Lighting the Way
CREATING A PHILANTHROPIC COMMUNITY FOR OUR JEWISH FEDERATION
Carry the Light

There is a light that connects us. It is the light of caring, kindness and compassion, steeped in the tradition of mitzvot and tikkun olam. It's the light of our rich Jewish heritage of knowledge, history and culture, carried from generation to generation. It's a guiding light we shine to lead the way forward.

For more than a century, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia has been proud to Carry the Light.

Through your support, you too become a torchbearer, lighting the way toward a strong and vital future.
Since 1901, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia has served as the hub of the region’s Jewish communities, providing an infrastructure of support for Jewish people and organizations in need. Guided by our values of Giving, Inclusion and Tradition, we mobilize financial resources and volunteer leadership to address the communities’ most critical priorities locally, in Israel and around the world — a mission as crucial today as on the day of our founding.
The Jewish Federation is dedicated to three focus areas: serving vulnerable populations, inspiring community engagement, and supporting Jewish life and learning.

We aim to aid, engage and inspire. Through an array of social services, Jewish education and continuity programs, we make a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in the Greater Philadelphia region and globally.

The sheer span of our reach is breathtaking: from birth to preschool; from teenagers to college students; to young professionals; to interfaith families; to people living with disabilities; to our older adults; to those who are hungry and in need of a meal; to those who thirst to connect, belong and learn. No matter one’s age or stage, we are there, connecting Jewish people of all generations and circumstances to the resources they need, to meaningful experiences, and to one another.

All of this is made possible only with your generous support.
Making Gifts of Impact

The Jewish Federation is a powerful communal engine that delivers equally powerful philanthropic results. Through collective giving, we amplify our grantmaking ability, infusing our giving with a might that no individual donation could possibly have. We are a unique partnership made up of philanthropists, volunteers, professionals, partner organizations and agencies, all working together to ensure every dollar is applied wisely.
Each gift helps to transform our communities.

We know what it means to invest in the Jewish communities. As the central hub of this region’s Jewish activity — and with partners locally, in Israel and around the world — the Jewish Federation has the capacity to look across populations, evaluate challenges and opportunities, and consider available resources like no other organization can. In that way, we ensure that every dollar raised is a strategic investment that addresses our communities’ true needs.

Ways to Give

There are so many ways to express your philanthropic passion for the betterment of our communities. No matter which way you choose to give, giving through the Jewish Federation means giving through the perspective of our shared Jewish values.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES TODAY

The Jewish Community Fund
The core of our annual campaign, your gift to the Jewish Community Fund is combined with thousands of others — accomplishing what no individual could do on his or her own — and is applied to areas of the most critical importance, providing essential support to Jewish organizations locally, in Israel and around the world. You can opt for your gift to go to the area of greatest need, or direct your gift towards one of our three priority areas — serving vulnerable populations, inspiring community engagement, and supporting Jewish life and learning.

Supplemental Giving
Supplemental Restricted Giving allows you to direct your support to a specific program, organization or need within the Jewish communities. For visionary philanthropists, this could include funding a program or project as a lead supporter.

Education Improvement Tax Credits
The EITC program is a strategic way to invest in Jewish education through the Foundation for Jewish Day Schools by redirecting business and/or individual Pennsylvania taxes. This program provides needs-based scholarships to Jewish day and preschool students, and supports enhanced curriculum for public schools.

Sponsorship
We host educational seminars, networking programs, social gatherings and affinity-based events, all of which can be sponsored by an individual or corporation. Recognition options depend on the level of sponsorship, ranging from inclusion in marketing and event materials to media partnerships.

Philanthropic Donor Advised Fund
A Philanthropic Donor Advised Fund (DAF) allows you to put aside money for future charitable giving — giving you the tax benefits of your contribution — while giving you time to decide which charities to support. The assets in your fund grow tax-free, generating greater resources to support the causes you care about.
Creating Your Philanthropic Legacy

At the Jewish Federation, we carefully steward our donors and their assets to create a philanthropic legacy whose impact will resonate throughout our communities l’dor vador, from generation to generation.

We have a time-honored reputation for working with donors to create meaningful gifts, and there are so many ways to give. No matter what vehicle your tzedakah takes, giving to the Jewish Federation means giving through a Jewish lens.

By making a planned gift through a bequest, charitable gift annuity or other vehicle, you support the Jewish communities today, and create strong and stable Jewish future for generations to come.

Planned Gifts

Jewish Federation philanthropic advisors can work with you to structure your gift to fit your lifestyle, goals and family and financial needs for the future. These gifts can be for unrestricted funds, a Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE), Lion of Judah Endowment (LOJE) Fund, or for a special purpose that is most meaningful to you.

CREATING YOUR LEGACY FOR TOMORROW

Bequest

By naming the Jewish Federation as a beneficiary of your will or living trust, your gift can make a meaningful impact on the Jewish future. You can decide to leave a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or all or part of what remains after you provide for your loved ones.

IRA / Retirement Fund Assets

By naming the Jewish Federation as the beneficiary of your IRA or retirement plan, the assets pass to the Jewish Federation free of income or estate tax, allowing you to use your retirement assets to fulfill your charitable intentions for the long-term.

Life Insurance Policy

By establishing an insurance policy with the Jewish Federation as the owner and beneficiary, you can give back to the Jewish communities in perpetuity, with a focus on the causes you care about most. Each year, the gift you make to pay the annual premium may be claimed as an income tax deduction.

Charitable Gift Annuity

A charitable gift annuity allows you, if you are age 55 or older, to make a gift to the Jewish Federation and receive income for life. In return for your gift to the Jewish Federation you are paid a fixed amount of income on a quarterly basis — a planned giving tool that benefits your retirement and our Jewish communities.

Make a gift of a lifetime by creating a legacy gift.
Affinity Groups

Within the Jewish Federation, there are many opportunities to connect with like-minded peers, whether through shared interests or a common life stage. Each affinity group has special events, meaningful programming, leadership opportunities and curated missions.

JFRE
Jewish Federation Real Estate (JFRE) brings together the region’s top real estate professionals to exchange ideas, fulfill their professional goals, and participate in impactful philanthropy.

NextGen
A dedicated and passionate group ages 21 to 45, NextGen members seek to build their Jewish community as they build their families and careers.

Women’s Philanthropy
Women’s Philanthropy is an inclusive community of passionate, caring women of all ages, incomes and lifestyles who share a commitment to supporting the Jewish communities in Greater Philadelphia and around the world.

Women of Vision
The Women’s Foundation of the Jewish Federation, known as “Women of Vision,” brings women together to empower Jewish women and girls through advocacy, education and grant making.

Maimonides Society for Healthcare Professionals
A group of dedicated individuals who believe in the Jewish principle of pikuach nefesh, that the preservation of human life overrides virtually all else, Maimonides Society brings together healthcare professionals of all kinds for events and symposia.

Wealth and Estate Advisory Council
This network of attorneys, accountants, financial advisors, wealth managers and insurance professionals come together for educational programs related to investments, financial planning and estate planning.
Philanthropic Societies

In appreciation of the impact you make helping us to improve Jewish lives, we welcome those who dedicate substantial resources to partake in our philanthropic societies. Each society brings together a community of like-minded peers — united by your shared investment in the vitality of the Jewish communities. Participants enjoy a variety of exclusive events including high-profile speakers, high-level Israel and political briefings, travel programs, and social and networking events. The Prime Minister’s Council and Lion of Judah societies feature international conferences to connect with other philanthropists who give at the same level within their own communities.

ANNUAL RECOGNITION

Prime Minister’s Council for those who serve as our leading ambassadors and give $100,000 or more annually, or have a $2 million endowment.

King David Society for those who give $25,000 or more annually.

Joshua Society for households who give $10,000 or more annually, or have a $1 million endowment (Golden Gate Legacy Society).

Ben Gurion Society for NextGen leaders who give $1,000 or more annually.

WOMEN’S PHILANTHROPY

Lion of Judah for women who give $5,000 or more annually.

Pomegranate for women who give $1,800 or more annually.

PLANNED GIVING

Legacy Society for those who have endowed a gift of $100,000 or more. Tiers of recognition for endowment gifts include:

- Golden Gate .............. $1,000,000+
- Zion Gate ............... $500,000+
- Jaffa Gate .............. $250,000+
- Lions Gate ............. $100,000+

Tikkun Olam Society for those who leave a gift of up to $100,000 in their estate plan.

HISTORICAL GIVING

Circle of Partners for those who have consistently supported the Jewish Federation annually for 25 years or more.
Explore traditions and connect more deeply with Israel and our local Jewish communities.

Travel With Purpose

Among the important values we pass on to the next generation is that of meaningful connection to Israel — and nothing sparks that passion better than a life-changing mission. Through our missions program, we create immersive experiences that enable you to forge lasting bonds with Israel and Jewish communities across the globe.

Our missions are curated to provide exclusive, insider access to community leaders and personalities throughout Israel, each offering insights into Israel’s rich and complex cultural, religious and political landscape. Each trip has a unique sense of purpose, deepening your connection to Jewish identity while expanding your world. And when you return, our newly expanded mission programming will continue to engage you with other mission alumni, our local communities and the Jewish Federation.
To Carry the Light is perhaps the highest honor, and the greatest responsibility, a person can hold. As we have for more than a century, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia pledges to Carry the Light by continuing to serve vulnerable populations, inspire community engagement, and support Jewish life and learning — building and sustaining our diverse and vital Jewish communities well into the future.

Join us today and you too can be a torchbearer for our communities’ strong and vital future.
Let’s Connect

Philanthropic giving is a deeply personal endeavor. It requires a thoughtful examination of your own values and passions, so that your gift will reflect those beliefs. What and how you choose to support must be a comfortable fit, carefully selected with an eye toward maximizing any tax or estate benefits. That’s why there are nearly as many ways to support the Jewish Federation as there are donors, shaped to meet virtually every area of interest and inspiration. We’re here to help you make these very important decisions, and identify the impact that you want to have.

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