



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Messages from the President & Executive Vice President



Our Foundation



Human Rights & Public Policy



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Remembering & Honoring the Past



Senior Advocacy & Housing



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Helping Communities & Disaster Relief



Young Leadership in Action



Connecting = Social + Traditional + Personal



Financial



Executive Board of Directors / Board of Governors

B'nai B'rith International has advocated for global Jewry and championed the cause of human rights since 1843. B'nai B'rith is recognized as a vital voice in promoting Jewish unity and continuity, a staunch defender of the State of Israel, a tireless advocate on behalf of senior citizens and a leader in disaster relief. With a presence in more than 50 countries, we are the Global Voice of the Jewish Community.





## B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

### FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear friend,

It is with great pride that I present to you our 2014 annual report. This report provides an opportunity to update you on the vital and vibrant work of our organization.

The pillars that support B'nai B'rith are as solid as ever. Our global presence, our policy expertise, our personal contacts at seats of government all combine to ensure we speak out for human rights, we support and defend Israel, we advocate for seniors—through our low-income housing program as well as by ensuring fair legislation—and we help communities recovering from natural disasters.

As the Global Voice of the Jewish Community, we embrace the trust you have placed in us to speak out when Israel is marginalized and to ensure world leaders know our cause. We have members and supporters in more than 50 countries all working together on the problems facing Israel and Jews throughout the world.

As president, I have the distinct privilege of being present in so many places to speak out against anti-Semitism. Travelling with B'nai B'rith leaders as well as colleagues from other Jewish organizations enables B'nai B'rith to show solidarity with the Jews of the world.

Again and again, I am reminded that our internationality is our strength. We had members, supporters and friends join us in the spring at the formal gathering of the United Nations Human Rights Council, where Israel is a permanent agenda item of scorn and derision. And with each meeting with governmental leaders and council members, I gain a renewed sense of purpose for why we attend these events: to remind the global community that someone is looking, watching and speaking out against injustice.

In August, through our annual Policy Forum (held this year in Panama City, Panama), I was able to see first-hand the issues our global B'nai B'rith constituents face. And I was reminded, again, that we are an unparalleled recognized and respected global voice for Jews the world over, when the president of Panama addressed our forum—his first remarks to his nation's Jewish community since he took office.

I know as you review this annual report, you'll appreciate our perseverance and dedication to our mission—a commitment that has not wavered in our more than 17 decades of service.

Sincerely,

**Allan J. Jacobs**  
President



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



Dear friend,

The opportunity to reflect is one I cherish at the end of each year. In order to move forward successfully, we must understand where we came from, the obstacles we faced and the ones we overcame.

Over the course of more than 17 decades as a service organization, our dedication to Jewish issues, to human rights causes, to the welfare of senior citizens and to helping those in need hasn't wavered.

B'nai B'rith is a bulwark against those who seek to delegitimize and demonize the State of Israel. From the halls of the United Nations to the offices of world leaders, B'nai B'rith is a constant, vocal presence, condemning the unjust treatment of Israel at global institutions and offering solutions for the fair treatment of Israel and parity on the world stage.

With dedicated staff members and volunteers around the world, we combat anti-Semitism and other human rights abuses, while promoting interfaith tolerance and acceptance.

From our groundbreaking work establishing housing for low-income seniors starting in 1968, we have become a recognized authority on issues vital to seniors' well-being, such as lifelong access to medical care.

We step up to aid victims of disasters. This year alone, we allocated funds from our Disaster Relief program to help establish care and education projects in Africa to treat Ebola patients and curtail the spread of the deadly virus. And we launched a fund to help Israelis in the wake of the deadly Hamas rocket attacks into Israel.

We work every day for Jewish unity, security, continuity and tolerance. This work can only be achieved with the dedication of our remarkable volunteers, exceptional professional staff as well as the support and encouragement of so many within the Jewish community and beyond.

I know as you read this report, you will understand why I am immensely proud of B'nai B'rith's role as the Global Voice of the Jewish Community.

Sincerely,

**Daniel S. Mariaschin**  
Executive Vice President and CEO





The Global Voice of the Jewish Community

# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## OUR FOUNDATION

B'nai B'rith International is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people around the globe. We are a national and global leader in advancing human rights; Israel advocacy; ensuring access to safe and affordable housing for low-income seniors and advocacy on vital issues concerning seniors and their families; diversity education; improving communities and helping communities in crisis. B'nai B'rith is as vital today as we were upon our founding 171 years ago. Making the world a safer, more tolerant and better place is the mission that still drives our organization.





# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## HUMAN RIGHTS & PUBLIC POLICY



We continue our long tradition of advocacy and action on domestic and international issues. Our connections at global seats of government, from city to city, nation to nation and continent to continent, ensure leaders pay heed to our concerns.

With our team of policy experts around the globe, B'nai B'rith is well positioned to have expertise and access in the domestic and international arenas.



At the United Nations, we play a leading role as a non-governmental organization. At the various venues of the United Nations, B'nai B'rith is a forceful presence in the defense of Israel. During the conflict in Gaza, the United Nations was particularly one-sided in its resolutions and condemnations—holding Israel, but not the terror group Hamas responsible.

Our volunteers and staff engaged in exhaustive direct advocacy with numerous ambassadors, in New York and Geneva, with heads of state as well as with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. Using our long history at the United Nations as a guide, we took the lead advocating for the inclusion of Yom Kippur on the official United Nations calendar, writing an op-ed in the New York Times on this initiative.

Our human rights work spans continents: B'nai B'rith collaborated with partners on a Capitol Hill event protesting the unjust International Court of Justice opposition to Israel's counterterrorism fence. We also held a major event at UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, promoting the Judeo-Spanish language (Ladino).

At our program at the United Nations on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, we advocated for interfaith solidarity by focusing on Albanian Muslims' and Christians' extraordinary rescue of Jews during World War II.

In June, B'nai B'rith leaders engaged with United Nations officials in New York for our U.N. Days programming, meeting with two-dozen ambassadors and other senior diplomats from around the globe, including nation-members of the U.N. Security Council. These meetings help remind the United Nations leadership and agencies that someone is looking over their shoulder and will hold them accountable for unjust decisions and resolutions leveled at Israel.



## **B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL**

# 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

### **HUMAN RIGHTS & PUBLIC POLICY**

In the spring, we sent our annual leadership delegation to Geneva to address key issues facing the United Nations Human Rights Council including the council's singular mistreatment of Israel, the increasingly disastrous humanitarian situation in and around Syria and Iran's ever-present threat to global security.

During the Gaza conflict, B'nai B'rith was in touch with global leaders and spoke out publicly to ensure the international community understood the conflict was a result of Hamas' aggression and offensive actions. B'nai B'rith leaders met with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to express support for Israel.

Throughout the year, we actively engaged in Congressional outreach, using new online tools to connect thousands of B'nai B'rith members



**TAKE ACTION!** 

and supporters to their congressional representatives on important pieces of legislation pertaining to Israel, including increased funding for Iron Dome, Israel's missile interception system that saved thousands of lives from Hamas rockets.

In Europe, B'nai B'rith is a member of a European Parliament advisory board's working group on anti-Semitism, which is striving to act with other European and national institutions to train law enforcement and use other legal tools to fight anti-Semitism. We briefed European parliamentarians, the European External Action Service and the European Commission on issues such as EU-Israel relations, the Gaza War and anti-Semitism in the EU. Member of the European Parliament and newly appointed Chair of the European Parliament Delegation for Relations with Israel Fulvio Martusciello visited Israel for the first time at the invitation of B'nai B'rith International. Working directly with the B'nai B'rith World Center in Jerusalem, his delegation met top Israeli lawmakers. Major issues raised during the meetings included EU-Israel relations, the Iranian threat and the latest on anti-Semitism throughout Europe.

Through our Cuban Jewish Relief Project, B'nai B'rith organized two missions to Cuba this year to help the small Cuban Jewish population with unmet needs such as medical supplies and educational materials, as well as to help support Jewish retirees. We have hosted missions to Cuba since 1995 to engage in religious activities and provide support to the local Jewish population.

Our long and close ties with the Vatican ensure interfaith conciliation, which we hope will lead to greater understanding and acceptance across religious lines. B'nai B'rith was present during Pope Francis' visit to Israel in the spring, offering us a unique perspective on the efforts of this pope to keep the lines of interfaith dialogue free and open. This level of access demonstrates how our longevity and resourcefulness make us a key player on the global stage.

We later met in New York with the Vatican secretary of state, affirming our acute concern for persecuted Christians in the Middle East.



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## HUMAN RIGHTS & PUBLIC POLICY

Our commitment to advancing Israel's place in the world and improving its relations with other nations is unparalleled. B'nai B'rith leaders took part in a historic three-country visit to Israel, Cyprus and Greece early this year, accompanying representatives from two American-Hellenic organizations. We analyzed the strategic and emerging relationship between the three countries by discussing critical issues with senior government officials in each. The trip has led to solid ties between the American Jewish and Hellenic communities.



Later in the year, we accepted the Humanitarian Award from the Greek American body AHEPA—the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association. The group recognized our efforts “defending human and civil rights and religious freedom,” and for providing “humanitarian, spiritual or physical relief to those in need,” as well as for our advocacy on behalf of seniors. B'nai B'rith is the first non-Greek organization to receive the honor.

B'nai B'rith International members and supporters gathered in Panama City, Panama, for the 2014 B'nai B'rith Policy Forum, the second time the forum has been held outside of the United States. Those in attendance were joined by a number of high-profile speakers, including Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela (addressing the Panamanian Jewish Community for the first time since taking office), former Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti and Israeli Minister of Intelligence and Strategic Affairs Yuval Steinitz, among others.



B'nai B'rith leaders, volunteers and supporters from 16 countries attended the forum which featured an opening ceremony at the Panama Canal.





# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## SUPPORTING & DEFENDING ISRAEL

B'NAI B'RITH WORLD CENTER - JERUSALEM המרכז העולמי של בני ברית - ירושלים



Our World Center in Jerusalem keeps us well connected to events and leaders in Israel.

In an extraordinary show of solidarity with the people of Israel, a six-member mission consisting of members of the newly-elected executive committee of B'nai B'rith Europe visited the country in the midst of continuous rocket attacks from Gaza over the summer. Senior government officials briefed mission participants and the delegation saw first-hand the realities faced by Israelis during an extensive visit to the most heavily shelled areas. The mission provided an opportunity to directly convey the organization's message of unity and solidarity with the people of Israel.

THE ANNUAL B'NAI B'RITH WORLD CENTER  
**AWARD FOR JOURNALISM**  
RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN DIASPORA REPORTAGE  
IN MEMORY OF WOLF AND HILDA MATSDORF



**הפרס השנתי  
לעיתונאות**

של המרכז העולמי של בני ברית למצוינות בסקירת התפוצות  
בתקשורת הישראלית ע"ש וולף והילדה מטסדורף

Now marking its 22nd year, the B'nai B'rith World Center bestowed its award for Journalism Recognizing Excellence in Diaspora Reportage in memory of Wolf and Hilda Matsdorf. Winners of the award for 2014 were Matan Hodorov, chief economic correspondent for Channel 10 News and Judy Maltz, senior writer for Ha'aretz. A Lifetime Achievement Award in memory of Luis and Trudi Schydlofsky was presented to David Horovitz, founding editor of the Times of Israel and former editor-in-chief of the Jerusalem Post and Jerusalem Report for his dedication to extended Diaspora reportage over a 30-year career. A special citation for fostering Israel-Diaspora relations through the arts was presented to musician and composer Nurit Hirsh. For more than two decades, the award has recognized excellence in reportage on contemporary Diaspora Jewish communities and on the state of Israel-Diaspora relations today in Israeli print, broadcast and electronic media.



The B'nai B'rith World Center in Jerusalem and Keren Kayemeth LelIsrael (KKL-JNF) held a unique joint Holocaust commemoration ceremony on Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah). This is the only ceremony to commemorate the heroism of Jews who rescued fellow Jews during the Holocaust. The Jewish Rescuers Citation was established in 2011 to bring more attention to the thousands of Jews who were active in rescue efforts throughout Europe, putting their own lives at risk in order to save other Jews. Nearly 100 citations have been presented to rescuers who operated in France, Germany, Holland, Greece and Hungary.





# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## SUPPORTING & DEFENDING ISRAEL



This year's event in Israel memorialized the rescue activities of Jonas Eckstein (1902-1971) who was an active member of the Jewish community and a successful wrestler in "Hakoach" Jewish sport club in Bratislava, Slovakia.

In the fall, B'nai B'rith International conferred the Jewish Rescuers Citation upon Berta Davidovitz Rubinsztein, who rescued Jewish children in Budapest. One of the children she saved from certain death, Meir Brand, journeyed from his home in Israel to attend the ceremony in New York.

The B'nai B'rith World Center welcomed Dr. Rodney Colina, director of the virology lab at La Republica University in Salto, Uruguay, and winner of the B'nai B'rith Uruguay "Light and Truth Award" for 2013. The trip combined tours of historical sites—such as Jerusalem's Old City, the Israel Museum and Masada—and meetings with peers from major Israeli research institutions.

For some 30 years, B'nai B'rith Uruguay's Light and Truth Award and Fraternidad Award have brought dozens of accomplished artists and scientists from Uruguay on their first visits to Israel, providing an opportunity for them to learn first-hand about the country's history, people and ethos, and to expand relations between Israeli and Latin American scholars.

Israel's defensive war in Gaza seemed to further isolate the Jewish state in the court of public opinion. B'nai B'rith publicly condemned four MERCOSUR (the South American trade bloc) members after the group issued a special release castigating Israel for "the use of disproportionate force" during its defensive military incursion into the Gaza Strip and insinuating Israel might be guilty of violating international humanitarian law. The presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Venezuela all signed the special release. We also praised the principled stance of Paraguay, the fifth member of MERCOSUR, for refusing to sign the special release and thus denying it resolution status.



During the war in Gaza against Hamas, anti-Semitism and vitriol against Israel percolated in academia, media and social media throughout Latin America. Some government leaders from countries including Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Uruguay and Venezuela also spoke publicly against the Jewish state.

B'nai B'rith Latin America condemned this anti-Israel animus through a series of op-eds in newspapers in those countries, intense and ongoing follow-up on social media and in meetings with governmental officers and lawmakers.



# **B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL** **2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

## **SUPPORTING & DEFENDING ISRAEL**

The B'nai B'rith World Center in Jerusalem hosted a mission of high level executives from the Argentinian branch of Securitas, a multinational security company with 300,000 employees in 53 countries. B'nai B'rith Argentina spear-headed the mission thanks to its long relationship with the company through its extensive corporate responsibility programs.

A five-person mission of top executives from Argentina's leading medical insurance company, OSDE (Organizacion de Servicios Directos Empresarios), traveled to Israel for a five-day visit initiated by B'nai B'rith Argentina, which has partnered with the OSDE Foundation for the past 12 years to provide humanitarian assistance to Argentinians in need. One of the ongoing aid projects, our Communities in Crisis program, has resulted in the donation of 480 wheelchairs plus more than 19,600,000 units of medicine provided by our partner, the Pittsburgh, Pa., based Brother's Brother Foundation. B'nai B'rith and OSDE work together to distribute the donated items.



## B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

### SENIOR ADVOCACY & HOUSING

We are a globally recognized leader in the fields of senior housing and aging. B'nai B'rith has been a solid advocate for seniors in the United States for decades. We regularly meet with lawmakers to discuss the unique plight of the elderly in the United States and around the world. We speak out against legislation that could harm the often vulnerable senior population. We teach leaders at our low-income senior housing facilities practical lessons in such topics as suicide prevention and bullying prevention.

Access for low-income seniors to safe and affordable housing is one of our main organizational priorities, and what we have learned from more than 40 years in the field has shaped the rest of our aging policy agenda.

B'nai B'rith is the largest national Jewish sponsor of low-income housing for seniors in the United States, with 42 buildings in 26 communities. We also sponsor six buildings located in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, Canada, as well as additional facilities around the world. In the United States, with funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), we provide safe, affordable housing for more than 8,000 seniors of limited income without regard to race, national origin or religion. In order to fulfill our mission and standards of operations for each building, B'nai B'rith staff provides ongoing training, troubleshooting, programming and advocacy outreach for the entire housing network. Local B'nai B'rith volunteers provide guidance to buildings in their communities.

In Congress, we strongly advocate for housing funds, aiming to stop further cuts.

The annual B'nai B'rith International Conference on Senior Housing, which brings together members of the various boards of directors and management professionals of the buildings for three days of training, was held this year in Hot Springs, Ark., in October. After hearing from experts on the state of funding for affordable senior housing in the United States, participants focused on expanding volunteer networks and the future of affordable housing.

B'nai B'rith also hosted a three-day training session for our property managers and service coordinators this summer in Chicago. A featured topic was how the B'nai B'rith Young Leadership Network can provide programming events in the senior housing buildings. Attendees learned how to apply for financial grants and assistance to help develop service programs. And they dealt with issues of fair housing—ensuring that buildings are in compliance with laws pertaining to potential discrimination.



B'nai B'rith helped derail a plan to cut the Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment that would have affected all current and future beneficiaries. Our vigilance on this issue does not wane. We are leading the fight to stop the Social Security Administration from eliminating several key services from their field offices. We persuaded Social Security to keep the services and work with us on ways to make it easier to supply information to people who need it.





## B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

### SENIOR ADVOCACY & HOUSING

We are leading the effort to restore the paper mailing of the annual earnings statement from Social Security to all Americans. This mailing allows people to correct mistakes in time to help them ensure their benefits are fully realized. The paper mailing also helps people understand the benefits social security provides to workers and their families in the event of retirement, disability and death. Social Security will now mail them out to people on their “big birthdays” every five years. We continue to work with the Social Security Administration on getting back to more frequent statements.

We are working closely with Social Security Administration as it develops “Vision 2025” to make sure that future plans for the agency include quality services to people—especially older adults.

B'nai B'rith worked with both the Social Security Administration and Medicare on fair and clear implementation of the “Windsor decision” that requires the federal government to recognize same sex marriages for federal benefits. Because Social Security bases its decisions on the recognition of marriage in a worker’s state of residence, there are still issues where Americans in different states face different statuses at the federal level.



B'nai B'rith sprang to action when it was revealed that some Nazi war criminals who had sought refuge in the United States in the wake of the Holocaust, and later fled to their countries of origin, were receiving Social Security benefits through a legal loophole, despite having left the country and renounced their U.S. citizenship. We actively supported changing the law to close this loophole and deny Social Security to such individuals. Shortly after bringing the issue to the forefront, the House of Representatives introduced and unanimously passed the No Social Security for Nazis Act. The bill was subsequently passed by the Senate and signed into law by the president. B'nai B'rith is proud to have spurred Congress to quick and decisive action on bipartisan legislation to address this important issue.

We routinely advocate for legislative improvements to programs that benefit low-income persons, including the Social Security program, which provides modest incomes to older adults, many of whom reside in B'nai B'rith-sponsored housing. Many of these residents have no other source of income. As the program hasn't been adjusted for inflation, savings accounts with only a few hundred dollars can disqualify beneficiaries, as well as those who may be living with a relative or accepting other “care giving” from family. This creates an untenable administrative burden for the Social Security Administration, and discourages the kind of family care giving on which the long term care system in this country depends.

B'nai B'rith studies and reacts to each government budget plan to ensure programs for the elderly and low-income people are protected.

As part of B'nai B'rith's continued programming for residents of B'nai B'rith Senior Housing complexes, we again partnered with Bank of the West to bring an elder fraud prevention workshop to residents, this time at the B'nai B'rith Golden Years Apartments in North Hollywood, Calif. Attendees at the August event heard presentations on some common scams, identity fraud and other types of financial abuse.



## B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

### HELPING COMMUNITIES & DISASTER RELIEF

Helping those in need after a disaster is one of our core commitments, something we have been doing since the mid-1800s.

During the summer and fall, we created disaster preparedness kits that were delivered to Sam J. Stone B'nai B'rith Covenant Apartments in Peoria, Ill. We also packed kits for Levi Towers, B'nai B'rith's senior housing facility in Hot Springs, Ark., as part of the annual senior housing conference.

In July, we opened our Israel Emergency Fund to assist during Operation Protective Edge, Israel's defensive maneuvers against relentless Hamas rocket attacks.

Through this fund, B'nai B'rith supported the residents of Sderot, Israel. Located just one mile outside Gaza, Sderot is in the direct line of fire for Hamas rockets.

With just seconds of warning to flee to a safe shelter when Hamas launches its rockets, the scars of those in this community are deep.



The fund contributed to the Gvanim Association for Education and Community Involvement, which helps support the Sderot municipality. Our donations supported a respite weekend for those working around the clock to keep their city running.

In the fall, we opened a disaster relief fund to support our partner IsraAID as it organized teams to combat Ebola in West Africa. These teams provide assistance in educating the local population about disease transmission and also dealing with the social issues that are impacting the community due to the crisis.

Our dedicated volunteers posted close to 100,000 service hours in 2014.

Communities around the country continue to bring service programs to their community. Our devoted volunteers bring food daily to children in need at schools and shelters through the B'nai B'rith Bagel Brigade in the Los Angeles area.

Volunteers deliver food for various Jewish holidays via Project H.O.P.E. (Help Our People Everywhere) that serve the poor and elderly in their community. These programs also include clothing and household items collection campaigns.

The Pinch-Hitter program and Operation Brotherhood find B'nai B'rith volunteers lending a hand at hospitals and community centers to help Christians take time off from work on Christmas day.



## B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

### HELPING COMMUNITIES & DISASTER RELIEF

B'nai B'rith Great Lakes Region launched a college scholarship program to provide a local resource for students in their community looking for financial assistance with the high cost of college tuition. The fund grants scholarships to high school seniors in Michigan.

The 32nd annual Great Lakes Golf Classic raised funds to benefit and strengthen B'nai B'rith programs.

In Texas, B'nai B'rith hosted a talk featuring a Holocaust survivor. Some 700 people turned out in Austin to hear his story while Georgetown, Texas, residents learned about B'nai B'rith's history in Cuba and our Cuban Jewish Relief Project.







# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## YOUNG LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

B'nai B'rith is focusing attention on the next generation of Jewish leaders. In May, we encountered many future leaders at the inaugural B'nai B'rith Young Leadership Conference in Boston, headlined Social Responsibility: Does Being Jewish Matter? With spirited conversation and a free exchange of ideas, we are pleased to say the future of Jewish commitment and philanthropy looks bright. The young leaders we are cultivating are enthusiastic, socially aware and committed to making a difference in the Jewish world and for Israel. We had attendees from three countries and 13 states—proving that our internationality is attractive to young leaders.



The Young Leadership Network expanded its community presence with the creation of a Los Angeles group, with activities including social programming, community service and networking opportunities with other community groups. Our Young Leadership Network now includes groups in Chicago, Denver, Washington, D.C., New York and New Jersey. A group was launched in Florida in November and a group in Detroit is in development.



The Young Leadership Network adopted a national campaign to provide child activity kits for children in shelters in Israel. This was part of the Mitzvah programming for the community groups, and the kits were given to Israeli municipalities for the shelters that are used during Hamas rocket attacks.

An online gathering of young leaders from around the world met in November to discuss issues facing Israel today. Participants also heard from a young B'nai B'rith leader who took part in the summer's solidarity mission to Israel, where young leaders from Europe went to show support for Israel during the defensive war in Gaza.

Our partnership with Jewish fraternity Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi) continues to be strong. AEPi has proven a solid and reliable friend in many ways.

During the summer, B'nai B'rith provided a community service project for the delegates to AEPi's International Convention in Toronto. Participants in Hineni and civics programs joined senior citizens who attend programs at B'nai Brith Canada's Senior Center for lunch and a game of Bingo.

B'nai B'rith was honored by AEPi at its convention with a five-year, \$100,000 grant to be used for our disaster relief efforts and our steadfast support for Israel.





## **B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL**

# 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

### **REMEMBERING & HONORING THE PAST**

Ensuring Holocaust remembrance is an important objective of B'nai B'rith International. We learn, we teach and we remember.

As we have done for the last quarter century, we again observed Holocaust Remembrance Day with the annual program "Unto Every Person There is a Name." B'nai B'rith is the official North American sponsor of the program under the auspices of Yad Vashem, Israel's official Holocaust Museum and research center in Jerusalem. Participants in communities across the United States read the names of the victims of the Shoah in public spaces, in cooperation with synagogues and Jewish Community Centers.



We also commemorate the Holocaust with our partner Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi), the Jewish fraternity, by participating in the "We Walk to Remember" program, now on 130 college campuses. College students walk silently across campus and then read Holocaust victim names aloud.

B'nai B'rith is at the forefront of Holocaust restitution efforts across Europe. We are a founding member of the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) and we continue to work with an array of governments and organizations to secure reparations for Holocaust survivors and their families. In December, B'nai B'rith was represented at a U.S. State Department signing of a pact that will make available \$60 million in French government funds. The money will be distributed by the U.S. government to victims or heirs of victims who were transported from France to concentration camps by the National Society of French Railways (SNCF).

B'nai B'rith Latin America organized community-wide Holocaust Remembrance Day programs in such places as Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico and Panama.

In November, B'nai B'rith Latin America continued its commemoration of the Night of Broken Glass, traditionally seen as the beginning of the Holocaust. On Nov. 9 and 10, 1938 in Germany and Austria, at least 96 Jews were killed, more than 1,000 synagogues were set on fire, nearly 7,500 Jewish-owned businesses were destroyed and countless homes, libraries and community centers were looted. Events were held in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela.



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

B'nai B'rith International



*Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge*



In its eighth year, the Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge was again offered to high school students in New York City (supported by the NYSE Foundation and Bank of Tokyo) and in the Washington, D.C., metro area (supported by Pepco). In addition, we added two new regions: Delmarva (Delaware and parts of Maryland, supported by Delmarva Power) and southern New Jersey (supported by Atlantic City Electric).

The four winning books are unique and engaging vehicles for sharing concepts of diversity and stories of tolerance, and are all available for a free download on the iTunes bookstore, or as a PDF on the B'nai B'rith website. Four thousand copies of the books are currently being donated to public libraries, elementary schools and community organizations in those areas. B'nai B'rith also donates books to the TODAY Show's annual toy drive. To date, the Diverse Minds contest has published 24 books and awarded more than \$200,000 in college scholarships and grants.







# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

**CONNECTING = SOCIAL + TRADITIONAL + PERSONAL**



We are in touch: online, on paper and in person.

Our social media reach continues to expand. More than 24,000 people around the world follow us on Facebook. More than 10,000 follow us on Twitter. We post unique historic photos to Pinterest that demonstrate our longevity and historic undertakings.

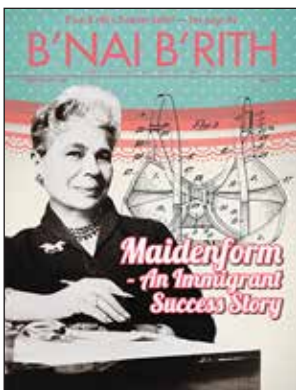
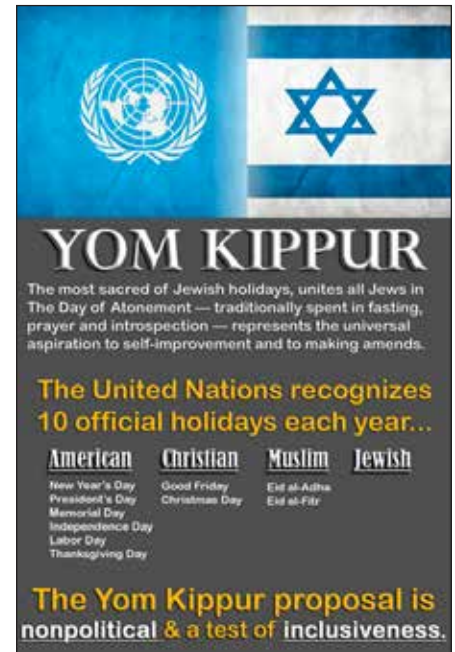
These platforms amplify our message to a broader audience. In the past few years, we have grown exponentially to reach these levels.

Social media has become an integral part of life for much of the world. Unfortunately, we have seen how it also is used to spread messages of hate and intolerance. Anti-Semitic and anti-Israel pages abound on sites such as Facebook.

We are working regularly to remove them. Our "Erase Hate Speech" program is off to a solid start, with more than 70 offensive pages reported and nearly 40 removed. In the fall, we met with Facebook's top executive on global policy management to express our concerns and frustrations, and to get assurances that Facebook does take hate pages seriously. This meeting has provided us with a direct link to a top Facebook executive.

We also get our message out through more traditional means. People all over the world have learned B'nai B'rith's point of view through the publication of numerous op-eds and letters. This fall we had an op-ed in the New York Times urging the United Nations to include Yom Kippur as a holiday on its calendar alongside Christian and Muslim holidays. This op-ed then sparked news stories of the quest to declare Yom Kippur a holiday at the world body.

Other op-eds and letters to the editor have appeared in the Chicago Tribune, The Washington Post, the Jerusalem Post, Fox News, the Times of Israel and Algemeiner. We also appear weekly in JAI in Uruguay.



B'nai B'rith Magazine continues to offer unique and inspiring stories you can't find anywhere else. Our award-winning magazine has brought attention to some of the most thought-provoking topics of the day. This year alone, we presented a deeply nuanced understanding of the Pew Research Center's data on Jewish Life in America, visited a vibrant and bustling market in Israel, delved into some of the problems with the Iraqi Jewish Archives and analyzed the ongoing effort to secure restitution for Holocaust survivors. Our magazine continues to offer insightful analysis that can't be found anywhere else, as we have since the magazine launched in 1886.



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

**CONNECTING = SOCIAL + TRADITIONAL + PERSONAL**

## **Tribute Dinners/Awards**

B'nai B'rith recognized the accomplishments of key community and corporate leaders from around the world in tributes and award ceremonies designed to highlight their good works at the community and global levels. We honor these exceptional individuals and companies for their community service, dedicated leadership and commitment to improving the lives of the individuals they serve.

## **Highlights from this year:**

Western Digital and its President and CEO Steve Milligan received the Distinguished Achievement Award in Los Angeles. The keynote speaker was Carlos Gutierrez, former U.S. secretary of commerce.

After more than three decades of bestowing the Healthcare Award, this year was one of the most successful Healthcare events to date, honoring Rich Umbdenstock, president and CEO of the American Hospital Association.

The B'nai B'rith Distinguished Humanitarian Award was presented to Joseph Harari and his brothers, Morris, Sion and Raymond at an event in Panama City in conjunction with the International Policy Forum and featured the president of Panama and various Panamanian dignitaries and political officials as honored guests.

The National Basketball Association's Brooklyn Nets basketball team, its CEO Brett Yormark and the team's arena, the Barclays Center, earned the B'nai B'rith Distinguished Achievement Award. Guests included Sarah Kustok, on-air reporter for YES Network; Michael Yormark, president of Roc Nation; Daniel Jacobs, professional boxer; and Kevin Garnett, Nets all-star player.





# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## FINANCIAL

### SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FISCAL YEAR 2014

For the Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2014 (Thousands of Dollars)

#### SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions and other support	\$6,554
Member dues	635
Camp revenues	1,288
Other program revenues	432
Investment income	1,677
Other revenue	2,623
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>13,209</b>

#### EXPENSES

<b>Program Services</b>	
Community involvement	1,074
Public advocacy	1,620
Senior housing and services	606
Humanitarian assistance	1,482
Jewish continuity	3,667
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>8,449</b>
<b>Total Management and General</b>	<b>2,034</b>
<b>Fundraising Expenses</b>	<b>1,965</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>12,448</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>761</b>
<b>TOTAL END OF YEAR NET ASSETS</b>	<b>9,197</b>





# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS / BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Charles O. Kaufman, Austin, Texas

Rosalind Klein, Northridge, California

##### TREASURER

Seth J. Riklin, Sugar Land, Texas

##### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Daniel S. Mariaschin, Washington, D.C.

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Irving Silver, Mobile, Alabama

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Robert B. Spitzer, Mercer Island, Washington

Jorge Stainfeld, Montevideo, Uruguay

Harold I. Steinberg, Germantown, Tennessee

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Jacobo Wolkowicz, Montevideo, Uruguay

Lila Zorn, West Bloomfield, Michigan

Stephen B. Zorn, West Bloomfield, Michigan

Gwen Zuares, Washington, D.C.



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS / BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

As of December 31, 2014

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**Ramy Attie**, Panama, Republic of Panama  
**Yvonne Attie**, Paitilla, Republic of Panama  
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**Stuart B. Cooper**, Livingston, New Jersey  
**Barry Curtiss-Lusher**, New York, New York  
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**Hernan Fischman**, Santiago, Chile  
**Jack Fleischman**, Asuncion, Paraguay  
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**Marlene Z. Franklin**, Dallas, Texas  
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**Julio Froimovich**, Santiago, Chile  
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**Margarete Goldberger**, Oakland, California  
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**Pedro Gus**, Porto Alegre, Brazil  
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**Jose Iacobescu**, Bucharest, Romania  
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**Jerold Jacobs**, Rockville, Maryland  
**Jacques Jacubert**, Noisy-le-Grand, France  
**Gary V. Javitch**, Omaha, Nebraska



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS / BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

As of December 31, 2014

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**Haim V. Katz**, Jerusalem, Israel  
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**Robert S. Kaufman**, Wheeling, Illinois  
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**Hans Kychenthal**, Santiago, Chile  
**Ursula Kychenthal**, Santiago, Chile  
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**Itzchak Mayer**, Jerusalem, Israel  
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**Benton S. Mirman**, Silver Spring, Maryland  
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**David Mizrachi**, Panama, Republic of Panama  
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**Richard Morris**, Dresher, Pennsylvania  
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**Edwige Ouaknine**, Levallois Perret, France  
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**Sam Perlen**, Nashville, Tennessee  
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# **B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL** **2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS / BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

### **B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

As of December 31, 2014

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**Victor Wagner**, Vienna, Austria

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**Stephen B. Zorn**, West Bloomfield, Michigan

**Gwen Zuares**, Washington, D.C.

**Isaac Elias Zviklich**, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Witold Zyss**, Paris, France



# B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## PRIVACY POLICY

We are committed to protecting your privacy. To make your experience at our website more convenient, we gather information from you. We maintain the privacy of your information using security technologies and adhere to policies that prevent unauthorized use of your personal information.

### **What personal information may we collect, and how is it used?**

We collect two kinds of information: personal information that you choose to supply us, and non-personal information, such as your IP address. We use the personal information you supply to send our users email communications. If you would like to be removed from our email list, you can click the "unsubscribe" button on your B'nai B'rith email. We may also monitor and track information such as customer usage patterns of our website. We compile this information into a statistical aggregate which we use, together with your personal information, for internal business and administrative purposes, including improving our website, our operations, and our client service.

### **Exchange of Addresses**

Names and postal addresses of current and former contributors to B'nai B'rith may be rented or exchanged with other organizations or publications. B'nai B'rith obtains the names of potential new members by renting the membership lists or subscriber lists of similar organizations and publications. Lists may also be exchanged with other organizations. Whether by exchange or rental, strict privacy procedures protect the lists.

B'nai B'rith will always honor a member's request to be removed from mailing lists made available for exchange or rental. If you would like your name withheld from our mailing list rental or exchange, please contact the fundraising department at [fundraising@bnaibrith.org](mailto:fundraising@bnaibrith.org) or call 800-573-9057; please be specific about which address you would like withheld.

Personal information entered on the site is confidential, though we may share aggregate information about website usage and traffic patterns, stripped of any personally identifiable information, to third parties to comply with various reporting obligations and for business or marketing purposes. We may also share limited personally identifiable information with third parties on a confidential basis to enable a third party to perform certain tasks, such as maintain an email list or send email alerts and/or newsletters, on our behalf.

### **Security**

Our website has security measures in place to protect against the loss, misuse and alteration of the information under our control. This includes a firewall and 24-hour monitoring of site activities by our hosting service provider as well as 128-bit SSL encryption (where allowable by law) on all transaction-oriented operations between you and B'nai B'rith via our transaction service provider, Network For Good.

While we use SSL encryption to protect sensitive information online, we also do everything in our power to protect user-information offline. All of our users' information, not just the sensitive information mentioned above, is restricted in our offices. Only employees who need the information to perform a specific job (for example, our development and membership staff, a billing clerk, a customer service representative, or database administrator) are granted access to personally identifiable information.

### **Use of Cookies**

Cookies are pieces of information that are stored on your computer and are used for record-keeping purposes. We may use cookies to make visiting and using our website easier. Cookies can help us see which parts of our website are the most or least popular and direct us to improving our customers' online experience.

### **Links to Other Sites**

This website provides links to several other third-party websites. While we choose our links carefully, we are not responsible for the content of linked websites, or for the privacy policies of these websites. Since we do not control these websites, we encourage you to review the privacy policies posted on these third-party websites.

### **Privacy Policy Changes**

We may amend this privacy policy from time to time. We maintain the option to change this privacy statement at any time by electronic notice posted on our website. Your use of our website after the date that such notices are posted will be deemed to be your agreement to the changed terms.