculum and make connections throughout the Jewish teen network.

Brett Lubarsky, CJP's Director of Jewish Communal Life, remembers first learning about TribeTalk during lunch with the founders.

"What was once a kernel of an idea is now a full menu of trainings and resources to support teens and their families in Greater Boston and beyond," he says. "With the rapid rise of antisemitism, TribeTalk stepped in — and has become an important partner to CJP and our community."

A proud Jewish future

As they look to the next five years and beyond, the TribeTalk founders say they're focused on broadening their organization's reach.

They're growing their team of trainers to bring TribeTalk to more communities nationwide, working with more public school districts to offer programs on fighting antisemitism, and rolling out a follow-up initiative to "Standing Strong" called "Standing Up" to help college students better understand and respond to anti-Israel rhetoric on campus.

"Unfortunately, I don't think we're going to cure antisemitism, but we also can't allow it to continue to be normalized," says Jude. "We understand that it can feel very overwhelming when you don't know how to fight it. Our work allows kids to feel like they've got the agency to stand proud in their Jewish identities. It's not a *nice* to have; it's a *need* to have."



JUSTIN "JERRY" WYNER

Living with Purpose

Justin "Jerry" Wyner can trace his lifetime commitment to leadership and philanthropy all the way back to wise words from his father, Rudolph.

"When I was a little boy, my dad said, 'If you live in a community, you offer the community what you can do best for them,'" recalls Jerry. "For me, I get involved when I see something to fix. I think that no matter how good things are, you can always make them better."

For nearly a century, Jerry — who turned 100 in August — has kept that advice close to his heart. Over the years, he's been connected to almost every corner of the Jewish community, from CJP to the American Jewish Historical Society to Temple Israel of Boston to Harvard Hillel to Hebrew College — and beyond.

Jerry has also long been a champion of civic life and education, devoting decades of service to the Town of Brookline, his alma maters of The Roxbury Latin School, Tufts University, and Harvard Business School, Martha's Vineyard Hospital, and so many other organizations.

"My father has always had a strong sense of purpose," says James, one of Jerry's three sons. "He wants to heal the community in meaningful ways, and he lives by that idea every day."

Planting seeds for our future

Jerry grew up in a family of activists, philanthropists, and early leaders of the modern Jewish community.

His grandmother, Gussie Wyner, was a national leader of Hadassah, and is credited with creating life memberships in women's organizations and establishing the first chapter of Junior Hadassah. His mother Sara was its first president. Jerry's

cousin, a businessman named Dewey David Stone, was a quiet hero who used his personal connections and philanthropy to help establish the State of Israel.

And Rudolph, who started the family business, Shawmut Woolen Mills in 1916, served as President of Beth Israel Hospital in the 1950s.

As Jerry got older, he found his own place in the local and national Jewish communities. He first got involved with CJP in the mid-1950s and became a Trustee in 1964. In the 1970s, his wife Genevieve Geller Wyner (z"l), was a founding member of CJP's Young Women's Division, eventually serving as its president. (Jerry and Genevieve were married for 64 years, until her death in 2019.)

In addition to his leadership roles, Jerry regularly supported CJP as a donor — contributing to both its Annual Campaign and to the Rudolph & Sara Wyner Endowment Fund, established in memory of his parents.

"It's so important for the Jewish community to be united," Jerry says. "CJP is one of very few philanthropies across the country that has demonstrated the skill to weave everyone into it. And CJP's leadership has always been excellent — it's been a key reason our family has prioritized giving over all these years."

James says supporting CJP is a natural extension of his family's multigenerational commitment to Jewish community and continuity. He and his wife, Giang, are also longtime supporters of CJP's Annual Campaign.

"I'm proud to be able to maintain charitable giving through CJP, which has

the resources and time to understand the needs of the community in a holistic way," he says. "It's a very effective and efficient way to make a difference."

Preserving our Jewish history

Through everything he's done, Jerry has been passionate about Jewish history and sharing the stories of those who came before him.

In 2014, he was honored with CJP's Lifetime of Leadership Award for his longstanding dedication to the preservation of Boston's Jewish history. Four years later, in 2018, the Jewish Heritage Center (which Jerry brought to the New England Historic Genealogical Society) was renamed the Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center when Jerry and Genevieve made a lead gift to help build the center's endowment.

Shortly after, in 2019, Jerry published a book — *Have I Told You About...? Knitting Together the Yarns of My Life* — a collection of personal and family stories.

"The most important bequest I can leave my children and grandchildren is not material," Jerry wrote in the book's introduction. "Rather, it's the values that will help them forge their own links in the chains of our family and our people."

For James, those values remain important as he leads the next generation in both the family's philanthropy and business.

"We work hard every day to do what's right for the people around us," he says. "Thanks to my father and those who came before him, we live by Jewish values — the idea that you can make meaning in every day and do your part to make the world a better place."



This past May, CJP's Center for Combating Antisemitism (CCA) convened more than **50 Jewish Employee Resource Group (J-ERG) leaders** from over 35 different businesses and organizations in Greater Boston for its event, *Your Commute to Belonging: A Workshop for Jewish ERG Leaders*. The four-hour workshop included panel sessions, informative speakers, and networking opportunities, empowering participants to take the lead on combating antisemitism within their workplaces.

CJP's Center for Combating Antisemitism was created to empower and support Greater Boston's Jewish community with clear and effective resources, tools, and strategies to foster action against antisemitism and make meaningful and long-term impact against the scourge of Jewish hate.

In our first full year, we engaged thousands of K–12 and university administrators, students, faculty, business leaders, and community members, all with the mission of making antisemitism unacceptable in civic society across Greater Boston.

With your support, CCA:

- Commissioned a first-of-its-kind study into the value of Jewish Employee Resource Groups across the country and here at home
- Partnered with Facing History & Ourselves to provide professional learning opportunities to 443 educators in 13 districts, including Boston Public Schools
- Successfully advocated for the creation of the Massachusetts State Legislature's Special Commission on Combatting Antisemitism
- Sponsored tickets for area schools — including Boston Latin and Revere and Chelsea public schools — to enable 10,000 students to visit the traveling Auschwitz exhibition in Boston
- Trained more than 1,500 local professionals — from campus staff to industry leaders — on understanding antisemitism with a focus on high-impact institutions such as Harvard University and Mass General Brigham (the state's largest employer)
- Led a rally of over 1,500 people in support of Jewish college students

Through it all, we've built relationships — with civic leaders, community activists, Hillels, professors, business leaders, local and national partner organizations, and many more — while keeping our community up to date with real-time news and action alerts.

Together, we are standing up to hate while creating joyful Jewish life in Greater Boston and beyond. Visit cjp.org/cca for more on how CJP is leading our community in the fight against antisemitism.



CARRIE AND ADAM MARCUS

Changing Hearts and Minds

When their then 10-year-old son, Sidney, was told by a classmate they couldn't be friends because he was Jewish, Carrie and Adam Marcus knew they had to do something.

"It was a seminal moment," says Adam of the incident, which happened a few months after the October 7, 2023 attacks on Israel. "We understood antisemitism was out there but what we were starting to see was making me feel very worried about my children. I want them to be able to walk through any community as American Jews and feel safe."

So, Carrie and Adam turned to CJP, an organization they'd been deeply connected to since Adam's 2018 participation in the Cynthia and Leon Shulman Acharai Leadership Program. They decided to make their largest gift to date — directed to its Center for Combating Antisemitism (CCA).

"We believe in CJP," Adam says. "We trust the leadership and the Board to be good stewards of our capital and to effect change in a positive way."

Adam says he especially connects with CCA's focus on deepening education and allyship — both within and outside the Jewish community — as core strategies to fight antisemitism.

"CCA's work is helping to keep the record straight on the facts, and everyone on the right side of history," he says. "Reactive confrontation is never the answer. Information is always the answer."

Seeing police details at their kids' schools following October 7 also helped solidify their desire to give to CCA, says Carrie.

"The attacks really brought into laser focus

for us that we need to be specifically supporting the Jewish community," she says. "We believe in what CCA is doing to change hearts and minds about Israel and the Jewish community by reshaping public perception and fighting misinformation."



We feel comfortable that CJP will use our dollars to support Jewish community members in any way necessary.

A bright Jewish future

A native of rural Maine, Carrie was raised in an agnostic family, with very little exposure to Judaism. Adam, who grew up in a Jewish family in New York, remembers his parents giving to UJA-Federation of New York.

The two met through friends in Boston in 2003 and were married in 2007. From the start, Carrie says, it was important to her to celebrate Jewish holidays, learn about Jewish traditions, and raise their children — Rose, 14, Sidney, now 12, and June, 6 — as part of the Jewish community.

Watching Rose become a bat mitzvah last fall at Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley was

"a powerful experience," says Carrie, and reinforced her desire to do what she could to help ensure a bright Jewish future for her own children — and the next Jewish generation.

"Our family sees CJP as more than just a philanthropic organization," she says. "It's a way to be part of something bigger than us. We recognize it's important to give in different ways to keep that connection to the Jewish community safe and strong."

Meeting the community's needs

In addition to supporting CJP's work to combat antisemitism, Carrie and Adam also give to its Annual Campaign.

"We know things are always changing," says Carrie. "The Annual Campaign gives CJP flexibility to meet the community where it's at — and to adapt to its current needs. We feel comfortable that CJP will use our dollars to support Jewish community members in any way necessary."

Investing in CJP, says Adam, is a way to do their part to make sure Greater Boston's Jewish community remains strong now — and always.

"The current environment feels like it's fostering division," he says. "Now, more than ever, we need to bolster organizations, like CJP, that are working to combat the antisemitism and hatred that's affecting the Jewish community and our broader society. It's never felt more important."

Empowering women and girls for 25 years

Dear Friends,

As The Miriam Fund (TMF) celebrates its 25th year, we remain committed to our vision and mission: to inspire and strengthen women and girls within and beyond our Jewish community and to encourage our members to be advocates, leaders, and changemakers.

Over the past 25 years, TMF has granted more than \$7 million to 100 organizations in Massachusetts and Israel to create opportunities and positive impact for women and girls. As I reflect on the work that TMF has accomplished since its inception, three constants remain true:

- **During times of growth and challenge, TMF's decisions were driven by its mission and values.** Leadership offered steady guidance, welcomed input from members, and remained true to our core purpose. We aimed to follow best practices, including undertaking a five-year strategic plan and updating our application and grant processes to match the times.
- **Grantmaking has remained at the heart of TMF.** Our incredible partners create meaningful opportunities for women and girls in the communities they serve. We are inspired by them, proud to fund them, and we could not do our work without them!
- **The passion and dedication each member of TMF brings is truly inspiring.** From first-year members to 25-year veterans, our members show up with brilliant minds and open hearts. I am so thankful to work alongside each of you.

With gratitude,

Beth Tauro

Director, The Miriam Fund



TMF partners with Women's Lunch Place to support its legal services program, ensuring women in need have access to critical legal assistance.

"Celebrating 25 years of The Miriam Fund is a reminder of what's possible when women come together with purpose. We're excited to keep growing — launching new initiatives, refining our practices, and, with the support of the 25th Anniversary Capital Campaign, deepening our impact for women and girls for generations to come."

— Rachel Goldstein, Nancy Levitan Poorvu, and Debby Posin, TMF 2025 Chairs



In memory of Carol Goldberg (z"l), TMF Co-founder

"Carol modeled how to be a courageous and determined leader in both business and civic life. She demonstrated that women were capable of the same successes as men. We all benefited from her wisdom, wit, extraordinary intelligence, and her remarkable personality."

— Roz Gorin, TMF Co-founder

"Carol was fearless. She wasn't surprised by obstacles, could push back without running over others, and always invited more to join her. The Miriam Fund created a concrete way to involve more women in philanthropy." — Beth Klarman, TMF Co-founder

The Miriam Fund by the numbers

\$7+ million

have been invested in the community since The Miriam Fund was founded in 2000

130+ members

make up The Miriam Fund's philanthropic, multigenerational community of women

22 organizations

have been granted a total of \$405,000 by TMF for FY26



Awards

Each year, CJP acknowledges outstanding individuals who demonstrate deep commitment to furthering the organization's mission and creating a vibrant Jewish community in Greater Boston and beyond. On the following pages, we're thrilled to honor the incredible donors and volunteers who've made a special impact in 2024–2025.

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

CJP has long been committed to excellence in governance, and the Distinguished Service Award honors former Board members whose time, talent, and leadership during their Board tenure lifted our organization — and our entire Jewish community.

BARRY SHRAGE LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Barry Shrage Leadership Award recognizes a CJP professional whose outstanding contributions best emulate the characteristics of CJP's former president, Barry Shrage: dedication and commitment to the purpose of our mission, passion for our work, leadership and judgment, and integrity and respect.

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Circle of Excellence Award winners, recognized in the categories of leadership, growth, and young leadership, have shown extraordinary effort and dedication to creating positive change in the world.

SUPERSTAR AWARDS

CJP is proud to recognize volunteers who have a positive impact on our community. Over the past year, our Superstars have been advocates of CJP as networkers and connectors, supporters and fundraisers, and community builders.



THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD – GERALDINE ACUÑA-SUNSHINE

Geraldine has held nearly every volunteer leadership position at CJP, including Annual Campaign Chair, member of our Board of Directors, and Co-chair of the Spark experience to mark Israel's 75th birthday. Among her proudest accomplishments over the years has been helping to create the Missions Possible group, a cohort of CJP leaders who traveled together and formed lasting bonds through transformational Jewish experiences. Geraldine is known for always leading with humility — and from the heart. Her personal story, her passion for strengthening Jewish life, and her infectious love of Israel continue to inspire us all to step up, give back, and connect to one another and to our community.



BARRY SHRAGE LEADERSHIP AWARD – KATE WHITNEY

As CJP's Associate Creative Director, Kate is the quiet force behind many of CJP's most impactful moments. From shaping community messages to writing speeches for major events to crafting the organization's case for support, Kate's fingerprints are on so much of CJP's work — though she never seeks the spotlight for herself. Beyond her professional excellence, Kate is best known at CJP for her caring heart. Barry Shrage's legacy at CJP is one of unwavering dedication to our community, passionate leadership, and deep respect for others. In Kate, we see these same qualities lived out every day.



CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD/LEADERSHIP – BRADLEY M. BLOOM

For more than three decades, Brad has been an incredible leader within CJP, and throughout our local and global Jewish community. Brad has truly done it all — from serving as CJP's Board Chair and on almost every Board Standing Committee to co-founding our groundbreaking Boston-Haifa Connection to co-chairing our Spark experience to mark Israel's 75th birthday to, most recently, co-chairing our Israel Emergency Fund Task Force after October 7, 2023. Brad is a wise, generous, caring, and inspiring leader who's always guided by his deep love of the Jewish people and Israel, and a desire for a strong Jewish future.



CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD/GROWTH – PAMELA NORDEN

For the past 15 years, Pam has served in several volunteer roles at CJP, most recently as Women's Philanthropy (WP) President. During her tenure with WP, Pam focused on engaging women of all ages and life stages in the work of CJP. Her inclusive vision ensured that more women could find a pathway to connection within our community. Pam is an exceptional partner and collaborator to both fellow volunteers and CJP professionals, and a leader who approaches all opportunities with a can-do attitude.



CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD/YOUNG LEADERSHIP – NICOLE FINKIELSTEIN

Nicole began her young adult journey with CJP six years ago through the Young Adult LEADS program. From there she participated in — and then co-chaired — the Dewey Stone Kadimah Leadership Program and now serves as Co-chair of the Young Adult Philanthropy Board. During the pandemic, Nicole helped CJP innovate by co-chairing the Young Adult Together at Home program, which kept young adults connected during a time of social distancing. A true ambassador for Boston's Jewish community, Nicole is always willing to listen to new perspectives, and is dedicated to building bridges, even in the hardest moments.



CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD/YOUNG LEADERSHIP – BRETT PONN

Brett first connected with CJP nearly a decade ago, when he participated in the Young Adult LEADS program. During the pandemic, he served as Co-chair of the Dewey Stone Kadimah Leadership Program and built warm connections with participants over Zoom. Since then, Brett has co-chaired the Young Adult Philanthropy Board and now serves on CJP's Board of Directors as a *Kol Atid* (future leaders) member. Brett is a champion of CJP and continues to share his own philanthropic passion with his network — inspiring others to participate, lead, and give back.



Sandy Honeyman, Lori Shaer, Jacquelyn Furman, and Jamie Relle

Superstar Awards



Bob Haber



Rebecca Leventhal and Michael Bohnen



Dr. Jacki Hart



Alon Chen (right)



"As young adult leaders, we see it as both a responsibility and an honor to help CJP thrive now and continue to grow and evolve for generations to come. For us, CJP is more than an organization — it's a place where you meet great people, grow in ways that matter, and feel connected to something bigger than yourself."

— Rachel and Jonathan Marsh, Superstar Award recipients

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“Being involved in CJP as a leader and volunteer has allowed me to be part of shaping an inclusive, thriving Jewish community here in Boston. As someone who has benefited from CJP's services, events, and community, I'm proud to welcome others into the CJP fold. Simply put, CJP has given me a way to give back.”

– Asya Bashina, Superstar Award recipient



Jordy Hershman (left)



Aylit Schultz



Leigh Colvin and Michael Exter

“



Ron Golub



“Engaging with CJP matters because our collective work truly makes a difference. I know that every dollar I give is put to great use, supporting programs, initiatives, and organizations that strengthen our community and help those in need. CJP offers a place where young professionals can have real conversations about giving, values, and building a better future.”

– Joshua Jick, Superstar Award recipient



CJP's mission is to inspire and mobilize the diverse Greater Boston Jewish community to engage in building communities of learning and action that strengthen Jewish life and improve the world.



*Thank you for your support. You can give with confidence. CJP has received the highest 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, reflecting our efficient and fiscally responsible management. Read detailed financials at **cjp.org/our-financials**.*