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NCJ \geq BULLETIN

SACRAMENTO SECTION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

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NCJW Sacramento Working to Combat Voter Suppression in Underrepresented Communities

By Barbara Baran

NCJW Sacramento recently launched a major voter turnout project aimed at eligible voters from underrepresented communities. The project is sponsored by our Section but is also part of a larger statewide NCJW effort. We are thrilled to report that we have inspired other states to set up similar projects!

Voter mobilization and expanding the electorate have always been major priorities of NCJW. But they are even more critical today. In recent years, there has been a wave of voter suppression efforts that have quite intentionally disenfranchised Blacks and other Americans of color, young voters, and low-income voters. The ACLU lists a range of strategies: voter ID laws (36 states), voter registration restrictions, voter roll purges (in Georgia, 70 percent of those purged were Black), disenfranchisement of former felons, gerrymandering, and more. One result is that 13 percent of Black Americans (or about 5.2 million Black American citizens) can't vote.

Across the country, there is now a wide range of efforts aimed at ensuring that all Americans can and do vote. Vote Forward, the national group with which we are working, is a data-driven organization with the mission of empowering grassroots volunteers to help register and turn out voters from underrepresented demographics and encourage them to vote. The major component of that strategy is the letter-writing campaign we're a part of, which is aimed at voters in 10 states. These efforts are especially important in this time of COVID. Vote Forward has successfully tested this strategy in previous elections in 2016 and 2017, and their goal this year is to produce 6 million personalized letters and send them to voters in advance of the November 3rd election.

Vote Forward volunteers have already written 3 million letters! The group is working in 10 states. NCJW Sacramento letters will target Florida, a large state with outsized impact on the election and an egregious history of voter suppression.

So what's your job? How can you help? Write lots and lots of letters. More than 45 volunteers have already signed up for the NCJW Sacramento effort. And it's easy! You register with Vote Forward, receive approval, and then download and print letters that you personalize by writing a sentence or two about why you vote. Next, you'll address the envelope and wait until Vote Forward tells you to mail them. The mailing date will be close to the election. For members of NCJW Sacramento, the Section also has a budget to help support the cost of stamps. We will update you regularly on our progress, and hold letter-writing or update parties. To date, we've written 1,100+ letters. It's fun and incredibly important. Join us!

NCJW SACRAMENTO + VOTE FORWARD

For more information and to join the campaign, visit:
ncjwsac.org/actions/help-us-make-sure-everyone-votes/



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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.

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WELCOME TO NEW NCJW MEMBERS

Including all new members since the last BULLETIN publication in February 2020

Nina Bernstein
Jacqueline Berracasa
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Bendan Blue
Kelli Brogan
Marci Davis
Annette Davis
Ila Dubin
Shelley Ellinghouse
GariRae Gray
Amina Harris
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Karen Rich
Joni Rubin
Diane Scanlon
Susan Sherry
Kyle Wiesenthal

2020 Board Installation & Thank You to Anne Eisenberg

This year for the first time, NCJW Sacramento held its Board installation via Zoom. Video conferencing enabled many of us to come together to recall a very busy and successful year through pictures and words from the comfort and safety of our kitchen tables and couches. The committee put in many hours to produce the event.

We especially want to acknowledge Claire Lipschultz, who coordinated two slide shows and emceed the event. We installed Eileen Jacobowitz and a new board with praise and encouragement to move us through the current challenging environment.

The highlight of the event was a celebration of Anne Eisenberg, our President over the last four years.

We recognized her service to NCJW Sacramento, and she received a beautiful tzedakah box engraved with words of admiration and thanks for her years of dedication to many causes.

As Immediate Past President, Anne will remain on the Sacramento Section Board.

NCJW Sacramento Member Interest Survey Coming Soon!

ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO, AND ACT YOUR CONSCIENCE!

- What projects interest you?
- What skills do you have to share?
- What kind of time commitment works for you?
- What new project ideas do you have?



Questions? Contact Roberta (Bobi) Gould at bobi@ncjwsac.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Eileen Jacobowitz

I am a relative newcomer to NCJW. I joined the Board in 2016 in the way that many of us do anything—because I was asked by women whom I respect; women who I wanted to spend time with doing meaningful things. I'm so grateful for the more seasoned NCJW members who have welcomed me into the fold.

I'd like to share a few things that are important to me as I step into my new role.

I am committed to *shalom bayit*—peace in the house.

I believe that how we do our work is as important as the work itself.

I believe that part of my role is to help create the space—the environment, the structure, the organizational culture—to enable our members to continue to do amazing things to advance our mission.

It is important to me that we are a community of connected and supported women who, together and individually, are empowered and inspired to contribute time and skills in meaningful ways. I want to make our Section a place where our volunteers are excited to share their precious time.

To that end, I want to institute practices and programs that enable



working women to actively contribute to the Section. Our recent, highly successful Zoom lunchtime discussion on racism is one example of offering opportunities that allow working women to participate.

I want to ensure that our advocacy activities and community service work complement and support each other. As we walk the halls of the Capitol to advance our priorities like fighting for a living wage and affordable housing, I believe it is important that we are also on the streets having a direct and immediate impact in support of women and children experiencing

homelessness. And, as we lobby for voting access, we should be registering voters and getting out the vote.

The pandemic and the resulting economic upheaval, coupled with protests and outrage in the aftermath of so many deaths of people of color at the hands of law enforcement, have shined a bright light on systemic inequality and injustice in our country.

The disparities are stark; the need for our work is urgent and real. In the near term, we are constrained by the inability to be in the same physical space.

But I believe, together, we can do virtually anything or anything virtually.

My hope is that we can use our collective wisdom, energy, and imagination to think big.

What might things look like for NCJW on the other side of this pandemic?

What can we be doing between now and that time to advance our mission and improve the lives of women, children, families, and the disenfranchised?

These are not rhetorical questions. I see it as an opportunity. I want to invite everyone to join me and the rest of the Board in our efforts to engage in *tikkun olam*—repair of the world—and to be a positive and creative force for change.

Proud to Introduce Our Most Recent Additions to the Board

By Leslie Levitas



Sheila Wolfe

As a community volunteer, Sheila has been co-chair of the Jewish Federation's Committee on Inclusion and Disability, co-chair of the Sacramento Jewish Food Faire at Congregation Beth Shalom and most recently, Assistant to the Director of the Sacramento Jewish Film Festival.



Sunny Romer

Since Sunny's second retirement, after careers in Jewish education and mental health advocacy, she has been busy with Women of B'nai Israel and educational programming at Congregation B'nai Israel as well as the Sacramento Jewish Film Festival and National Council of Jewish Women.



Roberta (Bobi) Gould

Bobi stated that she wanted to be part of NCJW because "Our Section has been productive in supporting and instigating changes to better the lives of families and their children. It's an impressively talented group of women who put action to their words."

WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Reinvigorating Our Community Services Component

By Sheila Wolfe

Thank you to everyone who has inspired me to serve on our Board and to reinvigorate our community service work.

To this end, I have been:

Reflecting. I am inspired by NCJW founder Hannah Solomon, who, in 1893, organized sections of women to 1) identify resources and needs in their communities, and 2) establish programs and policies to address those needs.

Remembering. Many members have shared our Section's history of strong women working together on many successful community projects. We are reminded of this legacy as we move forward.

Researching. Studies show community service is not only a "feel-good thing"; it also helps volunteers acquire new insights about the needs addressed.

Reconnecting. I feel a renewed energy among our members to connect with one another and to more consciously link our advocacy, education, and community service activities.

Regrouping. When the pandemic hindered our efforts for a summer Mitzvah in a Minute, Bonnie Penix and Ronni Riemer stepped up to revise our plans. Working with the Sacramento Children's Home (SCH), Bonnie and Ronni regrouped and found a way for NCJW members to contribute to SCH's collection of needed backpacks and school supplies in an easy, organized and contactless manner. Our sincere thanks to all the NCJW members who shopped online and made the "Fill-A-Backpack Summer MIM" a real virtual success!



NCJW Sacramento Section Board members Shirley Rosenbloom and Laurel Hollis deliver a wagon of food to Bruce Bruley, breakfast coordinator at Loaves and Fishes. Shirley organized board members and recent alumna of the Section's leadership development program to provide food for 200 clients. Bruce said the breakfast was "wonderful," and very much appreciated. They're eager to have us help again soon! Many thanks to Shirley and all those who helped put together this much needed meal.

Reassessing. As our Bridge to Success program continues ([see Page 8](#)), we are also exploring new partnerships with Women's Empowerment based on their current capabilities and needs. NCJW dinner teams continue to provide meals to Sister Nora's as we identify additional ways to support them in the future. ([See Page 9.](#)) We are also connecting with other local groups to identify what may be needed at this time.

Realizing. While clearly not my usual style, I am realizing the need to "go slow to go fast"—taking time to listen, learn and identify possible partnerships to address local priorities while linking with our overall goals.

Re-imagining. While things have changed, the needs in our communities, state and on a national level have not. Like many other organizations, NCJW is also re-imagining how to address these changing times. ([See the "Sew2Save" article in this issue on Page 5.](#))

Reaching out. I have been reaching out to many members asking for assistance and their participation in small teams to re-imagine and further energize our community service component. So far, the response has been great! Please continue to contact me with your ideas and your interest in community service development. Times are tough but the spirit of tikkun olam is strong among us.



Bonnie Penix and Ronni Riemer

SEW2SAVE: CHAI X 100 MASKS FOR SACRAMENTO



Claire Lipschultz

At the start of the pandemic, NCJW Sacramento volunteers began to sew and donate protective cloth masks to health care providers, essential workers and vulnerable people in our community. Initially, the Sew2Save goal was 300 masks. Many aspects of the project had to come together to make this happen. We had to obtain fabric donations, recruit volunteer sewists,* assemble materials for mask kits, create a delivery and pick-up system to allow sewists to stay sheltered in place, sanitize and iron all completed masks, identify organizations which could benefit from our donation and make delivery to those groups.

Section members and friends rallied, and by the end of August, 40 volunteers and donors (see sidebar) helped reach our expanded goal of 1800 masks—chai x 100! The beneficiaries (see box) are extremely grateful and the volunteers deeply gratified. A slide show on the NCJWSAC website tells the story. Visit ncjwsac.org/ncjw-sacramento-sew2save/.

Sew2Save continues to help keep Sacramento safe during the pandemic. Can you help with sewing, donations of fabric or funds to purchase materials? Become part of the NCJW Sacramento mask brigade and make a real difference.

Please contact Claire@ncjwsac.org and join our virtual sewing brigade.

“Your mask donations made all the difference [to these pistachio farm workers]. They got to them at exactly the right time, not just to protect them from the coronavirus, but right now they’re also dealing with the toxic smoke and dangerous ashes... from the debris of all the wildfires around us. These essential and very brave farm workers have to work under these horrible conditions. They know their situation and that’s why they want to meet all of you and send their genuine gratitude through these photos.

Muchas gracias.”

—Juanita Ontiveros,
California Legal Rural
Assistance Foundation

SEW2SAVE RECIPIENTS

- Women’s Empowerment
- My Sister’s House
- Sacramento Poor People’s Campaign
- NorCal Resist - Food Bank and Faithful Friends
- Planned Parenthood Mar Monte
- Dignity (Mercy) Health System
- Veterans Administration Health System
- Mary’s House
- California Rural Legal Assistance - Farmworkers

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE SEW2SAVE CONTRIBUTORS

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Claire Lipschultz

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Ellen Candee
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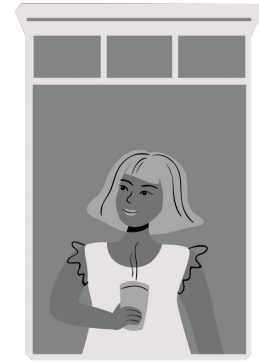
DONORS

Quilters’ Corner
Fabric Garden
JOANN Fabrics
Vintage Fabrics
Diane Scanlon
Mary Wilkerson
Peggy Goldstein

*A term used to denote one who sews. It reads better than “sewers.”



Voices from the Inside: Reflections from Three Women in Quarantine



By Annie Hohn

Betty Reuben, Lisa Brodkey, and Davita Levin-Robinson are familiar faces around NCJW Sacramento. As women with vastly different lives and circumstances, all are experiencing quarantine in uniquely challenging ways. Faced with uncertain and unsettling times, one common thread is clear—finding the silver lining is essential.

“I really bemoaned the Zoom Seder at first,” says Lisa. “But it was surprisingly great. We had so many more people able to join from different parts of the country. My son and daughter-in-law in Brazil even got to join in! Now we have a weekly family Zoom Shabbat.”

Lisa retired from a longtime position at UC Davis right before the pandemic hit. All her retirement plans went by the wayside. “I thought I would just watch Southwest all the time and buy cheap flights wherever I wanted, anytime I wanted,” says Lisa. “...I’ve had to do some mental adjusting. I was really looking forward to being spontaneous and doing more volunteering. I wanted to do door-to-door campaigning for the election.” Instead, she decided to work with the Reclaim Our Vote campaign writing postcards in English and Spanish to assist voters with pledging, registration, and guidance on safe voting practices during the pandemic.

Lisa says quarantine has made her family more “tolerant of ambiguity” and has forced everyone to adjust to new circumstances. “My younger son moved back home after his college moved to distance learning—it’s been really nice having him here—but of course he’s bummed and misses his friends. And my husband really struggles with being in the house all day and has to go on lots of hikes. It’s been an exercise in going with the flow, for all of us.”

Quarantine brought some bright moments for some—Davita and her family added a new member, a toy poodle puppy named Kugel. “We have been talking about getting a puppy for a long time, and we’re staying put all summer, so why not?” Davita and her two kids, Isaac and Eliana, ages 10 and 14, have filled the days with schoolwork, online piano lessons, games, and helping Davita bake treats for the neighbors and perfect her challah.

“I’m not going to lie, it’s been really hard,” she says. “But we were always go, go, go before. Now we actually hang out at night as a family and watch movies, make homemade pasta. That part is really nice.” The kids also stay up later so they can have dinner with their dad, who’s an ICU medical director on the frontlines of COVID-19.

Despite the sweet moments, the reality of just how uncertain this is can hit hard. “Sometimes it feels like there’s no end in sight, and there are so many questions,” says Davita. “When will the kids go back to school? Will they go to camp next summer? My mother is in a nursing home in Chicago. When will I be able to see her again?”

Betty has been almost entirely housebound since the beginning of the pandemic, with caretakers coming in round the clock, but she doesn’t let it bring down her spirit. She’s learned how to use Zoom for maintaining connections with family members, and plays mah jongg online with a group of friends to pass the time. “Up until the pandemic, my weekly dinner with friends was a joy in my life,” says Betty. “We talk on the phone now, but it’s not the same. I do want that life back, but I’m lucky to have companionship in my home that keeps me from feeling lonely.”

Betty also finds comfort in regular FaceTime calls with her children and grandchildren, and enjoys reading the NCJW newsletter to feel connected to her community. She has also been writing letters to Florida voters via the Vote Forward project. She is a reminder to us all that a positive attitude can mean so much during a dark time. “I’m 97 and my husband is 98, but I don’t feel like life is passing me by right now,” says Betty. “Age is meaningless. I heard of a 105-year-old woman that does yoga! I don’t think of my age as the days go by; it doesn’t have any relationship to how I feel.”

After hearing each of their stories, I had one last question for the women: What do you wish you could tell your pre-pandemic self?

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



"What do you wish you could tell your pre-pandemic self?"

—Annie Hohn



Betty with granddaughter Sara Sofia Acevedo

"Keep telling each other—this too shall pass."

—Betty Reuben



"Just chill. There's not much you can do about it! Find people to have fun conversations with. Change the scenery."

—Lisa Brodkey



Davita and children Isaac and Eliana, with new puppy, Kugel.

"Continue to be there for each other. Give yourself family time. Appreciate everything you have; be grateful for friends and good neighbors."

—Davita Levin-Robinson

Learning to Lead When the World Shut Down



By Rikki Kass

If great leaders need flexibility and adaptability, then Cohort 2 of the NCJW Sacramento Leadership Program has that in spades.

As we prepared for the Leadership Program at the beginning of 2020, none of us imagined that we would gather not in person but via Zoom. In many ways, the virtual format enhanced the program. So much of our day-to-day routine had disappeared, but that loss strengthened our focus on our training.

I took an interest in the program because I enjoy opportunities that allow me to connect with other Jewish women in the Sacramento community. I was excited to see what I could take away from the class.

The program focused on the Five Practices of Exemplary Leaders. An exemplary leader shows passion when they lead. So I asked myself, "What am I passionate about? How can I lead and drive change with that passion?"

[SEE LEARNING TO LEAD, PAGE 10](#)

QUICK ACTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

amazonsmile

• SIGN UP FOR AMAZON SMILE

.5% of your online purchases go to NCJW. You can connect with Amazon Smile through our website: ncjwsac.org/programs/fundraising/.

• BUY FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATES

from [Naomi Rice](#). Proceeds support NCJW Sacramento.

• GET SOCIAL WITH NCJW SAC

Connect, Like and Follow

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[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 from your computer, on your phone and/or in person at the Capitol. Contact [Claire Lipschultz](#).

NCJW
SACRAMENTO
SECTION

eNEWS

eNEWS ARRIVES EVERY TUESDAY

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 info@ncjwsac.org.

BRIDGE TO SUCCESS FULFILLS GOALS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE WITH WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Iris Bachman

This June, the Sacramento nonprofit organization, Women's Empowerment (WE), honored NCJW Sacramento with its Tikkun Olam (repair of the world) Award at its virtual annual gala. The award is in recognition of the practical assistance provided by NCJW members through the Bridge to Success program, Mitzvah in a Minute projects and our other community-based activities. (The name of the award is a fond nod to Erie Shockey, the Jewish social worker who helped hundreds of women find security and self-respect during her tenure with WE from 2001 to 2012.)

Our Section's partnership with WE brings many tangible and intangible rewards. Section members see benefits of the programs when we learn about the women who have become the beneficiaries of our activities and interests:

- We feel gratified when we assist someone who was formerly homeless to regain a home for herself and her children.
- We are filled with delight when a grantee attends college and manages to juggle work, study, and child care needs successfully.
- We are happy when we learn that a grant recipient has secured a job by acquiring the skills to do so.

As of June 2020, NCJW Sacramento has awarded 69 grants amounting to \$16,160 to Women's Empowerment graduates.

The rewards that result from the work of the Bridge to Success (BTS) committee become more obvious at every meeting. The intent of the BTS committee is to fulfill the mission of NCJW: Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

You can donate to the BTS program by selecting BTS at ncjwsac.org/donate/.

STORYTELLING PROJECT UNDERWAY

As you may know, the NCJW Sacramento Section was founded in 1959. And for those of you around in 2009, you may recall that we published a beautiful directory including a list of milestones for those first 50 years. Since that time, we haven't formally documented our accomplishments, nor have we captured the oral histories of seasoned members who have contributed time, energy, and resources to the Section.

Announcing Our History, Our Future: The Storytelling Project

Stay tuned for more information. We'll be contacting many of you for interviews. And we're interested in Section artifacts and documents you may have collected over the years. For more information, please contact Eileen Jacobowitz, eileen@ncjwsac.org.

My Sister's House Recognizes NCJW Sacramento Member Jessica Heskin

From Nilda Valmores

Jessica Heskin recently completed a two-year term as Board President of My Sister's House, a Sacramento-based nonprofit that provides culturally responsive services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking with a focus on Asian/Pacific Islanders and other underserved communities facing language and cultural issues. Jessica was the first Jewish board member and first Jewish board president of My Sister's House. She has served as a board member of My Sister's House since 2010.

According to Nilda Valmores, Executive Director of My Sister's House, Jessica has been supportive of My Sister's House since it began 19 years ago.

"As a recognized advocate for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault both at WEAVE and at Sacramento State, and a recognized national expert on the issue, it was an honor for My Sister's House to have Heskin as a board member and as board president."

—Nilda Valmores

During Jessica's tenure, My Sister's House was able to start a housing program that provided more than \$150,000 in direct support for domestic violence survivors.

Although currently closed due to COVID, last year My Sister's House opened its second My Sister's Café site which helps support job training for domestic violence survivors. Valmores added, "Our Board is thrilled that Jessica is continuing to serve and assist My Sister's House as we celebrate our 20th anniversary."



Naomi Rice, Anne Eisenberg, Sister Nora's Place Director Kerrye Wheeler, Arla Hesterman, Laurel Hollis

NCJW and Sister Nora's Place

Naomi Rice

Every year for the past 10 years, a group of dedicated NCJW members has prepared dinners for Sister Nora's Place, a long-term shelter for women. Prior to the COVID pandemic, six teams consisting of four or five members each devoted their time and cooking skills to planning and preparing a menu for 13 residents and staff. Members of the team then delivered the meal to the shelter and greeted the residents as they came into the kitchen for their dinner. Some team members stayed to eat with the residents. Each team provided dinners four times a year. Due to the pandemic, the teams have decided to provide money for the shelter to purchase food until we are safely able to bring our prepared food again.

On February 6, 2020, Sister Nora's Place celebrated its 15th anniversary, catered beautifully by Arla Hesterman. Arla has been with our program since its inception and has provided dinners to the residents for the winter holidays. The anniversary event was a lovely affair, showcasing the residence's development and community support. We met volunteers who taught meditation, embroidery skills and gardening and were introduced to former residents who have moved on to self-sufficiency.

Sister Nora's Place is located adjacent to Loaves and Fishes and is the only long-term shelter in the city, providing assistance with medical appointments and medication management, mental health counseling and life skills. The shelter offers a stable living environment for the women, some of whom have fallen on hard times and others with more long-term challenges. Some residents bring their special talents of gardening and knitting to share. The shelter's attention to cleanliness and order provides the residents with the structure through which they thrive.

For those wishing to join a Sister Nora's team, please email Naomi@ncjwsac.org.



TABBOULEH SALAD

Evie Lieb

This popular Middle Eastern salad has countless versions. This one is based on the recipe formerly provided on boxes of ALA brand bulgur wheat. It can be multiplied to make enough to feed a crowd (probably not this year) and it can be made a couple of days ahead for breaking the Yom Kippur fast.

4 to 6 servings

2 C water

1 C bulgur wheat (medium grain)

1 ear corn in husk, or currants for sweet element if no corn

2 tomatoes, seeded and finely diced or cherry tomatoes, halved

1 bunch (about 6) scallions, whites and green tops, finely chopped

6 TBSP chopped fresh mint

½ C finely chopped flat-leaf parsley

5 TBSP extra-virgin olive oil

5 TBSP freshly squeezed lemon juice

2 tsp Kosher salt

Freshly ground pepper to taste

Optional ingredients: chopped celery, cucumber, olives, crumbled feta cheese, leftover cooked vegetables, leftover salmon

Romaine lettuce leaves for serving, optional

Boil the water in the microwave in a large glass bowl or measuring cup. Add the bulgur, stir, and let stand 1 hour.

While the bulgur soaks, place corn in its husk in microwave, and cook 2 minutes for high power unit or 3 minutes in low wattage oven. Protecting your hands with paper towels, remove the husk and silk and use a sharp knife to cut the kernels from the cob. Set aside.

When bulgur has softened, drain well in a strainer if there is remaining liquid. Return to bowl and mix in the remaining ingredients. Cover and store in refrigerator.

Serve as a salad or as a snack to be scooped with crisp romaine lettuce leaves.



COMMITMENT TO ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

One Major Success Already Notched from Lobby Day 2020

Pat Sturdevant

Despite the closure of the Legislature for a month due to COVID-19, NCJW recently achieved a significant success on a budget ask. We played a key role in obtaining funding for broadening the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC), including a Young Child Tax Credit, and extending it to all income-eligible people, including the undocumented. Our State Policy Advocates, Claire Lipschultz and Barbara Baran, organized a very effective Lobby Day, during which we lobbied virtually on this important issue. They also provided effective tools for our team to send a letter to 40 legislative leaders at the same time. We urged that establishing these credits is good public policy because they strongly support anti-poverty efforts by reducing taxes for people of limited income.

We relied on a recent report by the California Immigrant Policy Center describing the important societal benefits that result from providing these tax credits, including improving child and maternal health, increasing school performance and college enrollment and increasing a child's future earnings in adulthood. Each dollar given through the CalEITC will generate double that amount in local economic benefits because participants spend their tax credit dollars on goods and services, paying bills or making a major purchase.

Broadening the scope of the CalEITC will aid in mitigating the effects of this COVID-19 humanitarian crisis by providing critical support to nearly half a million California families, according to the Governor's estimate. It will improve their economic mobility now and in future generations, enhance their health and welfare, decrease reliance on other benefits and support California's economy long term. This is an outstanding result and we can take pride in NCJW's part in achieving it.

LEARNING TO LEAD, FROM PAGE 7

It was inspiring to hear about the other participants' passions. It was no surprise that in an election year so many of us feel motivated to register voters and pioneer change, especially for the underrepresented and vulnerable populations. Of course, reaching communities impacted by COVID-19 was another driving force. I found that I was most interested in helping children in need.

I am currently working with another leadership program alum on a project for Mustard Seed School. Although we never expected that the world would shut down, we see it as an opportunity to ask ourselves, "As leaders, how will we continue to make the world a better place?"

Obstruction of Justice:

A Conversation with Jill Wine-Banks

Beryl Michaels

On July 28th, more than 300 participants from around the country joined well-known attorney and author Jill Wine-Banks for a Zoom webinar on Jill's book, *The Watergate Girl, My Fight for Truth and Justice Against a Criminal President*. National NCJW Vice President and Sacramento Section Board member, Claire Lipschultz, moderated the discussion. Highlights of the talk included Attorney General Barr's politicization of the justice department; sexism now and then; the protection of our democracy; the role of the media in Nixon's resignation; and the bipartisan ethic of the 70s compared to today's gridlock. We are grateful to Bobi Gould, Nela Lee and the speaker series committee members for their work in making the webinar possible; to Jane Yamaykin of our national organization for providing the webinar platform and other support; and to Claire for serving as our moderator.

A recording of the webinar is available. Contact Nela Lee, nela@ncjwsac.org to request a link to the video. Books and author autographed bookplates may be purchased for \$20.00 plus tax and \$2.50 shipping by contacting independent book store [Avid Reader](http://www.avidreaderbroadway.com) by email, or www.avidreaderbroadway.com.

NORCAL RESIST'S CRITICAL SUPPORT OF IMMIGRANTS IN SACRAMENTO CONTINUES DURING PANDEMIC

Miriam Joffe-Block

In March, NCJW co-sponsored an accompaniment training with Congregation B'nai Israel and NorCal Resist (NCR), an entirely volunteer-run organization that provides critical support to the undocumented and asylum-seeking community in Sacramento. Accompaniment volunteers provide asylum-seekers and those facing deportation in the Sacramento area with transportation and moral support in attending court appearances, ICE check-ins and other appointments. Our training event had to be converted to Zoom, but this didn't stop more than 30 volunteers, including many NCJW members, to come together to learn how to walk in solidarity with these asylum-seekers. Unfortunately, the pandemic meant that from March to June NorCal Resist had to scale back accompaniment services for safety.

Even as NorCal Resist had to scale back during COVID, the grassroots organization has continued tirelessly to support the immigrant community. Undocumented folks did not qualify for most economic assistance during the

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

NORCAL RESIST, FROM PAGE 10

pandemic, so NCR has aided more than 1200 families with direct rent assistance, food and diapers—literally helping families eat and stay in their homes while also organizing regular large-scale food and supply distribution events. In June, NCJW member Miriam Joffe-Block joined an NCR mutual aid caravan to Chico bringing donations of food, household items, baby supplies and money to Christina, a mother of three children, and a restaurant worker who had been unable to work during the pandemic.

NCJW, through its Sew2Save effort, supplied scores of masks for NorCal Resist food distribution volunteers, as well as directly to immigrant families. [\[See “Sew2Save” article, page 5.\]](#)

COVID has threatened the lives of immigrants in detention and, through its bond fund, NCR has funded the release of seven detained individuals during the pandemic and continues to advocate for release of detainees from detention. The organization also is working right now to settle two African immigrant families in Sacramento, and secure their release from the Karnes detention center in Texas. NCR continues to provide legal assistance of last resort, partnering with local attorneys to help asylum-seekers apply for work permits and offering self-representation clinics given that the local pro-bono legal community has been overwhelmed.

You can support their critical work through their website at norcalresist.org/donate, or by writing a check to “NorCal Resist,” and mailing to PO Box 188331, Sacramento, CA 95818. NorCal Resist is a 501(c)(3), so your donation may be tax deductible.

TRIBUTES

Recognizing all Tributes since the Spring 2020 BULLETIN in February.

“Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to the U.S. Congress and first African American woman candidate for a major party’s nomination for President, said ‘Service is the rent that you pay for room on this earth.’ Surely, Anne Eisenberg embodies the same gracious spirit of understanding the obligation of service. Anne breathes ability to sustain power around tzedakah. She is an exemplar of compassionate justice leadership. For that and so much more, we truly thank her.”

—Anonymous Admirer

In Honor of Anne Eisenberg, *outgoing NCJW Sacramento Section President, for her leadership*

From: Iris Bachman, Ann Bancroft, Abbie Blackman, Judith Cherney, Dan Eisenberg, Patou, Philippe, Alex, Josh, Andrea, Hal Eisenberg, Kathryn Gromke, Jennifer Kaufman, Dorothy Landsberg, Sandra Lee, Fran Levy, Jane Orkand, Bonnie Penix, Debra Reuben, Eileen Sarasohn, JoAnn Solov, Karen Soskin (2), Pat Sturdevant, Ellen Taylor, Linda Tochtermann

In Honor of Eileen Jacobowitz, *for becoming NCJW Sacramento Section Board President, and being awarded Visionary Leadership Award from NCJW National*

From: Abbie Blackman, Dan Eisenberg, Marilyn Jacobowitz, Jennifer Kaufman, Fran Levy, Sandy Lee, Eleanor and Jerry Mitchell, Jane Orkand, Debra Reuben, Karen Soskin

To the New Board, *with thanks for your faith in the future*

From: Lydia Inghram, Bonnie Penix, Betty and Jack Reuben, Sue Saunders

To Claire Lipschultz, *for leadership with NCJW National Board*

From: Jennifer Kaufman

To Claire Lipschultz, *in honor of our friendship*

From: Linda C. Fox

To Lydia Inghram, *with gratitude for friendship, NCJW leadership & mentorship*

From: Sheila Wolfe

To Sue Weinstein, *in memory of husband Harvey*

From: Joan and Dave Bories, Nancy Latin

To Amy Solov, *congrats on position as co-editor of NCJW Sacramento BULLETIN*

From: Karen Rothman



PURCHASE A TRIBUTE

Online or By Mail

Want to honor a friend, 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@ncjwsac.org](mailto:emailing_sheila@ncjwsac.org) or visiting our website Donate page, ncjwsac.org/donate/.



If you prefer to pay by check, send the name and address of the recipient, the dedication, and your name 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.

NCJW appreciates all of your Tribute donations.



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Sacramento Section

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UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 22

CALIFORNIA "JUSTICE" BALLOT PROPOSITIONS 7 PM / VIA ZOOM

This year's ballot propositions will have a major impact on justice and fairness in California. State Policy Advocates, Claire Lipschultz and Barbara Baran, are planning a virtual program supporting Propositions 15, 16, and 17 on the November ballot. Speakers include advocates for all three propositions: Sophia Lanza-Weil, Field Director for Yes 15: Schools & Communities First; Lenny Goldberg, former Executive Director, California Tax Reform Association; Nancy J. Appel, Senior Associate Regional Director & California Legislative Director, ADL Central Pacific Region; and Shay Franco-Clausen, Campaign Manager for Yes on Proposition 17. RSVP at ncjwsac.org/events and check eNEWS for updates.

SEPTEMBER 8-25

MITZVAH IN A MINUTE (MIM) BRING A SIX PACK—TOILET PAPER OF COURSE

Toilet paper 6-pack drive for Loaves and Fishes. Contact Shirley Rosenbloom, shirley@ncjwsac.org, or Sunny Romer, sunny@ncjwsac.org, for information and details about convenient neighborhood drop-off locations.

OCTOBER 15

NCJW SACRAMENTO FALL "KICKOFF" MEETING TIME TBD/ VIRTUAL

OCTOBER 20

CALIFORNIA ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE (OCTOBER 19 POSTMARK FOR REGISTRATION BY MAIL)



NOVEMBER 3, 2020

PARTICIPATE + USE YOUR VOICE

www.sos.ca.gov/elections/