



2021-2022 DONOR AND VOLUNTEER

# Recognition Report



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## Dear Friends,

In June, as I stood overlooking the mountains between Ethiopia and Sudan, I closed my eyes and took a deep breath. I thought about the life-threatening journey that families took to pursue their dreams and about the State of Israel and the global Jewish community that helped make those dreams come true.

I was in Ethiopia to learn about the history of the Jewish community there and to travel with a flight of new Ethiopian *olim* (immigrants) to Israel. Through everything I experienced on the trip, I keep coming back to my time overlooking those mountains. It was a moment where I felt the magnitude of Jewish history, the hope and joy of a new beginning, and the very real challenges that our People have faced with resiliency and perseverance.

These past few months and years have been hard at times. We've had moments that have lifted us, and some that have made us want to despair. Through it all, I continue to be inspired by you — and the diversity, strength, and vibrancy of our Greater Boston Jewish community.

I've watched you engage with all forms of Jewish life; unite to fight antisemitism; and care for those in need in our community, in Ukraine, and beyond. I've seen you grow and nurture strong relationships with Jews around the world and raise your hand to celebrate Israel's upcoming 75th birthday. I've seen your deep love of learning, your passion for sharing Jewish traditions with our next generation, and your extraordinary professional and volunteer leadership at all levels of communal and organizational life.

And, most importantly, I've witnessed your combination of head and heart and your drive for excellence in service of the greater good. You have circled around each other and lifted our community as one.

We've been through a lot of moments — individually and collectively — and have emerged even more committed to the spirit of *areyvut* (collective responsibility) for our Greater Boston Jewish community, Israel and the Jewish People, and the broader world of which we are a part.

Thank you for all you do for our community, and for your trust in CJP. I look forward to creating new moments and facing new challenges from a place of strength, together.

With blessings,

Rabbi Marc Baker

**President and CEO**



## Dear Friends,

My mother, Rae Goodman (z"l), was a professional matchmaker. In her time, she was responsible for 50 marriages, scores of children, and dozens of branches on the Tree of Life.

I didn't inherit her matchmaking gene, but she did teach me about the importance of building relationships. And through my role with CJP, I see how we do that day in and day out in the Jewish community.

- We connect philanthropists with opportunities to help make the world a better place
- We connect our partners with each other to help amplify their impact in the community
- We connect volunteers with ways they can make a difference

In a world that's been upside down for more than two years, it is these connections that help us continue to move forward with hope while at the same time not forgetting where we came from.

As Chair of CJP's Board of Directors, I've had the joy of watching our organization shine as we build new connections despite the challenges around us. We've made sure that our families with young children have access to rich Jewish life and education and that our teens and young adults can get to Jewish summer camp and Israel; we've enabled our communal partners to stay strong and secure; and we've brought broad issues such as mental health, antisemitism, and equity to the forefront of our conversations.

Together, we've responded to crisis after crisis by connecting people and resources to aid those affected by war in Ukraine, violence in Afghanistan, and a relentless pandemic in our own backyards.

All of this — every connection made — is only possible because of you. I'm so grateful for your trust and generosity, and for making it a priority to keep your connection to CJP — and the Jewish community — strong. For that, I thank you. I know my mother would have been proud.

Onward and upward,

Shira Goodman

***Chair, Board of Directors***



# With gratitude



In a year defined by the strength of connection, we are grateful to you — our CJP donor community. Whether you're a longstanding friend or someone who joined us for the first time this year, you've helped better our world and amplify our collective impact. Together, we have faced crises that once seemed unthinkable. As Chair of the Committee on Development, I thank you for your generosity and your trust in CJP.

**JUDITH A. KAYE**

*Committee on Development, Chair*

It's been an honor to serve as Co-chair of CJP's Annual Campaign for the past two years — a time that's been filled with extraordinary challenges due to the pandemic. Through it all, I've seen firsthand the powerful impact we can have when we collaborate to build a stronger community and a brighter Jewish future. Thank you for your continued generosity, your passion for community, and for all you do to inspire meaningful connections to Jewish life and each other.

**JESSICA R. MYERS**

*2021 Annual Campaign, Chair; 2022 Annual Campaign, Chair;  
Committee on Development, Incoming Chair*



During my year as Co-chair of CJP's Annual Campaign, it's been incredible to see you — our community members — collectively say *hineni* (here I am) and rise to the challenges in front of us to help others and repair the world. I'm filled with gratitude for your ongoing commitment to CJP and our Jewish community, and I look forward to leading the Annual Campaign with Kim next year. I know that by working together, we can all continue to make a bigger difference.

**CAMPE GOODMAN**

*2022 Annual Campaign, Chair; 2023 Annual Campaign, Chair*

Over the last year, I've seen our community come together behind our shared mission to care for each other and nurture Jewish life. By building new connections — and deepening existing ones — we've accomplished amazing things during a time of continued challenges. Thank you for being there for CJP, each other, and Greater Boston's Jewish community. As a leader of the 2023 Annual Campaign, I look forward to growing these connections with you as we move from strength to strength.

**KIMBERLY S. CREEM**

*2023 Annual Campaign, Chair*



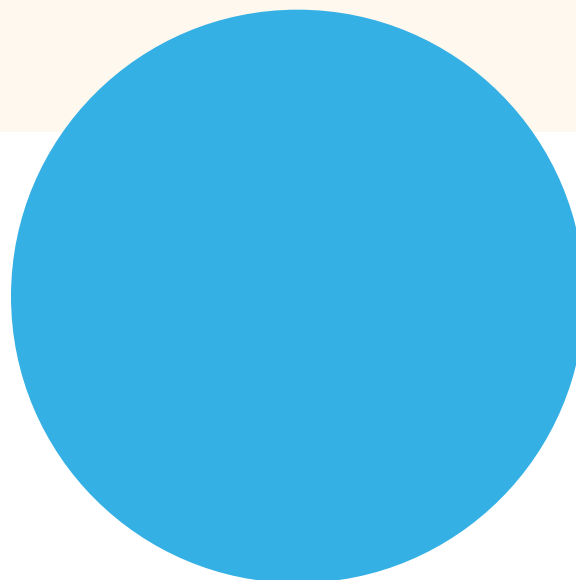
# Powered by community

At CJP, our work thrives on the idea that together, we can do more, turning individual acts of kindness into collective action that strengthens Jewish life and makes our world a better place for all.

Through the generosity of donors like you, we invest in programs that sustain Jewish life and learning, strengthen our community, and provide for people during times of need. By making strategic grants and

thinking big with our partners, we empower hundreds of organizations and institutions to maximize their impact. And by doing it together, we help to build a purposeful, vibrant, and inclusive Jewish community — here in Boston, in Israel, and around the world.

As a community united by shared purpose, we can create positive change that impacts us today and for generations to come.





# Investing in community

Since our founding more than 125 years ago as the first Jewish federation in the United States, CJP has mobilized Greater Boston’s Jewish community to make a bigger difference. As a philanthropic investor and convener of people and resources, we focus on supporting those facing vulnerability or crisis, making Jewish life and learning accessible to all, and investing in the stability and growth of the organizations that underpin Greater Boston’s Jewish community.

Through the decades, we’ve continued to serve this community because of donors like you. Thank you for joining us as we strive to create meaningful impact in Boston, Israel, and around the world. We are grateful for your ongoing trust, generosity, and commitment to CJP and our Jewish community. Together, we are uniting for good and making a difference in the lives of so many.



## Our community of supporters By the numbers\*





# Extraordinary investment in our community and beyond: **\$212 million**

## \$62 million

CJP's community investment and supporting services



grants to create vibrant Jewish life across our community



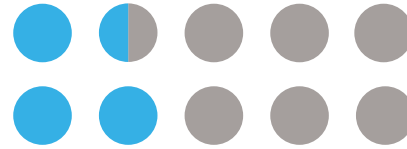
grants to assist vulnerable populations and community members facing crisis



grants to strengthen organizational partners and bolster the safety and security of our community

## \$150 million

9,676 CJP Donor Advised Fund (DAF) grants to 2,980 charities



## 34%

of grants recommended by DAF donors supported CJP and organizations serving the Jewish community and Israel

## 66%

of grants recommended by DAF donors 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](https://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**

## 757 funds total \$1.7 billion

CJP's DAF program includes 757 funds that total \$1.7 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.

## 82 organizations

CJP strengthens 82 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](https://cjp.org/fiscal-transparency).

# We belong together

Our community is rooted in meaningful connections to Jewish life — and to each other. This year, we gathered online and in person to help repair the world and create a purposeful, vital, and inclusive community.

From teen volunteer opportunities to leadership development experiences to Israel trips and community conversations, together we shared, learned, and celebrated.

Thank you for your participation. We loved connecting with you and hope to see all of you again soon!



# Community connections



2

10,000+

Ukrainians, including many refugees from the neighboring affected regions, provided with critical support — including food, shelter, and medical care — in CJP's sister city of Dnipro, Ukraine

5,790+

meals delivered to isolated older adults and vulnerable members of the community to help them celebrate Jewish holidays

11,000+

college students engaged by CJP's core campus partners

4,200+

people participated in CJP's Bold Conversations, a series of free, virtual community events featuring speakers sharing diverse perspectives



5

650+

young adults in Greater Boston attended a mix of in-person and virtual CJP events this year

1,100+

community members attended a CJP communal safety briefing in response to the synagogue hostage incident in Colleyville, Texas



8

1. 185 young adults attended Finally Together — CJP's first young adult in-person event since March 2020
2. More than 275 teens participated in service days powered by Jewish Teen Initiative at CJP this year
3. 82 people attended CJP's Back to Now Major Gifts event in May, an evening of in-person connection and conversation
4. Participants in CJP's Cynthia and Leon Shulman Acharai Leadership Program arrived in Jerusalem
5. Volunteers delivered hot holiday meals to older adults to celebrate the Jewish holidays
6. 2021-2022 CJP and the Jewish Arts Collaborative Community Creative Fellow Paloma Valenzuela
7. More than 150 athletes and volunteers participated in Yom Sport, a day for athletes with disabilities to come together for sporting and team-building events
8. Jewish and non-Jewish students from Brandeis University gathered during an immersive learning experience in Israel



A hot meal for Passover.

Security and first aid training for day school staff.

An opportunity to experience overnight camp.

Access to mental health services for a loved one.

The chance to escape poverty and war.

The needs of our community are complex and ever-changing, and meeting those needs is only made possible by strong organizational partnerships and your steadfast philanthropic support.

Your trust and generosity allow us to connect more, care more, and empower more — igniting positive change at home, in Israel, and around the globe. The ripple effects of your love for our community go far beyond the numbers, statistics, anecdotes, and stories you'll read in this report: Together, we are changing lives for the better. We hope you're inspired by what you see and read in the following pages. We're so grateful for you and your incredible support.



Thanks for all  
you've given.





## CINDY AND ANDREW JANOWER

# Keeping the community connected

Cindy and Andrew (“AJ”) Janower are passionate about helping people find their “Goldilocks” fit in Greater Boston’s diverse Jewish community. They want to make sure everyone finds a way in that is just right and makes them feel valued, welcomed, and connected.

“Lots of people want to be engaged in the Jewish community but have a hard time finding a place that’s just for them,” Cindy says. “Over the past few years, we’ve felt really moved to be part of the solution to ensure that our vibrant community is accessible for all.”

### Finding “a great team”

For the Janowers, it’s about going online — with the help of CJP. Their desire to help build and grow connections led the couple to the idea of investing in CJP’s digital infrastructure. Earlier this year, Cindy and AJ made a \$1 million lead gift to help CJP craft a new coordinated digital strategy to better engage, educate, and inspire Greater Boston’s Jewish community.

The funding will help CJP re-platform and relaunch CJP.org and JewishBoston.com with updated technology to improve users’ experience and allow partner organizations to share news, updates, and events more easily with the community. The Janowers’ gift will also help support the creation of a mobile app to keep CJP mission participants connected to each other and to Greater Boston’s Jewish community before, during, and after their trips.

“Our smartphones play an outsized role in everything we do these days — whether it’s interacting with people, shopping, learning, or transacting,” says Cindy, a past Chair of CJP’s Board of Directors. “I’m a big believer in in-person engagement but we need to respect digital engagement as a valuable tool on its own. If our Jewish community is going to remain relevant, we need to engage people on their devices as well as in person — and those types of interactions need to reinforce each other.”

CJP, says Cindy, was the natural partner to bring their vision for a robust Jewish communal digital strategy to life.

“At the end of the day, just like in the business world, we want to invest in a great team with bold aspirations that’s willing to innovate and has a track record of results on an issue we care about,” she says. “CJP was that team.”

### Using technology to strengthen community

The Janowers have been longtime supporters of CJP, citing an appreciation for the way the organization innovates

collectively with its partners to tackle broad community issues, such as Jewish poverty and antisemitism. Beyond their regular Annual Campaign support, this gift allows them a special opportunity to be “positive change agents” who use their philanthropy to be “a force multiplier,” says AJ.

“We wanted our dollars to really pivot something that wouldn’t otherwise happen soon,” he says. “We saw digital strategy as a major need that was going unattended and has the potential to be really transformative with a big return on investment. We thought, ‘If not us, then who?’”

AJ says the gift was also inspired by the couple’s three daughters: Michela, 24; Samantha, 21; and Alexandra, 18. Cindy refers to their daughters as “joyfully Jewish,” and says they are focused on leaving the world better than they found it.

“They taught us that it’s important to meet people where they are, including through technology,” AJ says. “Hopefully this investment will help CJP build a bigger, more inclusive, and more resilient community for us all.”

**CJP maintains 5 different websites — from news on JewishBoston.com to details on visiting the New England Holocaust Museum — CJP is a key source of information for our community.**

**Our award-winning site, JewishBoston.com, receives 1M+ global visitors each year.**



BARBARA AND ED SHAPIRO

## Welcoming the stranger

In 2015, when their young daughter, Samantha, asked them why people were fleeing Syria for safety, Ed and Barbara Shapiro felt called to help.

As the couple — longtime CJP supporters and community philanthropists — watched the news unfold about the Syrian refugee crisis, they made a big decision: They pivoted the focus of their family foundation to the global refugee crisis. Ed retired from his 27-year investment management career and devoted himself to full-time work on behalf of refugees. In 2016, The Shapiro Foundation organized a successful communitywide effort of local, regional, and national partners — including CJP — to sponsor Syrian refugee families resettling in Boston.

### A thirst for hands-on impact

“CJP was the natural partner for us in our work,” says Ed. “The Boston Jewish community cares deeply about *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and welcoming the stranger — and because of that, we were able to quickly mobilize volunteers and funds. This desire to help those who have no one else is rooted in our texts, our traditions, and our history.” In the six years since, The Shapiro Foundation has become a leader in refugee care, resettlement, and immigration. Last year, the foundation, in partnership with Catholic Charities of Boston, Jewish Family Service of Metrowest, and the Jewish Community Relations Council, engaged faith-based communities throughout Greater Boston

to help 50 Afghan families that had fled their homeland after the fall of Kabul. CJP’s Fund for Afghan Immigrants and Refugees (FAIR), which raised more than \$675,000, helped to support these resettlement efforts.

“Boston — and Massachusetts — truly led the way for the Afghan community by sponsoring more families than any other state,” says Ed. “It was truly extraordinary. We saw CJP and communities of all faiths raise tens of thousands of dollars overnight because there is such a thirst to have a hands-on impact.”

### The Ukraine Refugee Relief Effort

Ed says he thought such a large-scale resettlement effort would be a “once-in-a-generation” opportunity. Yet, after the horrific Russian invasion of Ukraine in February, the foundation again had the chance to work with Greater Boston’s Jewish community to make an incredible impact in the lives of refugees.

In March, the foundation partnered with CJP to launch the Ukraine Refugee Relief Effort, which has raised more

than \$5.5 million to help resettle Ukrainian refugees displaced by the Russian invasion. Together, CJP and the foundation have made grants to organizations including HIAS, IsraAID, and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, as well as ChooseLove and Miles4Migrants. These organizations help Jewish and non-Jewish individuals and families move to immediate safety both within and outside of Ukraine — and ultimately, resettle in neighboring countries, throughout the United States, and in Boston.

Ed says CJP’s work with The Shapiro Foundation has inspired other Jewish communities across the country to both fundraise for resettlement efforts and volunteer to help refugee families get settled in their new homes.

“This shows the power of what CJP has helped to lead in Boston,” he says. “It’s been incredible to see how our partnership has become a model for others. There is nothing more important than caring for the most vulnerable and sharing the love of our Jewish community with everyone.”

**700+ donors contributed \$675,000 to CJP’s Fund for Afghan Immigrants and Refugees to help welcome 193 people fleeing Afghanistan and resettling in Greater Boston.**

**3,700+ donors contributed more than \$9.5M to CJP’s Ukraine Emergency Fund and the Ukraine Refugee Relief Effort — a partnership between CJP and The Shapiro Foundation.**



## CARON AND KEVIN TABB

# Raising their hands to lead

When Kevin Tabb became President and CEO of Beth Israel Lahey Health, he and his wife, Caron, relocated to Boston from the San Francisco Bay Area. At the top of their list when they arrived: Seek out a strong Jewish community.

“We knew upfront that this was going to be something important to us from the day we moved,” says Kevin. “We looked for the Jewish community — and there was CJP. It was very easy to engage and to find our place.”

The Tabbs did more than just join the community — they raised their hands as leaders. Over the years, Kevin has taken on leadership roles at CJP engaging health professionals. Caron — an acclaimed mixed-media artist with a nonprofit background — found her passion in CJP’s work around arts and culture, Israel, and inclusion and justice. As a couple, they’re invested in CJP’s caring efforts, including the Anti-Poverty Initiative, and improving access to mental health care.

“For me, connecting with CJP was about finding my people, engaging with my community, and understanding where I could be most helpful,” Caron says. “Being involved is core to who I am. It’s part of my DNA.”

### Changing the outcomes for others

Caron’s great-grandparents escaped the pogroms of Lithuania for a new life in South Africa, where her grandfather was one of the leaders of the Jewish

federation in Johannesburg. Her father, she says, was beaten as a child in rural South Africa for being Jewish. Her parents made *aliyah* (immigration to Israel) and Caron was raised in Israel before she and Kevin, who was a medic in the Israel Defense Forces, moved to the United States in 1999.

Her past, Caron says, has given her a deeply Jewish sense of responsibility and accountability to her community, and her art explores social inequality, racial justice, and feminism through a Jewish lens. “I always think about: What does it mean to be the other? How do we care for the other? How do we care for the vulnerable? What our community has experienced makes me want to change the outcomes for others who are less fortunate,” she says.

### “We are the safety net”

For Kevin, his commitment to CJP and caring for the Jewish community is interconnected to his professional life, where he oversees 36,000 employees and a vast network of hospitals and medical centers.

“I don’t separate out what I do at work from what I do in the community and how we live our lives,” he says. “They are all parts of a larger theme of caring for the community. Those are the things that are important to us as a couple in the Jewish community, and I make sure we embody those values within Beth Israel Lahey Health.”

Kevin’s role has given the couple a front row seat to the incredible community challenges — and needs — related to the pandemic. Being so close to the issues — combined with their trust in CJP and its “extraordinary, inspirational leadership” — moved the Tabbs to make a multi-year, unrestricted gift to CJP’s Annual Campaign.

“In a society where the safety net is so questionable, I believe we are the safety net,” says Caron. “The pandemic really exposed what we knew existed all along — a disparity in access, wealth, and circumstances. For me, it was obvious that we would step up and show up in this time of need.”

**Since 2015, CJP’s Anti-Poverty Initiative has supported more than 7,500 people with services to help them meet their most basic needs while preserving their dignity.**

**This year, CJP and its partners delivered over 5,790 hot meals to isolated older adults and vulnerable people to celebrate the Jewish holidays.**



## HANNAH AND BRETT PONN

# Love and leadership through CJP

When Hannah (Solomon) Ponn and Brett Ponn were classmates at Epstein Hillel School, they never imagined that CJP would be part of their love story.

The two grew up together in the North Shore's Jewish community — and when they reconnected in 2017 through a CJP young adult program, the sparks began to fly. A few months later, they went on their first date, and in June 2022, Hannah and Brett were married.

"It's so cool — I got to marry Hannah from kindergarten," says Brett. "What are the chances?"

### Framing the community's future

For Hannah and Brett, CJP is more than just an organization that brought them together — it's at the core of who they are individually and as a couple.

Both come from families that were active in the Jewish Federation of the North Shore and now are involved in CJP, as well as in their respective synagogues. In a small-world moment, Brett says, CJP President and CEO Rabbi Marc Baker was his occasional childhood babysitter in Lynnfield.

When they moved back to Boston after college, Hannah and Brett followed in the footsteps of their parents, Debbie Ponn, David Ponn, and Karen and Steve Solomon, and separately sought out CJP for Jewish community, connection, and leadership opportunities.

Brett served as Co-chair of CJP's Dewey Stone Kadimah Leadership Development Program for young adults. He's now

Chair of the Young Adult Philanthropy Board; Hannah also sits on the same board.

"CJP is incredible at identifying leaders in all life stages to keep resupplying the pipeline and ensure we will always have someone to step up and take action when it's needed," he says. "There was no better example than during the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of CJP's strong volunteer and professional leadership, it was one of the first organizations to jump in and respond with resources."

Hannah is most passionate about CJP's efforts to care for those in need, especially around mental health and in crisis situations, such as the pandemic. She says it's been important to her and Brett to "choose to make time for leadership" in their busy lives.

"I've watched my parents sit on multiple boards — between the JCC, Epstein Hillel, Congregation Shirat Hayam, and CJP," she says. "For them, it's been a way to not only be part of the community, but to help shape it. We also want to be part of framing our community's future."

### From generation to generation

In their life as newlyweds, Hannah says the couple is drawing inspiration from their pasts as they think about their future.

"We've both grown up with similar values of giving back, and we are very lucky to have parents who set a good example for us in the Jewish community," she says. "We want to be that for our future family. We want to continue to pass that involvement down to the next generation."

Brett says that he and Hannah will always stay close to CJP because of its role in their relationship — and so much more.

"CJP literally checks all of the boxes for us," he says. "From the pasts our families have had with the Jewish community, to our special connection with CJP, to the way the leadership filters down throughout the community, there are so many things to like about the organization. It's a no-brainer for us to continue our involvement. I can't wait to see how things grow from here."

**"We've both grown up with similar values of giving back, and we are very lucky to have parents who set a good example for us in the Jewish community. We want to be that for our future family. We want to continue to pass that involvement down to the next generation."**

— Hannah Ponn





## TALIA WEISBERG AND EVAN CRANE

# A passion for local Jewish life

When the pandemic hit — and Harvard Hillel shut its doors to both students and the broader Jewish community that uses its building as a spiritual home — Evan Crane and Talia Weisberg sprang into action to keep Cambridge’s tight-knit Orthodox minyan together in person.

Since using Zoom wasn’t an option for them on Shabbat, the couple worked with Chabad at Harvard to quickly organize outdoor services for their congregation. As the 2020 High Holidays approached, it was apparent that there would not be sufficient space in the usual outdoor location.

So, Evan, with help from other local Jewish organizations, including Tremont Street Shul and MIT Hillel, arranged for services — complete with Torah scrolls and the blowing of the Shofar — to take place in seven outdoor locations across Cambridge and Somerville.

“It was a gargantuan effort — but for our community — it was critical,” he says. “We felt strongly about providing an in-person experience for as many people as possible. We couldn’t imagine having the High Holidays without community.”

### Centered on community

Evan and Talia, who met as college students at a Shabbat meal in Cambridge, center their lives around being together in community — and they’ve turned to CJP for help. Earlier this year, the couple, who are rising leaders in their Modern Orthodox community, hosted a parlor meeting for

Jewish young adults from Cambridge and Somerville (known as Camberville) to meet with CJP President and CEO Rabbi Marc Baker.

“Camberville could really benefit from a more organized Jewish life, and we wanted to start the conversation between CJP and real people from Camberville about ways we can work together around events, programs, and community building,” Talia says. “Marc explained what CJP does, and the value add that CJP has for Boston’s Jewish community — and Camberville residents shared our priorities and some of the roadblocks we’re facing that impact Jewish life, such as our relative lack of Jewish institutions.”

Evan says partnering with CJP makes sense because the organization is positioned to help the Jewish community in so many different ways.

“We’ve been really inspired by the way CJP has responded to everything from the pandemic to the stabbing of Rabbi Shlomo Noginski last year in Brighton to the Ukraine crisis,” he says. “The last two years have really shown us the importance of CJP. Talia and I believe that when we give money to CJP,

it’s going to end up in the right hands doing important work.”

### Finding a new normal

Moving forward, the couple remains focused on strengthening their local Jewish community and creating more opportunities for people in Camberville to engage in Jewish life. To help encourage participation, Talia, who is studying toward ordination at Yeshivat Maharat, has been running an initiative called “Shalom Camberville,” providing handmade care packages with Judaica items, treats, and Jewish resources to new Jewish residents.

“People who had always attended synagogues and participated in Jewish life stopped during COVID — and many haven’t really come back,” she says. “Broadly, the Jewish community is grappling with making Jewish life relevant and interesting for people — and in Camberville, we’re trying to figure that out as well. We’re excited to be working with CJP to solve this problem. There’s no going back to normal. So, the question is, ‘What is the new normal, and how do we create strong Jewish community in that new normal?’”

**“The last two years have really shown us the importance of CJP [...] when we give money to CJP, it’s going to end up in the right hands doing important work.”**

— Evan Crane



AMY MCKEAG

## Creating a community through CJP

For more than a decade, Amy McKeag has lived out her desire to help others — and support the power of Jewish community — through her connections to CJP as a donor, volunteer, and leader.

She started her CJP journey by getting involved with Women's Philanthropy (WP), following in the footsteps of her mother, Maxine, a Lion of Judah and past WP President at the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest New Jersey.

Amy joined WP event committees, participated in a WP leadership series, and hosted challah-baking sessions, sharing her love of Shabbat traditions with others.

"Women's Philanthropy was what I knew," Amy says. "At first, it was about finding friends who had a meaningful connection to Judaism like I did. Through WP, I met women who weren't in my core circle but who had the same values as me and who were doing good work in the community."

### Philanthropy and friendship

From there, she jumped in further, serving on the WP Executive Board as a Vice President of Caring. In this role, Amy organized hands-on philanthropy events, bringing together women for opportunities to serve Greater Boston's Jewish community.

"I loved knowing that when there was a CJP partner organization that had a need — whether it was clothes or

toiletries — WP could fill that need immediately with our volunteers," she says. "CJP is always there looking out for the total Jewish community — and that is so important to me."

In May 2019, Amy joined a small CJP women's mission to Israel. The experience was life-changing.

"For me, that was the turning point of truly creating a community through CJP," Amy says. "That trip made CJP not only an organization I gave to financially, but an organization that gave me friendships."

The mission was also the catalyst for Amy to take on a new role within CJP, as a member of its Governance and Nominating Committee, and to make a multi-year gift to CJP's Annual Campaign. In addition, Amy brought her expertise in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) to a CJP committee on the topic and was instrumental in organizing a racial equity training for CJP and its communal partners. Her growing leadership and philanthropy continued to be inspired by her parents, especially her father, Ted (ז"ל), whom she describes as a "doer who led by example."

"I grew up in a very philanthropic household, and Judaism was a huge part of my childhood. I loved our weekly family Shabbat dinners," she says. "My parents taught me to give back and do better and help the world do better. When I found CJP — a powerhouse that makes the Jewish community and beyond better — I knew I had found my place."

### A legacy of meaning

Now, Amy and her husband, Mark, are sharing the same lessons with their daughters, Tess, 9, and Ellie, 7, who both attend Hebrew School at Temple Beth Avodah. Together, the family bakes challah and lights the Shabbat candles weekly, talks often about *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), and reads PJ Library books.

"Being Jewish is the essence of who I am — and it's so important to me to be passing down this piece of my family to my girls," Amy says. "That sense of ritual, which is such a simple thing, becomes so meaningful. I can see it's becoming a part of my kids. I can't imagine they won't someday bake challah with their own children."

**More than 550 women attended Women's Philanthropy events this year, which were held both in person and online.**

**"What a night! [...] Hearing about the JDC's work and CJP's incredible impact reinforces the importance of our mission and makes me proud to be part of this remarkable group."**

—Participant, WP Pomegranate Society & Friends Virtual Mission to India

# Empowering women and girls

For more than 20 years, members of The Miriam Fund's volunteer-led philanthropic community have come together to address critical needs in our community and champion change in Greater Boston and throughout Israel. This year, the Fund granted a total of \$407,497: \$357,497 to 16 organizations, \$25,000 in COVID-19 relief, and \$25,000 to CJP's Ukraine Emergency Fund with a focus on women and girls. Grants included supporting STEM programming at Science Club for Girls, amplifying young Jewish women's voices at Jewish Women's Archive, and driving economic empowerment via farming at Kaima Nahalal in Israel.

Below, participants share — in their own words — the life-changing impact of these programs, which were supported by grants from The Miriam Fund.



Two women walk through the field at Kaima Nahalal, a nonprofit educational farm, located in Israel's Jezreel Valley. Kaima Nahalal is committed to re-engaging and empowering girls (ages 15-18) who have dropped out of school, or are on the cusp of doing so, as well as young women (18-21) whose challenges continue into young adulthood. The organization is a current grantee of The Miriam Fund. Photo credit: Kaima Nahalal.

## GIRLS RECEIVED THE SUPPORT THEY NEED TO ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS:

"Being surrounded by curious girls and passionate women who also looked like me kept me excited about science, my future, and my potential. I rarely question my goal of becoming a Black neuroscientist because I had already met one in Science Club and for that I'm forever grateful."

— Kaelyn, a recent Harvard University graduate and neuroscience major who started with Science Club for Girls at 6 years old

## WOMEN CONNECTED MORE DEEPLY WITH JUDAISM:

"The most rewarding thing has been becoming more and more passionate about feminism, writing, and Jewish history as the fellowship has progressed. I now see these subjects fitting into my future, which is so exciting to me. The pluralistic spaces that RVF provides have given me a nuanced perspective on Judaism that allows me to view the issues in my community and the world at large more clearly. I now, more than ever, want to be a more effective change-maker."

— Elle, Jewish Women's Archive Rising Voices Fellow

## WOMEN IN ISRAEL WERE EMPOWERED AFTER TRAUMA:

"After experiencing great personal trauma, I struggled to attend school and communicate with others. My school counselor recommended I volunteer at Kaima Nahalal farm. Once there, Kaima staff invited me to become a member of its young farmer team. At first, a bit overwhelmed, I found it easier to focus on the actual work. In time, I opened up more, felt less burdened, and even began to laugh. The leaders of the farm helped arrange to continue my studies remotely. I know I am welcome there where it is safe... It feels so good!"

— A participant of programming at Kaima Nahalal, a nonprofit, all-girl- and women-run educational farm in the north of Israel.

## The Miriam Fund By the numbers

# \$5M

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

# 130

members make up the Fund's philanthropic,  
multi-generational community of women



## BETTY MORNINGSTAR

# A forever commitment to caring

Before Jane Morningstar passed away in 2008, she asked her children to use their family foundation to support the Jewish organizations that she had held close.

Her daughter, Betty, made Jane's wishes a reality. Shortly after her mother's death, Betty and her brother, Richard — through The Morningstar Family Foundation — provided seed funding to launch a new autism care coordination program at CJP partner, Jewish Family & Children's Service (JF&CS).

Their annual gift, made in memory of their brother, David, who had autism and died accidentally in 1964 at age 15, enabled JF&CS to help adults with autism and their caregivers navigate housing, educational opportunities, job coaching and interviews, social activities, and more.

Earlier this year, Betty and Richard took their gift one step further — and made their support of autism care coordination permanent. They created a CJP endowment fund to ensure that adults with autism will always have access to coordinated care.

"There will always be a need to provide services to those with autism and to help relieve the burden for their families," Betty says. "This endowment was also

a way to help raise awareness about autism and most importantly, ensure David's legacy lives long into the future."

Betty's ties to the Jewish community began as a child, as she watched her mother serve in leadership roles at Temple Ohabei Shalom, JF&CS, and CJP, where she sat on the Board of Directors and was Chair of the Women's Division. A pioneer of her time, Jane Morningstar was instrumental in bringing the Lion of Judah recognition society to Boston, encouraging women to make gifts to CJP independent of those that were made with their husbands.

"What I got from my mother was an exposure to philanthropy, which I very much embrace, and a good feeling about CJP," Betty says. "From a young age, I began to see the bridges that are built across the community through CJP."

### A legacy of love

As Betty started her own philanthropic journey, she connected to CJP's work around social action and justice — and

its commitment to helping community members fill basic needs. She and her wife, Jeanette Kruger, also became involved in Keshet, a CJP partner that works to ensure the full equality of all LGBTQIA+ Jews and their families in Jewish life.

A clinical social worker, Betty is drawn to serving others — and her family's endowment with CJP will ensure her impact extends beyond her lifetime. Through her ties to CJP, Betty regularly meets with the program staff at JF&CS and remains inspired by the work they're doing for the autism community.

Betty says that creating the endowment fund through CJP was "a natural continuation" of her mother's legacy — and allows her family to ensure that David's memory lives on.

"CJP provided a smart vehicle with which to make this happen," Betty says. "I trust CJP to invest our philanthropy, and I feel good knowing that CJP understands the priorities of the Jewish community, as well as the larger community."

**"What I got from my mother was an exposure to philanthropy, which I very much embrace, and a good feeling about CJP. From a young age, I began to see the bridges that are built across the community through CJP."**

*—Betty Morningstar*





NEIL GARDNER

## Volunteering to make a difference

When the pandemic hit — and his work travel slowed — Neil Gardner knew he wanted to use his time to give back in a meaningful way.

It was serendipity, he says, when he received a call from a CJP professional about the new Hineni Volunteer Network, a program that matches community members with Jewish communal organizations that need governance and advisory support.

### Raising a hand to help

With his background in information technology (IT) strategy consulting, Neil was eager to connect with a Jewish organization that could use his help. Through Hineni, he was matched with Yad Chessed, a CJP partner that provides critical assistance to community members struggling with economic and food insecurity as they work toward better financial stability. Earlier this year, Neil started advising Yad Chessed Executive Director Nancy Kriegel on how to best maximize a technology grant to scale the organization's ability to serve more people in the community. He's become a trusted consultant to Yad Chessed, and in turn, Neil has found a way to have a direct impact on the Jewish community.

"For small agencies like Yad Chessed, the opportunity to benefit from high-level expertise and experience that someone like Neil can offer is the most incredible gift," says Nancy. "Neil's guidance on our technology project and willingness to

offer us his time enables us to stretch our resources and use our funds to carry out our mission of direct support for people in need. We are deeply grateful for his help."

For Neil, the connection to Yad Chessed was exactly what he was looking for in this moment.

"Through Hineni, I was able to get involved in a great organization and give back in a way that was special to me, where I felt like I could make a real contribution," he says.

### "This is part of my heritage"

Neil has been involved in CJP since the mid-1990s, when he and his wife, Beverlee — both natives of Montreal — settled in Sharon. The couple had been part of Montreal's strong Jewish community and looked for the same sense of connection when they moved to Boston. Over the years, Neil participated in CJP's Cynthia and Leon Shulman Acharai Leadership Program and served on CJP's IT Advisory Committee.

"This is part of my heritage," says Neil. "Both my wife and I come from good Jewish families. My mother was a Holocaust survivor. I've been to Israel with my family. Being Jewish is an important connection to me, so when I think of giving back, CJP is top of mind. It's not the only place that I contribute to — but it's always the first place."

Although the couple has been longtime supporters of CJP, they recently made their first multi-year gift, which allows CJP to better plan for the future. Hineni has now given Neil another way to give back through CJP — and he encourages others to consider the volunteer program. It may take a little patience to find the right match, he says, but it's worth it to find a way to use one's skills to help meet the community's needs.

"I've read over and over again that people who volunteer get back as much as they give," he says. "We're all looking for meaning in life. We all want to be happy and fulfilled — and Hineni is a great way to do just that."

**This year, CJP launched the Hineni Volunteer Network to match community members with Jewish communal organizations in need of governance and advisory support.**

**Hineni has attracted 58 volunteers of all ages, from 27 distinct towns, with a third self-identifying with traditionally underrepresented groups.**

**More than 80% of volunteers have been matched with opportunities.**

# Circle of Excellence Awards

Each year, we acknowledge outstanding individuals who have demonstrated a strong commitment to furthering CJP's mission and creating a vibrant Jewish community in Greater Boston. 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. The Barry Shrage Leadership Award recognizes the outstanding contributions of one CJP professional toward the organization's mission each year. CJP is proud to present the following awards:



## **CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE LEADERSHIP AWARD:**

### **Steven D. Krichmar**

For his flexibility, willingness to hear other perspectives, extraordinary knowledge of nonprofit governance and our community, and big-picture strategic view. Steve brings a critical voice and perspective, as well as warmth, thoughtfulness, and dedication to all his leadership roles at CJP. These include serving on the Board of Directors, and having served as Co-chair of the Campaign, Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee, and Chair of the Effective Governance Task Force, where he engaged multiple stakeholders and navigated complex issues that will have significant lasting impact on our governance practices.



## **CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE GROWTH AWARD:**

### **Laurie Gliklich**

For her embodiment of all the qualities of a successful President: compassion, professionalism, skilled communication, and drive. Laurie makes sure everyone's voice is heard. She extended her term for a third year as Women's Philanthropy (WP) President to guide WP through a year of transition. WP has emerged under Laurie's leadership with a renewed energy and focus on connection, leadership, and giving, and is well-prepared for the future.



### **CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE YOUNG LEADERSHIP AWARD:**

#### **Evan Friedler**

For his role co-chairing the Ben-Gurion Society, his strength as an ambassador for Jewish communal life, and for lending his voice to critical conversations. Evan is driven by impact, and his deep connection to CJP's mission can serve as a model for how to engage and inspire young adults. Evan can be leaned on for deep partnership; he is strategic and not afraid to ask tough questions, but always does so with warmth and a collaborative spirit. Evan is community-minded and motivated by impact and philanthropy.



### **CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE YOUNG LEADERSHIP AWARD:**

#### **Brenda Tobin**

For bringing her wealth of experience and knowledge to the table, as well as a deep passion and commitment to the Jewish community. Brenda's experience with CJP, as Co-chair of the Hineni Volunteer Network and incoming Young Adult Philanthropy Co-chair, and across the community with partner organizations and federations, makes her uniquely poised to understand CJP's role and value add. Brenda has grown tremendously and gained extensive leadership experience at CJP. She is an incredibly strategic thought partner and advocate for our organization and the community.



### **BARRY SHRAGE LEADERSHIP AWARD:**

#### **Marie Miller, Executive Assistant for Strategy and Impact**

For her kind, welcoming, respectful, and conscientious nature as a respected colleague at CJP for more than 32 years. Marie is always willing to step in and do whatever is asked of her with a smile. Marie has been the backbone of important work, especially around her support of Mental Health Access powered by CJP, Partnerships and Services initiatives, and as a volunteer. For the past two years, Marie has also worked closely with our partners ensuring that those most vulnerable in our community are able to celebrate the Rosh Hashanah and Passover holidays in a meaningful way. Marie always goes above and beyond for her colleagues and the community.

# Superstar Awards

CJP is proud to recognize volunteers who have a positive impact on our community. The following individuals have been recognized as Superstars over the past year for being advocates of CJP in the community, networkers and connectors, supporters and fundraisers, and community builders.

## David Adler, Leslie Pucker, and Brenda Tobin

David, Leslie, and Brenda led the launch of CJP's new Hineni Volunteer Network. They made important contributions to Hineni as champions of the work, innovators, advisors, and strategy makers. They developed our processes and supported the program's growth. They helped CJP adapt as we learned more about our partners' and volunteers' needs. As a result, the Hineni Volunteer Network currently has more than 50 members, including many who are new to CJP.

## Elyse Balder, Amanda Clayman, and Stephanie Singer

As Co-chairs of this year's Women's Philanthropy (WP) Pomegranate Society & Friends Virtual Mission to India, Elyse, Amanda, and Stephanie did a phenomenal job in planning, recruiting for, and executing the event. They are thoughtful volunteers who are dedicated to furthering CJP's mission through the development of fundraising strategies and engaging content and by enhancing the overall event experience. Their efforts helped CJP engage with more than 300 women on the mission to India.

## Jennifer Drucker, Jacki Hart, and Claire Zar-Kessler Goldman

As Co-chairs of Women's Philanthropy (WP) Hands-on Philanthropy, which gives WP volunteers monthly opportunities to give of their time to community organizations, they were instrumental in helping the program pivot last year by creating small group opportunities to volunteer with some of CJP's most important partnerships. Through their leadership, CJP connected women to various volunteer opportunities. Jennifer, Jacki, and Claire exemplified CJP's values of innovation and caring for our community in a time of great need.

## Nicole Finkielsztein, Lauren Gendzier, and Harris Wallack

Co-chairs of Together at Home, a virtual series that CJP launched during the pandemic to help young adults remain socially connected and engaged, Nicole, Lauren, and Harris have remained flexible, nimble, and steadfast in their commitment to engage young adults. They helped CJP make strategic decisions for engaging with this target audience. And, after two-plus years of virtual offerings, they worked with passion to help CJP welcome young adults back in person with "Finally Together!" — a community-building and networking event. They are true thought partners who continue to provide critical insight on what young adults are looking for and how CJP can meet the moment.

## Danna Greenberg

Danna's service on CJP's Future of Work Task Force and unique perspective as a scholar of the intersection between work and life, especially as it pertains to women, influenced how CJP envisioned post-pandemic work. Danna's insight, knowledge, and perspectives were instrumental in CJP's planning for the future, and we are so grateful for her thought partnership and contributions to our work.

## Michael Grill

As a CJP campaigner and a member of the Campaign Cabinet, Michael is ready and willing to connect with donors both in and outside his network. He is thorough and thoughtful in his approach and consistently says "yes" to every request. Michael's efforts have helped secure financial support, create connections to CJP, and inform strategy for individuals with a donor-centric approach. His love and appreciation for CJP and the Jewish community come through in everything he does.

## Heidi Pearlson

A leader in Boston's philanthropic and financial communities, and volunteer at CJP and some of our partner organizations, Heidi understands financial issues and trends. In each of Heidi's many volunteer leadership roles at CJP, she brings a vast network of connections, warmth, hard work, and a commitment to creating a thriving Jewish community. Heidi is a valuable leader in all capacities; she can assess priorities and make critical decisions based on the big picture.

## Amnon Ribak

A Co-chair of the Israel and Global Jewry Peoplehood Committee on the Haifa side and newly appointed rabbi from Hebrew Union College in Israel serving at a reform community in Tivon, Amnon cares deeply for the human connection between Haifa and Boston. He joined the Boston-Haifa Connection many years ago as a volunteer on the Jewish Identity Committee, and over the years moved to the Living Bridges Committee, where he eventually became the Chair. Amnon thinks, creates, unites, acts, and cares for the future of the Jewish people and for the preservation of the Jewish-pluralistic and open tradition for all Jews wherever they are.

## Iris Schor

Iris is a dedicated, caring, and warm leader who has spent countless hours thinking about how to help CJP achieve our goals and serve the thousands of students, educators, and families impacted each year through our programs. As a Council Member of the Boston Israeli American Council (IAC), Iris serves as a bridge between our Jewish community and the Israeli-American community. An amazing partner and a pleasure for CJP professionals to work with, she is generous with her time, support, and honesty and goes above and beyond for our institution and community.



# Honoring those who led the way

Since 1895, CJP has been guided by passionate lay leaders whose vision, energy, and commitment have shaped our community. Over the years, 47 of those leaders have served as President or Chair of our Board of Directors. We are deeply grateful for their contributions to making CJP the strong, vibrant organization it is today, and for ensuring that Greater Boston's Jewish community is a welcoming home for all.



Jacob H. Hecht (z"l)  
1895-1901

Godfrey Morse (z"l)  
1902-1903

Lehman Pickert (z"l)  
1904-1908

Abraham C. Ratskesky (z"l)  
1909-1918

Louis Baer (z"l)  
1919-1921

Louis E. Kirstein (z"l)  
1922-1924, 1930-1942

Albert W. Kaffenburg (z"l)  
1925-1927

Judge Abraham K. Cohen (z"l)  
1928-1929, 1942-1944

Judge Jacob K. Kaplan (z"l)  
1944-1947

Israel Friedlander (z"l)  
1946-1948

Milton Kahn (z"l)  
1947-1950

Herman Gilman (z"l)  
1948-1950

Reuben B. Gryzmish (z"l)  
1950-1953

Samuel Markell (z"l)  
1950-1953

Jacob E. Wiseman (z"l)  
1953-1955

Benjamin Ulin (z"l)  
1953-1956, 1962-1964

Lewis Weinstein (z"l)  
1955-1958

Benjamin A. Trustman (z"l)  
1956-1958

Simon J. Helman (z"l)  
1959-1960

Louis P. Smith (z"l)  
1958-1962

Sidney Stoneman (z"l)  
1964-1966

Bernard D. Grossman (z"l)  
1966-1968

David R. Pokross (z"l)  
1968-1970

Matthew Brown (z"l)  
1970-1972

Irving W. Rabb (z"l)  
1972-1974

Norman B. Leventhal (z"l)  
1974-1976

Leonard Kaplan (z"l)  
1976-1978

Leo Dunn (z"l)  
1978-1980

Ruth B. Fein  
1980-1983

Sherman H. Starr (z"l)  
1983-1985

Arthur D. Katzenberg, Jr. (z"l)  
1985-1987

Joel B. Sherman  
1987-1989

Edwin N. Sidman (z"l)  
1989-1991

Alan R. Goldstein  
1991-1993

Michael J. Bohnen  
1993-1995

Michael B. Rukin (z"l)  
1995-1998

Cynthia B. Shulman (z"l)  
1998-2000

Ted Cutler (z"l)  
2000-2002

Alan D. Solomont  
2002-2004

Robert L. Beal (z"l)  
2004-2006

Myra H. Kraft (z"l)  
2006-2009

Bradley M. Bloom  
2009-2011

Sari Anne Rapkin  
2011-2013

Robert J. Small  
2013-2015

Neil A. Wallack  
2015-2018

Cynthia R. Janower  
2018-2020

Shira Goodman  
2020-present



## Ways to connect

We're not just an organization, we're a community. Discover additional resources and opportunities to help us make a bigger difference — together.

### REGISTER FOR SPARK

Join a Greater Boston Jewish community journey of connection, discovery, and fun in celebration of Israel's 75th Independence Day.

[cjp.org/spark](http://cjp.org/spark)

### JOIN OUR HINENI VOLUNTEER NETWORK

CJP's Hineni Volunteer Network works to match community members with Jewish communal organizations that need governance and advisory support.

[cjp.org/hineni](http://cjp.org/hineni)

### ATTEND AN EVENT

Discover workshops, classes, webinars, concerts, film festivals, and so much more through an events calendar curated specifically for our Greater Boston Jewish community.

[jewishboston.com/events](http://jewishboston.com/events)

### STAY INFORMED

Welcome to the digital home of Boston's Jewish community! Find events, a directory of local Jewish organizations and services, free DIY guides, resources on antisemitism, volunteer opportunities, interviews with community members doing amazing things, and so much more.

[jewishboston.com](http://jewishboston.com)

### GET INVOLVED

Are you passionate about the Greater Boston Jewish community? (We know the feeling!) Learn more about how you can get involved in building Jewish life, caring for our most vulnerable, and promoting human dignity.

[jewishboston.com/act](http://jewishboston.com/act)

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Help us stay connected to you! Contact Elizabeth Stege at [elizabeths@cjp.org](mailto:elizabeths@cjp.org) to update your contact information.

### CONTINUE YOUR GENEROSITY

This incredible work is only possible with your generous love and support. We've made it easier than ever to contribute.

[cjp.org/ways-to-give](http://cjp.org/ways-to-give)



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.



Connect with us



*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](http://cjp.org/our-financials).*