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OUR MEMBERS

bicam
Board of Deputies of British Jews
CAM Simcha
Chai Cancer Care
Together we can cope
CST
Protecting our Jewish Community
The Fed
Caring for our Community
Jewish Museum London
Jami
Jewish Care
Jewish Volunteering Network
JW3
Jewish Women's Aid
Kisharon
Langdon
Empowering Independence
Lead
Leeds Jewish Representative Council
Liberal Judaism
London Jewish Forum
Maccabi GB
Masorti Judaism
Mitzvah Day
Nightingale Hammerson
NORWOOD
Supporting Jewish Schools
PajEs
PaJeS
Reform Judaism
Reshet
Sefardi
Sophardi
UJIA
University Jewish Students
UJS
Union of Jewish Students
UJC
University Jewish Chaplaincy
WIZO
World Jewish Relief
XZF
For Israel
ZYC
A MESSAGE FROM OUR RECENT CHAIR
JONATHAN GOLDSТЕIN

2021 was marked by new professional leadership in Claudia and Michelle. Responding on behalf of our members and the community to a once-in-a-century pandemic, we were successful in safeguarding our treasured institutions and protecting our most vulnerable.

We have just come out of a second year of living with Covid-19. It has continued to be distressing, disruptive to life, and incredibly painful for those who have lost loved ones over this period.

We responded to new challenges, including the summer conflict in the Middle East where we connected and coordinated a communal response and learned many lessons in the process. When antisemitism spilled onto our streets here during the conflict, we were able to meet the Prime Minister and Home Secretary and we are grateful that the government was resolute in its support for the community.

The end of this year also marked a graduation of sorts for an organisation very close to my heart. PaJeS (Partnerships for Jewish Schools), the JLC’s educational and schools support division which I chaired for five years before becoming JLC Chair, has just become independent of the JLC. PaJeS has been partly responsible for the exponential growth of Jewish schooling over the past decade. I am proud of the progress that PaJeS has made under the leadership of its Executive Director, Rabbi David Meyer OBE, and my successor as Chair, Sarah Anticoni.

The necessary restrictions we have had to jump in and out of in order to protect us all have impacted all of our work. Despite this, the JLC has continued to deliver on its key aims and priorities.

2021 saw a shift and allowed the JLC to plan for the future. We had all begun to learn to live with the virus and we used this year as an opportunity to plan ahead.

We increased the depth of skills within our team through the recruitment of a dedicated Head of Strategic Collaboration in Michelle Mitchell, a Membership Manager in Orit Cantor, and Josie Richardson who has become our first Digital Content Officer and has helped us up our game digitally and bring in-house capacity to assist members on content production. We were also able to ensure that we continued to support members and communities in Yorkshire and the East Coast through the recruitment of Leo Brosh as a Regional Manager.

Jonathan at a Chanukah celebration at Number 10 Downing Street
The now independent organisation will continue to provide first-class support for Jewish schools, plan for future provision and maintain top-quality Jewish education. This stage of development would not have been possible without Lady Lira Winston z"l, who sadly and unexpectedly passed away at the end of 2021. Lira had been with PaJeS since it was founded and she was a source of great wisdom and passion for Jewish education, and was a stalwart of the organisation. We will all miss her tremendously. May her memory be a blessing.

Lastly, I announced several months ago that I would be standing down as JLC Chair. This was not an easy decision but the right one for my family and business. I have enjoyed leading the JLC since 2017 and I’m immensely proud of its achievements. The experience of leading the fight against antisemitism within the Labour Party was a sobering one. The JLC played its part in making the case for British Jews during this period and it was an honour to have done so.

During my tenure I am proud to say that I upheld principles of tolerance and inclusivity throughout, and I hope as a community we will continue to treasure the middle ground and the ability to compromise.

I was lucky to have inherited a strong JLC from Sir Mick Davis and I have been fortunate to have had a small but dedicated team of professionals who have guided me throughout. I hope and believe that I am handing over the organisation to Keith Black in an even stronger position than I inherited. I wish him the best of luck and fully expect the JLC to continue to play a vital role in our community’s future.
MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-CEOs

2021 was another eventful year, full of uncertainty but one in which we have seen the JLC and our member organisations continue to flourish.

We were thrilled to begin the year as permanent Co-CEOs. As we set out last year, we have focused our work, together with our team, on the key areas of membership, communications, sustainability, and regional communities. 2021 was a year to recover, sustain and connect. We built stronger relationships with our members; we continued to support communal leaders in sustaining vital services and connecting them to nurture collaboration and cooperation.

Along with others in the charitable sector and the country, we have faced lockdowns, new variants of Covid-19, a changing environment, all while learning how to operate in a new hybrid workplace. Sometimes from home, sometimes from the office, always with an air of uncertainty about what lies round the corner. At the JLC, we have been mindful to balance caution with ambition and always strive to be as effective and efficient as we can be.

In 2021, we welcomed four new members of the team, two of which were brand new roles, and focused on better supporting our members. The talented pool of prospective candidates was inspiring and a testament to the increased level of understanding of the JLC’s work in the wider community. In hiring a Membership Manager and a Digital Content Officer, we have really increased the focus on member engagement. Making sure we know what our members’ priorities are and how we can assist them is what the JLC is all about.

Claudia and Michelle promoting The Fed’s ‘Not Alone’ poem

In addition to the increased internal resources we have offered our members, we have continued to strengthen lay and professional leadership. Lead has supported hundreds of leaders in their personal development through online conferences, CPD sessions, masterclasses, and leadership programme. We have also continued to build on the professional networks we utilised at the height of Covid-19 to better coordinate the lay and professional leaders across our community. We continue to learn about new approaches to fundraising, creating community, and adaptive leadership through these most challenging of times.
We have been so supported by our dedicated Trustees, dutifully led by our former Chair, Jonathan Goldstein. The dynamism we are proud to associate with the JLC has undoubtedly been seeded by Jonathan’s irrepresible energy. He was an active and present Chair and we have both been incredibly supported by him. He has inspired the professional staff, our Trustees, and our wider Council. We are delighted that Keith Black has now taken up the mantle. Having worked closely with him as a Trustee, we are confident that JLC will go from strength to strength under his leadership.

2021 brought some real moments. The government’s refusal to attend the Durban IV conference, something we raised with the Prime Minister and the then Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, was significant. We also saw the full proscription of Hamas as a terrorist organisation – something we have always maintained was necessary given its murderous antisemitic ideology and actions which inspire people in the UK. That this move was also supported by the Opposition was important. Making sure issues affecting the community have cross-party support is important in ensuring we do not unwittingly become a political football.

The conflict between Israel and Hamas in the early summer put immense strain on the Jewish community as we saw levels of antisemitism rise to unprecedented levels. From vitriolic social media content to convoys driving through Jewish areas hurling abuse at Jews, the feeling of anxiety was palpable. We were pleased to meet both the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary together with communal colleagues during the crisis in May. We do not take for granted that they requested to meet us and update us on the actions they will take to support the community. We reiterate our thanks for their support.

We continue to work closely with the Labour Party to ensure that the recommendations from the EHRC are fully implemented. While there is still some way to go, we have been pleased with the change in direction and attitude from the Party. We will continue to impress upon them the importance of working hard to regain the trust of the community as well as making sure they are updated on the concerns of the community through the impressive and impactful work of our member organisations.

Chanukah brought an opportunity to continue the tradition of installing a Chanukiah in Trafalgar Square in partnership with the Board of Deputies and the London Jewish Forum. We are grateful to the Mayor of London for his continued support for this annual event. Even though we were not able to physically gather as a community, our pride was visible for all Londoners to see. We were delighted to increase the light of the festival by partnering with the London Eye and the Jewish News where this iconic landmark was lit up for Chanukah.

As we look ahead to 2022, we hope to continue to build on the cooperation and collaboration we have seen across the community in the last two years. We are committed to using data to drive our strategic decision making, to support the UK charitable sector to be as strong, as effective, and as well led as possible. We hope to enable our member organisations and those in the wider community to look ahead at the coming years with optimism, energy, and positivity.
2021 AT A GLANCE

- **51** Councils Engaged
- **2.5 million** impressions on our social media platforms
- Supported efforts to create a Jewish population research panel to understand long-term trends
- **6,567** people engaged in leadership and development programmes between Lead, Reshet, PaJeS, and the JLC
- **232** Meetings with MPs
- Launched our Digital Development Project with 60 individuals from 43 organisations in attendance
- **400+** The JLC has had over 400 appearances in the media
Collective responsibility and collaborative leadership have been the driving principles of the JLC since it was founded, and underpin how the JLC Connects and Coordinates the Jewish charitable sector, Strengthens and Supports leadership across our community, and Magnifies and Amplifies the individual and collective voices of our member organisations.

VALUES

BE INCLUSIVE
We value diversity and work to make sure that our decisions at every level are informed by a wide variety of perspectives.

WORK COLLABORATIVELY
We work with our members and partners to achieve the best results.

USE EVIDENCE
We base what we say and do on the best research and on our members’ experiences and expertise.

BE CREATIVE
We look to bring fresh approaches and to add value to our members’ new ideas through innovation.

ACT RESPONSIBLY
We consider the long-term effectiveness and reputation of our organisation, our members’ and the Jewish community in all that we do.

THINK LONG-TERM
We take seriously our unique strategic responsibility to take the long view and plan for the sustainability of the community.

PURPOSE & VALUES

PURPOSE

MAGNIFY & AMPLIFY

CONNECT & COORDINATE

STRENGTHEN & SUPPORT

VALUES
The JLC works and aspires to facilitate long-term strategic planning for communal life. We aim to increase and improve coordination, cooperation, collaboration, and (where appropriate) to consolidate resources to enhance the effectiveness and impact of Jewish communal organisations. Through our membership, we have the ability to bring individuals and organisations together to share challenges and solutions. We Connect and Coordinate member organisations, be this through our JLC CEO Forum and Council Meetings or our cross-communal fora such as the HR Forum and our soon-to-be-established Fundraising Forum.

JLC members value the fact that we offer a “central point of expertise that they can refer to from time to time, helping them to locate resources and find others who can help resolve issues”. They also know that as a representative body for Jewish communal charities we “have the ability to coordinate members in line with our values and purpose”. We see ourselves as an integral part of the support network to our members and encourage them to call on us for advice, guidance, and consultation when and where they need it.

The JLC prides itself on identifying and tackling key communal challenges. We listen, understand, analyse, and aim to bring about change. A key example of this is the recognition by the JLC of the need for greater support for Jewish schools. From research undertaken and a subsequent investment in a response, PaJeS was formed. This year we celebrate PaJeS moving to a sustainable independent organisation.

In recent years, we have understood that the issue of youth mental health is a challenge across our community. In response to this, the JLC developed the Youth Mental Health Partnership (YMHP). This has brought together four organisations – Camp Simcha, Jami, Noa Girls, and Norwood – to explore how we can work better together to deliver impactful mental health services for young people by leveraging existing expertise and capacity. The partnership is developing a cross-referral system between the four organisations and has established an online directory to signpost people to services.

The recent years have shown us the value of collaboration and shared leadership in ways we could never have imagined. The JLC has demonstrated how valuable this is within the Jewish community and that a diversity of representation and voices can only strengthen and grow the work we are all able to achieve. Liberal Judaism remains proud of its membership of the JLC and is excited to see how our continued partnership develops in the years to come.

The partnership with the JLC is one of the most significant the Rep Council has. It enables us to play a part in the national conversation, and thereby to assess and prioritise what may appear otherwise to be purely local concerns. It also gives us access to the JLC’s executive and staff, whose ability, insight, and enthusiasm is a critical contributor to our ability to do our best for our community.

The seminar was relevant and highly informative, and great to engage with so many colleagues from other Jewish organisations.

47 politicians connected with members
We also work together with our member organisations in creative ways to Connect and Coordinate our membership. We were proud to sponsor the JLC Charity Fair at the Maccabi GB Community Fun Run in the summer. It was the largest in-person community event since the start of the pandemic and it was wonderful to see hundreds of members of the community participating to raise funds for an incredible 76 communal charities. We are delighted to be able to continue this partnership into 2022 and look forward to welcoming many more organisations to the JLC Charity Fair as we celebrate the very best of the UK Jewish charitable sector together.

The JLC continues to be data driven in its decision making and strategic thinking. Informed and supported by guidance from the Institute for Jewish Policy Research (JPR), we are helping coordinate members and communal organisations through a charity income survey. Through this piece of research, planned in 2021 and due to be carried out in 2022, we are seeking to understand the impact of Covid-19 on Jewish community organisations’ ability to secure funds over the last two years. The survey will also explore emerging fundraising trends and changes. We anticipate sharing best practice and lessons learnt across the participating organisations to support fundraising efforts across the community.

The JLC has been an invaluable source of support to The Fed during the pandemic, without which our organisation – and by extension the thousands we support – would have been far worse off. Its advice, guidance, and fundraising partnership has helped The Fed remain strong financially and operationally and this has enabled us to continue to meet the rising demand for help from the Greater Manchester Jewish community.

The Fed

We are also working with JPR to support efforts to create a Jewish population research panel to understand long term trends and to help strategically inform our work and that of our members. Most recently this has included in-depth research into the community’s response to Covid-19 and, through PaJeS, analysing the most recent census data alongside assessing future schools’ provision.

In response to a flare-up in hostilities in the Middle East in 2021, the JLC, alongside the Board of Deputies and UJIA, coordinated our communal response to the crisis, bringing together all organisations that work within the field to ensure a wide umbrella and united response. We also worked with the UJIA to support young people who were in Israel at the time, enabling them to tell their own stories in their own words.

One of the fundamental principles that guide our communal work is cross-organisational cooperation. The JLC, in convening the lead organisations, and facilitating knowledge sharing and best practices, performs a vital role. Furthermore, its investment in Israel-related research is of great value informing our own analysis.
STRENGTHEN & SUPPORT

The JLC Strengthens and Supports the work of our member organisations by providing varied opportunities to enhance the skill, expertise, and development of communal leaders. This includes the activities of JLC division, Lead. Established in 2011, Lead is the only organisation of its kind working cross-communally in the UK Jewish community to offer leadership programmes, events, and networking opportunities for trustees, lay, professional, and emerging communal leaders.

Lead is proud to have continued to provide training, resources, and support to hundreds of community professionals and lay leaders throughout the pandemic. This includes our annual Trustees’ Conference and Trustee Development Programme, organised in partnership with JLC member, Jewish Volunteering Network (JVN). In 2021, the Conference welcomed leaders from 41 communal organisations and the Development Programme engaged with more than 50 Trustees, all at varying points on their leadership journey.

Continuing Professional Development has been a real area of growth in the Lead offering and we were delighted to welcome 46 participants to our second Annual Professionals Conference in 2021. Building strong relationships amongst colleagues has been key to successful collaboration during the pandemic, and creating a culture of continuous development has been a core value of Lead over the last few years. We look forward to what we hope will be an in-person Conference in 2022!

This provision also includes our popular CPD programme, ‘Follow the Leader’, which provided more than 100 development opportunities to participants from a wide variety of sessions, which included the topics of Unconscious Bias, Delivering Effective Digital Facilitation, Crucial Conversations, and Financial Management.

350
More than 350 development experiences through Lead including participation from 75% of JLC member organisations

"CST has hugely benefitted as a member of the JLC. We enjoy a close working relationship on public affairs matters and have recently been working on a Middle Leadership Development Programme for our staff through Lead. The JLC brings professionalism and insight to the community and we are proud to be a member."

CST

46
attendees from 29 organisations at the Jewish Community Professionals Conference

"Good governance is without doubt one of the top ingredients of an effective charity. The Lead and JVN Trustee Conference provides critical insight, learning, and first-hand experience to assist charities to ensure their own governance credentials are met."

Jewish Community Trustees’ Conference participant
The JLC is proud to have created the community’s first Digital Development Project which aims to support community leaders and organisations to increase and improve use of digital tools to enhance their productivity and effectiveness. Having conducted initial research with 19 organisations on a range of areas, including expenditure on technology and digital software, this then enabled us to identify areas of focus, on which we facilitated a set of masterclasses. Attendees were so enthused by these sessions that we ran a further full-day training session on Power BI, Microsoft’s data visualisation software. Underpinned by the JLC’s ability to bring Jewish community organisations together to learn from each other, we will be facilitating more opportunities for shared learning and development in this project in 2022. This will include the roll-out of the NCVO’s digital maturity matrix, understanding how to use data and evidence to monitor and evaluate work and improve service delivery, the establishment of a shared database of software usage and suppliers, and the creation of social media “how-to” toolkits.

53 attendees from 28 organisations at the Trustee Development Programme in partnership with JVN

“A very informative conference – excellent speakers and great for networking and learning from other charities.”

Jewish Community Trustees’ Conference participant

Maccabi GB is delighted to be a longstanding member of the JLC. As an organisation we have benefitted hugely from the support and training available to us, helping us all to develop as individuals and enhancing our work within the community and beyond.

Maccabi GB

This was the best trustee conference and workshop I have been to this year.

Jewish Community Trustees’ Conference participant

It was really interesting to meet professionals from diverse Jewish organisations and to learn from them. As we move on from the pandemic we'll need to explore new ways of working, and this Conference provided a lot of food for thought.

Jewish Community Trustees’ Conference participant

65 attendees from 41 organisations at the Jewish Community Trustees’ Conference in partnership with JVN

Lead’s Professionals Conference was an excellent opportunity to engage with fellow professionals and improve one’s personal performance in an inclusive space, supported by engaging experts.

Jewish Community Professionals Conference participant
Reshet (meaning ‘network’ in Hebrew) is a joint project, established by UJIA and the Jewish Leadership Council, enabling youth organisations and informal education professionals to enrich, inspire, and further enhance young people’s lives.

Reshet has continued to be the leading communal agency providing resources, advice and training on safeguarding. It has led the central community response to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) providing training for communal bodies in safeguarding.

During 2021, Reshet supported the Jewish informal education sector to prepare for and deliver a wide range of education experiences, including residential camps and leadership training for young leaders. The continual changes in Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines meant that up-to-date advice and guidance was invaluable in ensuring online and in-person activities were safely delivered through youth movements and educational organisations. Reshet sourced and procured Covid-19 tests, working closely with youth movements and organisations to navigate and pivot appropriately. Working closely with communal and national partners, including the Department for Education as well as other governmental departments, Reshet has contributed to government consultations regarding out-of-school settings.
In 2021, PaJeS continued to support schools, as demonstrated through some of our key areas.

As the community’s leading agency for strategic support for schools, PaJeS worked closely with school senior leaders to identify challenges impacting Jewish schools and led the way in assessing and addressing them. This included direct support for schools and community-wide initiatives, such as our Covid-19 response or commissioning research and implementing strategies to address the provision of places across the community. Since January, 323 governors attended our workshops, citing how “knowledgeable, engaging, and interesting” the sessions have been.

On public affairs, over the years, PaJeS developed close working relationships with key educational public bodies, including the Department for Education, Ofsted, the Prime Minister’s Office, the Education Select Committee, and regional and national school commissioner offices. Our solution-led approach has seen us become a trusted voice for Jewish schools and partner for governmental bodies. We were asked by Ofsted to identify opportunities for them to connect with schools, and the keynote speech at our residential headteacher seminar was delivered by Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector, Amanda Spielman.

The wellbeing of our students and staff is seen as a key priority for the work of PaJeS. To support this, PaJeS partners in the Heads Up Kids programme and developed the Torah, ‘Wellbeing and Me’ curriculum which teaches children strategies for wellbeing through the weekly parsha (Torah portion). PaJeS also oversees the JLC’s Schools Wellbeing Project, which has continued to evolve and deliver support through Jewish schools. The project’s eight pilot schools are working to implement a framework for building a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing using the ‘Wellbeing and Me’ website. This framework engages and supports children, staff, teachers, and families to help build resilience, encourage kindness, and signpost to support and services where appropriate and necessary. We have had 940 families join us online at the 10 wellbeing events run in 2021.

Over the years, PaJeS has developed high-quality, innovative, and engaging curricula for primary Jewish Studies and primary and secondary Ivrit, paired with professional development for teachers. This year has seen secondary schools begin to use the J-Tracks curriculum, covering Modern Jewish History, Israel Studies and Ethical Dilemmas. Owing to the pandemic, PaJeS ran a range of annual special projects for schools online, including the primary and secondary debate, the primary Ivrit Spelling Bee, and PaJeS Pitch.

Whether it is headteachers, governors, SENDCOs, administrators, Jewish studies, Ivrit teachers, or remote learning leaders, PaJeS now has more than 25 networks offering regular opportunities for school staff and stakeholders to collaborate, share best, practice and learn from each other. Over the years, close and mutually supportive professional relationships have been formed across the spectrum of Jewish schools. This aspect of PaJeS’ work is consistently highlighted by schools as being one of the most important and beneficial.
The JLC seeks to Magnify and Amplify the work of our members, raising the profile of their causes, campaigns, and initiatives. We aim to connect members to decision makers at all levels of government and provide access to those in positions of power, able to support change. We also Magnify and Amplify the work of our members within the community, using our platform and various fora, to increase awareness about workstreams, projects, and campaigns.

Our external affairs work has continued at pace throughout 2021 where we maintained our ability to provide ongoing support for members and coordinated the community’s response to key issues.

Through our regional managers – Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire, and Greater London through the London Jewish Forum – we support our members and smaller communities, connecting them to regional leaders in all tiers of local and national government.

We have expanded our support for Greater Manchester, seconding our regional manager Marc Levy to the Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester and Region as its first ever Chief Executive. Marc has professionalised the Rep Council and creates synergy and collaboration between disparate parts of the local community. He does this all while maintaining his wider JLC duties within the region.

It is our links with Ministers, Shadow Ministers, and backbench MPs that has delivered tangible benefits for the community. By listening to our members, we understand the critically important issues they face and we can utilise our strong relationships to request written and oral questions in the Parliament, and the ability to have extensive discussions on important issues and pieces of legislation.
We have used our relationships to talk to policy makers about the community’s concern around online harms, facilitating countless meetings between policy makers and our members, including the Community Security Trust and Antisemitism Policy Trust. This has ensured that the government is fully aware of our aspirations for this critically important piece of legislation.

Working closely with local government, our regional managers have developed close links with the Metro Mayors across the regions alongside the leadership of all key councils. These working relationships have proved invaluable when advocating for the needs of the respective local community during the pandemic.

“(...)”

The JRC and JLC continue to work in complete synergy to ensure the diverse community is proactively represented on a local and national level. This partnership has proved invaluable in assisting with coordinating the community internally whilst simultaneously raising our concerns with those elected to represent us. The intention is for this partnership to grow even stronger. This will ensure the JRC and JLC remain the focal point for all key stakeholders on issues that affect the Jewish community across Greater Manchester. On behalf of the Jewish community across Greater Manchester, I would like to thank the JLC for its dedication and vision in supporting the JRC in promoting our ambitious agenda.

The Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester and Region

Meeting with Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, alongside Chief Rabbi Mirvis, Marie van der Zyl, Lord John Mann, Mark Gardner
It is these links that have enabled stakeholder engagement with key local authority politicians to demonstrate the work of communal organisations. Arranging site visits for Council Leaders to communal buildings has proven particularly successful.

On the issue of antisemitism, during the spike experienced in May, these relationships were creatively utilised. A number of joint statements alongside key local politicians were released alongside the CST, helping to reassure all parts of the community. We also created an award-winning advert with Muslims Against Anti-Semitism in response to the increase of anti-Jewish hate crimes.

Russel Cohn, Marc Levy and Mark Adlestone OBE DL with Labour Shadow Cabinet member, Lisa Nandy

Leo Brosh and Bess Robertson from the Darlington Reform Congregation with Mayor of Tees Valley, Ben Houchen

The JLC ran an award-winning advert in response to the situation in the Middle East in collaboration with Muslims Against Anti-Semitism
SOCIAL MEDIA

During 2021 we sought to improve our digital presence and offering. The JLC has expanded its digital reach by using Instagram in addition to other social networks as a way to promote our members’ work. It has already been proven to be an effective way to help members with their campaigns and celebrate their achievements, as well as keeping people up to date with JLC and Lead events.

We continue to develop our offers of support in this arena to members. Now more than ever, social media has become a vital way to engage stakeholders as the pandemic has forced us to connect more online. We have spent time over the past year trialling working personally with members, such as Jewish Women’s Aid, to help promote and support their campaigns. This is something that we are planning to build upon over the course of 2022. The aim is to be able to work with our members to provide and collaborate on original, tailored social content that helps elevate and publicise their campaigns. In addition to this, as part of our Digital Development Project, we have begun providing consultancy and networking groups that enable peer-to-peer learning. We are also developing ways to guide and support organisations through what it means to develop a social media strategy and improve on what they are currently doing.
MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW CHAIR
KEITH BLACK

I am hugely honoured that the Council of Membership has entrusted me to chair the JLC, and I am very conscious of the responsibility that this entails.

I must pay a huge tribute to my predecessor Jonathan who has been such a wonderful Chair. Cometh the hour, cometh the man – he has brought such energy, imagination, and bravery to our communal challenges. We wish him all the best and look forward to his return to communal engagement in due course.

We live in a community that is almost 400 years old, and over that time has built a network of organisations and a communal infrastructure. We have built a community that has layered over the fabric of British life our own mini welfare state.

The JLC has a very simple mission: to help all our members do their wonderful work. At our finest, we will help you Connect and Coordinate, we will Magnify and Amplify your voices, and we will Strengthen and Support your leadership.

I have spent enough time around the communal table and through my own business life to know the loneliness and difficulties of running an organisation. The financial challenges, the people challenges, the strategic challenges, crisis management and governance issues are something the Jewish charity sector has had to confront, and the JLC is here to help with all these challenges. We have no agenda other than to support our members and ensure the long-term vitality of our community.

My first job will, of course, be to meet our stakeholders. I am very much in listening mode and I want to spend the first few months of my Chairmanship finding out about our members and the challenges they face, understanding how the JLC can make a positive impact on their organisations.

I have been asked about the JLC’s relationship with the Board of Deputies and whether the community requires both organisations. My answer is a resounding yes. The JLC looks after its members in the way I have described. The Board, one of our members, is the community’s democratic public voice. I have enormous respect for the Board’s great work and for its leadership.

From my perspective, there are some issues facing the community that require clear and focused attention.

Ensuring that our community continues to coherently thrive and prosper as its demography changes will require from us all collective and imaginative thinking. We need to understand the impact of that evolution and continue to ensure that all sectors of our community are brought together.
The fight against antisemitism will continue with the JLC’s full support. We must not see ourselves as victims; we must stand as proud British Jews, unafraid to live whatever Jewish life we choose to live in this great country.

Our relationship with Israel is getting more complex by the day. We must gear up to defend Israel’s right to exist and fight for the just cause of her legitimacy. We must confront the forces of hatred and deception and unveil both ignorance and lies. We will continue to rise to that challenge.

I am particularly passionate about ensuring our youth are engaged with the community. They are our lifeblood and we must give them maximum attention. Likewise, we are extremely fortunate to have a very talented cohort of professionals working within the community. I am continuously blown away by them; we must invest in them and provide them with fulfilling career paths.

And I am sure there are huge strategic opportunities post-Covid to make ourselves more efficient, more effective and relevant, to become more digital, to collaborate more, and to reduce overlap.

As Jews, we do not see ourselves as individuals living separate lives; we are individuals living a shared life. We must ensure that our charitable sector is invigorated with new leaders, new volunteers, new ideas, and, of course, new donors. We must enthuse, encourage, excite, and enable – we have a very precious ecosystem of communal support. We at the JLC do not take it for granted and will work with you to ensure that its future is safe and secure.
FINANCES

2021 saw a reduction in donated income for the JLC from previous years. This was anticipated given the impact of the pandemic. We responded by reducing expenditure accordingly.

Whilst these figures are unaudited owing to timing, the amounts shown are based on year-end management accounts and are rounded to the nearest £1,000. Following the move of PaJeS to be independent in early 2022, the financials have been separated to aid analysis of both the JLC/Lead and PaJeS separately.

The JLC and Lead had a combined income of £1,163,000. This overall figure saw membership fees maintained at reasonably steady levels in comparison to previous years and earned income rise owing to increased professional development services through Lead. Donated income has fallen in comparison to 2020. The organisation has ensured that it has continued to be in a position to build modest reserves despite the challenging financial circumstances.

The significant majority of expenditure for the JLC and Lead is spent on the professional staff team, who drive the strategic projects, provide regional community support, membership connections, and leadership development support for the organisation. There was a significant reduction in expenditure on programming and events owing to the nature of delivery moving to online only. Governance and professional fees were reduced from previous years and grant giving remained at a steady level. Office and operational costs were significantly reduced, in part because of less use of the office space and resources as well as reductions in costs based on upgrading and consolidating some external services.

PaJeS income increased during 2021, mainly as a result of its successful crowdfunding campaign. This supported its move to be independent and to secure its activity over the coming years. Expenditure also dropped in comparison to 2020 as a result of adaptation in delivery of programmes and postponement of projects that hope to return in person during 2022.

As we look ahead to 2022, the organisation continues to budget prudently and hopes to be able to demonstrate modest increases in donations during the year that will enable it to build on the success of new initiatives such as the Digital Development Project that was launched in January 2022.

These figures do not include restricted funds that make up some of the major projects facilitated by the JLC, such as the Schools Wellbeing Project. These are funded from ringfenced donations.
OUR TRUSTEES

Keith Black – Chair
Debra Fox – Vice Chair
Mark Adlestone
Adrian Cohen (Trustee until May 2021)
Jonathan Goldstein (Chair until January 2022)
Michael Goldstein
Louise Jacobs
Laura Marks
Mark Morris
Marie van der Zyl
Suzi Wolfson
Hilda Worth
Jonathan Zenios (Joined May 2021)
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