**Guidelines for Funders (adapted from** [**Jewish Funders Network**](http://www.jfunders.org)**)**

# Needs on the Ground

*Jewish Funders Network (JFN) is working with the Home Front Command, the Prime Minister's Office, the Civil Society Umbrella, the Foundation Forum, and the Business Forum to launch an* [*online platform for vetted needs.*](https://www.jfunders.org/israel_crisis?utm_campaign=israel_at_war_4&utm_medium=email&utm_source=jfn) *(Currently this link is just to recommended organizations, but in the next few days, the site should link to the online platform.) In addition to the below info from JFN, which is sending out* [*regular updates*](https://www.jfunders.org/president)*, you may also want to* [*consult eJewish Philanthropy’s giving guide*](https://ejewishphilanthropy.com/how-to-give-to-israel-right-now/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Your%20Daily%20Phil%20October%2011%202023&utm_content=Your%20Daily%20Phil%20October%2011%202023+CID_9a1f9ee2f56ea576be894b4c58fd1597&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20the%20full%20list%20here)*.*

In addition, some specific areas, all of which can be explored through a gender lens:

\* Remote learning needs, as schools across the country return to COVID routines. Organizations (listed on JFN’s website) are rushing to provide tablets and laptops to students of disadvantaged populations and in the most affected regions

\* Specific populations, such as the elderly, people with disabilities, new immigrants, etc., that are particularly vulnerable. For example, there are elderly people stranded in Sderot and Ofakim who aren’t able to receive medical or social services. [Another specific population is rape survivors, both those who are being re-traumatized by the news and potentially those assaulted by Hamas.]

\* There are thousands of evacuees from the conflict area, many in hotels in the Dead Sea Region, Eilat, and other points of the country. Supporting them appropriately is challenging, and many organizations, from trauma counselors to youth movements, are rushing to help.

\* Trauma and psychological support [as well as medical treatment] continue to be pressing needs in what’s arguably the most traumatic event in the country’s history. Israeli trauma organizations are under severe strain and need help. [[Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America](https://www.hadassah.org/) is doing important work in this area.]

\* Israeli Arabs are fearful of incitement and retaliation against them even though there were scores of Israeli Arabs among the victims. [Several Hadassah Foundation grantees, including Itach Ma’aki: Women Lawyers for Social Justice and Merchavim are active in serving the Israeli Arab community and strengthening Jewish-Arab relations.]

\*Organizations that advocate for Israel in the public square, especially on social media, are scrambling to respond. Advocacy is most effective when done by non-Jewish allies. Jewish students in high schools and colleges are sharing the need for talking points to be able to counter anti-Israeli propaganda, or simply to respond questions of curious classmates. [Hadassah Foundation grantee Moving Traditions is doing some of this right now.]

# Recommended Strategies

\* It’s important for funders to pace themselves, and while giving generously now, consider that this will be a long process and the rebuilding needs will be massive.

\* Be wary of appeals from organizations you haven’t heard of or supported previously and remember that money is always more useful than goods.

\*Don’t cannibalize existing grantees to serve new needs. Wherever possible, give more rather than redirecting existing funding plans, and remember that the 5% payout is not a maximum but a minimum.

\*Simplify the grantmaking process as much as possible. If you trust your grantee, there's no need for extensive bureaucracy, proposals, paperwork, etc. Just ask them what they need. There will be time for paperwork later. Organizations are unclear about what the mid and long-term needs will be, so they need the flexibility to reallocate and move funds around.