The Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund is a philanthropic catalyst, connecting Bay Area Jews – of all ages, backgrounds, and perspectives – to the power we have as a community to improve the world. We partner with donors, organizations, and foundations to address the pressing issues facing our community, and develop innovative strategies that result in deep and lasting impact locally, in Israel, and around the world.

Our work is guided by the timeless Jewish values of kehilla (community), tzedakah (giving with just intention), and tikkun olam (repairing the world).
473K PLANNING TEAM

Joel Abramovitz          Danielle Meshorer          Sadie Simon
Joey Blatt              Lisa Pavlovsky          Andrea Zussman
Ari Eisen               Sandra Ramirez-Noguchi
Zelig Golden            Dr. Sarale Shadmi-Wortman

473K HOST COMMITTEE

Carol Booth             Stephanie Levin           Diane Tobin
Beth Cousens            Varda Rabin             Danit Trau
Leah Filloy             Jan Reicher             Sarah Waxman
Kimberly Greenberg      Tali Ronen              Rabbi Eric Weiss
Nicole Hakimi           Jackie Shelton-Miller    Karen Wisialowski
Janet Harris            Kyla Sokoll-Ward         Rabbi Bridget Wynne
Ayelet Krieger          Michelle Tandowsky

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Julie Golde            Maia Tchetchik
Lauren Schlezinger     Wendy Verba
9:30  Arrival and Welcome
Osher Lobby, First Floor
Check-in, sign-up for your afternoon breakout session, enjoy refreshments, meet fellow 473K participants, and find your small group in the auditorium.

10:00  The Power of Belonging for 473K
Taube Auditorium, Second Floor
Experience the why, what, and wow of belonging in small learning groups.

Wendy Verba, Managing Director, Community Impact, Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund
Lindsey Newman, Director of Community Engagement, Be’chol Lashon
Rabbi Mychal Copeland, Congregation Sha’ar Zahav

11:45  Lunch – Celebration of Jewish Cuisine
Second Floor Lounge, Lobby, Auditorium, Rooftop Deck
Catch up with people you know, take some quiet time, or join an open circle in the auditorium.

Certified Vaad Hakasharuth of Northern California

12:45  Afternoon Breakout Sessions:
From Principles to Practice, Rooms Vary
Delve into practical applications of belonging principles. Bring a challenge to the workshop with fellow participants and presenters.

2:45  Closing Session: A Call to Action
Taube Auditorium, Second Floor
Reconnect with your small groups, share something you learned, get inspiration, and resources for continued learning and experimentation.

3:30  Farewell
Jewish Connection in an Age of Loneliness (Second Floor Auditorium)
Rabbi Eric Weiss, President & CEO, Bay Area Jewish Healing Center
Kyla Sokoll-Ward, Speaker, Facilitator and Moishe House Resident
Wendy Verba, Managing Director, Jewish Community Federation & Endowment Fund

In our hyper-connected society, loneliness and social isolation are soaring—seniors living alone, transient millennials, new parents with no village, teens addicted to social media, empty nesters caring for aging parents. Jewish life can answer loneliness with communal, spiritual and intellectual connections. Explore how loneliness manifests in our Jewish populations and identify practices and structures for Jewish life to nurture our souls.

Building Racially Diverse Communities (Third Floor)
Gamal Palmer, SVP Leadership Development, Federation of Greater LA
Lindsey Newman, Director of Community Engagement, Be’chol Lashon

20% of the American Jewish community identifies as Black, Asian, Latinx, multiracial, Sephardic and/or Mizrahi. Given this reality, the need for self-awareness, tolerance, and open communication has never been more critical. In this interactive workshop, participants will explore Jews as multicultural people, tools for building racially diverse communities and anti-racist practices when building cultures of belonging.

A Fresh Start: Giving Programs and Events a Belonging Makeover (First Floor, Rembe B)
Joel Abramovitz, Senior Family Educator, The Kitchen
Maia Tchetchik, Organizational Development Consultant
Liat Ellert, Director of Joint Ventures, Israeli Assoc. of Community Centers

“Mirror mirror on the wall, make this event the best of all!” How many times have you wished you could snap your fingers and give your programs and events a complete makeover? Often, we invest in planning programs only to be disappointed when people don’t show up, or show up but don’t return. Through an interactive case study and the sharing of your stories, we will provide tools to look through a belonging lens at our events and programs to transform them into authentic opportunities for connection and action.

Bonded Groups: Building Blocks of Belonging (First Floor, Rembe A)
Dr. Sarale Shadmi-Wortman, Chief Officer for Community Building, Israeli Association of Community Centers
Julie Golde, Culture of Belonging Consultant

Come learn why Bonded Groups are a “secret sauce” in creating belonging. In this workshop, we’ll explore how a small-group structure can super-charge belonging and other outcomes within your organization, and how to create and sustain these connected groups within any Jewish setting. Ultimately, you’ll discover the power Bonded Groups have in shifting to a belonging culture.

Physical Spaces that Promote Belonging (First Floor, Library)
Jan Reicher, Executive Director, Byer Square at San Francisco Campus for Jewish Living (SFCJL)
Michelle Tandowsky, URJ Camp Newman Board Chair
Lauren Schlezinger, 473K Planning Team Lead

Different circumstances brought Camp Newman and SFCJL to the architect’s drafting table, but they share a common vision of putting belonging at the center of new spaces. Come learn about the innovative design principles that guided their plans and apply them to your own challenges—old and new buildings, inside and outside, big rooms and small, renovation and room set-up!

Healing Rifts and Bridging Divides: Lessons from Israel and the Bay Area (Jewish Federation Building, Lower Level – enter 121 Steuart St.)
Barak Loozon, Director, Israel Office, Federation
Rachel Barton, Director of Engagement, Israel & Global, Federation

What happens when a secular Israeli, an ultra-orthodox Jew, an Arab Israeli, a National Zionist and an Ethiopian immigrant walk into a room? In the Federation’s 15-year-old Gvanim cohort program, leaders from radically different tribes have built lasting understanding, trust and collaboration across the deepest divides. In this session, learn the ingredients for bringing people with opposing voices and diverse backgrounds together to confront differences and forge belonging, and explore how to apply these lessons to heal divides in our Bay Area communities.