

A Note from Graham Hoffman,

President and CEO of the Jewish Community Foundation of Southern Arizona and President and CEO-Elect of the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona



Jewish Community Foundation
of Southern Arizona



Jewish Federation
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA STRONGER
TOGETHER

Southern Arizona Jewish community,

In light of the growing COVID-19 outbreak, the leadership of the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona and Jewish Community Foundation of Southern Arizona have decided to take the proactive and precautionary step of cancelling all public events and activities from now until after the end of Passover on Thursday, April 16th. We will of course monitor the situation closely and make further adjustments as necessary. Events impacted will include, but are not limited to: REAP, Maimonides, and PJ Shabbat Shabang in the Northwest.

Additionally, in light of the circumstances and the uncertainty relative to the coming weeks, we are cancelling several major events we had anticipated later this spring including the Israel Festival and Men's Poker Night.

We are taking this approach out of an abundance of caution. At this time, we are not aware of any increase in coronavirus cases present in our community. The more that we can take preventative action, however, by avoiding large gatherings, maintaining social distancing, and simply staying home when we are sick, the better equipped we are to contain, prevent, and combat this virus in our community.

The decision of the Federation and Foundation leadership does not include our local Southern Arizona Jewish organizations and synagogues. They are each taking appropriate steps and will continue to operate in the ways that are most appropriate for their particular circumstances.

The Federation and Foundation are closely following the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, and Pima County health officials. We will reassess the situation as it evolves and provide updates as they become available.

We are deeply committed to maintaining the health and safety of our professionals as well. We are currently proceeding with Federation and Foundation staff continuing to work on behalf of the community from our offices. We have, however, encouraged any staff who are sick to stay home and seek medical attention. Additionally, any staff requiring additional accommodations have been encouraged to speak to their supervisor for arrangements to be made. Moreover, we will continue to monitor the situation closely and may adjust our plans as necessary – up to and including telework, or suspending work.

Thank you for partnering with us as we face the novel coronavirus together.

Wishing you all continued good health and happiness during these challenging days,

Deborah Oseran

Chair of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona

Jeff Katz

Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Community Foundation of Southern Arizona

Stuart Mellan
President & CEO

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