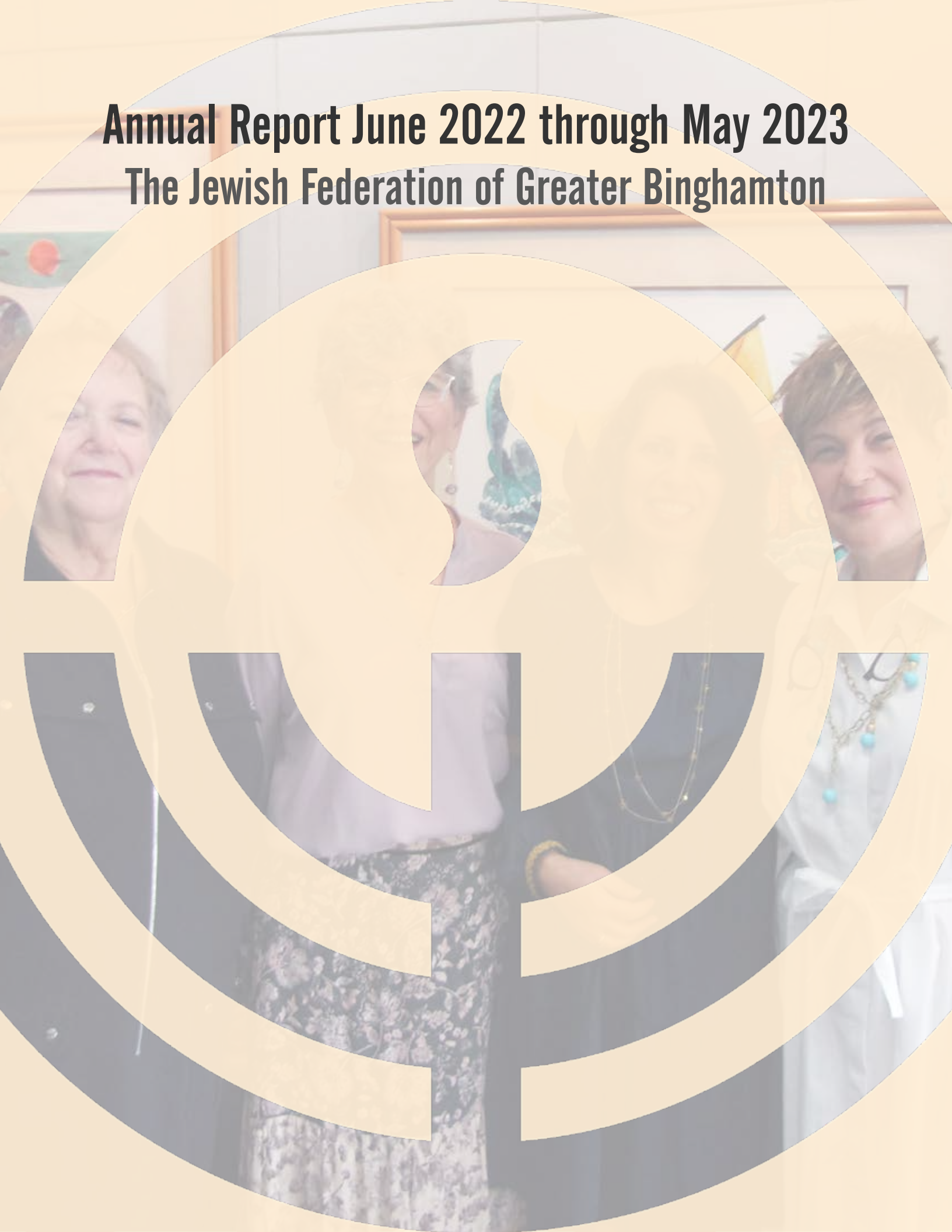


**Annual Report June 2022 through May 2023**  
**The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton**



# Mission Statement

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton strives to create a caring, vibrant, enduring community locally, in Israel and worldwide. The Federation uses its assets and contributions to strengthen local Jewish institutions and organizations, to support Jewish people in need, and to educate the people in the Southern Tier about Jewish values and identity.

## Message from Leadership

Dear Community Members,

We are pleased to share with you this annual report that highlights the impact of your contributions to the Jewish Federation from June 2022 through May 2023.

The Jewish Federation has worked diligently over the last year to create a vibrant and compassionate community. We are proud of the fact that we sponsored or co-sponsored a total of 18 events, proving that we are a trusted convener of spiritual, cultural and essential services for the Binghamton Jewish community.

Two new initiatives were born in the last year. The first is our “L’Dor V’Dor Next Generation” group, which was created to provide a fun space for young Jewish adults to connect with one another. Second, we have assembled an ad hoc “Committee for Safety and Security.” By providing trainings, convening leadership and making connections with security professionals, this committee has already begun the difficult task of improving the security infrastructure for our community.

Whether it is making a monetary gift, attending an event or volunteering, we are sincerely grateful for everyone who supports the work we are doing at the Federation. We take inspiration from Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks’ z”l words: “Society is where we come together to achieve collectively what none of us can do alone... It is the realm in which all of us is more important than any of us.”

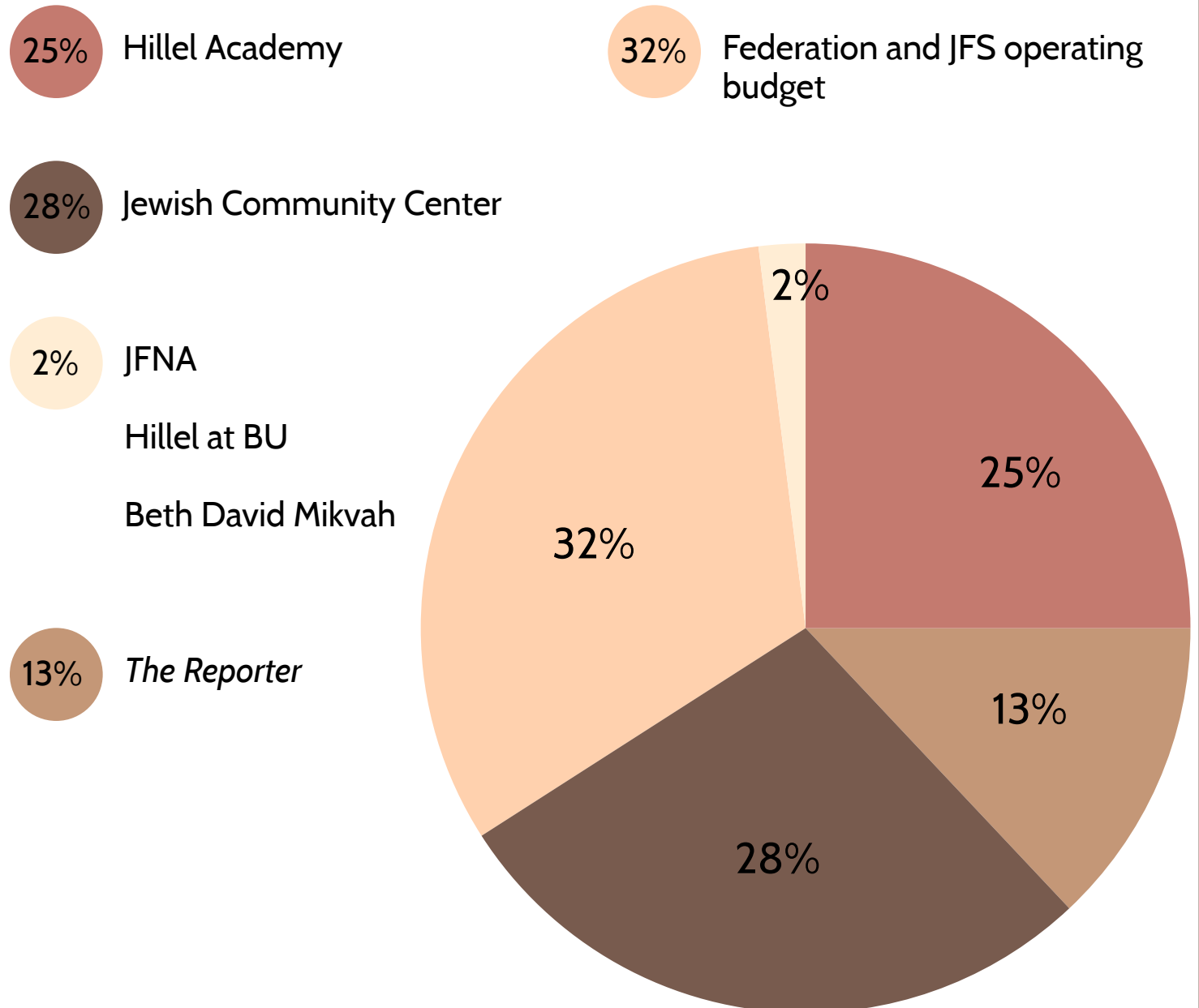
L’Shalom,

Shelley Hubal, Executive Director  
Suzanne Holwitt, President

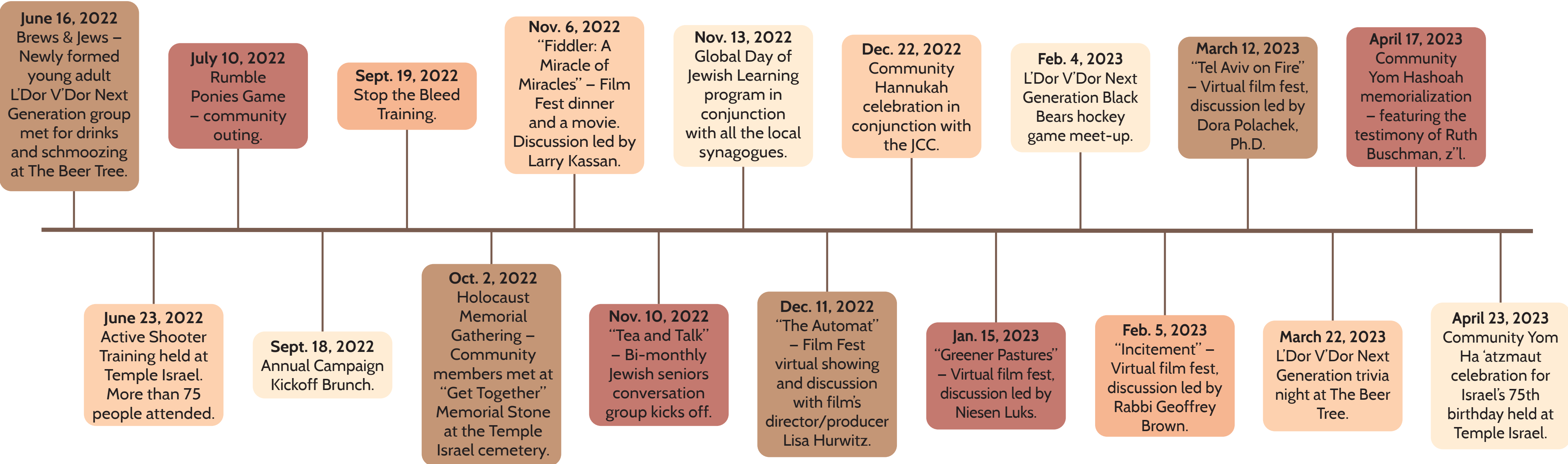
# Federation Supported Organizations and Financials:

## 2022 Beneficiary Agencies & Allocation Distribution

In November 2021, the Federation Executive Committee and Board of Directors voted to allocate a total of \$311,878 to be distributed in the calendar year 2022. These allocations supported eight different organizations and programs. Funding for allocations came from Annual Campaign dollars and the endowment.



# Timeline of Federation sponsored events:



## PJ Library

PJ Library sends free Jewish children's books to families across the community every month; enabling young children to connect with their Jewish roots in a meaningful way. Thanks to the Donald Etra fund, our generous donors, and an anonymous benefactor, in 2022 we were able to provide monthly PJ Library subscriptions to 78 young Jewish children in our community. That is an impactful investment in our future!

## Jewish Film Fest

The Binghamton Jewish Film Fest showed four virtual films and one in-person film between November 2022 and March 2023. We totaled over 190 views of our five films.

Thanks to generous donations from the Rozen Foundation and other benefactors, we were able to keep the film fest free or low cost to our community.

## Security Initiative

In 2022, the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton created an ad hoc Committee for Safety and Security. Since its inception, the committee has received guidance and is now in partnership with JFNA's "LiveSecure" and the Central-Western New York Security Partnership. Committee members represent a cross-section of our local Jewish community and are committed to leadership roles. Consistent with its purpose statement, three community-wide training sessions have been held and the committee has provided support to our local institutions for assessment and grant writing. Future plans include training sessions, emergency preparedness, threat assessments, information sharing and community engagement.

# Jewish Family Service

Guided by the principal of “Chesed” or loving-kindness, Jewish Family Service delivers essential human services to individuals and families facing challenges to their well-being. Financial assistance is provided within specific guidelines as funding permits. It is through thoughtful listening and compassionate caring that JFS can help people move from instability to a more secure and positive place. JFS collaborates with the human service network in Binghamton to meet the needs of the community.

## Summary of JFS support June 2022 – May 31, 2023:

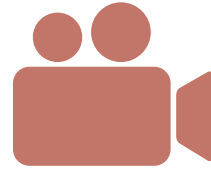
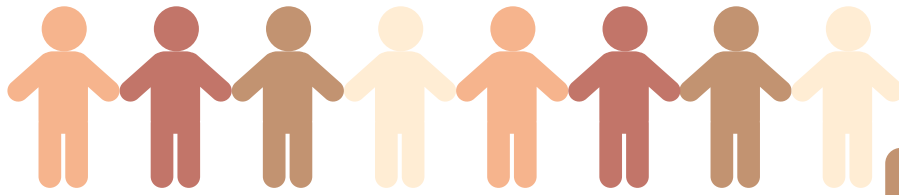
- 79 monetary gifts totaling \$13,805 given to Jewish families
- 39 families received emergency financial help
- \$9,005 distributed in essential emergency relief funds other than food
- \$1,700 in grocery cards distributed
- 69 emotional support calls
- 79 well check calls
- 48 referrals to food pantries
- 31 referrals to NYSEG for funding support
- 39 housing and rent support referrals
- 12 home care referrals
- 44 mental health referrals
- 27 legal assistance referrals
- \$400 in gas cards distributed to aid travel for doctor visits
- 4 home visits
- 10 collaborations with families out of the area
- 11 employment assistance referrals
- 3 refugee assistance support cases with \$3,392 in aid given to refugees

*JFS would like to thank all our donors for their generosity.*

## *The Reporter*

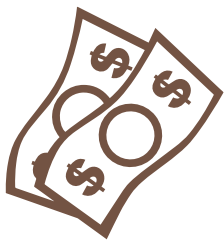
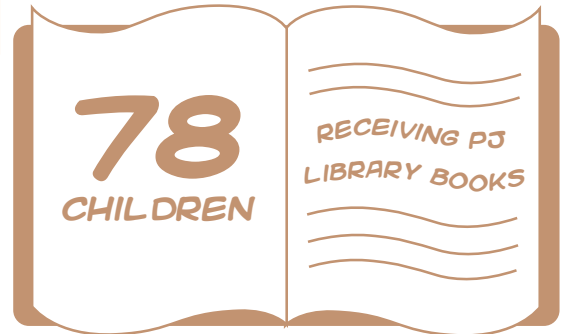
*The Reporter* keeps our area informed of Jewish activities, programming and important news (local, national and global). Our staff continues to find ways to remain solvent and relevant during the ongoing struggles of print media. *The Reporter* Committee is also looking for ways to increase our digital presence and offer more digital opportunities to our readers. During the pandemic, we kept readers connected with online resources and by promoting virtual programming offered by various Jewish organizations. In 2022, the executive editor of *The Reporter*, Rabbi Rachel Esserman, won one award from the American Jewish Press Association and three awards from the Syracuse Press Club. We are grateful for her talent and dedication. *The Reporter* staff wants to thank its loyal readers and generous supporters. We are dedicated to continuing the important work of keeping the Binghamton Jewish community connected and informed.

69 Emotional support calls



5 Binghamton Jewish Film Fest screenings

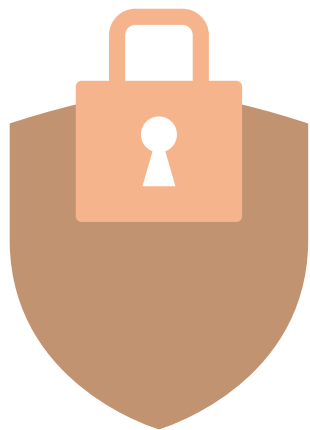
\$13,805 in funds distributed to Jewish families through the "We Remember You" program



\$250,938 raised in 2022 Campaign



18 community-wide sponsored or co-sponsored programs



3 safety and security training



3 L'Dor V'Dor Next Generation events



1,055 copies of The Reporter delivered to homes every other week

\$9,005 distributed in emergency relief funds

# Annual Campaign

“We Create Community” - That was the theme of the Annual Campaign for 2023. It was chosen to illustrate all that Federation does to keep our Jewish community connected, thriving and safe. Without your generous dollars there would be no *Reporter*, no PJ Library, no Jewish Family Service, no security committee, and limited community-wide Jewish programming. Your support also enables us to play an integral role in creating the next generation of proud Jewish people.

In 2022, our generous donors gave \$250,938 to the Federation Annual Campaign. The Campaign for 2023 has raised \$268,346 to date. We are truly grateful for everyone who has stepped up to “Create Community” in the past year.

We extend a special thank you to the David and Virginia Eisenberg Fund for their enduring support. Without them we would not be able to reach our Campaign goals.

*“ Thank you to all our generous donors and campaign volunteers. I am honored to serve as the Annual Campaign chair once again and to serve this compassionate community that has given so much to me and everyone else over the years.”*

*- Marilyn Bell, Campaign Chair*

***We Create  
Community***

# Federation Leadership

## Executive Committee

**President:** Suzanne Holwitt  
**Immediate Past President:** Howard Warner  
**Vice-President:** Mark Walker  
**Treasurer:** Jeffrey Shapiro  
**Assistant Treasurer:** Lee Schechter  
**Secretary:** Eileen Miller  
**Assistant Secretary:** Charles Gilinsky  
**Campaign Chair:** Marilyn Bell  
**Endowment Chair:** Michael Wright  
**CRC Chair:** Randy Friedman

*“Our dedicated staff and volunteers work hard to keep our community connected, welcoming and vibrant. I am grateful for all they do.”*  
-Shelley Hubal, Executive Director

## Board of Directors

- Rita Bleier
- Sheryl Brumer
- Nancy Dorfman
- Dennis Foreman
- Sondra Foreman
- Steve Gilbert
- Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell
- Rebecca Kahn
- Tara Kaminsky
- Rabbi Benny Kellman
- Neisen Luks
- Jeff Platsky
- Arthur Seigel
- Joshua Shapiro
- Rose Shapiro
- Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu
- Rabbi Zev Silber
- Rabbi Aaron Slonim
- Arie Ullmann
- Cathy Velenchik
- Susan Walker

## Federation Staff

- Shelley Hubal, Executive Director
- Jennifer Kakusian, Office Manager
- Rose Shea, Director Jewish Family Service

## The Reporter Staff

- Rabbi Rachel Esserman, Executive Editor
- Diana Sochor, Layout Editor
- Kathy Brown, Bookkeeper and Advertising Representative
- Julie Weber, Production Associate