



*The*  
**Miriam Fund**  
Creating opportunities for women and girls

FY25 Annual Report

*July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025*

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## Grantees in action



*Flying Cloud Institute*



*LEAP Self-Defense, Inc.*



*Women's Lunch Place*



*Beit Ruth*



*Jookender*

# Letter from the Co-chairs .....

Dear Members,

We have just completed an extraordinary year, celebrating our 25th in multiple meaningful ways. We kicked off our efforts at our September Opening Event, launching our exploration of advocacy as a new opportunity for member engagement. In January, many of our members and their families participated in Volunteer Day with TMF, which included service projects for six of our grantees and an interactive experience demonstrating food insecurity and basic needs requiring support from our community. On the evening of May 20, our members, their families, and our grantees gathered to celebrate TMF's 25th anniversary. This included a panel of our founders: Beth Klarman, Roz Gorin, and Deborah Goldberg — on behalf of her mother, Carol Goldberg (z"l) — of blessed memory.

In addition to these community initiatives, as part of TMF's 25th anniversary, we initiated and successfully completed a first-ever fundraising campaign to enhance TMF's future. The 25th Anniversary Campaign exceeded its goal and raised over \$682,000 in gifts and pledges, increasing the size of our quasi-endowment by over 25%. Of the pledged amount, over \$428,000 in payments have been received and invested in TMF's quasi-endowment.

We are so appreciative of those members who helped plan or attended a gathering and those who donated to our 25th Anniversary Campaign, over and above their annual TMF dues. The Miriam Fund is a community of passionate and dedicated members who support our work in many ways, and this was especially true this year.

In addition to our 25th milestone, we continued our annual work and activities, including:

- We kept our focus on our core work of grantmaking — reviewing Letters of Intent and grant requests, meetings in subcommittee groups to debate and discuss grant requests, conducting site visits, and, ultimately, determining how to award grants and in what amounts
- We welcomed five new members, enjoyed several summer meetups at various locations, and provided meaningful mentorship to our new and second-year members
- We launched our Future Funders Cohort Program to help young women discover more about TMF, strategic grantmaking, giving circles, and philanthropy
- We created a measurement program which will assess our grantee partners' progress against their stated goals

- We successfully implemented our additional FY25 goals, including:
  - Conducting the second year of a pilot program for applications from Israel
  - Deepening our engagement and broadening our membership
  - Updating our governance and endowment utilization practices
  - Continuing to implement strategic plan action items including collaboration within CJP and with other women's funds

As TMF Co-chairs, we were proud to be members and leaders of TMF in this 25th year. Grantmaking is the heart of TMF's work. Over the past 25 years, we have made grants to over 100 organizations, many for multiple years, and have invested, in aggregate, over \$7 million in the transformative work of extraordinary nonprofit organizations in Massachusetts and Israel to create opportunities and positive impact for women and girls. We remain committed to:

- Providing grantee partners (and alumni) with additional educational, professional, and developmental support to help them achieve even more impact and efficacy
- Continuing our members' education and growth by providing, among other things, opportunities for mentoring, learning, advocacy, and engaging with our grantees and with each other



Deborah Posin, Nancy Levitan Poorvu, and Rachel Goldstein  
Chairs, The Miriam Fund

Finally, as we reflect on our 25th year and enter our 26th, we remain committed to our enduring vision and mission to inspire and strengthen women and girls within and beyond our Jewish community and, in the process, encourage our members to be advocates, leaders, and agents of change. We could not do our work without the commitment and dedication of our members, for which we are most grateful.

With respect and gratitude,

**Rachel Goldstein, Nancy Levitan Poorvu,  
and Deborah Posin**  
Chairs, The Miriam Fund

# The Miriam Fund

- SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2000, THE MIRIAM FUND HAS
- AWARDED OVER \$7 MILLION TO ORGANIZATIONS DOING
- CRUCIAL WORK IN PURSUIT OF GENDER EQUITY.

## Mission

The Miriam Fund is a philanthropic community committed to creating an equitable world that expands opportunities for women and girls.\* Through strategic grantmaking, TMF aims to inspire and strengthen women and girls within and beyond our Jewish community and, in the process, encourage its members to be advocates, leaders, and agents of change.

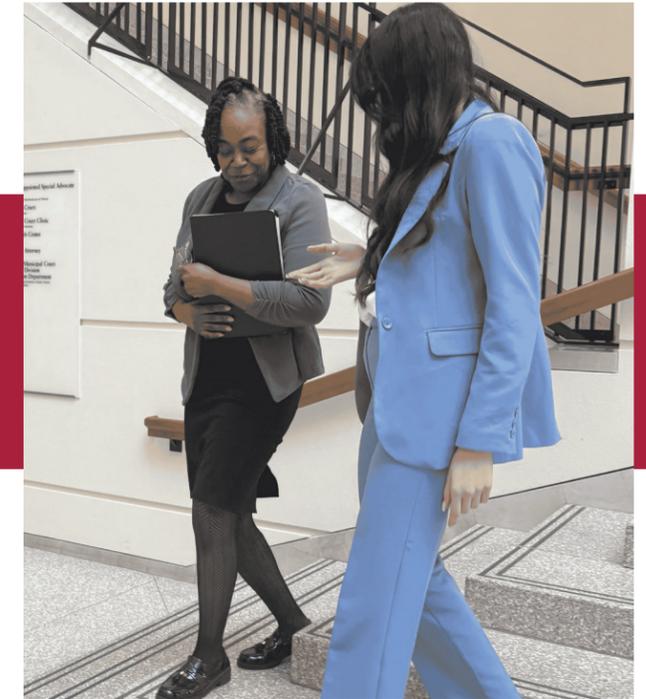


Beit Ruth

*\*Includes all for whom "woman or girl" is a meaningful identifier or experience, including (but not limited to) cisgender women and girls, transgender women and girls, and nonbinary individuals.*



Roca, Inc.



Women's Bar Foundation of Massachusetts

## Priority areas

The Miriam Fund awards grants to organizations in both Jewish and secular programs within Massachusetts and in Israel that serve women and girls.

## Priority issues



Economic Empowerment



Education



Health



Legal Rights



Personal Safety

The Miriam Fund is a unique, collaborative venture with Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP). We appreciate our mutual efforts to support the Jewish community and improve the world for women and girls.

## AWARDED \$375,000 IN GRANTS

- To 18 organizations in Massachusetts and Israel

## IMPLEMENTED FY25 GOALS

### Commemorated TMF's 25th anniversary!

- **25th anniversary planning:** Over 60 members from 1st year to 25-year veterans participated as leaders and committee volunteers in planning and implementing FY25 programming including: Opening Event, Volunteer Day, 25th Anniversary Campaign, and 25th Anniversary Celebration.
- **Opening Event:** We were thrilled to welcome 60 members to the TMF Opening Event, featuring a program topic: exploring advocacy. FayeRuth Fisher, Chief of Public Affairs and Community Relations at the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston (JCRC), and our grantee partners Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA), RESPOND Inc., and ATZUM helped us learn more about advocacy and relaunch our Program and Advocacy Committee.
- **Volunteer Day with TMF:** Our inaugural volunteer day was a great success with 35 members and friends! Participants engaged in an interactive experience, demonstrating the need for support throughout our community.  
Participants:
  - Assembled 400 winter warmer and personal care kits
  - Prepared 500 menopause booklets for mailing
  - Created dozens of cards for Holocaust survivors and Beit Ruth students who are training to learn employment skills
  - Delivered food through Family Table

We were thrilled to be able to meet the needs of six TMF grantees: Roca, Inc., Women's Lunch Place, Jewish Family Service of Metrowest, The Eden Center, Beit Ruth, and Jewish Family & Children's Service.

- **25th Anniversary Celebration event:** TMF closed its 25th anniversary year with a celebration attended by current and prior members (many with family members joining), grantee partners, and other friends. The energy in the room was electric — from flag waving to delicious food, popcorn, and chocolates made by our grantee partner Beit Ruth in Israel. Our community came together to honor our past and shape our future. This milestone would not have been possible without our founders, grantees, and members. Each of you has made



The Vilna Shul

a measurable impact in the lives of women and girls. Founders Rosalind Gorin and Beth Klarman joined with Deb Goldberg, representing her mother Carol Goldberg (z"l), founder, in a meaningful discussion reflecting on TMF's history and looking forward to the future moderated by CJP's Executive Vice President of Philanthropy and TMF member Jennifer Weinstock.

- **25th Anniversary Campaign:** To commemorate the 25th anniversary, TMF launched a 25th Anniversary Campaign to increase the size of TMF's quasi-endowment, ensuring that our impact can be expanded and sustained for the next 25 years and beyond. We exceeded our goal and raised a total of over \$682,000 in gifts and pledges (payable over up to five years) and have received over \$428,000 in cash already invested in the quasi-endowment.

### Deepen engagement and broaden membership

- **New members:** continued to expand/diversify to attract younger members and deepen engagement for all members by welcoming five new TMF members
- **Future Funders Cohort:** launched a two-year pilot program which seeks to empower and educate women between the ages of 25 and 35 with exposure to strategic grantmaking, intergenerational connections, and philanthropy
- **Program and Advocacy Committee:** implemented the TMF Program and Advocacy Committee to build our work in FY26. Our plan is to select one issue area each year for Education and take actions to solve problems and effect change in the lives of women and girls.

### Implemented second year of two-year pilot for applications to Israel committee

- The Executive Committee voted to codify the Israel LOI application process as bifurcated into priority areas in alternating years. (Economic Empowerment and Education in one year followed by Health, Personal Safety, and Legal Rights in the alternate year).

## Update governance and endowment utilization practices

- **Amended and restated Governance Policies:** TMF members voted to update the 2020 Governance Policies to reflect policy changes and clarifications approved by the TMF Executive Committee over the years since the last update in May 2020

## Prioritize collaboration

- Continued to enhance partnership with CJP, especially Women’s Philanthropy, and with other women’s funds



Hadassah-Brandeis Institute

## Continue implementing strategic plan action items

### Grantmaking practices:

- Commenced streamlined application process for second- and third-year applicants and monitored and assessed outcome
- Updated leadership job descriptions in TMF Governance Policies and TMF Grants Handbook to clarify responsibilities of each leadership role
- Updated TMF Governance Policies to establish a protocol related to grant funding and the use of quasi-endowment funds to support annual grant allocations
- Established a process to allocate grant funds if one funding committee does not use all funds allocated to it
- Created an annual budget entry of \$25,000 labeled Contingency Expense, with two priorities:
  - To address issues related to a significant emergency crisis which has implications for women and girls
  - Or if not used by March 1 of a given fiscal year, at TMF co-chairs’ recommendation, Executive Committee may decide whether or not to apply any or all unused funds to the regular grant process; provided payments from this fund will not exceed \$25,000 in any given year



Flying Cloud Institute

## Defining and measuring impact

- Continued utilizing evaluation materials collected to highlight impact of grants
- The Executive Committee approved a process to add a third meeting to the grant cycle for each grant subcommittee to support TMF’s efforts to demonstrate impact through grantmaking and in accordance with TMF Governance Policies which require: “Each Subcommittee will also monitor and evaluate organizations TMF is currently funding to ensure that the programs are meeting grant expectations.” The process will involve a more complete review of grantee partner end-of-year reports and result in TMF being able to capture and preserve data related to impact created by our grantee partners from funds granted.

## Enhancing TMF’s visibility

- Published article about TMF in *The Jewish Journal*
- Held info session on TMF for potential applicants
- Increased Facebook posts
- Enhanced visibility on pages of CJP calendar and recognition report
- TMF was thrilled to be one of three Women’s Lunch Place (WLP) funders to be honored at its Spaghetti Dinner Gala. For over 40 years this has been WLP’s major fundraising gala of the year with over 400 people attending.
- CJP placed a congratulatory half page ad in *The Jewish Journal* highlighting TMF’s 25th anniversary

## Member support

- Offered funder education programming opportunities on relevant topics:
  - Featured a workshop for members and grantee partners presented by Keshet on advocating for belonging, learning how to advocate for and ensure that everyone engaged with TMF work feels a sense of belonging
  - Financial Training for grant readers led by TMF member Glenda Fishman
  - Grant Reader Training led by TMF member Reva Fishman
  - Presentation by third-year grantees
  - Three-part series of spiritual learning sessions with Layah Lipsker
  - Monthly newsletters

## Grantee support

- Continued to offer professional development and educational support opportunities for grantees:
  - TMF convenings with grantee partners on educational topics including: Tips for using AI; Communicating in Times of Crisis and Uncertainty; and Advocating for Belonging
  - Sharing other community programming
  - Monthly newsletters
  - Reviewed and updated our applications and evaluation materials



*Economic Empowerment for Women*

## Grantees in action



*Yozmot Atid*



*Beit Ruth*



*Women's Bar Foundation*



*Women's Lunch Place*



*The Vilna Shul*

# 25TH ANNIVERSARY



## 25th anniversary in action





LEAP Self-Defense, Inc.

## THE YEAR AHEAD: GOALS FOR FY26

### Deepen engagement and broaden membership

- Continue to prioritize bringing new women into TMF, especially younger women
- Focus on member leadership development and succession planning
- Launch Future Funders Cohort pilot to empower and educate women between the ages of 25 and 35 with exposure to strategic grantmaking, intergenerational connections, and philanthropy, including: establishing program guidelines and activities, and developing a year-end evaluation model
- Task the Membership Committee with recommending new strategies to attract members; engaging current and new members in our work and activities/events; and determining an approximate maximum number of members which would be desirable, taking into consideration TMF's current committee and staff structures
- Evaluate Spring 2025 Membership Poll for timing of meetings, interest in Advocacy Committee, leadership opportunities, and other activities
- Evaluate whether to add a volunteer day as an annual event

### Implement updated measurement process for grant meetings

- Develop and implement measurement process for grant committees in furtherance of TMF governance policies which require: "Each Subcommittee will also monitor and evaluate organizations TMF is currently funding to ensure that the programs are meeting grant expectations."
- Create a third meeting for each grant committee to review grantee partner end-of-year reports

- Create metrics tool for committee members to analyze and review grantee end-of-year reports to summarize each grantee partner's progress against goals outlined in their applications, challenges they have faced, and the impact of programs/operations funded by TMF

### Operationalize Advocacy Program as part of Program and Advocacy Committee

- Based on member feedback, select one issue area each year for education and to take action to solve problems and effect change in the lives of women and girls
- Develop and implement a platform of 1-3 activities annually tied to the selected issue, designed to educate members, raise public awareness, and advocate for systemic change. Combine learning opportunities with concrete advocacy efforts such as community engagement, collective action, and storytelling, to maximize both member engagement and impact.

### Codify Letter of Intent process for Israeli applicants

- Implement process of accepting applications on alternating years by TMF priority areas

### Continue implementing strategic plan action items

- Continue to review and propose updates to grant procedures and policies as needed
- Consider how utilization of funds raised at 25th Anniversary Campaign might impact grant giving
- Continue collaboration with CJP, other women's funds, and nonprofit partners
- Continue to offer professional development and educational support opportunities for current grantee partners and alumni



Yachad New England

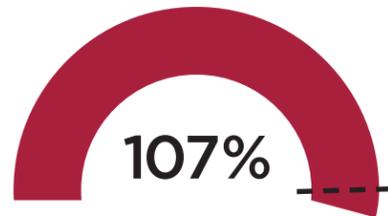
# Financial overview



## Membership

The Miriam Fund welcomed five new members into our community during FY25. This brings our membership total to 130. We will continue to explore new ways to recruit and retain members in FY26 to provide a continuously enriching and fulfilling experience for all members.

## Fundraising



In FY25, we raised a total of \$352,288 from gifts, reaching 107% of our \$330,000 goal for the year. We are deeply grateful to each of our members for their generous gifts and support.

In addition, TMF launched an inaugural 25th Anniversary Campaign raising a total of over \$682,000 in gifts and pledges (payable over up to five years) and has received over \$428,000 dollars in cash already invested in the quasi-endowment.

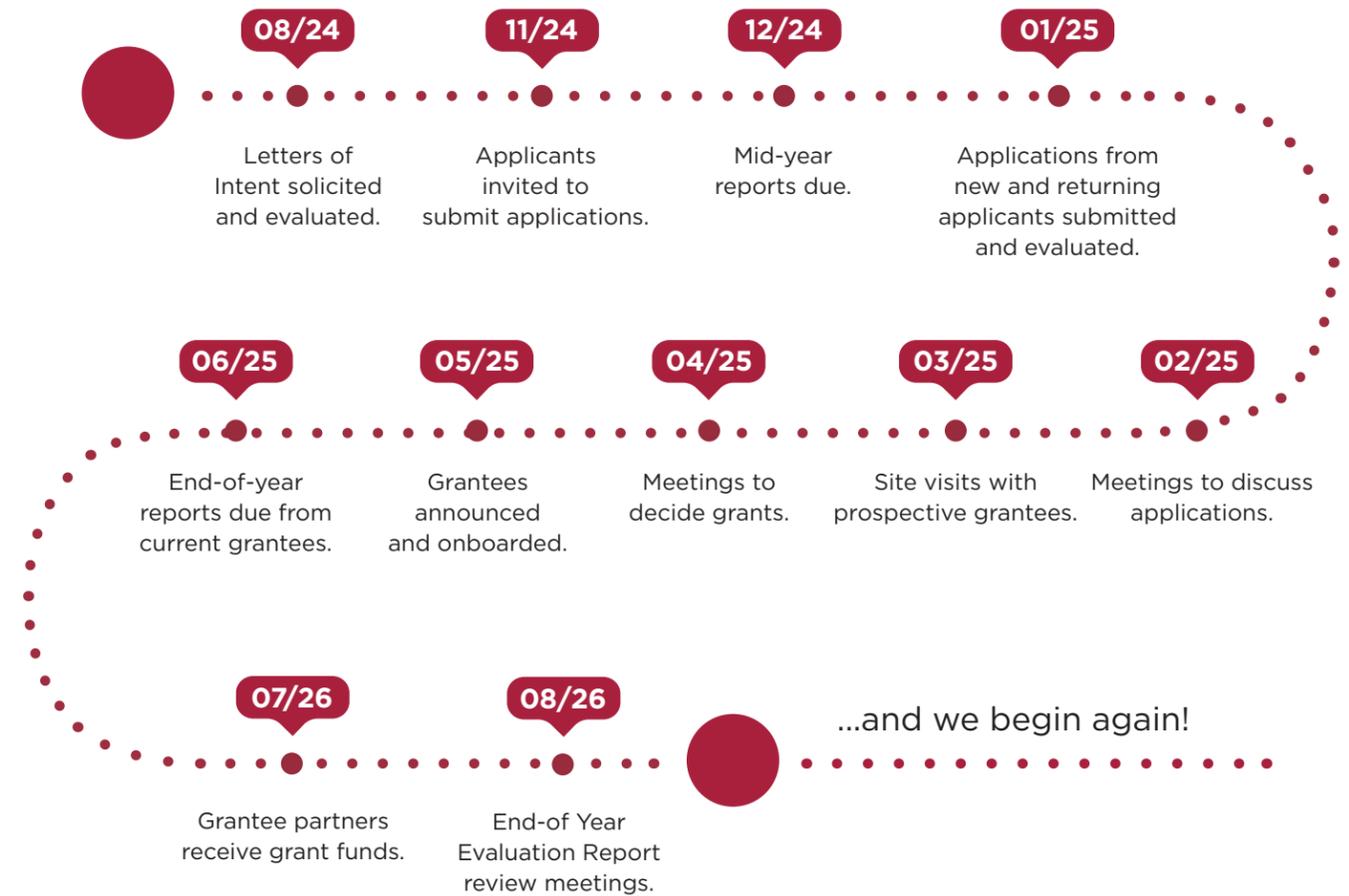
## Assets



Each year, The Miriam Fund raises money through membership dues and gifts. These donations are invested in a quasi-endowment fund, which is managed through the Jewish Community Endowment Pool (JCEP). Our fund balance is strong at a total of \$3.6 million as of June 30, 2025.

# Grantmaking process

The grantmaking process is the heart of The Miriam Fund's work. Over the years, our mission has remained consistent, but our methods have evolved as we gain new insights and react to the needs and capabilities of our grantees and the world at large. This hands-on, strategic process is led by TMF members.





Jookender

## ISRAEL SUBCOMMITTEE: \$115,000

- Economic Empowerment for Women (3rd year)**  
**\$25,000 Keep on Growing**  
 Business Forums for Businesswomen in Crisis.
- The Eden Center (3rd year)**  
**\$25,000 General Operating Support**  
 Making the mikvah welcoming and accessible, and using it as a platform to increase women's health and safety.
- American Friends of Beit Ruth (2nd year)**  
**\$20,000 Vocational Education & Skills Initiative**  
 Shades of Sweet, professional job training and readiness program for girls.
- ATZUM (2nd year)**  
**\$25,000 Task Force on Human Trafficking**  
 Coalition advocacy initiatives to drive sex trafficking and prostitution off the streets of Israel and seek the rehabilitation of prostituted persons.
- Yozmot Atid (1st year)**  
**\$20,000 Taking the Leap**  
 Building women's business entrepreneurship and economic resilience.

## JEWISH SUBCOMMITTEE: \$120,000

- Yachad New England/National Jewish Council for Disabilities (3rd year)**  
**\$24,997 Y.E.S. Your Expressive Self**  
 Art education and art therapy project for Jewish teens and young adult women with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism.
- Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action, Inc. (2nd year)**  
**\$15,000 Protecting Abortion Access**  
 Project to mobilize and educate the Massachusetts Jewish community to defend access to abortion.
- Jewish Family Service of Metrowest (2nd year)**  
**\$25,000 Jewish Elderly Women Homeless Prevention - Home Share Model Pilot**  
 Support housing specialist to assist in securing emergency housing for Jewish women facing eviction and homelessness, to research and pilot home sharing and other models, of housing for Jewish women.
- Hadassah-Brandeis Institute (1st year)**  
**\$5,000 Boston Agunah Taskforce (BAT)**  
 BAT is devoted to research, education, and advocacy for Women under Jewish Family Law.
- Jookender (1st year)**  
**\$15,000 No Ukrainian Woman Refugee Should Be Left Behind**  
 Empowering Ukrainian women and girls displaced by conflict, aiming to support their integration into new communities and facilitate their journey towards self-sufficiency.
- The Vilna Shul (1st year)**  
**\$25,000 The Only Woman in the Room**  
 An arts and cultural series about extraordinary Jewish women.



Yozmot Atid



Economic Empowerment for Women



Roca, Inc.



ATZUM-Justice Works

## SECULAR SUBCOMMITTEE: \$140,000

- Roca, Inc. (3rd year)**  
**\$25,000 Young Mothers' Program**  
 Support for the highest-risk young mothers while supporting and promoting the school readiness of their young children.
- RESPOND, Inc. (3rd year)**  
**\$25,000 Survivors of Abuse Feeling Empowered for Re-entry (SAFER)**  
 The first domestic violence program for women in a Massachusetts jail or prison.
- Women's Bar Foundation (2nd year)**  
**\$15,000 Family Law Project for Domestic Abuse Survivors**  
 Support to provide free legal assistance to low-income survivors of domestic abuse, so they can break the cycle of abuse and poverty.
- Women's Lunch Place (2nd year)**  
**\$25,000 Legal Services Project**  
 Support to provide staff lawyer to assist WLP guests, women experiencing homelessness, hunger, and poverty, with legal issues that constitute barriers to their improved health, stability, and self-sufficiency.

- Flying Cloud Institute (1st year)**  
**\$14,000 Young Women in Science**  
 Inspire young people and educators through dynamic science and art experiences that ignite creativity.
- LEAP Self-Defense, Inc. (1st year)**  
**\$21,000 General Operating Support**  
 Disrupting the violence that surrounds girls and gender-expansive youth by amplifying their voices, emboldening their courage, and imparting critical life and self-defense skills to thrive in the face of challenges.
- Jeremiah Program (1st year)**  
**\$15,000 Expanding Our Impact for Single Mother College Students in Boston**  
 Disrupt the cycle of poverty for single mothers and their children, two generations at a time.



RESPOND, Inc.



Jeremiah Project



The Eden Center

## The Eden Center

The Eden Center offers empowering professional training programs and community classes for women focused on personal growth, leadership, and holistic well-being. They are committed to helping women stay safe whilst continuing to immerse in the mikveh.

A participant reflected, “I learned that the words I use have a big impact for girls who’ve been abused, and once a person has been sexually abused, it is something that is with them for life. I’m using this knowledge not only professionally, but also to respond differently with people in my personal life who have been abused.”

By integrating trauma sensitivity, intimacy education, and emotional wellness into pre-marital guidance, The Eden Center is not only supporting individual healing but also fostering long-term, systemic change.

The program reflects the core Jewish value of *kavod habriyot* — respect for all people — and a commitment to treating every woman with dignity and compassion.

“You are leaders and role models for all women,” said another participant. “Participating in this program was transformative.”

Thanks to support from The Miriam Fund, The Eden Center is helping ensure that Jewish communities are safer, more inclusive, and better equipped to support survivors — one *kallah* teacher at a time.

## Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action, Inc.

In a time when reproductive rights are being challenged, The Miriam Fund is helping the Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA) organize the Jewish community to protect abortion access across the country. We’re educating volunteers to become effective advocates and organizing to impact public policy.

Two years ago, Alexis\* flew with her family from her home in Massachusetts to visit her in-laws in Texas. Nine weeks pregnant with a much-longed-for baby, by the time her plane landed, Alexis could tell that something was wrong. Because she was in Texas, she was refused the medication she desperately needed to safely complete her miscarriage. What followed was months of terrifying pain, bleeding, and unnecessary suffering.

Traumatized by her own experience and hoping to help others, Alexis allowed us to record her story for JALSA’s Abortion Access curriculum, which we now deliver at synagogues throughout the state. Driven by our Jewish values, we are working to create a just and equitable world that includes access to reproductive care for all.



Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action, Inc.



Women's Lunch Place

## Women's Lunch Place: Legal Services Program

Recently, an elderly guest of Women's Lunch Place (WLP) received a Notice to Quit from her property manager. The Notice to Quit was based on a clerical error that attributed an outstanding balance to the guest that she did not owe. The guest repeatedly informed the property manager of the error, but for weeks, the property manager was unresponsive.

With a potential eviction looming, WLP called in its full-time Greater Boson Legal Services (GBLS) attorney for assistance. Immediately upon receiving official correspondence from the GBLS attorney, the property manager cancelled the Notice to Quit and cleared the outstanding balance. The guest's living situation was secured.

While this success story seems simple, its effect is profound. Without the help of the GBLS attorney, this guest could have been forced into homelessness. The repercussions would have been immense. She would have had to start her housing search anew in a landscape where the affordable housing stock is at an all-time deficit.

The quick action of the GBLS attorney stabilized the unnecessarily precarious circumstances — one of many that WLP guests face on a regular basis — and successfully bridged the justice gap.

# The Miriam Fund

## 2024-2025 Leadership



### TMF Chairs

Rachel M. Goldstein  
Nancy Levitan Poorvu  
Deborah Posin

### TMF Grants Chairs

Janet F. Aserkoff  
Glenda Fishman

### Grant Subcommittee Leadership

#### Israel Chairs

Louise Citron  
Cindy Schlessinger

#### Jewish Chairs

Robin S. Gross  
Marni Smilow Levitt

#### Secular Chairs

Abby Fierman  
Debbie Kurinsky

### Executive Committee

Janet F. Aserkoff  
Julie Callum  
Cheryl Hoffman Carner  
Betsy Banks Epstein  
Reva Gold Fischman  
Glenda Fishman  
Leslie B. Gaffin  
Jodi Galin  
Carol R. Goldberg (z"l)\*  
Deborah B. Goldberg\*  
Rachel M. Goldstein  
Rosalind E. Gorin\*  
Beth S. Klarman\*  
Nancy Levitan Poorvu  
Deborah Posin

Gayle Rubin (Membership Co-chair)  
Harriet Schnitman (Nominations Co-chair)  
Barbara Schultz (Nominations Co-chair)  
Sharon Shapiro (Program and Advocacy Co-chair)  
Karen Tucker (Program and Advocacy Co-chair)  
Tana Weissman (Membership Co-chair)

### Staff

Beth Tauro, Director  
Nora Stolzman, Manager

\*Denotes a TMF Founder

## 2024-2025 Membership

Mary Akerson\*  
 Nancy Allen  
 Janet F. Aserkoff\*  
 JoAnn Gantz Bendetson  
 Susan Warshaw Benjamin  
 Sara Bernstein  
 Amy Bloomstone  
 Joyce Bohnen\*  
 Lorraine Bressler\*  
 Hillary Brown\*  
 Lisa Stein Brown\*  
 Lynda Bussgang\*  
 Julie Callum\*  
 Cheryl Hoffman Carner\*  
 Roberta Chafetz  
 Louise Citron\*  
 Dayl Cohen\*  
 Jennifer Cohen  
 Michele Cohen  
 Molly Cohen  
 Deborah Marcus Corrado\*  
 Estelle G. Cushner\*  
 Mady Donoff\*  
 Laura Dubin  
 Betsy Banks Epstein\*  
 Esta Gordon Epstein\*  
 Sherri Ades Falchuk  
 Ruth Ann Feinberg\*  
 Loren Feingold\*  
 Fran Feldman\*  
 Gail Fields  
 Abby Fierman\*  
 Barbara Fierman\*  
 Andie S. Finard  
 Peggy Goldsmith Fineman\*  
 Reva Gold Fischman\*  
 Glenda Fishman\*  
 Brenda Freishtat\*  
 Alexandra Fuchs  
 Leslie B. Gaffin\*  
 Jodi Galin\*  
 Linda Gelb  
 Lisa Gilman  
 Carol R. Goldberg\* (z"l)  
 Deborah B. Goldberg\*  
 Joan Goldberg, M.D.\*

Rachel M. Goldstein\*  
 Doris Gordon\*  
 Rosalind E. Gorin\*  
 Teri Gorsky  
 Julie Cederbaum Goschalk\*  
 Susan E. Gotz  
 Winnie Sandler Grinspoon  
 Lisa Gross  
 Robin S. Gross  
 Cynthia Ross Gruber  
 Susan L. Herman\*  
 Nancy Hodin  
 Diane Bernstein Homer\*  
 Harriet Kantrowitz  
 Karen Kaplan  
 Nancy R. Karp\*  
 Beth S. Klarman\*  
 Wendy J. Kraft  
 Lisa Krakoff  
 Barbara Krakow\*  
 Debbie Kurinsky\*  
 Saul and Gitta Kurlat  
 Charitable Foundation  
 Sheryl Lappin-Levy  
 Rhonda Lassner  
 Marcia Leifer\*  
 Linda J. Lerner  
 Marni Smilow Levitt  
 Meghan Lytton  
 Cynthia Marcus  
 Deborah Marcus  
 Melanie Marcus\*  
 Lauren Mazzella  
 Lisa Michel\*  
 Janet Nahirny\*  
 Linda M. Noonan\*  
 Sylvia B. Perlman, Ph.D.\*  
 Janet Polansky  
 Lorre Polinger\*  
 Robin M. Polishook\*  
 Lia G. Poorvu  
 Nancy Levitan Poorvu\*  
 Deborah Posin\*  
 Suzanne Priebatsch  
 Rosemary Putnam\*  
 Nancy Raphael

Patricia F. Ribakoff  
 Sharon Rich  
 Elizabeth Rosen\*  
 Gail Rothenberg  
 Lisa Rourke  
 Gayle Rubin\*  
 Aviva Sapers  
 Cindy Schlessinger\*  
 Harriet Schnitman\*  
 Barbara Schultz\*  
 Joyce Schultz  
 Pamela Schwartz\*  
 Joanne Shapiro  
 Sharon Shapiro\*  
 Jennifer K. Silver  
 Gayle Slattery\*  
 Toby M. Sloane\*  
 Susan Snider  
 Ellie Svenson\*  
 Gerri Sweder, Psy.D.  
 Barbara Targum\*  
 Carol Targum  
 Wendy Traynor  
 Karen Tucker\*  
 Jeane Ungerleider  
 Phyllis Viscidi  
 Barbara Freedman Wand  
 Dr. Ellen Weinberg\*  
 Jennifer Weinstock\*  
 Tana Weissman  
 Arnee R. Winshall\*  
 Robin Wolk\*  
 Dana Yaphe  
 Anonymous (2)

*\*Donor to 25th Anniversary Campaign  
 in addition to member dues*

## HONORING CAROL GOLDBERG



With great sadness, we mourn the passing of Carol Goldberg (z"l), one of three founding members of The Miriam Fund. Through her TMF leadership and other community roles, Carol established a legacy as a mentor and trailblazer filled with determination to improve outcomes for women and girls. Carol also served as a CJP Board of Directors member and was a long-time volunteer leader throughout the community.

“Carol was fearless and knew what it meant to have agency. She wasn’t surprised by obstacles, could push back without running over others, and always invited others to join her. A great example is the establishment of The Miriam Fund which expanded the impact of the strategic plan findings by creating a concrete way to move towards the goal of involving more women.”  
 – Beth Klarman, Founder

“Carol was an exemplar. She modeled how to be a leader in both business and civic life. She was courageous, brilliant, and determined. To a generation grappling with the question, she demonstrated that women were capable of the same kinds of successes as men, although they could generally achieve their goals with more grace. All of us involved in the founding of The Miriam Fund benefited from her wisdom, her wit, her extraordinary intelligence, and the power of her remarkable personality.”  
 – Rosalind Gorin, Founder

# Thank you



Dear Members,

What a milestone year we have experienced! Members stepped in and stepped up to celebrate The Miriam Fund's 25th anniversary and support our work in so many ways. We began our year approving Amended and Restated Governance Policies to codify updates to our operations and reflect expectations of leadership roles. Then we turned our focus to our annual grantmaking process, activities, and initiatives to highlight our 25th anniversary!

We had many opportunities to gather and connect this year. Members were instrumental in all of our work. Over 60 members participated as leaders and committee volunteers in planning and implementing FY25 programming, including our Opening Event, Volunteer Day, 25th Anniversary

Campaign, and 25th Anniversary Celebration. Members ranging from first year to 25-year veterans got to know each other better participating in the planning!

Over 60 members read LOIs and participated in our vibrant and respectful grant meetings. It was wonderful to witness the power and collegiality of our community who planned and/or attended events, participated in grantmaking, and donated to our 25th Anniversary Campaign.

This teamwork and collaboration will ignite us to continue our determined efforts to support our grantee partners while honoring the community and values of The Miriam Fund.

This year marks five years that I have had the privilege to serve as the Director of The Miriam Fund. At the 25th Anniversary Celebration, I shared three aspects of my role which have been meaningful to me:

**The Miriam Fund holds true to the tremendous vision, mission, and values which were established by the founders while continuing to evolve our best practices.**

In addition to our grant operations, there have been numerous moments of growth, opportunity, and challenge in the last five years. A few include: switching all operations to a remote experience during COVID-19 while preserving our community connections; undertaking a five-year strategic planning process; and the learning and influence of our work with Social Innovation Forum which evolved our perspectives and interactions

as funders and resulted in several process changes. These include updating the grant application process to recognize significant shifts in philanthropy and funding practices; creating a mentor-mentee program; and pivoting our grant processes for our Israel applicants after October 7.

In all these instances, the decisions we made and the actions we took were guided by The Miriam Fund's values. Our Executive Committee and other leadership provided guidance while also gathering and valuing the input of all members. We reached decisions respectfully and collaboratively. We stayed true to our mission and addressed current needs, learnings, and best practices.

### **The Miriam Fund grantee partners.**

Our grantee partners are the leaders creating opportunities for women and girls in the communities they serve. We try to be the best funder possible through our relationships and by offering non-financial support, including professional development convenings and a monthly newsletter. We could not do our work without the care and passion of the grantees, and we learn a great deal from them. Our grantees are the heroes and deserve the accolades for creating change in the world.

### **The passion and dedication each member brings to The Miriam Fund.**

Each day I am thankful to the incredible women of The Miriam Fund. In addition to their financial support, the number of hours that our combined members contribute to leadership positions and committee work is staggering, especially this year! Not a day goes by that I don't experience some interaction — from a quick email to a long meeting — that makes me appreciate the thoughtfulness, passion, and respect each individual brings to our community. The Miriam Fund members show up in this work and community with such brilliant minds and open hearts. I am so grateful to work side by side with each of you.

The relevance and importance of our TMF's focus on supporting organizations that serve self-identifying women and girls increases daily. As grantmakers, we continue to grow and listen, embrace best practices, and partner with our grantees to support the incredible efforts they achieve for their communities.

With gratitude and respect,

**Beth Tauro**

*Director, The Miriam Fund*

# The Miriam Fund

Creating opportunities for women and girls



To learn more about The Miriam Fund:

**Visit our website**

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

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The Miriam Fund is a unique collaborative venture with Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston (CJP).