

2023–2024 | 5783–5784

# CJP's Israel Emergency Fund Update: Generosity, Recovery, Hope



**CJP was a lifeline for us to do this tremendous work. We are feeling the support and the love, knowing that we have partners here and that you feel our war is your war, that you're connected to our struggle in Israel.**

*Eyal Tarchitzky, Dror Israel,  
CJP IEF grantee*

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## Friends and Supporters,

We are sharing with you a report on the progress of CJP's Israel Emergency Fund, which has been making emergency grants to Israel since the horrific attacks on October 7. At the time of this writing, the war in Gaza continues, rockets fall daily in the North of Israel, and 101 hostages are still being held.

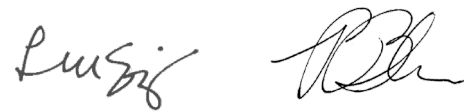
As you may know, immediately after the Hamas attacks, CJP raised its Israel Emergency Fund (IEF) with the broad purpose to support victims of terror and address the unprecedented levels of trauma caused by the horrific attack. Since launching, **more than 6,700 donors have contributed \$59M+**. This is a remarkable show of support from Boston — these resources are making a material impact on Israelis. We are deeply grateful to our community for standing by Israel and Israelis in their darkest times.

This report provides an overview of our funding strategies and additional details about the \$40.51M in emergency grants deployed to date. These grants have been made by our IEF Task Force, comprised of 11 lay volunteers who work with professional staff to prioritize and deploy this funding. The Task Force has met 25 times formally and many more times informally over the last 11 months to learn from impacted Israelis, meet emerging leaders in post-10/7 Israel, hear from subject-area experts, and closely collaborate with historic and new partners.

Alongside Task Force meetings, CJP staff have traveled to Israel nine times since the war began, bringing over 100 area volunteers to continue to learn about emergency needs. We are regularly inspired by what we experience when there: business leaders pausing their professional responsibilities to turn their attention to war response work; social entrepreneurs working collaboratively to produce new solutions into the ecosystem of interventions for victims of the war; and talented nonprofit professionals adapting their work models to scale to the enormous needs. Even in the context of a difficult and tragic war, Israel remains truly connected to its foundational fabric as the "start-up nation." Through this fund, our community is partnering with a class of leaders who will ensure that Israel's brightest days are ahead.

We will stay closely connected with you and update you regularly about the continued work of CJP's IEF. And most importantly, we will continue to pray together for the safety for our Israeli brothers and sisters.

*Am Yisrael Chai,*



Laurene Sperling and Brad Bloom  
*Chairs, Israel Emergency Fund Task Force*



Sarah Abramson, Ph.D.  
*Executive Vice President, Strategy and Impact*



Marc Baker  
*President and CEO*



## CJP Israel Emergency Fund Task Force

### MEMBERS AND STAFF



The IEF Task Force is the decision-making body for grants allocated from CJP's IEF. The Task Force is chaired by CJP Board member emeritus and former Board Chair, Brad Bloom, and CJP's current Board Chair, Laurene Sperling, and staffed by Dr. Sarah Abramson, CJP's Executive Vice President, Strategy and Impact, and her team.

The IEF Task Force is comprised of 11 volunteer members invited to join in recognition of their:

- Significant experience with grant-making in Israel either as individual philanthropists or leaders of private foundations with professional staff in Israel
- Comprehensive understanding of CJP and how we work and leadership experience
- Subject matter expertise related to Israel and/or crisis response

#### *Task Force Chairs*

Bradley Bloom  
Laurene Sperling

#### *Task Force members*

Izhar Armony  
Rachel Chafetz  
Adam Eisenberg  
Catharyn Gildesgame  
Joanna Jacobson  
Beth Klarman  
Jessica R. Myers  
Dena Rashes  
Lisa Wallack

#### *CJP professional staff*

Dr. Sarah Abramson, *Executive Vice President, CJP Strategy and Impact*

Noam Bentov, *Associate Vice President, CJP Israel and Global Jewry*

Rachel Levin, *Director, CJP Strategy and Impact*

Ariel Libhaber, *Senior Director, CJP Israel and Global Jewry*

Hadas Peles, *consultant*

# Executive summary: CJP's Israel Emergency Fund

**Overview:** Just 24 hours after the 10/7 attacks, CJP launched the Israel Emergency Fund (IEF) to support victims of terror and address the unprecedented levels of trauma caused by the horrific attack. Formed quickly to meet the extraordinary need, the IEF launched to help Israel in the immediate aftermath of the brutal attacks and to begin to help the country and its people heal and rebuild. Given the chaotic nature of those first few days and how little we knew of what was yet to unfold, the initial parameters of the fund were broad. Since then, the Task Force has regularly evaluated our work to ensure we are aligning with the original intent of the Fund as described to supporters.

Donations ranging from \$1 to \$5M began to fill the Fund, and the majority of the Fund was raised within the first 10 days of the war. CJP professionals began to build the infrastructure necessary to deploy 100% of the funds to Israeli nonprofits, recruiting 11 voting members of the Task Force co-chaired by CJP Board Emeritus, Brad Bloom, and CJP Board Chair, Laurene Sperling, who would help CJP Strategy and Impact staff prioritize grant requests and formally vote on emergency grants.

The \$38.71M of the emergency funds deployed at the discretion of the Task Force to date have been done through three distinct phases, intake of 400+ inquiries to the CJP's Israel Emergency Fund Grant Pool, and deep collaboration of professional staff, Boston-based lay volunteers, and existing and new partners on the ground. With the addition of \$1.8M in designated grants using CJP IEF as the philanthropic vehicle, the **total deployed by the Fund is \$40.51M to date.\***

*\*In some cases, grants detailed in this report may have been disbursed via a fiscal sponsor.*

## Three phases of emergency grant-making:

The Task Force has made emergency grants in three distinct phases.

**Phase I** (October–December) prioritized responsive and immediate grant-making.

**Phase II** (January–May) prioritized responsive grant-making plus four focused priority funding areas.

**Phase III** (June–present) prioritized responsive grant-making, the four focused priority areas, and large scale investments in organizations and systems that can absorb and deploy funding to help Israelis rebuild emotionally and physically.

## Israel Emergency Fund

BY THE NUMBERS

Total of \$59 million+ raised by 6,700 unique donors

Deployed to date: **\$40.51 million\***  
through **51 unique partners** and **72 grants.**



Phase I grants:  
October–December 2023



Phase II grants:  
January–May 2024



Phase III grants:  
June 2024–present



**Evolving our guiding criteria for funding:** At launch, the Task Force was primarily concerned with speed of grant-making and rapid deployment of resources to vetted projects, funding across many work areas. Determined in January 2024 and informed by a series of visits to Israel that month, the IEF Task Force decided to narrow its grant-making to four categories: mental health support, economic relief, community-specific rehabilitation, and support for the most vulnerable populations. As war dynamics and needs on the ground shift, the Task Force meets to update its guiding criteria for funding.



**Intake, assessments, and affirmations of grant requests:** Grant requests are made through a formal application to CJP's Emergency Grant pool, by referral, and by the Task Force's sourcing. CJP staff record applications immediately and read all intake written materials. Given ongoing prioritization and shifts of needs in Israel, CJP staff either advance the application to the assessment phase, which includes a vetting call with leadership of the requesting organization, or leave the application open for future consideration. The project is scored for its impact, urgency, and feasibility using a weighted rubric. Requests with a staff recommendation to fund are delivered to the Task Force for consideration and voting. In order to affirm the grant, it must be supported by a two-thirds majority of Task Force members.



**Existing and new partnerships, future work in Israel:** Prior to this crisis, CJP's typical support for Israel and Global Jewry work is \$4M in annual grant-making. However, CJP's IEF has, thus far, granted 10 times that figure to 51 partners — many of whom are new to us, or new entities entirely, and with whom we are working in many innovative ways. CJP is undergoing a deep visioning exercise with its Board leadership to determine important opportunities for what our future work in Israel could and should look like, especially as the country will undergo a period of recovery and rebuilding in which philanthropy will continue to play a critical role.

\*This total represents \$38.71M of emergency grants made at the discretion of the Task Force and an additional \$1.8M direct designations as of September 11, 2024.

# Phase one: Rapid deployment of humanitarian aid

Deployed:  
**\$19,035,000**  
from October–  
December 2023

## Responsive grant-making: impact, feasibility, urgency

Requests to IEF were made to our grant pool immediately and at a significant volume. We made the decision to prioritize funding for delivery of humanitarian aid and basic needs like food, shelter, and supplies most needed by evacuees and frontline organizations, and we made our first grants to our sister city of Haifa. In addition, we prioritized volunteer mobilization efforts that facilitated these supplies and services to victims of the war. Finally, we understood that nearly 250,000 evacuees across Israel's North and South were displaced all over the country, so we resolved to pilot solutions for communities torn apart.

We built a rapid assessment process to vet incoming grant requests, relying on a weighted rubric developed in partnership with Israeli Harvard graduate student volunteers who measured more than 20 variables in the categories of project impact, feasibility, and urgency. Each grant request received a scorecard to help uniformly prioritize and elevate funding recommendations.

We were especially concerned with filling funding gaps for projects related to communities in Israel's periphery (projects related to what's referred to as *Shared Society*). And importantly, we began making grants to the Boston-Haifa Connection Office to support urgent needs of our sister city, Haifa.

Finally, in this first phase, we deployed a series of seven grants to JFNA totalling \$13.25M in support of their emergency allocation strategy. JFNA partnered with McKinsey & Company's Israel office to rapidly produce a landscape analysis of the ecosystem of interventions and solutions to needs exacerbated by the events of October 7 and ensuing war. Thus far, JFNA has made 300+ crucial emergency grants supporting victims of the war and toward Israel's recovery.



## Phase one grant spotlight: CJP's Kibbutz Re'im relocation project

**\$1,000,000 emergency grant**  
Key partners: CJP, The Viola Group, The Israeli Business Alliance

With this funding, CJP supported the relocation of the 430 surviving members of Kibbutz Re'im, a community located next to the site of the Nova Festival attacked on October 7. The relocation took members displaced from various evacuation sites and hotels into twin high rise towers in Tel Aviv. The funding allows the community to stay intact and housed in these "vertical kibbutzim" for 18 months, keeping Kibbutz Re'im members together during this crisis, and ultimately facilitating their return home once it is safe. The funding also provides for on-site kindergartens and educators, on-site therapies and mental health support programs, and other needs to help support them.

The Kibbutz Re'im pilot became the model for a broader, multi-partner effort to keep relocated communities from the South together in safer parts of Israel while their home communities are rebuilt by the Israeli government. Through a \$3M grant to Project Horizon, CJP and partners replicated this model of support to eight of the most highly impacted Kibbutzim alongside the Gaza envelope.

## Key grant partners

**Guy Pross of the Viola Group**, an Israeli-based tech investment firm, connected to CJP staff upon learning of our IEF through an introduction by **CJP volunteers**. Guy pitched Task Force members the innovative idea of funding two high rise towers that were shortly due to come onto the Tel Aviv housing market to house Kibbutz Re'im members instead and help begin their rehabilitation. Guy Pross represents the 150 members of the **Israeli Business Alliance** who paused their professional work and lent their personal expertise and resources to work closely with impacted communities.

## Phase one Israel Emergency Fund grants made October–December 2023

**Deployed: \$19,035,000**

Supporting volunteer mobilization efforts and delivering immediate humanitarian aid, such as shelter, food, and critical basic supplies, especially to communities evacuated from the South and to individuals on the front lines; piloting projects that keep evacuated communities together.

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
Kibbutz Re'im	Temporary housing in Tel Aviv for 430 surviving kibbutz members, along with essential items (clothing and furniture), a communal space, psychological support for survivors of the attack, support for Re'im children as they integrate into Tel Aviv schools, and funding to help create a kibbutz business recovery plan for their return home.	Community-specific rehabilitation	<b>\$1 million</b>
Brothers for Life	Funding that supported Brothers for Life's early war efforts to deploy teams to hospitals to conduct thousands of meetings with injured soldiers, assessing each soldier's immediate needs, customizing medical support for severely injured soldiers, and providing critical mental health support for their short- and long-term recovery in addition to financial aid needed for their recovery.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$550,000</b>
Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI)	Through their Small Business Emergency Grants and SparkIL, JAFI is providing aid for businesses in Israel's South that have experienced destruction or complete/partial disruption.	Economic relief	<b>\$500,000</b>
Brothers and Sisters for Israel	This grant supported Brothers and Sisters for Israel's early volunteer mobilization efforts to deliver support to evacuated families, including medical supplies, clothing, food, shelter, and trauma therapy.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$450,000</b>
The Boston-Haifa Connection Office	Funded urgent needs in CJP's sister city, Haifa, at the beginning of the crisis, including educational activities and child care for children of vulnerable populations, reinforcement of bomb shelters in underprivileged neighborhoods, and the absorption of internally displaced families and evacuees from the North.	All four funding categories	<b>\$325,000</b>
Givat Haviva	Provided housing and basic supplies for 260 evacuees from Ashkelon on its campus, located between Haifa and Tel Aviv.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$315,000</b>
HaGal Sheli	HaGal Sheli utilizes surfing as an empowering educational tool to teach at-risk youth. In the immediate aftermath of the October 7 attacks, HaGal Sheli initiated an emergency plan to help Israeli youth navigate their complex emotions and experiences through clinician-built therapy programs using surfing and deployed their programs to evacuees.	Mental health support	<b>\$300,000</b>
Civil Emergency Headquarters	Civil Emergency Headquarters emerged as the largest volunteer organization in Israel at the start of the war. Civilian volunteers evacuated hundreds of residents from the conflict area, connected thousands of families with suitable hosts, and collected and distributed thousands of boxes of basic supplies and food for IDF soldiers and displaced residents.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$250,000</b>

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
The Jerusalem Civilian Command Center	The JCCC was established on the afternoon of October 7 to address Israel's urgent civilian and military requirements. In the first three months of war, the JCCC successfully mobilized more than 4,000 dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly in shifts around the clock to fulfill time-sensitive humanitarian needs.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$250,000</b>
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)	This grant supported JDC's efforts to train frontline social workers, teachers, caregivers, and medical professionals providing trauma relief in Southern Israel; supported operations of its emergency programs for vulnerable populations in Southern Israel, including seniors and disabled citizens who have been relocated; and provided emergency financial support to small businesses and municipalities in Southern Israel.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$250,000</b>
ICON	ICON delivered vital supplies from the United States, including thermal clothing, medical supplies, and generators. These supplies were distributed to reservists, engineers, and affected towns and kibbutzim, in coordination with Israeli authorities on the ground.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$250,000</b>
Lev Echad	Lev Echad operated a Central Emergency Response Center Network in Israel, with more than 20 emergency centers providing 24-hour support throughout the country to 25,000 civilians and reservists immediately impacted by the events of 10/7 and in need of basic supplies, shelter, and medical assistance.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$200,000</b>
The Israel Association of Community Centers	A grant that supported women and children in the 17 Druze villages in Northern Israel with resiliency programs and delivery of basic supplies. Many Druze community members have been called for reserve duty in the IDF, leaving behind single-parent families facing challenging circumstances.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$150,000</b>
Co-Impact	Co-Impact launched an emergency organizational resilience strategy to guide companies and professionals to maintain direct and open communication, trust, reciprocity, partnership, solidarity, and cohesion through emergency training between Arab and Jewish employees to ease workplace tensions.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$130,000</b>
Dror Israel	This grant supported Dror Israel's operation of 14 centers that provided daycare and informal education programs for evacuees from communities along the Gaza Strip.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$100,000</b>
ImpactIsrael	Needham-based ImpactIsrael is the North American philanthropic partner of Yemin Orde based just south of Haifa. Yemin Orde is home to 400+ at-risk and immigrant youth from around the world, and the grant fortified its bomb shelters and protective zones, as well as provided on-site support programming for this community.	Community-specific rehabilitation	<b>\$100,000</b>
Itach Ma'aki	In response to the crisis, Itach Ma'aki purchased and delivered basic supplies and food baskets (with an emphasis on needs for babies, such as diapers and formula) to families in unrecognized Bedouin villages in the Negev. The grant also supported rapid deployment of therapists to help support residents in crisis.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	<b>\$100,000</b>

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
Kfar Izun	Following the October 7 attacks, Kfar Izun swiftly mobilized to extend its well-reputed PTSD emergency mental health treatment to more than 2,000 survivors of the Nova Music Festival.	Mental health support	\$100,000
Nefesh B’Nefesh	Nefesh B’Nefesh offers mental health support, housing, and other basic needs to lone soldiers fighting and/or called for active duty in the current conflict. This grant supported their emergency response plan, including coordinating the arrival and acclimation of foreign volunteer physicians to strengthen Israel’s healthcare system.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$80,000
Educating for Excellence (E4E)	This grant supported E4E’s emergency Educational Excellence Program Centers to provide youth with access to social workers and mental health support, trauma counseling for staff and parents, and online programming for kids who are homebound due to constant rocket attacks.	Mental health support	\$50,000
ERAN	ERAN provides life-saving emotional first-aid services, offering initial response and emotional support on the phone and online, while maintaining strict confidentiality and anonymity. The grant supported their operational scaling in response to the war.	Mental health support	\$50,000
Israeli American Council of New England	IAC New England mobilized hundreds of volunteers to donate, pack, and sort supplies, such as clothing, toiletries, and medical items for Israelis. CJP’s grant supported shipping costs of these materials.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$50,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Israel	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Israel provided tablets and laptops to 68 at-risk families in the welfare system, each with up to four children, to support students in their remote learning at the start of the war.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$50,000
The Tzedek Centers	The Tzedek Centers quickly mobilized to provide an informal educational framework for evacuated communities from the Gaza Envelope. Funding also allowed The Tzedek Centers to deliver mental health and relocation services for direct victims and evacuees.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$50,000
Machshava Tova	Provided evacuees from Sderot in three Jerusalem hotels technology labs where children and family can access technology equipment to support their education and day-to-day needs. CJP’s grant funded computer purchases, projectors, and other equipment to provide 60 children with ongoing educational sessions. The equipment was later donated to the Sderot school system when the community returned.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$40,000
Tishreen	Tishreen is a nonprofit civil society organization that aims to achieve social change in the Triangle Region of Israel, which is home to about 300,000 Arab citizens of Israel. With the funding, Tishreen mobilized a volunteer team in the community and schools to create educational activities, which served 250 young Arab men and women for three months as they processed and coped with their emotions and tensions of the war.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$40,000

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
B’shvil Hamachar	B’shvil Hamachar runs early intervention PTSD-mitigating programs for combat reservists in a peer-to-peer setting that helps combat units recover from their experiences in war. This grant delivered 200+ Zoom therapy sessions to spouses and parents of combat reservists on the front lines in Gaza to help cope with the stress of war deployment.	Mental health support	\$25,000
Dualis	This grant supported Dualis’ Essential Jobs Campaign, which leveraged its network of 60 affiliated companies to place young people who experienced job loss in the first few months of war in employment and provided evacuees from Southern Israel with employment opportunities.	Economic relief	\$25,000
JFNA	JFNA’s staff on the ground, led by Israel office Director General Becky Caspi, have made 300+ crucial grants on behalf of our community and we relied on their outstanding landscaping and project sourcing to fill many early needs in Israel. We chose to partner with JFNA in this way because they are one of the most well-positioned bodies in Israel to respond in crisis, activating longtime and new partners with rapid allocations. We made seven large grants to JFNA in support of their emergency strategy during this phase.	All four funding categories	\$13.25 million

# Phase two: Four funding categories

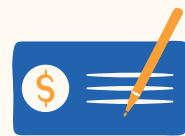


Deployed:  
**\$9,096,000** from  
January–May 2024

In January 2024, senior members of CJP's Strategy and Impact staff traveled to Israel to hold in-person conversations with victims of the war, government partners, federation counterparts, grantees, and potential grantees. Learnings from these meetings and subsequent conversations affirmed that, for the most part, volunteer mobilization efforts had fulfilled their role in the war response and that IEF's emergency philanthropy should narrow to support the following needs:



**Mental health and trauma support delivery**



**Economic relief**



**Community-specific rehabilitation**



**Supporting the most vulnerable populations**

In Phase two, the Task Force removed volunteer mobilization efforts from its definition of support for the most vulnerable populations and more narrowly defined this category toward funding for people most acutely affected by 10/7: evacuated communities in the North and South; soldiers and reservists (and their families); children who have lost one or more parents in the war; school-aged children; farmers; and hostages and their families.

IEF also made a large grant (its third for a total of \$825,000) to The Boston-Haifa Connection Office to maximize their ability to respond to Haifa's most urgent local needs and continue to report back to Boston around the escalations in the North and their consequences on people in that region.



## Phase two grant spotlight: The Hostages and Missing Families Forum

**\$1.63M** through three emergency grants

The Hostages and Missing Families Forum is the lifeline service organization for 240 families representing nearly 1,000 individuals who have been affected by the Hamas kidnappings of October 7.

The Forum received an in-kind donation of a building near Hostage Square (provided by Israeli cybersecurity tech giant Checkpoint) for the next year and a half. This building is serving as the heartbeat and point of connection for these families, many of whom are recovering from the news of their family member's death, learning to cope with their kidnapped individual's return to Israel and all that it means, or using the building and support structures the Forum is providing as a safe space while they await the return of their loved ones. Families eat at the Forum daily, spend their days in office space fielding media requests, meeting with psychologists, and being in community with others. Wix, the Israeli website tech company, provides their lunch daily, but the Forum provides breakfast and dinner. Nearly 100% of these family members are out of jobs and depend on the Forum's financial assistance program to pay for mortgages, car payments, food, and other needs. They are not doing well — but they are together and supported.



IEF's grants support two pillars of the Forum's work: direct financial aid to first-, second-, and third-circle family members and psychological support services for the families. This grant explicitly does not support the Forum's third pillar, which is advocacy work and beyond the parameters for IEF grants. As of the writing of this report, 101 hostages remain captive in Gaza and we pray for their return.



**Grant 1: \$750,000 deployed April 2024**

**Grant 2: \$129,000 deployed June 2024**

**Grant 3: \$750,000 deployed September 2024**



## Phase two: Israel Emergency Fund grants made January–May 2024

### Deployed: \$9,096,000

Prioritizing and/or scaling community-specific rehabilitation efforts that aim to keep communities together while they await return to their hometowns; mitigating the war’s impact on the Israeli economy; continued responsive grants to the most vulnerable populations; expanding geographic focus from mostly in the South to include funding for the North.

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
Project Horizon	A grant to scale CJP’s Kibbutz Re’im community relocation pilot, which will keep eight additional communities relocated together and fund resiliency programs prioritized by the communities themselves once they are safe to return home. The grant supports 10,000 evacuees from eight communities, in addition to Kibbutz Re’im, identified by the Israeli government as the most deeply impacted. This grant supports interim housing costs related to full group relocation, mental health support, community resilience social services, informal educational programs, and employment solutions — all tailored for the critical recovery period ahead.	Community-specific rehabilitation	\$3 million
JFNA’s Israel Emergency Loan Fund	The Israel Emergency Loan Fund is a centralized fund for five platforms that originate loans, at no or low interest rates, to support the needs of thousands of small businesses across Israel.	Economic relief	\$2 million
The Hostages and Missing Families Forum	The Hostages and Missing Families Forum is the lifeline service organization delivering support to the 240 families— approximately 1,000 individuals — impacted by the October 7 Hamas kidnappings. CJP’s grant is designated to support psychological services, direct financial aid, and subsidize delegation travel for Forum families who travel all over the world to keep the story of the hostages alive in the media, aiming for their safe return.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$750,000
The Boston-Haifa Connection Office	There are many needs in Haifa, CJP’s sister city, including for educational activities and childcare for children of vulnerable populations, reinforcement of bomb shelters in underprivileged neighborhoods, and the absorption of internally displaced families and evacuees from the South and the North.	Community-specific rehabilitation	\$500,000
Homeward/Habaita	Homeward is seeking to accelerate and leverage improvements to Israel’s education system as a tool to facilitate the return of displaced people to their home communities. CJP’s grant funded a summer school program for 10,000 students in grades four through 12 that took place in the Western Negev in July and August 2024. Providing this service during the summer was crucial for returning families to the region ahead of the 2024–2025 academic year.	Community-specific rehabilitation; facilitating return home	\$500,000
B’svhill Hamachar	B’svhill Hamachar runs early intervention PTSD-mitigating programs for combat reservists, in a peer-to-peer setting that helps combat units recover from war. This grant delivered therapy to nearly 400 reservist soldiers who faced the most extreme scenarios of war on three-day programs with psychologists upon their exit from battle during the Gaza war.	Mental health support	\$300,000
The Upper Galilee Regional Council	The Upper Galilee Regional Council has about 22,000 residents from 29 kibbutzim. This grant helped the 120 Kibbutz Menara residents — the community closest to Lebanon and the attacks from Hezbollah in the North — to relocate to Kibbutz Gadot in a safer part of the Upper Galilee. This surge funding for the receiving Kibbutz Gadot provided expanded programming, housing, and services to its newly absorbed residents.	Community-specific rehabilitation	\$300,000
Dror Israel	Dror Israel operated informal educational programming for children and youth across Israel. This funding was designated to bolster staff and program delivery to 2,500 youth evacuees in the North through 2024.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$250,000

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
HaShomer HaChadash	HaShomer HaChadash has been working to meet the labor shortage challenges that Israeli farmers are facing through its Food Rescue Operation project. Produce that is not harvested rots and, at scale, can have a significant impact on food security in Israel. This grant supports HaShomer HaChadash’s volunteer mobilization system to allow farmers who need manpower on their farms access to volunteers who help harvest crops.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$250,000
The Association for the Elderly of Eshkol Region	This organization is the central lifeline services organization for Elderly of Eshkol in Israel’s South. The association is meeting 1,000+ of the elderly in their newly displaced locations to continue to provide the social services, mental and medical services (including medicines, immunizations, and therapies), and social activities to help the elderly recover. CJP’s grant covers these needs and the organization’s 2024 action plan for mediating the evacuees’ return home to Eshkol.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$200,000
Momentum	Momentum’s Thank Israeli Soldiers program is screening soldiers for PTSD and helping them reintegrate into society through three-day healing programs upon exiting combat zones in Gaza.	Mental health support	\$200,000
The Equalizer	The Equalizer supports children ages 8–17 in after-school programs within marginalized communities using sports as a tool for education, equality, leadership development, and strengthening social cohesion. The grant supported sports programs for displaced children at hotels and continued services to these groups upon their return home.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$192,000
Code for Israel	Code for Israel activated upward of 400 volunteer coders to help Israeli nonprofits responding to the crisis through “First Aid Projects” that enabled nonprofits to scale up their technical infrastructure to deliver their emergency priority services to their constituencies. CJP’s grant funded 30 war response projects.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$150,000
Latet Youth	CJP’s grant funded 10 youth groups for one year in the North. Youth groups act as dedicated community volunteers delivering basic supplies and executing community projects. Youth also participate in education, leadership, and resiliency programs.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$150,000
ImpactIsrael	CJP’s grant enables ImpactIsrael to deliver its Village Way Educational Initiative programs to 14 high schools in the North that have absorbed at-risk youth evacuees through 2024.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$129,000
The Dvora Institute	The Dvora Institute established a response mission of international experts to address crimes committed against women and children on October 7. CJP’s grant funded costs related to documenting these atrocities, producing testimonials, and advocacy efforts in public forums and in front of international bodies like the United Nations and The Hague.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$100,000
Bring Hersh Home	Led by the parents of Hersh Goldberg-Polin, a hostage in Gaza for 332 days, the Bring Hersh Home Campaign effort has elevated the case of the hostages and garnered support and solidarity from millions of people across the world. CJP’s grant funded the Bring Hersh Home Campaign’s work for four months of its 330+ days in operation. Hersh Goldberg-Polin was murdered by Hamas terrorists in late August, 2024. May his memory be a blessing.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$75,000
Hamaniot	Hamaniot (Sunflowers) is an Israeli organization that provides psychological support for orphans. Alongside professionals in psychology and social care, Sunflowers developed a first-of-its-kind treatment model focused on minimizing risk factors among young orphans while helping them process the trauma of losing one or both parents. CJP’s grant funded the opening of a Hamaniot service center in Ofakim, where 40 children are supported.	Mental health support, Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$50,000

# Phase three: Updated funding guidelines for large investments

## Deployed: \$10,579,000 from June 2024–present

With roughly \$25M emergency funds remaining at the discretion of the Task Force in June 2024, and building on the Phase one and Phase two learnings, IEF articulated new guidelines based on the features of emergency grants deemed to have the most (direct or indirect) impact on victims of war. The Task Force compiled and adopted a list for its evaluation of requests for large investments that intend to make longer-term and systemwide impact, including:



**Size of grant and number of people impacted:** impacting large numbers of people (usually hundreds or thousands or more).



**Scale and scope of grant:** ability to generate substantive and measurable impact for communities or individuals over an extended period.



**Strong partnership:** choosing strong, innovative partners who build coalitions to tackle projects collaboratively.



**Level of need:** Interventions provide direct support to people with acute levels of need such as evacuees, soldiers, small business owners, victims of terror, etc. Acute needs can shift over time and need not be exclusively related to the events of October 7 but can include the reverberations from that day (e.g., long-term mental health).



**Facilitating return home:** prioritized consideration for projects that meet an acute need and strategically facilitate return home to Israel's North and South when safe.



### Phase three grant spotlight: HaGal Sheli

\$1.8M through two emergency grants

In its regular operations, HaGal Sheli uses surfing as an empowering educational tool to teach at-risk youth how to overcome life's challenges through determination and persistence. The peer-model, clinician-built program includes sessions led by educators, professional psychologists, and social workers. Since October 7, HaGal Sheli deployed its model to thousands of victims of the war, including evacuees from the North and the South, soldiers and reservists, Nova Festival survivors, and family members of hostages who suffered acutely in the Hamas attacks or thereafter.

#### Phase one grant \$300,000

A grant to support HaGal Sheli's efforts to deliver its emergency program to displaced young adults from the South and to add additional equipment and staff to 10 centers throughout Israel to meet this new volume of need.

#### Phase three grant \$1,500,000

Funding to absorb 2,250 additional participants, who are members of vulnerable communities impacted by the war, including 800 soldiers, evacuees, Nova Festival survivors, and at-risk youth whose lives have been heavily disrupted.

The grant also expands HaGal Sheli's smaller centers in Hof Ashkelon and Ashkelon as the centers prepare for the timely return of these evacuated communities to the South.

The grant will support HaGal Sheli's 2024–2026 operations and unlocks a one-to-one matching grant from Israel's Ministry of Welfare, furthering the impact of HaGal Sheli's groundbreaking work.

## Phase three: Israel Emergency Fund grants made June 2024–present

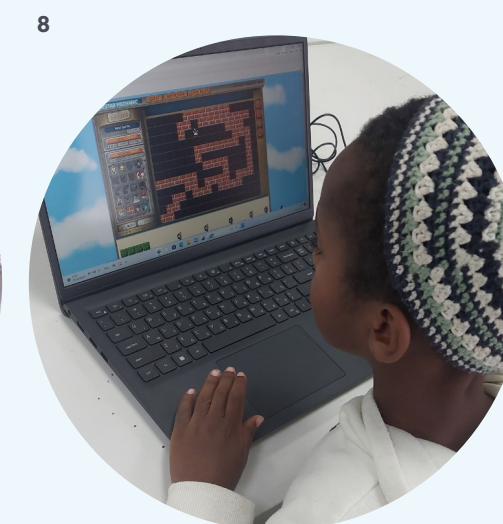
### Deployed: \$10,579,000

Of the \$25M remaining in the Fund at the start of Phase three, the Task Force earmarked up to \$5M of the remaining Fund for responsive relief grants. The Task Force earmarked \$20M of the Fund to support strategic investments that aim to make lasting, systematic change in response to the devastation of the war, following guiding criteria including: size of grant and number of people impacted, scale and scope of grant, facilitating communal return home, and level of need, among others.

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
B'shvil Hamachar	Funding 10-day intensive therapy programs for 375 combat reservists who have been deployed for hundreds of days — experiencing the harshest war conditions — and have been away from their families as they attempt to transition back to civilian life. The grant also pilots an expanded therapy program to individuals who have suffered the most acute PTSD for continued mental health support for them and their families. Finally, the funding expands B'shvil's professional staff to include five additional clinicians, 90 facilitators, and a field researcher to meet the enormous mental health needs of Gaza war reservists.	Mental health support	\$2 million
HaGal Sheli	A grant to add 2,250 additional participants into HaGal Sheli's clinician-led, peer-to-peer therapy model which uses surfing as a tool to cope with mental health challenges. All new participants are members of vulnerable communities impacted by the war, including 800 soldiers, evacuees, Nova Festival survivors, and at-risk youth. The grant also expands their smaller centers in Hof Ashkelon and Ashkelon to prepare for the timely return of these evacuated communities. The grant will support HaGal Sheli's 2024–2026 operations and unlocks a one-to-one matching grant from Israel's Ministry of Welfare, furthering the impact of HaGal Sheli's work.	Mental health support	\$1.5 million
Homeward/ Habaita	Funding to enable Habaita's execution of its "mid-term" plan for the North, which primarily focuses on bringing human capital to the region. The grant will support educators and school counselors who commit to moving to safer parts of the North in time for the 2024–2025 academic year. Key components of the mid-term plan provides training and professional developments to teachers from a slate of field organizational partners; an innovative learning environment where an infusion of counselor support is available in classrooms providing surge support to teachers in the most difficult dynamics, teaching through war; and scholarships for innovation in teaching will be used to support 50–100 teachers in Habaita's pipeline for incoming educators.	Community-specific rehabilitation; <i>facilitating return home</i>	\$1 million

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
The Israeli Children's Fund	There are 414 Israeli children from 199 families that have lost at least one parent as a result of this war — and the number is growing as the war continues. Of these victims, 82% lost their home's primary source of income. The Israeli Children's Fund is embracing orphans and their surviving family members with resiliency grants timed to life's key milestones, fostering security and stability as they transition into adulthood. ICF offers three types of grants to its vulnerable populations and disperses this support on an ongoing basis: (1) Life cycle grants, (2) formal and non-formal education grants, and (3) resilience and comeback grants. An experienced grants committee manages fund distribution, collaborating with government agencies and nonprofits for comprehensive support.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$1 million
JDC's National Mental Health Initiative	The war in Israel has highlighted inadequacies in Israel's mental health system, including the lack of proactive detection for mental distress, the narrow range of treatment options with emphasis on individual therapy, and a lack of quality standards for mental health interventions. In response, JDC is implementing a national initiative to transform the overarching mental health care system to ensure that every person who needs mental health care will have access to it for the long term. CJP's funding supports the build of a national mental health needs dashboard, technological solutions, and operational staff to help scale the reach of the initiative.	Mental health support	\$1 million
The Upper Galilee Regional Council	A grant funding protective zones, including bomb shelters and safe rooms, at eight strategic school sites serving kindergarten students in the Upper Galilee Regional Council, timed for the September 1 launch of the 2024–2025 academic year. The successful opening of schools on September 1, including upgraded security for the most vulnerable children attending these institutions, is seen as a significant milestone for Israelis considering staying in the region and for the long-term health of the region by keeping communities together and safely functioning.	Community-specific rehabilitation; <i>facilitating return home</i>	\$1 million
The Hostages and Missing Families Forum	The Hostages and Missing Families Forum is the lifeline service organization delivering support to the 240 families — approximately 1,000 individuals — impacted by the October 7 Hamas kidnappings. CJP's grant is designated to support psychological services, direct financial aid, and subsidizing delegation travel for Forum families who travel all over the world to keep the story of the hostages alive in the media, aiming for their safe return.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$750,000
Brothers for Life	A responsive grant to continue providing critical, immediate medical and mental health support to injured Israeli combat veterans.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$500,000
The Tribe of Nova Foundation	Funding Tribe of Nova Foundation's three-year strategy for operations and programs at Beit Nova, a new, permanent, center for service, programming, and commemoration for victims and the community of survivors of Nova Festival attendees. The Tribe of Nova Foundation is providing survivors soft mental health support, resiliency programming, and employment and benefit support as they navigate next steps of their healing and recovery.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$500,000

Organization	Impact	Purpose	Grant awarded
Enosh	CJP's grant will help to establish an Enosh Mental Health Unit in the Kraiyot (North) to serve 200–400 children and young adults experiencing a mental health crisis. Services include short-term and long-term programs for therapy, psychiatric consultations and support, parental guidance, and group support. The geographic location of the Kraiyot is important as it is host to evacuated populations from the North.	Mental health support	\$300,000
Osim Shechuna	Funding to expand Osim Shechuna to three communities in the North; Osim Shechuna's presence and activities cultivate positive local leadership, decrease crime in vulnerable neighborhoods, and restore a sense of personal safety in vulnerable neighborhoods. The grassroots model enables activists to identify the basic needs of their neighborhood and assume leadership positions to assure implementation of programs and activities for the benefit of the entire community.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$300,000
ELI	ELI is Israel's Association for Child Protection. CJP's grant will allow ELI to deploy 50 training courses for 750 participating trauma therapists to train on ELI's best practice therapies for children in crisis so therapists can be equipped to support this under-resourced population (ages 3–10) in evacuee communities.	Mental health support	\$250,000
The Israel Association for Community Centers	A crisis response grant to the four Druze villages from which 12 children were murdered by Hezbollah rockets in early August 2024. The grant supported rapid deployment of Arabic-speaking therapists to the villages to facilitate group therapy workshops geared toward processing grief. In addition, the grant provided community respite days with age-appropriate activities for children in the villages.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$150,000
Ofakim LeAtid	The deadly rocket attack on Majdal Shams killed 12 children from Druze villages in Israel's North (August 2024). The communities are under-protected against physical threats incoming from rocket attacks. CJP's funding supported the rapid deployment of bomb shelters to Druze communities following the attack and with other partners, provided for bomb shelters in 45 prioritized Druze neighborhoods in the North.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$150,000
The Hostages and Missing Families Forum	This grant enabled 30 Forum teenagers, including a released hostage and those whose family members are still held in captivity in Gaza, to attend Camp Kimama Halfmoon. This two-week Israeli American summer camp in the Berkshires was designed to support the immediate relief, emotional healing, and social resilience of the participants.	Support for the most vulnerable populations	\$129,000
Sahar	Funding a three-month program to absorb and train 35 new Arabic and Hebrew-speaking volunteers on Sahar's lifesaving, suicide-prevention methodology. Sahar is a digital-forward organization that partners with Israeli social media websites, utilizing AI tools to monitor social posts for crisis messages. People in crisis are then escalated to volunteers who mitigate the crisis point and connect the person to in-community resources.	Mental health support	\$50,000



1. Brothers for Life  
4. Kibbutz Re'im  
7. B'shvil Hamachar

2. Givat Haviva  
5. The Hostages and Missing Families Forum  
8. Machshava Tova

3. HaGal Sheli  
6. The Upper Galilee Regional Council  
9. Homeward/Habaita

# Emergency grants in mental health

In almost every conversation the IEF Task Force holds with people in Israel, and even when mental health is not central to a proposal or presentation, we hear a collective worry for the trauma vulnerable groups have experienced and the depression and anxiety of all impacted Israelis. This has left our Task Force feeling that no Israel emergency fund can overinvest in thoughtful soft- and hard- support that equips Israelis with the tools they need to feel better and to make them feel most whole. Our IEF grants in this category are changing lives.

## Grant spotlight: B’shvil Hamachar \$2,325,000 through three emergency grants



B’shvil Hamachar mitigates the onset of PTSD in Israeli combat reservists returning from war. The Israeli Defense Force estimates that 95,000 active duty soldiers and reservists will require mental health support and therapy delivery to process their traumatic experiences of war in Gaza and the Northern Front. B’shvil runs early intervention therapy programs in a peer-to-peer nature setting that help combat units recover from their time of duty. The “journeys” are led by clinicians who, over this 10-day experience and a slate of follow-up programming, take full combat units through

narrative building and coping strategies that unpack the unimaginable experience they’ve had in combat and help them return to civilian life.

According to Dr. Glenn Cohen, a B’shvil volunteer clinician and former Head of Psychology at the Mossad, the Israeli intelligence agency where he served a total of 15 years, B’shvil’s methodology is the single most important intervention in the available ecosystem of treatment for combat reservists and affectively accelerates their ability to return to their family units and workplaces.

\$25K

**Phase one grant:** \$25,000 grant funding Zoom therapy sessions for spouses of combat reservists deployed for hundreds of days in Gaza.

\$300K

**Phase two grant:** \$300,000 grant that supported group therapy sessions for full combat units immediately upon return from Gaza wherein clinicians adapted B’shvil’s 10-day model in favor of shorter, three-day processing sessions to help identify reservists most vulnerable to early onset PTSD and escalate cases for longer-term treatment.

\$2M

**Phase three grant:** \$2,000,000 grant will enable B’shvil Hamachar to scale and meet the incredible need of reservists of this war from 2024 to 2026 by:

- Treating 375 Reservists through 10-day intensive treatment programs, the equivalent of 3,750 days of intensive treatment
- Providing 4,000 counseling sessions for 400 hand-selected reservists who need deeper treatment
- Extending counseling to the 400 parents, spouses, and/or children of the high-risk reservists
- Expanding their professional staff with five supervising instructors, 90 additional trained facilitators, and a field researcher

# Emergency grants related to community-specific rehabilitation

Community-specific rehabilitation refers to wraparound funding targeted to support a single community. Similar to a sister community adoption model, we hear directly from the affected community and fund their most prioritized needs. In Phase two and three of our grant-making in this category, the Task Force paired a key idea with community-specific rehabilitation: the guiding principle that we should prioritize grants that not only meet acute needs but are also strategically designed to facilitate return home for those displaced.

## Grant spotlight: Homeward/Habaita \$1,500,000 through two emergency grants



Homeward/Habaita is a new entity formed after October 7 that aims to achieve improvements in Israel’s education system in Israel’s North and South to incentivize civilian return to these regions when it is safe to do so. Habaita gathered substantive data on evacuee perspectives as to what must be true for their return to war-affected geographies, which surfaced the hypothesis that excellent education would be a motivating reason for Israelis to move back.

\$500K

**Phase two grant:** This \$500,000 grant funded Homeward/Habaita’s 2024 summer school program in the Western Negev, a pilot program aimed to incentivize the return or bring new populations to the war-impacted region by the beginning of the 2024–2025 academic school year. With 50% (\$3M) funded by Tkuma, the Israeli directorate formed after October 7 and responsible for rebuilding Israel’s South, **this project represented the first philanthropic-government partnership in the South and facilitated summer school programming for 10,000 youth.**

\$1M

**Phase three grant:** This \$1,000,000 large investment supports Homeward/Habaita’s execution of its “mid-term” plan for the North, which primarily focuses on bringing human capital to the region. The grant will support educators and school counselors who commit to moving to safer parts of the North in time for the 2024–2025 academic year. Key components of the mid-term plan provides training and professional developments to teachers from a slate of field organizational partners; an innovative learning environment where an infusion of counselor support is available in classrooms providing surge support to teachers in the most difficult dynamics, teaching through war; and scholarships for innovation in teaching will be used to support 50–100 teachers in Homeward/Habaita’s pipeline for incoming educators.

# Emergency grants for economic relief

The 10/7 attacks have had massive economic impacts: Thousands were forced from their homes, businesses closed nationwide, and families have had to grapple with the loss of income when reserve soldiers are called to duty. In addition to the clear and immediate security, health, safety, and social service needs in Israel, and there is a tremendous secondary economic crisis that is increasingly facing the country. Many people and communities face an uncertain path to recovery. Our IEF has supported emergency loan platforms and employment initiatives that aim to mitigate this crisis. There are particular sectors of the economy, e.g., agriculture, that have been crippled by the targeted, initial attacks in the South and ongoing decimation on the Northern Front.

# Emergency grants supporting the most vulnerable populations

The Task Force defines the most vulnerable populations in Israel as evacuated communities in the North and South in need of humanitarian relief, basic supplies, or resiliency support while they are displaced; peripheral communities in Israel's South and North that have not been evacuated but are underserved or underprotected; children who have lost one or more parents in the war; children who lost significant time in school settings due to war; farmers of Israel from the North and South who were targeted in the initial attacks and whose displacement have had an outsized impact on Israel's economy; and direct victims of the kidnappings or violence of 10/7.

## Grant spotlight: JFNA's Emergency Loan Fund \$2,000,000 through one emergency grant



The impact is most obvious for businesses located in the Gaza border region invaded on October 7 and along the northern confrontation line, but the effect is felt across the country for micro-, small-, and medium-sized businesses, which are particularly at risk given their limited access to liquid capital and the huge disruption in the normal flow of business. It is estimated that tens of thousands of Israeli small businesses will need access to loans now and over the next two years.

This project serves as a critical connection between the philanthropic and private sectors in working together to create an economic relief platform on the scale of at least hundreds of millions of dollars that can reach a meaningful percentage of at-risk businesses. The Israel Emergency Loan Fund is a centralized fund for five platforms that originate loans to support small business survival needs across Israel. It allocates capital to a set of established and professionally run loan platforms (most nonprofit, and some for profit but operating nonprofit models in response to the crisis).



In addition to allocating capital to individual lending platform entities, the loan fund is using its collective scale to drive support from key financial institutions in the country. These include Israel's major banks, credit card companies, and insurance companies, which are institutions that can potentially provide up to 4–5x leverage for the equity of the Loan Fund. The Loan Fund was designed by a group of JFNA volunteer experts including Boston CJP volunteer, Neil Wallack.

## Grant spotlight: support for Druze villages in the North \$450,000 through three emergency grants

CJP's emergency grant-making has supported 17 Druze Villages in Northern Israel, the residents of which are deeply connected to the fate of the State of Israel. In peaceful times, Druze people represent some of the country's best partners for a Shared Society — people working together toward a more equitable Israeli society that addresses the needs of vulnerable populations. The Druze in the North actively serve in combat units in the military and play a vital role in the economic and social fabric of the country.

In this war, many Druze community members have been called for reserve duty in the IDF and other security forces since the war began, leaving behind single-parent families facing challenging circumstances. The communities are typically of low economic status and are underserved by the government, leaving them vulnerable in crisis.

**\$150K**

**Phase one grant: \$150,000 for support of resiliency programs in 17 Druze villages**  
**Key partner: The Israel Association of Community Centers**

CJP's grant funded support programs for spouses and children of Druze reservists and soldiers who are deployed in the Gaza war. The aim is to cultivate and reinforce resiliency for these families — for most families, the deployed spouse is the primary source of income and long deployment has meant loss of income, disruption in local services, and emotional instability. Through a partnership with the Israel Association of Community Centers, the four program elements of the grant include temporary learning centers, equipment like computers and educational materials, workshops for women on coping with stressful situations and parenting in crisis, and enrichment activities and care programs for children and youth.

**\$150K**

**Phase three grant: for rapid deployment of Arabic-speaking therapists to four Druze villages**  
**Key partner: The Israel Association of Community Centers**

IEF deployed a crisis response grant to the four Druze villages from which 12 children were murdered by a Hezbollah rocket attack in early August 2024. The grant supported rapid deployment of Arabic-speaking therapists to facilitate group therapy workshops geared toward processing grief. In addition, the grant provided community respite days with age-appropriate activities for children in the villages.

**\$150K**

**Phase three grant: for rapid-deployed bomb shelters to Druze villages in the North**  
**Key partner: Ofakim LeAtid**

IEF made a crisis response grant which funded the rapid deployment of prefab bomb shelters to 15 Druze neighborhoods after rocket attacks in the area killed 12 children in early August 2024. Partnering with Ofakim LeAtid, an NGO led by young Druze leaders concerned with a brighter future for their communities, CJP participated with partners to support a full plan for 45 rapid-deploy shelters in neighborhoods throughout the North that were deemed "underprotected."



*CJP's mission is to inspire and mobilize the diverse Greater Boston Jewish community to engage in building communities of learning and action that strengthen Jewish life and improve the world.*



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