

2021 Herschel Vision Awards

NOVEMBER 7, 2021 | 4 KISLEV 5782

HONORING

**TARA
HUFFMAN**



**DC INITIATIVE ON
RACIAL EQUITY**



**JOANNA
SILVER**



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER
REPRESENTATIVE
JAMIE RASKIN**



THE HESCHEL VISION AWARDS

JUFJ was founded by a small group of longtime activists and younger community organizers who were inspired to action after attending a class on the teachings of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel (z"l). He saw the teachings of the Prophets as a call for social action in our time, and was a prominent leader in the civil rights and antiwar movements of the 1960s.

Many of the hallmarks of JUFJ's work — commitment to multicultural and interfaith coalitions, and concern for the most vulnerable in our society — are founded on Rabbi Heschel's teachings and the movements he helped lead.

THE HESCHEL VISION AWARDS

*For many of us the march from Selma to
Montgomery was both protest and prayer...
Even without words, our march was worship.
I felt my legs were praying.*

— Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, 1965

JUFJ's Heschel Vision Awards honor local leaders who follow in Rabbi Heschel's footsteps, fusing activism and deep moral commitments. These leaders inspire and empower Jews and DC and Maryland residents from all walks of life. Thank you for helping JUFJ grow. We hope that tonight's gathering inspires you to "pray with your legs" and continue our work together for *tikkun olam*, the repair of our world.

THE ELISSA FROMAN HESCHEL VISION AWARD



Nine years ago, we honored Elissa Froman (z"l), an emerging civil rights activist and a leader for social justice, with a Heschel Vision Award. Elissa embodied not only the best of Rabbi Heschel's teachings, but also the core of JUFJ: building relationships and (sacred) community, and then working collectively to make change. Elissa passed away, far too early, in 2013. We honor her memory, and her passion and commitment to community and justice.

*And what does the Creator require of you
but to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your G-d.*

— Micah 6:8

From Joanna Blotner's remembrance of Elissa in 2013:

With humor and humility, Elissa did more to heal our fractured world in her short life than most can hope to do in a lifetime. She will forever be missed, but always remembered as our social justice hero.

PAST HONOREES

Adat Shalom Reconstructionist
Congregation

Ana María Archila

Nicole Berner

Joanna Blotner

Heather Booth

Jessica Champagne and Max Toth

David (z"l) & Carla (z"l) Cohen

Nikki Cole

Rubie Coles

Isabel "Liz" Dunst

England Family Foundation

David Fishback

Elissa Froman (z"l)

Simon Greer

Roxie Herbekian and Ken Zinn

Ilyse Hogue

Toni Holness

Sam Rosen Jewler

Ruti Kadish

Eli and Kavitha Kasargod-Staub

Margie Klein

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Betsy Krieger and Karen Kreisberg

Keshini Ladduwahetty

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Jerry Levine and Sarah Pokempner

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UFCW Local 400

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George Derek Musgrove

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Attorney General Karl A. Racine

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Rabbi Bob Saks

SEIU 32BJ

Rabbi David Shneyer

Councilmember Elissa Silverman

Mary Ann Stein

Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation

Gustavo Torres

Bruce and Susan Turnbull

Rabbi Arthur Waskow

Ben and Beth Wikler

Joslyn Williams

THANK YOU TO OUR LEADERS

Thank you to our DC, Montgomery County, and Baltimore Leadership Councils, our Maryland Core Team, and our team co-chairs for leading JUFJ's work in each jurisdiction with such passion and commitment. We appreciate you for your many contributions in guiding our efforts, helping make tough decisions, and leading our teams carrying out critical work.

Montgomery County

Debbie Amster
Robert Barkin
Sherry Glazer
Melissa Goemann
Deedee Jacobsohn
Jerry Kickenson
Anita Lampel
Anna Levy
Vinny Prell
Heidi Rhodes
Jeffrey Rubin
Jo Shifrin
Carol Stern
Bruce Turnbull
Mark Wolff

Baltimore

Samantha Blau
Jen Cheslock
Tracie Guy-Decker
Jody Harburger
Ethan Hasiuk
Sarah Hiller
Stuart Katzenberg
Lauren Kelleher
Claire Landers
Michele Levy
Laura Menyuk
Andy Miller
Dan Richman
Evan Serpick
Gabriel Stuart-Sikowitz
Yosef Webb-Cohen

Maryland

Sam Blau
Sarah Hiller
Jerry Kickenson
Anita Lampel
Claire Landers
Anna Levy
Dan Richman
Anna Rubin
Jeffrey Rubin
Evan Serpick
Jo Shifrin
Joanna Silver
Carol Stern
Ioana Stoica
Susan Tafler

DC

Ari Brickman
Rebecca Barson
Ariel Drehobl
Michelle Engelmann
Hannah Jacobson Blumenfeld
Katharine Landfield
Shira Markoff
Yael Nagar
Annie Rosenthal

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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Judy and Steven Richman

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Bruce and Susan Turnbull

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Maryland Carey Law
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Kathy Krieger
Jo Shifrin and Jethro Lieberman
Joanna Silver
United Food and Commercial Workers
Local 400
Marilyn Kresky-Wolff and Mark Wolff

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Melissa Rothstein
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Patricia Snee and Ellen Buchman
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Glickstein

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Ariel Drehobl

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Rifka Handelman and Kate Epstein

Lori Feldman

Becky and Brian Freiman, remembering
Elissa Froman (z"l)

Gloria S Froman

Janice Gordon

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WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE GENEROUS AND UNFLAGGING SUPPORT OF:

Robert Barkin and Cathy Shaw
Medea Benjamin and Tighe Barry
Liz Dunst
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Kathy Krieger
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Living Torah *
Lois and Richard England Family
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Nancy and Richard Robbins
Foundation *
Nathan Cummings Foundation *
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for Jewish Organizing

OUR HONOREES



Tara Huffman is the former Director of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Program at Open Society Institute-Baltimore. She came to OSI-Baltimore with national and local experience, strong advocacy skills, and deep knowledge of the field and needs of grantees. She is a rare funder who is also seen as a partner by scores of grantees. She has played a crucial role in building the power of the criminal justice/police reform field in Maryland.

OUR HONOREES



The DC Initiative on Racial Equity Coordinating Committee includes Bread for the City, CARECEN, Consumer Health Foundation, Empower DC, ONE DC, SPACES, and JUFJ. This coalition helped bring about key legislation to promote more equitable governmental policy and practice in DC.

Alicia Wilson's career has grown through the social services field, providing direct services and advocating for social justice, with a consistent focus on health and racial equity. After 18 years with La Clínica del Pueblo, Alicia founded Alicia Wilson Strategies, a consulting practice that serves as a partner for progressive organizations building power in their communities.

Dushaw Hockett is the founder and Executive Director of Safe Places for the Advancement of Community and Equity (SPACES). He previously served as Director of Special Initiatives for Center for Community Change (now Community Change). A long-time community organizer born and raised in Brooklyn, Dushaw has made the DMV his home for the past 21 years.

OUR HONOREES



Joanna Silver has been a public defender for 20 years, and a leader of JUFJ's Montgomery County and Maryland statewide coalitions and campaigns since 2018. She demonstrates unrelenting thoughtfulness as a JUFJ leader and in her many other capacities across the region, and a steadfast commitment to justice work in court and in the community. There are many, many exceptional leaders in our community, and even among that incredible list Joanna's work stands out.

OUR HONOREES



Representative Jamie Raskin is the Congressman from Maryland's 8th District. He was the lead impeachment manager in the second impeachment trial of Donald Trump, which ended with a 57-43 vote to convict Trump for inciting violent insurrection against the Union, which was the most sweeping bipartisan Senate vote to convict in an impeachment trial in American history. Since the trial, Jamie has been a leading force on the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6 Attack.

Prior to his election to Congress in 2016, Jamie was the Maryland State Senate Majority Whip where he led floor fights to abolish the death penalty, pass marriage equality, and enact the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, among dozens of other measures.

He was a professor of constitutional law for a quarter-century at American University's Washington College of Law. He has authored several books, including *Overruling Democracy: the Supreme Court vs. the American People*, *We the Students*, and the forthcoming *Unthinkable: Trauma, Truth and the Trials of American Democracy*.

2021 CAMPAIGNS — THIS YEAR'S VICTORIES

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

MARYLAND

The activism of JUFJ and our more than 90 organizational partners in the Maryland Coalition for Justice and Police Accountability helped pass historic legislation that we have been fighting for since 2015, making Maryland the first state in the country to repeal a Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights.

2021 CAMPAIGNS — THIS YEAR'S VICTORIES

MORAL BUDGETS

DC

Alongside partners in the Under 3 DC and Just Recovery DC coalitions, we helped to transform the city budget by successfully pushing for a game-changing tax increase on the city's highest-paid residents, which will fund housing for families experiencing homelessness, higher wages for early childhood educators, and basic income for some of DC's poorest residents.

2021 CAMPAIGNS — THIS YEAR'S VICTORIES

RENTERS' RIGHTS

BALTIMORE

We and our partners in the Baltimore Renters United coalition made Baltimore the 7th city in the country to guarantee all renters a lawyer when facing eviction. We overcame intense opposition to block a bill that would have let predatory lenders take advantage of renters in Baltimore City.

2021 CAMPAIGNS — THIS YEAR'S VICTORIES BUILDING POWER

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

In 2020, JUFJ organized and led a huge coalition of labor, faith groups, nonprofits, business groups, students, parents, and teachers to achieve a historic win on four ballot questions. In 2021, we provided critical support to the student-led coalition working to remove police from schools, helping submit 60 pieces of testimony to the County Council and Board of Education.

2022 CAMPAIGNS — WHAT'S NEXT

MARYLAND

This is the year to make paid family and medical leave a reality in Maryland. JUFJ will fight alongside our coalition partners to pass the Time to Care Act in the 2022 Maryland General Assembly legislative session in the strongest form possible.

2022 CAMPAIGNS — WHAT'S NEXT

DC

Over the coming year, JUFJ will continue to play an integral role in the Under 3 DC coalition, ensuring that the money for early childhood educators that we won in the budget campaign actually gets to the educators who need it, and advocating to fully fund the Birth to Three for All DC Act.

2022 CAMPAIGNS — WHAT'S NEXT

BALTIMORE

JUFJ will expand our renters' rights and eviction prevention work. Guided by an agenda set by the tenants who are experiencing the impact of discrimination, inhumane living conditions, and other exigent problems, JUFJ and our partners will determine most immediate needs of renters in Baltimore and take action to meet those needs.

2022 CAMPAIGNS — WHAT'S NEXT

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

JUFJ's housing team has grown in the past year. Over the next year, we will continue to join our partners in the Montgomery County Racial Equity (MORE) Network working to prevent evictions and move toward a County where everyone has a safe, stable, affordable home.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

11/15, 7:00 PM — Baltimore Action Team Meeting

12/1, 7:30 PM — Maryland Community Meeting

12/5, 6:00 PM — JUFJ Chanukah Party!

12/7, 7:00 PM — Montgomery County Racial Equity & Policing Meeting

1/6 & 1/13, 8:00 PM — DC Politics Crash Course

Yasher Koach to all of our Honorees

May you go from strength to strength

Robert Barkin and Cathy Shaw



The JUFJ Montgomery County Leadership Council is privileged to work with and honor this year's Heschel Award recipient Joanna Silver. Joanna is an amazing activist in every meaning of the word. When not swimming, cycling, taking care of her children, volunteering with her synagogue Temple Emanuel, or defending those most in need in court as a public defender, Joanna still finds the time to lead JUFJ efforts in police accountability and immigration justice. Joanna's legal expertise, experience and connections with other down county activists and professionals are invaluable contributions to JUFJ's work. There could be no one more deserving of this award.

Joanna — THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS!

2021 Heschel Vision Awards

**JEWS UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

Anita Lampel and Daniel Metlay

Salute the 2021 Recipients of the JUFJ Heschel Award

Joanna Silver

Tara Huffman

and

DC Initiative on Racial Equity and Its Coordinating Committee

Mazel Tov to All and Thank You for Your Work

*“Racism is man's gravest threat to man — the maximum of
hatred for a minimum of reason.”*

— Rabbi Heschel



Congratulations Joanna



The Office of the Federal
Public Defender for the
District of Maryland

Thanks you for 20 years

Hard Work
Commitment to Clients
Friendships to Colleagues



2021 Heschel Vision Awards

**JEW'S UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

Congratulations to all of
the honorees and to
Rabbi Elizabeth Richman
for your leadership and for
all of the holy work you do.





TEMPLE EMANUEL

A Welcoming, Inclusive Reform Congregation

with its Community Social Action Council
congratulates congregant

JOANNA BETH SILVER

on her selection as a

2021 JUJF HESCHEL AWARD HONOREE

10101 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895 ♦ 301-942-2000

www.templeemanuelmd.org ♦ www.facebook.com/TempleEmanuelMD



2021 Heschel Vision Awards

**JEW'S UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

Congratulations to JUFJ and all the honorees — Joanna Silver, Tara Huffman, and the DC Initiative on Racial Equity — for all your hard work this past year.

— Lisa Greenman and Paul Leder

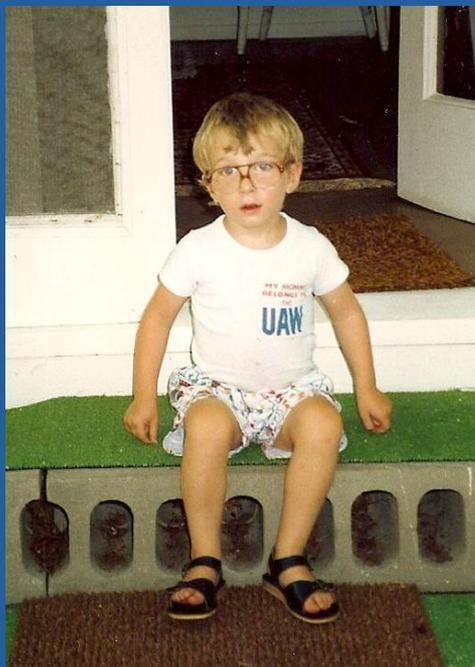




CONGRATULATIONS!

IMPACT Silver Spring congratulates
Joanna Silver and all the Heschel Vision
Awards winners for their amazing
contributions toward building a more just
community.





In honor of all who struggle for justice and especially my late wife, Sue Levering, and our son, Sam Baltimore, who were and are part of the struggle.

— Les Baltimore



Congratulations to all of this year's honorees!

— Jo Shifrin and Jethro Lieberman

Congratulations to Joanna Silver on this richly deserved recognition for your advocacy and passion for justice.

— Diana Conway

Congratulations, Joanna, on this much deserved recognition of your passion for and dedication to justice.

With great admiration,
Jayme Epstein

Thank you for making our region a more
just and equitable place for everyone.

CHP Mintz congratulates the honorees of

2021 Heschel Vision Awards

and

**JEW'S UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

for your leadership in advancing racial, economic, and
social justice in the Baltimore-Washington region.



**UFCW Local 400 Proudly Supports
Jews United for Justice**

*We Salute the
2021 Heschel Vision Awards Honorees
as they Fight for Social and
Economic Justice in our Communities
and Workplaces.*



Mark P. Federici
President

Christopher Hoffmann
Secretary-Treasurer

2021 Heschel Vision Awards

**JEW'S UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**



Thank you to my JUFJ family for this incredible honor. I look forward to many more years of not completing the work with all of you! — Joanna



2021 Herschel Vision Awards

IBEW

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International President | International Secretary-Treasurer

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**JEW'S UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

Congratulations to Jews United for Justice and all the Heschel awardees. Special thanks to our friend Joanna Silver for her leadership and tireless devotion to the cause of justice in our community.

**Marilyn Kresky-Wolff
and Mark Wolff**



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
FRANCIS KING CAREY
SCHOOL OF LAW

CHACÓN CENTER FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

SALUTES JOANNA SILVER

*FOR HER DEDICATED AND PERSISTENT WORK FOR JUSTICE FOR ALL PEOPLE,
INCLUDING OUR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE NEIGHBORS*

CONGRATULATIONS, JOANNA!

WE LOVE YOU!

GABRIELA AND MAUREEN



**JEWS UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

Congratulations to JUFJ
on another great year.
Thanks to Tara Huffman
and all honorees for your
vision and hard work.

— Jeff Blum



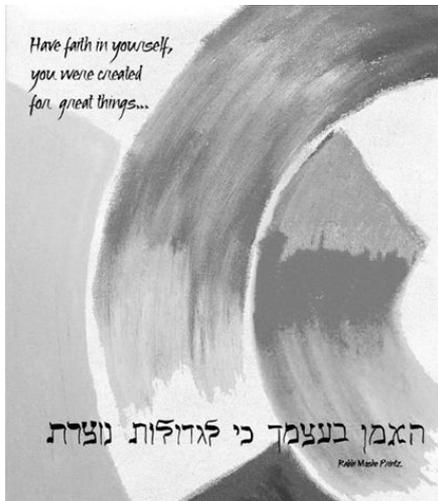
Mazel tov and solidarity!

to the 2021 Heschel Vision honorees
Representative Jamie Raskin
Joanna Silver
Tara Huffman
and the DC Initiative on Racial Equity

Keshet
קשת | For LGBTQ
equality in
Jewish life



JEWS UNITED
FOR JUSTICE



SIROTA ROSENTHAL ART

Judaic prints installations ritual objects

www.sirotarosenthalart.com

work currently on view at Hebrew Union College Museum, NYC

Congratulations to our daughter, Joanna Silver, on being awarded the 2021 Heschel Vision Award. We are always in awe of the incredible work she does for racial justice, social justice, political awareness and concern for people in need.

We are so proud of her!

Arleen and Robert Silver



To Our Beloved Solace Sista Tara,
You're a trailblazer that inspires us to be more every day in numerous ways. As a social justice activist, life coach, minister, entrepreneur, and all-around renaissance woman, we are proud to call you Sista!

We thank you for your commitment to bringing out the best in us as a sisterhood and community.

We love you always in all ways,

Solace Sistas

Mission: Solace for Sistas is a social and support network of Black and Brown women committed to human and civil rights, and social and criminal justice advocacy and activities. Find us at www.solaceforsistas.org



**JEW'S UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

צדק
צדק
תרדוף

Jody and
Sheila
Harburger

*Who is a Jew? A person whose
integrity decays when
unmoved by the knowledge of
wrong done to other people.*

— A.J.Heschel

Kol HaKavod to JUFJ's leaders
and honorees.

— Rabbi David Shneyer
and the Am Kolel Jewish
Renewal Community



amkolel.org

sanctuaryretreatcenter.com

Congratulations to
JUFJ staff and
volunteers for its
amazing successes
this year.

Special thanks to
Michelle Engelmann
for her leadership
now and going
forward.

Joan A. Kuriansky

Congratulations
to the 2021
Heschel Vision
Award winners!

In solidarity,
**Roxie Herbekian
and Ken Zinn**

2021 Heschel Vision Awards

**JEWS UNITED
FOR JUSTICE**

Words of wisdom for
JUFJ and its allies:

"The world is too small
for anything but mutual
care and deep respect;
the world is too great
for anything but
responsibility for one
another."

— Rabbi Heschel

Congratulations 2021 Heschel Honorees

Tara Huffman

The DC Initiative on Racial Equity
and its Coordinating Committee

Joanna Silver

Representative Jamie Raskin

*Let us all be inspired by these
amazing community leaders!*



Congratulations to JUFJ for
its most successful year
yet, to Jamie Raskin for
everything he has done
and for everything he has
tried to get done, and
congratulations to the
2021 Heschel Vision
Award Honorees:

Tara Huffman
The DC Initiative on Racial
Equity and its
Coordinating Committee
Joanna Silver

Joel M Cohen and
Susan Chapin



Kehila Chadasha congratulates the Heschel Award
winners of 2021 and celebrates the inspiring work of
Jews United for Justice.



We are a member-directed Jewish community that
embraces Tikkun Olam, striving to help and serve our
neighbors and the world.

For information about membership, our activities and our
Sunday school, visit kehilachadasha.org.

2021 Heschel Vision Awards

JEWES UNITED
FOR JUSTICE

ABOUT JUFJ

Since our founding in 1998, JUFJ has led Jews across Washington, DC and Maryland to act on our shared Jewish values by pursuing justice and equality in our local community.

One day, everyone in the region will have what they need to live and thrive, and a real voice in democracy, no matter the color of their skin, where they are from, or how much money they have. Our government will focus on equity and justice, and will respond to the needs of poor and working people, whether Black, brown, or white, who had once been systemically barred from resources and power. We work so that our Jewish community is a proud and valued partner in bringing about that day through multiracial, multifaith, cross-class movements working for social, racial, and economic justice.

Through organizing campaigns, education and training forums, and large-scale events (both in-person and virtual), JUFJ builds relationships and mobilizes the Jewish community to demand and win meaningful change for all area residents. Our work is grounded in Jewish text and tradition, and the historical Jewish experience of both persecution and privilege. JUFJ helps Jews live out our sacred, shared tradition of *tikkun olam* by working in solidarity with local partners for a more just and equal region and world.

STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR CORE STRATEGIES

In 2018, we finished a months-long process identifying our priorities for the next five years. To download the complete plan, visit jufj.org/strategic-plan.

Build the Power of Our Field

Invest our time, voice and relationships to help strengthen the social change field in our region and the Jewish social justice field nationally, and to bring additional resources and visibility to our partners.

Strengthen Our Institution

Build JUFJ's institutional capacity so we can support and sustain this work over the long term.

Make Systemic Change in Our Region

Advance economic, social, and racial equity in our region by winning policy change that makes a real, immediate, and concrete improvement in people's lives.

Develop Our Leaders and Engage Our Community

Create a cadre of Jewish leaders who will advance transformational social change and use community organizing to mobilize the broader Jewish community in creating a more just and equitable region.

STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR PHILOSOPHY OF CHANGE

Issue Campaigns Make Change and Build a Better Democracy

Our core method of social change is advancing local and regional issue campaigns that result in real, immediate, and concrete improvements in people's lives. Through these campaigns we develop leaders, build our Jewish grassroots community, shift the consciousness of our community, and build the collective power needed to undo systemic racism and inequality.

We Organize Our Jewish Community for Multiple Kinds of Action

Four key areas of programmatic work highlight how we build people power: our campaigns move a legislative agenda forward, while targeted actions raise awareness and bring our grassroots community together with partners and allies on critical and widely-felt issues. Promoting leadership development is an ongoing investment in our Jewish community and the organizing field of our partners. Building a community of meaning and purpose creates numerous ways beyond activism for people to live out their Jewish justice values, and sustains and supports our grassroots leaders and members. Each of these pathways naturally feed into one another to build sustained momentum for social change.

STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR PHILOSOPHY OF CHANGE

We Are Committed to Racial Equity and Ending Structural and Systemic Racism

Structural and systemic racism is a key cause of stark inequities in our region. We will not achieve our vision of everyone in our region having what they need to live and thrive without undoing the persistent, racialized social and economic disparities in our region. We are committed to continually deepening our learning on racism as a political tool, a structural system, and an implicit bias, and to continually integrating this learning into all our work.

We Work in Partnerships Rooted in Trust and Shared Goals

JUFJ builds trusted partnerships with organizations that share our “prophetic and pragmatic” approach to change; that is, working to make concrete change while expanding the realm of possibilities. We strive to be in relationship with grassroots organizations. Our partner relationships are characterized by mutual respect, humility in JUFJ’s relatively privileged community, and commitment to showing up. We listen deeply to each other. We work to understand and complement each other’s strengths, and respect each other’s core competencies and expertise about our own experience. JUFJ uses our power and our relationships to help strengthen the social change field in our region and to bring additional resources and visibility to our partners.

STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR JEWISH VALUES

Lo alecha ham'lacha ligmor v'lo atah ven chorin l'hibatel mimenah: It is not incumbent on us to complete the work, but neither can we desist from it. This work will not be completed in our lifetime. And yet, the steps we take today make the road to that future. So we develop in our Jewish communities a strong commitment to continue this work, and we build an organization that will endure over time. We will only succeed when our diverse coalitions and movements are strong together—and we must hold up our end of the work. Each step towards that just society is worthwhile.

Yetziat Mitzrayim: Emancipation from Oppression. Our Torah teaches that we were liberated from enslavement in Mitzrayim / Egypt, and calls on us to act always with the consciousness of having been vulnerable, oppressed outsiders. We live this out by working for the wellbeing of those who are calling out today from the Mitzrayims, the narrow and oppressive places, of our society. This includes our own community, which continues to face antisemitism. Our ancestral memories and current experiences of oppression, as well as our history of liberation and of being liberation workers in many lands since, is fundamental to who we are and how understand our role in the world.

STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR JEWISH VALUES

Tzelem Elohim: We Are Created in the Divine Image. All people are created in the divine image, with inherent and equal dignity and value. We take concrete action to end racism and other oppressions. We work to ensure that all people in our region have what our Torah calls *dei machsoro*, resources sufficient for their needs. We strive to make sure all people are treated with dignity and respect in the eyes of law and the actions of society. We have a duty of care to all.

Mesorah: the chain of tradition. We are proud to be inheritors and co-creators of a living Judaism. We are inspired by, and build on a foundation of, numerous Jewish voices, traditions, texts, and histories. We honor the structures of Jewish life and the rhythms of the Jewish calendar, and we incorporate into our work the Jewish values of reflection, celebration, and taking time away from work for rest and renewal.

STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR JEWISH VALUES

Ki shama elohim el kol ha'na'ar ba'asher hu sham: For the Holy One heard the voice of the child who was there. We listen to those closest to the problems. As the Torah tells us the Holy One listens to each of us, we strive to fully listen to and trust the people we work with. We work in partnerships built on mutual respect with organizations made up of and/or accountable to people who are directly living the inequities and injustices of our world, the people who are the experts on their own lives.

Kol ha'am: the people's voice. All people have the right to a powerful voice in democracy. We are committed to using our power—social, political, and economic—to amplify those whose voices and actions have been systematically shut out, silenced, or ignored. And we continue to build our own power so that the vision of justice we share with our partners may become reality sooner.

Tikvah and menschlichkeit: hope for the future and integrity. Although our society, and our world, feel heartsickeningly broken, our organizing strives to be optimistic, hopeful, and positive. We are solution-oriented and aim to speak to the best in people. We strive to act with integrity and honesty.

STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR JEWISH VALUES

The world was created for me / I am but dust and ashes: *chutzpah*, pragmatism, and humility. We are simultaneously chutzpadik and pragmatic: In a world full of injustice, with finite resources, our commitment to making a difference in people's lives compels us to choose our battles wisely. We are humble and we know our limits. We know that we are just one part of the Jewish and changemaking universes. We are one group among many working locally and nationally, and one approach among many that are necessary.

***Erev Rav*: A mixed multitude.** Tradition teaches that we left Mitzrayim / Egypt and stood together at Sinai with a mixed group of diverse people. In our JUFJ community today, we are religious and secular Jews, non-Jewish fellow travelers and allies, people of many genders and sexualities, white Jews and Jews of color, synagogue members and people for whom JUFJ is their primary Jewish home. We strive to be an informed, passionate, welcoming community that meets people where they are, and enables them to put their values into action.

GROWTH FUND

The JUFJ Growth Fund was launched in 2019 to mark JUFJ's 20th anniversary and 5th anniversary in Baltimore. Having grown from a small group of activists to a vibrant community of thousands with the capacity to win major campaigns for social, racial, and economic justice in our region, JUFJ was tasked to ensure the long-term sustainability of our organization by investing in projects that will help us build for the future. Thank you to everyone who invested in this vital campaign. Together, we are ensuring JUFJ's sustainability for the long haul.

THE GROWTH FUND SUPPORTS:

- **Expanding JUFJ's leadership, community, and educational events to engage a wider portion of the Jewish community in our work.**
- **Expanding JUFJ's capacity to make statewide change in Maryland.**
- **Strengthening JUFJ's finance and fundraising operations to sustain growth and raise a larger budget.**

COLLABORATIVE FOR JEWISH ORGANIZING

JUFJ's focus is always on our local communities, but we are also strengthening local Jewish organizing across the country. Over the past two years, we've played the lead role in creating the Collaborative for Jewish Organizing, bringing together nine Jewish organizing groups working in 19 states.

Our role in this effort emerged from our 2018 Strategic Plan, which committed to building the power of our field, including the national Jewish social justice movement. Together with our sister organizations across the country, we wondered if we could support each other to grow our local impact. And we believed that together we could make a case to funders to invest in our collective impact.

Together, we've secured nearly \$2 million in funding for Jewish organizing, helping JUFJ and our partners add and retain staff at this crucial time, enabling collective staff development for our organizers, and providing rapid response communications support to our Collaborative.

COLLABORATIVE FOR JEWISH ORGANIZING

We are proud to lead this strategic initiative, and proud of the trust that our partners have put in JUFJ to do so. The Collaborative for Jewish Organizing members are:

- Carolina Jews for Justice (North Carolina)
- Detroit Jews for Justice (Michigan)
- Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (Massachusetts)
- Jewish Community Action (Minnesota)
- Jewish Council on Urban Affairs (Illinois)
- Jews for Racial and Economic Justice (New York)
- Jews United for Justice (Maryland and Washington, DC)
- Bend the Arc (California, New York, other states, and nationwide)
- The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (California, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and nationwide)

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