

October 7th: Three Years

Supporting Israel together through the darkest moments

Three years have passed since October 7th, 2023. In that time Israel has absorbed the attacks of that morning and everything that followed — three years of rocket fire from Hezbollah in the north, missiles and drones arriving without warning, and two rounds of direct conflict with Iran, Operation Rising Lion in June 2025 and Operation Roaring Lion in 2026.

Jewish Federations across North America supported Israel immediately and throughout this challenging period. The first emergency dollars moved within days, bringing light into the darkest times the country has ever known. Ultimately, our system raised an incredible \$908 million for Israel. Your support was there in the first hours, and its imprint continues to be felt in communities in every part of the country now.

This report looks at the \$252 million allocated through the central fund by the Israel Emergency Response Committee established by Jewish Federations of North America.

The Committee operated for two years and prioritized four pillars — Lifeline Services, Medical and Trauma Relief, Economic Relief and Recovery, and Community Resilience and Rebuilding. It allocated 800 grants to over 400 organizations and initiatives across Israel. Much of this work was with the partners we have worked alongside for generations, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), whose networks and standing allowed us to act at a scale and speed no single organization could achieve on its own, substantially multiplying our impact.

The Committee completed its work in Fall 2025, with Jewish Federations' professional team continuing to oversee and manage all remaining open grants.

This report offers a closer look at the programs supported by the central fund — what they meant for Israeli society in crisis and what they continue to accomplish. These insights are grouped into nine areas that give a window into the types of work that were funded and the people whose lives were impacted as a result.

Thank you for acting amid crisis, for being there for Israel, and for putting your trust in us. Your generosity and engagement made the following work possible.

Thank you.

Emergency Response & Basic Needs

Responding quickly and strategically

\$47,009,496

Emergency dollars came in immediately, and Jewish Federations helped provide the first layer of relief and respite. Families who fled their homes with only what they could carry received clean clothing, hot meals, hygiene essentials, and safe shelter.

While providing emergency support, we invested in preparedness. Your support readied and trained volunteers, improved communication and technology, repaired and equipped shelters, and supplied essential equipment through a national JDC initiative. This meant that when millions of Israelis repeatedly raced to shelters as sirens sounded, first-responders could effectively track damage, clear debris, evacuate, and care for victims.

And as this war reached far past the front lines, so did we: to families owed benefits they did not know existed, women no longer safe because of increased violence at home, and households that still needed groceries months and years into the war.

Throughout tragedy, we have upheld human dignity and saved lives.

“My youngest hasn't slept through the night since the sirens started. The flashlight you brought has let him sleep through the night for the first time in months. Such a simple thing has restored his sense of safety in an uncertain world.” — a grandmother in Nahariya





Medical Care & Rehabilitation

Healing in hospitals and at home

\$27,134,000

Our support reached Israel's emergency medical teams and, most importantly, it reached patients. Basic ambulances were upgraded to mobile intensive care units so the injured could receive care even before arriving at hospital. We provided medical centers throughout the country with lifesaving equipment and helped them expand capacity to meet the demands of years of war.

During sustained missile attacks, your support helped move hospital departments underground so they could continue treating patients safely. We supplied advanced lifesaving equipment to local response teams across northern Israel. And we reached women giving birth under fire. Care never stopped.

This meant both scaling operations and rising to the new and unanticipated challenges of this war. Jewish Federations supported efforts to bring physicians from abroad to underserved regions, expanded capacity to screen for the concussive brain injuries combat can leave behind, and adapted housing and equipment for the severely wounded recovering at home. We backed pioneering rehabilitative care built for the injuries this war brought. We opened much needed new rehabilitation centers and trained practitioners to staff them.

For those wounded, your support meant recovery.

"I can drive, which is a dream. I feel real improvement when it comes to the movement of my arms and legs, which gives me a feeling of relief that there is light at the end of the tunnel."

— an injured soldier in rehabilitation





"I can now choose how I react to what happened to me and how I move forward."

— a Nova survivor, Shahr Mental Health Center (Mazor)

Mental Health & Resilience

Facing trauma together

\$23,260,650

October 7th and the ensuing war shook Israel's national psyche. The trauma touched everyone. We strengthened support — resilience centers, hotlines, and pastoral care. We contributed to every psychiatric hospital in the country within the first month. Then, we created something new. With the Ministry of Health, we opened mental health centers in the community, putting intensive treatment close to home, without hospitalization or stigma.

Help took many forms. Israelis found it in individual, couples, family, and group therapy. We supported conventional methods alongside therapeutic surfing, farming, and the country's first public art therapy clinic. Children received treatment tailored to the trauma they had witnessed and absorbed, and school staff and caregivers were trained to spot the telltale signs of severe trauma. Survivors joined support circles, released soldiers processed together what they had seen and experienced, caregivers and first responders recharged.

Thinking about our future, Jewish Federations also invested in mapping the mental health ecosystem and in public awareness and education, placing community wellbeing coordinators in every municipality with JDC. New podcasts and digital tools taught Israelis how to recognize trauma and where to turn. We also worked to make sure the help Israelis found was sensitive, trauma-informed, and accessible. Our support trained additional therapists, deepened practitioners' skills, and advanced trauma research so Israel could look beyond treatment towards national well-being.

In crisis, we took care of each other.





Vulnerable Populations

Where emergency hits hardest

\$19,463,241

When disaster strikes, those already struggling are hit harder. Jewish Federations have always stood with vulnerable populations in Israel, and our support extended into this emergency. Children with disabilities in residential care could not run to a shelter, so we equipped staff to move them to safety in seconds. People who could not hear sirens received bracelets which alerted them when it was time to shelter. Bedouin villages in the Negev had no shelters at all, so we supplied mobile safe rooms.

We did not stop at physical safety. Elderly Israelis and Holocaust Survivors were assigned caseworkers and received home visits and hot meals. We provided mental health care in Arabic and supported resilience training in Arab and Druze youth groups. We supported the Jewish Agency in offering programming for new olim in absorption centers under missile attacks and helped new olim, Russian-speaking Israelis, and refugees access counseling, respite, and company in their own language. Ethiopian families received culturally attuned therapy and help navigating rights.

When the usual help did not fit, your support went further.



Victims of Terror & War

Embracing survivors and families through loss

\$30,925,116

Jewish Federations have stood with victims of terror for decades. We supported the Jewish Agency’s Fund for Victims of Terror in the first days of the war. The Fund covered immediate needs and the cost of relocating and starting again for families whose homes were destroyed.

October 7th and the war that followed took people’s children, parents, and spouses. We helped those performing funerals and helping organize shiva arrangements, and supported home visits over the following weeks. As the bureaucracy of loss began, families had someone to help carry that sad load. We stayed with those who lived through tragedy: hostages and their families, Nova survivors, and survivors of sexual assault.

Grief keeps a calendar. A bar mitzvah, a graduation, an empty chair at the seder — we were there. We embraced grandparents who lost grandchildren, orphans reaching adulthood, bereaved siblings, friends, and unmarried partners. We connected people to others who could imagine what they were going through. Families of fallen soldiers leaned on each other. We created new spaces for wounded soldiers and their families.

When the loss was unbearably heavy, you helped shoulder the burden.

“It doesn't matter who speaks and who doesn't. Who's in a wheelchair and who isn't. We all had our hearts broken this year. And we helped each other piece them back together.” — a teen in southern Israel





Reservists

Backing reservists and their families

\$4,524,000

Reserve duty changed. Reservists were called up again and again, for months at a time, often with little notice. Jewish Federations built support systems for their families at home. Volunteers delivered meals and babysat. With national and local government, we created the National Headquarters for Families of Reservists — a single address a family could turn to for help in their own community.

Reservists had to put life on hold. People’s jobs and businesses suffered. To meet these challenges, we funded loans, employment counseling, and legal aid. We supported couples’ workshops for those returning home wounded and helped them with costs that fell outside available public benefits. For reservists with no family support, we provided a group program to guide them through choices about school and work. And as each round of reserve duty ended, we invested in the return to ordinary life.

Your support strengthened the home front.

“If my mission now is to be here with the kids and contribute to the community, Dan's mission is to protect us all. We're working toward the same goal.” — a reservist’s wife (husband’s name changed for privacy)



Education & Youth At-Risk

Protecting our future

\$19,926,387

School stopped. Children were evacuated from the north and the south, and those at home faced months of school closures. Children who had just gotten back to routine after COVID saw their studies disrupted again.

Jewish Federations funded interim and remote education. We recruited and trained teachers, funded tutoring, first-grade readiness, after-school programs, and matriculation bootcamps. Then we strengthened schools in frontline regions, giving families a strong education system to come home to. We improved school shelters, so a siren meant minutes of disruption instead of a day at home. For university students, your support created temporary campuses and academic support, opportunities to continue learning during wartime or restart their studies when that became possible.

We also went outside the classroom. We supported youth movements of every kind and summer camp opportunities in Israel and abroad. Because of these frameworks, teenagers came together and gave back — clearing debris after missile attacks, keeping small children in shelters and hotels occupied, and delivering food to families who needed it. We helped stabilize youth at-risk by providing drop-in centers and strong mentorship, including the significant expansion of the Jewish Agency’s Youth Futures initiative. We stayed with group homes and boarding schools that moved under fire, and with young adults leaving care with no family to call.

Your support gave children and youth a routine to return to.





Economic Support

Growing from disaster

\$48,815,400

Amid war, families faced mounting debts and sources of income disappeared. Evacuees lost their jobs. Small businesses lost access to traditional credit when they needed it most. Your support built Jewish Federations' Israel Small Business Loan Fund, keeping people employed and relending funds to others as soon as they are repaid. We funded job placement and upskilling efforts – helping ensure that people were trained to fill real gaps in the marketplace. Through ReGrow, we replaced looted and destroyed farm equipment in the Western Negev and replanted burnt or untended northern orchards and vineyards.

What this war destroyed, we helped grow back.

Partnering with Communities

Rebuilding through relationships

\$28,226,296

Jewish Federations have been partners to communities across Israel for decades. On October 7th, many called their partner community before they did anything else. Those relationships shaped everything that followed. Federations gave directly to their partnership regions, and the central fund worked alongside this model, filling in the gaps for the communities hit hardest — in the Gaza envelope, the northern border, and locations under sustained missile fire. We worked with local authorities and community centers, helping them equip public shelters, host evacuees, reunite dispersed residents, and restore shared communal spaces. We funded work at the regional and national level, including the JDC Elka Northern Initiative, strengthening frontline communities, training the professionals who hold them together, and partnering with the Government to build long-term resilience plans.

Your support told these communities: we are here.

