



February 2020

Become an Advocate for the Baltimore Jewish Community



We are now nearly one-third of the way through the 2020 Legislative Session. The governor's budget has been released, and nearly all of our priority bills have been introduced. Now the real work begins to ensure that the issues important to the Baltimore Jewish Community are advocated for in

Annapolis.

We need your help though, because nothing is more powerful than when community members make their voices heard. The best way to do that is on **Maryland Jewish Advocacy Day on February 18**. We will be advocating for more protections for our aging population, combating hate crimes and symbols, and creating more opportunity in Northwest Baltimore. To learn more about Advocacy Day or to register visit baltjc.org/AdvocacyDay20.

Israeli Deputy Ambassador Benjamin Krasna Visits Annapolis

We were honored to be joined by Deputy Ambassador Benjamin Krasna in Annapolis last month as he met with some of the state's top officials and legislative leaders. Mr. Krasna, who has been the Deputy Head of Israel's



Diplomatic mission to the United States since 2018, discussed Israel's close bond with Maryland and the ways that we can continue to strengthen the partnership that exists. Through the work of the Maryland/Israel Development Center, Israeli companies now have more tools than ever to set up shop in Maryland. In addition to creating more economic opportunities between Israel and Maryland, other topics discussed with officials included the possibility of a non-stop flight from BWI Airport to Israel, and the investing of Maryland's pension fund in Israeli bonds. Deputy Ambassador Krasna was recognized on the floor of the House of Delegates by Speaker Adrienne Jones and received an official state citation in honor of his visit.

Passover - An Opportunity to Share Your Seder

For Passover this spring, the BJC will be joining 2 for Seder, an effort to help combat Antisemitism by giving someone their first experience with Passover.

The nonprofit effort – launched by the daughter-in-law of a



victim of the October 2018 Tree of Life attack – asks us to invite friends, neighbors, co-workers or others you know who have not experienced a Seder. Ask them to join your family Seder, or to join you at a community or synagogue Seder.

We will be sharing more information as we get closer to

Passover, but you may learn more about this effort: 2forseder.org/

BJC Joins Other Faith Leaders and Elected Officials to Call for More Security Funding



BJC Executive Director Howard Libit joined Sen. Chris Van Hollen, Sen. Ben Cardin, Congressman John Sarbanes, Archbishop William Lori, and leaders of our Jewish, Muslim and Christian communities to stand united against religious intolerance, hate and Antisemitism at an event on January 13. They also announced support for quadrupling funding for the federal Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which has provided millions of dollars of security grants to synagogues and other Jewish institutions.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day



BJC's Holocaust Remembrance Commission worked with Toby Ornstein and her Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts to co-sponsor the powerful, heart-rending program,

Childhood Memories of the Holocaust: A Cantata. It was performed before a full house of 325 people of all ages on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Monday, January 27 at the Oakland Mills Meeting House in Columbia, MD. We would like to thank Howard County Executive Calvin Ball and the Howard County Office of Human Rights for partnering with us to sponsor this event.

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Zero Tolerance: A Panel Discussion on Antisemitism

Thursday February, 13, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Chizuk Amuno Congregation
8100 Stevenson Rd., Pikesville, MD 21208

[More information and registration](#)

Maryland Jewish Advocacy Day

Tuesday, February 18, 5:30 PM

Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen St., Baltimore, MD 21401

[More information and registration](#)

Save the Date: Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 4, 8:00 - 10:00 AM

Baltimore Hebrew Congregation

More information and registration coming soon

Baltimore Jewish Council | baltjc.org

STAY CONNECTED



100  **The Associated**
Jewish Federation of Baltimore

The logo features a large '100' with a gear-like pattern inside the '0'. To the right of the '100' is a circular emblem containing the years '1920' and '2020'. The text 'The Associated' is in a bold, sans-serif font, and 'Jewish Federation of Baltimore' is in a smaller, italicized font below it.