

January 2010

Jewish Federation of Lincoln

2009 At a Glance

It has been a pleasure to work with the Board Members of the Jewish Federation as well as all members during this past year. We have accomplished a great deal in the face of difficult times. Some of the Federation accomplishments and activities for 2009 include:

- Concluding a successful campaign. This year we had \$93,901 in pledges and have collected 90% of those pledges to date.
- Developing a set of guidelines for consideration of ad hoc grants in response to a number of financial support requests outside of our previous usual allocations.
- Cosponsoring an event with the The Norman & Bernice Harris Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln featuring Donald Burris, the attorney who has worked to reclaim art treasures confiscated by Nazis in WW II
- Holding a campaign kick-off event at the Ross Theatre to watch an Israeli film and enjoy a reception together.
- Continuing to offer camps and youth scholarships to donor families to maintain a strong community by building the Jewish identity of our children through camp and youth group activities.

The Board was diligent and authentic in their commitment to meeting the needs of the Jewish community locally and worldwide. Board meetings were held every month either in person or by conference call. Discussions were lively, representing a full complement of perspectives. Consensus was generally achieved with success allowing for quick action when required and sound decisions.

Tikkun Olam begins at home

Each donor to the Federation is important, and your support is needed in a number of ways. In addition to your valuable financial contribution, please consider helping our community and your Federation in the upcoming year. Show your support by volunteering your time with an event like the Federation Shabbat, one of our fund raisers, or a social or educational program. We encourage you to stay informed by attending the annual meetings, reading newsletters and exploring the website at jewishlincoln.org. Your heart and mind are wonderful assets to share with your community, and we thank you in advance for your generosity.



Jewish Federation of Lincoln

The Faces Behind the Federation

This is the perfect time to take a moment to recognize the Board members that who completed their service to the Federation.

Marcia Kushner has given her heart and hard work to the Jewish community here in Lincoln through Federation involvement. In addition to her position as President for several terms, Marcia sat on the Allocations committee and continues to be instrumental in the Holocaust Memorial program.

David Feingold served on the board in a number of capacities, most recently chairing the Youth Scholarship committee. His work with the Jewish summer camps and the Newman Fund representative made nearly 45 positive camp experiences possible for of our community kids in the last three years.

Dan Friedman is also completing his board rotation and has served a the community resource liaison for the last two years. Dan's quiet commitment to the welfare of our community members in need is a true reflection of Tikkun Olam. Dan has agreed to continue in this capacity, and his work is greatly appreciated.

A heartfelt "Kol Hakavod" to all of our members as they complete their service. We look forward to counting on their continued involvement in supporting the Federation as we grow and evolve into an ever stronger Jewish community.

Welcome Board Members

The Jewish Federation of Lincoln is fortunate to welcome three new members and a new Executive committee. New members slated for approval are:

Shari Hochman

Al Weiss

Tommy Murray

From the Immediate Past President ~ Jaine Evnen Merliss

In the upcoming year, new board members have a full complement of challenges and opportunities. We expect the initial focus to be on:

- Reviewing bylaws to see if their current content and format meet existing and future needs (example: would it be more efficient to have fewer board members to represent the Lincoln Jewish community)
- Reviewing current allocation recipients and considering new support opportunities
- Seeking out new ways to encourage our donors to continue generous support at a time when funding is difficult and the need is great
- Exploring the role of the Jewish Federation of Lincoln in the upcoming discussions between members of the Temple and Synagogue regarding the future of the Lincoln Jewish Community.

Each member of the Board and Federation plays an important role in maintaining our ability to successfully support the community. It has been my privilege to lead the board for the last three years. Thank you for the opportunity to work alongside these creative and motivated individuals. I would like to extend my congratulations and support to the new Executive Board as they bring their new ideas into our community.














Jewish Federation of Lincoln

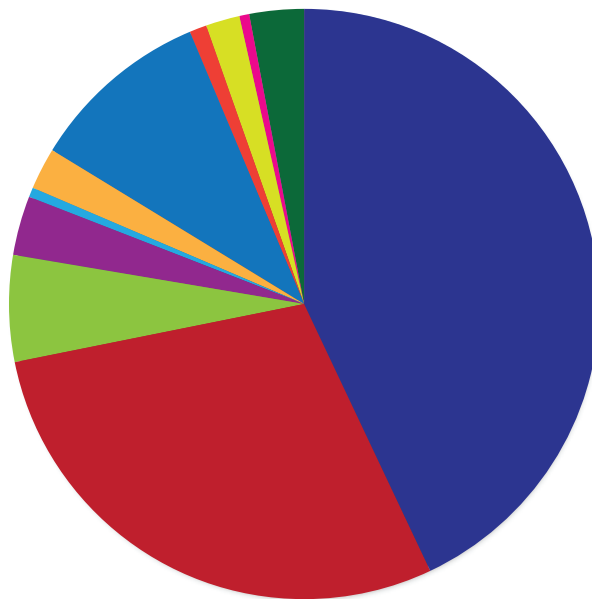
2009 Annual Report

Income Received:

Donations: \$94,206

Expenses:

	The Jewish Federations of North America *formerly UJC	\$45,000.00	43.06%
	Lincoln Jewish Community School	\$30,000.00	28.71%
	Jewish Press	\$5,932.00	5.68%
	Anti-Defamation League *includes \$400 for the Institute for Holocaust Education	\$3,500.00	3.35%
	Rose Blumkin Home	\$500.00	0.48%
	Local Special Purposes *includes programs	\$2,400.79	2.30%
	Youth Scholarships *includes campships	\$10,450.00	10.00%
	Family Emergency Relief and Transients	\$1,000.00	0.96%
	Teacher Development	\$2,000.00	1.91%
	Ad Hoc Grant	\$500.00	0.48%
	Administration	\$3,224.56	3.09%
	Total Expenses	\$104,507.35	



Al Weiss, President
Jaine Evnen Merliss, Immediate Past President
Jennifer Rosenblatt, Treasurer
Eleanor Kirkland, Secretary
Nancy Coren
Rabbi Ilan Emanuel
Donna Hersch
Gary Hill
Shari Hochman
Sarah Kelen
John Mosow
Tommy Murray
Marc Shkolnick
Alan Tomkins
Cindi Weiss
Julie Widman
Art Zygielbaum

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What's New with the Jewish Federations of North America?

The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) represent 157 Jewish federations and 400 independent Jewish communities across the country. JFNA maintains an office in Washington to advocate for life-saving and life-enhancing humanitarian assistance throughout the United States, Israel and over 60 other countries in the world.

Here are a few of the efforts the Legislative Action branch have been working towards in the past year:

Endorsing the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Act (CLASS) If enacted, this legislation would create a voluntary disability insurance program for qualified adults with long term disability needs. The provisions of this act would alleviate some of the fiscal pressure currently on Medicaid

The Jewish Federations continue to encourage the House and Senate negotiations to include provisions for the Breast Cancer Education Awareness Requires Learning Young Act (EARLY) in ant health care reform legislation they approve 2010 Public Policy Priorities for the JFNA:

- economic crisis support
 - protecting the Medicaid and health safety net
 - securing federal funding for community programs
 - empowering older Americans to live healthier, independent lives
 - promoting the international interests of the Jewish federations
 - maximizing the incentives for charitable giving and supporting interests of nonprofit organizations
 - safeguarding the Jewish community from terrorism
 - sustaining community services to alleviate poverty
 - advocating on behalf of persons with disabilities and/or mental illness
 - speaking out for children
 - rapid disaster and emergency relief
 - assisting immigrants and refugees
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