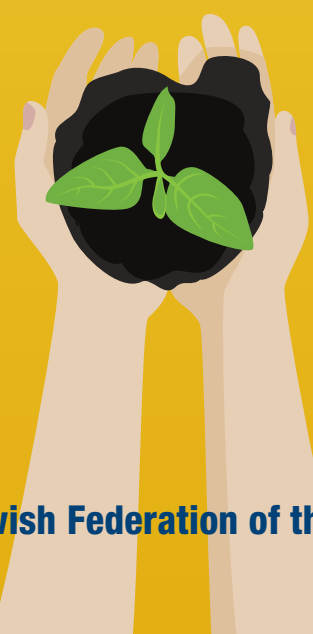
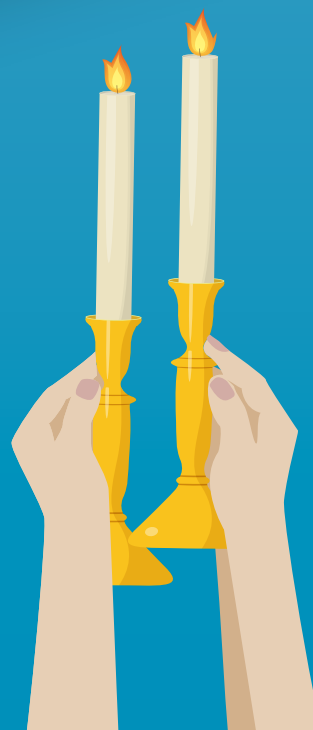


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**vol-un-teeer**

*Verb*  
freely offer to do something;  
to offer oneself for some service  
or undertaking.

*Noun*  
a person who performs a service  
willingly and without pay.

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## The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region

2130 21<sup>st</sup> St., | Sacramento, CA 95818

Phone: 916-486-0906 | Fax: 916-441-1662

Email: [federation@jewishsac.org](mailto:federation@jewishsac.org)

Website: [jewishsac.org](http://jewishsac.org)

**Chief Executive Officer** | Melissa Chapman

[mchapman@jewishsac.org](mailto:mchapman@jewishsac.org) | ext. 301

**Managing Editor** | Elissa Einhorn

[eeinhorn@jewishsac.org](mailto:eeinhorn@jewishsac.org) | ext. 304

**Designer** | ImagePoint | [ipointdesign@mac.com](mailto:ipointdesign@mac.com)

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## The ABCs of BDS

The debate over the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel has arrived in earnest at the State Capitol much like it has arrived at state houses across the country. Assemblymember Richard Bloom from Santa Monica, introduced Assembly Bill 2844, the "California Combating the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions of Israel Act of 2016."

AB 2844 will prohibit the State of California from contracting with businesses that engage in boycotts motivated by discrimination against people on the basis of any of the characteristics banned by our civil rights laws. In the case of the BDS movement, that means discrimination on the basis of national origin and religion. AB 2844 is merely an extension of both federal and state laws passed in the 1970s that banned participation in the Arab League boycott of Israel. However, those laws require that the request not to do business with Israel come from a governmental entity. In order to avoid violation of these laws, the BDS movement takes great pains to say that it is not government sponsored.

The global BDS movement is not monolithic so depending on who you listen to, it calls for a boycott of all Israeli companies or all non-Israeli companies that do business in Israel or those companies that engage in commerce with Israeli settlers in the West Bank. Others call for a boycott of companies "complicit in" the occupation of the Palestinian lands. Another offshoot is the so-called "Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel," which prevents Israelis from working or performing in the U.S. or other countries and bans any cooperation between U.S. universities and Israeli universities.

But the various BDS movements all share one thing in common: they call for boycott, divestment, and sanction of Israeli Jews, not Israeli Arabs. They do not call for the world to cease doing business with Israeli Arab farmers

or to stop inviting Israeli Arab academics to lecture at universities. Indeed, the BDS movement encourages doing business with such companies and flocks to events featuring Israeli Arabs or Palestinians, especially when they call for the destruction of Israel. Indeed, ironically, the individual credited with inventing the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel, UC Berkeley Professor Hatem Bazian, is an Israeli citizen of Arab ethnicity with a degree from Tel Aviv University. He certainly is not calling on anyone to boycott people like himself.

The opponents of AB 2844 loudly complain that the bill is unfair and unconstitutional because they allege that it punishes people for hating Israel. Leaving aside the fact that companies boycotting Israel and discriminating against Israelis or Jews is not protected by the Constitution, it is deeply ironic that people who think that it is perfectly acceptable to boycott Israel feel that it is unfair to boycott the boycotters.

As the old saying goes, what goes around comes around.

AB 2844 has passed its first two Committees and soon will be heard on the Assembly Floor. If it passes the Legislature and is signed by Governor Brown, California will join a growing number of states and the U.S. Congress that have taken action to oppose the BDS movement.

It's about time.

*Barry Broad is the President of the Jewish Federation.*





# One Journey Ends and Another One Begins

On July 5th, I will enter a new phase of my Jewish journey when joining the Jewish Federation of San Diego County as its Chief Development Officer. My five years as CEO in Sacramento have been a time of tremendous learning and professional growth, and I feel honored to have been part of the incredible evolution of our Federation.

I have been privileged to work with a smart, talented, and committed staff and Board. Together, we have taken this organization to a place of strength and relevance by eliminating deficit spending, purchasing a permanent home, and by bringing back Jewish Family Service to our community. We went “back to basics” while adapting to a new landscape for our local

and global community. We faced challenges and celebrated victories both grand and small.

Engaging in significant change and creating sustainability, both practically and philosophically, takes hard work and stubborn dedication...and it doesn't win many popularity contests. Our agenda was simple— do what is right and just; stand up as leaders; operate with the highest levels of integrity and transparency; connect and protect our community. Every action and decision was made with strategic and thoughtful care and consideration for the future of our community.

The work of the Federation is deeply important to me. After nearly 20 years of being in this vast, amazing and crazy system, I'm pretty certain that I'm a “lifer.” I will miss this community and all of you, but know that I will continue to promote our core values and priorities as I move forward. I appreciate everything this community has offered me personally and professionally and look forward to hearing about your continued success!

Rather than bore you with quotes on leadership or “pearls of wisdom” which are probably only pearls to me, I thought I'd end with some levity:

## TOP TEN NON-JEWISH THINGS I LEARNED IN SACRAMENTO

10. “The City” actually means San Francisco, not downtown
9. There really is something to be said for a “dry” heat
8. Butter is an essential ingredient in every meal
7. Coffee is an art form
6. Farm to Fork doesn't mean shopping at the farmer's market
5. Flip flops are acceptable wedding wear
4. When people say “hello” they are just being nice— they don't want anything from you
3. Micro brews are a subculture
2. Rain means everyone forgets how to drive
1. California is one amazing place to live

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*Melissa Chapman is the Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Federation.*





# An Homage to My Favorite Leading Man

Before there was Harvey Specter, Don Draper, even Columbo— leading television men to fit all sorts of tastes— there was Joe Mannix, in my opinion, the most dashing leading man of his time, dare I say of all time. And the great thing about TV leading men (and women for that matter) is that they live on through the magic of reruns.

I rediscovered “Mannix” a couple of months ago. TV nostalgia buff that I am, I went crazy and leaped right into the show’s theme music— *batump, batump, batump, batump, ba, batump, batump, batump, batump, baaaaaaa...* (feel free to sing along. You know you want to.). Expecting nothing more than to revisit a show from my youth, I found myself watching it with a different set of eyes. Sure, I *loved* the show as young girl, but I began to *appreciate* it as an adult.

Set in Los Angeles against the backdrop of the Vietnam War, the civil rights and women’s movements, America’s growing drug culture, the assassinations of promising leaders, and more real life than anyone could possibly handle, “Mannix,” like most television shows (which is why I love it), was a great escape. However, unbeknownst to the child version of myself, this detective series, which ran from 1967-1975, was incredibly progressive for its time. It dealt with individuals with disabilities— in one episode, Joe even suffers from temporary blindness and has to learn how to adapt to life without sight— race relations that featured African American and Latino actors who were otherwise mostly absent on the small screen, PTSD (I think before it even merited the acronym), and even plot lines about Mannix’s own status as a Korean War veteran. Heck, he even had an African American secretary, the amazingly competent Peggy Fair (played by

Gail Fisher), who was more of Joe’s crime-solving partner than his gal Friday.

Sure, you have to tease out the era’s cultural references. While Joe was undeniably dashing in his paisley-lined suit jackets and matching ties, I could do without the “sansabelt” slacks (prelude to the leisure suit), neckerchiefs (really Botany 500, the otherwise fashion-forward wardrobe company?), and silk pajamas. And yes, several episodes were shot in the “Brady Bunch” house even while Robert Reed, aka Mike Brady, played Lieutenant Adam Tobias, a supporting actor in the “Mannix” series. And yes, nearly all of the episodes dealt with the syndicate where someone owed the boss man money and couldn’t pay. And yes, most episodes (actually, almost every episode) included a car chase around a coastal highway leading to the bad guy’s car overturning down a ravine and blowing up into plumes of smoke as Joe looked on. And perhaps the funniest reference of all— Joe’s fee of \$100 per day plus expenses! But hey, that’s television.

I would also credit the show with helping to launch or showcase numerous Hollywood careers: Adam West (post-“Batman”); Martin Sheen (pre-Charlie); Marion Ross (of “Happy Days” fame and in a dramatic role nonetheless!); Neil Diamond (singing in a coffee house while dodging chairs being thrown by, you guessed it, syndicate thugs); Abe Vigoda (pre-“Barney Miller”); the very prim and proper Elsa Lanchester; and Natalie Schafer (that’s right, Mrs. Howell from “Gilligan’s Island”) to name a few.

So what does “Mannix” (who by the way was a proud Armenian with the given name of Kreker Ohanian— yes, I googled him) have to do with Jewish community? Well, I don’t quite know. I

guess I wonder what people will think of our real life community nearly 50 years from now. Will we still be talking about ways to ensure Jewish continuity, searching for leaders, fighting against anti-Semitism here and abroad, and garnering support for Israel? I don’t and won’t know, but let’s just say I hope these issues don’t live on in reruns.

*Elissa Einhorn is the Assistant Director of the Jewish Federation and Managing Editor of the VOICE.*

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**Lew Rosenberg, Executive Director**

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# Answer the Call, Literally



Dear Jewish Community and Friends of the Community—

A dedicated group of volunteers and our professional staff are tirelessly making calls to raise the critically necessary funds to run and support all of the services that Federation provides, from the cycle of life of our young children to our senior citizens: PJ Library, Shalom School, Teen Israel, Hillel, Jewish Family Service, disability services, the Kosher Food Pantry, Leisure League, and senior transportation to name a few. We also are at the forefront of countering anti-Semitic voices in our community through our Jewish Community Relations Council.

Whether these calls are during our Campaign year (which runs through December 2016), Super Sunday on June 5, 2016, or sometime during the year when we want to take you to lunch, please Answer the Call!

The callers are sharing a message of Jewish continuity and take extraordinary commitment and time from already busy schedules of their own, just like you. We know you receive many calls for many worthy causes,



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both Jewish and non-Jewish. But remember that our Federation fundraising calls are for Tzedekah or "Justice." No other Jewish organization in our broad geographic sphere of greater Sacramento provides these vital services. We receive referrals from our rabbinic community, organizations, and of course private callers turning to us in their hour of need.

I want to remind you of our special program this year: Matchmaker, Matchmaker. If you are a new giver to Federation or have not given in the last five years, we need to hear from you. Your pledge will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$20,000. This is a phenomenal opportunity to double your impact on our Campaign!

Think of your own Jewish moments: A trip to Israel, the Jewish Heritage Festival, shutting down Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions at the Sacramento Food Cooperative, Young Leadership, Jewish Day School, or Hillel. Federation helps make all of this possible. Think about your Jewish future, think about your children's and grandchildren's future. What do you want to have for them as tools to keep them involved or to rekindle their Jewish memories?

Make a difference! Take a few minutes to Answer the Call and talk with our volunteers and staff. This year our goal is to increase our campaign by 10% so we may deepen our current portfolio of services. We can only do this with you renewed commitment. Dig a little deeper to help your community.

*Jack Mador is Federation's 2016 Campaign Chair.*



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# CBI Refugee Assistance Committee Helps Newly Arrived Couple Resettle

When Olya\* was a young girl in her native Donetsk, Ukraine, she thought she would never need to know English. In fact, she fought her mother about the issue. Nowadays, Olya is grateful to speak the language of her adopted homeland.

Along with her husband, Burak\*, Olya arrived in Sacramento in February after escaping from the Syrian border and seeking political asylum in the U.S.

"We came here because we have a double problem in both countries," Olya explained, referring to Donetsk and Burak's homeland, Turkey. "My hometown is occupied by Russia and I cannot go back. The borders are closed. The banks are closed. The post offices are closed."

Olya described how family members moved from Donetsk seeking safety—her mother to a bordering town with Hungary and her aunt to Israel. Her grandparents remain in their home due to age and health conditions. Despite receiving assistance through the Red Cross and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, a Federation partner, Olya said, "They are caged."

The young woman moved to Turkey in 2014 to join Burak whom she met online. Although they didn't plan to marry immediately, it was the only way Olya could stay in the country.

"Leaving was so painful," she recalled. "I felt like crying all of the time. You never expect something like this to happen to you. You come from a regular family. You are working or studying and then one day, you are in a different part of the world. I didn't know what war looked like, but it seemed like a war to me."

Burak, who has reclaimed the Jewish identity his grandmother hid so she could find work, was working in Istanbul and serving in the Turkish Coast Guard when he was sent to the Syrian border city of Hatay and found himself face-to-face with jihadists. The few times Olya left their apartment, she pretended to be Christian by covering her body so as not to draw attention to herself.

"There is really no border," Burak said. "People are just going back and forth. Olya could not go out. Even our neighbors were jihadists. It was like a home jail for two years."

Added Olya, "Psychologically, I was broken."

The couple is now on the mend, after what can only be called a *besheret* encounter at Congregation B'nai Israel (CBI). While Olya and Burak were just looking to find a welcoming community, they couldn't know that the CBI Board had recently voted to adopt a refugee family to help with resettlement. The match was set in motion.

"You watch the news and see refugees fleeing," noted Refugee Assistance Committee Coordinator Maryann Rabovsky. "It's tremendously sad. Helping the stranger is what we do."

Partnering with a local resettlement agency, Opening Doors, as well as HIAS (Hebrew Immigration Aid Society) and the Religious Action Committee of the URJ, the Refugee Assistance Committee assists with welcoming refugees at the airport, conducting apartment walkthroughs, teaching people how things work— even car seats and seat belts, which are new to many— and helping with school registration and other assorted paperwork. CBI members also have contributed to "Refugee Welcome Kits" that are delivered by Opening Doors and include everything from household items to cleaning supplies to transportation resources.

Although the couple had some time to plan, their lives currently are in limbo as they await social security cards and work permits. Until then, they are unable to work despite both being engineers— Olya is a power plant engineer (and graphic designer) and Burak is an industrial engineer— relying on the Jewish Federation's Kosher Food Pantry and CBI's food closet as well as other Temple resources.

"(CBI) is so welcoming," Burak said. "People invite us to their home for dinner and we get to see smiling people who share our pain. We are treated as members of the community. They told us, 'We will help you survive.'"

Rabovsky said the response to helping the young couple has been amazing— one congregant even stepped up to pay the dental bill when Olya had a toothache.

"I learned a lot about what you do when you have no money," she said. "It was time for us to step in and do something."

Not being able to escape the political rhetoric of the presidential election, the couple is reflective.

"Everybody comes from somewhere," Olya said, noting how many CBI members have Russian roots. "If you are the perfect advertisement for how to live, you would expect that people would want to come here. If we didn't come here, many things could have happened so we took the risk. We are doing this for ourselves and for our future kids. We will tell them their story and how they came to be here."

For more information about CBI's Refugee Assistance Committee, contact Rabovsky at [mrabovsky@gmail.com](mailto:mrabovsky@gmail.com).

\*Pseudonyms to protect their identities.



# Latino, Jewish Communities Join Together Over Common Issues

by Jessica Braverman Birch, JCRC Director

Members of the Jewish and Latino communities came together in April for “Stories of Immigration,” an afternoon of films and speakers focusing on the immigrant experiences of each community.

The seeds for this event were planted more than a year ago when, under the auspices of a Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) community outreach initiative, Jewish community members invited Latino community leaders to engage in important dialogue. The goals were to share cultures and traditions as well as stories about each other’s heritage and families’ immigration, and to build relationships based on cross-cultural understanding in order to better work together on issues facing our local communities and to be supportive of each other in times of crisis. These conversations led to the creation of the Latino-Jewish Forum.

“Stories of Immigration” featured the films, “No One Wanted Us, the Story of the SS St. Louis” and “Underwater Dreams.”

“No One Wanted Us” was a snapshot of a seminal event in the story of the Holocaust, documenting the SS St. Louis’ 950 Jewish passengers who fled Germany only to be turned away by both Cuba and the U.S. government. The return to Europe of this ship with its passengers was proof to Hitler that he could not rid Europe of all its Jews by deporting them, but rather he would need to implement a more proactive way of getting rid of them, the “Final Solution.”

Rabbi Mona Alfi, from Congregation B’nai Israel, provided an overview about the Holocaust and told her own family’s story of fleeing persecution in Iran. Maia Jaffe, a member of the Latino-Jewish Forum, told stories of her grandfather from Poland who was the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust, and other family members who were Sephardic Jews and fled Arab countries. Jaffe emphasized the importance of Israel as a refuge for her

Latino-Jewish



FORUM

Jewish ancestors who fled persecution in their own countries.

“Underwater Dreams” portrayed the true story of Oscar Vasquez, Lorenzo Santillian, and their teammates from Carl Hayden High School in a mostly immigrant neighborhood of south Phoenix whose robotics club went on to win a national competition to design an underwater robot, beating the team from MIT and other Universities. Vasquez and Santillian were on hand to share their stories with the audience.

Despite the success of the Arizona team, the MIT students went on to prestigious careers in high tech; however, many on the Arizona robotics team were “dreamers” or undocumented teens who came to the U.S. with their parents when they were young children, and were not eligible to attend college or be hired by companies because of their immigration status. It was the first time these two young men had an opportunity to speak to the Jewish community and to learn about the history and culture of the Jewish people.

“After months of working and learning new things about the Latino culture, I was excited to see how well the program came together,” said Sharon Rogoff, a member of the Latino-Jewish Forum and JCRC Board member. “Given the rich diversity of Sacramento and the cross-cultural bond formed by individuals in our two communities, I look forward to continuing our efforts as we strive to be a model for others.”

*The Latino-Jewish Forum is an outreach partnership of the Jewish Community Relations Council and Sacramento-area Latino leaders from La Familia Counseling Center, Opening Doors, Sacramento Area Congregations Together (Sacramento ACT), United Latinos, and Promoviendo Accion Civica.*



Members of the Latino-Jewish Forum and guest speakers.



# “UC Davis-Israel Collaborations in Research Project” to Launch in the Fall

A new project aimed at advancing scientific research between the University of California (UC), Davis, and Israeli universities is set to launch in the fall of 2016. The “UC Davis-Israel Collaborations in Research Project” is designed to encourage collaborative projects in several scientific areas, including Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Engineering, Biology, Agricultural Sciences, and Medicine.

“The ultimate message of the ‘Collaborations in Research Project’ is that there are good reasons to maintain relationships with Israel,” said Mike Singer, Emeritus Professor of Land, Air, and Water Resources, who is heading the project along with fellow UC Davis faculty members Joel Haas, Distinguished Professor of Mathematics, and Abigail Thompson, Professor of Mathematics. “There are a lot of good things going on between UC Davis and Israel and we want to stimulate and move those things forward.”

Although the project is apolitical, Singer noted that it does present a positive approach to counter the negative attitudes toward Israel that are pervasive on college campuses nationwide.

“What is more positive than boosting collaborative research between universities?” he asked, adding that he doesn’t anticipate a backlash following the project’s announcement. “What would someone say? That they don’t think we should be involved in collaborative research?”

Modeled after the research agreement between Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP) and the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, which fosters Brazilian-Israeli collaboration in scientific research and funds joint research project proposals conducted by teams from both countries, the “UC Davis-Israel Collaborations in Research Project” will help promote the role of UC Davis in the greater

community. Many examples of success are already apparent, such as inviting Israeli water experts from Ben Gurion University of the Negev to discuss strategies for relieving the drought through new irrigation systems and desalinization techniques.

“Water is on everyone’s mind,” Singer said. “Israel was water poor until desalinization, which produced good things but also issues and problems. Learning how to irrigate is one of those issues. As California moves to desalinization, there are issues about how to protect the soil, yield production, or negative health impacts. Whenever you have scientific findings, you always have unintended consequences that lead to new science. We hope the new science will be collaborative.”

The project’s timeline includes dissemination of an RFP throughout the UC Davis community this fall with proposals due at the end of the year. A committee of U.S. and

Israeli scientists will review proposals during the winter of 2017 with project funding to begin in the spring of 2017. Proposals will be accepted for one or two years, depending on the success of fundraising efforts, which include private donations as well as financial and organizational support from UC Davis.

“This is a great opportunity for both the existing faculty and the many scholars who will join the UC Davis faculty in the coming years,” explained Haas.

Singer agreed, noting, “When you get really smart people together to talk about problems and solutions, things really happen. That’s what we’re hoping for.”

*For more information about the “UC Davis-Israel Collaborations in Research Project,” contact [CaliforniansraelFund@gmail.com](mailto:CaliforniansraelFund@gmail.com).*

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## E-WASTE

Help Federation raise a few shekels by donating your e-waste to us. Drop off old computer monitors, cell phones, faxes, printers, and other e-waste at our office. We'll take care of the rest!



## VOLUNTEER

See the impact you can have first-hand through several Jewish Family Service volunteer opportunities including telephone check-ins with seniors, food delivery, home visits, holiday outreach, and making Shabbat in senior living facilities around the community. We also need volunteers for our annual Jewish Heritage Festival Celebrating Israel, the largest event our community has all year!

# THOUGHTS FROM THOSE WHO RECEIVE



## Rhonda & Isaac Friedman\*

The Jewish Federation has been so generous to us. Sometimes money is tight and having groceries delivered to us means everything. Because of our disabilities, we've had volunteers bring things right to our door. And receiving things during the holidays means so much. We love that the Federation has a lot of care for all of us and helps in any way they can. I don't know what I'd do without them.

*\*Names changed to maintain confidentiality.*



## Libby & Gene Renkin

We appreciate everything the Federation Board and staff does! We are very grateful for their thoughtfulness and care. We enjoy the delicious surprises that the volunteers bring to help us celebrate the holidays. Our heartfelt message comes with every good wish for happiness. We want to send them a million thanks!

## Gerry Ross

There are people at (the Albert Einstein Residence Center) who really look forward to the Holiday Outreach Baskets. I am here without any family and I really appreciate what's been done for me. Sometimes volunteers come with their children and I've enjoyed visiting with them. I was a volunteer for many years with the Federation and was there all of the time. Volunteering was important to me. No matter what you do, it's important, and I appreciate when someone does something for me.



## Bob Ralston

I was brought up in an Orthodox home. From a very early age, I had two interests, science and spiritual seeking. I attended religious school through 3rd grade. I was the top student. At that time, my name was Bobby Rosenstein. Shortly, for business reasons, my father changed the name to Ralston. I have never fully understood why the adults thought I was too young to answer my questions about G-d. The only discussion I ever heard was my mother and her sister arguing about the correct way to pronounce "Amen." Was it "Amen" or "Amain?" I always thought of myself as Jewish and still am by heritage. When a Federation volunteer (Sheila Wolfe, pictured above) came to my door and presented me with a Chanukah gift, I was impressed. Despite my Anglo name, somehow the Federation found me. Since then, every major holiday brings a gift and that reminds me of the thousands of years the Jews somehow survived. The name Jewish Federation is self-explanatory. Despite my non-religious life, I still follow a spiritual path that has replaced any rites and rituals with meditation. Culturally I cannot be anything else and the use of the word "Jewish Federation," to me, means there is an umbrella that shades all Jews.



## Dee Dee Raskov

Shortly after moving to River's Edge [a secular senior living facility], the Federation began a monthly Shabbat celebration, including the Kiddush, the Motzi, the lighting of the Shabbat candles and conducted by volunteers. While our group is small, the service has served as a unifying factor for our Jewish residents, and frequently has included some of our non-Jewish residents, as well as visiting family members. It is welcomed by us and helps to bring some "Yiddishkeit" into our lives.



# vol-un-teen

*Verb*

freely offer to do something; to offer oneself for some service or undertaking.

*Noun*

a person who performs a service willingly and without pay.

While these are formal definitions of the word, "volunteer," the Jewish Federation would define our volunteers as "caring, devoted, community minded, and always willing to do a mitzvah." Because of their devotion, we are better able to serve those among us who need a little extra help getting along, a smiling face during the holidays, or that special touch of Jewishness in their lives.

Following are just some of the volunteer opportunities Federation offers. Find one that's right for you and join our mighty corps of dedicated volunteers!

**Holiday Outreach Baskets:** Federation facilitates the delivery of holiday outreach baskets to homebound individuals during Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, and Passover. We now deliver to more than 120 seniors during each holiday.

**Shabbat Shalom Sacramento:** Federation volunteers visit two secular senior facilities each month to make Shabbat with Jewish residents. We supply all of the fixings—challah, grape juice, candles, and more—and volunteers lead residents in the blessings, songs, and conversation.

**Kosher Food Pantry:** Donate hechshered, non-perishable items to our Pantry to help those in our community who are struggling financially or are at risk of going hungry.







## Ethel Baron

**Volunteer Activities:**  
Holiday Outreach, Shabbat Shalom Sacramento

I choose to volunteer in the way that I do because it gives me the opportunity to have a human connection with seniors and share the joy and love for being Jewish. Delivering Outreach Baskets and participating in the Shabbat Program hopefully gives those seniors I come into contact with the opportunity to celebrate Jewish holidays with traditional Kosher food and to be able to celebrate Shabbat with other Jews. Volunteering has brought me personal pleasure and it is such a joy and a mitzvah to be greeted at the door by smiling faces or to receive a telephone call letting me know how much they appreciate the outreach gifts. It is a way for me to give something back to the Jewish community.



## Anne & Hal Eisenberg

**Volunteer Activity:**  
Holiday Outreach

We believe that an important part of being Jewish is to reach out to others in our community who may otherwise feel isolated. Many people we have visited truly appreciate the time we spend with them and that the community remembers them in this way. We feel good about being in the position to help others and have met wonderful people this way. (The Eisenbergs generously created a Jewish Family Service Endowment.)



## Maxine Goldstein

**Volunteer Activity:**  
Shabbat Shalom Sacramento

I love the traditions of Judaism and interacting with seniors. Therefore, guiding a Shabbat service at either the Carlton Plaza or River's Edge senior residence facilities and dialoguing with the Jewish residents brings me solace and, hopefully, for them, too.



## Janie Gumpert

**Volunteer Activities:**  
Holiday Outreach, Shabbat Shalom Sacramento

The Jewish Federation, through Jewish Family Service, has given me the opportunity to volunteer in various ways. I have visited secular senior living facilities and led the Jewish, and sometimes other, residents in Shabbat evening prayers with candles, challah, and grape juice. We sing songs and discuss residents' memories of growing up, and other life events. I periodically visit an elderly man of almost 100 living fairly independently in a senior apartment complex. More than anything else, I feel that I have made new friends. Residents of the senior living facilities look forward to getting together for the Shabbat program and are waiting for me before I arrive. The individuals I visit also look forward to my visit. Just the other day, I received a phone call from my elderly gentleman friend inviting me to his 100th birthday party. I was so touched that he thought of me. That made me feel that I actually do make a difference.



## Sandy Jones

**Volunteer Activities:**  
Holiday Outreach, Leisure League Senior Programs

My background is in Social Work and in retirement I continue to enjoy matching resources to folks who would enjoy or benefit from them. So with the generous donations from the Jewish Federation, I coordinate Congregation Bet Haverim's (CBH) effort to distribute the goodie baskets to the elderly during Jewish holidays. I helped the Federation establish Leisure League (fun programs for older folks) at CBH and helped the Federation establish Caregiver Support Groups at CBH. CBH depends heavily on volunteers for programs and events. By volunteering my time we have been able to coordinate programs with the Federation. Being a volunteer provides meaningful ways for me to spend some of my retirement time. And over the years, many of my friendships have started by volunteering together.



## Dee Dee & Larry Mozes

**Volunteer Activity:**  
Holiday Outreach

Delivering Holiday Outreach Baskets is such a small thing compared to what many others do in terms of both time and effort. It was an opportunity presented to us to do something together that could have a positive impact, in some small way, on the lives of others. We



feel that the recipients, judging by their smiles and comments, have appreciated being thought about and remembered during the holidays. We certainly have enjoyed our participation in this outreach program and feel that our lives have been enriched by the experience.



## Judah Rosen

**Volunteer Activities:**  
Holiday Outreach, Shabbat Shalom Sacramento

I learned *tzedakah* and *gemilut chesed* from my parents' example and I have always found that giving to others in a one-on-one personal way gives my life meaning and lets me express in this physical world the spiritual ethics I have found in Judaism. It always amazes me, whether I am leading Shabbat services at senior facilities, delivering holiday packages to the elderly, giving spare change to people on the street, or feeding the homeless, how truly thankful and appreciative the recipients are. Of course, only those who love to give know the little secret: we are the ones who are being given the gift; the opportunity of allowing us to be our better selves. I have volunteered for many years in many locations, and now that I am a resident of Sacramento I am happy to find that the Jewish Federation has wonderful opportunities that I can take advantage of.



# AND FROM THOSE WHO GIVE



# Federation Out and About!

## Women's Empowerment Center ▶

Federation staff got into the mitzvah spirit and joined with NCJW on March 31, 2016 for its Mitzvah in a Minute project to support Women's Empowerment.



## Shabbat Shalom Sacramento ▼

4-year-old Lilah Cassman dazzles seniors at Carlton Plaza during Shabbat Shalom Sacramento, a Federation program that organizes volunteers to make Shabbat with seniors living in secular facilities.



## Passover Outreach ▼

As with Rosh Hashanah and Chanukah, volunteers like Ethel Baron helped deliver nearly 130 baskets to seniors just in time for Passover.



## PJ Yoga ▶

PJ kids and parents show off their flexibility during a morning of family yoga with instructors from Kids Unplugged.



## PJ Pop-Up ▼

PJ kids get ready for a hand-clapping good time during our Jewish sing- and dance-along with Miss Melo.



## Yom HaShoah ▼

More than 600 community members joined together at the annual Communitywide Yom HaShoah Commemoration on May 1, 2016. The annual commemoration is a program of the Jewish Community Relations Council, a division of Federation.



## NAACP Breakfast ▶

Members of JCRC's African American Outreach group enjoy the Annual NAACP Breakfast. Seated from left, Mark Spring, Sheila Spring, and Michael Alcalay, and standing from left, Bruce Pomer and Lynn Berkley Baskin.







You hold the key  
to our future...

The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region connects individuals, organizations, and generations to better care for those in need; to create and nurture Jewish identity; and to ensure no one gets left behind. We help provide a solid future for every step of Jewish life, from PJ Library to vital services for seniors. We ensure the community's philanthropic donations are directed to those who need it most, when they need it most.

Our Legacy Family is a group of dedicated and committed individuals who want to guarantee that the Federation continues to provide its programs and services for many years to come. By establishing a legacy through a bequest or planned gift, you will plant the seed for future generations, doing your part to make sure the Federation and our Jewish community remain strong and vibrant for years to come.

All of us, regardless of age, wealth, or affiliation, have the ability to make a difference for future Jewish generations.

**The choice—and the responsibility—is ours alone.**

**JOIN OUR LEGACY FAMILY TODAY!**

## **THANK YOU TO OUR LEGACY FAMILY!**

**7 Anonymous Donors**  
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The Jewish Federation  
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION



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## DO YOUR KIDS MISS PJ LIBRARY BOOKS? WELL, NOW THEY DON'T HAVE TO!

Introducing **PJ OUR WAY**,  
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Our Federation is one of 25 communities selected for this national pilot program. PJ Our Way takes PJ Library one step further by providing tweens the opportunity to:

- Read reviews and select books of their choosing
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- Continue learning about Jewish values, holidays, heroes, Israel, and more

For more information about PJ Our Way, visit  
[www.jewishsac.org/pjourway](http://www.jewishsac.org/pjourway).







The Jewish Federation  
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION

Save the Date!

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## ANNUAL MEETING

— of the —

Jewish Federation  
of the Sacramento Region

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**September 8, 2016**

**6:00–7:30pm**

2130 21st St., Sacramento  
*Light refreshments served*

For more information, contact Federation at  
**916-486-0906** or [federation@jewishsac.org](mailto:federation@jewishsac.org).

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# TORAH WORDS

by Rabbi Susan Conforti

A mixed multitude, presumably mostly former slaves who were members of the extended family of long-dead patriarch Jacob, left Egypt in a hurry, without waiting for our bread to rise. Sometime later in the desert, we were chosen by G-d and we responded by choosing G-d. We celebrate G-d's and our choice when we commemorate receiving the 10 Commandments (some say the whole Torah) at Mount Sinai during Shavuot.

But what of the time in between? What happened during that very first spring? The descendants of Jacob were no longer slaves, and at Pesach we relive the hardship of servitude and the joy of liberation. We were free at last! Then why did we (or did we?) count the days? What were we counting up to?

Moses knew G-d on a personal basis, but the common people didn't know this deity who had allowed them to escape the plagues and to pass through the Sea of Reeds without drowning. Even Miriam, in her gratitude, wondered as she looked back, "Who among the gods is like Adonai?"

Egypt was a narrow place (the meaning of Mitzrayim, the Hebrew word for Egypt), but for a people enslaved, freedom can be a little too wide, a little too free for comfort. It must have been bewildering not to have someone telling them what to do. Vestiges of this can be seen even today, when Mexicans and Ecuadoreans who haven't quite heard you, ask, "Mande?" ("What is your mandate/order/command?" as though speaking to a conquering European).

Who were we before we accepted G-d? How did we define ourselves? Did we count the days? If we did count, were we just marking time the way a captive prisoner might? We knew what our past was (and some malcontents pined for it), but what did we imagine would be our future? We were free, but we were in the desert, not even close to being in the Promised Land. In fact, no land, and certainly not the Promised one, had yet been pledged to us.

Which is why it seems understandable that instead of G-d speaking to the mixed multitude to welcome us into the desert, or to give us a brief history of Creation, or even to give us a pep talk to allow us to weather the unrelenting heat of the desert, the first thing G-d gave us was commands. The first time the people spoke in unison, it was to affirm that we would do as G-d commanded. We gratefully accepted becoming slaves to the one G-d. And ever since, we have counted the days until, like newborns, we drink milk to celebrate our life source.

*Rabbi Conforti was ordained in 2001 from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. She is an NAJC (Neshama: Association of Jewish Chaplains) board-certified chaplain formerly at Hoag Hospital in Newport Beach and VITAS Innovative Hospice in Orange County. She provides pastoral counseling and conflict resolution for individuals, couples, and families, specializing in grief and bereavement.*











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**[www.SacJewishLife.org/CGI](http://www.SacJewishLife.org/CGI)**



# 1st ANNUAL COMMUNITY KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

Sunday, August 7, 2016  
10am-1pm

William Land Park  
Doc Oliver Baseball Field  
and Picnic Areas 19 & 20

Register for a team at [www.jewishsac.org/kickball](http://www.jewishsac.org/kickball)

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2016

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## SAVE THE DATE!

### 39th Annual Jewish Food Faire September 18, 2016 9am-3pm



#### Congregation Beth Shalom

4746 El Camino Ave. Carmichael 95608  
Rabbi Nancy Wechsler

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Congregation Beth Shalom  
1705 Sherwood Avenue  
Modesto, CA 95350



Come Join us For Congregation Beth Shalom's  
**SHALOM DELI**

Sunday, June 5, 2016

10:30 - 2pm

## Shemesh Camp

When: June 14th-30th 2016  
Where: Mosaic Law at Sierra  
Boulevard Sacramento 95825  
Hours: 9am-2pm  
Grades: K-8th  
\$350 for 2.5 weeks per camper  
\$380 non-member  
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7:30am-8am and/or 2pm-4pm

Activities: Art, Working, Picnic, Sports, Friendship, Swimming

Each camper will get a Camp's T-Shirt and a water bottle.

Scholarships are available. Open to the entire community.  
For additional information contact:  
Liz Winston: [DWINSTON@MOISACLAW.ORG](mailto:DWINSTON@MOISACLAW.ORG) or 916-488-1122

## CVHEN

Central Valley Holocaust Educators' Network

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LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTER

- The Sacramento community will have access to Holocaust scholarly articles, literature, films and archives
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- A physical space to collaborate with colleagues, so teams of teachers can meet and work together.
- The library will provide comprehensive research materials for 2nd Gen speakers to gain broader context beyond their families' own experience.

For more information, contact Liz Igra at [liz@cvhen.com](mailto:liz@cvhen.com).



# CALENDAR

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## GENERAL EVENTS

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**June 5, 2016. Shalom Deli.** A celebration of Jewish culture with kosher pastrami sandwiches, bake sale, gift shop, bouncy house, and live music. Free; \$15 for deli lunch with all the fixings. 10:30am-2:00pm. Congregation Beth Shalom, 1705 Sherwood Ave., Modesto. *For more information, contact 209-571-6060 or info@cbsmodesto.org or visit www.cbsmodesto.org.*

**June 5, 2016. Evening in Eden.** Keneset Israel Torah Center's annual fundraising event. Come enjoy our campus on a nice evening. Enjoy food, music and bid on silent and live auction items with our auctioneer David Sobon. 6:00-9:00pm. 1159 Morse Ave., Sacramento. *For more information, contact weisberg@winfirst.com or visit www.kitcsacramento.org.*

**June 8, 2016. Leisure League at Temple Or Rishon with Laurel Zucker, Master Flutist.** Award-winning Juilliard graduate and Professor of Flute at California State University, Sacramento, virtuoso flutist Laurel Zucker will perform Broadway favorites, as well as jazz and classical selections. Laurel's musical range, from the upbeat to the mellow, is sure to delight, soothe, and inspire. \$5 includes lunch and entertainment. Noon-2:00pm. 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information or to RSVP, contact federation@jewishsac.org.*

**June 9, 2016. "We Survived ... At Last I Speak."** Hear Leon Malmed's story of surviving the Holocaust in Occupied France. Born in 1937, Leon and his sister were hidden by Gentile neighbors, named "Righteous Among the Nations" by Yad Vashem, throughout the war. Leon immigrated to the United States in 1964 and currently lives in South Lake Tahoe. Only recently has he begun speaking about the Holocaust. Q&A and book signing. \$20 for the book with proceeds going to an organization that aids Holocaust survivors. Co-sponsored by the "Golden Gate Over the Hill Gang," a seniors organization in which Mr. Malmed participates. Free. 2:00-4:00pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Melissa Grand at 916-446-4861 or mgrand@bnais.com.*

**June 12, 2016. Critical and Creative Thinking for Genealogy.** A lot of fuss has been made over the Genealogical Proof Standard, introduced years ago by the Board for Certification of Genealogists. Ron Arons brings together the best ideas from the leading thinkers in the fields of critical thinking and creativity. Ron is the author of *The Jews of Sing Sing*, which included one of his ancestors, and appeared on the PBS series, "The Jewish Americans" as the expert of Jewish criminals of New York City's Lower East Side. 10:00am. Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Mort Rumberg at mortrumberg1@earthlink.net.*

**June 14 & 28, 2016. Jewish Meditation and Mindfulness – Building Your Spiritual Practice with Deni Deutsch Marshall, LCSW.** Explore Jewish meditation practices designed to help you have a more personal relationship with G-d. Includes guided sitting and chanting meditations, and silent meditations, as well as a number of mindfulness techniques to practice at home. Open to long-time meditators and those with no experience, and can be attended as an ongoing session or drop-in basis. 6:30-7:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Deni Deutsch Marshall at 916-684-5161 or denimarsshall@gmail.com.*

**June 15-28, 2016. Israel Trip.** 12 days in Israel; open to Jews and non-Jews; CBS members and non-members. Reduced price for children. \$2,930 for land package. Congregation Beth Shalom, 1705 Sherwood Ave., Modesto. *For more information, contact 209-571-6060 or rabbi@cbsmodesto.org or visit www.cbsmodesto.org.*

**June 23, 2016. Leisure League at the Albert Einstein Residence Center with John Doolittle and Friends.** Professional musicians John Doolittle on piano and saxophone, John Spivak on guitar, and seasoned vocalist Gene Ford will get your toes tapping in a variety of upbeat genres when this dynamic trio gets together to regale the Leisure League. John's many credits include playing for celebrity notables such as Natalie Cole and Bob Hope. \$5 includes lunch and entertainment. Noon-2:00pm. 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. *For more information or to RSVP, contact federation@jewishsac.org.*

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## RECURRING EVENTS

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### ■ Sundays

**Temple Or Rishon Writer's Group.** Like to write? Come join us at our monthly meeting— Sunday dates vary each month. Writers at all levels welcome. Our members write short stories, poetry, biography, plays, children's lit, you name it. Our first anthology of member-written work, *Sunday Stories*, is available on Amazon. Meeting dates vary. Free. 10:00-11:30am. 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact carolcatinari@gmail.com.*

**Men's Tefillin Club.** Every second Sunday to lay Tefillin, learn Torah, and enjoy breakfast. 9:00-10:00am. Chabad Jewish Community Center, 302 B South Lexington Dr., Folsom. *For more information, contact 916-608-9811 or visit www.JewishFolsom.org.*

### ■ Mondays

**Monthly discussion group led by Rabbi Melamed on the second Monday of every month.** KOH Library and Cultural Center, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. 1:30-2:30pm. Free. *For more information, contact 916-484-7333 or jacks.dad@att.net.*

**Jewish Book Club at Temple Or Rishon.** Every fourth Monday at 7:00pm. 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. All are welcome. For our reading list, visit [www.orrishon.org](http://www.orrishon.org), select Programs for All Ages, then Book Club. *For more information, contact Alison Braverman at 916-988-7110 or alcinp1@aol.com.*

**Loaves and Fishes.** The third Monday of each month, the Jewish community serves lunch to the homeless at Loaves and Fishes. 1321 North C St., Sacramento. Volunteer at 7:30am to help prepare food or at 10:45am to help serve. *For more information, contact mary@mosaiclaw.org.*

### ■ Tuesdays

**Baby and Me.** Program for families with children birth to 2 years. Art, singing, movement, and fun! 10:30am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact 916-988-4100.*

**Israeli Dancing.** *For more information about dates and venue, join Israelidancesac-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or contact Jeanette at 916-799-7213.*

### ■ Wednesdays

**Shalom Gan K'ton.** For children 18 months-5 years. 10:00am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. \$50/10 sessions with scholarships available. *For more information, contact 916-988-4100.*

**Jessie Yoshpe Hadassah study group; June 14 & 21, 2016.** Come join us every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month for lively discussions of contemporary and historical Jewish subjects. 9:45-11:30am. KOH Library, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Soni Meyer at 916-383-5743.*

### ■ Thursdays

**Derech L'Chaim JACS (Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent Persons, and Significant Others).** 10:30-11:30am. 2nd Floor Card Room, Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. JACS is based on the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous with a Jewish focus. Confidential and anonymous. *Please contact 916-591-8608 before attending for the first time.*

**David Lubin Lodge, B'nai B'rith.** Third Thursday of each month. 8:00pm. Albert Einstein Residence Center Eatery, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Bernie Marks at 916-363-0122.*

**Jewish Women's Support Group.** Led by Zalia Lipson. Chabad of Roseville, 3175 Sunset Blvd., Suite 104A, Roseville. 6:45pm. \$40 per session. *For more information or to register, contact 916-624-8626 or ZaliaL@aol.com.*

### ■ Fridays

**Gan K'ton.** For young children 18 months-5 years. Sing, play, create, listen to, and taste all the wonders of being Jewish, along with preparing for Shabbat. 10:00am. \$10/class. Enrollment and fees required. Scholarships available. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact 916-988-4100.*

**Tot Shabbat.** Services, Singing, Storytelling, and Oneg for all children, including all who are young at heart. 6:00pm. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact 916-988-4100.*

### ■ Saturdays

**Taste of Torah.** Second Saturday. Learn, laugh, sing, and "taste" the Torah. Free program for families with young children and children of all abilities. 10:30am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact 916-988-4100.*

# Double the smiles

**We do as much as we can, for as many as we can, while we can.**  
*But with your new gift, we can **DOUBLE** the impact and **DOUBLE** the smiles!*

**If you've never made a gift or haven't given  
in 5 years, your donation COUNTS!**

**\$18 becomes \$36**

Providing four lunches for seniors.

**\$40 becomes \$80**

Providing two PJ subscriptions.

**\$100 becomes \$200**

Providing three hours of therapy.

**\$250 becomes \$500**

Providing a Teen Israel stipend.

[jewishsac.org/donate](http://jewishsac.org/donate)



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# WE MAY NOT CALL AT THE MOST CONVENIENT TIMES...

BUT YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU OR A FELLOW JEW MAY NEED YOUR HELP.

**SO ON SUPER SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016, ANSWER THE CALL OR COME HELP MAKE CALLS!**

We apologize if we catch you at an awkward moment. But at any hour on any given day—at home, in Israel, and around the world—Jews are calling out for help. So on Super Sunday, June 5, 2016, or when we email you, or reach out because the Jewish world is in crisis, please answer our call with a generous donation.

You'll not only be helping Jews in crisis, you'll be helping to strengthen our entire community. So please answer the call. No matter what time it is.



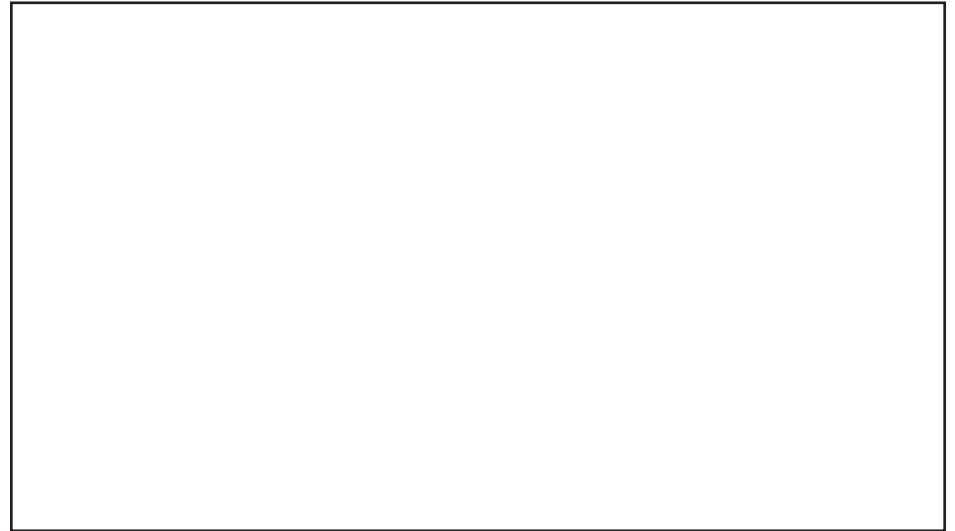
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WE'RE WITH YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!



## The 2016 Jewish Federation Annual Campaign

*I/We hereby pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the 2016 Jewish Federation Annual Campaign*

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