

# Bulletin

A FAITH IN THE FUTURE

®

A BELIEF IN ACTION

March, 2026

## 132 YEARS OF POWERFUL JEWISH WOMEN

NCJW confronts today's most urgent social and economic challenges facing women, children and families. Powered by the Jewish imperative to ensure dignity for all, we impact policy, advocate for justice, and support the community. Your voice has never been more essential and our voices together make a meaningful difference in the world.

Become A Member

Call us at  
215-936-4836

Visit us at  
[ncjwphiladelphia.org](http://ncjwphiladelphia.org)

## The Pursuit of Human Dignity in Minneapolis

Multitudes of people in Minneapolis, endure frigid days and nights to stand up for their neighbors, some of whom are at risk for family separation, detention and deportation. Many have experienced terror and physical violence when confronted by ICE on the basis of their non-white skin color and/or a foreign accent. Attendance at school and places of worship have suffered. People are neglecting their health because of risks inherent with going to doctors' offices, hospitals, and pharmacies.

NCJW leaders across our country received a moving letter by Laura Monn Ginsburg. In it, she bears witness to the daily reality of her Minneapolis community. In her voice as a Jewish woman, mother and President and Board Chair of NCJW, she portrays a city, her city,

as a place where the personal and political become intertwined. Laura connects her determination to stand up for her community to her Jewish values and the absence of indifference among her neighbors at large. The many ways she and her community have implemented to serve the community are a testament of the value they place in the inherent worth and dignity of every human being. Above all, Laura's letter, addressed to all NCJW Sections, is an urgent outreach to alert us to recognize that the injustice in Minneapolis is a warning for us all. It is a direct plea to take action to stop the funding of ICE violence.



## Laura Monn Ginsburg's URGENT ACTION ALERT

**Tell Congress:**  
**No more  
funding ICE  
violence**

**ncjw** National Council  
of Jewish Women



Masked federal agents are sweeping through Minneapolis and cities across the country with impunity — terrorizing communities, tearing families apart, and escalating a campaign of state violence that is openly claiming lives on American streets.

This is not law enforcement.  
This is lawlessness.  
And it is being carried out as Congress watches on.

In 2026 alone, immigration enforcement agents killed legal observers Renee Good and Alex Pretti. And in recent months, ICE agents have also murdered Silverio Villegas-Gonzalez, Marimar Martinez, and Keith Porter.

These are not isolated tragedies. They are part of a disturbing and deadly pattern — the predictable result of an agency operating without restraint, accountability, or regard for human life, while Congress looks on.

Funding ICE now is not business as usual.  
It is a choice to allow this violence to continue.

Congress must act to rein in the lawlessness endangering our communities — not bankroll it.

**Tell Congress: No additional funding for ICE — and we demand justice and accountability.**

The poem below was written and submitted by our Section member, Rabbi Richard Steinbrink. Its submission feels timely with the focus our March Bulletin placed on the desperate plight of people in Minneapolis. The poem seems to evoke a thought of human dignity as a fundamental right. See what you think!

Harriet Gran, editor

### **WHO?**

The long line is led by the black hearse  
Or is it grey?  
A waxed monster polished glossy  
With headlights like blazing eyes  
As it wends its way through the streets.  
Inside the car - the mourners:  
Some in tears. Some numb in sorrow. Some who will gain.  
Outside as the cortege passes, people look with eyes wide;  
And wordlessly wonder: "Why can't a man attain dignity before today?"

Rabbi Richard F. Steinbrink

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### **Repro Shabbat Review**

Recently two local synagogues hosted events in recognition of Reproductive Justice Shabbat. On Friday evening February 13<sup>th</sup>, at Main Line Reform Temple, our long-time member, Diane Steinbrink, read a special prayer that NCJW National composed for the event. Her husband, Rabbi Richard Steinbrink, gave a beautiful sermon that highlighted the need to continue working for reproductive choices and bodily autonomy for all.

On Saturday morning February 14, Germantown Jewish Centre's service featured women leaders from throughout the congregation. Section members Lynne Jacobs and Rhonda Mandel participated. The student-rabbi's touching sermon emphasized both the personal nature of reproductive choice and the basis of Judaism's views on abortion.

After a buffet lunch, the afternoon speaker was Dayle Steinberg, CEO of Planned Parenthood Southeastern PA. Dayle spoke about the challenges facing PPSP under the current administration and how they have mobilized to meet the challenges. She stressed that they do not turn anyone away from the care that they need.

A large crowd was in attendance, including several from our section. Dayle ended on an optimistic note, believing that ultimately, those fighting for reproductive justice will prevail. These two synagogues recognized NCJW's work educating the Jewish Community-- throughout the country--about the importance of this issue. If you would like your synagogue to get involved next year, please let me know at [ljacobs816@gmail.com](mailto:ljacobs816@gmail.com)

Lynne Jacobs

Ben Franklin Elementary School Counselor, Julia Georgetti happily receives the 53 uniform shirts and pants from our Section member Faye Bentshetler, donated by our Section.



***From Awareness to Action:******Strengthening Our Impact on Gun Violence Prevention***

Please join us for an informative and empowering presentation!

**Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 11:30**

Congregation Beth Sholom

8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park

**Featured Speakers:****NOVA Trauma Therapists – The Emotional & Psychological Cost of Gun Violence**

Learn how trauma affects individuals, families and communities- and how we can support healing.

**CeasefirePA- Gun Safety Legislation and How We Can Advocate.**

Hear what's happening now, what's at stake and practical ways we can raise our voices to make our communities safer.

All members, spouses, and guests are welcome. Your presence helps build a safer, stronger future for everyone.

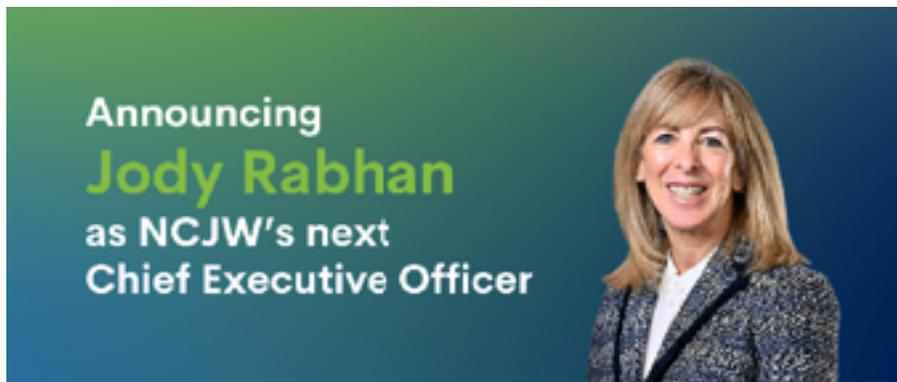
A dairy buffet lunch will be provided including, salads, kugel, fruit and bagels.

Members-\$30 Guests \$35      RSVP by March 12<sup>th</sup>

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

There will be donation tables for No More Secrets and Dawn's Place.

Questions: Call Rosalie Marcus at 215-512-5110 or Anita Shomer at 215-880-9992



I'm writing to share important news about the future of National Council of Jewish Women.

**On behalf of the NCJW Board of Directors, I am pleased to announce that Jody Rabhan has been appointed our next Chief Executive Officer.**

Jody brings decades of leadership experience at NCJW, most recently serving as Executive Vice President. Over the course of her career, she has played a central role in strengthening our advocacy, expanding our impact, and guiding the organization through a period of meaningful growth and transformation. She brings deep institutional knowledge, moral clarity, and a clear vision for how NCJW can build a better world for women, children, and families.

This leadership transition reflects both continuity and momentum as we continue advancing NCJW Forward — our bold, multi-year strategy to strengthen our infrastructure, expand our reach, and build a movement of one million changemakers prepared to meet the urgency of this moment. The Board has full confidence in Jody's ability to lead NCJW with strength, purpose, and care.

**"I came to NCJW for the issues, but I stayed for the advocacy. NCJW is the place where being Jewish, being a woman, and fighting for a more just world come together — nothing has to be checked at the door."**

— Jody Rabhan, NCJW Chief Executive Officer

Under Jody's leadership, NCJW will focus on creating new and easier entry points into our movement, expanding leadership development opportunities, and ensuring our organization reflects the full diversity of the communities we serve — all while delivering lasting impact in the United States and Israel.

NCJW was built for moments like this. We exist for these urgent times that demand both moral clarity and sustained action. This is a moment of confidence for NCJW. From our founder, Hannah G. Solomon, forward, we have understood that real change happens when we take our seat at every table — in community, in coalition, and across every part of society. If there was ever a time for NCJW to lead with clarity and courage, it is now.

**Laura Monn Ginsburg**  
President and Board Chair  
[National Council of Jewish Women](#)

## Suburban Book Club

Thank you to Nancy Fagan for leading our discussion and to Rosalie Marcus for hosting our December meeting.

All future Meetings are on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

March 11

*Atmosphere* by Taylor Jenkins Reid.

Facilitator is Rebecca Landau

Hostess is Lee Tonik

April 15

*Red Clay* by Charles B. Fancher

Facilitator is Eileen Davis

Hostess is Rebecca Landau

May 20

*The Lotus Shoes* by Jane Yang

Hostess is Harriet Gran

Facilitator is Madelyn Greenberg



## Center City Book Group

March 11

*Briar Club* by Kate Quinn

At the home of Faith Edelman

The Sterling, 1815 JFK Blvd.

Center City residents interested in a book club, contact

[Ablock1919@comcast.net](mailto:Ablock1919@comcast.net)

## WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### Hilene S. Flanzbaum

As Membership Vice-Presidents, we welcome all to call with any questions.

Please contact Cindi Pasceri, [vpasce@gmail.com](mailto:vpasce@gmail.com) or Joyce Gometz, [Bubbe1942@verizon.net](mailto:Bubbe1942@verizon.net).

We are delighted to send out membership packets to those wishing to become members or dues envelopes for current members.

Dues envelopes should be returned to Harriet Winokur, 732 Johns Lane, Ambler, PA 19002

Membership Dues: Annual \$55 (Be an Angel \$65 😊)\*

Please LIKE us on our Facebook page.

Search our full name "National Council of Jewish Women Greater Philadelphia Section."

\*For an additional \$10, you can achieve "angel" 😊 status which increases the number of people we can assist.

Please check out our website [ncjwphiladelphia.org](http://ncjwphiladelphia.org) for our Bulletins, past and present, for program information and registration.

**[CLICK HERE TO JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE](#)**

### DO YOU WANT TO BE IN PICTURES?

When you are at an event, send a picture to Harriet (harrietandmal@gmail.com), who will publish it in the Bulletin.



REMEMBER.... THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE.

### INCLUDE NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section in your estate planning.

You can help its important work continue for years to come.

### Celebrating a *simcha* or have one you would like NCJW to recognize?

We will make a note of it. An acknowledgement to you and the recipient is our pleasure.

What a great way to share by making a donation to our Greater Philadelphia Section.

For information, call 215-302-3586 and leave a message for Pearl Tragash, Treasurer.



**Sponsoring an event** for a minimum of \$100.00 in honor of a special event or person in your life, or in memory of an important person is a great way to do a double mitzvah! You are honoring the person or event and helping NCJW. You can share this sponsorship between friends. Your name ( or names) will be on the invitation flyer. This is a lovely and meaningful way to support our NCJW section! Please consider sponsoring an upcoming event. Click on the link below or call Anita Shomer, 215-880-9992 or Rosalie Marcus, 215-512-5110 and tell us what event you'd like to sponsor.

**[CLICK THIS LINK TO SPONSOR AN EVENT](#)**

### Condolences:

To the Coren family on the passing of our member, Elaine Coren. Elaine is the mother of our member, Harriet Winoker.

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Aileen Salus

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- Fundraising

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Diane Plotnick  
Harriet Gran  
Jackee Swartz  
Ann Pollock  
Beth Rubin  
Shirley Kahn  
Betsy Parziale

OTHER BOARD MEETING ATTENDEES

- Grants Gerrie Greene
- State Advocacy Reps Barbara Hoffman / Rhonda Mandel

Thank you to those members whose help with the publication of the Bulletin is so appreciated:

Harriet and Mal Gran Carol Stein  
Char Kurland Margie Zukerman

Harriet Gran, Bulletin Editor.  
Mal Gran, Website Manager  
harrietandmal@gmail.com

National Council of Jewish Women is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. 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. We are a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization. Our National web site is [www.NCJW.org](http://www.NCJW.org)



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**CAROL STEIN**  
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 215.846.8381

Dear Members,

I am proud to be taking on the role of Grants Committee Chair.

Our Section awards small grants, not to exceed \$500, to local organizations whose programs serve the needs of women, children and families.

If you know of a worthy organization in our area, you can suggest that they fill out a grant request.

Click the link below to get the application.

To be eligible, a group must qualify as an IRS 501(c)(3) organization.

Feel free to contact me at gervert@verizon.net or (215) 402-0887 with any questions.

Gerrie Greene

**Click here for grant information and an application.**

This beautiful Tribute card is available in packages of 6 cards for \$25. Use for many occasions such as graduation, Get Well, In Memory, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, or Just Thinking of You. Your donation will help support NCJW in many ways. We would be happy to meet you and deliver your cards. You can also call us to send a card for you at a cost of \$5.00.

Ann Pollock  
 215-806-4068

Linda Mosko  
 215-233-0184





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## MARCH 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 SUBURBAN and CENTER CITY BOOK CLUBS	12	13	14
15	16	17 ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE IN PA * TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				