

July 2021 through June 2022 Highlights

Our Vice Presidents of Legislation & Advocacy, along with committee members have organized and/or participated the following activities: Domestic Violence virtual program; Prepared for, welcomed, and now continued resettlement of three Afghan refugee women who are now a part of our community; Economic Justice hybrid (in-person and virtual) program; Voter engagement program; NCJW CA Lobby Day with legislators; NCJW Washington Institute in D.C., which included attendance and participation in workshops, meetings, and the National Jewish Rally for Abortion Justice; and Lay Led Virtual Havdalah service following the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) release of the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization (the repeal of Roe v. Wade).

Our Vice Presidents of Communications have published three electronic issues of PILLARS; created a composite video that we can use to promote ourselves; expanded our Communications team to help with Zoom responsibilities, our photo archive, and organizing ourselves—G drive and membership database; created a new banner to hang in the JCC alcove, which we can also use for promotional events; created and distributed countless flyers for events; distributed monthly eblasts; updated and maintained our website and so much more!

Our Vice President of Community Service and committee has introduced many new direct service projects and opportunities to our members; ran several joint projects, with various partners, including Jewish Family & Children's Services, Jewish Long Beach, and more; and expanded our relationships with other local Jewish organizations.

Our Immediate Past President along helped organize four HugPack events with the Department of Children and Family Services, as well as three Kindergarten Festivals in partnership with the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee.

Our Vice Presidents of Membership worked with our Vice Presidents of Communications, Programs, and Resource Development to hold our 75th Anniversary Celebration and first post COVID-19 in person meet and greet in August 2021 at the home of Board Member Deb Lelchuk. In addition, they recruited three (3) new members at the Alpert JCC 2022 Purim Carnival; along with other Board Members made Passover greeting calls; and sent Passover greeting card. Finally, our Vice Presidents helped in planning the Charter Day program; held two new member meetings to introduce new members to Section activities and participation opportunities and mailed Pillars to members who don't have access to email.

Our Vice Presidents of Programs worked with our Vice Presidents of Communications, Membership, and Resource Development to hold our 75th Anniversary Celebration and first post COVID-19 in person meet and greet in August 2021; organized monthly movie nights on the 4th Thursday of the month from September 2021 through June 2021; organized a voluntary toy donation drive; co-sponsored with Hadassah the January Book Review with Lucy Aldington speaking on her book: Dressmakers of Auschwitz; collaborated with our Vice Presidents of Legislation & Advocacy and the AAUW for a program on Post COVID Issues Affecting Women and Children; and together with other Vice Presidents and members helped reimagine our Charter Day celebration.

Our Co-Treasurers opened an NCJW credit card for use on recurring (monthly, annual) expenses; worked with our CPA ensured a favorable ratio of program expenses to total expenses, which resulted in an updated Charity Navigator profile; opened a new bank account for our Welcome Circle work, which continues to provide financial support to the three Afghan refugee women in the way of rent, utilities, etc.

-- Maria Osorio, President