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Member of



The Jewish Federations
OF NORTH AMERICA

Doug's Drash from Doug Seserman, President and CEO

Dear Community Members,

Have you ever noticed how our Jewish holidays fit so nicely into the secular year? Here we are getting ready for Pesach and it's just about time for some spring cleaning! Ritually, we must cleanse our homes of all the crumbs that have collected in the past year, both figuratively and literally. Many families will clean out books and cracks and crevices at this time looking for any bits of chametz, leavened products, which might have found their way out of the kitchen and into our homes. In addition to looking for the crumbs, we must also get rid of any products that contain leavening in them. There are different ways to do this. You can sell your cabinet full of pasta and cake mixes to a non-Jew. For example, the chametz of the State of Israel is sold to an Arab Israeli for the week of Pesach. But what about an option that is more in the vein of Tikkun Olam. Take this time of reflection and spring cleaning to donate your chametz to a food assistance program like JFS' Weinberg Food Pantry. On Pesach we say, "Let all who are hungry come and eat." This is an easy way to fulfill that mitzvah and clean out your pantry too!



Super Sunday Success!

Thank you. Thank you to everyone in our community who came out and called during our Super Sunday (and Monday) event. And thank you to all of you who took the call during that beautiful weekend. Super Sunday was a huge success, raising over \$230,000 from over 530 donors. It was a great event with great energy and that was in part due to our wonderful agency participants. BBYO brought over 40 teens to call in the afternoon and the young adults from YAD filled the room with fun and laughter in the evening. But it was the mighty force from Denver Academy of Torah who made most of their calls Monday night that had the greatest impact. By closing over 100 donors, they won our special agency bonus. Mazal tov to DAT. If you haven't yet made your gift to Federation's 2012 Annual Campaign, there is still time. Visit AJFColorado.org to donate!



Do you know a child who wants to go to summer camp for the first time?

Federation and the Jewish Community Foundation are excited to announce their partnership with the Foundation for Jewish Camp. Through this partnership, JCF is able to supply Colorado Jewish families with the opportunity to receive a subsidy for sleep-away camp through the One Happy Camper initiative! The only requirements? You must:

- Live in Colorado
- Identify as Jewish



- Do not attend a Jewish day school
- Never have attended a sleep-away camp before

If your child fits these requirements, apply for a subsidy at OneHappyCamper.org. If you are interested in supporting this important initiative, contact Gretchen Koplin, JCF Development Manager at 303.316.6475 or gkoplin@ajfcolorado.org.

Upcoming Events:

Federation has quite a few exciting events coming up. Mark your calendars today for these!

- Have you received your *Lion of Judah and Pomegranate Luncheon* invitation for April 3rd yet? Be sure to RSVP as soon as possible for this incredible event at the Denver Art Museum's Yves Saint Laurent exclusive retrospective. If you have any questions or want to RSVP, contact Seren Waldman at 303.316.6456 or swaldman@ajfcolorado.org.
- Following quickly on the heels of the *Lion of Judah and Pomegranate Luncheon* is the *International Lion of Judah Conference (ILOJC) Kick Off!* Mountain Lions, join us for *Lions and the City* for cocktails and Lion fun and learn all about the *ILOJC* in NYC in September! Look for a postcard invitation to this event in your mail any day now. *Lions and the City* will be held on April 17th. For more information, contact Seren Waldman at 303.316.6456 or swaldman@ajfcolorado.org.



- Yom Ha'Zikaron, Israel's Memorial Day remembering those who lost their lives in Israel's wars as well as the victims of terrorist attacks in Israel, will be held at the brand new Elaine Wolf Theatre at the Robert E. Loup JCC on April 24th from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. There is no charge for this event. We hope you will join us in coming together as a community to honor the memory of those we lost.
- Celebrate Israel's 64th birthday the Colorado way! Join Federation and the Loup JCC for a fun evening of music, food, dancing, and a special program. Join the entire Colorado Jewish community celebrating our unique connection to Israel. April 26th from 5:00 – 8:00p.m. This event is co-sponsored by Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado and Robert E. Loup JCC.
- Eat, pray, dance, bake, sing, and study with us at the annual women's event in Boulder, Kaleidoscope. This year's theme is ReJEWvenate. Join Federation and the Boulder JCC in this soul soothing program: Thursday, May 10 from 4:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Boulder JCC. RSVP by emailing events@ajfcolorado.org and keep a look out for the official invitation!



- Please join us on May 17th at the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) annual luncheon. This year we are proud to announce that we are honoring Howard and Carol Boigon. Howard Boigon will be receiving the 2012 JCRC Leadership Award for his commitment and leadership in the community. Carol Boigon is receiving the Jewish Public Officials Distinguished Service Award. She is communal role model who encourages active involvement and participation in both Jewish community organizations and in the public sector.



Stay tuned for more information coming your way about all of these events.

Colorado Jewish Community Journey to Israel

The Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, in conjunction with local Colorado synagogues and organizations is in the planning stages of a large communal trip to Israel. Coinciding with Israel's 65 birthday, the Colorado community will travel to Israel together offering a unique opportunity to grow together in our spiritual homeland. The trip will include incredible speakers, excursions to Colorado partners Lod and Ramat Ha'Negev, and a chance to travel to cultural and historical highlights throughout Israel. While all the details have not been finalized yet, put April 17-27, 2013 on your calendars now! Watch your Federation emails for more information!



Tragedy in France

We were recently shocked by the murder of three young children and a rabbi in Toulouse, France. They were killed by a gunman on a motorcycle who shot these children at pointblank range. While we live in a relatively safe space and time, we cannot ignore that there is still hatred and violence out there. Please join me in sending thoughts and prayers to the widow of Rabbi Jonathan Sandler who also lost her two sons Gavriel and Aryeh and the parents of little Miryam Monsonogo who lost her life in her father's arms. It is a senseless tragedy. Baruch Dayan Ha'Emet (blessed is the



true Judge) and may their families be comforted with the mourners of Jerusalem.

Thank you,

Doug Seserman
President and CEO

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