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A Message from ORT America

Dear Friends,

At the beginning of last year, we had not yet been vaccinated, we were still working remotely, and we could not imagine traveling internationally. As we progressed through 2021, we slowly were able to return to activities that would further advance our work to support ORT students, teachers, families, and communities.

Variants came and went and we kept our plans in place with minor adjustments and as a result our fundraising increased significantly this year. The following highlights of 2021 illustrate how we were able to achieve our goals:

- Launched a National Leadership CohORT, an exclusive 18-month development, learning, and mentoring opportunity for ORT America’s future leaders. The group of 16 like-minded participants from across the country are actively engaged in the program and have met virtually and in-person.

- Brought ORT education from Israel to American Jewish students and campers, which opened new horizons for these children in STEM subjects and provided a window for local families to observe ORT in action.

- Introduced “Face the Future,” a global marketing campaign that demonstrates how ORT changes lives and prepares students for meaningful futures through our unique blend of excellent education, global citizenship, and Jewish values.

- Increased our fundraising, and, at Israel’s time of great need, our dedicated supporters stepped up to provide assistance to ensure the safety of our Kfar Silver students who are just eight miles from the Gaza border.

Looking ahead, we are launching the 100th Anniversary of ORT in America. We will highlight the 100 years of impact that were made possible by the visionary men and women who preceded us and continue to inspire us as we follow in their footsteps.

Thank you to all of you for making this past year’s accomplishments possible.
Regional Highlights

Across the country, enthusiastic supporters and friends gathered for ORT programs and events — some with special guest speakers and others with fun virtual and in-person activities.

ATLANTA
Atlanta’s Honey from the Heart sale, in its 31st year, delivered more than 54,000 honey jars to sweeten the Rosh Hashanah holiday to those celebrating across the country and the world. Earlier in the year, 45 women joined in a virtual “Women’s Seder,” a 20-year tradition to celebrate the fundamental role of women carrying on Jewish traditions.

CHICAGO
A highlight for the Chicago Region was an inspiring event highlighting the life and times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Held in February in partnership with the Illinois Holocaust Museum’s “Notorious RBG” exhibit, the program connected Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s deep-rooted values with ORT’s commitment to providing a values-based education for all.

DETROIT
The Detroit Region is known for its annual signature events and 2021 was no exception. Local ORTists attended WINGO and ORT and the City virtually and both events exceeded their fundraising goals. Participants supported Rub-a-Dub’s printed ad journal celebrating “100 Moments of Michigan’s Impact.” ORT America established a presence in Detroit in 1941. The region also hosted “Come ORT and Play,” an in-person fundraiser in September. The carnival-style format for school-aged children attracted over 600 attendees, including three generations of family members.

CALIFORNIA
California regions presented a planned giving webinar focused on maximizing tax advantages in their state and featured two professionals with experience in the legal and financial aspects of legacy giving.
OHIO

ORT Ohio celebrated 50 years of honoring their community at an annual brunch and 24 years of presenting the Jurisprudence Awards to outstanding legal professionals from the local community. The two traditional celebratory events were combined into one virtual event this year. While attendees missed being together, there was great appreciation of all ORT Ohio has accomplished through the half-century.

FLORIDA

In Florida, every season brought something special including a virtual book tour with Leslie Barry who wrote The Newark Minutemen; a sand art event creating family heirloom Judaica; and an honoree event recognizing dedicated supporters and leaders of the region and featuring Jason Gewirtz, author of “Israel’s Edge,” a book about the IDF’s most elite unit.
The 1880 Society is named for the year of ORTs founding when three men in Czarist Russia realized the need for training Jews in agriculture – and among their first tasks was to raise funds from the community. 1880 Society members generously pledge $100,000 or more over four years. These donors make an outsized impact on the lives of ORT students, teachers, schools, and communities around the world.

ORT America is grateful for the support and dedication of these 1880 Society Members:

- Anonymous
- Caryl and Herbert W. Ackerman
- Jack Buncher Foundation
- Cole-Crone Family Foundation
- Marilyn and Allen Z”L Eager
- Miriam Efroymson
- Shelley and Marvin Fagel
- David and Nanci Farber Family Foundation
- Jeffrey Farber Family Foundation
- William and Audrey Farber Family Foundation
- Reese Feldman
- Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation
- Eileen and Herbert Franks
- Eva Lynn and Leo Gans
- Joyce B. and Harry Graber
- Sue and Robert Grey
- Doreen and David Z”L Hermelin
- Renée & Earl Ishbia Family Foundation
- Joel E. Jacob Family
- Suellen and Larry Kadis
- The D. Dan and Betty Kahn Foundation
- Natalie and Murray S. Z”L Katz
- Linda and Howard Kirschbaum
- Alice and Charles Kurland
- Gail and Howard Lanznar
- Linch Family Foundation
- Linda and Dan Magalnick
- Grace K. Mendelson Z”L
- Judy and Peter Menikoff
- Joanne and Richard Miller
- Lusia and Bernard Z”L Milch
- David and Inez Myers Foundation
- Panovka Family
- Dorothy & Dr. Hershel Sandberg
- Helen and Harry Saul Foundation
- Schoenbaum Family Foundation
- The Sill/Perlmuter Family
- Dr. Louanne Smolin and David Eaton
- Shirley Sokolsky
- Abraham and Zulema Sudilovsky Foundation
- Dr. Marilyn Thypin
- Andrea and Lawrence Wolfe Family Foundation
- Lori and Alan Zekelman
- Lewis A. Zipkin and Dawn Kuderna

For more information, please write to: info@ortamerica.org
de Gunzburg Society

Named in memory of one of the founding families of ORT, the de Gunzburg Society was established to honor supporters who have generously provided gifts to ORT America through a planned gift, or who have formally declared their intention to leave a bequest to ORT America. The visionary commitment of legacy gifts sustains ORT year after year. Our deepest appreciation is extended to those who have included ORT in their estate plans; your legacy is helping to ensure a bright future for young people around the world.

A Role Model for Tzedakah

When Carol Linch, a leader in ORT for over 50 years, passed away in 2020 her sons wanted to find a special way to honor her. It was clear to them that they would do so with a gift to ORT that would carry on her, and their father’s, legacy of giving. “My mother gave of her time in a meaningful way with Tzedakah in mind. She was motivated to make children’s lives better through education so they could have successful lives,” said Carol’s son Keith, who is a past Atlanta Region President.

Carol’s involvement began at a Women’s American ORT (WAO) meeting at a home in Chicago, where she heard about the impact of ORT’s educational programs. Her interest and involvement grew from there. Carol’s leadership in WAO and World ORT included her service as WAO National President and she was viewed as a dedicated, thoughtful, and accomplished leader.

Carol and her beloved husband Earl were Lifetime Members of ORT, Guardians, and members of the de Gunzburg Society. They visited ORT’s global programs and modeled ORT’s values of giving to others through their generous financial support.

Over the years Keith and his siblings Steve and Mark became more knowledgeable about ORT. When their mother spoke as national president at the ORT convention, they realized how committed she was, and all the work she had done and was doing behalf of ORT.

When it was time to consider a meaningful tribute in her memory, ORT was an obvious choice. “After she passed away, we felt we should honor our mother’s involvement in ORT,” said Steve.

The Linch’s learned about the important work of the Kfar Silver Youth Village in Israel and thought it would be a perfect match. After discussions with Amos Gofer, CEO of the Village, and learning about the priorities and needs of the students, they made a gift to support programs that prevent students from dropping out and provided funds to renovate a space for art that will bear Carol’s name.

Through their multi-generational philanthropy, the Linch family aims to help people achieve stability and self-respect leading to a better future.
Donor Honor Roll

We gratefully recognize these donors, as well as the contributions of those who wish to remain anonymous.

$1,000,000 +
Anonymous
William & Audrey Farber Family Foundation
David & Nanci Farber Family Foundation
Jeffrey Farber Family Foundation
Estate of James Klinghoffer
Estate of Bernard Milch
Andi and Larry Wolfe

$500,000 - $999,999
Estate of Shirley Jordan
The D. Dan and Betty Kahn Foundation
Sid Samuel and Minna Levy Trust

$250,000 - $499,999
Renée & Earl Ishbia Family Foundation
Linch Family Foundation
Estate of Deanne H. Sharlin
Estate of David B. Zugman

$100,000 - $249,999
Atlanta Region/Honey From the Heart
Estate of Harry Berzon
Jack Buncher Foundation
Marilyn Eager
Eileen P. and Herbert H. Franks
Estate of Caren Lamkin
Gail and Howard Lanznar
Goldman Sachs Gives at the recommendation of Joshua Schiffin and Dana Sirota
Estate of Eleanor Thai Wolf
Women's American ORT Foundation

$50,000 - $99,999
Adolf B. and Helen P. Bondy Foundation
The Max M & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation
Estate of Syd Hoff
Estate of Adolph Moses
David and Inez Myers Foundation
Jeanine P. and Roland Plottel
Estate of Edward Shade
Dr. Louanne Smolin and David Eaton
United Jewish Federation of Tidewater
Dorothy and Dr. Hershel Sandberg
Abraham and Zulema Sudilovsky Foundation
Estate of Wolfgang Wasserman

$25,000 - $49,999
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Estate of Evelyn Bishop
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Phyllis Bruck Revocable Living Trust
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Estate of Paul Fabricant
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Frankel Trust to Empower Jewish Youth
Eva Lynn and Leo Gans
Sue and Robert Grey
Jewish Federation of Greater Houston

Estate of Max Isaac
Suellen and Lawrence M. Kadis
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Estate of Joan Betty Schwarz
Dr. Marilyn Thypin
The Emanuel Weintraub 2007 Family Trust
Winston-Salem UJA

$10,000 - $24,999
Anonymous
Caryl and Herbert W. Ackerman
Trish and Mark J. Adler
Estate of Selma Ashley
The Associated - Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore
Tricia Z’L and Ron S. Bergman
Maud and Serge Berguig
The Jewish Federation of the Berkshires
Joyce and Dr. George Blum
Beth Torah Congregation
Estate of Jenny Brody
Buffalo Jewish Federation
The Donald and Carol Chaiken Foundation
Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago
Philip and Cecile Cogan Foundation

This list includes the names of those who are no longer with us, but their memory lives on. Please visit www.ortamerica.org/lists to view entire listing of all donors. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact us with any updates at info@ortamerica.org.
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ORT extends its deepest appreciation to the Jewish federations in the United States and to the Jewish Federations of North America for their ongoing partnership and support of ORT.
Financial Update

Revenue, Public Support and Others

- Contributions and Funds Raised: 7,093,544
- Grant Income: 1,823,976
- Planned Giving: 4,353,196
- Government Support (PPP and ERC): 1,275,902
- Others: 855,655

Expenses, Distribution and Others

- Support for World ORT Programs: 6,744,506
- National and Fundraising Activities: 3,159,433
- Fundraising Support: 1,721,719
- Management and General: 1,519,433
- Others: 50,000
National Leadership Team

Barbara Birch
President and CEO

Jeffrey Cooper
CFO and COO

Allison D. Halpern
Director of Operations

Tova Kantrowitz
Director of Marketing and Communications

Lawrence Ludwig
National Director, Information Technology

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Heath Blumstein
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