

Mobilizing \$67 Million for Crisis Response and Recovery





Your Generosity. **Your Impact.**

You showed up when fear was escalating.
You stayed when healing took time.
You helped turn crisis into connection.

Since the earliest days of the crisis, the JUF Israel Emergency Fund has raised **\$67 million** and already placed more than \$62 million directly into the hands of people facing unimaginable trauma, loss, and fear.

Through trusted partnerships across Israel, funds were directed where the need was most urgent and the impact would be most profound, ensuring physical survival, emotional healing, and the resilience of entire communities.

\$6.3 Million Emergency Medical Care & First Responders

In the moments when every second mattered, your generosity helped staff and equip emergency rooms, supply ambulances, and support first responders running toward danger.

Hospitals like the **Galilee Medical Center** in Nahariya near the Lebanese border and **Soroka Hospital** in Beer Sheba expanded emergency capacity and moved wards underground. **Magen David Adom** and **United Hatzalah** received equipment that reached people where the roads were broken and the fear was fresh.

JUF provided therapy and emotional support to doctors, ambulance teams, and other first responders who were working around the clock while exposed to scenes of horror and heartbreak. This aid helped sustain these professionals, enabling them to carry out their heroic duties to save and serve others.

For families huddling in hallways and shelters, and for first responders tending to the needs of their fellow Israelis, your support meant they were not alone.

\$13.7 Million Trauma Relief & Emotional Support

Although the noise eventually faded, the trauma did not.

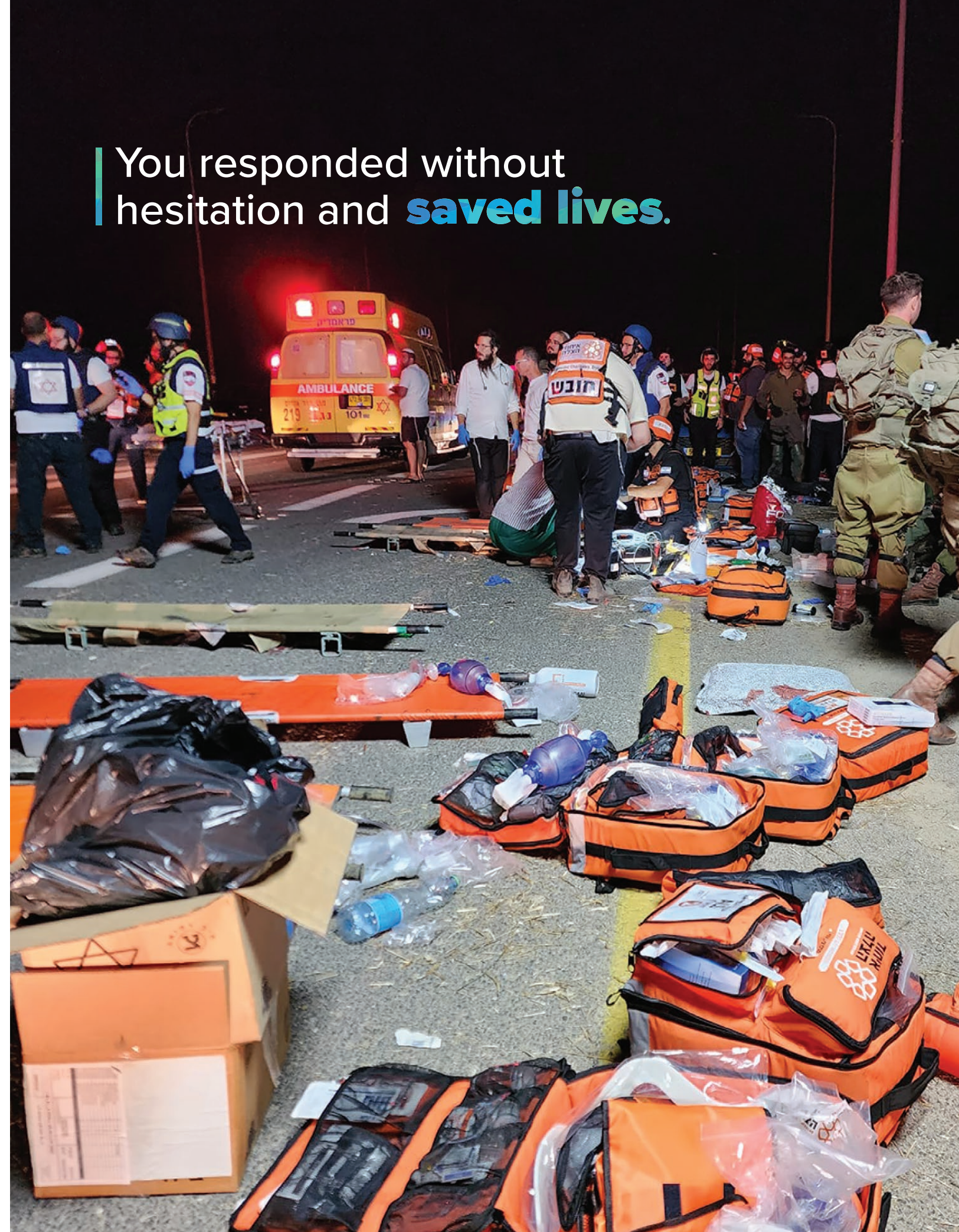
Children woke from nightmares. Students sat in classrooms unable to focus. Parents carried the weight of fear they could not set down. Your support expanded trauma care across Israel—funding counseling, crisis intervention, and long-term psychological services through universities, community clinics, and mental health organizations, helping establish **18 trauma centers** across Israel's periphery.

Grants to colleges and universities including **Bar-Ilan**, **Ben-Gurion**, and **Achva** enabled these institutions to become places not only of learning, but also of emotional refuge. Meanwhile, community organizations such as **Enosh**, **NATAL**, and **ERAN** delivered crisis support to children, teens, and young adults.

JUF served family members and partners of reservists facing prolonged stress and uncertainty. These efforts led to the establishment of the **National Headquarters for Families of Reserve Services Members**, which created an integrated support system delivering emotional care, guidance, and assistance to families. Through a JUF grant to the **IDF Widows and Orphans Organization**, children of fallen soldiers attended camp with their surviving parents, where they received support and a welcome diversion from the realities of war.

Because of you, people found space to say, "I need help." And someone was there to answer.

You responded without hesitation and **saved lives.**



You acted with compassion, fueling a **comprehensive recovery.**



\$4.9 Million Support for Victims & Families

For Israelis whose loved ones were murdered, taken, or injured, life did not return to normal. It became something entirely new.

Your generosity helped fuel partnerships like the **JAFI Victims of Terror Fund**, which helps provide financial stability, emotional care, and practical support to victims and their families. In moments of profound grief, dignity was preserved. In moments of despair, compassion appeared.

Not to erase loss—but to help people carry it.

\$6.4 Million Employment & Economic Resilience

The crisis threatened not only lives, but livelihoods. Small businesses were shuttered. Workers lost income. Families worried how, or whether, they would move forward.

Through **job training, business consulting, and financial rehabilitation programs**—including partnerships with **Be-Atzmi** and **Fresh Start**—you helped people rebuild independence and reclaim hope.

Additional investments through initiatives like the **JDC–Elka Northern Initiative** are helping stabilize and strengthen communities across northern Israel as they prepare for long-term recovery.

One job. One paycheck. One step forward.

\$3.1 Million Support for Special Populations

Some carried the weight of this crisis with fewer resources and greater vulnerability.

Holocaust survivors. You helped **AMCHA** provide psychological support, medical equipment, and medication to survivors.

People with disabilities. Your support of **Avnei Derech La'Haim** enabled people with disabilities to process feelings of loss and disorientation.

Women escaping violence. The **Association of Rape Crisis Centers** provided support to people who were victims of sexual assault, and **The Deborah Institute** promoted greater awareness of these crimes.

Marginalized communities. Your support equipped **Druze Emergency Response Teams** with protective gear in 16 Druze villages in the Galilee. **Empowering Ethiopian Women** developed a culturally sensitive helpline for Israeli women of Ethiopian origin.

*Your support reached them quietly, intentionally, and with care.
You ensured that no one was invisible in their moment of need.*

\$5.2 Million Housing, Food & Essential Needs

Thousands were forced to flee with little more than what they could carry.

Your support provided emergency housing, food, and basic needs, as well as equipment necessary to keep children learning remotely. But, more than that, it restored a **sense of safety and dignity**. A place to rest. A place to breathe.

For families sleeping in unfamiliar rooms, knowing someone had prepared the space for them made all the difference.

\$8.9 Million Flexible Emergency & Community Needs

As conditions evolved, flexible funding allowed local partners to respond quickly—addressing **urgent, on-the-ground needs** as they arose, from community-based relief to targeted interventions.

Thanks to these efforts, **MOSHE – Words that Make a Difference** undertook initiatives designed to reduce suicide rates through professional training and support groups. Safe rooms were constructed at **Shoshana Absorption Center**, where immigrants receive key services. **Branco Weiss Institute** provided educational support to communities bordering Gaza.

This adaptability ensured help arrived where it mattered most.

\$6.6 Million Rebuilding Kibbutz Nir Oz

Few places reflect both devastation and resilience like Kibbutz Nir Oz, where one of every four residents was murdered or kidnapped on October 7.


Your support is enabling the community to **care for evacuees, address deep trauma**, and embark upon the long **journey of rebuilding**. By financing the purchase of new farm equipment and dairy cattle and by funding a new business plan, JUF is helping revive and expand the economic lifeblood of the kibbutz. Meanwhile, Kiryat Gat, in the heart of JUF's Partnership Region, will be home for Nir Oz evacuees for the coming year while the government rebuilds their kibbutz.

We have worked to restore a sense of normalcy and provide an enriching environment for the youngest members of the Nir Oz community, by providing after-school activities on the kibbutz and hosting teens from Nir Oz at **Camp Ramah** in Wisconsin.

Our guiding principle: Be there—immediately, meaningfully, and for the long haul.

You helped people rebuild independence and **reclaim hope.**





We channeled our shared sorrow into **community-wide support** for Israel.

\$4.3 Million **Connecting Chicago to Israel**

JUF brought the community together in **solidarity** on October 10, 2023. Within weeks of the Hamas attacks, we mobilized more than 2,000 Chicagoans who joined delegations from across the country in Washington, D.C. to **rally in support of Israel** on the National Mall.

We **mourned** the Bibas children and 1,200 other innocent people murdered — and vividly **prayed** for the return of those held captive, projecting their images onto buildings and trucks deployed throughout the city for all to see. In 2024, we gathered again to mark a year of shared grief.

More than 16,000 people visited a local exhibit in 2025 that honored the victims of the **Nova Music Festival** and the heroes who risked their lives there to save others.

To honor the life of **Hersh Goldberg-Polin**, a native son of Chicago, JUF will be funding fellowships that enable young people to travel to, study in, and experience Israel in the years ahead.

Though separated by thousands of miles, we held Israel close to our hearts.

\$3.1 Million **JFNA Collective Impact Projects**

Collective allocations allow Chicagoans to **broaden the reach of our overall support**. JUF's Israel Emergency Fund allocations are made in coordination with JFNA to ensure that funding is made proportionately and where it is needed most.

We have supported those affected by prolonged devastation to both social and physical foundations and continued security threats, including families and those who serve, and returning communities in Israel's frontline regions. Throughout the war, we have provided relief, healing, and recovery for those most affected.

This work is made possible through long-standing partnerships with the **Jewish Agency for Israel** and the **American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee**, along with hundreds of NGO partners. Together, we have delivered critical support across four key areas: lifeline services, medical and trauma care, economic recovery, and community rebuilding.

Because of your collective effort, no Israeli stands alone.



Today, JUF's work **continues.**

As emergency response evolves into sustained recovery, JUF is focused on rebuilding Israel through multi-year investments that prioritize long-term trauma recovery and mental health resilience, economic stability and work force reintegration, and the rebuilding of communities with strengthened social cohesion.

Together we continue to assist those impacted by ongoing security threats, including those who serve, their families, and returning frontline communities—providing relief, healing, and recovery throughout this difficult time in the lives of our Israeli brothers and sisters.

To maximize impact moving forward and unite community contributions, we will pool resources with national Rebuild Israel efforts to accelerate reconstruction and support sustainable recovery. To continue making a meaningful impact, please contact RebuildIsrael@juf.org.

**This is not about returning to what was.
It is about building what comes next.**



Thank you for **standing with Israel.**

Chicago's generosity transformed compassion into action when it mattered most. JUF acted quickly, strategically, and compassionately—meeting urgent needs while planning for the future. Every dollar entrusted to the JUF Israel Emergency Fund represents hope, healing, and solidarity with the people of Israel.

This is your story—written across lives, families, and communities in Israel. This is not just recovery. It is renewal.

Guided by the trust our IEF donors placed in JUF, our volunteer committee made strategic, well-informed allocation decisions that delivered meaningful impact across Israel following October 7—an effort it was an honor to support.

— David Golder, IEF Committee Chair



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