



# Women's Philanthropy

*"What we do for ourselves dies with us.  
What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." - Albert Pike*

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## President's Message From Tammy Woldenberg

As Passover approaches, we reflect on the Jewish people's journey from slavery to freedom and the formation of the Jewish nation.

We are reminded that our own struggles and challenges can lead to growth and transformation. Passover also emphasizes our deep emotional and spiritual connection to Israel.

During the Seder, we recite the phrase "L'shana Haba'ah B'Yerushalayim" which means "Next year in Jerusalem." Jerusalem is so much more than just a city, it's an ideal that we are struggling to reach - a state of mind to live a meaningful life with purpose.

Many of us are preparing to travel to the Holy Land to celebrate Israel's 75th Birthday on the upcoming Mega Mission. It is a trip that promises to be life-changing for each participant and to strengthen our community. For those who are celebrating in Miami, I hope you will avail yourselves of the many local programs supported by Federation where you will have a chance to mark this important occasion with the community.

We in WP are grateful for the many opportunities to be inspired, to make a positive impact and to work towards a brighter future for all of humankind. Your leadership helps us achieve that! Please be sure to save the date and plan to attend the WP Annual Meeting and Installation Brunch on May 9<sup>th</sup>. We will honor the outgoing board and welcome the incoming leadership. Invitation to follow.

Speaking of leaders, featured in this newsletter is our very own Miami Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. She embodies what it means to be a strong, professional, philanthropic, female, Jewish leader. We are very proud she recently became a Lion of Judah. Be sure to read more about her below.

May we all be blessed with a holiday of peace, prosperity, good health and renewed connection to our rich Jewish heritage.

*Chag Sameach,*  
Tammy

## Campaign Update

We are happy to report the following:

- The **2022** General Campaign is closed at \$24.5 million from more than 6,500 donors with a card-for-card increase of 12.93 percent.
- The Women's Campaign raised \$7.4 million from more than 3,400 donors with a card-for-card increase of 13.31 percent.
- The **2023** General Campaign has raised \$10.6 million from more than 3,300 donors with a card-for-card increase of 10.51 percent.
- The Women's Campaign has raised \$4.6 million from more than 1,900 donors with a card-for-card increase of 18.54 percent.

Please reach out to donors and let's keep the campaign moving in the right direction. Please refer to your worker reports for your open assignments. Contact the WP office if you have any questions.

## Super Sunday

Thank you, Miami, for a fabulous Super Sunday!

More than 900 donors pledged over \$664,800 to the Annual Greater Miami Jewish Federation/UJA Campaign. Volunteers of all ages gathered at four locations around Miami, and virtually in Zoom rooms to call, text, email and connect with members of our community to raise critical funds in support of Federation's work in Miami, in Israel and in more than 70 other countries worldwide.

The Halberstein family chaired the event in honor of Alex Halberstein, of blessed memory, a longtime Federation activist, philanthropist and passionate Zionist. If you did not get an opportunity to donate to the Annual Campaign on Sunday, it is not too late to make a meaningful donation. [Click here](#) to make a secure donation. We are so proud of our leadership.

Shout out to:

- Raquel Scheck for raising the most dollars
- Elise Udelson, a very close second
- Tammy Woldenberg for closing the most gifts

Thanks to all of our volunteers. Our appreciation for all your efforts cannot be overstated.



## Salon Series

We continue our efforts to welcome and engage newcomers to Miami through our Salon Series. The ongoing Book Club spurred up great conversation at the recent gathering discussing "A Tale of Love and Darkness," a memoir by Israeli author Amos Oz.

Another event featured spice detective Chef Yaniv Cohen. It was a pre-Passover cooking demonstration. The event was hosted and chaired by Tina Wolf. Contact us if you would like his recipes.



## Mitzvah Workshop Mini Mission

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day honoring the achievements of women and promoting women's rights. WP marked the day as a call to action with a Mitzvah workshop at the JCS Kosher Food Bank. The group of women heard from Bonnie Schwartzbaum of the Food Bank described the impact of these gifts as they go a long way to eliminate barriers to education, employment and social connection. The women participated in the Jewish Community Relations Council's Soap Campaign to combat Human Trafficking and labeled 2000 soaps with Human Trafficking Hotline numbers. David Leviev of the JCRC explained that these soaps will be distributed in establishments in the area where these crimes are prevalent and will serve as a lifeline for victims. The group enjoyed connecting, making a difference and becoming inspired and informed about Federation's role in our community. The women also donated feminine hygiene products not covered by government benefit programs to the WP Dignity Project. Our mini-mission was chaired by Debbie Abramowitz and spearheaded by Andrea Floyd-Beck, Heather Rosen and Jolie Rivner.



## The Women of Our Community

### Spotlight on Mayor Daniella Levine Cava

We are so proud of Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava for all her accomplishments and as a recent new Lion of Judah.



#### How did you become involved with Federation?

I've been involved with the Greater Jewish Federation for decades, before I was Mayor or County Commissioner. As a person of faith who cares deeply for Miami-Dade, I value Federation as a place to build community and take collective action with like-minded individuals.

#### Why is your involvement important to you?

As Miami-Dade's first Jewish mayor, I am proud to be part of an organization united by common purpose - a passion for the Jewish value of *tikkun olam*, or repairing the world, and by our shared goals of helping those most in need, whether they share our faith or not. Through philanthropy and social action, we are sustaining the virtues and values of Jewish life now and into the future. My faith has been instrumental in instilling the values of kindness, honesty and compassion in me from a young age. Every day, I wake up with a sense of purpose and a duty to give back and to work with others in our community to make ours a better world. Partnering with the Greater Miami Jewish Federation makes our goals for greater prosperity and opportunity more attainable, and also gives me inspiration to keep pushing forward.

#### What is a philanthropic accomplishment of yours that you are most proud of?

Of course I'm so proud to be Miami-Dade's first woman and Jewish mayor. But truly, producing two remarkable children is my greatest accomplishment by far. I am so proud of the thoughtful, compassionate, and passionate people they've become, and they motivate me every day. Their life partners, and now the grandchildren, are my greatest pride and joy.

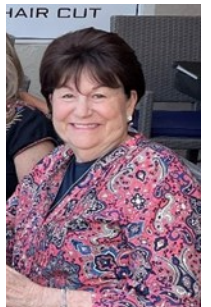
#### What is something that no one knows about you?

I love nature. My husband and I enjoy so many different outdoor activities. In our downtime, we love kayaking in the Everglades, sailing Biscayne Bay, and biking through Shark Valley. We often visited the Everglades and other wilderness areas with our children, and I know those adventures shaped their love for the outdoors – and it gave us great bonding time. Some of my favorite memories include canoeing and camping with my children! While we paddled together, we sang songs and recounted our favorite young adult novels.

## Farewell to our dear friend Elaine Ross

Elaine is making *Aliyah* and embarking on her new life in Israel where she will be close to family. For decades Elaine has been an inspirational and involved leader in our community. She served on many committees and attended numerous events. Although we will miss her here in Miami, we know that she will remain connected and her steadfast support of the Jewish people will only be strengthened. We wish her all the blessings, materially and spiritually, as she fulfills a dream come true.

Thank you, Elaine, for all your efforts and generous support. We will definitely miss you but as the Israelis say, it is not goodbye, rather *le hitraot* – until we see you again!



## Welcome to our new Campaign Associate



Samantha Katz has joined our WP team as a Campaign Associate.

A graduate of the UM where she majored in Sociology and Community and Applied Psychological Studies, she was born and bred in South Dade. She has business development experience from her time at Orange Springs Retreat Center and she also worked with low income youth and their families as an Americorp Member. Samantha was an intern at Kristi House (a home for abused children). She was the president of the Executive Board of the Sociology and Criminology Club and the VP of the Executive URecovery Board at UM. We are excited to have her on board and know her background and skills will serve her well in her new role and hope you will get to meet her soon.

## WP Annual Meeting and Installation

Save the date – May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Let's come together to thank our outgoing Board members and welcome our new leadership. The event will take place at the Florida Jewish Museum where we will view *Lady Liberty: A Bonnie Lautenberg Retrospective*, an exhibition that honors the role women have played in championing freedom. Bonnie is an internationally renowned artist, photographer and writer and will be addressing us at this exclusive event. Invitation to follow.



## Leadership Recognition



Congratulations to all the recent young leadership award winners. We are especially proud of WP Board member Leslie Benitah for being the recipient of the Stanley C. Myers President's Leadership Award. Her commitment on behalf of our community and Jewish peoplehood is exemplary.

# Israel at 75 Miami Mega Mission

We wish safe travels to all those participating in the mission.  
It will be a meaningful and memorable experience for all.



## Sharing and Caring

### **Mazel tov to:**

Rabbi Robyn Fisher on her MCCJ Humanitarian Award  
Belinda Gilbert on the engagement of her son  
Maxine Schwartz on the marriage of her grandson  
Edith Shiro on the launch of her book *The Unexpected Gift of Trauma*

### **Speedy Recovery to:**

Rosalie Altmark  
Fran Berrin  
Rabbi Robyn Fisher  
Judy Gilbert-Gould, mother-in-law of Belinda Gilbert  
Shifra Kossman, mother-in-law of Ilene Kossman  
Nancy Lipoff

Celebrating an Event? Milestone? Or had a loss? We want to know. Please be sure to send us the information. If we don't know, we can't care and share (wp@jewishmiami.org)

## Happy Passover



Greater Miami Jewish Federation  
Women's Philanthropy

*As we prepare to gather with family and friends,  
we wish you a very happy, healthy and meaningful  
Passover celebration.*

Ofi Osin-Cohen  
Director

Batya Lisker  
Assistant Director

Samantha Katz  
Campaign Associate

Michelle Weiss  
Administrative Asst.