



## Doug's Drash from Doug Seserman, President and CEO

Dear Community Members,

The Jewish year can be quite a rollercoaster. With the ups and downs of holidays, the fall packed with numerous holidays and the summer without many at all. But there is another piece of the rollercoaster. Our holidays bring us to the highest highs but also into the depths of sorrow and sadness. This time of year, this flow can be felt particularly strongly. We have just come from the joy and excitement of receiving the Torah and being freed from Egypt but later this summer we will be faced with the saddest day of the Jewish calendar, Tisha B'Av. On Tisha B'Av many of the tragedies that have afflicted us as a people occurred. It is a time of sadness and mourning. We are then brought back up with Rosh Hashanah and the celebration of a new year, a renewal. It is through this rollercoaster, these waves of joy and sadness that the Jewish people have survived these many years. Each holiday, good or bad, is a touchstone for our people, one that we pass down to our children and grandchildren. And despite what tragedies befell our people, we persevered to experience the flow of the Jewish year generation after generation.

### Final Days of the Campaign

The clock is ticking...with only a few days left of Federation's 2012 Campaign. In Colorado, Federation funds over 90 organizations to help support the programming that supports our community. By "filling the gap" in funding many organizations experience in this challenging economy, Federation ensures that seniors won't go hungry and children can go to camp, that thousands of public school students receive anti-bias training and ensures hundreds of additional hours of care for special needs students. Without your support, we cannot do this work. [Consider a gift today.](#)



### ***We need your gift or pledge to the 2012 Annual Campaign before June 30th.***

Every donor counts. Every dollar counts. Join me in supporting this year's campaign to help build and sustain Jewish life in Colorado, Israel and around the world. You make Federation's work possible. Thank you.

To give to Federation's 2012 Annual Campaign:

- Call Federation at 303.321.3399
- [Click here to donate](#)
- Send your pledge and/or check to: Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, 300 S. Dahlia St, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80246



### **Come to Israel for a 65th birthday celebration!**

Join us on our Colorado Mega Israel Journey. This is a community trip to Israel to celebrate Israel's 65th birthday. We hope to bring over 100 members of our community to Israel April 17-27, 2013. A partnership between many Jewish organizations across our

diverse community, Federation is coordinating this trip. You will fall in love with the land, traveling to Tel Aviv, the Galilee, Jerusalem and Denver's partnership areas – Ramat Ha'Negev and Lod. There will be opportunities for insightful exchanges with leading Israeli speakers and dignitaries. Join our community to have one-on-one engagement with agencies that support our community while experiencing the vibrant cultural diversity of Israel. To learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, email [MegaJourney@ajfcolorado.org](mailto:MegaJourney@ajfcolorado.org) or call Connie Eglund at 303.316.6499.

### **Get ready for the 2nd annual Hineni: Here to Serve Day of Service**

Following the immense success of the Day of Service in conjunction with the GA, YAD Cares, the social action arm of our Young Adult Department will be hosting another day of service on August 26th. Join YAD Coloradans, ages 21-45, in giving back to our community. From 8:00am to noon, young adults from across the state will go to local non-profits and give back. For more information, contact Devon Schad at 303.316.6477 or [dschad@ajfcolorado.org](mailto:dschad@ajfcolorado.org)



### **Upcoming Events:**

It's nearly that time of year again! Enjoy your sunshine and summer but mark your calendar for these upcoming events.

- The **Annual Meeting** will be held on August 30, 2012. Keep your eyes on your inboxes. We will be sending out invitations this summer. We hope to see you at the Annual Meeting where we will report out on the Reimagining process. We are also very excited to announce that the Charlotte B. Tucker Young Leadership Award will be awarded to Marnie Klein and Ean Seeb will be awarded the Ruth and Warren Toltz Young Leadership Award. Mazel tov to these fine young adults!
- **CHOICES**, our annual women's event drawing over 1300 women together in one room, will take place on November 7, 2012.
- The **Men's Event**, rumored to be the largest gathering of Jewish men this side of the Mississippi, will take place on November 8, 2012.

### **Colorado's very own Shlichah**

Last August, we brought Michal Uziyahu to our community for a three year partnership. In less than one year she has: built a community of young adults who are connected to the land of Israel, produced one of the most popular Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebrations in Colorado history, advocated on behalf of Israel at a number of organizations, businesses, and synagogues, started a new initiative—a Colorado—Israel business alliance, connected Israelis in the Colorado community to each other, and made an impact on all of us. We have not yet finished funding the Shlichah program. Help us keep Michal and her family in Colorado for the full three years. [Consider a gift to the Federation today.](#)



Thank you,

Doug Seserman  
President and CEO