

P. 5 / A BIT OF KVELLING  
IS IN ORDER AS EILEEN  
JACOBOWITZ WINS  
NATIONAL NCJW AWARD

P. 8 / APRIL 2020  
NATIONAL CONVENTION  
IN CHICAGO PROMISES  
TO INSPIRE

P. 10 / "BRIDGE TO  
SUCCESS" LOOKS  
TO MAKE BROADER  
IMPACT FOR WOMEN

P. 9 / TRY THIS ALL-TIME  
FAVORITE COMFORT  
SOUP RECIPE FOR YOUR  
PURIM MEAL

# NCJW<sup>®</sup> BULLETIN

## SACRAMENTO SECTION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

SPRING 2020

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 3

## PREVENTION: The Cure for Gun Violence



By Marion Leff

### *What? Another program on gun violence?*

Sadly, the fallout of gun violence has not decreased across the United States, and our attention, outrage and activism cannot diminish. Every primary care medical academy (family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, OBGYN and psychiatry) has joined together to call for action emphasizing the need to treat gun violence as a public health epidemic.

### *The statistics are sobering:*

- On average, 100 people die daily from firearm-related incidents.
- Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death (2017 statistics), and, of these, more than half are due to firearms.

- Of gun deaths, 60 percent are suicides and 38 percent homicides, with the remainder due to miscellaneous causes.
- Firearms are the second leading cause of death in young children and teens, now only behind motor vehicle accidents.
- Gun violence is the leading cause of death for black children.

While mass shootings have been on the rise and garner the most publicity, active shooter incidents still comprise the smallest category of firearm deaths. In fact, handguns, not assault weapons, are involved in the majority of U.S. gun murders.

Some of the impacts are incalculable. For example, three million children witness gun violence annually, and 58 percent of adults, or someone they care for, have experienced gun violence in their lifetime. Access to firearms increases the risk of suicide threefold and the risk of homicide twofold, but where disparities of race and ethnicity exist in urban areas, the risk of homicide in young men of color is much higher.

Prevention doesn't happen in one day. We are in this for the long run to educate and promote healthier approaches to our relationship with guns in our country.

At our March program, we will be fortunate to hear from the following representatives from different organizations all striving to prevent further gun violence:

- Amanda Wilcox, legislative chair for the Brady Campaign, an advocacy group active for more than 30 years working to decrease gun violence and

PLEASE SEE PREVENTION, PAGE 11

## PREVENTION: The Cure for Gun Violence

*Prevention doesn't just happen. Find out what you can do. Act your conscience.*

*Program co-sponsored by Congregation Beth Shalom, NCJW, and Therapists for Social Responsibility*

Sunday, March 1, 2020 / 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm / Congregation Beth Shalom / 4746 El Camino Avenue

RSVP [ncjwsac.org/events](https://ncjwsac.org/events) / Open to the public / Suggested \$10 admission for those able to contribute



National Council of Jewish Women  
Sacramento Section

## OFFICERS

Anne Eisenberg  
PRESIDENT  
[anne@ncjwsac.org](mailto:anne@ncjwsac.org)

Karen Soskin  
TREASURER  
[karens@ncjwsac.org](mailto:karens@ncjwsac.org)

Pat Sturdevant  
RECORDING  
SECRETARY  
[pat@ncjwsac.org](mailto:pat@ncjwsac.org)

Beryl Michaels  
IMMEDIATE PAST  
PRESIDENT  
[beryl@ncjwsac.org](mailto:beryl@ncjwsac.org)

*Board meetings are open to all NCJW members. Monthly meetings are held the second Tuesday, 6:45 p.m. Check location before planning to attend. Please confirm time and place with any Board member.*

The BULLETIN is the official publication of the National Council of Jewish Women, Sacramento Section.

June Wiaz, Co-Editor  
[june@ncjwsac.org](mailto:june@ncjwsac.org)  
Amy Solov, Co-Editor  
[ncjwsac.org/contact-us/](mailto:ncjwsac.org/contact-us/)  
Nela Lee, Webmaster  
[nela@ncjwsac.org](mailto:nela@ncjwsac.org)

## DIRECTORS

Barbara Baran.....	Advocacy and Education .....	<a href="mailto:barbara@ncjwsac.org">barbara@ncjwsac.org</a>
Elena Friedman-Weiss.....	At Large .....	<a href="mailto:elena@ncjwsac.org">elena@ncjwsac.org</a>
Laurel Hollis .....	At Large .....	<a href="mailto:laurel@ncjwsac.org">laurel@ncjwsac.org</a>
Eileen Jacobowitz .....	At Large .....	<a href="mailto:eileen@ncjwsac.org">eileen@ncjwsac.org</a>
Leslie Levitas Martin .....	JCRC Rep .....	<a href="mailto:leslie@ncjwsac.org">leslie@ncjwsac.org</a>
Claire Lipschultz.....	Advocacy and Education .....	<a href="mailto:claire@ncjwsac.org">claire@ncjwsac.org</a>
Naomi Rice .....	At Large .....	<a href="mailto:naomi@ncjwsac.org">naomi@ncjwsac.org</a>
Shirley Rosenbloom.....	At Large .....	<a href="mailto:shirley@ncjwsac.org">shirley@ncjwsac.org</a>
Jodie Weber .....	At Large .....	<a href="mailto:jodie@ncjwsac.org">jodie@ncjwsac.org</a>
June Wiaz.....	At Large .....	<a href="mailto:june@ncjwsac.org">june@ncjwsac.org</a>

## WELCOME TO NEW NCJW MEMBERS

Bronwyn Schweigerdt  
Susan Leibenhaut  
Shauna Smith

Daryl Brand  
Judith Drexler  
Shelley Serin

## MESSAGE FROM A BOARD MEMBER

...and your new Co-Editor

June Wiaz



As I draft this piece introducing Amy Solov and me as your new Bulletin editors, I am in the center seat of a cross-country Delta flight fending off the ursine right arm of the guy next to me. Metaphorically speaking, the appendage encroachment represents a challenge any of

us might need to work around in fulfilling a goal. The challenges come in the form of lack of time, distractions and flagging commitment to a cause. But if there is one thing I've learned in my short tenure as an NCJW Sacramento member, the latter is a rare event. NCJW is a wonderfully committed group of folks who work around obstacles in service to a variety of worthy goals.

When a fellow Board member asked if I was willing to serve as your new Bulletin copy editor, I would have had a hard time saying no while surrounded by such a hard-working, inspired bunch. I also manifest a dominant Jewish guilt gene. Actually, it wasn't so much an ask as it was an extended collective gaze in my direction. I cannot



speak to what tactic they used to ensnare my co-editor, Amy.

We are REALLY fortunate to have enlisted Amy as our production and layout editor. Amy is one of our "Nu?" members, an alum of our inaugural Leadership Program, and is en route to becoming a professional graphic designer. We're

catching her before she takes on lots of other paying gigs.

Either way, it will now take the two of us to fill the shoes of Carol Blackman, who served as editor for three years. We are so thankful for Carol's hard work and excellence. We aspire to maintain that same quality during our time as your editors.



### eNEWS ARRIVES ON TUESDAYS

You'll get the latest news and updates with your Tuesday NCJW Sacramento eNEWS. Keep up to date about events and important issues.

Please be sure the eNEWS goes to your inbox and not into your spam folder. If you have changed your email in the last year, let us know at [ncjwsac.org/contact-us/](mailto:ncjwsac.org/contact-us/).

## Report of the NCJW Sacramento Nominating Committee for the 2020–2022 Year Term

The NCJW Sacramento Section Nominating Committee is pleased to submit our 2020–2022 Slate of Officers and Board of Directors.

The Committee thanks the following Board members who have decided to rotate off the Board: Naomi Rice and Elena Freidman-Weiss, both of whom served for two full terms. We are grateful to each of them for their service to our Section. Elena will continue to participate on Bridge to Success and Naomi will continue to work on youth in transition projects, sell fair trade chocolate and coordinate Sister Nora's meal service.

Pat Sturdevant has completed the two terms\* as Secretary. She has recorded the decisions of the Board of Directors at their monthly meetings over four plus years continuously demonstrating her commitment to the smooth functioning of the Board and the work of our Section. The Nominating Committee is pleased that she has accepted the nomination to remain on the Board as a Director.

Anne Eisenberg, our president for two full terms, will move to the position of Immediate Past President. The Nominating Committee is grateful that she will remain on the Board in this capacity. More about her achievements and the many successes the Section has accomplished under her leadership will follow.

Our bylaws require that additional nominations be accepted for 10 days after publication of the slate. If you have someone you want to nominate for a position, including yourself, please send that nomination to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, [Beryl Michaels](#) by March 6<sup>th</sup>. Election of the slate will take place at the closing meeting, June 28, 2020.

\*Our bylaws limit the terms of President, Secretary and Treasurer to two consecutive terms of two years each.

### 2020–2022 Nominated Slate of Officers and Board of Directors

#### Officers

**President:** Eileen Jacobowitz  
**Vice President:** Sheila Wolfe  
**Treasurer:** Karen Soskin  
**Secretary:** Barbara Baran  
**Immediate Past President:** Anne Eisenberg

#### Directors

Laurel Hollis  
Leslie Levitas Martin  
Beryl Michaels  
Sunny Romer  
Shirley Rosenbloom  
Pat Sturdevant  
Jodie Weber  
June Wiaz

#### National NCJW Board Member

Claire Lipschultz

#### Respectfully submitted,

The Nominating Committee:  
Jessica Braverman Birch  
Laurel Hollis  
Davita Leven-Robinson  
Claire Lipschultz  
Beryl Michaels, Chair

*Congratulations to all of our nominees.*

## QUICK WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**amazon**smile

• **SIGN UP FOR AMAZON SMILE** so that .5% of your online purchases will go to NCJW. You can connect with Amazon Smile through our website: [ncjwsac.org/programs/fundraising/](https://ncjwsac.org/programs/fundraising/).

• **BUY FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATES** from Naomi Rice at [naomi@ncjwsac.org](mailto:naomi@ncjwsac.org). Proceeds support NCJW Sacramento.

• **GET SOCIAL**  
Connect, Like and Follow NCJW Sacramento Section:  
[Facebook](#) @ncjwsac.org  
[Instagram](#) @ncjwsac  
[Twitter](#) @NCJWSac

• **JOIN THE STATEWIDE NCJW-CA RAPID RESPONSE TEAM**  
It takes just a few minutes each time a 'request for action' on state legislation is sent out. You can do it at your computer, on your phone and/or come to a rally at the Capitol. Contact [Claire Lipschultz](#).

## Patricia Sturdevant Featured in Inside Sacramento Publication



Pat Sturdevant

"We wanted to make a real difference in the community by addressing issues that are of real concern," Sturdevant explains. "Immigration and gun violence were at the top of our list."

—*Inside Sacramento*

NCJW Board member Pat Sturdevant's myriad of volunteer activities was recognized in a recent issue of *Inside Sacramento* ([insidesacramento.com/patricia-sturdevant/](https://insidesacramento.com/patricia-sturdevant/)), including her work with our organization's human trafficking, immigration and gun violence Speaker Series panels. We are SO proud and grateful for Pat's commitment and service. Kudos!



## WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### Mitzvah In A Minute (MIM): “Hygiene Kits for the Homeless” Sunday, March 22, 2020

Cori Traub

Please join NCJW members and their families as we once again support the River City Food Bank and our community, including children in need, the working poor and people without homes. This year, instead of packing sandwiches, we will assemble hygiene kits that will be greatly appreciated by the food bank and the people they serve.

Please bring (at least) 10 new, packaged, travel-size toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, tissues, etc). Do you have a collection from hotel stays? If not, you can pick up items in the sample section at pharmacies or order in bulk on Amazon-type sites. First, we will sort the items, and then we'll create hygiene kits. This is a great project in which to involve your school-age children! Everyone welcome. Snacks will be provided.

We'll be assembling the kits from 2–4 PM in the Social Hall of Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Drive, Sacramento.

Please RSVP to [Cori Traub](#) with the number of people attending and their names. Children welcome!

#### The 2020 Mahj and Canasta Extravaganza

was a great success thanks to Suzie Lauer, her daughters Marla and Stacy, her granddaughter and her son-in-law, with guidance from Board member Elena Freidman-Weiss and the indefatigable Barbara Kletzman who gathered the 20 raffle prizes. Max Berkowitz, owner of Max's Deli and Catering in Auburn (Suzie Lauer's son-in-law), provided the delicious box lunches, including exceptional chocolate chip

cookies. Ninety-six participants (24 tables) filled the Silverado Design Center on South Watt Avenue with 4½ hours of tile clicking and card shuffling sounds—essential background music to a well-spent afternoon.



Photos by Beryl Michaels

### Humanitarian Crisis Speaker Series Event Attracts Large Crowd

Laurel Hollis

One of the frustrations of being informed about current events is that we can be left feeling helpless to change conditions and alleviate the suffering of people near and far. The goal of the NCJW Speaker Series is to tell the stories of local citizens who have helped others, and to offer suggestions so that our members and others can jump in as well. Thus the focus of the series, “Find out what you can do. Act your conscience.”

Our second event, held on January 5, “Humanitarian Crisis for Migrants, Continued,” attracted an audience of almost 150 people, including non-NCJW members. The keynote speaker, Anna Molander Hermann, representing Refugee and Immigrant Center and Legal Services (RAICES), expressed frustration both with physical conditions in a refugee camp in Texas and with the efforts of federal employees to make aiding those seeking asylum as difficult as possible. Anna, joined by Neetu Dosanjh, who served as her interpreter on the trip, encouraged others to join her on a future journey to the border. She reflected that the week she spent volunteering was a highlight of her life. Other local advocacy groups who spoke were NorCal Resist, Abuelas Responden and La Familia. Each shared stories of struggling and frightened children and adults living at the border and here in Sacramento. Each offered concrete ways to help by actively participating or donating funds.



Neetu Dosanjh, Anna Molander Hermann, and Bobi Gould

## A FAITH IN THE FUTURE – LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

### Board Director Eileen Jacobowitz to Receive Prestigious Visionary Award

Claire Lipschultz and Anne Eisenberg



Eileen Jacobowitz with daughter, Dani, at the 2020 Women's March

It is with great excitement that we announce that Sacramento Section Board Director, Eileen Jacobowitz, has been awarded the Visionary Leadership Award by the National Council of Jewish Women, Inc. The National Board of Directors confers this honor once every triennium based on nominations submitted by sections across the country.

NCJW Inc. will be presenting a series of Leadership Awards at Convention 2020 in Chicago to women who are making a significant difference at the local, state, or national level, and inspiring others to work for change. The National Visionary Leadership Award, in particular, honors an NCJW member's outstanding leadership on a project, program, or initiative in advocacy, community service, education, or philanthropy during this triennium. Eileen was determined to be worthiest of the distinction out of a large group of very accomplished nominees. This recognition further attests to her visionary participation and leadership in our Section and its goals.

The NCJW Sacramento Section nominated Eileen for her role in developing and implementing the highly successful NCJW Sacramento Leadership Development Program. To strengthen and grow the Section, we must have leaders, current and in the pipeline, who deeply understand and are committed to social justice through the NCJW lens and activities. Eileen boldly took on the Leadership Program challenge, designing and moderating this novel program to identify and train leaders for NCJW and beyond. Her enthusiasm, professionalism, community contacts and dedication made it happen and it would not have been possible without her.

The Leadership Program took place over four months,

engaging 11 participants (most of whom were recruited by Eileen) and expert speakers (also recruited by Eileen), in a challenging, motivational, and fun curriculum. Although many of the women had limited involvement in the Section prior to the Leadership Program, many are now fully engaged as project leaders, Board directors and ambassadors for the Section in the greater community. To stay active together in Section activities, the participants formed a sub-group called "Nu?" which holds the promise of new leaders for the Section into the future.

Eileen's leadership extended to fundraising as she initiated and organized the Passover Punim online contest which raised more than \$9,000 in votes for members costumed as Manischewitz wine, matzo balls and other Passover symbols. The idea will be showcased and shared at Convention.

A second Leadership Program begins in March, once again ably led by Eileen who will be joined by Sheila Wolfe, a Leadership Program graduate and long-time NCJW member.



Inaugural Leadership Program, 2019

### Second Cohort of the NCJW Sacramento Leadership Program Begins in March

Anne Eisenberg

We're excited to announce that NCJW Sacramento will host a second cohort of its Leadership Program beginning March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The 2020 program builds on the success of last year's inaugural Leadership Program, which included eleven women, ages twenty-something to seventy, with a broad mix of volunteer, leadership, and NCJW experience.

The Leadership Program gives women who are new to leadership or advocacy the opportunity to develop their skills, learn about NCJW, and make connections with like-minded women. Experienced leaders and volunteers benefit from the opportunity to reflect on their strengths and enhance their skills through self-assessment, self-reflection, and practice.



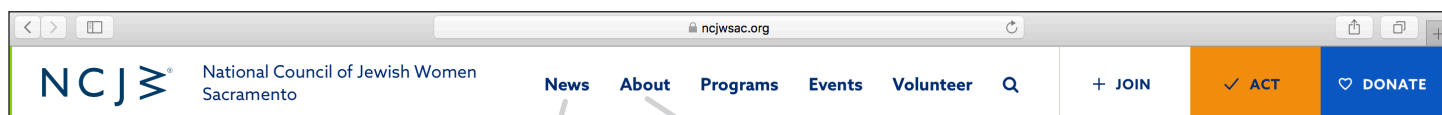
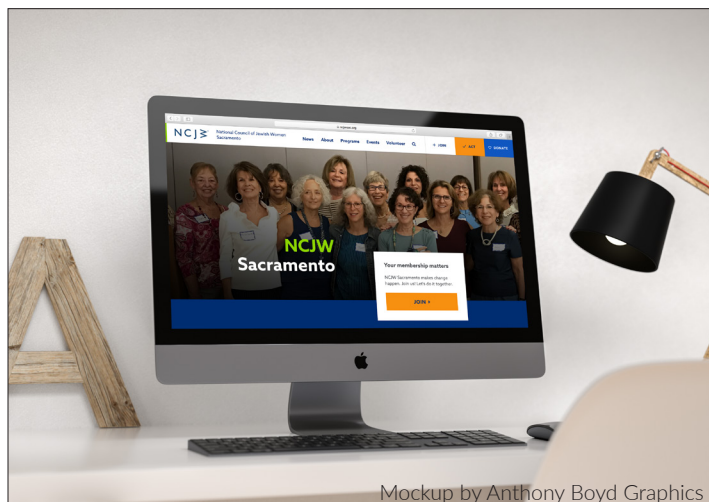
# CONNECTING THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

## NEW SACRAMENTO SECTION WEBSITE IS LIVE

Jodie Weber

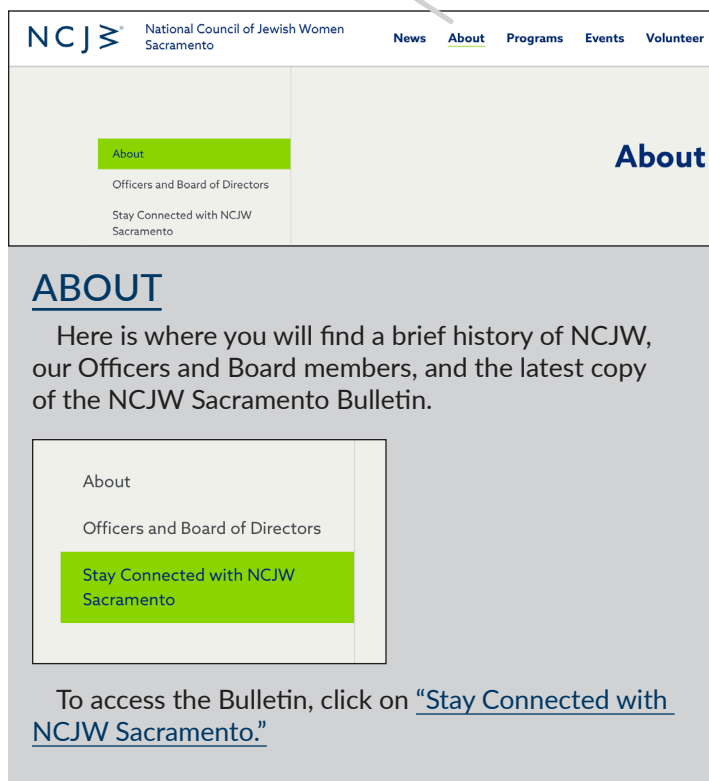
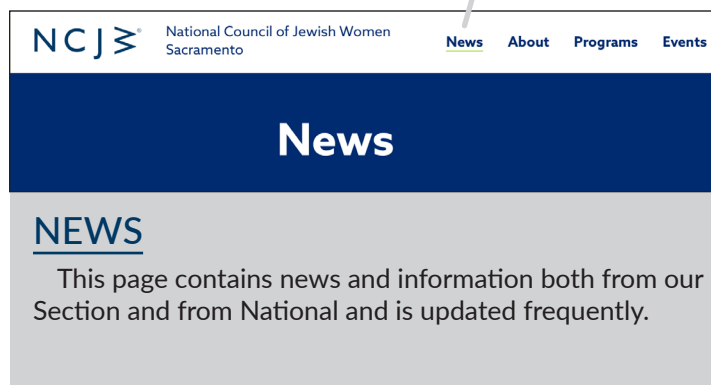
### NCJWSAC.ORG

In December, NCJW Sacramento launched a new website. The new look and feel was initiated by National in late 2018 in an effort to provide all sections with a uniform branding similar to that of the National website. If you haven't already navigated through our new site, I encourage you to do so today at ncjwsac.org. Here are the changes you will see:

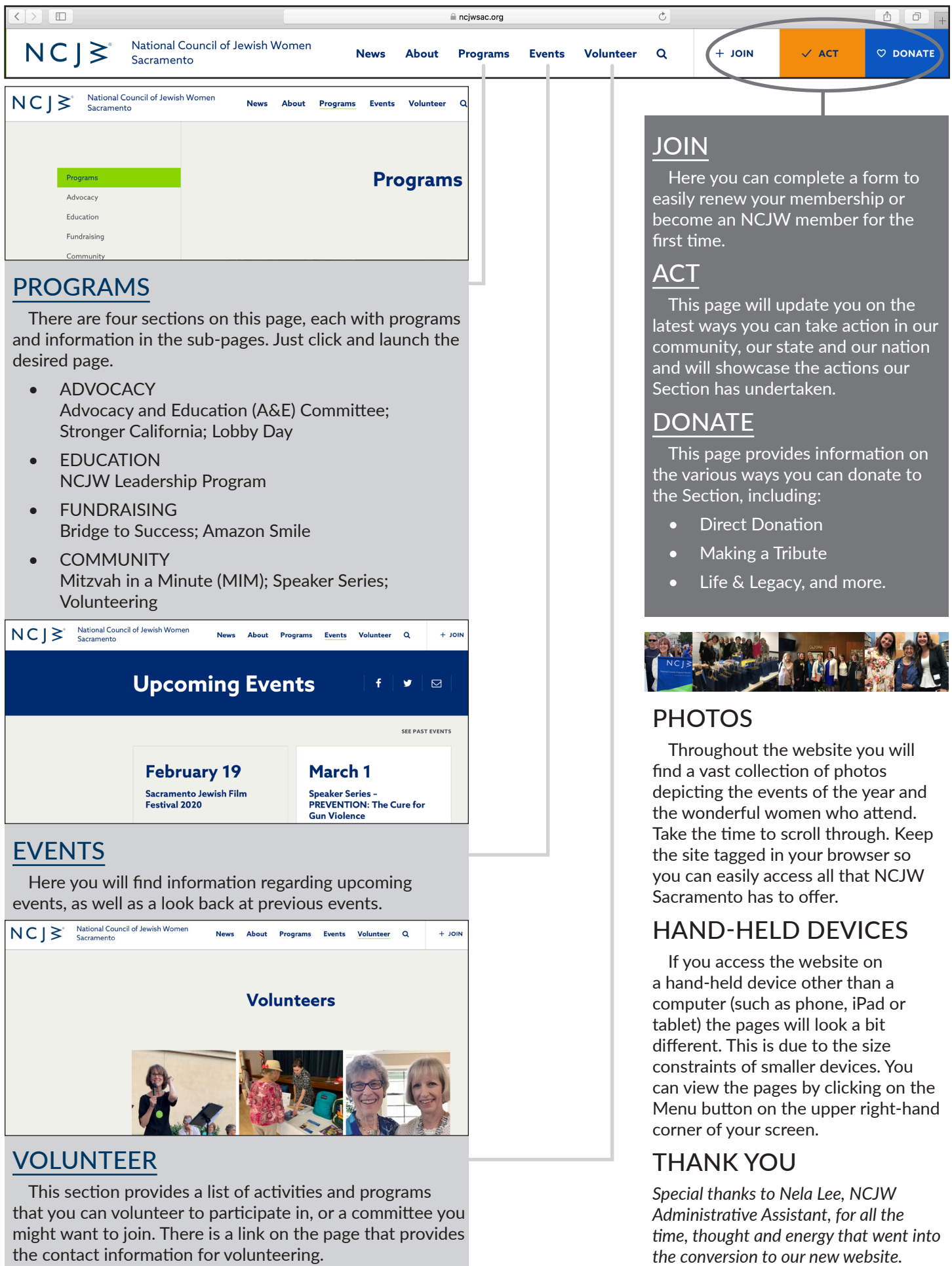


### NAVIGATION BANNER

This banner will appear at the top of each page providing easy access to all the content on the website. Some of the content you are looking for may now be in a different location, so here is a "map" to finding news and information about our Section.



CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



## NATIONAL VISION. LOCAL ACTION.

### Lobby Day 2020 Here We Come: Let's Make a Difference

Claire Lipschultz

It's the start of the CA Legislative Session and time for another year of bold advocacy for women, families and children. We are now meeting with our partners and allies to prioritize issues for the coming term. Legislators are writing their bills, the Governor has released his first budget and your State Policy Advocates are planning for another fabulous Lobby Day!

In the past, NCJW CA advocacy with our partners has resulted in the passage of legislation on child care and early childhood education, reproductive freedom, immigrant justice, human trafficking, health care and gun violence prevention. Let's get ready to make a difference again this year!



**LOBBY DAY 2020**

JOIN YOUR NCJW SISTERS  
FROM AROUND THE STATE

May 19 1:30 PM–8:00 PM  
May 20 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

Sheraton Grand Hotel  
Sacramento, CA

Registration is now open:  
[ncjwsac.org/programs/events](http://ncjwsac.org/programs/events)

Governor Newsom kicked off the 2020 Legislative Session with the release of a \$222 billion budget with large sums assigned to benefit lower income Californians. The proposed budget would boost education funding, revamp the state's Medi-Cal health programs and help homeless people move off the streets with funds to pay rent, build housing and improve shelters.

Medi-Cal also would be funded to increase preventive health service, boost medical assistance for homeless people and improve mental health care. The draft budget also allows undocumented people over age 65 to enroll in Medi-Cal, which we supported during last year's Lobby Day.

The budget expands early childhood education and care programs, extends tax breaks on diapers and tampons, and trains more teachers in special education, science and math, mental health intervention, English language learners and support for LGBT students.

Lawmakers will be negotiating the budget before its release in June. The final form will be influenced by advocates such as NCJW members. We must make our voices heard!



**CONVENTION**

**2020**

*Jewish Feminism: Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future*  
April 23-25 in Chicago, IL

NCJW 125

Claire Lipschultz

What do deep-dish pizza and Jewish feminism have in common? They're both awesome and started in Chicago! Join us as we take to the Windy City April 23–25 for Convention 2020.

The reasons to attend Convention 2020 are myriad, but to start, you will:

**GET INSPIRED:** Now is the perfect time to get involved in our national movement and learn about the impact that NCJW is making across the country.

**SHAPE THE FUTURE:** The future of NCJW is brighter than ever. This is our first national event with Sheila Katz, our dynamic CEO. Come and hear her vision for the future.

**SET THE DIRECTION OF OUR NATIONAL MOVEMENT:** During our business session you will vote on a new board, bylaws and resolutions.

**LEARN SOMETHING NEW:** Our workshops are a great opportunity to expand your skills and learn more about the social justice issues we work on.

**CULTIVATE CONNECTIONS:** Build relationships with many other fierce feminists as we turn our faith into action.

Check out our website to learn more and register at [www.ncjw.org/convention2020/](http://www.ncjw.org/convention2020/). I look forward to sharing with you the thrill of connecting with our national organization!



Suzy Underwood, Helen Nussbaum, Laurel Hollis, Dani Wiesenthal, Jenna Myrtle, Eric Wiesenthal, Eileen Jacobowitz, Eve Panush, and Kate Gillespie from NCJW and CBI, joined 10,000 people at the 2020 Women's March at the State Capitol to demand support for immigrants, reproductive rights, and climate policy action.



## Another Purim, Another Vegetarian Delight

Evie Lieb

This year Purim begins on the evening of March 9 and continues until sunset the following day. In celebration of our heroine, Queen Esther, we again think back to her steadfast keeping kosher in the palace of King Ahasuerus. She is said to have eaten a vegetarian diet, and, as the ingredients were probably available to her, she may well have made this soup if she had the recipe! If this amount seems daunting, do try halving the recipe.



### MUSHROOM BARLEY SOUP

From *THE FROG-COMMISSARY COOKBOOK*

- 3 TBSP butter
- 1 1/2 c chopped onion
- 1 c chopped carrot
- 1 c chopped celery
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 1 lb Cremini mushrooms, sliced
- 3 qts vegetable broth, home-made or store-bought
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp pepper
- 1/4 tsp nutmeg (freshly grated!)
- 1 tsp dried thyme leaves, crushed, or 1 TBSP fresh
- 1 c pearl barley \*
- 2 TBSP minced dill
- 2 TBSP chopped parsley
- Sherry, optional, to add before serving

For a special addition, soak 1 oz. dried wild mushrooms such as Porcini, drain and reserve the liquid, and chop and add the mushrooms to the soup. Filter the liquid through a coffee filter or paper towel and add to the soup.

Melt the butter in a large soup pot. Sauté the onion, carrot, celery, and garlic until tender but not brown. Add the mushrooms and cook until just soft. Add broth, seasonings, and barley. Bring to a boil, lower heat and simmer until barley is tender, about 2 hours. Taste the soup and add sherry to taste just before serving. Stir in the dill and parsley just before serving.

The soup can be prepared up to 2 days ahead and reheated; it also freezes well. If it gets too thick, thin with more broth.

\*If you soak the barley for 2 hours before making the soup, it will only need to cook for ½ hour. Soak 1 cup barley in 2 cups water. Drain before adding to the soup.

About 14 cups

## What's Nu?

Sheila Wolfe



Nu? What is it? It's a delicious dinner club; a group of dynamic Jewish women of all ages, an outgrowth of the 2019 Leadership Training Program and an evolving, friendly network of NCJW Sacramento members and friends—connecting with each other—and linking with the many other programs and projects of NCJW Sacramento. It's the Nu? Crew!

Nu? is living proof of the value of investing in new ways to develop, renew and sustain leadership within our area. Several "graduates" of the 2019 Leadership Program and a few alums of the Federation's Introduction to Judaism program meet monthly for pot-luck dinners, camaraderie, Jewish connections and links to the many activities and members of NCJW Sacramento. This informal network of new and seasoned leaders has facilitated many new friendships and Nu? support for the NCJW brand, publications, the Mitzvah in a Minute programs, our Speaker Series, immigration-related advocacy and education activities and stronger connections with other agencies and organizations.

Looking for a Nu? way to connect—in an intimate, informal way—with other active, dynamic and emerging "leader-full" women involved in NCJW? Contact Sheila Wolfe at [ncjwsac.org/contact-us/](http://ncjwsac.org/contact-us/).

---

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### BRIDGE TO SUCCESS Looks to Make Broader Impact for Sacramento Women

Elaine Freedman, Iris Bachman and Jo Anne Silber

Four years ago, NCJW Sacramento initiated the Bridge to Success (BTS) project to provide grants to qualifying graduates of the Women's Empowerment (WE) program. Women's Empowerment is a local non-profit that educates, assists and empowers women—many who have become homeless—with skills and confidence necessary to secure a job, create a healthy lifestyle and regain a home for themselves and their children.

The NCJW Sacramento Board has budgeted \$4,000 a year to the BTS project.

"NCJW's Bridge to Success program is brilliant. Your support provides the women with the safety net they need to succeed!"

—Lisa Culp, Executive Director,  
Women's Empowerment

Over the past four years, BTS has awarded 64 individual grants which represent only 22% of the total grant monies requested. These grants assist the applicant with an immediate and specific need that when met will help them move forward in their quest for success. The process for selecting the recipients is gratifying but also frustrating because the needs are so great and funds are limited. In most cases, we have been unable to award the full amounts requested as most of the individual grant requests have ranged from \$300 to \$1,200. Grants have covered items such as car repairs, books or tuition for college or trade school classes, equipment for starting a new business, or career and housing security deposits.

The late Sharon Cohen, one of BTS's founding members, was an active supporter in making a difference for the WE graduates. The BTS committee appreciates continued donations in her memory. Recently the committee granted monies from these additional funds to assist a WE graduate in securing housing with a rental deposit. At the beginning of this year, Sharon's family generously donated bedroom furniture and bedding to a graduate who had been sleeping on the floor for over six months.

Without exception, the grant applicants are working to secure a better life for themselves and their children.

We hope to increase the funds available so that NCJW Sacramento's BTS project will make a difference to more of these determined women who need a little extra help at a difficult time in their lives.



### NCJW'S EFFORTS IN ISRAEL

June Wiaz

In Israel, as in the U.S., NCJW brings our unique Jewish women's progressive approach to advancing social justice and gender equality. For more than 70 years, we have been supporting women, children, and families throughout Israeli society regardless of ethnicity, religion and economic status. We advocate for the equal status of women in the face of religious fundamentalism; women's political leadership; women's economic empowerment; LGBTQ rights; and educational opportunities for women.

Visit the NCJW website to learn more about grants that NCJW has awarded to organizations and individuals in Israel that are working on a variety of feminist issues: domestic violence and personal safety; equal employment/equal pay; gender equality in political representation; peace and security; women's health; women and disability rights; women in film and the arts; and more.

NCJW also has been conducting research into a variety of issues related to the above topics. Read the "Past Achievements and Future Directions of Women's and Feminist Organizations in Israel" research report at [www.ncjw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Executive-Summary-Shorter-Report-of-Research.pdf](http://www.ncjw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Executive-Summary-Shorter-Report-of-Research.pdf). To learn more about NCJW's newest initiative called "Connecting for Impact: Strengthening the Feminist Ecosystem of Israel," visit [www.ncjw.org/connecting-for-impact-strengthening-the-feminist-ecosystem-of-israel/](http://www.ncjw.org/connecting-for-impact-strengthening-the-feminist-ecosystem-of-israel/).

If you would like to support this project, you can send your check, with BTS written on the memo line, to:

NCJW Sacramento/BTS  
PO Box 340174  
Sacramento, CA 95834

Or to donate online, go to [ncjwsac.org/donate/](http://ncjwsac.org/donate/), and designate Bridge to Success in the drop-down menu.



### PURCHASE A TRIBUTE

Want to honor a friend or celebrate an occasion or remember someone in the nicest possible way?

Sheila Budman, NCJW Sacramento's Tribute chairperson, will send a personal note on your behalf to the persons and/or families you choose to honor.

Purchasing a Tribute is a great way to honor a loved one and share your sentiments with friends and family while supporting NCJW projects locally and in Israel.

You can designate a Tribute in the name of a family member, colleague, friend or loved one, or to commemorate a special occasion or holiday, by emailing [Sheila Budman](mailto:Sheila Budman) or visiting our website [Donate](https://ncjwsac.org/donate/) page, [ncjwsac.org/donate/](https://ncjwsac.org/donate/).

#### *Purchase a Tribute Online or By Mail*

Send your name, check, indicate the number of cards, dedication, name of honoree and address of the honoree to NCJW Sacramento, Attn: Sheila Budman, P.O. Box 340174, Sacramento, CA 95834.

Tribute minimum donation is \$10. A Tribute card will be sent out in your name to your honoree.

You may also purchase blank Tribute cards to personally send yourself— \$45 for a package of five cards.

NCJW appreciates all of your Tribute donations.

### TRIBUTES

*Your Tribute funds support our programs and projects both locally and in Israel.*

**From:** Ellen Taylor

**To:** Alejandra Taylor in honor of her Bat Mitzvah

**From:** Betsy and Mike Singer

**To:** Bonnie Penix in honor of her birthday

**From:** Betty and Jack Reuben

**To:** Irene Jenkins in memory of her sister's passing

**From:** Elaine Berke

**To:** Anne Eisenberg in honor of her birthday

**From:** Sheila Wolfe

**To:** Lydia Inghram in honor of her leadership, mentorship and friendship

**From:** Betty and Jack Reuben

**To:** The family of Estelle Abel in memory of her passing

**From:** Bonnie Penix

**To:** Eileen Jacobowitz on her NCJW Visionary Leadership Award from National Board of Directors

### COUNCIL NOTES

*Our Section recognizes and honors members' news with sincere thoughts.*

**To:** Irene Jenkins, condolences on her sister's passing

**To:** Hellan Dowden, congratulations on the birth of Josie, her first grandchild

**To:** Judy Michaud, condolences on the passing of her mother, Sara Ossofsky, long-time member of NCJW

---

### PREVENTION

*CONTINUED FROM THE COVER*

injuries by promoting better gun control laws

- Dr. Bill Durston, retired emergency room physician and president of Americans against Gun Violence founded in 2016, which advocates for strict gun control
- Jessica Riestra and Luis Orozco from Northern California March for Our Lives, a grassroots youth organization started after the high school mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, in 2018. Learn about their peace plan from a vulnerable generation at risk.
- Pastor Joy Johnson, president of Sacramento ACT, a multi-racial, multi-faith organization that works to create a more just and fair community for everyone in the Sacramento region, with a particular focus on communities of color that have experienced historical discrimination

Our speakers present various approaches to preventing gun violence: via legislative action; grassroots action and mobilization of protest; counseling, mentoring and outreach in at-risk, underserved neighborhoods; and use of temporary emergency gun restraining orders.



Marion Leff is a family physician who recently retired after 38 years as Program Director at the Sutter Health Family Medicine Program. Dr. Leff cared for patients directly or indirectly affected by gun violence during her career. She is pleased to be able to devote more time to this acutely important public health issue.





National Council of Jewish Women  
Sacramento Section

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
PERMIT NO. 854

No. 340174  
North Natomas Station, Sacramento, CA 95834  
Return Service Requested

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 3

# SPRING 2020

LEARN. CONNECT. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

www.ncjwsac.org Facebook @ncjwsac.org  
info@ncjwsac.org Instagram @ncjwsac  
916.204.8777 Twitter @NCJWSac

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH 1

#### GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

3-5 PM Congregation Beth Shalom  
NCJW Sacramento Speaker Series  
Suggested donation \$10  
*See Cover Story*

### MARCH 21

#### ANTI HUMAN TRAFFICKING EVENT

9 AM to 1 PM SACRAMENTO  
The day starts with a training session  
Details and registration:  
[bit.ly/2020SacHotlinePOST](https://bit.ly/2020SacHotlinePOST)

### MARCH 22

#### MITZVAH IN A MINUTE (MIM)

2-4 PM Congregation B'nai Israel  
*Story Page 4*

**MORE SPRING MIM DATES TBA  
CHECK YOUR ENEWS!**

### APRIL 23-25

#### NCJW NATIONAL CONVENTION

Chicago, IL  
*Story Page 8*

### MAY 19-20

#### CALIFORNIA NCJW LOBBY DAY

Sheraton Grand Hotel  
and State Capitol  
Downtown Sacramento  
*Story Page 8*

### AUGUST 22

#### NEXT 100 YEARS OF WOMEN VOTING

Parade and festival  
Cal Expo Racetrack and Grandstand

PROMOTE the  
**VOTE**  PROTECT the  
**VOTE**

NCJWS

# CALIFORNIA PRIMARY MARCH 3

PARTICIPATE + USE YOUR VOICE