The Jewish Pride Fund is a Giving Circle of the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund. The Pride Fund launched in January of 2018 with 10 members, under the leadership of the founding Chair, Sam Goldman, a former Alliance participant. In 2019 the Fund grew to 15 members, and David Rak took over as the second Chair. In 2020, continuing under David’s leadership the Fund has 16 members. The JPF is open to all members and allies of the LGBTQ community.

Along with philanthropy focused on supporting the intersecting needs, values and interests of the LGBTQ and Jewish communities in the Bay Area, nationally and in Israel, the membership has expanded activities to include Shabbat dinners and volunteering together. Activities that will resume once social distancing protocols can be relaxed.

2018 Jewish Pride Fund Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019). The Jewish Pride Fund awarded $6,000 to the following three organizations, for a total of $18,000 in 2018.

1. **Israel Gay Youth (IGY)** ($6,000) – General operating support for their activities benefitting the LGBTQ community in Israel. This is the largest and oldest LGBTQ organization in Israel.

2. **Eshel** ($6,000) – Provide operating support to contribute to the High School Pledge Campaign to activate Orthodox Jewish schools to pledge support for LGBTQ students.

3. **The Q – The Queer Jewish Youth Program at the JCCSF** ($6,000) – For support of the annual Intergenerational “It Gets Better” Dinner and the Pride Prom.


1. **Ma’avarim** ($6,000) – General operating funds to scale professional resources to support the trans community in Israel.
2. **Beit Dror / Otot** ($6,000) – Renovation of the Beit Dror Shelter, the only shelter for LGBT youth at risk in Israel, operated by Otot.

3. **Keshet** ($6,000) – Support Bay Area Institutional Change for LGBTQ Equality and Inclusion program, to provide coaching and training that strengthens Jewish organizations’ ability to provide LGBTQ-inclusive policy, programming, culture, and leadership.

4. **Eshel** ($6,000) – Provide operating support to contribute to the High School Pledge Campaign to activate Orthodox Jewish schools to pledge support for LGBTQ students.

5. **Nice Jewish Boys** ($5,000) – Provide operating support to increase the impact of the programming and continue to professionalize the young organization.

**2020 Jewish Pride Fund Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021).** The Jewish Pride Fund granted a total of $28,000 in 2020 to 4 organizations and contributed $3,245 to Fund operations. In 2020, in addition to evaluating organizations and proposals based on the intersection of Jewish and LGBTQ lens, the Fund pivoted to also examine urgent organizational needs based on the COVID19 pandemic and its impact on the organizations and the vulnerable populations that they serve.

1. **Ma’avarim** ($7,000) – Renewed commitment to the general operating funds of Ma’averim to scale resources to support the trans community in Israel. The trans community are part of a vulnerable population during the COVID19 pandemic, however Israel has not recognized the community as particularly vulnerable. Ma’averim is working on advocacy, education and information dispersal to transform thinking in Ministry of Health, among the police and health care providers.

2. **Beit Dror** ($7,000) – Renewed commitment to the Beit Dror shelter supporting teens in crises between the ages of 13-18. This grant will fund approximately 4 scholarships to support teens who graduate from the shelter in a practical career opportunity.

3. **Eshel** – ($7,000) – Provide operating support the Welcoming Shuls, a program that surveys and ranks friendliness metrics of Orthodox synagogues. The grant will help Eshel to work more closely with Orthodox synagogue that already rank high on their “friendliness scale” to deepen and expand work with synagogue Boards and staff for greater impact.

4. **Sha’ar Zahav** ($7,000) – Provide general operating support to Sha’ar Zahav, an LGBTQ normative synagogue started in 1977 that has grown in membership to 350 families. Many Sha’ar Zahav community members are part of populations particularly vulnerable to the COVID19 pandemic, experiencing job loss and underlying health conditions. Sha’ar Zahav wants to continue to provide programs to continue to support the community.
2021 Jewish Pride Fund Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). The Jewish Pride Fund granted a total of $36,000 in 2021 to 5 organizations and contributed $3,280 to fund operations. In 2021, in addition to evaluating organizations and proposals based on the intersection of Jewish and LGBTQ lens, the Fund also examined organizational needs based on the COVID19 pandemic and its impact on the organizations and the vulnerable populations that they serve, as well as the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that flared in Israel in spring 2021.

1. **Beit Dror / Otot** ($10,000) – Renewed commitment to Beit Dror, which runs shelters for LGBTQ youth in Israel. This is the third year that the Jewish Pride Fund allocated a grant to Beit Dror and they received increased funding to award scholarships to young adults who have aged-out of the shelter, but are still at high-risk for health or financial instability. The scholarships allow Beit Dror former residents to pursue life changing actions, ranging from getting a driver’s license to become more employable to getting top surgery for gender alignment. These acts help individuals move forward beyond shelter life as they enter society independently.

2. **Hillel - The Right to Choose** ($7,000) – Hillel empowers those leaving ultra-Orthodox communities in Israel to build meaningful self-determined lives. All Hillel programs share the long-term objectives of full integration into mainstream Israeli society including stable employment, high-level education, secure housing, community engagement, and self-sufficiency. An estimated 8%-10% of Hillel participants are members of the LGBTQ community. This grant will help Hillel will launch the “Open Door” program, targeted specifically for LGBTQ “Yotzim” (Orthodox Jews who leave Orthodox Judaism), paying special attention to additional complexities for this population due to lack of knowledge/experience with regards to sexual norms, practices, health and wellbeing is often combined with a period of ‘boundary testing’ in the initial stages of transition to secular society – potentially resulting in higher levels of at-risk behavior, physical and emotional damage.

3. **Ma’avarim** ($7,000) – Renewed commitment to Ma’avarim, which supports the trans community in Israel. The work of Ma’avarim empowers the trans community with knowledge and partnerships through providing personal support that meet the needs of trans, gender nonconforming people and their loved ones. We contribute to community building by developing community resources and knowledge. Ma’avarim works for social change and bring voices from the trans community to decision makers on issues affecting the community, so no policy about us is written without trans people represented at the decision-making table. The grant is for general operations.

4. **Tehila** ($7,000) – Tehila is a voluntary, Israeli-registered non-profit organization, founded some 30 years ago to help parents of teenagers and young LBGTQ persons. Tehila is dedicated to providing support and emotional relief to parents who struggle to accept the different sexual and/or gender identity of their children. Tehila succeeded in providing, since its very early days, a warm, safe and friendly home to parents and other family members of young members of the LGTBQ community in cities and towns all over
Israel. With this grant funding, Tehila is taking its first steps to professionalize after 30 years of being all volunteer run and has recently hired a new Executive Director to lead the growth of the organization.

5. **JFCS’s Jewish Baby Network** ($5,000) - Jewish Baby Network is creating a pluralistic community in the SF Bay Area where families of all kinds learn, share, and celebrate together. Jewish Baby Network is for Bay Area expecting parents and families with at least one child age newborn through thirty-six months. Jewish Baby Network welcomes everyone, including unaffiliated, single, and multi-parent, multi-faith, multiethnic, multi-abled, and LGBTQ families. Funding would be to support the launch of an LGBTQ Jewish Families Affinity group and additional programs.

2022 Jewish Pride Fund Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023). The Jewish Pride Fund granted a total of $56,000 in 2022 to 6 organizations and contributed $6,022 to fund operations. The Jewish Pride Fund grew from 17 members in 2021 to 27 members in 2022 and raised an additional $20,000 to grant. Additionally, ten members of the Jewish Pride Fund and the Federation professional lead will embark on an inaugural trip to Israel on June 5 to visit Israeli grantees and celebrate Tel Aviv Pride together.

1. **Ma’avarim - Israel** ($12,000) – This is the 4th year that the Jewish Pride Fund has renewed commitment to Ma’avarim, which is the largest trans knowledge center in Israel and works to support the trans community on multiple fronts. The work of Ma’avarim empowers the trans community with knowledge and partnerships through providing personal support that meet the needs of trans, gender nonconforming people and their loved ones. Ma’avarim works for social change and bring voices from the trans community to decision makers on issues affecting the community, so no policy about us is written without trans people represented at the decision-making table. The grant is for general operations.

2. **Jerusalem Open House - Israel** ($10,500) – Jerusalem Open House (JOH), founded in 1997 is a new grantee for the Jewish Pride Fund in 2022. JOH acts as a one-stop LGBTQ+ community center providing vital life-saving and joyful services to all of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or other background. In a city that tends to run socially conservative relative to Tel Aviv. JOH offers services such as AIDS testing, mental health through the Open Clinic and community building offerings for teens through seniors. Jerusalem Open House is the sole organizer of the annual March for Pride and Tolerance in Jerusalem, with the funding coming directly out of the non-profit with no aid from Jerusalem’s municipality. The grant is for general operating support.

3. **Beit Dror / Otot – Israel** ($9,500) – This is the 4th year that the Jewish Pride Fund has renewed commitment to Beit Dror, which runs the only dedicated LGBTQ youth shelter in
Israel, operating since 2002. Previously, Beit Dror received funding to renovate the shelter and offer award scholarships to young adults who have aged-out of the shelter, but are still at high-risk for health or financial instability. This year’s grant will support a family intervention program, offered for the last four years based on the understanding that they family in general and parents, are a significant int eh social-emotional development of teenagers. Beit Dror sees the hostel as a natural environment for the teens. Utilizing this space leads to a significant improvement in the relationship of the teen with his or her family in the short and long term. Teens participating in this program are 20% more likely to return home from the shelter.

4. **Tehila - Israel ($8,500)** – This is the 2nd year that the Jewish Pride Fund has supported Tehila, a voluntary, Israeli-registered non-profit organization, founded some 30 years ago to help parents of teenagers and young LBGTQ persons. Tehila provides support and emotional relief to parents who struggle to accept the different sexual and/or gender identity of their children. Tehila has succeeded in providing a warm, safe and friendly home to parents and family members of young members of the LGTBQ community all over Israel. With the help of grant funding in 2021 Tehila hired Lesley Sachs, the first Executive Director of the organization. Over the last year she has overseen continued growth and professionalization of 20 parent support group circles, 24/7 hotline, lectures and presentations to encourage parents to share personal stories to foster national understanding, and advocacy through collaborating with 18 other LGBTQ+ organizations by meeting with policy makers, municipal councils and state officials.

5. **GLBT Historical Society – Bay Area ($8,500)** – The GLBT Historical Society is a new grantee of the Jewish Pride Fund in 2022. The organization was founded in San Francisco in 1985 and is dedicated to collecting, preserving and exhibiting materials and knowledge to support and promote understanding of LGBTQ+ history, culture and arts in all their diversity. The GLBT Historical Society submitted a special curated proposal to the Jewish Pride Fund to allow for the prioritization of staff time to create Jewish LGBTQ historical resources, including a primary source set and newsletter article, which will feature Sh’ara Zahav as a way to build initial important relationships in the Bay Area LGBTQ community and digitize new resources. Members of the Jewish Pride Fund are committed to building this relationship on behalf of the Bay Area LGBTQ Jewish community to both demonstrate our commitment as proud Jews and make sure Jewish LGBTQ+ stories are told through a national and international platform.

6. **Sephardic-Mizrahi Q Network – National ($7,000)** – The Sephardic-Mizrahi Q Network (SMQN) (SMQN) is an innovative grassroots movement committed to building an enriching and supportive community for an often-overlooked segment of the Jewish world: LGBTQ+ Sephardic and Mizrahi Jews. SMQN seeks to create a vibrant and much-needed communal platform for the intersection of LGBTQ+ and Sephardic-Mizrahi life—a platform that uplifts and celebrates the full, multilayered identities of queer Mizrahi and Sephardic Jews. During the Covid pandemic, SMQN was able to offer services and
community building only previously available to Jews living in the New York City area, to a larger national and international audience that has strengthened their bonds and now wish to meet locally in cities across the world. The Jewish Pride Fund offered a general operations grant to SMQN, in support of theirs – and our commitment to inclusivity, intersectionality and a love of Jewish diversity.

Mission Statement
The Jewish Pride Fund, a Giving Circle of the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation, is committed to supporting the intersecting needs, values and interests of the LGBTQ and Jewish communities in the Bay Area, nationally and in Israel.

Vision Statement
Our vision is to create a world where Jewish LGBTQ voices are heard across Jewish secular and religious society. We believe that if we empower LGBTQ individuals and families that identify with the Jewish community through financial and activist support of deserving organizations, we contribute to the rising power and agency of the LGBTQ community as a whole. We believe that members of the Jewish LGBTQ community have a unique role to play in civil right, social justice, and religious inclusion.