

# WHY FEDERATION? 2024 Case for Giving





The Greater Miami Jewish Federation is a lifeline in place 365 days a year. Federation is part of a global humanitarian system that sustains Jewish life and brings help and hope to the vulnerable in Miami, in Israel and more than 70 other countries worldwide.

## TODAY, WE ARE FACING SOME OF THE GREATEST CHALLENGES FOR OUR PEOPLE:

- Recovery from the national and personal trauma in Israel following the October 7 attacks
- Alarming global antisemitism and anti-Israel extremism
- Food insecurity and the high cost of living for the vulnerable
- Community safety and Jewish institutional security
- Youth mental health crisis

These issues — and many more — are all having a profound impact on the Jewish people around the world.

While the recent Israel Emergency Fund enabled us to best address extraordinary needs immediately after the horrific October 7 attacks, it is the Annual Greater Miami Jewish Federation/UJA Campaign — with its proven and trusted partners — that makes it possible to provide life-saving programs and services wherever they are needed, every single day.

In recent years, the number of people who turn to Federation for help has grown tremendously. Donors like you tell us they look to Federation for leadership because we know how to respond quickly with technical expertise and we spend donations in a wise, effective manner.

> This is exactly why Federation exists ... and why the Annual Greater Miami Jewish Federation/UJA Campaign is as important as ever.



## How is Federation supporting Israel?

**SINCE OCTOBER 7, 2023**, Israel has faced national trauma and unprecedented needs as a result of a prolonged war, terror and hundreds of thousands of displaced families. Miami has a deep and abiding connection to Israel. The welfare of our Jewish homeland and its people are everpresent in our minds. Each year, millions of dollars are allocated by the Greater Miami Jewish Federation to programs and services that assist vulnerable populations by:

**Providing immediate and long-term financial and psychological support** to those affected by acts of terror through the Fund for Victims of Terror and numerous organizations

**Supporting the nutritional needs of Israelis** by funding nonprofits that harvest unpicked crops from fields, provide hot meals and broadly distribute food baskets and supermarket gift cards

Educating, training and empowering children and adults with disabilities through a number of nonprofits so they can achieve their fullest potential

**Offering affordable housing and a sense of community** to 7,500 frail elderly Israelis — many of them Holocaust Survivors — who would otherwise have no place to call home

#### Welcoming and settling thousands of new olim

(immigrants) making *aliyah* from across the globe, many of whom are fleeing rising antisemitism, political turmoil, war or adverse economic conditions in their home countries

**Partnering teen mentors with at-risk children** through the Youth Futures program to give the younger participants the tools they need to navigate personal, familial, social and educational challenges and to celebrate achievements

**Working one-on-one with women** through Israeli nonprofits (*amutot*) in the areas of economic and societal empowerment, integration and equality, protection against and prevention of violence and leadership development

Advocating for Israel and speaking out against anti-Israel rhetoric locally, nationally and internationally through rallies, government relations, lobbying, op-ed pieces, interfaith dialogue and educational programming



## What are Federation's key priorities beyond Israel?

#### Securing Our Community's Local Jewish Institutions ANTISEMITISM. ANTI-ISRAEL SENTIMENT AND EXTREMISM

are issues of great concern, as Jew hatred has risen at an alarming rate. Our Jewish Community Relations Council speaks out against these acts while also building bridges of understanding with diverse community partners. To keep Jewish Miami safe, Federation's Office of Community Security works with 120 essential Jewish institutions and has helped Miami Jewish organizations obtain **207 grants to improve their security, representing more than \$21.7 million in federal funding**.

### Sustaining a Social-Service Safety Net

THE RISING COST OF LIVING and recovery from the pandemic have had a dramatic effect here at home. Today, 1 in 5 people in Miami's Jewish community depends on Federation for some form of financial assistance or access to Jewish life — up 60 percent from just a few years ago. Federation has been addressing food insecurity in Miami's Jewish community for several years through a variety of initiatives, serving thousands of people. In addition, Federation offers companionship for lonely seniors, provides counseling for children and families, supports people with disabilities and distributes loans and grants to those facing economic hardship.

#### **Supporting Jewish Education and Identity**

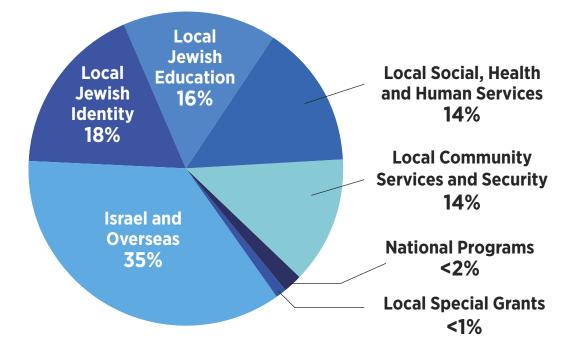
**FEDERATION IS STEADFAST** in our commitment to Jewish life through formal and informal education, funding three Jewish community centers, PJ Library, Jewish overnight summer camp scholarships, Israel programs, Hillels on seven Florida college campuses and programs that enable young adults to bear witness to the devastation of the Holocaust and experience Israel for the first time. Ensuring a vibrant Jewish future, Federation provides **vital funding to 22 Jewish day schools and congregational schools, serving more than 5,300 students, and supports a network of 28 early childhood education programs, impacting more than 3,500 children.** 

#### **Building and Strengthening Community**

**SERVING ONE OF THE MOST DIVERSE POPULATIONS** in the nation, Federation is a unifying force for a caring Miami Jewish community. Through volunteer opportunities, educational events and missions to Israel, we bring together people of all denominations, interests and backgrounds for the greater good of the Jewish people.



## How are Annual Campaign dollars invested?





## Federation is a trusted, effective and efficient organization.



The Greater Miami Jewish Federation has received a 4-star rating — the highest possible — from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of charities.



- MORE THAN 91 CENTS of every dollar donated goes directly to impactful programs and services.
- FOUNDED IN 1938, Federation is marking its 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and is a valued, respected Miami institution with a long-term vision for the future of our community.
- **VOLUNTEER OVERSIGHT** guides every aspect of Federation's work, including our financial stability and strategic direction.
- **AS PART OF A GLOBAL SYSTEM**, Federation addresses emergent needs, wherever they may be, at a moment's notice.

## Why are more dollars needed?

**THE COSTS TO PROVIDE VITAL SERVICES** to the vulnerable have risen dramatically over the past several years in the US and around the world. To keep pace, your increased donation to the Annual Federation/UJA Campaign is urgently needed to enable Federation and our partners to continue to bring help and hope to those facing tremendous difficulties.

		THEN (Cost in 2018)	<b>NOW</b> (Cost in 2023)	INCREASE
	One hour of counseling for an Israeli suffering from trauma after a terrorist attack	\$81	\$128	<b>个 58%</b>
	A week's worth of fresh and nonperishable kosher food for an individual in Miami facing food insecurity	\$64	\$150	个 134%
	Average monthly rent in Miami	\$1,350	\$2,396	<b>个 77%</b>
	Monthly homecare for frail Holocaust Survivors in Miami	\$1,334	\$2,301	<b>↑ 72%</b>
×	Preparation and flight for <i>aliyah</i> (immigration to Israel) for a family of four from Ukraine or the former Soviet Union	\$3,720	\$6,300	个 69%
	Monthly food and medicine for older adults and families in Venezuela	\$73	\$272	<b>个 272%</b>



## Who is Federation helping?

## **Meet Jean**

**TRAUMA BEGAN IMPACTING JEAN'S LIFE** not long after he immigrated to Israel several years ago and witnessed a terrorist attack. Then he moved near the Gaza border and became a survivor of terrorism himself — twice. Severely wounded in a rocket attack and his greenhouse destroyed by arson, Jean received financial aid, trauma counseling and comfort through the Fund for Victims of Terror. "If it were not for the help my family got each time we experienced terrorism," said Jean, "I'm not sure how we would have survived."

### **Meet Lilyan**

A SINGLE MOTHER OF TWO YOUNG BOYS, Lilyan was already struggling to afford food for her family when she lost her job at a local restaurant. After calling the Jewish community helpline, she was put in touch with Federation's primary human services agency, Jewish Community Services, where she was able to shop at the Kosher Food Bank monthly for nutritious food to feed her children.

## **Meet Veta**

**VETA WAS AT AN AIRPORT IN RUSSIA** when she was accosted by a group of young men who taunted her for wearing a Star of David necklace. When she told them it was not just a star, but a symbol of belonging to the Jewish people, they shouted, among other affronts, that Jews are a mistake of nature. Veta has since fled Russia and the threat of antisemitism with the help of Federation partner The Jewish Agency for Israel. "I am happy to be in Israel," she said, "my homeland."

## **Meet Abe**

**ABE IS A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR** who enjoyed getting together regularly with friends for a game of bridge. When health issues forced Abe into isolation and he was unable to care for himself, depression took over. Then Federation reached out to Abe, providing a variety of services to alleviate his loneliness. Abe is forever grateful for the care and support he receives.









How many programs and services does the Annual Campaign support?



There are more than 170 impactful programs and services at work every day in our community, in Israel and across the globe. For a full list, visit JewishMiami.org/list

## It's all about trust.



*"If you care about Israel, the Jewish people and our community, with a donation to the Annual Campaign, you can cover the gamut of issues and know they are being addressed in a very efficient way."* 

Ariel Bentata, Federation Chair of the Board



"You know that when you give your money to Federation, it will be spent in the right way. The partnership between volunteers and professionals is seamless and has worked for 85 years."

Lily Serviansky, Federation General Campaign Chair



"Federation is doing what it takes to help Israel and the most vulnerable every day — those who need our assistance during these difficult times."

Elise Udelson, Women's Philanthropy President



*"Federation is so much more than a fundraising organization; it's a convener of our community. It brings us together to address Jewish needs in Miami, Israel and across the world."* 

Amanda Adler, Women's Philanthropy Campaign Chair



"Annual Campaign dollars are the lifeblood of today's Jewish community. Federation's Foundation builds for tomorrow for our children and grandchildren."



Sidney Pertnoy, Chair of The Foundation

*"For every dollar we receive, we use 91 cents to help people in need. That's extremely efficient."* 

Dr. Jaime Ghitelman, International Division Chair



*"With Federation, we have a true partner in building and engaging Jewish leadership in our Israeli-American community."* 

Ofer Tamir, Israeli Division Chair



*"I volunteer and donate to Federation and YLD so that the same opportunities I had growing up (Jewish day school, JCC, campus Hillel, etc.) will be there for future generations. My goal is to develop inspiring leaders among young professionals to ensure a thriving Jewish community at home and abroad."* 

Isaac Mizrahi, Young Leadership Division (YLD) Co-Chair



**DONATE** JewishMiami.org/give **CREATE A LEGACY** Legacy.JewishMiami.org TAKE A HANDS-ON ROLE Volunteer@ JewishMiami.org

The Mission of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation is to mobilize human and financial resources to care for those in need, strengthen Jewish life and advance the unity, values and shared purpose of the Jewish people in Miami, in Israel and around the world.

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