



The Jewish Pride Fund (JPF) is a giving circle of the Jewish Federation Bay Area and is open to all members and allies of the LGBTQIA+ community.

JPF launched in January 2018, with ten members, under the leadership of the founding Chair, Sam Goldman. Successive Chairs include David Rak, Danny Wein, and Kyle Levine. **As of June 2026, JPF has granted \$395,791 and currently has 30 donors.**

Along with philanthropy focused on supporting the intersecting needs, values, and interests of the LGBTQIA+ and Jewish communities in the Bay Area, nationally, and in Israel, activities have expanded to include issue area education, guest speakers, Shabbat dinners, some holiday celebrations, a closing party celebration, and volunteering opportunities.

Grants are listed from recent to later.

2026 JPF Grants (for fiscal year July 1, 2026–June 30, 2027). The Jewish Pride Fund granted \$65,976 in 2026 to seven organizations, one of which was a partial grant to support LGBTQIA+ sensitivity training. The JPF had 30 unique donors.

1. **B’nai Israel Jewish Center – Bay Area (\$800)** – B’nai Israel Jewish Center is an independent Jewish center based in Petaluma, California, with a mission of providing an inclusive space for cultural, religious, spiritual, educational, and social needs. At its preschool, Gan Israel, The Center provides religious services, adult education, interfaith activities, and daily educational services.

**Grant Purpose:** This was a partial grant to fund staff, board, and volunteer training from LGBTQConnection to foster a culture where attendees are better equipped to connect, affirm, respond to, and empower LGBTQIA+ youth, adults, and seniors. This was their first grant from the JPF.

2. **San Francisco Hillel – Bay Area (\$10,862)** – SF Hillel exists to support Jewish students and foster the Jewish future through exploring Jewish identity, building Jewish community on campus, developing future Jewish leaders, and supporting students’ mental health and basic needs. This is the third grant from the Jewish Pride Fund to SF Hillel (previously funded in 2024).

**Grant Purpose:** The grant funds the QJew Speaker Series, bringing in queer Jewish speakers and experiences to help college students navigate and integrate their Jewish and LGBTQIA+ identities amid rising antisemitism on campus. The program builds

confidence, belonging, and leadership by equipping students to show up fully in both Jewish and queer spaces.

- 3. HOSHEN – Israel (\$10,862)** – HOSHEN – Education and Change is Israel’s leading LGBTQIA+ education organization, working to promote a more inclusive and supportive society through education, dialogue, and professional training. Founded in 2004, HOSHEN develops and delivers programs that address discrimination, stigma, and social exclusion experienced by LGBTQIA+ individuals in Israel. Through educational workshops, professional training, and community initiatives, the organization reaches approximately 100,000 participants each year, including students, educators, service providers, and community leaders. This is the third grant from the Jewish Pride Fund to HOSHEN (previously funded in 2023 and 2025, plus a small emergency post-10/7 grant in 2024).

**Grant Purpose:** The grant supports HOSHEN’s expansion of its program training mental health professionals in Israel to provide culturally competent, affirming care for LGBTQIA+ youth and young adults. This funding will increase access to safe, effective mental health support, reducing distress and strengthening resilience across the LGBTQIA+ community.

- 4. IGY – Israel (\$10,862)** – IGY (Israel Gay Youth) is a leading LGBTQIA+ organization in Israel, providing support, advocacy, and professional development opportunities for sexual and gender minorities. Within IGY, Marsha College offers accredited vocational training in beauty and styling, empowering individuals—particularly those from marginalized or multi-marginalized backgrounds—to gain professional skills in a safe and inclusive environment. Marsha College is officially recognized by Israel’s Ministry of Labor as an accredited vocational training institution. This is the fourth grant application from IGY and the fourth time funded by the Jewish Pride Fund (previously in 2018, 2023, and 2024).

**Grant Purpose:** The grant supports the House of Venus, a queer social beauty salon operating within Marsha College that provides recent graduates with hands-on work experience, mentorship, and modest compensation. This funding helps participants build professional skills, confidence, and employment pathways, reducing barriers to workforce entry for marginalized LGBTQ+ young adults.

- 5. The Aguda – Israel (\$10,862)** – The Aguda – The Association for LGBTQ Equality in Israel – is the country’s leading organization advancing LGBTQ equality through policy advocacy, public campaigns, and coalition building. For over five decades, The Aguda has played a central role in securing legal and social advances for LGBTQ Israelis, providing direct life-saving services to 6,000 individuals annually, while its systemic advocacy creates broad impact for all 800,000 LGBTQ+ citizens in Israel. This is the third application from The Aguda; it was not previously funded by the Jewish Pride Fund.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant funds the mobilization of the “Sagi Unit,” a nationwide volunteer campaign that trains and coordinates activists to engage political candidates and advocate for LGBTQ equality legislation ahead of Israel’s 2026 elections. This funding will drive grassroots political pressure, increase public accountability, and advance systemic legal protections for LGBTQ+ people across Israel.

- 6. Otot / The Pink Roof – Israel (\$10,862)** – Otot Association has been a cornerstone of youth welfare in Israel since 1981, operating 41 facilities across the country and serving over 1,500 at-risk youth annually. The Pink Roof (HaGag HaVarod) is Otot’s emergency drop-in shelter in Tel Aviv, dedicated exclusively to LGBTQIA+ young adults aged 18–26. Open 24/7 with no referral needed, it provides immediate refuge—a warm bed, meals, a shower, and a caring presence—for young people who have been rejected or forced out of their homes because of their identity. This is the first application for The Pink Roof; Otot’s Beit Dror shelter has previously been funded five times by the Jewish Pride Fund.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant expands psychiatric care at The Pink Roof by funding six additional monthly psychiatric sessions (eight total). This support enables more residents to receive critical mental health assessments and stabilization, improving their ability to access appropriate long-term care and recover from trauma.

- 7. Pride House of Be’er Sheva and the South – Israel (\$10,862)** – Established in 2015, the Pride House of Be’er Sheva and the South is the only organization dedicated to representing, addressing, and meeting the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community in southern Israel, serving communities from Kiryat Gat to Eilat. The organization is committed to ensuring that every individual, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, can live in the Negev safe from discrimination, violence, and homophobia. Services include a psycho-social therapy clinic, cultural events, identity-based social groups including English-speaking, Russian-speaking, Arabic-speaking, trans and non-binary groups, and community events, such as the annual Queer Film Festival and the Be’er Sheva Pride Parade. This is the fourth application from Pride House of Be’er Sheva and the third time funded (previously in 2024 and 2025).

**Grant Purpose:** The grant provides general operating support to strengthen staffing and program coordination, enabling expansion of mental health services, community programming, and outreach for LGBTQIA+ individuals in southern Israel. This funding increases stability and capacity, ensuring sustained access to safe spaces, care, and community for an underserved regional population.

**2025 JPF Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026).** The Jewish Pride Fund granted \$62,480 in 2025 to 10 organizations, two of which were honorariums to acknowledge the effort displayed by the grant application organizations, even though they were not awarded full grants in 2025. The Jewish Pride Fund had 30 unique donors.

1. **Bat Kol – Israel (\$540 honorarium)** – Founded in 2005, Bat Kol is the only organization in Israel serving Orthodox LGBTQ women, who often face unique struggles and dramatic changes when coming out. Many experience family violence, are denied contact with their children, and face isolation. Bat Kol provides a community, and “partial relief” as most Orthodox women remain in marriages or in the closet.

**Grant Purpose:** The Jewish Pride Fund awarded an honorarium grant to this organization in acknowledgement of their commitment to the application and interview process; however, they were not selected to receive a full grant this year.

2. **Israeli Transgender Association - Israel (\$540 honorarium)** –The Israeli Transgender Association (Trans Israel) is the only trans-led organization in Israel dedicated to supporting trans women from marginalized backgrounds, particularly those from social and geographic peripheries. This includes Mizrahi, Ethiopian, and Arab women, as well as those from religious families who often face severe economic hardship, social exclusion, and systemic discrimination. Many of these women are pushed into poverty and sex work due to a lack of access to employment, education, and state welfare resources.

**Grant Purpose:** The Jewish Pride Fund awarded an honorarium grant to this organization in acknowledgement of their commitment to the application and interview process; however, they were not selected to receive a full grant this year.

3. **Congregation Sha’ar Zahav – Bay Area (\$6,000)** – Founded in 1977 and rooted in history as San Francisco’s LGBTQIA+ synagogue, Sha’ar Zahav has always welcomed spiritual wanderers. The Journey to Judaism (J2J) learning and conversion program has supported hundreds of seekers and has been pathbreaking in its methods and inclusivity. Many other synagogues and religious organizations have sought support and guidance from Sha'ar Zahav to create programs that embrace LGBTQI people.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant from the Jewish Pride Fund is to contribute to the remaining 18-months of a 30-month pilot program called the Welcome Home Project, focused on supporting trans, gender non-conforming and non-binary people who are already Jews or interested in converting to Judaism to experience a welcoming Jewish spiritual and educational program as part of the conversation process.

4. **Jerusalem Open House – Israel (\$6,000)** – Founded in 1997, Jerusalem Open House (JOH) is the only LGBTQIA+ organization in Jerusalem, a city known for its complexity, religious significance, and diverse population. Despite the challenges posed by this unique environment, JOH has built a safe and inclusive space where LGBTQIA+ individuals from all backgrounds can find support, community, and advocacy.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant is for general operating support for all services provided by JOH, including mental health therapy, medical services, advocacy, and the annual Pride Parade.

- 5. Contra Costa Midrasha – Bay Area (\$7,000)** – Contra Costa Midrasha’s (CCM) mission is to form and inform a diverse and pluralistic Jewish teen community (grades 8-12) and to develop and enhance personal Jewish identity for each member of this community. One aspect of this program is three weekend retreats including all grade levels.

**Grant Purpose:** Over the past year, the need for growth of the gender-expansive cabin and staff training has become apparent based on the demographics of the teens who join the program. This grant is to support increased staff training and resources for a second gender-expansive cabin during retreats, as well as additional staff training by an experienced educator for the 2025-26 year.

- 6. HOSHEN – Israel (\$7,000)** – Since 2004, HOSHEN (Hebrew acronym for "Education and Change") has worked to transform public perception of the LGBTQIA+ community through experiential learning in schools, workplaces, and public institutions. Its workshops provide safe spaces for open discussions, challenging biases, and promoting inclusivity. Prior to the current Israeli government, HOSHEN reached approximately 100,000 individuals, including students, educators, law enforcement personnel, healthcare professionals, and municipal leaders. Research by HOSHEN identified a significant gap in support for LGBTQIA+ educators in Israel.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant supports HOSHEN in establishing Israel's LGBTQIA+ Educators Network. Many LGBTQIA+ educators face professional isolation, fear of exposure, and workplace discrimination, leading to emotional distress and high attrition rates. Research shows that peer support networks improve resilience, reduce burnout, and boost confidence among LGBTQIA+ educators. HOSHEN's new network will provide structured support, professional development, and tools for creating inclusive educational environments.

- 7. Project Keshet - Israel (\$7,000)** – Project Keshet Israel (PKI) is the only organization in Israel dedicated to supporting Russian-speaking LGBTQIA+ immigrants and refugees from Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus. These individuals face severe challenges—fleeing war, systemic homophobia, and political persecution (including being labeled domestic terrorists in Russia), only to confront new barriers in Israel.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant will enable PKI to continue delivering critical services and advocating for systemic change for Russian-speaking LGBTQIA+ immigrants and refugees in Israel.

**Specifically, it will support:**

- Expanding legal aid for interfaith LGBTQIA+ couples, including court fees and legal representation.
- Strengthening mental health services through therapy sessions and support groups.
- Scaling up Hebrew language courses to support financial independence.
- Enhancing media advocacy and community outreach to raise awareness of LGBTQIA+ rights in Russian-speaking communities.

- 8. Havruta – Israel (\$9,000)** – Havruta is an organization that provides essential support to religious and ultra-Orthodox LGBTQIA+ individuals, a group that faces unique challenges due to the intersection of their religious identity and sexual orientation. Many LGBTQIA+ individuals within these communities experience isolation, rejection from family, and lack of mental health resources that align with both their religious values and sexual identity.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant was awarded for the general operating expenses of Havruta to train additional staff, expand outreach initiatives, and increase program accessibility.

- 9. Beit Dror Youth Shelter – Israel (\$9,700)** – Beit Dror is a unique emergency shelter for LGBTQIA+ youth (ages 12-18) experiencing rejection, isolation, or disconnection from their families due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. As part of the Otot Association of Shelters in Israel—primarily funded by the Ministry of Welfare—Beit Dror offers critical intervention and works to facilitate family reunification when possible.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant funds the repair of the intake shower and outside pergola, key areas used by shelter participants during critical periods of their stay. The Ministry of Welfare funding rarely covers ongoing maintenance, repairs, or upgrades for shelters in the Otot system.

**The Pride House of Be'er Sheva and the South – Israel (\$9,700)** - Established in 2015, the Pride House is committed to ensuring that every individual, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, can live in the Negev safe from discrimination, violence, and homophobia. Services include a psycho-social therapy clinic, cultural events, and identity-based social groups including an English-speaking group, Russian-speaking, Arabic-speaking and trans and non-binary, among others.

**Grant Purpose:** The grant was awarded for general operating expenses for The Pride House of Be'er Sheva and the South, which is the only organization dedicated to representing, addressing, and meeting the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community in southern Israel, serving communities from Kiryat Gat to Eilat.

**2024 Jewish Pride Fund Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025).** The Jewish Pride Fund granted **\$43,235** in 2024 to six organizations during the regular grantmaking cycle and to three organizations for post-10/7 Israel Emergency Funds. From the gross money raised \$4,545 went to fund operations. The Jewish Pride Fund had 27 unique donors, with 19 active members, eight of whom were new to the Federation.

- 1. Nice Jewish Boys+ - Bay Area (\$8,000)** – Nice Jewish Boys+ focuses on building community for gay, bi, queer, and trans men and non-binary folk in the San Francisco Bay Area. NJB+ brings people together for queer and Jewish social programming, with a focus on how these two identities intersect. Since October 7, NJB+ has seen a more urgent need to provide safe spaces for queer Jewish community to promote a sense of safety and belonging. With this grant, NJB+ will be able to reach out to a more economically diverse range of 725 virtual participants to have even more engagement in live programming that has a cost, such as the annual retreat. This funding can help lower the barrier to live-entry programming, which, currently, only draws 125 of the 725 people.
- 2. San Francisco State Hillel – Bay Area (\$8,000)** – SF Hillel’s mission is to support Jewish students and foster the Jewish future. This grant is to support “The QJew Learning Fellowship” program, which specifically addresses the needs they have surveyed from queer Jewish students who feel they are unable to be their full selves in queer and/or Jewish spaces. The 10-week fellowship and leader development program will help them explore their intersectional identities, while providing a haven on campus from the increased and intense antisemitism ignited further by the Israel-Hamas war.
- 3. Jerusalem Open House – Israel (\$8,000)** – This marks the third consecutive grant from the Jewish Pride Fund to Jerusalem Open House, this year for emergency services for the Jerusalem LGBTQIA+ community. This grant will support the Community Support & Safety and Families Project initiatives, which provide safe and secure spaces for marginalized individuals and families during a time of crises such as the Hamas attack and ongoing situation, when members of the LGBTQIA+ community experienced increased threats and violence.
- 4. Israel Gay Youth – Israel (\$8,000)** – Israel Gay Youth (IGY) is the largest and oldest LGBTQIA+ youth organization in Israel. They are a two-time grantee of the Jewish Pride Fund in 2018 and in 2023. The 2024 grant award is specifically for rebuilding resilience among LGBTQIA+ youth living in the South and North post October 7 and have been displaced from their homes and regular LGBTQIA+ support network. The project is intended to reach 100 LGBTQIA+ teens ages 13-18 from Kiryat Shmona, Ramat Hagolan, Sderot, Ashkelon, Ashdod, and Be’er Sheva, both participants and non-participants in IGY activities.

5. **Pride House of Be'er Sheva and the South – Israel (\$8,000)** – The Pride House of Be'er Sheva and the South is the only organization in the southern part of Israel that supports the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community from Kiryat Gat to Eilat. It is an all-volunteer-run organization with one full-time manager position offering community events, psycho-social workshops, therapy, Pride month events, support for the elderly and special populations, and community management during emergency, such as October 7. The grant is for general operating support for all services, with a particular focus on increasing the therapy offerings.
6. **Ma'avarim – Israel (\$2,515)** – Ma'avarim is a four-time grantee of the Jewish Pride Fund, with the last grant awarded in 2022. This year, the Jewish Pride Fund succeeded in securing grant funding from Kehillat Israel Tzedakah Teens, a program of Kehillat Israel Reconstructionist Congregation of Pacific Palisades, to support the Jewish Pride Fund's Israel work directed for Ma'avarim. This grant of \$2,525.28 will help fund a part-time Welfare Services Coordinator for Ma'avarim.
7. **Israel Post 10/7 Emergency Funding – Israel (\$720)** – Granted in November of 2023 to HOSHEN, IGY and Jerusalem Open House evenly for mental health and support of soldiers.

**2023 Jewish Pride Fund Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024).** The Jewish Pride Fund granted an annual record total of \$56,600 in 2023 to six organizations and contributed \$6,140 to fund operations. The Jewish Pride Fund had 28 members, seven of whom were new to the Federation, with two additional financial contributors from outside of the Fund who were also new to the Federation. Since 2018, the Jewish Pride Fund has granted a total of **\$224,600**.

1. **Jerusalem Open House - Israel (\$11,000)** – Jerusalem Open House (JOH), founded in 1997, received its second grant from the Jewish Pride Fund. During the summer of 2022, 10 members of the Jewish Pride Fund went on a Fund trip Israel to visit current and potential grantees. Fund members had just allocated a grant to JOH in May and were able to do a site visit in June. Meeting in person was highly impactful and offered a full appreciation for the work of the organization. JOH acts as a one-stop LGBTQIA+ community center providing vital life-saving and joyful services to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, regardless of religion, race, or ethnicity. In a city that tends to run socially conservative relative to Tel Aviv. JOH offers services such as AIDS testing, mental health resources, 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 again for general operating support.
2. **Israel Gay Youth- Israel (\$10,000)** – Israel Gay Youth (IGY) is the largest and oldest LGBTQIA+ organization in Israel. They were also one of the first grantees of the Jewish Pride Fund back in 2018. Their work has continued to expand with the recognition that the “peripheral regions” of Israel, meaning communities existing outside of Tel Aviv and

the center of the country. Given the increasing assault of the LGBTQIA+ community and youth from the current right-wing government, youth support groups are needed youth now more than ever. This grant will go to support staffing more groups in the periphery.

3. **HOSHEN – Israel (\$10,000)** – HOSHEN was established in 2004, specializing in raising awareness and sensitivity training. Since 2013, it has conducted over 3,000 workshops a year in schools by using the methodology of the “Personal Story” to sensitize teachers, students and administrators to greater understanding of the LGBTQIA+ community. Two trained LGBTQIA+ volunteers talk in schools with university faculty, police and border guards, soldiers, army cadets, medical staff, social workers, and guidance counselors to share personal stories and provide deeper training using their 200-person strong volunteer community. Traditionally, schools can pay for HOSHEN’s services from government grants allocated to schools for this purpose. However, under the current government, these funds have been harder for schools to obtain – even when they apply –and are in jeopardy. This grant is to provide general operating support to help keep these services going. HOSHEN is a first-time grantee that the members of the Jewish Pride Fund met while on the Pride mission to Israel.
4. **Tehila - Israel (\$9,000)** – This is the 3rd year that the Jewish Pride Fund has supported Tehila, a voluntary, Israeli-registered non-profit organization, founded 30+ years ago to help parents of teenagers and young LGBTQIA+ persons. Tehila provides support and emotional relief to parents all over Israel who struggle to accept the different sexual and/or gender identity of their children. With the help of grant funding in 2021 and 2022, Tehila has professionalized and now has an Executive Director. Over the last two years, it has overseen continued growth and professionalization of 25 parent support group circles, including new support groups for religious parents. Tehila also started three new online groups via Zoom for parents living in areas without existing groups, with one group geared toward parents of transgender children. The number of new funders to Tehila has also grown since the Jewish Pride Fund’s first grant to now include The Wider Bridge, the Schusterman Foundation and the Weinberg Family Foundation.
5. **Jewish Queer Youth (JQY) – National (\$9,000)** – Jewish Queer Youth (JQY) supports and empowers LGBTQIA+ youth from Orthodox, Chasidic, and Sephardic/Mizrahi homes. JQY envisions a world in which no young person, regardless of Jewish denomination or community, feels alone, ostracized, or shamed because of their sexual or gender identity. JQY provides crisis intervention, support services, and educational resources, guided by the conviction that access to mental health support should not be contingent upon religious or political beliefs. While JQY started off only serving New York City and the surrounding area with in-person drop-in centers, during the pandemic, they found that holding virtual drop-in centers for people living all over the country, and even the world, was an effective way to support highly isolated religious youth. Even with the opening of in-person life, the virtual drop-in meetings remain strong as well as people now meeting in-person in different cities across the United States that formed first virtually. The general operating grant from the Jewish Pride Fund will help JQY to continue to keep up with the demand and growth.
6. **Sephardic-Mizrahi Q Network – National (\$7,600)** – The Sephardic-Mizrahi Q Network (SMQN) is an innovative grassroots movement committed to building an enriching and

supportive community for an often-overlooked segment of the Jewish world: LGBTQIA+ Sephardic and Mizrahi Jews. SMQN seeks to create a vibrant and much-needed communal platform for the intersection of LGBTQIA+ and Sephardic-Mizrahi life—a platform that uplifts and celebrates the full, multilayered identities of queer Mizrahi and Sephardic Jews. During the 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, which has strengthened their bonds and now wishes to meet locally in cities across the world. The primary vehicle for gathering is around the Shabbat dinner or lunch table, or sometimes through speaker or educational events. 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.

**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 six 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, 10 members of the Jewish Pride Fund and the Federation professional lead embarked on an inaugural trip to Israel on June 5, 2022, to visit Israeli grantees and celebrate Tel Aviv Pride together.

1. **Ma'avarim - Israel (\$12,000)** – This is the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 and 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 trans people 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 LGBTQIA+ community center providing vital life-saving and joyful services to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, regardless of religion, race, or 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 4<sup>th</sup> year that the Jewish Pride Fund has renewed commitment to Beit Dror, which runs the only dedicated LGBTQIA youth shelter in Israel, operating since 2021. 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 high risk for health or financial instability. This year’s grant will support a family intervention program, offered for the last four years and centered in the understanding that family is significant in teenage social-emotional development. 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 teens with their family in both 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 2<sup>nd</sup> year that the Jewish Pride Fund has supported Tehila, a voluntary, Israeli-registered nonprofit organization, founded 30+ years ago to help parents of teenagers and young LGBTQ persons. Tehila provides support and emotional relief to parents who struggle to accept the different sexual and/or gender identities of their children. Tehila has succeeded in providing a warm, safe, and friendly home to parents and family members of young members of the LGBTQ 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 LGBTQIA+ 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 LGBTQIA+ 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 LGBTQIA historical resources, including a primary source set and newsletter article, which will feature Sh’ara Zahav to build initial important relationships in the Bay Area LGBTQIA community and digitize new resources. Members of the Jewish Pride Fund are committed to building this relationship on behalf of the Bay Area LGBTQIA Jewish community to demonstrate both our commitment as proud Jews and make sure Jewish LGBTQIA+ 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: LGBTQIA+ Sephardic and Mizrahi Jews. SMQN seeks to create a vibrant and much-needed communal platform for the intersection of LGBTQIA+ and Sephardic-Mizrahi

life—a platform that uplifts and celebrates the full, multilayered identities of queer Mizrahi and Sephardic Jews. During the 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.

**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 five organizations and contributed \$3,280 to fund operations. In 2021, in addition to evaluating organizations and proposals based on the intersection of Jewish and LGBTQIA+ lens, the Fund also examined organizational needs based on the 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 LGBTQIA+ youth in Israel. This is the third year that the Jewish Pride Fund allocated a grant to Beit Dror. 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 acquiring a driver’s license 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 LGBTQIA+ community. This grant will help Hillel will launch the “Open Door” program, targeted specifically for LGBTQIA+ “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. This 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 trans people 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 LGBTQ persons. Tehila provides support and emotional relief to parents who struggle to accept the different sexual and/or gender identities of their children. Since its early days, Tehila succeeded in providing a warm, safe and friendly home to parents and other family members of young members of the LGTBQ community 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 can learn, share, and celebrate together. Jewish Baby Network is for expecting parents and families in the Bay Area 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 LGBTQIA+ families. Funding would be to support the launch of an LGBTQIA+ Jewish Families Affinity group and additional programs.

**2020 JPF Grants** (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021). The JPF granted a total of \$28,000 in 2020 to four organizations and contributed \$3,245 to Fund operations. In 2020, in addition to evaluating organizations and proposals based on the intersection of Jewish and LGBTQIA+ lens, the Fund pivoted to also examine urgent organizational needs based on the 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'avarim to scale resources to support the trans community in Israel. The trans community were part of a vulnerable population during the pandemic; however, Israel did not recognize the community as particularly vulnerable. Ma'avarim is working on advocacy, education, and information dispersal to transform thinking in Ministry of Health, as well as 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 four scholarships to support teens who graduate from the shelter in a practical career opportunity.
3. **Eshel** – (\$7,000) – Provide operating support for 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 synagogues 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 LGBTQIA+ normative synagogue established in 1977, which has grown in membership to 350 families. Many Sha'ar Zahav community members are part of populations particularly vulnerable to the pandemic, experiencing job loss and underlying health conditions. Sha'ar Zahav wants to continue to provide programs to support the community.

**2019** JPF Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020). The JPF granted a total of \$29,000 in 2019.

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 LGBTQIA+ Equity and Inclusion program, to provide coaching and training that strengthens Jewish organizations' ability to provide LGBTQIA+-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 LGBTQIA+ students.
5. **Nice Jewish Boys** (\$5,000) – Provide operating support to increase the impact of the programming and continue to professionalize the young organization.

**2018** JPF Grants (for fiscal cycle July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019). The JPF 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 LGBTQIA+ community in Israel. This is the largest and oldest LGBTQIA+ 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 LGBTQIA+ 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.

## Mission Statement

The Jewish Pride Fund, a giving circle of the Jewish Federation Bay Area, is committed to supporting the intersecting needs, values, and interests of the LGBTQIA+ and Jewish communities in the Bay Area, nationally, and in Israel.

### **Vision Statement**

Our vision is to create a world where Jewish LGBTQIA+ voices are heard across Jewish secular and religious society. We believe that if we empower LGBTQIA+ 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 LGBTQIA+ community. We believe that members of the Jewish LGBTQIA+ community have a unique role to play in civil right, social justice, and religious inclusion.