

Dear Chevre/Friends,

We will always remember October 7 – where we were when we heard the news, the days that followed as the enormity of the attack became clear, the uncertainty and fear. As the day-to-day pain and resolve for Israelis continues, the question of when the war will end has taken center stage.

Thank you for saying *hineni* – here I am – when tragedy occurred. You joined Jews across North America in supporting the people of Israel, including Israeli Jews, Druze, Israeli Arabs, and Bedouins, as well as our Jewish future by generously giving to the emergency campaign.

Our Louisville community has raised over 1.5 million, while Jewish Federations across North America together have raised over \$776 million. Our colleagues in Israel are working tirelessly to ensure your support will save and change lives.

Please know you are an integral part of writing the next chapter of our Jewish story.

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Louisville, our board members and staff, I want to thank you personally for your commitment.

The attached report will provide some details highlighting how our funds are used and will support the resilience of the Jewish people.

Am Yisrael Chai,



Impact Report | Issued February 2024



Jewish Federations' Response in Israel

Jewish Federation of Louisville and Jewish Federations of North American
Combined Impact Since October 7th



Jewish Federation[®]
OF LOUISVILLE



Jewish
Federations
of North America

The Unthinkable

On October 7th, Jewish communities around the world awoke with horror and disbelief as we learned that terrorists from Gaza had infiltrated Israel. More than 1,200 innocent Israelis lost their lives, 240 Israelis and people of other nationalities were abducted and taken hostage to Gaza, and nearly 2,000 people were wounded during the brutal terror attacks.

Our hearts were shattered. From grief and anger emerged a shared determination to ensure our brothers and sisters in Israel could feel the strength, warmth, and unwavering support of their North American Jewish family as they began to navigate the challenging months ahead.

Our Approach

As communities around the world processed the worst atrocities in modern Jewish history, they knew they could count on the Jewish Federation system. Thanks to the Louisville Jewish Community, combined with the powerful network across North America, global reach, and vetting process that allows us to get dollars where they are needed most, Jewish Federations were there, ready to respond. Our system launched in full force, assessing needs, connecting with NGOs on the ground, and coordinating in real time with foundations and the Israeli government. We raised an incredible amount of funding and began making a significant impact.

As part of the allocation process, our team developed four strategic pillars. Our immediate response focused on offering lifelines, including delivering critical resources, strengthening vital infrastructures, and caring for individuals. We also quickly began giving to lasting medical and mental health efforts. Now, we are taking steps to strengthen Israel's economy. We will soon turn our collective attention toward rebuilding communities and restoring Israel's national resilience.

Before any emergency dollars were raised or distributed, it was the strength of our Jewish Federation of Louisville's Annual Campaign and our strong partnerships with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), that made it possible to respond immediately. Our response to the war in Israel has been a testament to the collective strength, resilience, and unity that your generosity allows us to demonstrate every day. In every stage of Israel's need, we will be there.

Israel Emergency Fund

\$768.5M raised

\$270.2M allocated

472 organizations supported

Jewish Federation of Louisville's Contribution

\$1.597M raised

558 donors

Strategic Pillars:

1. Lifeline Services
2. Medical and Trauma Relief
3. Economic Relief and Recovery
4. Community Resilience and Rebuilding

*Data in this report includes all reporting to Jewish Federations of North America as of December 31, 2023.

The Need

Hundreds of thousands of people have been impacted across Israel – especially those communities in the Western Negev and in the North – ranging from victims of terror, evacuees, and hostage families to lone soldiers, families of reservists, and more.

We work with incredible local community organizations, leaders, first responders, and individuals who are set up to deliver goods, dollars, and services to those who need them most. While the scope of needs is tremendous and ever-changing, our system is designed to continuously assess and meet the needs in every moment.

Need in Numbers

239,000+ people in Israel evacuated

117,000+ individuals do not know when they will be able to return home

The Response

Within hours of the attack – and in partnership with The Jewish Agency for Israel, JDC, and hundreds of other organizations – Jewish Federations began providing critical resources and immediate assistance.

We were on the ground immediately, identifying new, critical partners, and coordinating with leaders and government. And, as funds kept pouring in, we were able to cater to more and more people and their needs.

We were able to respond to Israel’s critical needs on Oct. 7 because we were there on Oct. 6 and the days, weeks, and months prior.

Response in Numbers

\$7.5M in assistance distributed to victims of terror

190,000

538,000

1.2M hot meals served to displaced individuals/families

“We took a very bad and destabilizing hit. But what is happening [here] is a miracle. Good people coming in from the outside. And providing all the support so that things here will be different. So that we have a successful and thriving society here.”

Tomer Oshri
JDC; Community Director, Dead Sea hotels

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1 Lifeline Services

\$177,060,080 Allocated

In a crisis, the most immediate needs are also the most fundamental. We mobilized, with the aid of our partners on the ground, to provide lifesaving services. These included food, clothing, housing, financial assistance, medical care, spiritual care, classes for evacuated children, and support to the healthcare system.

"Eilat has been hosting tens of thousands of refugees who were uprooted from their homes, and we are supplying basic needs equipment for the residents."

Iris Cohen
Eilat community center network manager

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Impact

142,300 nights in evacuation stays

146,100 individuals receiving respite services

\$10.9M distributed in cash food assistance

14,600 children receiving educational support

Special Populations

As thousands of Israelis have been displaced from the Western Negev, northern border communities, and beyond, Jewish Federations are providing targeted assistance to vulnerable populations, including the elderly and their caretakers, young children, Russian-speaking Israelis, Ethiopian Israelis, Holocaust survivors, the LGBTQ community, and more.

140,000
Elderly Individuals

4,600
Individuals with disabilities

61,000
Bedouin Israelis

\$31M
for special populations

69,000
New Immigrants

25,000
Holocaust Survivors

2 Medical and Trauma Relief

\$59,629,746 Allocated

Jewish Federations helped hospitals obtain medical equipment and maximize their capacity. Our proactive approach to mental health and trauma relief included supporting dedicated hotlines, additional training for thousands of caregivers and responders, and ongoing support to emergency teams. We provided direct care to more than a million people, including first responders, lone soldiers, families, and caregivers coping with the loss, injury, or abduction of their relatives and friends.

"We are all experiencing immense fear and trauma. The children heard everything—the screaming..the shots."

Yael Yoshei
Therapist

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Impact

\$46.2M

invested in medical equipment

19,000

medical and mental health professionals received additional training

1.7M

individuals treated in healthcare facilities

49,000

individuals treated through mental health organizations

What's Next?

3 Economic Relief and Recovery

\$29,134,000 Allocated

At the same time as attacks forced thousands from their homes, they also forced closures of businesses across all of Israel. Families are now also struggling with the loss of income as reserve soldiers answer the call of duty. Jewish Federations are at the forefront of economic relief efforts, investing in frontline communities and in a fund that makes loans to small and medium-sized businesses. Our investments are designed to ensure a resilient and flourishing economy.

4 Community Resilience and Rebuilding

\$2,521,938 Allocated

In the months and years ahead, our work will help enable thousands of people to return to their homes and rebuild their communities. Jewish Federations aim to bolster societal resilience, ensuring that despite the events of October 7th, we will make possible the growth and potential of the of the Israeli people. Our gifts and efforts will ensure the rebuilding and strengthening of Israeli society.

"The difference between optimism and hope, is that optimism is just believing that everything will be okay. Hope is also actively trying to make it happen."

Ido Atary

Teacher; father of four;
evacuee from Sderot



Louisville Takes Action.

Following the horrific events of October 7, the Louisville community leapt into action. Many people took comfort in the sense of community as we gathered together in solidarity and to find comfort with others who might be grappling with similar struggles. JFCS provided counseling services to support anyone who felt overwhelmed by the onslaught of tragedy invading their daily lives. The Jewish Federation of Louisville took action in many ways throughout the community, aiming to educate, advocate, and honor members of our local community and our community across the globe at a time when coming together and supporting each other was most urgent.



What's Next?

Educate

Many in our community were asking what they could do and how to talk about the current situation in Israel. Jewish Federation provided public resources

- Frequently updated news, links, talking points, and other educational resources on JewishLouisville.org
- Public programs focusing on the current events in Israel as well as historical context and historical appreciation of Israel



Advocate

- Behind the scenes, the Jewish Community Relations Council held meetings with legislators to advocate for support of Israel and to educate them on the situation in Israel. Volunteer and professional leaders met with legislators from both parties, including Sen. Mitch McConnell and Rep. Morgan McGarvey.
- Representatives from Jewish Federation of Louisville participated in a Jewish Federations of North America gathering and, along with dozens of Louisvillians, participated in the March for Israel in Washington, DC. They heard first-hand accounts of the situation from Israelis.



Honor

At the core of the war are innocent civilians whose lives have been irrevocably changed. The Jewish Community of Louisville mourns those whose lives were taken. We pray and advocate for the safe return of all hostages, and we are here to honor those here and in the Middle East whose lives are impacted every day as a result of the Hamas attacks and the subsequent war.

- On October 10, hundreds of people in the Jewish Community gathered at the Trager Family JCC to pay respects to lives lost, to the hundreds of people taken hostage, and to the victims of brutal attacks at the hands of Hamas.
- We ask our community to Never Forget. Reminders of the names of the people who have not yet returned to their homes and families are displayed around the Trager Family JCC. We stand together to support the people of Israel and the notion that Israel has a right to exist.



Partnership2Gether

For 25 years, the Louisville Jewish community has shared a partnership with the highly diverse Western Galilee communities of Matte Asher and Akko, both highly diverse communities.

In the weeks following the October 7 attacks, our US Partnership Consortium communities and the JFNA have contributed greatly to the following needs of our region:

- Distance learning equipment for children, such as laptops.
- Relief projects, including programs for evacuated families and vouchers for lone soldiers.
- Mobile bomb shelters and books, games, and crafts for safe rooms and bomb shelters, which are a part of daily life in the north right now.
- Emergency equipment for first responders in each of our localities, including protective vests and electric generators.

The region also received JFNA support for the Galilee Medical Center, and Kivunim, which empowers young adults with disabilities to achieve independence and become active members of their communities, who helped move people with disabilities into bomb shelters.



Thank you for making a world of difference.

In this traumatic, moment for the Jewish people, you have made an enormous difference. Every single person who has shown up, in every community — together, your unprecedented giving has made a truly significant difference in so many lives. We have empowered hundreds of organizations and thousands of volunteers and have made a difference in the trajectory of Israel's ongoing ability to respond to medical, mental health, communal, and economic needs as this crisis continues.

We are in awe of the impact we are having together, and we thank you.

Our Partners

This work would not be possible without our historic partners, The Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. For more than a decade, Jewish Federations' annual campaigns have powered their global efforts and our emergency campaigns have enabled the Israelis to meet the most pressing needs.

Today, in this dark moment, Jewish Federations are also supporting nearly 500 non-governmental organizations that are helping to meet the critical needs of impacted Israelis. These groups address diverse needs and populations across Israel. For a full list of our partners, click [here](#).



"I am very grateful. So much deep-felt thanks from the bottom of my heart. If you have money - donate money. If you have time - donate your time. If you are smart and knowledgeable - donate that.

Tomorrow, any of us could need help. I wish for you that you will get back more than you put in."

Miriam Rose

Recipient of basic need assistance through The Jewish Agency for Israel

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