COVID-19: A GLOBAL RESPONSE TO A GLOBAL CRISIS

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended societies and economies worldwide and led to the tragic loss of millions of lives. In the face of these challenges, JDC remained a force for stability and continued it work uninterrupted. With the invaluable support of our partners and funders, JDC adjusted and expanded it operations for the new reality and launched new programs to respond to this unprecedented crisis. Here is a snapshot of our response so far.

THE CARE CONTINUES — SAFELY

For the more than 80,000 isolated and at-risk elderly Jews, JDC serves in the former Soviet Union (FSU), the pandemic has made a difficult situation worse. To continue providing aid safely, JDC instituted new protocols to protect both clients and homecare workers.

PPE DISTRIBUTED TO HOMECARE WORKERS:

- 10,340,000 Total personal protective equipment (PPE)
- 66,340,000 Gloves, caps, robes, and other protective gear
- 3,517,000 Masks
- 190,000 Sanitizers, soap, wipes, etc.

123,000+ CALLS

JDC opened volunteer and professionally staffed hotlines to ensure quarantined elderly had human contact.

Over 200 homecare workers were able to reach clients through private transportation when public transportation was not available.

80% of JDC’s Israel programs were moved to remote platforms within a few days of the crisis.

32,000 older adults were provided with basic needs and services throughout Israel.

SOCIAL WELFARE SUPPORT

When the pandemic struck, we leveraged our existing infrastructure to provide support to these front-line responders.

- 504 staff at Hesed, Jewish Family Service, and volunteer centers across the FSU participated in 13 online trainings designed to maintain essential social services and build resilience.
- 40 community leaders from Jewish communities across Europe received guidance and the support of a robust professional network from online sessions offered by the European Council of Jewish Communities in partnership with JDC.
- 1,600 Jewish communities across 14 countries in Europe, Argentina, Morocco and Tunisia, received monthly financial aid from the Relief Fund, since May 2020, the Fund has disbursed $108,000.

AIDING FAMILIES

The pandemic pushed thousands of Jewish families into economic distress and left those already struggling with even greater challenges.

- 30+ professionals from Jewish communities across Europe received guidance and the support of a robust professional network from online sessions offered by the European Council of Jewish Communities in partnership with JDC.
- 700 Jewish families in Argentina had their needs met by JDC in partnership with the country’s main Jewish community care organizations.
- 791 Holocaust survivors were paired with volunteers who maintained daily contact and provided additional services where needed.
- 9,000 children and families in 27 countries received monthly financial aid for food, medicine and other basics.
- 5,400 Holocaust survivors were provided with hand sanitizer.
- 53.3 million dollars, first-of-its-kind NGO grant fund was founded by JDC.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Strong community has proven vital during the pandemic, both as a safeguard against isolation and a powerful tool for sharing knowledge and building identity and leadership. That’s why JDC has continued to leverage its expertise to support Jewish communities worldwide.

- 600 European top professionals and lay leaders from 39 countries took part in an e-Summit that strengthened collaboration and resilience in times of COVID-19.
- 973 volunteers took active part in online activities for elderly and children at-risk.
- 791 children in need received free school supplies in September, thanks to a Volunteer Center campaign that spanned five countries. They raised double the amount from the previous year.

Tikkun Olam in the Time of Coronavirus

Guided by our Jewish values, JDC’s COVID-19 response also meets emerging humanitarian needs in the developing world.

- 15,200 people in Ethiopia and Indonesia accessed hand washing stations for improved hygiene.
- 12,900 people in India and Indonesia received food and hygiene kits.
- 1,200,000+ in Ethiopia and Indonesia were reached by a JDC-supported social media campaign focused on hand washing.

Data reporting periods may vary by region or program. All figures as of January 2021. For the latest on our COVID-19 response, visit JDC.org/coronavirusupdates.