



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

2024 IMPACT REPORT

Your Federation, Making A Difference





WELCOME MESSAGE

In 2024, the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass intentionally invested in what matters most: our people, our programs, and our shared future.

We expanded camp scholarships to nurture the next generation, empowered individuals to stand up against antisemitism, and strengthened Holocaust education to foster empathy and understanding. Every initiative reflected our core mission: to build a connected, compassionate, and resilient Jewish community in central Kentucky.

Thanks to your generosity, a significant portion of our resources went toward meeting people where they are, supporting families, uplifting Jewish learning, and bringing us together in meaningful ways. We also provided direct assistance to those in need, sustained vital partnerships, and strengthened the infrastructure that keeps our work strong and steady.

As we look to 2025, we carry with us a deep sense of hope that the seeds we've planted will continue to blossom into new leadership, stronger community bonds, and a lasting commitment to Jewish values and collective action.

Join us in 2025 to dream big and help us imagine what the future can look like for Jewish Lexington. With your continued partnership, we'll keep showing up for each other, for our future, and for the generations to come.

**Mindy Haas,
Executive Director**



FEDERATION LEADERSHIP

Your Federation is run by a dedicated Board of Directors and a Staff who work tirelessly to make a difference in our community. Thank you to the following board and staff members who make our Federation so special!

2024 Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Seth Salomon - *President*
Aaron Ann Cole-Funfsinn - *VP/Secretary*
Jill Angelucci - *VP/Secretary*
Justin Sadle - *Treasurer*
Kathy Stein - *At-Large/CRC*
Ilona Szekely - *At-Large*

Directors

Evalyn Block
Andrea Grunberger Moore
Mimi Kaufman
Fran Mandel
Sam Mischner
Ricki Rosenberg
Erik Schwartz

JFB Staff

Mindy Haas - *Executive Director*
Daniel Baker - *Assistant Executive Director*
Joseph Eskin - *Director of Jewish Community Expansion*
Paula Mertens - *Director of Jewish Family Services*
Joy Fisher - *Outreach Coordinator*
Susan Voglesong - *Youth Program Manager*
Carly Conatser - *PJ Library Coordinator*





OUR PARTNERS

Our Community Partners

We introduce ourselves as an inclusive agency working with and for the entire local Jewish community. As such, we're proud to work with all of our community partners to co-sponsor events, collaborate on mitzvah projects, and participate in educational programming. Thanks to our local Jewish Community Partners for their constant support of Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass!



Our Sponsors

We are so thankful to the following business partners for showing their support through program and event sponsorships in 2024.



Jewish Heritage Fund

A MORE PERFECT UNION The Jewish Partnership for Democracy



Spotlight: Maggid: Jewish Storytelling

Over 200 attendees have enjoyed Maggid, an inspiring series where neighbors and friends share real stories. With diverse speakers and a wide range of Jewish topics, Maggid offers something meaningful for everyone!



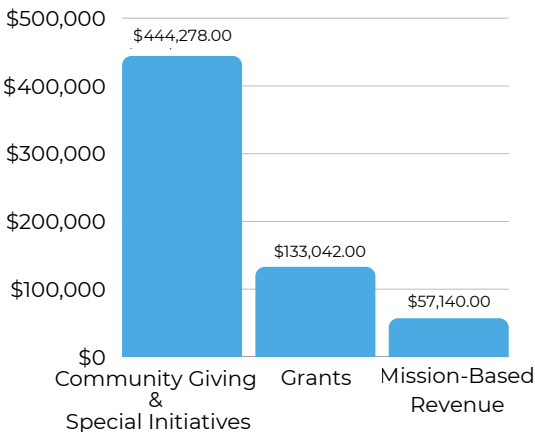
BY THE NUMBERS



2024 Revenue: Powered by Our Community

Our annual revenue, consisting of Annual Campaign, grants, and event income totaled **\$634,460**, reflecting both the strength of our community and the trust placed in our mission.

2024 Final Revenue Breakdown



These revenue streams position us to **serve more people**, expand key initiatives, and build a vibrant, inclusive Jewish future.



Our community believes in sustaining Jewish life through fundraising efforts. **\$444,000+** raised.

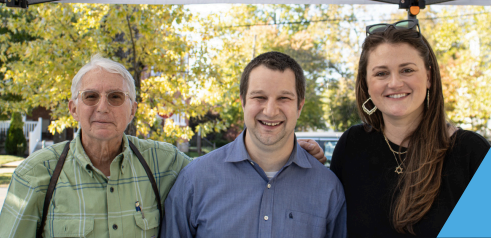


We are worthy of investment, resulting in grants from partner organizations. **\$133,000+** raised.



Our programs bring in valuable support, demonstrating growing engagement and interest. **\$57,000+** raised.





WE OFFER SUPPORT

Emergency Campaigns

Each year, JFB collects funding to aid in emergency relief efforts for natural disasters and other areas where we can serve as support to those in need. In 2024, our community supported flood relief efforts throughout the Commonwealth, aided in recovery after Hurricane Helene, and more.

\$21,000+ raised
for emergency support

Endow Jewish Lexington Fund

Our endowment ensures a lasting source of support for Jewish Lexington. Our goal is to raise \$4 million, and we are proud to share that we are already halfway there. **JOIN US!**

Endow Jewish Lexington Fund:
\$2,028,128 total committed
Received as of 12/31/2024:
\$987,120

JFB Reserve Fund

This fund has been set aside to be used with intention as we work to expand our community and improve our local Jewish infrastructure. Reinvesting these dollars back into our community will strengthen our future and support our growth long-term.

\$228,768 total
(2024: \$54,000+ included)

GOODGIVING CHALLENGE

\$37,000+
Raised
46
Unique Donors



The Blue Grass Community Foundation's week-long fundraising campaign, the "GoodGiving Challenge," resulted in over \$2 million raised for KY nonprofits. Our community rallied together to bring in over \$37,000 for JFB, reflecting a few Annual Campaign pledge payments, special match prizes, and dedicated donors.



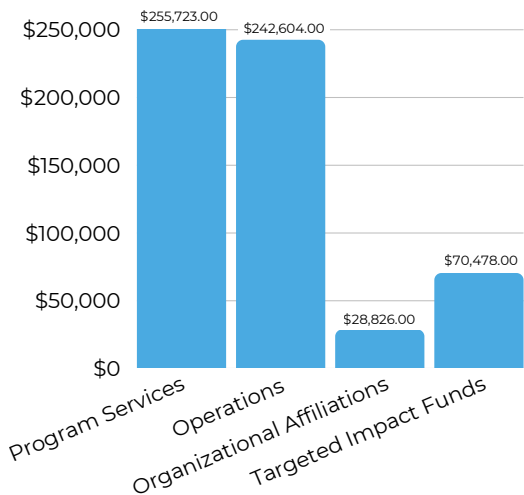
YOUR GIFT AT WORK



2024 Expenses: Every Dollar with Purpose

In 2024 we invested into our mission—each dollar carefully directed to strengthen Jewish life, support our community, and sustain our operations with transparency and intention.

2024 Expenditure Breakdown



Every dollar spent this year was more than an expense, it was an investment. In **people**. In **programs**. In **possibility**.



Program Services **\$255,723**

Over 44% of our spending is invested into programs and services that touch lives every day:

Camp Shalom, Holocaust education, holiday celebrations, and emergency services. Includes the dedicated staff who lead these efforts with heart and expertise.



Operations **\$242,604**

We believe in a strong, ethical, and efficient infrastructure. These costs include administrative salaries, financial compliance, IT support, and day-to-day operations, all essential to maintaining our professional standard of excellence and accountability.



Targeted Impact Funds **\$70,478**

In addition to emergency campaign initiatives, we distribute funds to Jewish organizations, individuals, and causes. Your generosity allows us extend our reach beyond borders and walls, emphasizing the importance of connecting with others and helping those in need.



Organizational Affiliations **\$28,826**

Our memberships with Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) and Network of Jewish Human Services Agencies (NJHSA) connect us to national resources that strengthen our local work. These partnerships are key investments in the future of Jewish life in Central Kentucky.



ENGAGING THE FUTURE

Our events and community programs are designed to make a meaningful impact - they connect our community members, celebrate our traditions, create educational enrichment, and much more. We aim to reach every person we can, developing programs and opportunities for all ages and demographics to create a sense of belonging and inclusion for all of us.



CAMP SHALOM

131
Camp Weeks Sold
70
Unique Campers
19
Field Trips

Camp Shalom provides a Jewish summer camp experience to our local children, giving them the opportunity to connect with both Jewish and non-Jewish peers in a fun, educational, and engaging setting. Through arts and crafts, field trips, music, challah braiding, and more, this beloved four-week, community-based program creates meaningful Jewish memories that last a lifetime.

PJ Library hosted and collaborated on 12 gatherings and established monthly programming for our newest PJ families through PJ Yoga. Highlights included a Game Day and a Book Swap for our PJ Our Way readers, the annual favorite Hamantaschen Bake Off, a Tu B'Shevat Hike, family Havdalah nights, and festive Hanukkah programs in collaboration with local elementary schools.

PJ LIBRARY

162
Active Enrollments
114
Families Engaged
42
PJ Our Way
Subscriptions



GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND

Developing new methods and opportunities for engagement was a key area of focus in 2024. Through our Jewish Community Initiative (JCI), collaboration with community organizations, and spearheading creative programming and events, we've paved the way for an enhanced and expanded Jewish community with a highly engaged Jewish future.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

In addition to the dedicated time spent with every client in need, our Jewish Family Services (JFS) Director also maintains memberships with national and local organizations to bring resources to our community, coordinates programs to support those who are aging, aids in completing paperwork for insurance and social services, and organizes programs for the students of the Stewart Home and School in Frankfort.

- \$4,000**
Emergency Assistance Distributed
- \$6,000**
Camp/Israel Scholarships
- 165+**
Referrals to community support resources
- 445+**
Client touchpoints

JEWISH COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (JCI)

- 50+**
One-On-One Conversations
- 23**
Jews in 20's & 30's engaged in programming
- 17**
Connections with Jewish organizations around the country

Through JCI, JFB is strengthening Lexington's Jewish fabric by deepening engagement, reaching out to stakeholders, and developing projects to make Jewish life fuller, more meaningful, and more collaborative. Through our work, previously unengaged people are finding connection and community, and ideas are being generated that will power the future of Jewish Lexington.

OUR REACH



Bringing People Together

2024 was a year brimming with connection and shared experiences in Lexington. It isn't enough for JFB to produce a few simple programs each year. We strive to engage all age groups, all demographics, and all interests in our efforts. Our wide range of programming - from **Maggid: A Jewish Storytelling Initiative** at the start of the year, to **Lexington's 2nd Annual Hanukkah Market** in December - all brought community members together for a diverse number of topics, celebrations, and learning opportunities. Each event, from the educational to the festive, wove a richer tapestry of shared life and connection in Lexington.

Major Programs Recap

Maggid: A Jewish Storytelling Initiative

6
Events
210+ Total Attendees



Sukkah Hop

9
Community Partners
120+ Attendees



Lexington's 2nd Annual Hanukkah Market

26 Local Vendors
125+ Attendees



JFB Presents: The Challah Prince

3 Partner Events
200+ Total Attendees



INSPIRING COMMUNITY



Holocaust Education & Remembrance

We commit to the principle of “Never Forget” through our annual Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration, our partnership with the UK-JHF Holocaust Education Initiative, and increased efforts to fight antisemitism in our schools.



Annual Community
Yom HaShoah
Commemoration
110+ attendees



UK-JHF Holocaust
Education Initiative
Dinner
100+ attendees



Holocaust and
Humanities Center Bus
Trip to Cincinnati
20+ attendees

Women's Philanthropy

Women's Philanthropy expanded in 2024, focusing on laughter, learning, and giving back. We created empowering spaces for women to connect, grow, and give in ways that are personally meaningful and impactful.

4
Social Programs

75+
Attendees



Spotlight: Ladies, Latkes & Libations

On December 17, more than 35 women enjoyed a home-hosted cocktail crafting session which included latkes and Hanukkah cookie decorating to benefit the Stewart Home and School in Frankfort.



THANK YOU



This year, we planted seeds of connection, of care, and of courage. Every dollar, every program, every single moment of engagement helped shape a stronger and more vibrant Jewish community.

But our work isn't done. In 2025, we are working to count and connect with every member of our Jewish community, helping ensure everyone across Central Kentucky is heard, seen, and valued.

Let's dream even bigger in the year ahead.

With your continued partnership, we'll nurture the next generation, amplify Jewish voices, and imagine a future where everyone feels proud to be part of Jewish Lexington.

Thank you for standing with us.

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