



**Jewish Community Alliance
of Southern Maine**

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



OPEN TO ALL

Dear Friends,

September 2019 marks the second anniversary of our new Jewish Community Alliance building. Launching the agency in a new location has been an incredible adventure, and we have so much to reflect on and celebrate!

As this report demonstrates, the JCA impacts the lives of those within and beyond the Jewish community in Southern Maine, our region, and overseas. Through educational programs, arts and culture offerings, social services, and financial allocations, we provide opportunities to find a sense of meaning and connection with people from all walks of life, while sharing the beauty of Jewish life and Jewish commitments to service, education, and repairing the world.

The outpouring of concern, support, and solidarity at the Community vigil last October was a balm in a time of great pain and mourning. Following the attack on Chabad in Poway, California, again the community rallied to provide comfort and stand together. At a time when acts of antisemitism are on the rise and polarization is growing, the art of sustaining community, which lies at the core of our mission, is increasingly crucial. New courses, programs, and outreach this year – from our Model Community Seder to the “Welcome to Judaism” course and the “iEngage” curriculum – speak specifically to this moment, reaching beyond traditional barriers to support learning. Perhaps now more than ever, we appreciate the deep meaning that underlies our work. We are inspired by the commitment of the generations who came before to continue to honor and share Jewish values and practices and a connection to Israel.

In June, we received an amazing \$1.2 million Capital Campaign gift, ensuring that, as long as pledges are paid on schedule, we will pay off the mortgage on our building in full within three years! We are so grateful for the generosity and vision of each person who supported the Capital Campaign. We want to thank Bette Novick, outgoing Board President, for her steady leadership and thoughtful vision over the past two years. Bette’s insights and commitment have been invaluable to this community for decades. She is a gem, and we are blessed to have had the benefit of her time and support. As we move into a new phase of growth and development, we invite you to learn more about our work, and to become involved. Together, we will continue to expand the JCA’s capacity to truly be a trusted resource and convener, and work to reflect excellence and vibrancy in all we do as a Jewish community.

L’Shalom,

Molly Curren Rowles

Molly Curren Rowles
Executive Director

Rachael C. Alfond

Rachael Alfond
Incoming Board President



A LETTER FROM
THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
AND
INCOMING
BOARD
PRESIDENT



OUR MISSION:

The Jewish Community Alliance (JCA) is a nonprofit organization serving the Jewish Community of Southern Maine by providing educational and social programming and fundraising. Our mission is to build Jewish community locally, in Israel and throughout the world. The JCA develops, provides, and supports diverse programs, education and services. We work with an array of organizations and local congregations, and function as the hub of Jewish programming in Southern Maine.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018 - 2019

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*zichrono livracha
(of blessed memory)

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Finance Manager
Bonnie Ryan

Programming Director
Deena Schoenfeld

Facilities Director
Paul Tetzlaff

Center Day Camp Director
Dana Zimmerman

GOLDMAN FAMILY PRESCHOOL

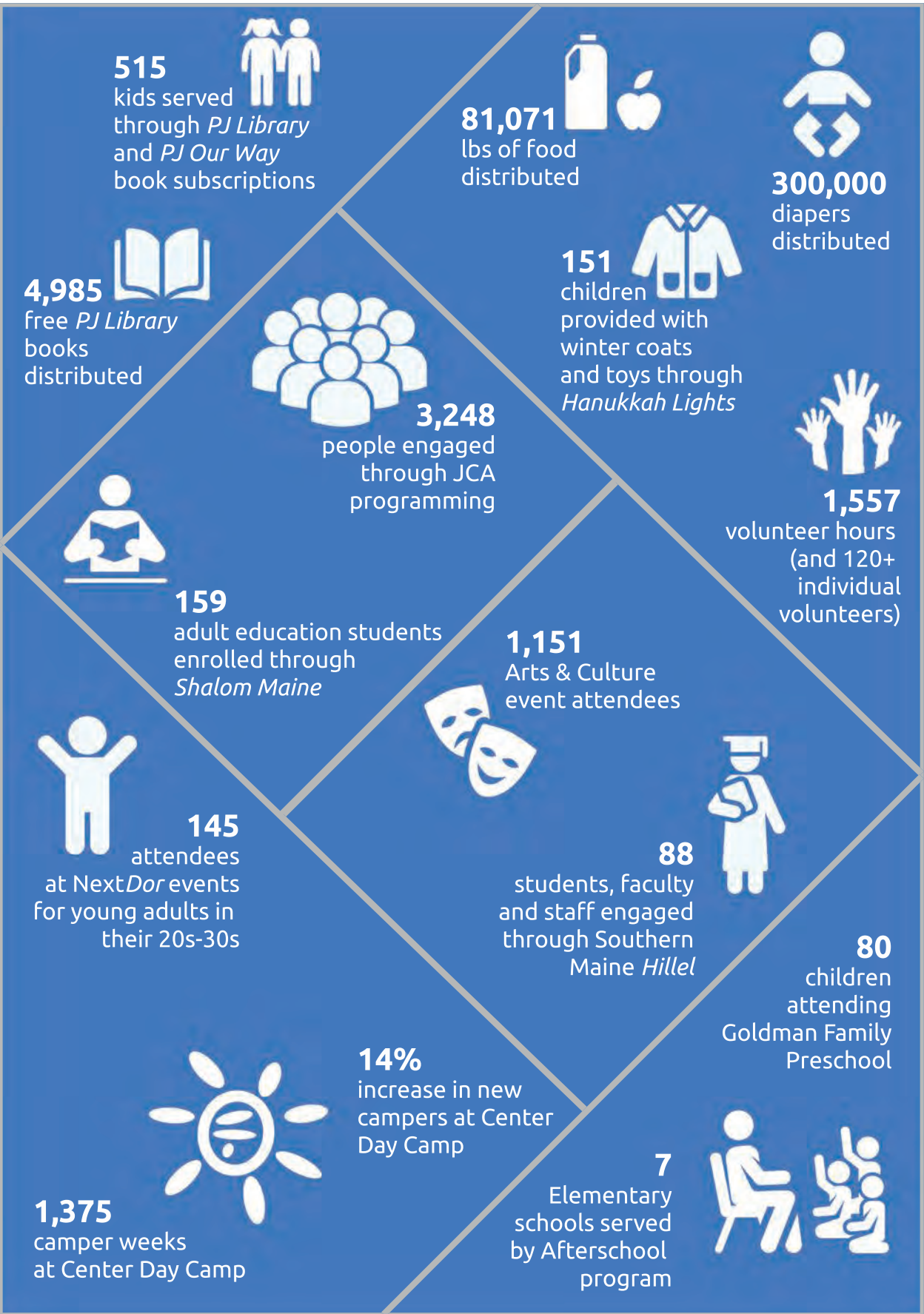
Early Childhood Education Director
Mary Lilly

**Early Childhood Education
Assistant Director**
Janel Goodman

Afterschool Director
Trevor Lilly

J The JCA by the numbers

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019



Meeting immediate, urgent needs with respect and dignity

The **Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services** food pantry and diaper bank serve nearly 200 people per month, offering milk, fresh produce, canned goods, and non-food essential items such as diapers and period supplies. We regularly hear from families who have been with us since Ashmont Street letting us know how lovely our building is, how welcome the staff and volunteers make them feel, and how excited they are to see our program grow. This year, the number of KJFS volunteers grew by over 40%! In addition to increasing the number of adult volunteers, we also worked with students from Friends School of Portland in the diaper pantry, and a Bat Mitzvah volunteer held a Period Packing Party to create 100 period supply packs. Our own afterschool program baked and distributed muffins, along with a copy of the recipe used; a beautiful connection for students at the J that has a direct impact in our community.

Early in June, our agency received word that over 400 individuals were making their way to Portland, having fled persecution in Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Within hours, KJFS had connected with the Opportunity Alliance, Portland government officials, and Portland Family Shelter staff to ensure any babies coming to the city would have baby food, diapers, and wipes. We launched a fundraising drive that immediately raised over \$15,000. Families staying at the Portland Expo came to recognize KJFS staff delivering essentials that were donated from around the community. Thanks to KJFS's membership with the National Diaper Bank Network and our community's generosity, we were able to secure a donation from Huggies of over 225,000 diapers! These diapers will follow families as they leave their temporary housing and put down roots – and we look forward to continuing to grow and develop our program in the coming year.

Whenever you're down on your luck or have food insecurity, they are always happy to help.

-Anonymous KJFS Client





Teaching infused with Jewish values and traditions for children of all backgrounds

The **Goldman Family Preschool** enjoyed a wonderful second year on Congress Street. Along with our rich Reggio Emilia inspired Highscope curriculum, we added Spanish and music classes to the regular school program. We love the nature-based outdoor playground, and have added several plantings and new features to ensure children learn and explore in an outdoor setting designed to support their growth and development. Our parent committee activities included offering Mitzvah Meals, social gatherings, selling hamantashen, participating in KJFS Hanukkah Lights, celebrating a *Tikkun Olam* night, and cooking monthly hot lunches. We continued to help as many families as possible with financial aid through our scholarship program. With 66 families and 80 children, this year our school is filled to capacity!

This fall we begin our third year of **Afterschool at the J**, now accepting children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Last year we significantly increased the number of children enrolled, and expanded transportation to Falmouth. Inspired by the children in our care, we held baking competitions, 'Survivor' challenges, put on an ABBA revue, and embarked on a series of Mitzvah projects. This year we're excited to welcome even more families to the program and will offer transportation from Portland and South Portland elementary schools.

Summer 2019 at **Center Day Camp** was a great success! We welcomed 504 campers for 1,375 camper weeks, and saw a 14% increase in first time campers. Physical plant improvements this year included renovations to the bathhouse and Schwartz buildings. Two musicals were performed in the Novick drama building, and our outstanding staff included two Shlichim (Israeli ambassadors). This summer we were so happy to celebrate 70 incredible years of CDC with current families and alumni, confident in our knowledge that Center Day Camp will continue to provide lifelong memories, personal growth, emotional skill building, and Jewish learning for campers of all backgrounds for many years to come.

The expertise quality, connection, and support/empathy from the Director, teachers... and ALL of the staff has been phenomenal. They've helped our daughter meet goals through planning, hard work, and excellent communication. I don't know what things would look like had we missed the opportunity to have time with the preschool and be part of such a thriving, supportive community. We are forever grateful.

-Rachel Rosenfield, GFP Parent

Supporting vibrant Jewish life in Maine and worldwide

The JCA's supports the full flourishing of our Southern Maine Jewish community, celebrating who we are, who we have been, and together imagining and building what could be. This year, **the JCA allocated over \$100,000** to local and international organizations whose work enriches Jewish lives and communities in countless ways. We are so grateful for the support that enables us to make these gifts and helps to ensure the continuity of Jewish life here and around the globe.

The violence that occurred this year in Pittsburgh and in Poway, California horrified us all. In addition to convening community gatherings in response to these events, and working to strengthen safety protocols and combat antisemitism, our **Community Relations Council (CRC)** has been hard at work creating opportunities for proactive engagement around the most crucial issues our community faces. Once again this year, we offered the Shalom Hartman Institute "iEngage" course on Israel, which presents a framework for engaging across difference by connecting to shared Jewish values. Finding common ground is critical for building coalitions, and part of being a "big tent" organization is that we have beloved members, donors, and friends from across the political spectrum. Sometimes it seems easier to remain silent – but in a time of increasing polarization, part of our role is helping to build communal capacity to have difficult conversations.

In addition, this year we offered "Welcome to Judaism," an introductory team-taught course by local congregational rabbis. Forty students subscribed, from all walks of life and backgrounds. The CRC also held our first Community Seder, modeled after the ADL's pioneering "Interfaith Seder" programs. Nearly 100 people representing a range of faith communities gathered to learn about Passover and the Seder and to share a festive meal while building new relationships. We look forward to continuing to develop these and other outreach opportunities in the coming year!

Creating opportunities for learning, growth, and community

The JCA creates rich and compelling experiences of Jewish life through our **Arts & Culture** series and the **Shalom Maine** partnership for adult education. In the past year, we explored diverse traditions in Jewish music through the cantorial performance by the 'Divas on the Bima', and the cultural fusion of Joshua Nelson and his Kosher Gospel singers. We celebrated groundbreaking accomplishments in sports, in Israel, and on the US Supreme Court through film and author talks. We also welcomed former Simpsons head writer Mike Reiss and award-winning novelist Rachel Kadish.

Through community partnerships with the Maine Jewish Film Festival, Oratorio Chorale, Levey Day School, local congregations, and other civic organizations, we commemorated Black History Month and Holocaust Remembrance Day, coordinated volunteer opportunities with KJFS and Preble Street, designed and led an inaugural recovery-oriented Passover seder, and developed programs for seniors. This year, our **PJ Library** program expanded to include **PJ Our Way** for 8-12 year olds, and we facilitated a "Sparkle Havdalah" event, weekly storytime playdates, and special programs for families throughout the community.

We have a fantastic slate of 2019-2020 offerings, and our Program Guide is now available!

I am truly grateful for this course. I am marrying into a Jewish family, and it was so important for me to understand the culture and history of Judaism. I learned more than I could have hoped for, and I came away from every class feeling like my life had been enriched by the information that was shared. I cannot thank everyone involved enough.

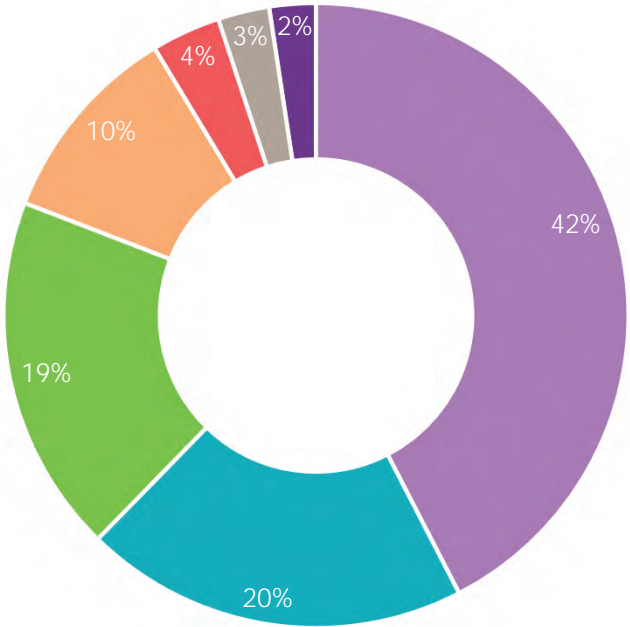
-Welcome to Judaism course participant



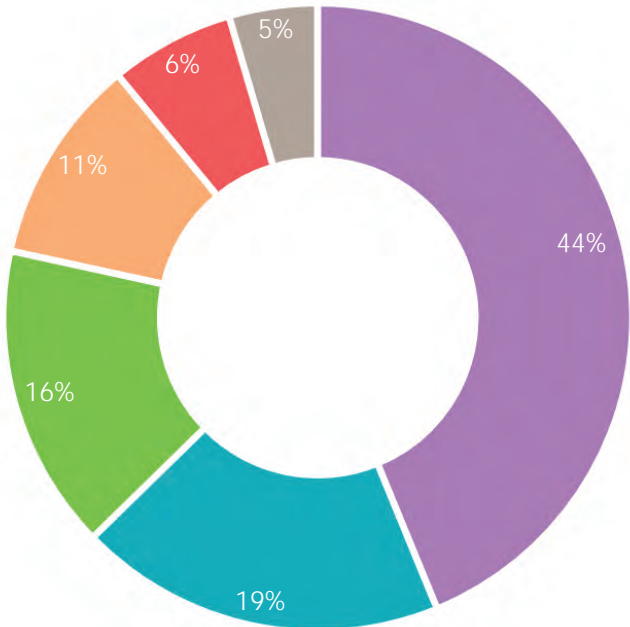
2017-2018 Financials

The information in these graphs is derived from financial reports on operating income and expenses and excludes all information related to the Capital Campaign. Our financial review, performed by Purdy Powers, for the year ended August 31, 2018, reports total liabilities and assets for the JCA, including the building project. That report states JCA total assets at \$12,874,898 with \$2,439,886 in current liabilities and \$10,435,012 in net assets.

Income	Amount	%
Goldman Family Preschool & Afterschool	\$944,092	42%
Annual Campaign Contributions	\$442,499	20%
Center Day Camp	\$413,061	19%
Investment Income	\$233,451	10%
Other Contributions	\$80,001	4%
Other Income	\$58,985	3%
Grants	\$53,475	2%
Total	\$2,225,564	100 %



Expenses	Amount	%
Goldman Family Preschool & Afterschool	\$1,004,954	44%
KJFS & Other Program Services	\$432,960	19%
Center Day Camp	\$361,080	16%
Fundraising	\$243,543	11%
Management & General	\$147,013	6%
External Allocations	\$104,666	5%
Total	\$2,294,216	100 %



Report on Giving

The Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine gratefully acknowledges our donors who contributed to the 2018-19 Annual Campaign and Programs

Annual Campaign Women’s Division Societies
Lions of Judah: individual gifts of \$25,000+, \$10,000+, \$5,000+
Pomegranate Society: individual gifts of \$1,800+

\$25,000+

Lisa Gorman

\$10,000 - \$24,999

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Samuel & Bette Novick

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Dr. & Mrs. Norman & Judy Wilson

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report. Please contact the Development Office at 207.772.1959 ext 261, with any omissions or corrections.

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Bradley Kauffman & Joan Adler
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James & Patricia Wasserman
Lawrence & Kay Waxler

\$500 - \$999

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Sherrie Bergman & Donald Quaid
Thomas & Marjorie Berman
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Jonathan & Susan Young
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Roberta Zimmerman

\$200 - \$499

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Lillian Blotner	Judy & Daniel Gatchell	Elliot Kaplan
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Michael Clenott		
Martin & Elaine Cohen		
Mark Crasnick		

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Kenneth & Nancy Levinsky	Heidi Nottonson
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Shai & Sara Levite	Toni Passerman
Lawrence & Joan Levy	Ellen Peck
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Maura McDermott	Robert Rodman

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Nathan & Sarah Szanton
Mitsuru Saito & Claire Holman
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William & Stephanie Scherr
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Ari & Natalie Solotoff	Dana Zimmerman
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Jeff Stern	Scott Black <i>in memory of Selma Black</i>
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Barbara Harrison <i>in memory of Morris & Sylvia Greenberg</i>
Jeffrey & Betsy Hoos <i>in memory of Esther & Harold Hoos</i>
Leslie Richfield & Scott Horton <i>in honor of Davida and Vivienne Asen</i>
Judith Katz-Leavy <i>in memory of Edward N. Leavy</i>
Mandy Levine <i>in memory of Shirley Levine</i>
Donald & Risa McDade <i>in memory of Alfred & Ida Goldman</i>
Alan & Jill Morris <i>in memory of Rosalyn Bernstein</i>
Michael & Margaret Nobel <i>in honor of Sheri Faber</i>
Raymond Oransky <i>in memory of JoAnn Oransky</i>
Harold Osher <i>in memory of Peggy Osher</i>
Ellen Peck <i>in honor of Alice Goldfinger</i>
Michael & Louise Rolnick <i>in memory of Ezra Finberg</i>
Norman & Marjorie Rosenbaum <i>in honor of Arla & Richard Cohen</i>

Annual Campaign Gifts
In Honor and In Memory
(continued)

Joshua Rosenberg and
Alex Forth *in honor of Elena
Rosenberg*

Molly Curren Rowles & Dustin
Rowles *in honor of Sam &
Bette Novick*

Stephen Selkowitz *in honor of
the Chude Family*

Lee W. Sharkey *in memory of
Grace Ruben Weiner*

Stephen & Marina Singer *in
memory of Goldie Singer*

Drew & Robin Stevens *in
honor of Lisa Raft-Vidinha*

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Ruth Merriam

Sam & Bette Novick

Tamir Shawn

William Levi Arts Fund

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Harriet Levi*

Susan Isenman *in honor of
Harriet Levi*

Frances Jacobson *in honor of
Harriet Levi*

Roberta Zimmerman *in honor
of Sam Novick*

Roberta Zimmerman *in
memory of Florence Lister*

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Small *in memory of Linda
Abromson*

Susan Trusiani *in honor of
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Family, Levine Family*

Betsy Webber *in honor of
Benjamin Levine*

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Campership Fund

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memory of Connie Jacobson
and Robert Litman*

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Farmelant, Arthur Jacobson,
Florence Lister, Robert
Litman, and Beth Messier*

Frances Jacobson *in honor of
Patty Reef*

Robert & Judith Rosen

David Small & Betty Bricker
Small *in memory of Arthur
Jacobson*

Stuart & Stephanie Stern

Betsy Webber

Center Day Camp
Scholarship & General Funds

Martin & Linda Brennerman *in
memory of Connie Jacobson*

Walter Goldfarb *in memory
of Marcia Goldfarb*

Mindy Goldman *in memory
of Connie Jacobson*

Mark & Sharon Levine

John & Andrea Mason *in
memory of Fred Schenker
and Debra Shaponick*

Molly Curren Rowles & Dustin
Rowles *in memory of Connie
Jacobson*

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Alan & Karen Lerman *in
honor of Bella Cowan*

Alan & Karen Lerman
*in memory of James
Goodman, Shirley Frank, and
Elizabeth Spector*

Sam & Bette Novick *in
memory of Elizabeth Spector*

Shirlee Smith

Harvey & Judith Trieff *in
honor of Sam & Bette Novick*

In Memory of Rose Novick

Sharon Alpert

Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Adele
Aronson

Teri Berenson

Susan Berkman & Maxine
Farber

Ben & Judy Bertram

Joe & Debbie Bornstein

David & Karen Brenner

Natalie Brenner

Keith Caulfield

Heather Cherry

Arthur & Joan Cope

Jack & Gwendolyn Deiber

Joanne DeLeo

Gilbert & Barbara Dichter

Charlotte Farber

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Mark & Norma Filler

Jeffrey & Paula Finegold

Frederick Finberg

Nancy Finberg

Alan & Malgorzata Friedman

Deborah Gatoff

Joel & Diana Gold

Jerome Goldberg

Matthew & Lynn Goldfarb

Lisa Gorman

Helen Isenman

Frances Jacobson

Elaine Crasnick Kahaner &
Harvey Kahaner

Judith Kamin

Debra Kanter

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Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser
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Maine, Inc.

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Stuart & Carole Potter

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Thomas Rosen

Molly Curren Rowles & Dustin
Rowles

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Shalom House

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Olivia Solodar & Elliott
Wincele

Jonathan & Susan Young

Roberta Zimmerman

In Honor of Sam Novick

Stuart & Carol Gilbert

Thrity & Sharad Saraf

Susan Trusiani

Mildred & Ernest Baker
CDC Scholarship Fund

Laurence Bader

James & Cindy Baker *in memory of Rose Novick*

Joseph & Marlene Cohen *in memory of Mildred & Ernest Baker*

Joseph & Marlene Cohen *in honor of Phillip & Lynn Cohen*

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Betsy Webber *in honor of Jeremy Baker*

Gibson Family Ballfield
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Leonard & Anne Kovit

Robert Mccomish

Daniel Katz & Sasha Rose

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Lisa & Stephen Schiffman

Alina Shumsky

Jonathan Stavis

The Steirman Family

Drew & Robin Stevens *in honor of Nathan & Sarah Szanton*

The McCandlish-Stone Family

Hanukkah Lights

Linda Aldrich & David Miller

Congregation Bet Ha'am

Joe & Debbie Bornstein

Kathryn & Daniel Brouillette

The Cowgill Family

Erica Schair-Cardona & Ivan Cardona

Joan G. Fischer

Logan Gammon

Carter Friend & Eileen Griffin

Lauren Hendricks *in honor of Avery Friend*

Susan & Daniel Hoffman

Rosie Williams & Matthew Marston

Ted & Naomi Mayer

Nancy Newman

Sam & Bette Novick

Dana Oppenheim

Lorre Howard & Geraldine Polinger Family Foundation

Doris & Stanley Pollack

Jed & Landace Porta

Daniel Rapaport & Lisa Tripler Rapaport

Emily Leshner & Andy Schmidt

Tux Turkel & Amy Sinclair

Maria Arriola Sirois

Dana & Jane Swenson

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100+ Women Who Care

Mark & Gladys Adelson

Richard & Adele Aronson

Dean & Arlene Bandes

Mollie & Evan Barnathan

Teri Berenson

Sherrie Bergman & Donald Quaid

Michael Klahr
Jewish Family Services
(continued)

Ben & Judy Bertram

Congregation Bet Ha'am

Zachary Boettcher

Steve Brinn & Jody Salatoff

Annie Leahy & Mike Carey

Lawrence & Nanette Chern

Chesed Fund for All Creatures

Albert & Carol Curran

Martin & Elaine Cohen *in memory of Linda & Joel Abromson*

Phyllis and Maurice Cohen

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Sharon Craig

Michael & Carla Cutting

Ashley DiPietro

Gilbert & Barbara Dichter

Berkeley & Jean Ellis

Fred Fawley

Barry & Sue Goldsmith

Chip Gavin & Andrea Krasker Gavin *in honor of Karli Efron*

Martin & Mary Gavin

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Stuart & Carol Gilbert

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Mary Herman

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Susan Lamb

Mark & Joyce Lapping

The Honorable Jon Levy & Mrs. Miriam Levy

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Linda Darrow Lutkevich

Morris Mehlsak & Barbara Riegelhaupt

Miriam Remar-Millman & Harold Millman

Westleigh Morin

Leora Mosston

National Diaper Bank Network

Sam & Bette Novick

Rachel Paquette

Stuart & Laura Piltch

Portland Provident Association

Elaine Rosen

Rosalie Saferstein *in honor of David Joseph*

Mark Seferian

Simmons Foundation

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Leo & Rhea Fay Fruhman Foundation

The Steirman Family

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Gladys Stokinger

Nathan & Sarah Szanton

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Amy & Marshall Tinkle

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In Honor of Davida Asen

Katharine Helena Babcock

Rebecca Watson & Taylor Asen

The Rosenberg Family

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Rachael & Justin Alfond

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Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser

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Keep the Oil Burning

Sam & Bette Novick

Doris & Stanley Pollack

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Thomas & Marjorie Berman
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Lawrence & Nanette Chern
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Natan & Orly Kahn
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George & Nancy Marcus
Morris Mehsak & Barbara Riegelhaupt
Charlie & Ellie Miller
Sharon & Perry Newman
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Tom Rosen
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King Weinstein
William & Jodi Welch
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Barry & Janie Zimmerman
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Mollie & Evan Barnathan
Diane Boas
Joe & Debbie Bornstein
Eric Boutiette & Sari Stern Greene
Pamela Brenner *in memory of Erich Salomon*
Sharon Bresler
Michael Brown
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Joy Engel & Ben Hagopian
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Geraldine Gross
Minda Gold *in memory of Harriet Weisberg*
Dan Herzlinger & Abby Fleisch
Cindy Hirsch
Lisa Katz
Horowitz Kass

Joan Kerzner
Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser
Mollie Kravitz-Jones *in memory of Tom Weiss*
Sarah & Henry Laurence
Darah Lerner
Richard Levy
Vanessa Levesque
Dale McCormick
Penny Mills
Emily Nichols
Lisa & Tin Ha-Ngoc
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The Olins Family
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Daniel Skwire & Denise Fogg
Jonathan Stavis
Alex Stein
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David & Barbara Turitz
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Charles & Eddy Ann Dibner
Mildred Drees

Phyllis & Dan Dunitz
Bernard & Phyllis Givertz
George & Roberta Gordon
Harris Gleckman & Riva Krut
Stephen Gleit & Dana Robbins
Mickey & Sheryl Haas
Helen Isenman
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Baila Janock
Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser
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Neil Kurzmann
Allan Lamport
Tom & Jessica Lantos
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Vickie Levy Lynch
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Paul & Sarah Muscat
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Irwin Novak & Mary Snell
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Donna Rubin
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Ira Shapiro & Barbara Carlin
Peggy Shapiro
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Susan L Tananbaum
Amy & Marshall Tinkle
David & Barbara Turitz
Douglas & Gail Volk
Anita Gottschalk Weiner
Norman & Judy Wilson
Green Building Initiatives In Memory of Francis M. & Melvin L. Stone
Charles & Barbara Stone
David & Katharine Stone