A Message to Our Community

Our Federation is repairing Jewish L.A. in a way only we can. As the heartbeat of Jewish L.A., we are here while COVID-19 remains a threat to our daily lives and the future of our Jewish community. We are excited to announce $6.2 million toward new programs and amplified partnerships to meet the increased need for food, social services, and meaningful Jewish engagement.

We developed this COVID-19 Response Plan based on extensive conversations with our partners and our community. We are proud to play an essential part in rebuilding our beloved Jewish Los Angeles.

Federation Crisis Resources

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Jewish Communal Organizations: Purchase the Personal Protective Equipment You Need for Reopening!

In partnership with JFNA’s Jewish Together and available to all Jewish nonprofit organizations across Los Angeles, our Federation is the portal through which non-medical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) can now be purchased to prepare for the reopening and safe operation of Jewish communal facilities and offices. As the heartbeat of Jewish L.A., we care for you so you can care for our community.

Learn more and place your organization’s order.
Serve the Moment Volunteer Corps
Want to spend a summer putting your passions into action? Our Federation is proud to present Serve the Moment in partnership with The Jewish Service Alliance. Serve the Moment Corps Members will spend **32 hours per week** elevating their professional skills and accelerating their personal growth through virtual and in-person service with trusted partners. Serve the Moment Corps Members will volunteer while learning and reflecting with their peers through trainings guided by national leaders in the field. There will be an intentional focus on social inequities, systemic injustices (racial, food, and education), and addressing urgent needs through meaningful service rooted in Jewish values. Apply today or nominate a changemaker in your community. Serve the Moment’s Summer Service Corps will take place from **July 8th to August 7th**.

Community Call Line
If you or someone you know needs access to social services including financial assistance, please contact **The Jewish Federation's Community Call Line at (323) 761-8305**. The Jewish Federation has increased its funding and support of the Max Factor Family Foundation Financial Assistance Network. This assistance will help Jews whose income has been reduced, hours have been eliminated, or businesses are suffering.

No Guarantors Required for $1,000 Interest-Free Loans
To cover expenses related to COVID-19, help with free, no-interest loans is one click away. A loan fund has been established to help Jews in need. Additionally, through a new $1 Million COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund, the Jewish Free Loan Association will offer a total of one thousand individual **$1,000 loans (no guarantor required)** to local community members in need.

GET HELP.

Food for Those in Need
Jewish Family Service (JFS) SOVA Community Food & Resource Program is now providing prepackaged bags of food to help minimize the risk to both clients and volunteers. The JFS senior nutrition program is now providing all food via delivery. To receive these services, please call JFS Central Access at **(877) 275-4537**.

Teen Talk
Do you know a teen who could use peer support to vent, share, or just talk? Tell them about **Teen Talk!** Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles created the Teen Talk mobile app to provide social and emotional support to teens. Now more than ever, we see Teen Talk as a critical lifeline for teens in Los Angeles and around the world. Read more about the Teen Talk app.
Builders of Jewish Education's (BJE) JKidLA
BJE’s JKidLA is a longtime partner of Federation and provides an online guide for parents on many diverse opportunities for their children — both during this COVID-19 summer and beyond. We know these are trying times and want to help you get through it. You’ll find many resources for families, virtual Shabbat programs, online activities, and holiday fun!

Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)
Resources Around Racial Justice JCPA has compiled racial justice and equity resources across a variety of media — from curricula to podcasts — intended to help educate communities.

POWERFUL ACTIVITIES

Entrepreneur Insights: Where We Are Now and Where We’re Going with Doug Hirsch, Founder and Co-CEO of GoodRx
Join the Emerging Philanthropists' Ben Gurion Society (BGS) and the Emerging JTECH and Health Professionals Network for an evening of entrepreneur insights with Founder and Co-CEO of GoodRx Doug Hirsch. Hear about how Doug conceptualized and brought the idea of GoodRx to fruition, his passion for entrepreneurship and tech, and the importance of giving back.

For questions or to express interest in attending, contact Alexi Baker at ABaker@JewishLA.org or Levi Shank at LShank@JewishLA.org.

Tuesday, June 30th, at 5:00 PM
“Doors open” at 4:45 PM for breakout room networking and will remain open until 6:15 PM for continued networking.
Register now.

Education During COVID-19: Where We Are Now and What's Next
Hosted by our Legal Network and Community Engagement Initiative, join us for a moderated conversation on education. This discussion will be an opportunity to hear how schools are meeting their legal obligations to students and families while considering health and safety as they plan for the future.

Tuesday, July 7th, at 6:00 PM
Register today.

Connecting the Dots: A Legislative Overview of COVID-19, Part 3 — The Local
Response
Join The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles for a conversation with Kathryn Barger, Board Chair and 5th District Supervisor for the County of Los Angeles, and Aaron Gross, Chief Resilience Officer for the City of Los Angeles. Together we will explore where we are now in COVID response and the challenges facing our city and county as we move forward.

Wednesday, July 8th, at 2:00 PM
Register today.

How Do We Move Forward During Turbulent Times? Virtual Event
Please join The Jewish Federation President & CEO Jay Sanderson in conversation with Rabbi Amy Bernstein, Rabbi Ed Feinstein, Rabbi Yosef Kanefsky, and Rabbi Yoshi Zweiback as they address the question, How Do We Move Forward During Turbulent Times? This crucial discussion will focus on how our Jewish community is grappling with the realities of COVID-19 and how best to proceed together to lead the Jewish community to a strong future.

If you have a question you would like addressed during the webinar, please submit it in advance to Melissa York.

Wednesday, July 8th, at 4:00 PM
Register now.

Sylvia Weisz Women’s Philanthropy Virtual Erev Shabbat Experience
We know the value of community and are committed to providing meaning in our new world. Sylvia Weisz Women’s Philanthropy warmly invites you to join us on Friday, July 10th, via Zoom for a special pre-Shabbat experience as we discuss Tikkun Olam — How Women Repair the World.

Friday, July 10th, at 4:00 PM
Register now.

Celebrating Our Diverse Jewish American Heritage: The Sephardic and Mizrahi Jewish Roots of L.A.
In partnership with Jewish American Heritage Month of Los Angeles (JAHM-LA) and this year’s L.A.’ Chayim! exhibit, our Community Engagement and Y & S Nazarian Initiatives invite you to join us for Celebrating Our Diverse Jewish American Heritage: The Sephardic and Mizrahi Jewish Roots of L.A. Moderated by David Suissa, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of the Jewish Journal, this webinar will explore some of the rich traditions, experiences, and stories of Sephardic and Mizrahi Jews. (Sephardic, defined as Jews expelled from Spain in 1492, and Mizrahi as those who
are descended from Jews who had existed in the Middle East and North Africa from biblical times to today.)

Our panel of speakers includes Rabbi Daniel Bouskila, Director of the Sephardic Educational Center (SEC); Tabby Refael, Los Angeles-based writer and activist; David Ryu, Councilmember, District 4.

Wednesday, July 15th, at 5:00 PM
Register today.

**Jewish Journal Highlights Federation's Gamal Palmer**
Our Federation's Senior Vice President of Leadership Development Gamal Palmer was recently featured in the *Jewish Journal* for his unique views on social justice and racism — and how they intermingle with his Jewish journey. Read more about Gamal's impactful story.

**PJ Library for L.A. Families with Young Children**
Our PJ Library team offers a virtual activity schedule for L.A. families with young children.
All PJ Library LA offerings can be found here.
All PJ Library National offerings can be found here.
All listings below are Pacific Daylight Time

**TUESDAY, JUNE 30 — Five Little Gefiltes**
- 2:00 PM — Design your own gelflte puppet and theater.
- 4:00 PM — Learn how to pickle veggies.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1 — Baxter the Pig Who Wanted to be Kosher**
- 4:00 PM — Create a *tzedakah* box (piggy bank) out of repurposed material.

**THURSDAY, JULY 2 — The Castle on Hester Street**
- 4:00 PM — Weave together a bracelet using string and used buttons.

**FRIDAY, JULY 3 — Emma's Poem**
- 4:00 PM — Sculpt a Statue of Liberty out of aluminum foil and creativity.

**SUNDAY, JULY 5 — Weekly Roundup Preview**
- Here’s the weekly roundup of what PJ Library in Los Angeles has in store for families this week.

**MONDAY, JULY 6 — Joseph had a Little Overcoat**
- 4:00 PM — Wrap a doll or action figure out of repurposed fabric scraps.

**TUESDAY, JULY 7 — Chicken Soup, Chicken Soup**
4:00 PM — Create a refreshing smoothie from fruit and veggies.

**NuRoots Programs for Young Adults (20s and 30s)**

**NuRoots** mobilizes and inspires people in their 20s and 30s to create meaningful Jewish community across Los Angeles. *The following experiences are for young adults only.*

**Men's Groups**

Monthly gatherings for male-identified persons interested in exploring constructs of masculinity within the Jewish community.

- **Mensch Work**
  
  Build breathable community through more connected and open relationships, and develop tools to counter violence and deepen into love. Reach out to Ian Schiffer to join.

- **Persian Jewish Men’s Circle**
  
  Join other male-identifying Persian Jews in their 20s and 30s for a discussion on what it means to be a Jewish man in this moment, exploring how our values show up in our day-to-day relationships and life activities. In this virtual and intimate setting, we will offer space for deep and honest conversation and active listening. Reach out to Donna Maher to join.

**Serve the Moment Volunteer Fellowship Program**

NuRoots is partnering with Serve the Moment, a new project by The Jewish Service Alliance and Repair the World, to mobilize Jewish young adults and college students (ages 18-29) through a full-time stipend-supported fellowship program from July 8th to August 7th. 100 Corps Members will serve across ten cities in-person and through virtual volunteering. Through 100,000 acts of service and learning, we will address racial injustice, food insecurity, educational needs, unemployment, and social isolation relating to COVID-19, and other pressing needs. Will you join us? Apply today or nominate a changemaker in your community.

**NuMoon Circles**

Ongoing monthly gatherings for female-identified persons to connect with the ancient Jewish ritual of *Rosh Chodesh* (the holiday that marks the start of the Hebrew lunar month) and harness the power of the lunar cycle and the female body. Reach out to Rabbi Rose to join our NuMoon community and be connected to a circle.

**#getmindful: Meditation Challenge**

Get mindful with NuRoots and the Santa Monica Moishe Pod. Sign up to receive
June 30 Update: Providing Community and Resources During This Crisis

a weekly meditation practice in your inbox for the entire month of June. This week’s exercise is a love and kindness meditation to bring compassion into the world and leave you with tools to help keep going and fighting into the days and week ahead. No Zoom required. Each meditation is curated and designed specifically for this moment.

Sign up here.

**NuRoots Pilot Schmilots**

Our community of East Side screenwriters meets monthly to discuss new works. Message our East Side Fellow Oren Peleg to get connected.

**Virtual Meet-Ups**

Want to do a virtual meet-up with a NuRoots team member? Message us to be connected. It's BYOC — Bring Your Own Coffee!

**Help Us Preserve Iranian Jewish Languages Before It’s Too Late!**

Just 50 years ago, Jews in Iran spoke a wide variety of other languages, depending on where they lived. These dialects included Judeo-Shirazi, Judeo-Hamadani, Judeo-Yazdi, Judeo-Isfahani, Judeo-Kashani, Judeo-Kermani, Judeo-Khunsari, and Jewish Neo-Aramaic. Because the speakers of these languages are mostly in their 70s or older, the languages are endangered. If we do not record these speakers soon, their languages — and a piece of Iranian Jewry — will be lost forever.

The Y&S Nazarian Iranian Young Leadership Initiative of The Jewish Federation is proud to partner with other community organizations on a project to document recordings of these languages in an effort to preserve them before it’s too late. Given the current shelter-at-home guidelines, this work will be done remotely, using video conferencing technology.

**How can you help?** If you know people from Shiraz, Hamadan, Kashan, etc., who may be speakers of these languages, please complete this form on their behalf or ask them to complete the form. You/they can also contact the researcher, Dr. Habib Borjian, directly by email or phone at (347) 545-2068.

**Spotlight: The Board of Rabbis Spreads Torah**

In her first Quarantine Shabbat service, Board of Rabbis (BOR) member Rabbi Lori Shapiro said, “Judaism is more viral than this virus.” Indeed! Because of our rabbis and the staff and lay leaders of The Jewish Federation, there has been a viral explosion of Judaism during these months which has radiated throughout our community to people throughout the world. Each rabbi, Federation staff member, and
lay leader has contributed to this infectious spread of hope.

Last week, the BOR convened rabbis in the community by Zoom with Dr. Ron Wolfson and Rabbi Adam Greenwald of the American Jewish University to discuss how synagogues and Jewish community organizations can reinvent themselves in this time of physical distancing. The session included many creative ideas of how to celebrate the upcoming High Holidays, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah in new and imaginative ways this year. This session was the first of 16 High Holiday workshop sessions that the BOR will hold this summer, discussing all facets of how to lead meaningful and engaging services and holidays in this upcoming High Holiday season. Four of these sessions will take place next week alone on such topics as Jewish medical ethics, Jewish texts on racism, spiritual preparation for the High Holidays, and grappling with losses during this pandemic. Learning together gives the rabbis texts and insights to share with their communities — as well as inspiration and strength to persevere.

Now more than ever...the rabbis and leaders of the Federation are bringing a profusion of inspiring Torah to this moment — launching creative programs and giving compassion to pained community members. The BOR amplifies the voices of the rabbis and the Federation by sharing these programs and providing forums to strategize how to be effective in new modalities.

GET INVOLVED

Give — Now is the Time
We need you now more than ever. Please keep us strong so we can keep our Jewish community thriving and resilient.

DONATE NOW

Your Advocacy Makes a Difference!
We are pleased to report that earlier this week, Governor Newsom, Pro Tem Atkins, and Speaker Rendon announced a California budget agreement for fiscal year 2020-2021. The final budget protects critical programs that help older adults access the care they need at home and in the community, including the vital Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program (MSSP), preventing at-risk older adults from being forced to seek care at nursing facilities which are particularly dangerous during the pandemic.

Thank you to all of you who signed letters, made phone calls, and sent emails to
June 30 Update: Providing Community and Resources During This Crisis

support this advocacy!

Community Calendar on JewishLA.org
Our calendar is back! Check it out to view up-to-date virtual offerings from our Federation and partner organizations. Partners can now submit events as usual.

We’ve made it easier to share this information! Simply download the PDF version of this newsletter and email it to anyone who you think may benefit.

JEWISH JOURNAL
In an effort to keep you, our community, informed and connected and to support our partner experiencing physical distribution challenges, we are sharing this digital edition of the Jewish Journal with you.