

Securing Our Community



JFed Security Active in Protecting Our Community

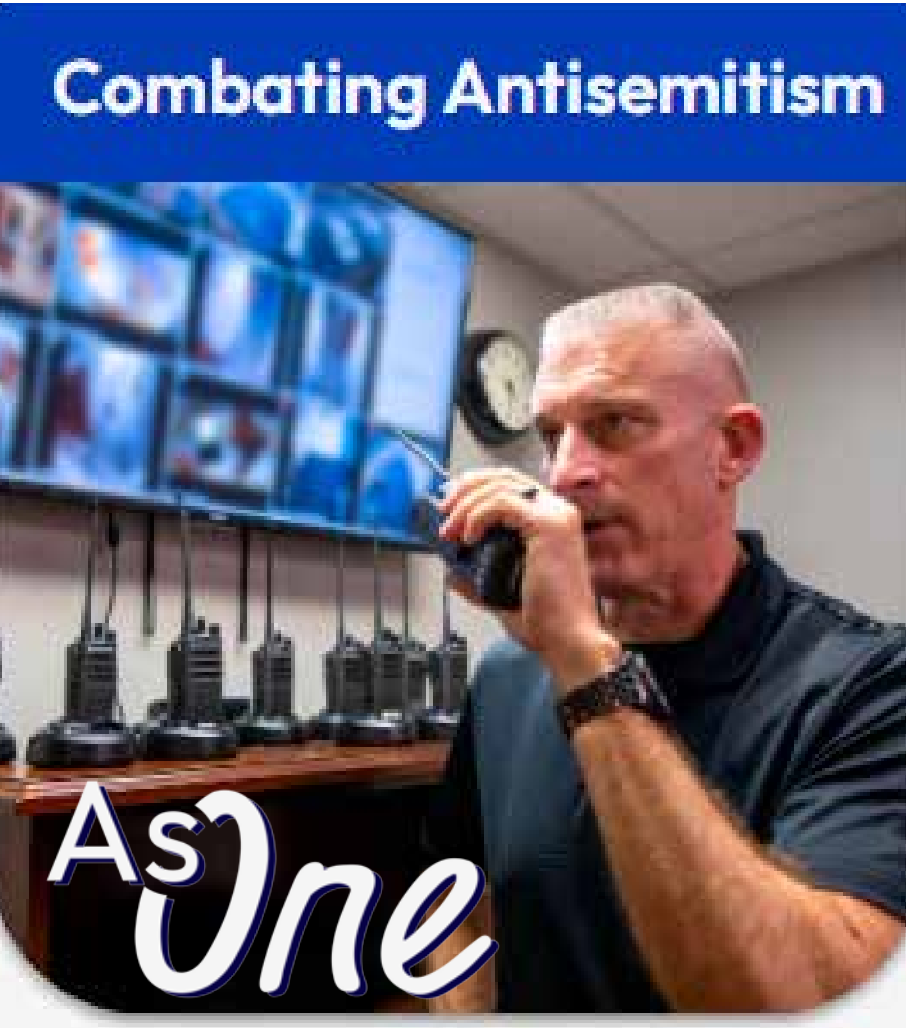
In June to welcome in their busy season, the Jewish Community Center of Long Beach Island, Spray Beach, hosted JFed Security trainings, both Active Threat and Stop the Bleed trainings.

Not for the first time, repeated trainings reinforce the lessons learned and make it available for newer members or members that just didn't get to attend in previous years. This June, Stop the Bleed trained 14 congregants and 25 participated in the Active Threat training.

These trainings, along with others offered by JFed Security, are made available through the LiveSecure local grant from the Jewish Federation of Ocean County (JFOC). LiveSecure is a \$130 million national initiative launched by the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) and the Secure Community Network (SCN) to protect Jewish institu-

tions across North America. It provides resources for hiring security directors, security training, standardized programs, and assistance in securing government security grants.

The JCC of LBI also utilized JFed Security in preparing their Emergency Operations Plan and Quick Reference Guide through funding from JFOC's Homeland Security Grant. JFOC is splitting their grant amongst partners, also providing security guards and equipment upgrades.



Update on Last Year's Student Hero Against Hate

Barnegat Pride is excited to welcome Danny Hoffman as our new Vice President!

A South Jersey native and junior at Penn State studying Education Policy, International Politics, and Sociology, Danny is passionate about advocacy, education, and creating a stronger, more inclusive community for LGBTQ+ individuals throughout our region.



Introducing: Ocean Inc. Veterans EZ Ride Transportation Program

The program provides a monetary credit in an EZ Ride account that veterans use to book Uber/Lyft rides to and from medical appointments, grocery/retail shopping, military organizational social and any other community event. A spouse/caregiver is able to ride with the veteran. Participants must own a cell phone to utilize the program. If you or someone you know is a veteran and requires transportation services, contact the Ocean Inc. Veterans Transportation Coordinator, Carmine Czapla at (732) 496-3704 or via email at cczapla@oceaninc.org. During the registration process, be sure to have available a Drivers License, Military ID or Veterans VA ID and a copy of your DD214 Form.

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Secure Community Network Update – June Report

By Michael G. Masters
National Director & CEO
July 6, 2026

The ideals of religious freedom, security, and dignity that inspired the founding of the United States 250 years ago remain at the heart of our mission.

In his 1790 letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island, President George Washington noted his hope that all may live together in our nation in peace and that “...everyone shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree and there shall be none to make him afraid.” His words remind us that security is never guaranteed and that it must be built, strengthened, and sustained.

This past month marked several important milestones as we advanced our mission to build a more connected, capable, and secure Jewish community across North America. Among these achievements, the Secure Community Network (SCN) became the first and only faith-based organization to receive the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies (SAFETY) Act Designation. This landmark recognition affirms the rigor and effectiveness of the National Jewish Community Security Standards that SCN developed as part of the LiveSecure initiative, led by Jewish Federations of North America. LiveSecure has enabled 100% security coverage across the United States through best-practice, standardized programs and our threat management and information-sharing practices. In addition to validating our efforts and providing pea-

ce of mind, the SAFETY Act Designation also affords critical liability protections to official SCN security programs and qualifying partner organizations.

Our network also grew stronger and more connected. Following the Hezbollah-inspired vehicle attack at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, the Jewish Federation of Detroit partnered with the Ohio Regional Threat Center (ORTC) and SCN's Jewish Security Operations Command Center™ (JSOCC™). Detroit now joins more than 40 Federations participating in threat management programs powered by SCN's Project RAIN™ (Realtime Actionable Intelligence Network™).

While we continue protecting our community today, we must also prepare for the year ahead. The FY2026 Nonprofit Security Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity is now open, and I encourage all eligible organizations to apply. These grants save lives, and recent events have underscored the urgent need for layered, well-trained, and well-resourced security.

SCN is working closely with Jewish Federations of North America, our synagogue movement partners, and community institutions to support strong applications and secure critical funding.

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, we have an opportunity to reflect on the enduring promise of this nation and to “continue to give bigotry no sanction and persecution no assistance.”

Stay safe.

The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) established the Secure Community Network (SCN) in 2004. The SCN is a nonprofit organization that works to ensure the safety and security of the Jewish community in North America. The SCN's mission is to help individuals and organizations develop a culture of awareness, preparedness, and resilience through training, consultation, and information sharing. The SCN works with over 300 independent communities, 146 federations, and 50 partner organizations, as well as with partners in the public, private, academic, and non-profit sectors.



US Senator Andy Kim Discusses Antisemitism with the Jewish Federation of Ocean County



On July 1, United States New Jersey Senator Andy Kim visited Beth Am Shalom in Lakewood to meet with the Jewish Federation of Ocean County and hear from local Jewish leaders about the impact antisemitism is having on their temples and communities. He heard about the need to invest in further security to ensure every community member can practice their faith without fear for their safety. It is why it is so important to increase funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program. He agreed that we must meet this moment head on and ensure that hate has no home in New Jersey.



Dr. Irit Cohen L.Ac.

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732-930-1580

irit@innerwellacupuncture.com



Our Community Connected at “Let’s Connect”

On June 17, the Jewish Federation of Ocean County hosted its annual “Let’s Connect” with a great performance by Iris Bahr, a talented American-Israeli actor, writer, director and comic. Her show highlighted her true and hilarious tales from her life and travels, introducing some of her popular alter-egos as they engaged with the crowd. There was also an after-show Meet and Greet. Thank you to the many people who attended and helped sponsor the event.



Congratulations to our top three fundraising partners:
Beth Am Shalom
JCC of LBI
Westlake Yiddish Club

