

ISRAEL EMERGENCY FUND GRANTS REPORT



As of February 9, 2024, Federations across the country have collectively raised over **\$780M**, including close to **\$22M** from donors in the Bay Area. Nearly **\$350M*** in grants have been made to date to hundreds of organizations to support various basic needs, emergency medical services, evacuation and housing, mental health, trauma relief, economic recovery, and more.

Following the practice of other Federations nationwide, 80% of the dollars we have raised in the Bay Area have been granted to Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) for inclusion in JFNA's Israel collective grant allocation process. The remaining 20% is being directed by our Bay Area Israel Affairs Task Force, with guidance from our Federation's Israel professional team.

JFNA COLLECTIVE GRANT ALLOCATIONS

Grant allocation decisions are being made by JFNA's Israel Emergency Campaign Allocations Committee, which meets regularly to discuss ongoing needs and review proposals. This Committee is co-chaired by **Jeffrey Schoenfeld**, Chair of JFNA's Israel and Overseas Committee, and **Stephen Hoffman**, Chairman of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation. Also sitting on the Committee and representing the San Francisco Bay Area are **Susie Sorkin**, past member of our Federation board and current member of JFNA's National Women's Philanthropy Board, and **Daryl Messinger**, Chair of the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) and past president of the Union for Reform Judaism, Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, and Congregation Beth Am.

JFNA has also created a new Israel Emergency Loan Fund. The fund will address Israel's largescale impending economic crisis stemming from the critical liquidity issues faced by tens of thousands of businesses amid the war. Through allocations to fully vetted existing loan platforms, the Loan Fund will deliver capital quickly and at scale across regions, sectors, and industries. Philanthropic capital will absorb losses and support discounted borrowing rates, allowing the loan platforms to access leverage from banks and insurance companies to provide small and medium business loans at a total value of 3-5 times the value of capital allocated by the Loan Fund.

** Includes \$230M in Federation-directed grants and \$119M in JFNA collective grants.*

JFNA Collective Total Dollars Allocated to Date *(as of February 9, 2024)*
\$119,265,789:

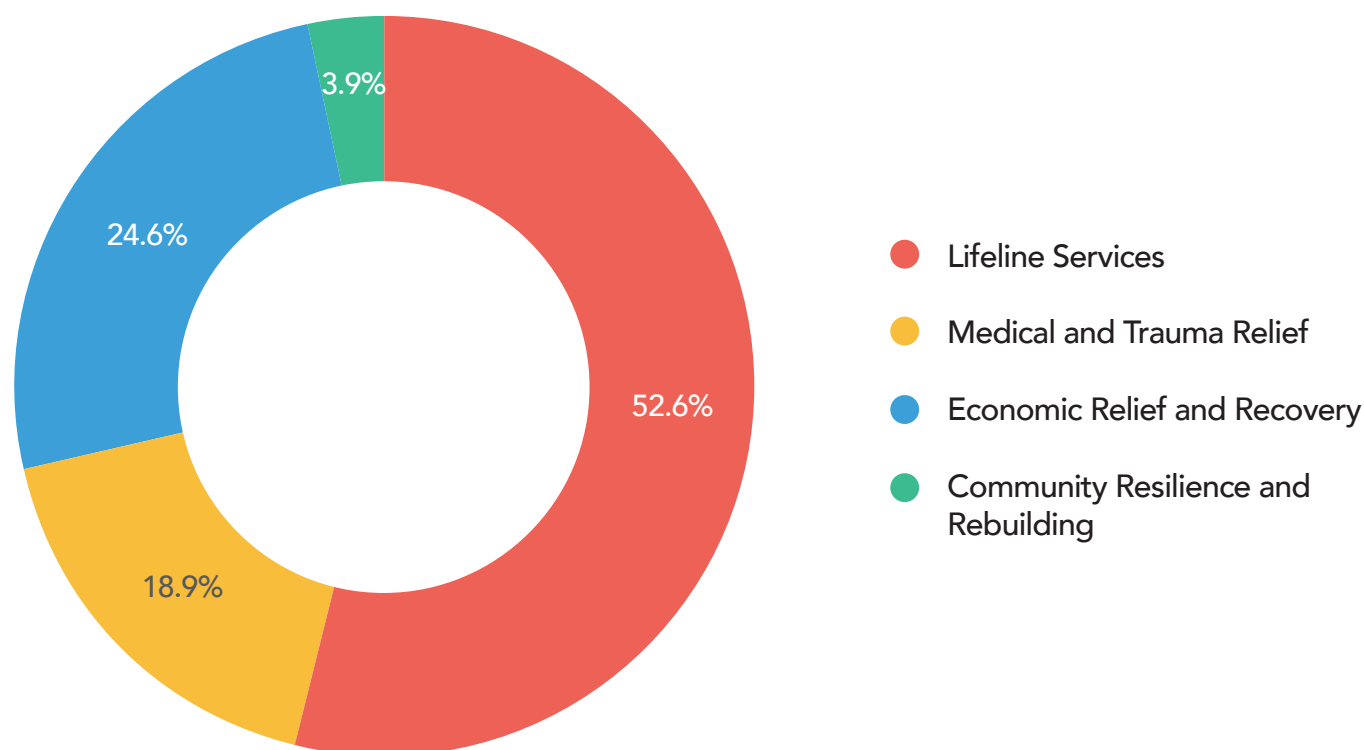
◆ Lifeline Services	\$62,702,994
Fundamental needs including food, clothing, financial assistance, medicines, spiritual care, housing, and educational support.	
◆ Medical and Trauma Relief	\$22,597,795
Addressing the physical, psychological, and emotional wellbeing of affected Israelis.	
◆ Economic Relief and Recovery	\$29,365,000
Supporting interventions to bolster economic recovery including a loan fund for small and medium-size businesses.	
◆ Community Resilience and Rebuilding	\$4,550,000
Help people to return to their homes and rebuild their communities and strengthen Israeli society.	
◆ Other	\$50,000
Support for communities under fire and for new olim (immigrants) living in absorption centers through evacuations, temporary housing, children's activities, and increased security.	

JFNA Collective Largest Total Allocations

JFNA Israel Emergency Loan Fund	\$40,000,000
Jewish Agency for Israel**	\$27,110,000
JDC	\$9,600,000
Israel Trauma Coalition (ITC)	\$3,150,000
Israel Association for Community Centers	\$2,082,400

*** Includes \$15M multi-year gift collectively allocated*

JFNA Collective Allocations to Date by Needs



➔ View full [JFNA Israel Emergency Fund Grants Report](#) for more details

BAY AREA SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

The San Francisco Bay Area Federation has mobilized nearly **\$22M** for Israel, including nearly **\$15M** raised for our Israel Emergency Fund and more than **\$7M** recommended by our donors, donor-advised funds, and supporting foundations for organizations working on the ground in Israel.

As noted above, 80% of the Israel Emergency Fund dollars are allocated through the JFNA collective allocations process, while grant decisions for the remaining 20% of the funds are being made by our Israel Affairs Task Force chaired by Federation board member **Guy Miasnik**, and guided by **Barak Loozon**, Director of our Federation's Israel office, and **Ester Biro**, our Israel Program Officer. Other members of this Task Force include Federation Board Chair, **Eileen Ruby**, and Federation board members **Arthur Slepian**, **Barry Cohn**, **Susan Saal**, and **Jerry Yanowitz**, as well as **Ido Sergev** and **Susie Sorkin** (who is also on JFNA's Israel Emergency Campaign Allocations Committee). The Task Force meets bi-weekly to make grant recommendations, which are then approved by our Board of Directors.

The Task Force has prioritized grants to organizations that have existing partnerships with the Federation. This helps to ensure that resources are allocated to organizations with proven capabilities, strong leadership, transparency, and accountability. This also helps to align emergency grantmaking with our longstanding shared society agenda, which is now more important than ever.

The Task Force is also taking into consideration short, medium, and long-term needs and working to determine where grants will respond to the most pressing needs and serve the most people. Additionally, they are seeking out unique opportunities to fund organizations that are not already supported by JFNA (or other major) efforts, or to meet otherwise unmet needs, including focusing on special or vulnerable populations such as women, Arab Israelis, and Ultra-Orthodox.

Bay Area Federation Total Dollars Allocated to Date *(as of January 25, 2024)*
\$2.48M to 32 organizations in three key areas:

- ◆ **Basic Support for Frontline Communities and Evacuees** **\$1,075,000**
Support for communities under fire and for new olim (immigrants) living in absorption centers through evacuations, temporary housing, children’s activities, and increased security. Also, food and financial assistance for impacted families, the elderly, and the homebound.
- ◆ **Rebuilding Society** **\$795,000**
Assistance for people returning to impacted homes and communities and support for rebuilding and strengthening Israeli society.
- ◆ **Trauma Relief** **\$585,000**
Wide-scale trauma relief and psychosocial support with expanded capabilities through direct care to the injured and sexually assaulted, and families whose relatives were murdered, injured, or abducted; and training and support for caregivers and responders.

Bay Area Federation Largest Allocations:

- Branco Weiss
- Place-IL
- Yanabia
- Shahrar
- MASLAN

Responding to Local Needs Stemming from the War in Israel

The war in Israel has had profound reverberations in the Bay Area. Since October 7th, there has been a staggering rise of nearly 400% in reported antisemitic incidents of assault, vandalism, and harassment over the same period last year, according to the Anti-Defamation League. This disturbing trend has left many of us feeling “othered,” scared, isolated, and unsafe. The Federation is in a unique position to respond and support our community during these dark times.

◆ Research

To better understand the scope of the challenges, the Federation surveyed our community partners, including preschools, camps, Hillels, synagogues, and Jewish youth/young adult engagement groups.

- Over 75% of respondents (n=39) said they had new, unmet short-term needs stemming from the war in Israel, including: increased security; mental health support for staff and community members; and help navigating difficult conversations in the community related to Israel.
- Half of the organizations also said they need support combatting antisemitic rhetoric in the short and long-term.
- And 72% of organizations anticipate that their increased security needs will continue long-term.
- Additionally, most of the preschools and Jewish day schools are absorbing displaced Israeli families, who may require tuition, language assistance, and trauma relief.

◆ Approach

Based on these findings, we launched a \$2M initiative to address the four primary needs identified. We are providing:

1. Upgraded and enhanced security for Jewish organizations and institutions
2. Advocacy and external affairs efforts to respond to antisemitism and bolster support for Israel
3. Supporting Israeli families relocating to the Bay Area
4. Mental health support, especially for Jewish professional staff

◆ Grants and Activities to Date

Details about grants and activities to date are described below:

1. Upgraded and enhanced security for Jewish organizations and institutions

The Federation’s community security team has increased their activities as tensions have risen across the Bay Area. We have stepped up as a liaison between our communal organizations, law enforcement, and intelligence

intelligence agencies to monitor threat levels; we are conducting an increased number of security consultations with organizations and speaking with their parent and staff groups; and we are keeping our community informed through ongoing communications that serve to notify, advise, or alert depending on the severity of the perceived threat level. Additionally, we are facilitating trainings to better prepare our Jewish institutions on prevention measures as well as how to respond if the worst should happen.

We also launched an RFP to provide up to \$500,000 in micro-grants to Jewish camps, schools, and other institutions to upgrade and enhance their security. To date we have funded 49 organizations. Grants ranged from \$5,000-\$10,000 and are being used for projects to upgrade physical security (e.g. CCTV system; gates and fencing of the perimeter; facility "hardening" (upgrades to doors and windows) and/or defray the cost of added security guards.

2. Advocacy efforts to respond to antisemitism and bolster support for Israel

To address the immense rise in antisemitism and anti-Israel rhetoric, we are engaging in increased advocacy efforts and external affairs work, in partnership with the Bay Area Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). To scale their efforts, we provided JCRC a significant new grant to expand their community engagement and response work in the Jewish community, in progressive spaces, K-12 and higher education, and local and state government. They are also scaling their media relations and social media capacity to strengthen the reach of our message in traditional, online, print, and social media. Additionally, our grant is also helping JCRC pay for legal representation related to detractor activity and negligence from schools (while they will likely receive generous pro-bono support from community members, they are likely to accrue additional legal fees).

Along with JCRC, we are also continuing to co-sponsor gatherings to bring people together to comfort one another, raise our collective voice against the atrocities that have occurred, rally support from our elected officials, and reaffirm our unwavering commitment to Israel. The Federation has played a central role in crafting the messages delivered and creating talking points for gatherings, which have happened across the Bay Area. Additionally, together we are advocating for policies that address the concerns of our community, such as the recent approval of \$10 million in state funding to immediately increase police presence at places of worship, and an additional \$20 million investment in the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

3. Supporting Israeli families relocating to the Bay Area

To date, we have distributed \$200k in tuition assistance grants to 16 Jewish preschools and day schools for nearly 100 students. Preschools and day schools on the Peninsula received the most funds because that is where the majority of families have relocated.

We understand the importance of staying connected and will provide regular updates as we make new grants. Your support and engagement are crucial, and we value the opportunity to share insights into our ongoing efforts.

If you have any specific questions or if there's additional information you would like to receive, feel free to reach out at info@sfjcf.org.