



Annual Report June 2021 through May 2022

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,

This annual report reflects both the challenges we faced in the last year and our many successes.

Despite the restrictions due to the Coronavirus, Federation remained committed to creating a vibrant Jewish community. We held 14 events over the course of the year. Seven of these events were in person while the rest were conducted virtually. We are proud of the important work we are doing to sustain Jewish culture and education here in the Broome County region!

This year saw many long-time Binghamton residents permanently leaving the area for warmer climates or to be closer to family. This trend will continue as our Jewish community ages and will most likely have an impact on our fund-raising efforts going forward. However, our annual Campaign, led by chair Marilyn Bell, saw an increase in new donors for 2022. We are working hard to fiscally sustain our local institutions and going forward we plan to explore new ways to keep our community vibrant and connected.

Over the last year, the world continued to grapple with a global pandemic, a rise in antisemitism, political upheaval and the war in Ukraine. Now, more than ever before, Federation will be guided by the principal that "All of Israel is responsible for one another - Kol Israel arevim zeh lazeh."

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of our many donors, volunteers and leaders for their generous and compassionate investment in Federation, and for trusting in the work we do.

L'Shalom,

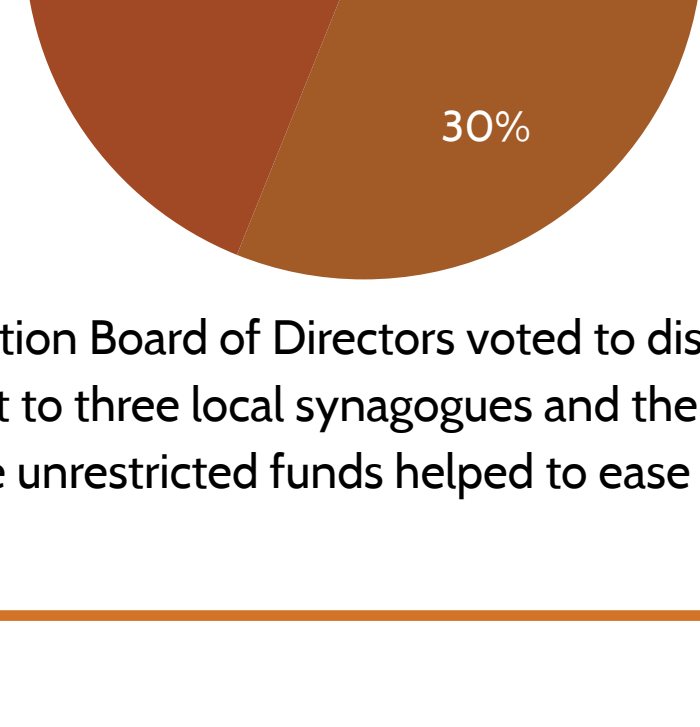
Shelley Hubal, Executive Director
Suzanne Holwitt, President

Federation Supported Organizations and Financials:

2021 Beneficiary Agencies

- 26% Hillel Academy
- 30% Jewish Community Center
- 2% Jewish Federations of North America
- Hillel at Binghamton University
- Beth David Mikvah
- PJ Library

- 29% Federation and JFS operating budget
- 13% The Reporter
- 2%



Allocation Distribution

The Federation raises funds and uses its endowment to meet the needs of local Jewish organizations. In addition, as a member of JFNA's Network Communities, we are proud to support social service programs in Israel and the Republic of Georgia. The board of directors oversees the process of allocating funds. In November of 2020, they voted to allocate \$298,349 to eight different organizations.

Endowment Grants

In January of 2022, the Federation Board of Directors voted to distribute a total of \$40,000 in grants from the endowment to three local synagogues and the Rohr Chabad Center at Binghamton University. These unrestricted funds helped to ease budget shortfalls caused by the pandemic.

Timeline of Events

<p>June 11, 2021 Tot Shabbat in the Park - Young families gathered to sing shabbat songs and hear shabbat stories.</p> <p>August 29, 2021 Annual Fundraising Campaign Begins</p> <p>October 1, 2021 Chinese Jews of Kaifeng - A virtual lecture by Rabbi Anson H. Laytner.</p> <p>November 30, 2021 Community Hannukah Party - Outdoor event co-sponsored by the JCC.</p> <p>January 27, 2022 Webinar with the ADL - Scott Richman from the NY & NJ ADL led the discussion about the rise in antisemitism.</p> <p>March 3, 2022 White Right and Masel Tov Cocktail - Virtual discussion of these two films was led by Stephen Lisman, PhD.</p> <p>March 9, 2022 Inter-Faith Vigil for Peace in Ukraine</p> <p>April 26, 2022 Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration - Featuring Holocaust survivor Dr. Aliza Erber.</p>	<p>July 15, 2021 Young Family Get-Together - Families gathered to play, schmooze, snack and watch Rabbi Kellman juggle.</p> <p>September 12, 2021 Holocaust Memorial Gathering - Community members met at the Get Together Memorial stone at the Temple Israel Cemetery.</p> <p>November 17, 2021 Federation Board Allocates Funds for 2022</p> <p>January 23, 2022 Virtual Tour of Auschwitz</p> <p>February 10, 2022 Neighbours - Virtual discussion of this film was moderated by Dina Danon, PhD.</p> <p>March 6, 2022 Family Purim Celebration - Over 50 community members attended this outdoor celebration.</p> <p>April 10, 2022 Here We Are - Virtual film fest discussion moderated by Jennifer Gillis Mattson, PhD.</p> <p>May 12, 2022 Security Seminar - Co-sponsored with the Broome County council of Churches.</p>
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Jewish Family Service

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. With the COVID 19 crisis, JFS has assumed a large role in providing emotional as well as financial assistance amid very difficult times.

Summary of JFS support June 2021 – May 31, 2022:

- 64 monetary gifts to Jewish families at the holidays
- \$4,086 distributed in essential emergency relief funds other than food
- 72 emotional support calls
- 50 well check calls
- 61 referrals to food pantries
- 40 referrals to NYSEG for funding support
- 52 referrals to Jewish Family Service referrals
- 10 home care referrals
- 46 mental health referrals
- 27 legal assistance referrals
- 10 employment assistance referrals
- 9 refugee assistance support calls

JFS would like to thank all of our generous donors.

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 resilient and relevant during the ongoing struggles of print media. We have created a more robust online presence, and the editorial committee is also working on fund-raising ideas to ensure the paper's sustainability in the years to come. During the pandemic, we kept readers connected with online resources and by promoting virtual programming offered by various Jewish organizations. In 2021, the executive editor of The Reporter, Rabbi Rachel Esserman, won two awards from the American Jewish Press Association and two awards from the Syracuse Press Club. We are grateful for her talent and dedication. We also want to thank Bill Simon for his columns, including one which also won an award from the American Jewish Press Association. The paper is grateful for its loyal readers and generous supporters.

1,070 copies of The Reporter delivered to homes every other week

Federation By Numbers

72 Emotional support calls	4 Outdoor events for young families	7 Community-wide Zoom events
35 Dedicated Federation board members	\$288,863 raised in 2021 Campaign	64 total monetary gifts distributed by JFS to Jewish families in the Binghamton area during Jewish holidays
\$3,154 DISTRIBUTED IN RELIEF FUNDS FOR FOOD	\$11,156 raised for the JFNA Ukraine emergency relief fund	331 Donors contributed to the 2021 Campaign
		75 CHILDREN RECEIVING PJ LIBRARY BOOKS

Annual Campaign

The annual campaign is the core of the Jewish Federation. Our staff and volunteers work hard every year to raise the funds that sustain Jewish life in Binghamton. The 2021 campaign raised \$288,863 from 331 donors. The campaign for 2022 kicked off in August. Due to social distancing restrictions, volunteers made calls and wrote thank you notes from their homes. To date, the campaign for 2022 has \$229,352 in pledges from 334 donors. The drop in campaign dollars in 2022 reflects the changing demographics for the Binghamton Jewish community, with many long-time Binghamton residents leaving the area permanently. While there are fewer dollars, the needs of our community organizations continue to grow. We remain grateful for all who have stepped up to support the local Jewish community.

Thank you

for being part of the Federation family. Your gift enables us to keep our Jewish community connected and strong, now and for generations to come.

- Marilyn Bell, Campaign Chair

Federation Leadership

Executive Committee

- Suzanne Holwitt, President
- Howard Warner, Immediate Past President
- Mark Walker, Vice-President
- Jeffrey Shapiro, Treasurer
- Lee Schechter, Assistant Treasurer
- Eileen Miller, Secretary
- Brendan Byrnes, Assistant Secretary
- Marilyn Bell, Campaign Chair
- Michael Wright, Endowment Chair
- Randy Friedman, Community Relations Chair

Board of Directors

- Allan Berk
- Rita Bleier
- Rabbi Geoffrey Brown
- Sheryl Brumer
- Rachel Coker
- Nancy Dorfman
- Mark Epstein
- Dennis Foreman
- Sondra Foreman
- Brian Friedman
- Barbara Gilbert
- Steve Gilbert
- Charles Gilinsky
- Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell

Board of Directors

- Rabbi Benny Kellman
- Neisen Luks
- Jeff Shapiro
- Rose Shapiro
- Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu
- Arthur Siegel
- Rabbi Zev Silber
- Rabbi Aaron Slonim
- Arieh A. 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, Bookkeeping and Advertising
- Julie Weber, Production Associate