

JRS is now

The branch

Taking inclusion to new heights.

Words cannot adequately express the devastation that we feel as we watch the horrific events unfold in Israel. The Branch stands with Israel and condemns the murder, kidnapping, and maiming of Israeli citizens at the hands of Hamas, a known terrorist organization. We grieve for the dead and pray for the safe return of the Israeli hostages. Sitting in the comfort of our homes in Pittsburgh, we feel a special kind of helplessness. One way to help is donating to relief funds, below are links to a few organizations.

- [Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh's Israeli Emergency Relief Fund](#)
- [Jewish Agency for Israel Fund for Victims of Terror](#)
- [Jewish Federations of North America response fund](#)
- [IsraAID Israel Emergency Fund](#)
- [Magen David Adom](#)
- [NATAL — The Israel Trauma and Resiliency Center](#)
- [American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee](#)

If you are struggling and looking for support locally, you can contact:

- [The 1027 Healing Partnership](#)
- [JFCS Pittsburgh Counseling Services](#)
- [UpStreet Pittsburgh](#) (for ages 12-22)

We are a community that knows collective trauma all too well, but we are also strong and resilient. The coming days and weeks will likely be difficult. Please be kind to yourselves and give each other grace. Our partners at the Blue Dove Foundation remind us, **“Remember it is OK to not be OK, and “Kol Yisrael arevim zeh la zeh – All Jews are responsible for one another.” YOU ARE NOT ALONE.”**

In solidarity and support,
Nancy E. Gale
Executive Director