

The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation

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Dear Friends

We all know the challenges of the past year have been extremely difficult from the health, social, and economic ramifications of the coronavirus pandemic, the political polarization of society, the rise of tribalism and attacks on justice and democracy, as well as the ever present scourge of anti-Semitism and vilification of Israel. These threats have placed Jews and Jewish support organizations under severe stress to meet the daily needs of our fellow Jews. We need to rise to this challenge and provide today as those have provided for us in the past.

Each year we look forward to this opportunity to ask you to renew your membership with your Greater Altoona Jewish Federation, as it is truly a mitzvah and an honor to give you the opportunity to help your Jewish community, and Jews in Israel and around the world.

As Jews we measure our good deeds on a yearly basis, and in this spirit, it is time to meet our responsibility for our Jewish community and for Jews throughout the world by renewing our memberships by making a gift to our annual campaign.

Your Federation uses your annual gift to fund programs that make a difference in the lives of your neighbors. By giving to the annual campaign you make it clear that you are a member of our Jewish community. You make it clear that you care about educating our children and having Jewish cultural and education experience/programs. You make it clear that serving our seniors is important and that a visible Jewish presence in our interfaith and secular community is needed. By giving, you support the state of Israel in these challenging times and support Jews in need throughout the world.

Please plan on making a difference this year by becoming a member of the Greater Altoona Jewish Federation by making a gift to the annual campaign for 2021.

Judaism is not only about finding God but bring Jews together, to live in peace and with purpose. Let us stand together as one, live generously, and be counted as a member of our community with your annual campaign gift.

Please review the enclosed information and return your pledge card and/or gift today.

Thank you,

The Executive Committee of the Greater Altoona Jewish Federation

Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh v Zeh - Every Jew is Responsible for one another



As the Talmud says, "I did not find the world desolate when I entered it; my fathers planted for me before I was born: so do I plant for those who come after me."

To quote Maimonides, "We are obligated to be more scrupulous in fulfilling the commandment of charity than any other positive commandment because charity is the sign of a righteous man"

The Talmud tells us that, "he who executes charity and justice is regarded as though he had filled the entire world with kindness."

"Oh, if only... the whole world would realize that people were really kindly disposed to one another, that they are all equal and everything else is transitory! How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment, we can start now, start slowly changing the world.. give yourself.. even if it is only kindness!... give again and again, don't lose courage.." Anne Frank.

To quote Ellie Wiesel, "The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference. Our obligation is to give meaning to life and in doing so to overcome the passive, indifferent life. Indifference, to me, is the epitome of evil."

As Rabbi Hillel was quoted, "if I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am not for others, what am I? And if not now, then when?"

As the Talmud says, "he that gives should never remember, and he that receives should never forget. Whoever rescues a single life earns as much merit as though he had rescued the entire world."

Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh v Zeh
Every Jew is Responsible for One Another

Greater Altoona Jewish Federation

**The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation/Jewish Federations of North America
2021 Annual Campaign and Membership Drive**

Each year our Federation works to strengthen and preserve Jewish life in our community. We are the only organization that is involved in all aspects of Jewish life in our community. Our Federation is there for Jews of all denominations and beliefs. The Federation is the one place that we stand together as one. Having all Greater Altoona Jews belong to one organization helps to ensure our future as we go *l'dor v'dor*, from generation to generation. If you believe in preserving Judaism in our community, and supporting Jews in need throughout the world, you need to be a member of the Greater Altoona Jewish Federation.

Where Your Federation Allocations Go to Work:

Local Programs

Altoona Jewish Community School	Jewish Film Festival	Jewish Memorial Center
Social & Community Building Events	PJ Library Program	Camp Scholarships
Jewish Programs in Schools & Colleges	Holocaust Remembrance Programs	

Pennsylvania, National & International Programs

Jewish Federations of North America through the Agency for Israel and the Joint Distribution Committee
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) PA Jewish Coalition Anti-Defamation League
Southern Poverty Law Center

2020 membership campaign gift \$ _____

I hereby renew/open a 2021 membership with this pledge to give the sum of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Please Update Your Phone _____ Email Address _____

Method of Payment Check # _____ or Bill Me _____ VISA _____ MasterCard _____

Credit Card# _____

Exp. Date _____ 3 Digit Security # (on back of card) _____

Signature _____

Payable to:

The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation

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www.greateraltoonajewishfederation.org

The official registration and financial information of The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.