MENDOCINO COAST JEWISH C¢MMUNITY P.O. Box 291 Little River, CA 95456 www.mcjc.org

February 2024

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the MCJC Board, thank you for increasing your support during the past year. A year ago, we asked you to give more generously than ever before to enable MCJC to create new programs, and share the blessings of our unique community with teens, young adults, families with children, and those new to the coast. Your generous response was a resounding endorsement of the direction MCJC is taking, allowing us to embark on new programs, and enabling MCJC to better serve our evolving community, now and in the years to come. Your support is also helping us repair and maintain our historic Shul building.

This year has brought challenges and heartbreak to the Jewish community as the war in Israel and Gaza continues. Rabbi Margaret Holub created opportunities for our community to share our pain and draw comfort in a safe and loving space.

Rabbi Paige Lincenberg continues to expand connections to teens and families and introduce us to new traditions in song and prayer. Thanks to her outreach, our Sukkah was built by local Jewish teens and others new to the coast. The MCJC Young Adults continue to celebrate the holidays, holding bonfires and getting to know each other and Judaism, and helping the Justice Group build a sukkah with the indigenous community.

Rabbi Holub led us as we celebrated the holidays, many benefiting from our hybrid Zoom system, drawing record numbers for B'nai Mitzvot, Shabbat and the High Holidays. Margaret bound our souls together, sounding the shofar each morning of Elul through Sukkot. She led weekly Kabbalat Shabbat and nightly Hanukkah candle lighting; and she married, laid to rest, and comforted countless members of our community. Margaret's new class, based on *Angels in America*, has been greeted with enthusiasm.

Our Hanukkah party attracted a diverse crowd, some in their parents' arms; Young Adults; and others, some well into their 90's. Lively karaoke music, dancing, a latke contest, and the annual Hanukkah raffle were fabulous.

As we continue these programs, repair and maintain our historic Shul, and explore new ways to serve our community, we depend upon your generous support. Our goal is to receive contributions from 100% of our members. Check out the reverse side of this letter for a range of suggested contributions. We ask you to support MCJC at whatever level you can.

B' shalom and sincere appreciation,

MCJCC Board of Directors: Raven Deerwater, Lisa Fredrickson, Marnie Press, Nina Ravitz, Alix Sabin, Susan Tubbesing

Regular Contributing Membership, \$650 and up/ Fair Share Contributing Membership, \$500

MCJC operates on the "fair share" concept, dividing total expenses by the number of households in our community. If every household were able to contribute \$500, we would be able to cover our expenses. Because not every household can do this, when you give at the Regular Member level, you are contributing a portion for those unable to do so -- an act of tzedakah.

Please make your pledge and send it in today to MCJC, PO Box 291, Little River, CA 95456. Contributions are on an annual calendar basis, so even if you just completed your 2023 contribution, hearing from you as early as possible in 2024 will enable us to meet ongoing obligations throughout the year.

Regular Contributing Membership	\$650 - \$2 <i>,</i> 000
Fair Share Contributing Membership	\$500
Limited Income Contributing Membership	\$295 - \$600
Family with Young Children Contributing Membership	\$295 - \$600
<i>Megillah</i> only	\$36 annually

MCJC accepts contributions on our website through PayPal. Please know that PayPal deducts 3% as a convenience fee. You may wish to add this amount to PayPal donations. You may also set up payments through your bank or through a charitable trust. Please contact Raven Deerwater with questions about any of these options.

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We also welcome contributions to our designated funds: the **Bikkur Cholim Fund**, **Judith Meisel Education Fund**, and **MCJC Building Fund**. For additional information, please visit the MCJC website: <u>mcjc.org/designated funds</u>.

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It is customary to contribute when you observe a life cycle event:

Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Wedding, Funeral -- Contributing Members \$500/Non-contributors \$750 **Baby Naming, Unveiling / Other** -- Contributing Members \$200/Non-contributors \$300

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If you have any questions about your contribution or financial matters, please contact the Treasurer, Raven Deerwater at <u>raven@taxpractitioner.com</u>, or Finance Committee Members Susan Tubbesing at susan.tubbesing@gmail.com, or Alix Sabin at alixsabin@gmail.com.

As always, please do not discuss financial contributions with Rabbi Holub or other board members.

If you wish to be removed from our list, please contact Susan Tubbesing at susan.tubbesing@gmail.com