The work of the General Assembly is mostly virtual this year, but we are still focused on advocating for our state’s Jewish community.

Joint the BJC, The Associated, and our partners in Greater Washington and Howard County for a series of Virtual Advocacy Day activities. Hear from Governor Hogan, meet directly with your legislators, and tell members of the General Assembly why they should support our community’s priorities.

Maryland Jewish Advocacy Day activities include:

- **Tonight (February 1), at 6:30 p.m.**, meetings with lawmakers from Districts 12, 43, and 46.
- **Monday, February 15, at 6:30 p.m.**, Keynote Event featuring Governor Hogan.
- **Monday, March 1, at 6:30 p.m.**, meetings with lawmakers from Districts 10, 41, and 42.
- **Monday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m.**, meetings with lawmakers from Districts 9, 11, and 13.

To register and learn more about this year’s General Assembly priorities, head over to our Advocacy Day website. There you can view our fact sheets about the proposed state budget and legislation to confront hate, keep our communities safe, preserve access to telehealth, and more.

Advocate for the Jewish Community at the National Level

It’s not too late to join our national partner, the Jewish Federations of North America, for the first-ever national Jewish Virtual Mission to Washington. The national mission starts tonight (February 1) at 7:30 p.m., and it continues for most of tomorrow (February 2). Hear from congressional leaders on foreign affairs, nonprofit security, fighting antisemitism and more. Learn more and register to participate.

The month of February is Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month (JDAIM), an effort to raise awareness and foster inclusion of people with disabilities and those who love them. Advocacy and education are important components of JDAIM. The Associated is one of 182 partners for JFNA’s Jewish Disability Advocacy Month programming. From Empowerment to
Advocacy. Register now for this month-long series that begins with a special event on Wednesday, February 3, at 7:00 PM with renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman.

Holocaust Remembrance Programming Continues

Last week we commemorated International Holocaust Remembrance Day. As we mark 76 years since the liberation of Auschwitz, and recognize all who were lost in the Shoah, we also reflect on the survivors we have lost in the past year. Those who can no longer serve as living witnesses, sharing their harrowing stories and compelling lessons from what they experienced. But we are working as diligently as ever to ensure that the lessons and experiences of Holocaust Survivors continue to be shared with as many people as possible. Our dedicated Holocaust Speakers Bureau volunteers have continued to visit virtual classrooms, and our Holocaust Remembrance Commission has been busy working with our partners to plan engaging and informative programming for the community.

We will be partnering with the Jewish Museum of Maryland on February 21 for Connecting Stories of Survival featuring Holocaust survivors Herta Griffel Baitch and Ruth Weiner. They will recount their memories of growing up in Austria before World War Two and how their stories converged 60 years later. Also this month is the Winter Teachers Institute, which will focus children and the Holocaust. This two day event is for educators looking to learn new ways to teach the history and lessons of the Holocaust to their students.

Josh Sherman Joins BJC As New Director of Community Relations

Last month we were thrilled to introduce you to a new member of the BJC team, and we want to share a little more about Josh Sherman and his work and new role. While new to the BJC Josh is no stranger to Baltimore, The Associated, or community relations work. Josh was born and raised in Baltimore and is a proud graduate of Baltimore City College High School. He spent three years working with Repair the World Baltimore, helping to build a strong Jewish community dedicated to service, learning, and creating strong relationships. Most recently, Josh served as Service Learning Program Coordinator for the Edlavitch DCJCC in Washington, D.C. but is looking forward to making the move back to his hometown of Baltimore.

Josh will be working to engage with the Baltimore Jewish community and the Baltimore community at large to create new relationships and strengthen existing ones. Whether it is through programming or small conversations, Josh will be there on behalf of the BJC to bring communities together, celebrate our differences, and understand our shared identities. He looks forward to meeting and working with those who are making a difference in the Baltimore community.

Support The Associated In The New Year!

The Baltimore Jewish Council, a proud agency of The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore, depends on the funding it receives from The
Associated's Annual Campaign. Now, more than ever in its 100 year history, our Associated network needs your support. Together we are addressing the urgent and critical needs of those most affected by the current coronavirus pandemic while ensuring the health and vitality of our community members through social services and connections to meaningful Jewish experiences. Donate now.

Please give generously

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Upcoming Events & Opportunities

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Road To Resilience - Insider Briefing for Lay Leaders and Professionals

The Associated Responds to Antisemitism

Learn about the recommendations of the Baltimore Community Task Force on Antisemitism, plans for implementation, and how this will impact the BJC’s agenda for the upcoming legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

TODAY!
Monday, February 1, 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Register Now

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Final Session of This Three Part Series!

The 21%: The Arab Minority in Israeli Society
Looking Ahead: Emerging Visions and Realities for Shared Society

Tuesday, February 16, 1:00 PM (New Date)

Register Now

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Maryland Jewish Advocacy Day

Monday, February 15, 6:30 PM

Register for the keynote event, and your legislative district night!

Register Now

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Connecting Stories of Survival

Join Holocaust survivors Herta Griffel Baitch and Ruth Weiner for a moving afternoon as they share their memories and the importance of their work. This event is presented in partnership with the Jewish Museum of Maryland.

February 21, 1:00 PM

Register Now