



# THE FLAMIE

*The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland  
Lighting the Way for Jewish Women Leaders • Established 1916*

Fall 2021

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## Opening Meeting

# Child Care and COVID: The Challenges, The Opportunities and What You Can Do To Help



## Featured Speaker:



**Lauren Hogan**

*Managing Director of Policy and Professional  
Advancement of the **National Association for the  
Education of Your Children***

**Thursday, September 30, 2021**

**9:30 am — 11:30 am**

**Virtually Presented via Zoom**

**SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT:** The Federation is buying school supplies for Fallstaff Elementary/Middle School. Please purchase gift cards from Target or Walmart or write a check payable to The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of MD. Mail contributions to Linda Roedel - 113 Old House Court, Baltimore, MD 21208 by 10/25. For more information, contact CeCe Rund at (410)429-5411.

## Message from Our President



It has been a year and a half since life changed for all of us because of COVID 19. We had to face new ways to stay connected and safe at the same time. Most organizations needed to learn how to have meetings virtually using Zoom.

Unfortunately, today we are still facing organizational and personal life virtually. Zoom can never replace meeting in person but as an alternative way of coming together, Zoom has worked for us.

The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland will be having their September and November meetings and Mid-winter conference virtually. By the end of the year, we will decide if we are going to continue to use Zoom for the rest of the year.

No matter what happens this year, the Federation will still work hard to follow our mission of leadership training, support of the Jewish community and advocacy of issues of major concern. We are planning to continue offering technology trainings in Zoom, Facebook, Publisher to create flyers, software programs or email blasts. Please let us know if your organization is interested .

Throughout the year, the Federation will continue to

- be a member of MLAW, Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women. This organization is a state-wide coalition of women's groups and individuals formed to provide a non-partisan, independent voice for Maryland women and families.
- develop interesting timely meetings.
- reach out to more organizations and sisterhoods in Maryland in order to continue to expand our membership in Maryland.

Our opening meeting will be on September 30th when we will learn about Child Care and COVID: The Challenges, The Opportunities and What You Can Do To Help. Lauren Hogan, Managing Director of Policy and Professional Advancement at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), will be our featured speaker. We hope you will join us for this important meeting.

Before I close, I would like to thank everyone who has worked together this year to continue to make Federation an important part of our community. I look forward to seeing everyone at our meetings in the coming year.

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year 5782.



*Marcia Bornfriend*

## OPENING MEETING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 VIA ZOOM



### **Child Care and COVID: The Challenges, The Opportunities and What You Can Do To Help**

The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland is pleased to have Lauren Hogan, Managing Director of Policy and Professional Advancement at the National Association for the Education of Young Children as our guest speaker. She will speak on the topic: Child Care and COVID: The Challenges, The Opportunities and What You Can Do To Help.

Ms. Hogan brings a great deal of experience in the understanding of and advocating for the importance and need for the United States to establish early childhood education as a priority for every preschool child in our country. NAEYC promotes high-quality early learning for all children, birth through age 8, by connecting practice, policy, research and resources. It advances and supports a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and ensures that the early childhood profession exemplifies excellence and is recognized as performing a vital role in society. NAEYC is the national voice of the early childhood community.

## Federation—Legislative Update—August 2021

In the 2020 session of the Maryland legislature 2,299 bills were introduced in the House and 912 in the Senate. 819 bills were passed. During the General Assembly session, the Governor vetoed a number of bills which were over ridden by the legislature before the end of the session. Among the bills over ridden were a package of police reform bills; the creation of a pre-release center for incarcerated women; bills establishing a crime of first degree child abuse; establishing background checks for sales of long guns sold privately; expanding the definition of telehealth access, coverage and reimbursement; and providing \$577 million for black historical colleges and universities, to settle a long running court case over underfunding of same.

Following the session, the Governor vetoed 33 additional bills, many involving transit issues and COVID-19 spending. These will be the first bills undertaken when the legislature convenes in January. The Governor let the rest of the bills passed become law without his signature.

While other states are passing oppressive laws (more than 500) intended to make voting more difficult, Maryland expanded its voting opportunities for Maryland residents: creating a permanent absentee voting list; more days for early voting and additional sites; adding requirements for additional ballot drop boxes; and requiring that applications for absentee ballots be sent to all voters in 2022 and 2024.

On August 1, our state legislators were notified by their leadership that they may call a special session in

December for the purpose of enacting redistricting for the 2022 elections. Time is running out since the filing date for candidates to run is February 22, 2022 and the Primary election is June 28, 2022.

Legally, the Census Bureau should have delivered state population information to each state by December 31, 2020. At the end of April, 2021 they released only the total population by each state. This information divided by the 435 seats in the House of Representatives determines the number of Congressional people in each state as established by the U.S. Constitution. From the information released, we know that Maryland will neither gain nor lose a Congressional seat. Texas will gain two seats and five states will each lose one seat. Released on August 12 were the demographic breakdowns such as race, age, county and town by census tract information.

This information is critical for redistricting congressional seats within each state to produce districts which are close in population to each other and to meet redistricting requirements set by the Supreme Court in response to cases decided in the past. Similar requirements exist for redistricting the legislature. In Maryland there are at least 3 different groups working on drawing congressional and state legislative lines before the 2022 election, one of which has been appointed by the Governor as an independent, bi-partisan commission. In the end any districts drawn can still be appealed by state and federal courts.



**Please remember our Service men and women. Donations to Serv-A, The Federation's long term social action project, go directly to the JWB Jewish Chaplains Council. Contact Rochelle Bohrer (410) 922-9762 or Ferne Rogow (240) 604-3674 to send your contribution.**

**Thank you for your contributions and support!**

## 104th Annual Convention Report by CeCe Rund



What a convention it was! This pandemic did not deter our talented ladies from making our 104<sup>th</sup> convention on May 13<sup>th</sup> one to remember in years to come. It is our 105<sup>th</sup> year, but we were unable to gather in person last year due to COVID.

Our president, Marcia Bornfriend, opened the convention. Rabbi Elissa Sachs-Kohn (Baltimore Hebrew Congregation) provided the invocation and Cantor Ellerin (Baltimore Hebrew Congregation) sang the anthems of the USA and of Israel. Twenty-five of our twenty-six organizations were registered and one hundred seventy persons logged into our link to either

participate or watch a morning filled with information, inspirational speakers and ladies honored from each of our constituent organizations to receive the **Women Who Welcome Award**.

During our business meeting, we welcomed (either virtually, in person or via video) several of our legislators. We thank all our valued government officials who were able to attend.

Sheila Derman and Jo-Ann Orlinsky, co-chairs of our Resolutions Committee, presented 3 new resolutions for 2021 that were unanimously adopted: *Antisemitism*, *Today's Immigration Issues* and *Threat to United States Democracy*. Helene Waranch then proceeded to present our Courtesy Resolutions.

Once business was completed, the program began with Linda Boteach thanking and welcoming back the following officers: Marcia Bornfriend-President, Julie Bernstein-VP, Karan Engerman-VP, Shulamit Finkelstein-Recording Secretary, Rochelle Bohrer-Corresponding Secretary, Ferne Rogow-Corresponding Secretary, Ann Fishkin-Treasurer, Arlene Mazer-Auditor and Linda Boteach-Community Representative. CeCe Rund was nominated and installed as 1<sup>st</sup> VP by Linda Boteach.

Our keynote speaker was Sheela Murthy, Esquire, founder of the Murthy Law Firm, which is ranked as one of the world's leading US immigration law firms. Ms. Murthy gave a most inspirational and interesting talk addressing, "Welcoming the Stranger: Immigration Today." We thank Ms. Murthy for helping those in need of seeking citizenship and lessening the hardships of that procedure.

Carol Caplan and Elissa Ness presented our E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award to Alyson Friedman, who is co-chair of Na'aleh: The Hub for Leadership Learning at The Associated. Alyson provided a most meaningful and touching presentation. Ms. Friedman has spent numerous years volunteering and working to assist the community with a variety of issues and needs. **The Women Who Welcome Award** was videotaped in a beautiful garden setting. Marcia Bornfriend and Alyson Friedman presented the awards and we were able to meet each lady and hear them accept the lovely certificates. Unfortunately, three of our honorees predeceased the giving of this award but were represented by either a dear friend or family member. It was a fantastic morning! The entire program was recorded and is up on our site. If you were unable to attend the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland's 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, please visit our website at [Jewishwomensfed.org](http://Jewishwomensfed.org). and watch it. You will be happy that you did.

## President's Reception report, June 17, 2021 via ZOOM

On June seventeenth, there were over 30 persons who attended our zoom presentation for the President's Reception. Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit Halachmi, PhD provided a meaningful and spiritual short journey on how our Jewish values shape us as leaders in our organizations and in life. On July first, Rabbi Sabbath started as the Inaugural Senior Rabbi at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation.

Rabbi Sabath reminded us of our four core values: Mishpat or justice, Tzedakah or righteousness, Chesed or kindness and Rachamim or compassion. Remembering these can help us as we navigate through trying meetings and difficult times. We can also become more effective by using these values each day. She suggested that we not only begin our meetings by expressing our values with a reading or prayer but also end our meetings with a message of gratitude and self-assessment. Did we meet these values? Rabbi Sabath tells us that attending a meeting is an act of strength. We should keep this sense of urgency to keep our values because it all depends on us as leaders.

# WOMEN WHO WELCOME HONOREES



Past President  
Carol J. Caplan,  
Past President  
Elissa Ness and  
E.B.Hirsh Lifetime  
Achievement  
Award Recipient  
Alyson Friedman



Keynote  
Speaker,  
Sheela  
Murthy at  
our 104th  
Convention



## Under Our Umbrella

### Upcoming Events by our Organizations

The Flame is happy to highlight your organization's events.

Submit your information to Elissa Ness, [easelthew@aol.com](mailto:easelthew@aol.com)

#### **BETH EL SISTERHOOD**

Monday, October 4 — Dr. Leana Wen will be speaking at Beth El and Virtually. She is the former Health Commissioner for Baltimore City and is a frequent health contributor at CNN. Her newly published book, **Lifelines: A Doctor's Journey in the Fight for Public Health**, will be presented. To purchase the book, please contact Robin Kleiman at 410-960-7997. The presentation will begin at 12 noon. For more information or reservations please contact Marcia Boonschaft at 410-484-3112.

Sunday, October 17— Shredding event at Beth El parking lot. 10 am-12pm. For more information please contact Ilene Merenbloom 410-486-6822.

Monday, October 18— Please join us for this very important presentation from the Brem Foundation who will speak on Breast Cancer Awareness. This presentation will begin at 7 pm and will be on Zoom. For information or reservations please contact Marcia Boonschaft at 410-484-3112.

#### **BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD**

The Beth Israel Sisterhood has planned the following upcoming events. In October and November, we hope to meet in person at Beth Israel. However, our guest presenters will be joining us on Zoom. In the event that we can not gather in person, a Zoom link will be sent to all interested persons.

October 13, 2021 7:00 pm — Topic: Jewish Women in the Maryland Hall of Fame, presented by Sally T. Grant from the Maryland Women's Heritage Center. In the event it will be in person, the meeting will be held at Beth Israel Congregation, 3736 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills. For more information, contact Myra Wittik 410-486-6054 [myraw1940@gmail.com](mailto:myraw1940@gmail.com).

November 10, 2021 6:30 pm — Fall Dinner for paid-up members only. Presenter will be Daniel Weiser, Musician Extraordinaire Gershwin Tunes. To be held at Beth Israel Congregation, 3736 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills. For more information, contact Rheta Rosen 410-654-5258 [bunnyrheta@comcast.net](mailto:bunnyrheta@comcast.net) or Myra Cohn 410-876-7632 [mccohn@comcast.com](mailto:mccohn@comcast.com). Pre-Registration is required for this program.

December 8, 2021 7:00 pm — Virtual Bingo. Contact Miriam Stern 410-602-0175 [bubbysternmail@aol.com](mailto:bubbysternmail@aol.com). Pre-Registration is required for this program.

#### **BETH TFILOH SISTERHOOD**

October 26, 2021— Day of Games and Lunch 12 noon to 4:00 pm. Lunch and snacks. Bring your mahjongg, canasta, bridge or whatever you enjoy playing. We have the tables. Cost TBD. Call

Ellen Karp 443-660-7690 or email [ellenkarp@hotmail.com](mailto:ellenkarp@hotmail.com). Date contingent on COVID.

#### **BRANDEIS NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

Thursday September 23 — Our opening meeting will be held virtually with a catered box lunch to be picked up at a venue to be arranged. Speaker Barbara Blumberg will present *Unknown Women Who Changed the World*. Admission: \$30. For info: Suzanne Strutt, 410-236-6177, [swstrutt@verizon.net](mailto:swstrutt@verizon.net); or Rona Greene, 410-252-2118, [ronakg@comcast.net](mailto:ronakg@comcast.net) or Teri Markowitz, 410-517-0516, [iamxnyer@gmail.com](mailto:iamxnyer@gmail.com).

#### **CHANA**

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 7 pm. *Voices: When Relationships Hurt*. Speaker and discussion with Bill Mitchell, violence prevention advocate and author of "When Dating Hurts". This is a FREE virtual event. Contact Dayna Leder - [dleder@associated.org](mailto:dleder@associated.org) for Zoom information. <http://chanabaltimore.org/>.

#### **CHIZUK AMUNO CONGREGATION SISTERHOOD**

October 10, 2021 9 am - noon — Program: Shredding and E-Cycle. As part of Chizuk Amuno's Day of Service, Sisterhood will be sponsoring our annual Shredding and E-cycle event. Location: Chizuk Amuno, 8100 Stevenson Road, Baltimore. Cost: \$10 donation for up to 5 bags of paper, \$10 for a trunkful of electronics (anything with a cord or battery). For information contact [myoffe@chizukamuno.org](mailto:myoffe@chizukamuno.org).

October 28, 2021 7 pm — Program: Bake Pink, Think Pink! Be proactive about your health with Shasheret - The Jewish Breast & Ovarian Cancer Community. Join us as Melissa K. Rosen, director of National Outreach for Shararet, shares how to determine risk factors and mitigate risk. Help spread awareness in your community. Included in admission is a pre-made pink challah dough to braid and bake for Shabbat. Location: TBD based on conditions. Price: \$18 for Chizuk Sisterhood members/ \$20 for non-members. Dinner options may be included based on conditions. RSVP by 10/18. Contact: [Sisterhood@chizukamuno.org](mailto:Sisterhood@chizukamuno.org). Go to [Chizukamuno.org](http://Chizukamuno.org) under the calendar for the latest information.

November 18, 2021, 7 pm. Program: Photography with Robyn Brody. Join us as we host photographer Robyn Brody, a Chizuk Amuno member and recently featured in JMORE. Robyn will share her unique perspective of events through her lens, her love of photography, her career and give us professional tips on how to amp up our amateur camera skills. Location: TBD based on conditions. Contact: [sisterhood@chizukamuno.org](mailto:sisterhood@chizukamuno.org). Go to [Chizukamuno.org](http://Chizukamuno.org) under the calendar for the latest information.



## Under Our Umbrella

### Upcoming Events by our Organizations continued...

#### **HADASSAH OF GREATER BALTIMORE**

Mondays, September 13, 2021 at 11 am. Lunch and Learn starting \$50 per session, \$90 for both sessions ZOOM. For information contact [bblack@hadassah.org](mailto:bblack@hadassah.org).

Thursday- September 30, 2021 Health Program on ZOOM. For information contact [bblack@hadassah.org](mailto:bblack@hadassah.org).

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 7 pm. Opening Fall Meeting. Virtual Jewish tour of India. ZOOM. For information contact [bblack@hadassah.org](mailto:bblack@hadassah.org).

#### **ISRAEL BONDS MARYLAND WOMENS DIVISION**

Thursday, November 18, 2021 11:00 am. 2021 Rina L. Janet Israel Bonds Maryland Women's Division Fashion Show. Join us for our annual Fashion Show & Luncheon as we honor Erika & Lew Schon. Event Chairs are: Randi Hertzberg & Sharon Zuckerbrod. The cost is \$100. The location will be determined soon. The due date is August 12, 2021. Contact Hillary Lewis [hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com](mailto:hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com) 443-471-2783 or 410-484-6670 x1.

#### **KAPPA GUILD, INC.**

**October 21 12 noon.** Zoom meeting and virtual tour of Kennedy Krieger Institute showing the equipment that Kappa Guild has purchased for them over the years.

**November 12** Shabbat to Go Drive Up Dinner. Catering by Yaffa. Pick up at Beth Tfiloh Congregation 3300 Old Court Road at the main entrance from 12 noon - 1:00 pm. For information and to order dinner, contact Sheila Mentz 410-484-8215 [morahsheila@aol.com](mailto:morahsheila@aol.com) or Miriam Stern 410-602-0175 [bubbysternmail@aol.com](mailto:bubbysternmail@aol.com).

#### **THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF HAR SINAI-OHEB SHALOM CONGREGATION**

September 21 at 11 am. "Sisters are We" Sukkot luncheon with presentations by clergy/representatives from HSOSC, the Rosedale Mosque and the Bridge Group Church. Closed to the Public.

October 5 G.I.F.T.S., Pandemic Gifts Introspective Opportunity, the positive effects of the pandemic quarantine. Closed to the Public.

October 13 at 10 am. Our group will have a maximum of 15 for a tour of the Visionary Arts Museum guided by a museum staff member Rebecca Hoffberger. Each participant pays the \$12 admission fee.

Open to the public with reservation. The museum can accommodate a maximum of 25.

#### **WOMEN OF BALTIMORE HEBREW CONGREGATION**

Fall 2021 Events Wednesdays with Women of BHC- Every Wednesday WBHC is offering different programs on zoom. Check out the Federation Under the Umbrella webpage for more details. To attend, email [womenofbhc@gmail.com](mailto:womenofbhc@gmail.com) and request the zoom link and it will be sent to you.

September 22 at 10 am. What's New at the Red Cross. Presented by Misty Bruce, executive director.

September 29 at 10 am. Margaret Sanger, the Mother of the Birth Control Pill: Saint or Sinner? Presented by Barbara Blumberg.

October 6 at 7:30 pm. Cooking for Thanksgiving, Chanukah and the Secular New Year demonstrated by Gourmet Girls.

October 13 at 10 am. Little Known Resources at the Baltimore County Public Library presented by a librarian.

October 20 at 7:30 pm. Jewish Practice of Self-Study: Humility. Presented by Edie Raphael.

October 27 at 10 am. Nourishing the Soul with Joy. Presented by Bracha Goetz, author.

Sunday, October 3 from 1:30-3:30 pm The Shred Event: . Bring only paper to the Baltimore Hebrew Congregation parking lot. Pay \$5 for each filled box or grocery bag and \$10 for each large plastic bag. Stay in your cars and a volunteer will retrieve your paper.

Sunday, October 10 at 1 pm on zoom. WBHC Opening Meeting: Highlights of Hamilton presented by Ellen Katz. Email [womenofbhc@gmail.com](mailto:womenofbhc@gmail.com) to request the zoom link.

Federation Calendar  
(meetings are held on Thursdays)



BECOME A FRIEND OF FEDERATION

Meetings Held Either Virtually or in Person



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Opening Meeting—September 30, 2021

Dinner Meeting—November 18, 2021

Mid-Winter Conference—January 20, 2022

March Meeting—March 17, 2022

106th Annual Convention— May 12, 2022

Visit our website for more information at

[jewishwomensfed.org](http://jewishwomensfed.org)

FRIEND OF FEDERATION FORM

Your contribution of \$18 a year allows you to receive all Flames, the annual directory and all mailings. You also help to underwrite Federation's meetings. Thank you for becoming a Friend of Federation.

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Zip code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to:

The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland  
Please mail check to:

Ann Fishkin, Treasurer, 6501 Trotwood Court,  
Baltimore, Maryland 21209

Info: Sylvia Katzel, [skatzel@hotmail.com](mailto:skatzel@hotmail.com) or C: 410-456-8128

**THE FLAME**  
The Federation of Jewish Women's  
Organizations of Maryland  
P.O. Box 29, Stevenson, MD 21153-0059

SAVE THE DATE—106TH ANNUAL CONVENTION MAY 12, 2022!