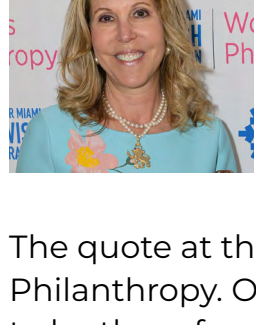


"To be Jewish is to be present whenever our presence is needed by other Jews." ~ Elie Wiesel

President's Message From Elise Udelson

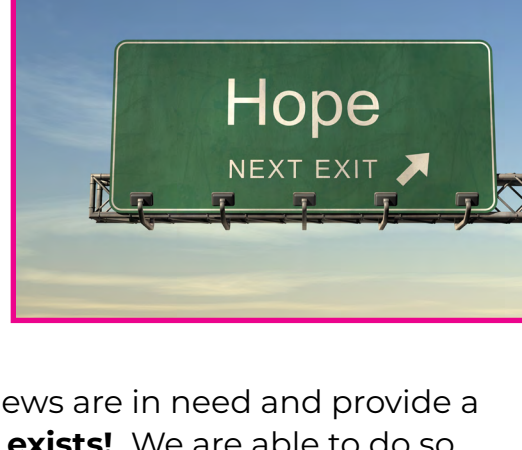


We are in the High Holiday season. The month of *Tishrei* is a time of introspection and personal growth. The Days of Awe open the doors to new beginnings and a chance to work on positive change. This is an opportunity for all of us to learn, grow, cultivate relationships and hope to make a difference. We are excited to launch our community-wide quarterly newsletter to keep you informed about the activities in Women's Philanthropy.

The quote at the top of this newsletter from Elie Wiesel, z"l, is this year's theme in Women's Philanthropy. Our involvement in the Greater Miami Jewish Federation gives us the opportunity to be there for other Jews wherever and whenever there is a need.

In recent years, we have seen:

- the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
- financial struggles due to inflation
- an alarming rise in antisemitism
- mental health crises
- rockets being fired into Israel
- the war in Ukraine and the ensuing refugee emergency
- so many other challenges



These are unprecedented times. We are able to respond when Jews are in need and provide a safety net of services because ... **This is exactly why Federation exists!** We are able to do so because of the generosity of so many donors, including **YOU!**

Your donations are feeding the hungry, supporting Jewish education, responding to emergencies, providing security training to our institutions, offering counseling, aiding victims of terror, resettling Jews in Israel, providing a variety of much needed services ... the list goes on and on. Our work together is based on hope. According to Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, z"l, "Hope is the belief that, together, we can make the world better. Optimism is a passive virtue, hope is an active one."

I hope you will consider:

- Joining us at an event/program this year
- Volunteering at one of our many hands-on opportunities
- Making a donation or increasing your donation (if you are able) to meet the many demands in our community

As Jews, we will take care of so many in need by being present when our presence is needed. Let's make it our practice for this New Year to respond with hope. May this be a year of knowing that every single act — between us and our fellow human beings and between us and G-d — is an opportunity to experience the goodness that can come out of it.

I "hope" that you will join us in this mission.

Elise

Federation News



After more than four decades with the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, President & CEO Jacob Solomon has announced his plans to retire, effective June 30, 2024, according to the 85-year-old, Miami-based Jewish nonprofit.

Solomon joined Federation in 1981 as a planning associate and rose to senior leadership positions in the organization, taking on the top executive role 11 years later. Since 1992, he has served in the position, guiding the raising and distribution of hundreds of millions of dollars to support humanitarian services and Jewish educational programs in Miami, in Israel and in more than 70 other countries worldwide.

"This is a poignant moment for our Jewish community," said Federation Board Chair Ariel Bentata. "Throughout his tenure, Jacob has helped shape Miami's remarkable Jewish landscape. He has been widely revered as a compassionate, communal-minded and consensus-building professional with a passion for the Federation Mission. He has a deep love for Miami and Israel, as well as a steadfast commitment to Jewish peoplehood throughout the world. We truly owe him a debt of gratitude for his tireless leadership."

Richard D. Fain, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Royal Caribbean Group, has been appointed to lead the search for Solomon's successor. Fain will head a volunteer search committee charged with the difficult task of identifying and recommending Federation's next President and CEO through an exhaustive national search. [Click here](#) to read more.

Women's Philanthropy Board Kickoff



Women's Philanthropy gathered to kick off the year with our first Board meeting. We were excited to get to know each other better, identify our superpowers, learn about the needs in the community and begin planning our upcoming events. We left inspired to make an impact. We look forward to a productive and meaningful year ahead. Be on the lookout for more to come, and join us. We can't wait to see you!

Lion of Judah Updates (a sisterhood of women who give \$5,000 or more)

NEW LION BRUNCH

This past June, approximately 60 women of the 135 who became Lions of Judah on the Israel 75 Miami Mega Mission gathered for an inspiring brunch at a beautiful beachfront home. They joined together to celebrate, share the pride and learn more about this international phenomenon that was created right here in Miami. To learn how to become a Lion of Judah, [click here](#) or contact us at wp@gmif.org.

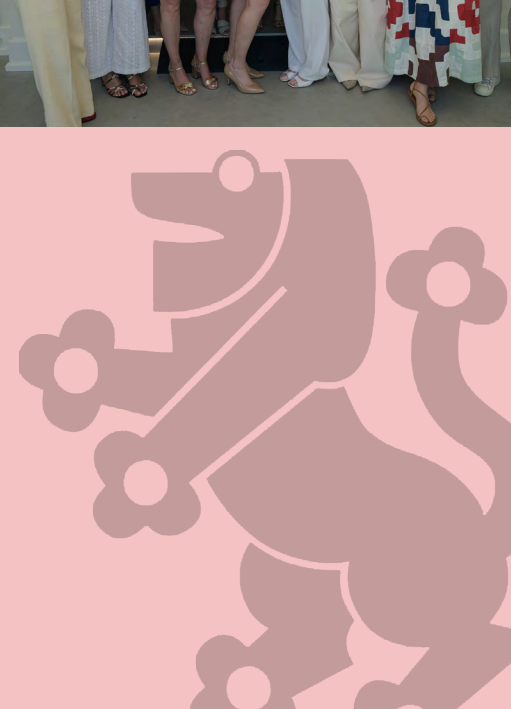


SAVE THE DATE

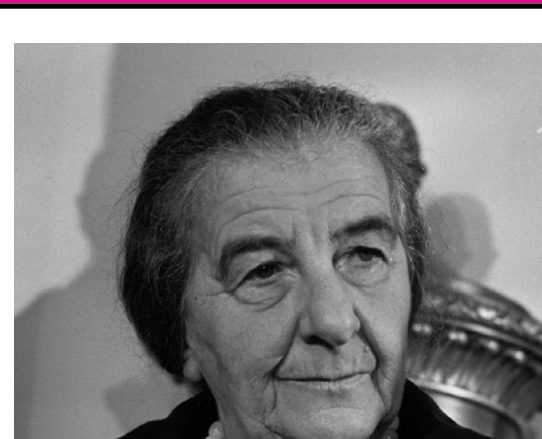
Our next Lion of Judah event will be on January 23, 2024.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

2025 International Lion of Judah Conference date just announced: January 12-14, 2025 in Atlanta, Georgia.



Women in History: Golda Meir (1898-1978)



We hope you had a chance to see the new *Golda* movie. (If you missed seeing the movie in the theaters, you can [watch it at home!](#)) It is a must-see, as it poignantly captures Golda Meir's humanity and heart as the "Iron Lady of the Middle East." She led her nation with strength and courage during the *Yom Kippur* War when Israel stood on the brink of being wiped off the map.

As of late, Golda has achieved Hollywood fame, but she has always had iconic status as our hero and role model. Her life story is one of personal and political adversity. A daring trailblazer, she rose to the occasion and became a woman the world will never forget! The first female head of government in the region and the third woman in the 20th century to become a leader of a nation, Golda shattered the glass ceiling, navigated complex political challenges and paved the way for women in leadership globally. From a terror-shrouded childhood in Russia and a stormy adolescence in Milwaukee, she climbed to destiny as one of the founders of the Jewish State when she moved with her husband to a *kibbutz* in Palestine in 1921. A fervent Zionist and a proud Jew, she was a key pillar in the nation's pre-State and early history. For almost 50 years, she gave her heart and soul to the founding and defense of Israel, playing a vital role in shaping the country's identity and destiny. She knew the future of the Jewish people depended on the survival of Israel as a homeland for Jews worldwide.

A pioneer, visionary, advocate and activist, Golda inspired countless women to follow in her path and broaden their definition of family responsibility to include the extended family of the Jewish nation. Her legacy continues to motivate us today to embrace our potential, and invest our resources to drive positive change and live a life of purpose and meaning.

"Pessimism is a luxury that a Jew can never allow himself," she said. "Trust yourself. Create the kind of self that you will be happy to live with all your life. Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement."

UPCOMING WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY EVENTS

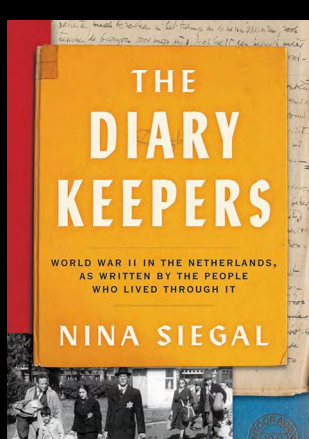
- October 12** Coffee and Conversation
- October 19** Women, Wine and Wisdom – North Dade
- October 24** North Dade Kickoff
- October 25** Miami Beach Kickoff
- October 25** The Power of Hope and Perseverance
- November 9** Women, Wine and Wisdom – South Dade
- November 28** Art of Philanthropy Event

Stay tuned for more to come...

Join National Women's Philanthropy's next virtual Book & Author Series!

Wednesday, October 4 at Noon

Moderated by Ilene Kossman



The Diary Keepers: World War II in the Netherlands, as Written by the People Who Lived Through It by Nina Siegal.

[Click here to register.](#)

To learn more about Women's Philanthropy or to get involved, email us at wp@jewishmiami.org.

WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY

Elise Udelson, *President*
 Amanda Adler, *Campaign Chair*
 Leslie Benitah, *Vice President Campaign Development*
 Michele Scheck, *Vice President Education & Leadership*
 Jaclyn Bergman, *Vice President Outreach & Development*
 Tammy Woldenberg, *Immediate Past President & Nominating Committee Chair*
 Elaine Bachenheimer, Cristina Ben-Shmuel, Marissa Gimelstein and Malka Rodrig, *Area Representatives*
 Heidi Baumann, Michelle Ben-Aviv, Melissa Buckner, Jennifer Chachkes, Suzette Diamond, Corey Feinsilver, Caryn Frishman, Lillian Furst, Lisa Goldstein, Nicole Gorin, Adriana Halac, Marian Kruss, Brenda Nullman, Alisa Oppenheim, Laurel Schwartz, Jayne Shapiro, Judy Siboni, Mindy Solomon, Miriam Steinberg, Lisa Weiner and Tina Wolf, *Members-at-Large*
 Ofi Osin-Cohen, *Director*
 Batya Lisker, *Assistant Director*

GREATER MIAMI JEWISH FEDERATION

Ariel Bentata, *Chair of the Board*
 Jacob Solomon, *President & CEO*
 Lily Serviansky, *General Campaign Chair*
 Jeffrey Y. Levin, *Chief Development Officer*
 Abbey Feinberg, *Annual Campaign Director*