

THE ACTIVIST

A JCRC Community Newsletter

Regina F. Zelonker, Chair • Carol Brick-Turin, Director • Lori Dearman, Associate

August 2010

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[Click here](#) to view a website that is able to translate this newsletter into your language of choice.

→ From Our JCRC Chair & Director

Educate. Engage. Act.

These words succinctly describe the mission of the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. It is the aspect of **education** that will be a particular focus this year.

Why is this year different from all other years? **We** must be different. **We** must be more educated.

There is an **information war** being waged against the State of Israel on the internet and in the media. In order to fully support Israel, we must now be a **community of individuals** who are **knowledgeable, well-read and informed** about Israel's history, facts, timelines, geography, media reports and statistics.

- We **each** must be able to engage in face-to-face and e-mail communications with friends, family, co-workers and others to correct misinformation, assumptions, stereotypes and media bias.
- We **each** must be able to write letters to the publication editor and bloggers, elected officials and diplomats based on informed, reasoned positions.

We can only persuade others if we are **educated**.

It is the goal of the JCRC to continue to provide the programming and materials that will equip you to become more informed and more involved in **all** the vital issues that affect the Jewish community.

Based on focus groups held throughout the summer with JCRC and community leaders, **in addition to issues relating to Israel**, we will concentrate on:



2010 Election Issues
Anti-Semitism
Genocide Awareness
Government Funding & Relations
Haitian Recovery
Intergroup/Interfaith Outreach
Iran & Sudan Divestment
Security Enhancement

We look forward to working together as a community, and invite you to share your ideas.

Regina & Carol

→ Grassroots and Community-Wide Advocacy Initiatives

Urgent Community Briefing on Israel

More than 700 members of the Jewish community gathered on June 10 at Temple Beth Sholom in Miami Beach to learn about the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident and attempts by numerous groups to transport supplies into the Hamas-controlled region, and to better understand how they can advocate on behalf of Israel. Head-lining the program was an update from Consul General of Israel Ofer Bavly, as well as remarks by Professor Alan Dershowitz, who spoke live from Harvard Law School.

The *Urgent Community Briefing* was presented by the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and its Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), American Jewish Committee (AJC), Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami, together with the Consulate General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico.



Jacob Solomon, Bernd Wollschlaeger, Seth Gadinsky, Andrew Rosenkranz, Regina Zelonker, Carol Brick-Turin, Rabbi Solomon Schiff, Barbara Black Goldfarb, & Consul General Ofer Bavly

→ Working Locally, Acting Globally

JCRC Posts Briefing on May 31 Flotilla Incident in Israel

The JCRC has been monitoring the media and events involving the May 31 flotilla incident. We have provided up-to-date resources for the Jewish community and the public to expose individuals to accurate and objective coverage of this incident in order to advocate on behalf of the State of Israel. [Click here](#) to view the most recent *Special Briefing: Israel*.

Marking 4th Anniversary of Captured IDF Soldier Gilad Shalit

Jews around the world joined the people of Israel in expressing support for abducted IDF soldier Gilad Shalit, captured during a Hamas attack June 25, 2006. Shalit has been denied visits by any humanitarian group since then, including the Red Cross. [Click here](#) to view the article that the JCRC provided for our Greater Miami Jewish Federation's website.

→ Upcoming Elections

Please find a list of seats that are open in the 2010 election cycle. Click on the name of the candidate for more information. The primary elections will occur in Miami-Dade County on August 24, 2010.

United States Senator (FL)

Candidate	Primary	Candidate	Primary
Armstrong, Lewis Jerome (NPA)		Knepper, Howard (WRI)	
Askeland, Sue (NPA)		Kogut, William Billy (REP)	
Bean, Bobbie (NPA)		LaRosa, Carol Ann Joyce (WRI)	
Blass, Piotr (WRI)		Lock, Richard (WRI)	
Burkett, Glenn A. (DEM)		Meek, Kendrick B. (DEM)	
Crist, Charlie (NPA)		Monroe, Robert (WRI)	
DeCastro, Bernie (CPF)	Unopposed	Quarterman-Noah, Belinda Gail (WRI)	
Drake, George (WRI)		Riggs, Bruce Ray (NPA)	
Escoffery III, William (REP)		Rubio, Marco (REP)	
Ferre, Maurice A. (DEM)		Snitker, Alexander Andrew (LIB)	Unopposed
Greene, Jeff (DEM)		Tyler, Rick (NPA)	

United States Representative (Miami-Dade County)

District	Candidate	Primary	District	Candidate	Primary
017	Bastien, Marleine (DEM)		020	Blumenthal, Stanley (NPA)	
	Brutus, Phillip J. (DEM)			Harrington, Karen (REP)	
	Bush III, James (DEM)			Kunst, Robert (NPA)	
	Galvin, Scott (DEM)			Lowry, Robert (REP)	
	Gibson, Shirley (DEM)			Milo, Donna (REP)	
	Moise, Rudolph "Rudy" (DEM)			Schock, Clayton (WRI)	
	Roberson, Yolly (DEM)			Wasserman Schultz, Debbie (DEM)*	Unopposed
	Vereen, Roderick D.		025	Arrojo, Roly	Unopposed

	(NPA)			(TEA)	
	Williams, Andre L. (DEM)			Cancio, Mariana "Marili" (REP)	
	Wilson, Frederica S. (DEM)			Crespo, Paul (REP)	
018	Banciella, Rolando A. (DEM)	Unopposed		Garcia, Joe (DEM)	
	Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana (REP)*	Unopposed		Meurice, Luis (DEM)	

Governor

Candidate	Primary	Candidate	Primary
Allen, Peter L (IDP)	Unopposed	McCalister, Mike (REP)	
Arth, Michael E. (NPA)		McCollum, Bill (REP)	
Behm, Karl (WRI)		Moore, Brian P. (DEM)	
Chiles, Lawton "Bud" (NPA)		Reed, C. C. (NPA)	
Imperato, Daniel (NPA)		Scott, Rick (REP)	
Khavari, Farid (NPA)		Sink, Alex (DEM)	
Larose, Josue (WRI)		Smith, John Wayne (LIB)	Unopposed

Attorney General

Candidate	Candidate
Aronberg, Dave (DEM)	Gelber, Dan (DEM)
Benson, Holly (REP)	Kottkamp, Jeff (REP)
Bondi, Pam (REP)	Lewis, Jim (NPA)

Chief Financial Officer

Candidate	Primary	Candidate
Atwater, Jeff (REP)	Unopposed	Mazzie, Ken (NPA)
Ausley, Lorraine (DEM)	Unopposed	Stearns, Tom (NPA)

State Senator (Miami-Dade County)

District	Candidate	District	Candidate	Primary
035	Burns, Kevin (DEM)		Robaina, Julio (REP)	
	Margolis, Gwen (DEM)	038	Flores, Anitere (REP)	
	Poitier, Corey B. (NPA)		Gerson, Les (DEM)	Unopposed
036	Artiles, Luisa (WRI)		Nelson, David (REP)	
	Diaz de la Portilla, Miguel (REP)	040	Dominguez, Alexis (WRI)	
	Fortes, Alberto E. (WRI)		Garcia, Rene (REP)	Unopposed
	Nillo, J. (REP)			

State Representative (Miami-Dade County)

District	Candidate	Primary	District	Candidate	Primary
102	Gonzalez, Eddy (REP)*	Unopposed	115	Ascencio Savola, Carla (REP)	

	Vallejo, Cali (WRI)			Blau, Christopher (TEA)	Unopposed
104	Etienne, Michael (DEM)			Diaz, Jose Felix (REP)	
	Hepburn, Michael A. (DEM)			Solomon, Jeffrey "Doc" (DEM)	Unopposed
	Julien, John Patrick (DEM)			Logan, Ana Rivas (REP)	Unopposed
	Simon, Dominique (DEM)		116	Amador, Francisco (REP)	
	Tisdol, Matthew (DEM)			Bermudez, Whilly (REP)	
107	Barreiro, Gustavo A. (REP)			Diaz, Alex (WRI)	
	Garcia, Luis (DEM) *	Unopposed		Manrique, Carlos A. (REP)	
	Japour, Tony (REP)			Montiel, Mauricio (WRI)	
108	Campbell, Daphne (DEM)			Trujillo, Carlos (REP)	
	Desulme, Alix (DEM)		117	Alliegro, Ana (REP)	
109	Bush, Bernadine (DEM)			Bileca, Michael (REP)	
	Hardemon, Roy (DEM)			Lesperance, Lisa (DEM)	Unopposed
	McElroy, Bess (DEM)			Martinez, Ernesto "Ernie" (REP)	
	Stafford, Cynthia A. (DEM)			Pazos, Jose M. (REP)	
111	Albright, Cristina (DEM)	Unopposed		Rivchin Jr., Marcus (REP)	

	Fresen, Erik (REP)*	Unopposed		Robaina, Juan Carlos "Juanky" (REP)	
112	D'Arce, Juan (REP)			Rosado, Ralph (REP)	
	Farias, Johnny G. (DEM)		118	Bullard, Dwight M. (DEM)*	
	Guerrero, James Patrick (REP)			Lopez, Charles "Charlie" (REP)	Unopposed
	Nunez, Jeanette (REP)			McGhee, Kionne L. (DEM)	
	Ruiz, Sandra (DEM)		119	Artiles, Frank (REP)	Unopposed
	Van Name, Robert (NPA)			Denny, Graziella Renee (NPA)	
113	Cruzet, Alex (DEM)	Unopposed		Edwards, Katie (DEM)	Unopposed
	Faura, Waldo (NPA)		120	Gardi, Matt (REP)	
	Lopez-Cantera, Carlos (REP)*	Unopposed		Llorella, Henry (TEA)	Unopposed
114	Blanco, Robert "Bob" (DEM)	114		McPherson, Morgan J. (REP)	
	Herrera, Millie (DEM)			Saunders, Ron (DEM)*	Unopposed

	Logan, Ana Rivas (REP)	Unopposed			
	Wood, Denny (NPA)				

*Incumbent

Political Parties Index

Party abbreviations are used to designate political parties in reports of candidates and races.

Major Political Parties

- [Florida Democratic Party](#) (DEM)
 - Web address: <http://www.fladems.com>
- [Republican Party of Florida](#) (REP)
 - Web address: <http://www.rpof.org>

Other

- No Party Affiliation (NPA)
- Write-In (WRI)

Minor Political Parties in Race

- [Constitution Party of Florida](#) (CPF)
- [Independence Party of Florida](#) (IDP)
 - Web address: <http://www.ipfl.org/>
- [Libertarian Party of Florida](#) (LIB)
 - Web address: <http://www.lpf.org>
- [Tea Party](#) (TEA)

→ Federal Advocacy Initiatives



The Jewish Federations of North America Health & Long-Term Care Workgroup

Ann-Lynn Denker, A.R.N.P., Ph.D., and the Magnet Project Director for Nursing Services and Officer for Human Subjects at Jackson Health System, has recently been appointed a member of The Jewish Federations of North America Health & Long-Term Care Workgroup, representing Miami. In that capacity, she attended its recent 2010 Annual Meeting in Washington.

The health care workgroup met for two days to discuss means to continue to strengthen the nation's Medicaid program through advocacy efforts. The group made its voice heard on Capitol Hill and with the Administration on a vast array of health-related issues, such as the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage and the implementation of the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports program increase, which are impactful to communities across the nation. Through its efforts, it is clear that the workgroup will continue to strengthen programs that assist the vulnerable throughout the Miami-Dade community.

Legislative Accomplishments and Update: 111th Congress, Second Session

An update is available of the Jewish Federations of North America's legislative and policy priority accomplishments and ongoing efforts during the Second Session of the 111th Congress. Our JCRC advocated on several of these issues as part of the national effort. They include: Appropriations on Aging, Homeland Security, Housing, Transportation, Charitable Giving, Foreign Policy, and Health & Long-Term Care. Click [here](#) to view more information.

→ National Conferences

Lori Dearman Participates in ADL's Glass Leadership Institute

This year, our JCRC associate, Lori Dearman had the privilege of participating in the Anti-Defamation League's Glass Leadership Institute, a nationally recognized young leadership development program organized to educate a select group of young professionals about anti-Semitism, civil liberties and civil rights, terrorism, security and holocaust education. Monthly educational meetings culminated with a seminar in Washington, DC where 23 delegates from Florida participants met with about 400 participants from different regions throughout the nation to listen to high-level speakers and government officials. ADL is a member of the JCRC and has partnered on numerous programs related to anti-Semitism, Iran, Israel, and security.



Glass Leadership Institute Florida delegates with Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) in Washington, DC

JCPA Task Forces and Board Meeting

JCPA Task Forces met June 6, 2010 to discuss several topics including Israel, world Jewry, international human rights, Jewish security and the Bill of Rights, U.S-Israel relations, and immigration and civil rights. The JCPA Board of Directors met on June 7, to discuss the JCPA approach to relevant issues facing the Jewish community. The topics that were addressed by the task forces were Protestant – Jewish relations, examining and assessing mainline Protestant – Jewish relations, and the future relationship with the Jewish Federations of North America. The JCRC of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation was well-represented by Judy Gilbert-Gould who serves as the Miami delegate on JCPA's national Board of Directors.

→ Commentary from our Summer Intern



My name is Leanna Rodriguez I am a student at Brandeis University studying Political Science, Legal Studies, and Mathematics. A passion of mine is the Constitution. It is the one document providing the powers and procedures of government. The Constitution also protects the rights and liberties of citizens. Working with the JCRC at the Greater Miami Jewish Federation has allowed me to be a more educated voter. Through researching the candidates of the 2010 Election at the federal, state, and local levels, I have become an educated voter and citizen. Learning each candidate's position on the various issues has depicted what I believe to be a fundamental right of the people—freedom of speech. Although candidate individualism is sometimes clouded by the positions of political parties, by concentrating on the individual candidates, each has proven to be an advocate of his/her beliefs and what is best for the community he/she hopes to represent. Becoming a part of an organization committed to taking action for their community represents the path I hope to take; fighting for what policies best impact the community and the people and ensuring all rights are upheld.

→ Upcoming Events

Save the Date

Israel Summit

January 16, 2011

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

→ Respond to *The Activist*

To respond to *The Activist*, contact [Lori Dearman](mailto:LDearman@gmif.org) at LDearman@gmif.org.



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The Mission of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation is to mobilize human and financial resources to care for those in need, strengthen Jewish life and advance the unity, values and shared purpose of the Jewish people in Miami, in Israel and around the world.