



JEWISHcolorado

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER



Annual Report

July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

JEWISHcolorado Staff

Nelly Ben Tal
Sadie Christlieb
Aaron Claflin
Cindy Coons
Monica Cox
Rebekah Ehrlich
Kevin Farrington
Jillian Feiger
Heather Flowers
Bethany Friedlander
Stephanie Geller
Rolando Kahn
Jill Katchen
Liz Lebeaux Vantine
Julie Lieber
Brian Maloney
Zach McAnally
Evan Narotsky
Phong Nguyen
Phil Niedringhaus
Krista Nieves
Noa Notrika
Jason Oruch
Katherine Podolak
Jenna Raimist
Brandon Rattiner
Willie Recht
Renée Rockford
Michelle Ruby
John Stilwell
Daphna Strelitz
Susan Weinberger
Roberta Witkow
Emma Wynn
Hannah Young
Martha Zaugg
Zachary Zimmerman

Dear JEWISHcolorado Community,

JEWISHcolorado's mission is to **convene, connect, invest** and **protect** Jewish life here at home, in Israel, and around the world. The events of the past year have employed every aspect of our mission, with continued war in Israel, skyrocketing antisemitism and violence in the U.S., and deepening interest and engagement in Jewish life post-October 7. At this time in the history of our people, it has never been more important for a Jewish community to have a strong Federation, and we are proud to share the impact that your support for our work makes in our community every day.

We serve as the central **convener** of Colorado's vibrant Jewish community, bringing together diverse voices and organizations to collaborate, strategize, and amplify our collective impact. Throughout the year, JEWISHcolorado unites nearly a dozen groups—from Day School Heads and Jewish Camp Directors to professional and lay leaders from across the state. These convenings are more than meetings—they are moments to break down silos, share ideas, and align around the shared goal of strengthening Jewish life in Colorado.

Connection is at the heart of all

we do. Whether welcoming newcomers and linking them to community resources, empowering nearly 20 PJ Library Family Connectors to host hyper-local events for young families, or building enduring relationships between community members here and in our partner communities in Israel, we help people feel a sense of belonging. These are just a few of the many ways we **connect** individuals to Jewish life, to one another, and to something greater than themselves.

We also **invest** in our community's future by empowering the next generation through Jewish Student Connection clubs in public high schools and the transformative Joyce Zeff Israel Study Tour, and by making grants to strengthen both local Jewish organizations and our partners in Israel. These efforts help ensure a vibrant, resilient Jewish future rooted in learning, leadership, and shared responsibility.

More than ever, we are committed to **protecting** the Jewish people. We provide security training, support access to nonprofit security grants, and partner with the Secure Community Network to monitor



JEWISHcolorado

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information included in this publication is accurate and complete. If you note any errors or omissions, please accept our apologies and notify JEWISHcolorado at philanthropy@jewishcolorado.org. To update your mailing address, contact us at philanthropy@jewishcolorado.org.

and respond to threats—ensuring our community remains safe and prepared. Protection also means advocacy. Through our Jewish Community Relations Council, we combat antisemitism in government, champion policies like the nonprofit security grant program, and build strong relationships with legislators on both sides of the aisle. Our recent Public Officials Mission to Israel is just one way we help ensure leaders understand our community and the issues we face.

All of this comprises the work of your Federation, JEWISHcolorado. We continue to meet the moment and to provide leadership, guidance, and financial support everywhere we can. Never has your engagement been more valuable to our existence as Jews and Jewish peoplehood. We invite you to explore more in the pages of this report and to join us in this vital and meaningful work.



Ben Lusher
Board Chair
JEWISHcolorado



Renée Rockford
President & CEO
JEWISHcolorado

JEWISHcolorado:

**We convene, connect,
invest, and protect Jewish
life in Colorado, Israel, and
around the world.**



jewishcolorado.org

300 South Dahlia Street
Denver, Colorado 80246
(303) 321-3399

philanthropy@jewishcolorado.org



With Gratitude

Together, we are stronger. Working as a community, we can accomplish the extraordinary.

JEWISHcolorado thanks the many donors whose truly extraordinary support raised **\$9,228,162** for our Annual Campaign, exceeding our fundraising goal for Fiscal Year 2025 by approximately **\$770,000**.

More than **2,000** donors made more than **3,300** gifts. Yes, you read those numbers correctly. An impressive **64 percent** of donors made multiple gifts in FY'25. The total amount raised this year surpasses last year's Annual Campaign fundraising by **nearly 17 percent**.

This level of support means that JEWISHcolorado can continue to offer programs, events, and initiatives that strengthen a vibrant Jewish community across the state. But what differentiates Jco is that our vision extends beyond the state and the country to the needs of the global Jewish community.

In Fiscal Years '24 and '25, JEWISHcolorado raised **more than \$13 million** in Emergency Funds, the majority of which went to support Israel in the wake of the Hamas terrorist attack. Working



with our global partners and partnership regions in Israel, JEWISHcolorado ensured that your donations had genuine impact on real people whose lives have been forever changed by October 7th.

With your ongoing generosity in the coming months and years, JEWISHcolorado will continue to fulfill a five-fold role in the community:

- JEWISHcolorado is one of **141 Jewish Federations** comprising the Jewish Federations of North America. Quite simply, Jco is your Jewish Federation.



- JEWISHcolorado offers Jewish Life and Engagement programs through grant-making, convening, and programming, reaching **more than 71,000** individuals in FY'25 and making more than **\$1 million** in grants supporting the Colorado Jewish community.
- JEWISHcolorado is home to The Foundation at JEWISHcolorado, with total investment assets under management of **more than \$75 million**.
- JEWISHcolorado's Jewish Community

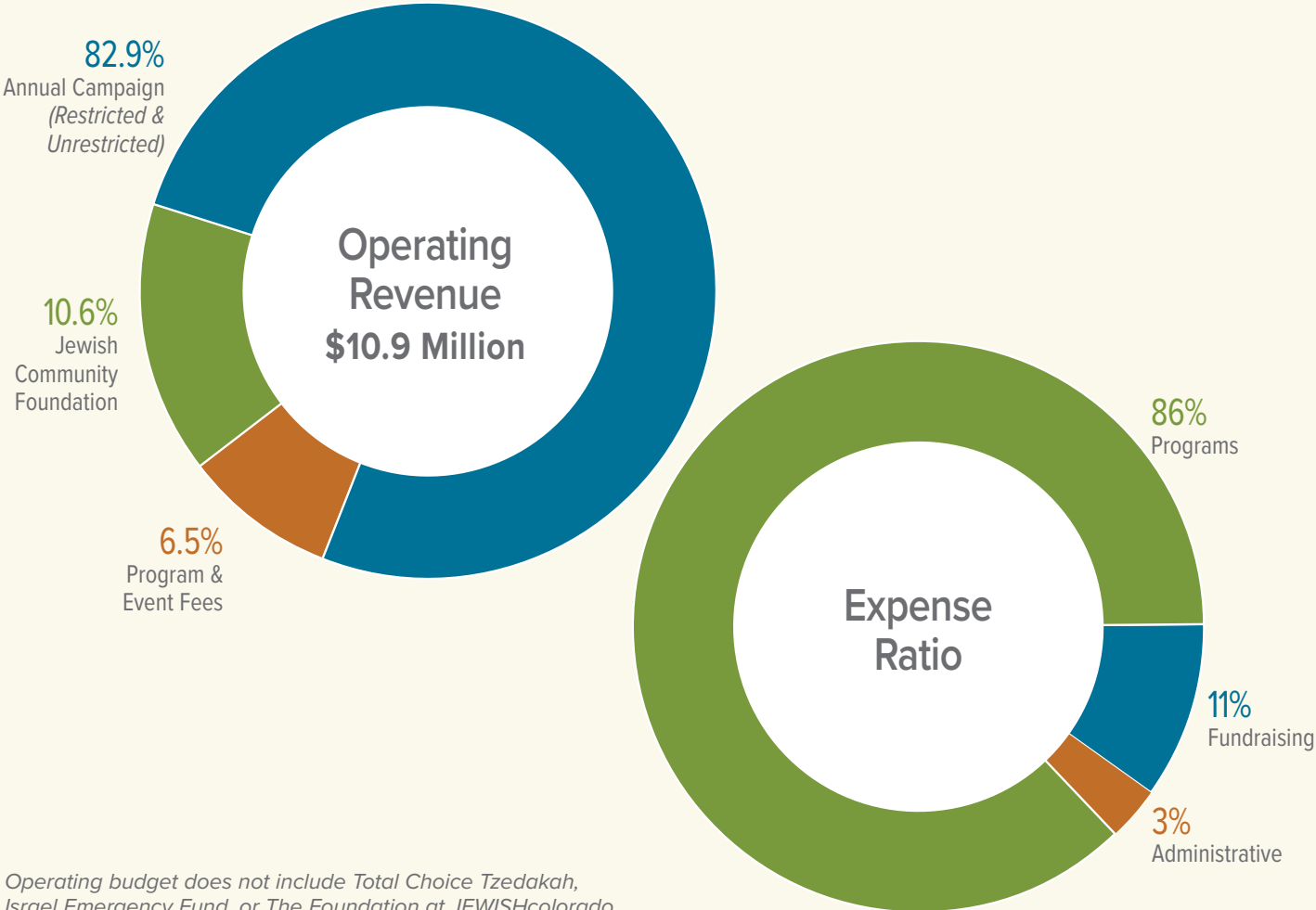
Relations Council, working with **44 member organizations**, advocates and lobbies to ensure Jewish Coloradans feel safe and empowered to participate in public life.

- JEWISHcolorado, partnering with Secure Community Network, continues ongoing efforts to protect the community, training **more than 10,000 people** in threat preparedness.

Together, we are stronger. Thank you for your support in the past, the present, and the future. □

JEWISHcolorado Revenue & Expenses

July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025



Where Your JEWISHcolorado Dollars are Spent to Deliver on our Mission for the Community

Includes annual operating budget & Israel Emergency Fund. Excludes Total Choice Tzedakah and The Foundation at JEWISHcolorado.

Convene \$889,231	Connect \$489,017	Invest \$2,000,306	Protect \$4,941,653
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Annual Meeting with JAFI's Doron Almog ■ Mountain Communities Event: Aspen with Gadeer Kamal-Mreeh ■ Real Estate & Construction Network event with Michael Staenberg ■ Yom HaZikaron with Ron Segal ■ Signature Event with Debra Messing ■ Women's Philanthropy event with Iris Kraemer and Liz Hirsh Naftali 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hartman Lecture Program with Yossi Klein Halevi, Matti Friedman, and others ■ Joyce Zeff Israel Study Tour ■ Jewish Explorers Program ■ Jewish Student Connection Program ■ PJ Library Program ■ Shinshinim Youth Program ■ Shaliach Program ■ Young Adult Division Shabbat & other events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Early Childhood Education Grants ■ One Happy Camper Grants ■ Programs of Impact & Need Grants ■ Staenberg Anything Grants™ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Emergency Community Response (Israel, Ukraine, Boulder, Los Angeles) ■ Jewish Community Relations Council's advocacy work ■ Regional Safety & Security Initiative

Total \$8,320,207



Jewish Life and Engagement 2025

BY THE NUMBERS



◀ PJ Library

Shipped **5,036** books each month

and hosted **154** PJ events with **5,065** engagements

Jewish Explorers ▶



2,044 engagements with

502 unique participants

through **75** programs



◀ One Happy Camper

162 applicants recieved grants to attend **27** different camps

Jewish Student Connection ▶



Clubs at **16** high schools engaging **639** teens

92% of teens report feeling proud to be Jewish or a Jewish ally



Young Adult Division

1,045 engagements with individuals who attended **49** events

Israel & Overseas Center ▷



5,400 engagements and worked with **60** partner organizations



◁ Shinshinim

in collaboration with

42

partner organizations including

Hillels, religious schools, day schools, youth groups, preschools, and camps

43,976 interactions with participants

Joyce Zeff Israel Study Tour* ▷



55 teens from **20** high schools traveled to Poland in June 2025

**The Israel portion of the trip was canceled due to Israel's war with Iran.*



◁ Shlichia

More than **3,110** engagements in

82 programs connected to Israel collaborating with **48** partner organizations

convene



“Together, we have
found strength.”

*Nelly Ben Tal
JEWISHcolorado Shlichah*



From Darkness to Light

Responding to an invitation from JEWISHcolorado, 2,000 people arrived at Temple Emanuel on the evening of October 7, 2024, carrying the somber weight of a year of death, disruption, war, and grief.

Ninety minutes later, those same 2,000 people left Temple Emanuel with renewed hope that after the darkness of 365 days, there can also be a future with light.

Fulfilling its mission to convene the community in times of celebration and in times of mourning, JEWISHcolorado, in partnership with 40 community organizations, brought people together to pay tribute to those who died in moments of terror, those who have died and been wounded in the service of Israel, and those hostages who are still held captive.

“For 76 years, we have bent the arc of Jewish history, not merely toward survival but toward a future where the Jewish state could thrive—a beacon of resilience and hope,” said JEWISHcolorado Board Chair Ben Lusher. “October 7th tore through that hope, reminding us that the scars of our past are not so easily healed, reminding us that the trauma of generations still beats within us, and reminding us that we are part of the Jewish people’s ancient struggle for peace, security, and dignity.” □

read



Lion/Pom Luncheon

It might have been the camaraderie of more than 200 women and men gathered at The Cable Center on September 24 for lunch and laughter.

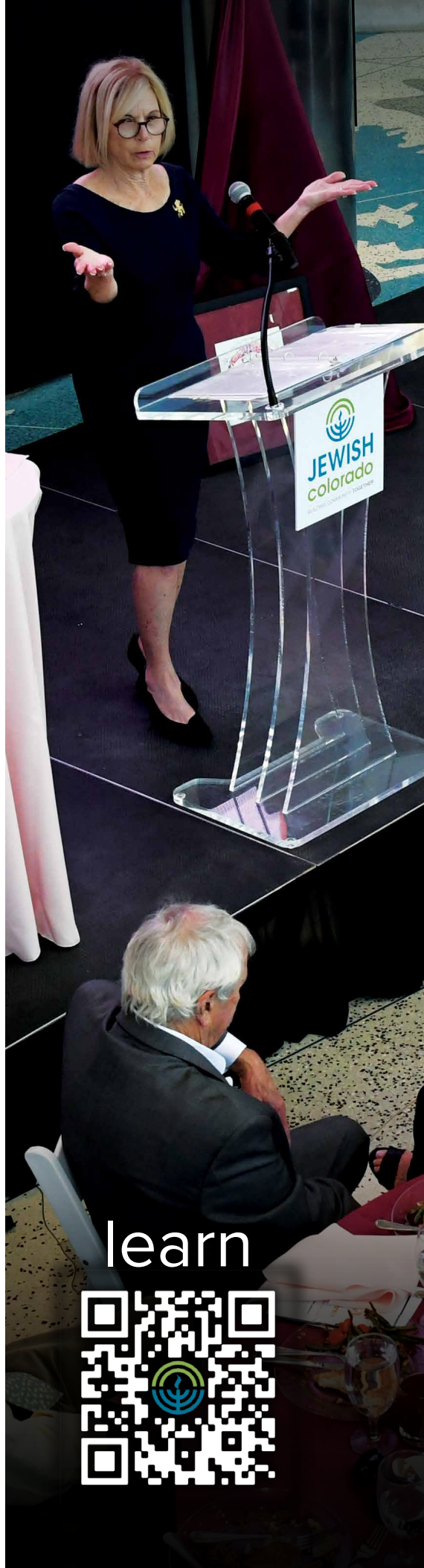
It might have been the words of Iris Kraemer, Chair of National Women's Philanthropy for Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA).

Perhaps it was the message brought by Liz Hirsh Naftali, who has met regularly with world leaders since her niece was murdered by Hamas terrorists and her great-niece Abigail was abducted to Gaza on October 7th.

It may have been the eloquence of Adriane Greenberg, Chair of JEWISHcolorado Women's Philanthropy, as she described the work of JEWISHcolorado in the community.

It most certainly was the generosity of the family of Ruth Malman who was honored with the 2025 Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award.

Whatever it was, the 2024 Lion/Pom Luncheon showcased the power of women's philanthropy beyond a doubt. Clearly, when women come together in force, they move hearts and minds and, yes, they move dollars to make the world a better place. □



learn





convene

“As women, we bring our hearts
and souls to whatever we do.”

*Ruth Malman, 2025 Kipnis-Wilson/
Friedland Award Recipient*

convene

A photograph of a group of people seated at a formal dinner table. In the foreground, a woman with short, curly brown hair is smiling and clapping her hands. She is wearing a dark, sequined top and a small, dark, hexagonal earring. To her left, a man with a beard is also clapping. In the background, other guests are visible, including a woman with long brown hair who is also clapping. The setting appears to be a formal event with gold chairs and a dark tablecloth.

“Community is everything.”

Cintra Pollack



Leadership Gifts Dinner

When the room is filled with leadership givers, it takes a distinctive voice to break through.

Andrea and Cintra Pollack were honored by more than 100 attendees at the Leadership Gifts and Fundholders Dinner on November 7, 2024. In accepting the honor, Cintra delivered remarks that were notable for both their strength and clarity.

“A keystone gift the Singer Family Foundation makes every year is to the pluralistic Jewish community funded, convened, connected, and enriched by our Federation,” Cintra said. “Community is everything.”

The event renewed a JEWISHcolorado tradition, bringing together leading and enduring donors and fundholders for an exceptional evening to recognize how their generosity supports the work of JEWISHcolorado and the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA).

On behalf of JEWISHcolorado, President & CEO Renée Rockford thanked Robin Chotin and the Chotin Family Foundation for their generosity as sponsors of the dinner. Attendees included current and former JEWISHcolorado Board Chairs Ben Lusher, Rob Kaufmann, Ruth Malman, Diana Zeff Anderson, Judy Robins, and Mark Sidell.

President and CEO of JFNA Eric Fingerhut delivered the keynote address. □

read



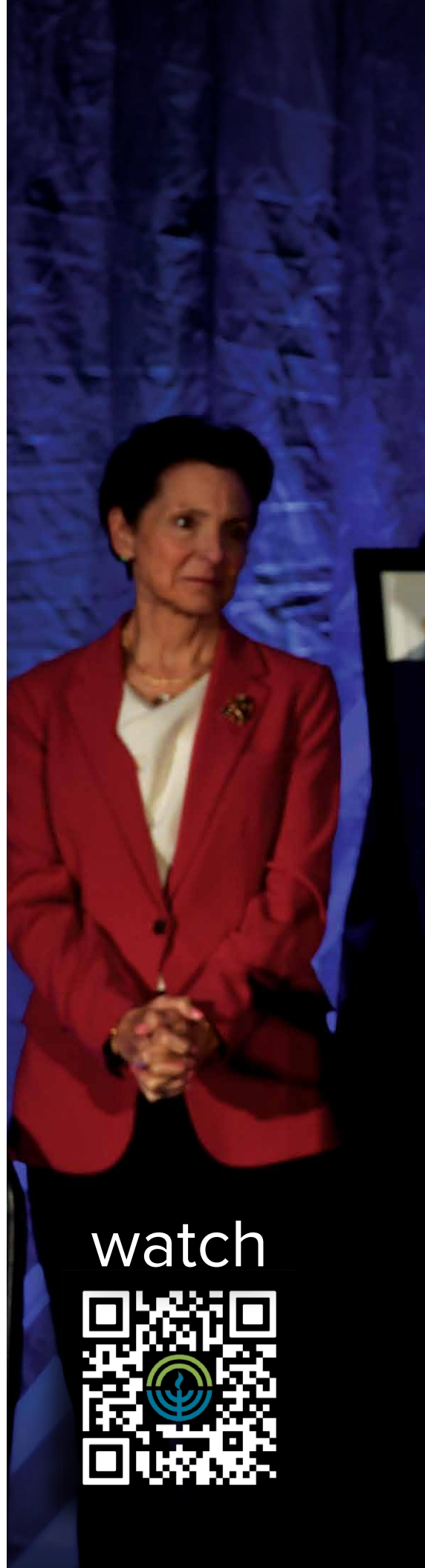
Signature Event

Among the many emails and calls of thanks to JEWISHcolorado after the 2025 Signature Event, this single line may have best summed up many people's sentiments: "It was an important event at an important time."

The important event on January 28, 2025, filled the expansive Bluebird Ballroom at the Colorado Convention Center with nearly 800 people. The important time acknowledged throughout the evening was the need to stand united and support JEWISHcolorado during a time of increasing antisemitism and anti-Israel attacks.

At the center of the evening stood two role models for civic and JEWISHcolorado leadership—Arlene and Barry Hirschfeld, recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award.

From the first moments of the evening with a video of recently released hostages to the final conversation with Debra Messing, Emmy Award-winning actress, producer, and human rights activist, this "important event at an important time," renewed everyone's purpose and strength for the future. □



watch



convene



JEWISH
colorado

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

“We work to create leaders.”

Renée Rockford
JEWISHcolorado President & CEO



convene

“Having a safe and secure Israel
is more important than ever.”

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser

Celebrate Israel

On May 4, 2025, JEWISHcolorado's annual Celebrate Israel Walk & Festival revived one of its favorite traditions—the “Walk.” More than 2,000 Jewish people and their allies from across the state and around the world gathered at Denver's Great Lawn Park to celebrate and march, honoring the state of Israel—its culture and people.

The theme for this year's Celebrate Israel was “Hineni,” meaning “Here I am, I am here.” For each person who came out on this Sunday morning, “Hineni” carried personal meaning. □

“I am here because, as a Jewish person, this is where I belong—at a celebration of Israel's 77 years.”

Penny Nisson

“Hineni means being present and being part of the community, showing your support. It's good for the next generation to see that the community is strong and thriving.”

Matt Mulverhill

“To me, it means showing up for G-d, to hear G-d's message and to translate that into action here in the world, making the world a better place.”

Barbara Vogt

“I am here because, as Jews, we are responsible for each other, and we are part of the world community of Judaism.”

Jacques Ruda

“Hineni is that time when we are not distracted by thoughts of the past or by plans for the future, and we are able to truly notice the enormity of being alive. That's when we have that powerful feeling of ‘Here I am.’”

Aaron Sturtz

read



Connectors Program

On a Monday evening in November, Dina Silverman's home was packed with guests, all of whom had three things in common—they wanted to connect with their local Jewish community, they filled out a questionnaire on the JEWISHcolorado website, and they heard back from someone in JEWISHcolorado's Connectors Program.

The need for a Connectors Program had long been the topic of conversation at JEWISHcolorado's Women's Philanthropy Committee. October 7th prompted Silverman to "raise my hand" and get the program off the ground.

Working with Silverman, JEWISHcolorado's digital team added a short questionnaire on the Jco homepage for people who were either new to the area or new to JEWISHcolorado.

At the same time, Silverman recruited a cohort of Connectors—people who are very plugged into the local Jewish community and are willing to help newcomers get oriented.

Silverman describes her role in the Connectors Program as "100% matchmaker." She reviews the information people submit and tries to match with a connector who is "a good fit."

"People are so grateful," she says. "They meet one person, and that person introduces them to more people, and those people make more introductions. It just makes a world of difference." □



learn



connect



“This project brings people
back into the fold.”

Dina Silverman, Connectors Program

connect



“Jewish life has adapted to
meet families where they are.”

*Mary Ann Weiss
PJ Library Family Connector*



PJ Library

Mary Ann Weiss calls it “toddler mayhem.” Parents call it “the kind of event we want to come to.”

And PJ Library Manager Bethany Friedlander says it is a “testimony to the power of a single person.”

This “Pre-Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner” is all that and more as Weiss and other PJ Library Family Connectors have invited more than 100 moms, dads, grandparents, and children of all ages to what feels like a very large and joyfully noisy family reunion.

In the two years since Weiss signed up to be a Family Connector for Jewish families in her neighborhood, she has watched interest in the program grow significantly.

“Jewish life has adapted to meet families where they are,” says Weiss. “That is the superpower of Judaism. It can evolve.”

The PJ Library Family Connector program launched two-and-a-half years ago when JEWISHcolorado received a grant from the national PJ Library to fund three Connectors in Colorado. Today, JEWISHcolorado’s PJ Library program has Family Connectors in communities around the state.

“We owe a tremendous debt to these Family Connectors,” Friedlander says. “They are the eyes and ears and hearts of the Jewish community.” □

learn



YAD in Israel

This year, eight young people involved in JEWISHcolorado's Young Adult Division (YAD) traveled to Israel as part of an exchange program with young Israelis from JEWISHcolorado's partner region, Ramat HaNegev. The Israeli cohort had visited Colorado earlier in the year. Two members of the YAD group shared thoughts about the impact of the trip on their lives.

Lauren Hughes: "Going on the YAD trip reinforced my sense of my Jewish identity. When questions about Israel come up from coworkers or friends, I have greater confidence, and I also have a new perspective and understanding to share."

"This trip also means that I have a community of young Jewish people in Denver that I did not have before—and they are welcome to come to Steamboat, where I live! YAD is connecting Jews beyond the Front Range."

Alex Markovitch: "Until this trip, I didn't fully appreciate to what degree October 7th was still so immediate for people. They wanted to talk about that day and bear witness to people they loved and lost."

"This trip made me feel more connected to a global Jewish community. I met all these exceptional people who were helping to create this special refuge and homeland for Jews. Having friends in Ramat HaNegev has deepened my connection to Israel and helps me feel more invested in their future." □



connect



“I have a new perspective
and understanding to share.”

Lauren Hughes

connect



JEWISHcolorado

JOYCE ZEEF BUILDING



“I really love Israel.”

Adi Buchman

*From left: Liraz Bar, Maayan Hayoun Rozenfeld,
Tomer Eli, Alma Elad, Adi Buchman*

Five New Shinshinim!

With their youthful enthusiasm and passion for Israel, JEWISHcolorado's Shinshinim have become favorites at events and institutions around Colorado.

For a full year, these young Israelis, all recent high school graduates who delay service in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), serve in Israel and in diaspora communities around the world. They spend a year immersed in Colorado's Jewish community, educating youth about Israeli society and culture and building bridges between Colorado and Israel.

Liraz Bar: "I want to influence people, and I want them to feel Israel's power and culture from my experience."

Adi Buchman: "I really love Israel, and I want to show people how amazing it is through my eyes."

Alma Elad: "It's an important year when you can both help people and grow and get ready to be an adult."

Tomer Eli: "If someone thinks of Israel and they think of the Shinshinim, of our faces, then we have done our job."

Maayan Hayoun Rozenfeld: "When I was young, I had experience with Shinshinim, and I saw how they really affected people. They gave of themselves, and I want to be like them." □

learn



Israel & Overseas Center

On any given day, you can find JEWISHcolorado Shlichah Nelly Ben Tal in the community, making presentations, creating partnerships, troubleshooting issues, and building relationships. During a crisis, Ben Tal's connections in Israel are indispensable, but her contributions behind the scenes often go unseen.

Every week, she meets with Noa Notrika, Manager of the Israel & Overseas Center (I&OC), the umbrella under which all JEWISHcolorado work related to Israel is managed. The two discuss I&OC projects, including education, events, travel, missions, programming, partnerships, the Shinshinim, and the partnership with Ramat HaNegev.

"Noa is a natural strategic planner," Ben Tal says. "She connects everyone at JEWISHcolorado who is working on projects related to Israel, and she keeps the community up to date through the I&OC newsletters."

Since October 7th, the I&OC is more vital than ever, evolving beyond connection and education to the cultivation of authentic relationships, diverse voices, and immersive experiences. It enables people in Colorado to have a meaningful impact in Israel and gives Israelis a deeper connection with Jewish life in Colorado.

"The Israel & Overseas Center is a hub for all things Israel, a place where all questions are welcome," Ben Tal says. "We are always building bridges between the JEWISHcolorado community and the people of Israel." □



learn



connect



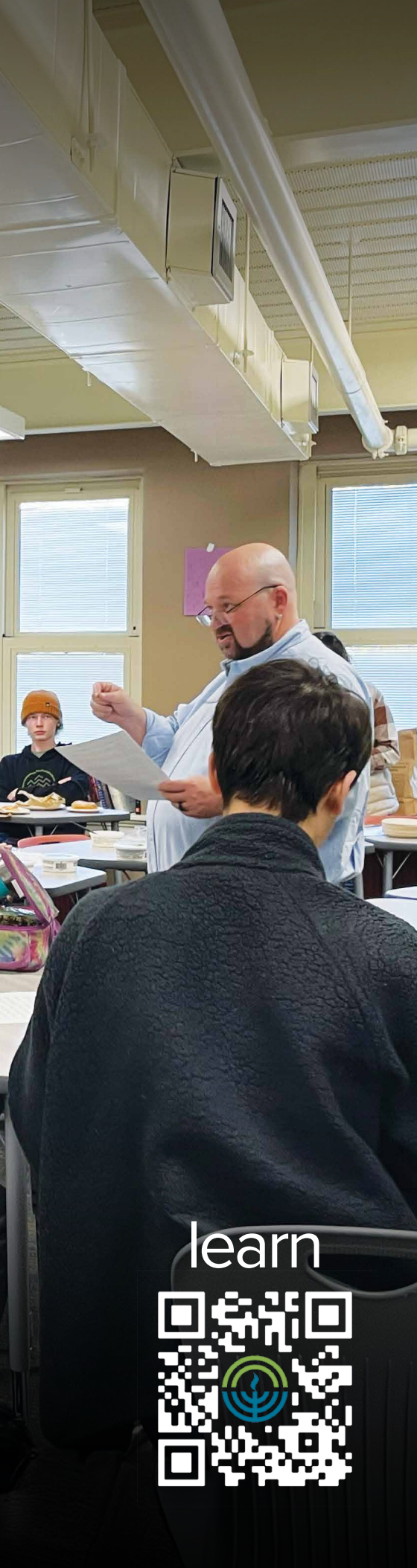
“We are always building bridges.”

Nelly Ben Tal, JEWISHcolorado Shlichah

invest

A photograph of a school cafeteria. In the foreground, several students are seated at light-colored, hexagonal tables. A boy in a striped shirt is on the left, looking towards the right. Next to him, a girl with curly hair is also looking right. Further back, a boy in a dark blue shirt is looking right with his hand on his chin. To the right, a girl with long dark hair is eating. In the background, another student is working on a laptop at a table. The room has a drop ceiling with fluorescent lights, a metal shelving unit with various items on the left, and windows with blinds on the right. The word "invest" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font in the top left corner.

“It is not okay at all.”
*Sophie Moss, President,
DSST: Cedar JSC*



JSC Talks Antisemitism

It's lunchtime at DSST: Cedar High School and the menu for students at JEWISHcolorado's Jewish Student Connection (JSC) Club includes bagels, cream cheese, and a frank discussion of antisemitism.

For the past 10 years, Scott Esserman has been facilitating these discussions for students on behalf of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). During November, JEWISHcolorado arranged for Esserman and other ADL facilitators to meet with Jewish Student Connection clubs in high schools around the metro area and in Boulder. The students—Jewish and non-Jewish—grapple with some of the most difficult definitions and actions demanded by a significant increase in global antisemitism.

“It is important to teach people what antisemitism is and what to do when you see it because for some people, the definition seems up in the air, and you don't know what to do,” says Senior Sophie Moss, President of the DSST: Cedar Jewish Student Connection Club. “Having the ADL here is another way to combat antisemitism because they make it clear—it is not okay at all.”

“Now more than ever, the partnership between JSC and the ADL is relevant and important,” adds Jillian Feiger, Director of Teen and Israel Engagement. “JEWISHcolorado, in collaboration with the ADL, invests in the program to ensure that students have the tools and resources they need to respond to antisemitic incidents.” □

learn



Joyce Zeff Israel Study Tour

Generations of Coloradans have traveled to Israel on the Joyce Zeff Israel Study Tour (IST), thanks to JEWISHcolorado's ongoing investment in the program. In 2025, 55 teens left Denver in early June with plans to spend the first week in Poland and then travel to Israel for an additional four weeks.

On June 13, two days before their departure for Israel, the group awoke to news that Israel had launched a series of strikes against Iranian military and nuclear facilities. Iran retaliated with strikes on Israel. Ben Gurion International Airport stopped all flights, and Secure Community Network (SCN) advised JEWISHcolorado that, in the interest of safety, the trip should return to the U.S.

Understandably, there was disappointment, but one participant, Risa Nutt, talked about how the experience of visiting concentration camps in Poland took on new meaning even though she was not able to travel to Israel.

"I do believe that everything happens for a reason," Nutt says. "I think I may have found more meaning from the experience in not going to Israel than if I did go. I learned this very important lesson. Israel was created to be a safe place for Jews. We couldn't go there because it wasn't safe. That will always be a reminder to me how much we need Israel to be our safe place." □



learn





“Everything happens
for a reason.”

Risa Nutt, 2025 IST participant



invest

“None of this would have happened without investment from JEWISHcolorado.”

Stuart Zall, RECN Chair



Real Estate Adventures

JEWISHcolorado's Real Estate & Construction Network (RECN) brings real estate professionals together to meet, network, and learn from the brightest minds in the business—all while investing in the future of Colorado. In late April, 17 members of RECN traveled to see some of the crown jewels of Chicago real estate development and meet with their real estate and construction counterparts.

“It was just terrific to meet the people who had done these projects because it is such a great connection for us,” says RECN Chair Stuart Zall. “We could also spend two days and evenings with people from our community and get to know them on a deeper level.”

In Chicago, RECN trip participants visited the headquarters of Secure Community Network (SCN), the organization that monitors threats to Jewish safety and security across North America and partners with JEWISHcolorado in the duties of three Regional Safety & Security Advisors.

“Protecting the Jewish community is a priority for SCN, but protecting the American way of life is their main goal,” says Zall. “When JEWISHcolorado asks us to make donations, it feels good to know that our dollars are going to something that is, unfortunately, so important.” □



Iron Nation

In the days after October 7, 2023, Chen Linchevski had an idea that would reverberate from Israel throughout the world and ultimately lead to investments made through The Foundation at JEWISHcolorado. With Co-founders Gil Friedlander and Jason Wolf, Linchevski launched “Iron Nation.”

“Israel is a country that boasts a robust start-up culture with a dynamic amount of innovation,” says Ben Valore-Caplan, Co-President of Syntrinsic, JEWISHcolorado’s investment advisor. “The original purpose of Iron Nation was to raise capital for an emergency fund to partner with some of Israel’s most promising start-up companies working in technology, health care, agriculture, and cybersecurity.”

Iron Nation set out to raise \$20 million to be able to provide investment capital—not philanthropic donations—to 15-20 promising companies to keep them afloat in the short term.

With the success of Iron Nation’s Fund I in attracting and deploying capital for Israel’s start-up ecosystem, it should be no surprise that Fund II has already been started, in part because of investments from organizations like JEWISHcolorado.

“This is not intended to be a concessionary investment, where some financial returns are sacrificed to achieve a social or environmental impact,” says Valore-Caplan. “The goal here is to make a healthy return. Iron Nation creates an unusual opportunity to blend JEWISHcolorado’s financial objectives and its mission in Israel.” □





invest

“The goal here is to
make a healthy return.”

*Ben Valore-Caplan
Co-President of Syntronic*

protect

“The Colorado Jewish community
needs a plan to build lasting safety.”

*Brandon Rattiner
Senior Director, JCRC*



JCRC

This past year, JEWISHcolorado's Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) focused on three strategic areas: **advocacy, government relations,** and **crisis management.**

Under these focus areas, the JCRC:

- Launched the Mobilization Corps, training nearly 200 community members;
- Convened the Jewish Civic Network, creating a supportive network of Jewish professionals in civic-adjacent organizations;
- Organized a Jewish Caucus at the state capitol;
- Led the Public Officials Mission, bringing a bipartisan delegation of 11 state legislators to Israel for the first time since October 7th;
- Successfully advocated to maintain Nonprofit Security Grant Program funding in the Colorado state budget;
- Represented the Colorado Jewish community in Washington D.C., lobbying members of the Colorado congressional delegation;
- Placed op-eds in The Denver Post, Haaretz, The Colorado Sun, and USA Today.

In the year ahead, the JCRC will begin to bring this advocacy work beyond the Jewish community, building a coalition of partners who are committed to reinforcing civic norms and protecting against antisemitism and all forms of identity-based violence.

“The Colorado Jewish community needs a plan to build lasting safety,” says JCRC Senior Director Brandon Rattiner. “Rising antisemitism is part of a wider swell in division and hate, and these threats are deeply interconnected.” □

learn



Public Officials Mission Trip

In May, JEWISHcolorado's Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) led its long-anticipated Public Officials Mission to Israel. The JCRC brought 11 state legislators from both sides of the aisle and more than 20 community leaders to Israel for a nine-day tour of the country. Included in the group were Rep. Anthony Hartsook, a Republican from Parker and Rep. Meghan Lukens, a Democrat from Steamboat Springs.

Rep. Hartsook: "I have always defended Israel, but my support of Israel has been reinforced by walking the land. It's important to consistently remind people that when you talk about Hamas, you are not talking about a political entity. You are talking about a terrorist organization that forces people into line by intimidation, brutalization, even death. We need to fight terrorist organizations—whether it's Hamas, the Taliban, Hezbollah, or Al-Qaeda—it doesn't matter who it is."

Rep. Lukens: "I have taught about the Holocaust and combatting hate and antisemitism in my classroom, and I thought about those themes on this trip. The reality is that there are terror organizations that want to eradicate Israel and annihilate the Jewish population. That is creating increased antisemitism around the world. We need to lead with compassion, kindness, respect, and dignity to solve problems. This trip has empowered me to talk about this issue with greater confidence, understanding, and credibility." □



learn



protect



“My support of Israel has been reinforced by walking the land.”

Rep. Anthony Hartsook

protect



“We have never been
alone in this work.”

*Matt Most, Community
Leadership Award Recipient*



White Rose Award

watch



White Rose Awards

1942, Christian students at the University of Munich founded the White Rose movement to resist the Nazi regime. In the aftermath of the October 7th attack, the White Rose Society was formed to honor non-Jewish individuals whose public support of the Jewish community fosters unity among all people.

This year, JEWISHcolorado presented the White Rose Award to former Colorado State Senator Janet Buckner and Representative Leslie Herod for their actions after October 7, 2023, to cool tensions and counter misinformation at the Capitol and across the state and to Colorado Mesa University President John Marshall for his unwavering and outspoken support of Jewish students on campuses in the wake of October 7th.

JEWISHcolorado also presented the White Rose Award to Secure Community Network Regional Director Phil Niedringhaus, and Regional Security Advisors Kevin Farrington and Brian Maloney.

Through JEWISHcolorado's Regional Safety & Security Initiative, these three individuals have done critical and impactful work, enhancing the safety of more than 120 organizations across the state. They have helped institutions receive nonprofit security grants to improve the security of their buildings and trained more than 10,000 individuals in actions that will protect and save lives in an emergency. □

2024-2025

JEWISHcolorado Board of Directors

Ben Lusher, Chair	Robert Kaufmann	Lorne Polger
Elizabeth Barrekette	Jules Kramer	Brian Ratner
Alan Brandt	Daniel Krasnitsky	Judy Robins, <i>emerita</i>
John Chanin	Carla Kutnick	Renée Rockford, <i>ex-officio</i>
Ross Chotin	Adam Laarsen	Carly Schlafer
Josh Demby	Charlene Loup, <i>emerita</i>	Gil Selinger
Dana Friedman	Rabbi Joshua Margo	Mark Sidell
Joey Friedmann	Matt Most	Aza Squarer
Kendra Goldstein	Hirsch Neustein	Josh Widoff
Adriane Greenberg	Neil Oberfeld	Seth Wong
Justin Jaffe	Jonathan Perlmutter	Stuart Zall
Steve Kaplan	Jessica Pivar	



Prime Minister Council Society

Anonymous (2)

Elaine Appel

Tiffany & Joel Appel

Brownstein Hyatt Farber
Schreck, LLP.

Chotin Family Foundation

Judy & Stuart Heller

Mizel Family Foundations

Dr. Nancy Reichman
& Charlie Gwirtsman

The Rifkin Foundation

Rose Community Foundation

Schlafer Family Foundation

Singer Family Foundation

Staenberg Family Foundation

Ron Zeff

Zeff Kesher Foundation

Zellis Family Foundation

JEWISHcolorado Corporate Sponsors 2024

**Brownstein Hyatt Farber
Schreck, LLP.**

Chevron

Ibex Investors

itrek

Bob Lembke

**David & Laura Merage
Foundation**

**Monarch
Casino Resort Spa**

United Airlines

The Foundation at JEWISHcolorado

The Foundation at JEWISHcolorado works alongside individuals, families, and organizations to make giving purposeful and lasting. Whether strengthening Jewish life or supporting causes across Colorado, we help turn philanthropic vision into meaningful action, guided by the value of tzedakah.

Through donor advised funds, endowments, and other charitable vehicles, we offer personalized, tax-wise strategies that reflect our fundholders’ values and goals. We also partner with nonprofits to grow their resources so they can meet both current needs and future opportunities. All funds are managed with care—guided by professional advisors and an investment committee of community leaders dedicated to long-term impact.

The Foundation By The Numbers 2025

TOTAL INVESTMENT ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

\$75,521,458

TOTAL CONTRIBUTED TO ACCOUNTS HELD AT THE FOUNDATION IN FY’25

\$9,295,271

227 DONOR ADVISED AND B’NAI TZEDEK FUNDS ACCOUNTING FOR
948 DAF GRANTS TOTALING

\$5,686,358

67% OF GRANTS TO JEWISH
ORGANIZATIONS (Local & National)

65% OF GRANTS TO COLORADO
ORGANIZATIONS (Jewish & Secular)

107 OTHER ENDOWED, CUSTODIAL, OR OTHER
FUNDS ACCOUNTING FOR GRANTS OF

\$675,092

JEWISHcolorado Grantees

ISRAEL & OTHER EMERGENCY

\$4,732,795

COLORADO JEWISH LIFE & COMMUNITY

\$1,015,938

ISRAEL & OVERSEAS PROGRAMMING

\$797,350

TOTAL CHOICE TZEDAKAH

\$519,655

Total Non-Foundation Grants

\$7,065,738

Grants Supporting Israel & Other Emergency - \$4,732,795

- Adventure Rabbi
- Aspen Jewish Community Center
- Boulder JCC
- Chabad Lubavitch of Boulder County
- Chabad of Longmont
- Chabad, University of Colorado Boulder
- Congregation Bonai Shalom
- Congregation Har HaShem
- CU Boulder Hillel
- Derech Eretz
- Jewish Agency for Israel

- Jewish Agency for Israel, Nitzana
- Jewish Family Service of Boulder
- JFED LA Wildfire Relief
- Joint Distribution Committee
- Merage Foundation Israel
- Nevei Kodesh Boulder
- Ramat HaNegev Regional Council
- Ukraine

Grants Supporting Colorado Jewish Life & Community - \$1,015,938

- ACE at the Boulder JCC
- ADL Mountain States

- Adventure Rabbi
- Alef Academy
- Aspen Jewish Congregation
- B'nai Havurah
- BBYO
- Beber Camp
- Beth Jacob High School
- BMH-BJ Congregation
- Boulder County Center for Judaism
- Boulder JCC
- Bright Lights Denver
- Camp Agudah Midwest
- Camp Barney Medintz
- Camp Emunah Bnos

- Yaakov Yehuda
- Camp Gan Israel Florida
- Camp Interlaken JCC
- Camp Maayan/Matziv
- Camp Moshava Indian Orchard
- Camp MTM
- Camp Ramah In California
- Camp Sabra
- Camp Seneca Lake
- Camp Stone
- Camp Tawonga
- Camp Yavneh
- Camps Airy & Louise
- Chabad JCC Aspen Valley
- Chabad of Aspen
- Chabad of Broomfield
- Chabad of NW Metro Denver
- Colorado Gynecologic Cancer Alliance
- Colorado Hebrew Chorale
- Colorado Jewish Climate Action Denver
- Colorado Nonprofit

- Development Center
- Congregation B’Nai Torah
- Congregation Beth Evergreen
- Congregation BMH-BJ
- Congregation Bonai Shalom
- Congregation Har HaShem
- Congregation Rodef Shalom
- CU Boulder Hillel
- Denver Academy of Torah
- Denver Chapter of Hadassah
- Denver Hebrew Educational Alliance
- Denver JCC
- Denver Jewish Day School
- Ekar Farm
- Friendship Circle of Colorado
- Gan Chaya Esther
- Ganeinu
- Garden Preschool & ELC
- Golda AHEC Business Services
- Har Mishpacha
- Hillel Academy

- Hillel of Colorado
- Honeymoon Israel Foundation Inc.
- Israeli American Council
- JCC Ranch Camp
- Jewish Family Service of Colorado
- Jewish Fertility Foundation
- Jewish in the City and YJP Denver
- Judiasm Your Way
- Kabbalah Experience
- Kavod Senior Life
- Keshet of the Rockies
- Little Feet of Denver
- Mikvah of East Denver
- Mizel Institute
- Mizel Museum
- Moishe House
- NCSY Camp Keshet
- Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
- Northern Front Range Jewish Community Council
- Ohr Avner
- OneTable Together
- OpenDor Media
- Ramah in the Rockies
- Repair the World
- RMR-BBYO
- Shalom Park
- StandWithUs
- Temple Beit Torah
- Temple Emanuel
- Temple Shalom
- Temple Sinai
- The CELL



- The Jewish Experience Center
- The Zone
- Tizmoret Shoshana
- Together Colorado
- Unifying Meditation Institute
- Union for Reform Judaism
- Valley Beit Midrash
- Yeshiva Toras Chaim

Grants Supporting Israel & Overseas Programming - \$797,350

- Derech Eretz
- Jewish Agency for Israel
- Jewish Agency for Israel, Nitzana
- Joint Distribution Committee
- Ramat HaNegev Regional Council

Total Choice Tzedkah Grants - \$519,655

- ADL Mountain States
- Aish Kodesh
- Alpha Epsilon Pi, University of Colorado
- American Friends of Lecket
- American Friends of Magen David Adom
- Bais Menachem
- Beth Jacob High School
- Birthright Israel Foundation
- BMH-BJ Congregation
- Center For Judaic Studies
- Chabad at University of Colorado Boulder
- Chabad Cherry Creek
- Chabad Jewish Center of South Metro Denver

- Chabad of Northwest Metro Denver
- Colorado Nonprofit Development Center
- CU Boulder Hillel
- Denver Academy of Torah
- Denver Hebrew Educational Alliance
- Denver Jewish Day School
- East Denver Orthodox Synagogue
- Foundation To Combat Antisemitism
- Friends of Children's Museum
- Friends of the IDF
- Friends of United Hatzalah
- Friends of Yad Sarah
- Global Fund For Women
- Golden Hill Cemetery
- Hand In Hand
- Hillel of Colorado
- Housed Working and Healthy

- Jewish Agency For Israel
- JCC Denver
- Jewish Family Service of Colorado
- Jewish National Fund
- Jewish Federations of North America
- Joint Distribution Committee
- Kabbalah Experience
- Kavod Senior Life
- Keshet of The Rockies
- Mount Nebo Cemetery
- National Jewish Health
- Ramah In The Rockies
- Rose Hill Cemetery
- Shalom Park
- StandWithUs
- Temple Aaron of Trinidad
- Temple Emanuel
- The Jewish Experience Center
- University of Denver
- Yeshiva Toras Chaim





JEWISHcolorado

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

At JEWISHcolorado, we are grateful for the many donors who have supported our work on behalf of the community during this past year, whether through their contributions to the Annual Campaign, Emergency Funds for war-torn Israel or Ukraine, or the community of Boulder after the firebomb attack.

Donor security and privacy are among our top priorities. Again this year, we have elected not to publish donor lists in print or online. Foundations and corporate sponsors that are listed at events or in printed materials have expressly given permission to JEWISHcolorado to publicly acknowledge their support.

If you have questions about your gift, please contact JEWISHcolorado Chief Development Officer Willie Recht at wrecht@jewishcolorado.org. Again, many thanks for your ongoing contributions to ensure a thriving and vibrant Jewish community locally and globally.

*The staff and leadership
at JEWISHcolorado*

Save the Date 2025-2026



JEWISHcolorado

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

MEN'S EVENT

Wednesday, October 29, 2025, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
*Honoring Rob Kaufmann, Mark Sidell, and Stuart Zall
and the Real Estate & Construction Network*
Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum

Jewish Federations of North America General Assembly

Sunday, November 16-Tuesday, November 18, 2025
Washington, D.C.

Colorado Gives Day

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

CHOICES

January 27, 2026
*Honoring Lisa Mintz,
Golda Award Recipient*
Co-chairs: Adriane Greenberg
and Carly Schlafer

JCRC Leadership Luncheon

March 2026

Celebrate Israel

Sunday, May 3, 2026
8:30 AM-1:00 PM
(location to be determined)





JEWISHcolorado

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

300 South Dahlia Street
Denver, Colorado 80246

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Printed by a Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certified Printer

The Denver Section of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) hosted a picnic near Leadville to honor Sadie American, a noted Jewish-American activist. The Denver Section was founded in 1893, the same year the national organization was established to promote Jewish education, philanthropy, and social reform.



Courtesy of David Fasman, Curator
Beck Archives of Rocky Mountain Jewish History