



In Pursuit

For donors seeking impact

*Jewish Community Foundation of
The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington*

This season is a time for reflection and renewal, a reminder that each of us has the power to make a difference. By nurturing the passions that move us, we strengthen our community and one another.

The resources ahead are here to inspire and guide your giving—whether by deepening your personal impact, joining others through collaborative funds, or supporting efforts already building a more vibrant and connected community.

Together, let us make 5786 a year of courage, generosity, and shared purpose.

Shana Tova, with gratitude for all you make possible,
Sara and Sam

Sara Brenner

Executive Director
Jewish Community Foundation

Sam Kaplan

President
Jewish Community Foundation



LEARN: Donors make big shifts to meet the growing demands and seed a vibrant future

More and more, individual donors are exploring new approaches to effective philanthropy. Emerging trends include funding efforts that address root causes of social issues; shifting from episodic to long-term unrestricted support; prioritizing meaningful relationships; and offering social capital alongside financial resources.

[Read Sara's Blog Post](#)



IMPACT: Collaborative giving efforts are underway in our community

Collaborative giving funds are both deeply personal and highly strategic. By joining forces, donors can address the issues they care about while making larger, more impactful grants. At The Jewish Community Foundation, we help facilitate meaningful collaboration by offering expert advisement, careful vetting of all grant recipients, detailed administrative and operational support, and on-the-ground community knowledge so donors can amplify the impact of their giving.

[Explore Collaborative Fund Opportunities](#)



SUCCESS STORY: Meet Adam Levner, Senior Director, The Jewish Talent Project

The Jewish Talent Project—a collaborative fund spearheaded by Phil Margolius and Scott Brown—seeks to reshape how local Jewish organizations recruit, support, and retain professionals. This month, they welcomed Adam Levner to lead the work.

“What if, instead of losing talent to other sectors, we helped people take their next step within Jewish communal life? That’s the kind of change I want to see.”

[Read Adam’s profile](#)



GIVE: Kick off the new year by investing in Jewish peoplehood

We are proud of the myriad ways leaders in our community are working to strengthen Jewish identity, connection, learning, and Jewish joy. Below are some examples of innovations happening that engage and support more people in Jewish life and strengthen our communal fabric:

[At The Well](#) supports women’s wellbeing rooted in Jewish ritual and wisdom. They create specialty resources and host in-person and online gatherings to help more women, especially those disconnected from their Jewish identity, access Jewish wisdom and form community. At The Well serves women in 34 countries and is building a growing presence in D.C., the hometown of its founder and CEO.

[GatherDC](#) helps Jews in their 20s and 30s connect to Jewish life and to each other. One of their signature offerings is Beyond the Tent, an immersive weekend retreat that 300+ participants since 2016 credit with activating and deepening their Jewish identity. GatherDC is working to double this program's impact by expanding it from once to twice per year.

[Hebrew at the Center](#) runs the Pritzat Derech/Hebrew for All initiative for teaching Hebrew as a second language to students with dyslexia and other language-learning challenges. This landmark program has seen success around the country and will

now help students in our community gain better access to the Hebrew language and their Jewish identity.

The [Jewish Fertility Foundation \(JFF\)](#) is dedicated to ensuring that finances never stand in the way of family. Through fertility grants, emotional support, and education, they empower Jewish families-to-be across the country. In Greater Washington, 17 families are waiting for help. With a \$10,000 gift, you can give one family the chance to bring new life into the Jewish community—and strengthen the Jewish future.

[Mason Hillel](#) is adapting the Hillel model to serve not only its campus but also Northern Virginia. Mason Hillel is using a Strategic Growth Grant from national partners as well as additional local philanthropic support to provide initial funding for two new engagement professionals to expand its reach and serve students at George Mason, Nova Community College, and beyond.

We invite you to reach out to us to learn more about these initiatives. You may also give directly to them through their websites or make a gift from your Donor Advised Fund.



OF NOTE

Opportunities to Learn

- **[A story of solidarity](#) worth remembering:** “Although most Black newspapers of that time were weeklies with small editorial staffs and limited financial resources, the Black press would go on to call out Nazi oppression of Jews, publishing hundreds of anti-Nazi cartoons, articles, commentaries, and editorials throughout the 1930s and into the 1940s.” You can join Moment Magazine for a discussion on this topic on September 25th. [Register](#)
- **Commemorating October 7th:** Next month, Federation and partners across Greater Washington invite you to mark this solemn anniversary together. As we do, we also honor the victims, hostages, and their families. From community events to stories, names, and prayers, discover what speaks to you by visiting our [October 7th online Hub](#).
- **Impact of the New Tax Law:** Coming October 22nd at 12 pm on Zoom: Mark your calendar and watch for details.
- **Does Zionism have a future on the American Left?** This is the topic of the debate presented by Sapir and 92NY on October 23rd. [Register](#)
- **Civics Education:** Donors are showing renewed interest in supporting civics education for a new generation. [Read more](#)

- **Jewish Day Schools:** A rabbi makes the case for investing in Jewish day schools as communal infrastructure. [Read more](#)

We exist to support your giving.

Turn to Jewish Community Foundation to:



Give to causes you care about inside and outside the Jewish community.



Take advantage of collaborative giving and learning opportunities.



Create an enduring legacy through Federation and the organizations you care about most.



Access advisory services to start, manage, and grow your charitable funds.

**Contact us to open a Donor Advised Fund, collaborative giving,
or to discuss your philanthropic goals.**

foundation@shalomdc.org | 301-230-7223

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Jewish Community
Foundation
of THE JEWISH FEDERATION
OF GREATER WASHINGTON

The Jewish Community Foundation and The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington welcome the participation of interfaith couples and families, and people of all abilities, backgrounds, gender identities, and sexual orientations. Building an inclusive community is a priority.