



**kindness**  
INITIATIVE

## 2021 IMPACT REPORT

*Protecting Dignity, Offering Hope.*



Assisting in navigating and accessing resources during life's challenging times.

Kindness Initiative is



Meeting basic physical and psychological needs of vulnerable Jewish households



Utilizing a comprehensive, coordinated, collaboration of service providers and caring volunteers



Providing immediate help and long term solutions towards self-sustainability

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lou Cooperhouse  
Sharon Davidson  
Susan Halliday\*  
Selwyn Isakow  
Sarah Shekhter  
Jack Shevel  
Brad Slavin  
Alex Stolarski

\*of blessed memory



## Resources include:

- Case Management
- Housing Assistance
- Transportation
- Emergency Funding
- Medical and Government services
- Employment Assistance
- Education
- Business Mentoring
- Nourishment
- Other Customized Services



## Our Process:

- Online **application**
- **Membership** acceptance
- Case Manager **Intake** interview
- Develop emergency and longer-term **plans**
- Member matched with **Angel**
- **Access** Resources
- **Monitoring & Reporting**



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Offering Hope.*

## A note from our Executive Director:

As I reflect on the past year since taking up the position of Executive Director at the Kindness Initiative, I can't help but be awestruck by the support of the San Diego community, donors, volunteers and other service organizations. Your generosity and support has enabled us to address the multitude of both physical and psychological needs experienced by vulnerable Jewish people in our community.

The depth and breadth of poverty in the Jewish community is grossly underestimated. Kindness Initiative is providing compassionate case management with an emphasis on personal dignity. We are collaborating with an extensive web of service providers and organizations to help those seeking assistance accessing support that we hope will ultimately allow them to be less reliant on the community and experience a greater sense of self-sustainability and financial independence. We welcome referrals or member encouragement.

The work we do is made possible by the committed Kindness Initiative team, the extensive corps of volunteers, service organization partnerships and the financial support of people such as yourself. Together with your support, we are making a difference!

In gratitude,

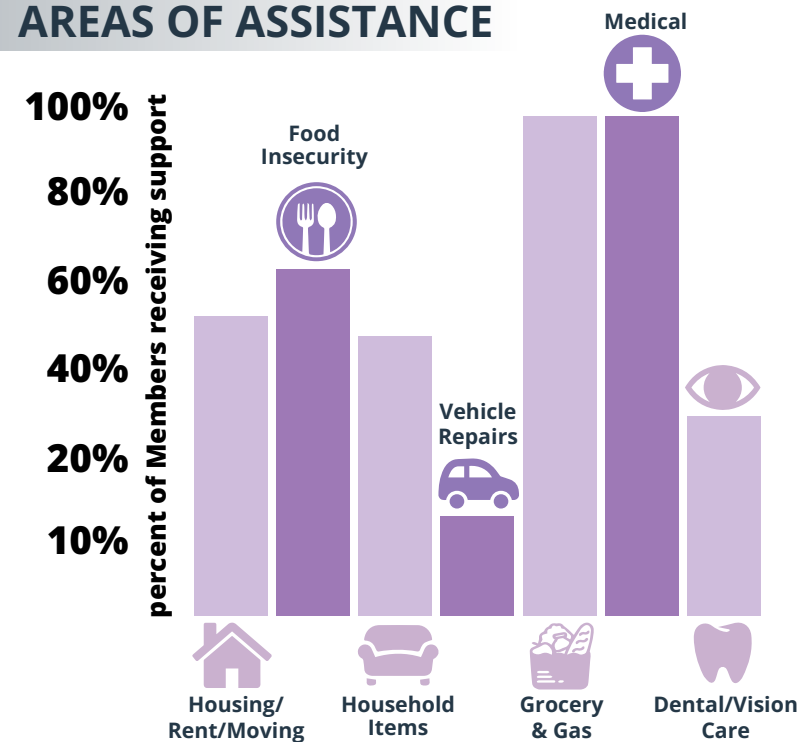
*Bev Pamensky*

Bev Pamensky

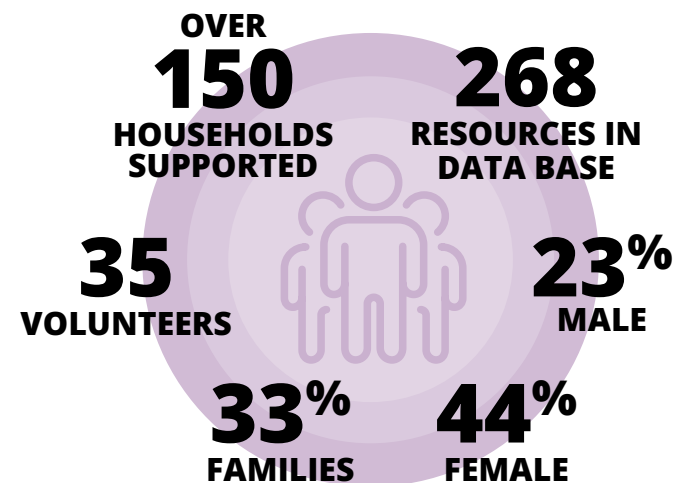


**Members often write to us indicating how much Kindness Initiative means to them — here are just some of the words they've used ...**

## AREAS OF ASSISTANCE



## KINDNESS INITIATIVE BY THE NUMBERS



Ages ranging from teens through to elderly  
Families include single parents, 2 parent families and some grandparents raising grandchildren

## THANKS TO OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS:

### ANGELS

- Member support
- Navigation, advocacy and personal attention

### AMBASSADORS

- Develop Resources
- Facilitate Access to service providers

### ADMINISTRATIVE

- Administrative, Marketing, Technology and Data management support

### ASSIGNMENT

- Projects to Fill Service Voids
- Pro-Bono service providers

*Member Experience...*

*I hope this small token of gratitude that I'm writing reflects how full my heart is with the support I received ...*

I've struggled with alcohol and drug addiction. I've been homeless on and off for a year. I had things going to debt collectors. I felt so out of control in my life. When I reached out to Kindness Initiative, I was amazed by the outreach and support that I received.

I never thought I would be in the hospital on a suicide overdose attempt, but I was. I struggled with childhood trauma and adulthood trauma that I'd never fully let go or communicated to anyone, so that pain kept snowballing and I used substances to forget about the pain. But the emotions and the feelings got really heavy, and I just wanted to give up.

I know everybody at Kindness Initiative is supportive and kind and I really got that sense of unconditional community I needed. They really took an interest in trying to find me shelter, sending me vouchers to use for gas and even trying to find me camera equipment to save my photography business. During this time, I was beat up and struggling to make any money. But with the help of KI, I have started my own Handyman Services and I hope to have financial freedom in the next few months and get my own place to safely live.

Not only have I been able to make somewhat of a living doing what I really want to do, I am able to buy tools I need for jobs. Without Kindness Initiative's help I don't know where I'd be, probably in jail or dead. I feel like I have a second outlook on life and the next forty years of my life is going to reflect my gratitude that I received in my darkest moment.

**My experiences as a volunteer have made me grow into a person of dedication, integrity, determination, and compassion.**

— 'Angel' Volunteer

# Thank You Donors

We are extremely grateful to those who contribute funds to Kindness Initiative. Thank you for your commitment to our mission.

\* List reflects financial gifts of \$500+

‡ Denotes gifts made through the Jewish Community Foundation

## Founders' Society (\$100,000+)

Aaron Feldman ‡  
Elaine Galinson & Herb Solomon ‡  
Hilary & Selwyn Isakow ‡  
Jean & Gary Shekhter ‡

## GOLD SPONSOR (\$25,000 – \$49,999)

Monique and Jack Shevel  
San Diego Jewish Community COVID-19  
Emergency Fund

## SILVER SPONSOR (\$10,000 – \$24,999)

CalPrivate Bank  
Lou Dunst Fund ‡  
Claire & David Ellman ‡  
Michal & Alberto Hamui  
Jewish Gift Closet (G'mach)  
Hersch Klaff  
Barbara & Selwyn Klein  
Cheryl and Gary Levitt  
Arlene and Louis Navias  
Evelyn and Ernest Rady  
Reina & David Shteremberg  
Smiedt Family Fund ‡  
Jewish Federation of San Diego County

## Patron (\$3,600-\$9,999)

Aron Family Fund ‡  
Wendy Burk and Harold Frysh  
Susan and Eric Chortek-Weisman ‡  
Elaine Chortek z"l ‡  
Congregation Adat Yeshurun  
Congregation Beth El  
Sharon Davidson  
Jackie and David Diamond  
Liora and Orin Green ‡  
Jewish Community Foundation  
Susan and David Kabakoff ‡  
Tina and Julian Krinsky  
Steve and Patty Mizel  
Miriam Norton and Alex Stolarski ‡  
Linda and Joe Satz  
Selati Family Fund ‡  
Yaakov and Devorah Shore  
Yanine and Leonardo Simpser  
Lisa and Brad Slavin  
Andrew Viterbi ‡  
Jackie and Bertie z"l Woolf  
Ellie and Baruch Yakatan

## Inner Circle (\$1000-\$3,599)

Abramowitz Family Fund ‡  
Amy and Jonathan Aires  
Neil and Ruth Berkowitz  
Edgar and Julie Berner ‡  
Karen and Jaime Breziner  
Brian and Suzanne Marcus Fund ‡  
Danny and Dana Gabriel ‡  
Leo Eisenberg  
Sharon and Richard Gabriel  
Brigitte and Barry Galgut  
Jean and Franklin Gaylis Gaylis  
The Gunter Goldschmidt Fund  
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Jenny and Julian Josephson  
Avra Kassar and Family  
Robyn and Derek Lichter  
Ann and Gerry Lipschitz  
Yahaloma and Marc Lotzof  
Suki and Doron Lurie  
Esther and Carlos Michan  
Monica and Victor Mizrahi  
Tammy and Clive Moch ‡  
Sarah Price ‡  
George and Hilda Rattner Fund ‡  
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Andrea Ravid  
Guy Ravid  
Phil Reed  
Nicole and Brett Saloner  
Jane and Colin Scher  
Schulman Endowment Fund of the  
Jewish Community Foundation  
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Eva Shore  
Russell Steingold  
Joyce Tash  
Nancie & Rick Vann  
Sammy Weisman Fund  
Shana Weisman Fund  
Stuart Weiss ‡

## Supporters' Circle (\$500-\$999)

Janet and Larry Acheatel  
Chabad Headquarters San Diego  
Merle and Brian Datnow  
Lesley and Roy Davis  
Megan and Jacob Kamaras  
Tammi Litke  
Marjorie Mopper  
Diane and Randy Orley  
Beverly and Martin Pamensky  
Laurayne Ratner  
Shari and Frederick Schenk



We are proud to contribute to the wonderful Kindness Initiative organization through the Adopt-A-Kindness-Family sector. We hope our financial contribution to this family, and the support we show them as a community, reduce the financial burdens so they may focus on work, raising their children, and celebrating important moments with their families.

**We're grateful to partner with the Kindness Initiative in this heartwarming way.**

— Donor Comment

## Adopt-A-KindnessFamily Sponsors

\*Our Adopt-A-KindnessFamily Supporters commit to a gift of \$360 for at least 12 months to support a family.

Karen and Jamie Breziner  
Jackie and David Diamond  
Wendy and Harold Frysh  
Liora and Orin Green  
Barbara and Selwyn Klein  
Patti and Steve Mizel  
Nicole and Brett Saloner  
Devorah and Yaakov Shore  
Leonardo and Yanine Simpser  
Tina and Julian Krinsky  
Alon Ravid  
Andy Ravid  
Guy Ravid  
Miriam Norton and Alex Stolarski  
Baruch and Ellie Yakatan  
Congregation Adat Yeshurun  
Congregation Beth El

## Financials

### July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021

#### Where our dollars come from:

Donations Received ..... \$754,666  
Net Investment income ..... (\$1,832)

#### Where our dollars go

Stipends to Members ..... (\$106,121)  
Member Support Expenditures ..... (\$174,425)  
Administrative Expenditures ..... (\$47,003)  
**Net Revenues** ..... **\$425,285**  
Loans to members ..... (\$7,379)

#### Cash & Investments as of

December 31, 2021 ..... \$417,906



**kindness**  
INITIATIVE

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kindnesssd.org

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