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Doug's Drash from Doug Seserman, President and CEO

Dear Community Members,

We usually think about Purim as a festive holiday. A date to get silly and dress in costume, to drink so much (the Talmud tells us) that we cannot distinguish between Mordechai, the good guy and Haman, the bad guy. But, as with any Jewish holiday or practice, Purim is a multi-layered event. There are four mitzvot, or commandments, required during Purim.

- 1. To hear the story of Esther read aloud (Mikra Megillah)
- 2. To have a festive meal (Seudat Purim)
- 3. To send gifts to friends (Mishlach Manot)
- 4. To give gifts to the poor (Matanot l'Evyonim)

While the first three tend to be glorified and are certainly enjoyed,

it is important to not forget the last mitzvah. It says that even the poor must give a Tzedakah to fulfill this mitzvah... the Talmud is telling us that every **donor** and every **dollar** counts. So, as we prepare for the fun and silliness of Purim, consider answering our call on Super Sunday, March 11 and making your gift in honor of Purim. And, if you don't have time to prepare Mishlach Manot baskets this year, you can send a gift online to Israeli soldiers by <u>clicking here</u>.

Get Ready To Answer The Call

It's Super Sunday time again! Federation's annual phone-a-thon will be held on Sunday March 11th from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Robert E Loup JCC in Denver with an additional calling session from 6-8pm on Monday the 12 at the Federation. Join us to make the call and be sure to take the call on Sunday! You can sign up for a shift at <u>SuperSunday.AJFColorado.org</u>.

There will be a special teen calling session from 11-1:30pm and a YAD Tzedakah Happy Hour, Smile & Dial from 6-9pm. Enjoy food and

drinks and help Federation make this the most successful Super Sunday yet. Why should you answer the call? By pledging on Super Sunday you sustain Federation's mision to build sustain Jewish life in Colorado, Israel, and around the world. Your gift to the Flagship Fund enables Federation's local allocations to organizations like JFS, Hillel, BBYO, and the JCC. It also enables the Federation to produce programming like YAD and the Jewish Community Relations Council. IT also helps us Israel through agencies like JAFI and JDC. Every donor and every dollar counts. Won't you answer the call? Better yet, help us make the calls and make a difference. Sign up today at <u>SuperSunday.AJFColorado.org</u>.

JCRC Day At The Capitol

Over 30 community members joined the Jewish Community Relations Council at the annual Day at the Capitol in Denver. They spent a half day hearing from legislators, discussing vital and current issues, and touring the House and Senate. Participants



March 11-12, 2012



were able to hear from the President of the Senate, Brandon Schaffer, the Speaker of the House, Frank McNulty, Minority Leader, Representative Mark Ferrandino, as well as staffers from the Governor's Office. It was a great success, we hope you can join us next year.

Yom Ha'zikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut are Steadily Approaching

Mark your calendars:

- The Yom Ha'zikaron memorial program will take place on Tuesday, April 24th from 7-8pm at the new Elaine Wolf Theatre at the Robert E. Loup JCC. Please join us for a touching program to remember those who lost their lives through terrorist attacks and wars in Israel.
- The Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration, celebrating Israel's independence will take place on Thursday, April 26th from 5-8pm at the Robert E. Loup JCC. There will be a fun program in the Elaine Wolf Theatre and socializing along with activities and food in the social hall.

Stay tuned for more information coming your way about both of these programs.

Connect, Explore, and Celebrate with Jews Ages 22-45 in Vegas!

TribeFest is back! After an amazing showing of 1200 Jewish young adults last year, Jewish Federations of North American (JFNA) is hosting it again! An amazing opportunity for young adults to discover more about Jewish culture, food, music, and spirituality... not to mention meet new friends from across the country. This is an incredible event with amazing speakers like Rachel Dratch from SNL, Sarah Lefton and Matthue Roth from G-dcast.com, and famed JFNA Washington, DC advocate and Tweeter William Daroff. Join nearly 40 other Colorado young adults in Las Vegas! <u>Click here for more information</u>.

Pomegranate, Lion, and LOJE Exclusive Opportunity

Our generous ladies will be afforded a unique opportunity April 3rd. The annual Lion/Pomegranate luncheon will take place at the Denver Art Museum (DAM) where participants will hear from the DAM Curator, a touching case speaker, and then be able to take a private tour of the Yves Saint Laurent Retrospective with a docent. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity but you must be a member of these giving societies to participate. Consider giving \$1800 (Pomegranate) or \$5000 (Lion) to attend this exclusive event. Watch your mail for an invitation and if you are interested in increasing your give to benefit the Jewish community and attend this event, contact Seren Waldbaum at 303.316.6456 or



<u>SWaldbaum@AJFColorado.org</u>. This opportunity will fill up fast, so don't wait to RSVP when you receive your invitation.

Thank you,







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