

FOCAL POINT 2020 AGENDA

OCTOBER 14

<p>Plenary: Building Back Better: Strategies for a More Sustainable Future</p>	<p>The world has undergone unprecedented changes in the past months that have impacted many aspects of our own lives and have exacerbated the lives of already vulnerable populations in the developing world to new levels of poverty, insecurity and discrimination. Focal Point's opening plenary is an opportunity to hear from experts in international development, humanitarian aid, and human rights about new realities and trends in the field since the onset of COVID-19. They will share their learnings and will reflect on how to use this unique moment to rethink our work for a more sustainable and resilient future for those we serve.</p>	<p>Robert Bank, AJWS Sasha Chanoff, Refuge Point Michelle Nunn, CARE USA Dvora Joseph Davey, UCLA Praneeta Kapur, UJWS</p>
<p>Networking rounds</p>	<p>Take the opportunity to meet Focal Point attendees and make new connections in a small group setting.</p>	
<p>Funders Forum (invite-only)</p>	<p>This invite-only session enables funders to hear first-hand from a small group of CEOs in OLAM's network about the impact of COVID-19 on their work and to strategize about how Jewish philanthropy can step up to address global challenges at this time.</p>	<p>Shoshana Boyd-Gelfand, Pears Foundation (Moderator) Lisa Eisen, Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation (Presenter) Michal Bruck (NALA Foundation) Yotam Polizer (IsraAID) Sarah Eisenman (JDC Entwine)</p>

<p>Rabbis Forum (invite-only)</p>	<p>This invite-only session aims to explore the role of Rabbis in supporting vulnerable communities around the world, during a time of grave global challenges. Clergy will engage in a text study and conversation on the inherent tension of moral authority in a time of competing priorities, and learn from inspiring Rabbis about how they have embedded global causes into the ethos of their community.</p>	<p>Joe Gindi, AJWS (Moderator)</p> <p>Rabbi Avidan Freedman, Shalom Hartman Institute</p> <p>Rabbi David Englander, B'nai Torah Congregation of Boca Raton</p> <p>Rabbi Salem Pearce, Carolina Jews of Justice</p>
<p>Engaging World Jewry with Israel's International Development Sector: The Potential and the Pitfalls</p>	<p>In the face of a global pandemic, Israel has stepped up to address humanitarian and development challenges around the world. This panel of Israel Engagement professionals will discuss the opportunities and challenges to engage global Jewish communities by promoting Israel's international development sector. From how to make the topic accessible to young Jews to avoiding accusations of whitewashing, hear about practical ways to support your own engagement work. This session is in partnership with UJIA.</p>	<p>Robin Moss, UJIA (Moderator)</p> <p>Mandie Winston, UJIA</p> <p>Tal Becker, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Aviva Klompas, Combined Jewish Philanthropies</p>
<p>Addressing Power Dynamics, Saviorism & Racial Justice in Global Development</p>	<p>George Floyd's death in the USA sparked a movement calling for racial justice and catalyzed a global reckoning on power dynamics, saviorism, and racial stereotyping. During this time, the field of international development and aid has been called to look inward at its own harmful practices and assumptions. Join a panel of practitioners for an honest discussion on how we can do better in our work, in our relationship with our partners in the field, and as a Jewish community to ensure a more inclusive, responsible, and equitable world.</p>	<p>Hannah Gaventa, Palladium (Moderator)</p> <p>Thaiza Dias, Gabriel Project Mumbai</p> <p>Kennedy Odede, Shining Hope for Communities</p> <p>Matthew Breman, International Youth Foundation</p>

<p>Five Global Issues in Fifty Minutes</p>	<p>In a time of so many changes and movements, it can feel overwhelming to understand big global issues that feel far removed. Take a deep (and brief) dive with top experts into some of the biggest challenges the world is facing today: climate change, refugees and displacement, public health, global economy, and loss of livelihood. Hear examples of work being done in the developing world to address these challenges, and learn how you too can get involved to make a difference.</p>	<p>Josh Yudkin, JDC (Moderator)</p> <p>Rabbi Jennie Rosenn, Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action</p> <p>Melanie Nezer, HIAS</p> <p>Avital Sandler-Loeff, JDC</p> <p>Dr. Dorit Nitzan, World Health Organization</p> <p>Ekaterina Mitiaev, World Jewish Relief</p>
<p>Storytelling and Messaging for This Moment</p>	<p>There has been an overload of information in the past few months, with news about COVID, elections, social justice demonstrations, and much more competing for people's attention. This session will explore how to get another issue we care about - improving the situation in the developing world - on people's radar. You will hear from an expert podcaster about how to use storytelling to raise awareness about humanitarian issues, and get practical tips for using social media and digital campaigns to get your message out during these complex times.</p>	<p>Ethan Schwartz, IsraAID (Moderator)</p> <p>Mark Leon Goldberg, UN Dispatch</p> <p>Sofi Hersher, Ignite: Action</p>

<p>Virtual Service & Travel: Connection, Innovation & Lessons Learned</p>	<p>2020 saw a dramatic pivot to online programming in the Jewish world, including the field of global Jewish volunteering and travel. Learn from the successes, failures, and outcomes of three organizations' forays into the virtual world over the last 8 months as they share their new modalities, models and formats for virtual service. With international travel likely to be restricted for some time yet, we will also explore the broader ramifications for our work moving forward and how we can continue to innovate in this field.</p>	<p>Andrew Belinfante, JDC Entwine (Moderator)</p> <p>Arielle Sokoloff, JDC Entwine</p> <p>Miranda Rosenblum, Repair the World</p> <p>Brandon Blache-Cohen, Amizade</p>
<p>From Development to Aid: Best Practices in Making the Shift During a Crisis</p>	<p>In the Global South, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities for the most at-risk populations, by adding a set of new health, livelihoods, and social challenges. To meet these urgent needs, many international development organizations had to quickly shift from long-term development work to immediate disaster relief work. Learn from experts about the context of the development-humanitarian dichotomy, hear case studies from OLAM partners on challenges and best practices from the past few months, and get guidance on how organizations can adapt to their new humanitarian roles in an ethical and successful way.</p>	<p>Ophelie Namiech, Mindset PCS</p> <p>Ben Dagani, AJEEC-NISPED</p> <p>Leanne Baker, Tzedek</p>
<p>Global Giving: Practical Tips & Tools for New Ways of Charitable Giving</p>	<p>We're excited to give you an exclusive look into OLAM & Amplifier's new Global Giving Guide. Using the guide as a backdrop, this session will explore practical and new ways to engage your constituents and/or potential funding audiences in global giving.</p> <p>For Practitioners: You will learn about trends in giving and how to engage new funding audiences in your work.</p>	<p>Liz Fisher, Amplifier</p> <p>Sasha Raskin Yin, Amplifier</p> <p>Amy Weiss, OLAM</p> <p>Joy Sisisky, Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties</p>

	For Jewish Communal Professionals: You will learn programmatic models to engage your constituents in charitable giving and global causes.	
What Funders Want: An Open Conversation	<p>What does it look like to cultivate a relationship with a funder when in-person meetings and field visits aren't possible? What are donors looking for at this time? This session offers a unique opportunity to ask seasoned international development philanthropists any question on your mind and to hear their honest perspectives on grantee-funder relationships in the age of COVID-19 and beyond.</p>	<p>Dyonna Ginsburd, OLAM (Moderator)</p> <p>Laurie Franz, Five Together Foundation</p> <p>Morreen Rukin</p>
OLAM Talks: Doses of Jewish Inspiration From Budapest to Syria: A Jewish Journey from Displacement to Activism	End the day with Inspiring talks from Jewish scholars, Rabbis & international development practitioners on the intersection of Jewish values and global responsibility, and their personal calls to global justice.	Dr. Georgette Bennett, Multifaith Alliance for Syrian Refugees
OLAM Talks: Doses of Jewish Inspiration And Moses Saw There Was No Other Person: The Jewish Imperative to See and Respond to the Pain of The Other	End the day with Inspiring talks from Jewish scholars, Rabbis & international development practitioners on the intersection of Jewish values and global responsibility, and their personal calls to global justice.	Rabba Yaffa Epstein, The Wexner Foundation

<p>OLAM Talks: Doses of Jewish Inspiration</p> <p>Changing the World from the Inside Out: Jewish Spiritual Wisdom for Sustaining Social Change</p>	<p>End the day with Inspiring talks from Jewish scholars, Rabbis & international development practitioners on the intersection of Jewish values and global responsibility, and their personal calls to global justice.</p>	<p>Rabbi David Jaffe, The Inside Out Wisdom and Action Project</p>
<p>OLAM Talks: Doses of Jewish Inspiration</p> <p>The Little Known Story of how a Kabbalah Student Founded the Solar Industry, and Why it Matters for Climate Change</p>	<p>End the day with Inspiring talks from Jewish scholars, Rabbis & international development practitioners on the intersection of Jewish values and global responsibility, and their personal calls to global justice.</p>	<p>Rabbi Yedidya Sinclair, Hazon</p>
<p>OCTOBER 15</p>		
<p>Keynote Address: For Whom Are We Responsible? Competing Priorities in a COVID-19 Reality</p>	<p>For Whom Are We Responsible? Competing Priorities in a COVID-19 Reality</p>	<p>Shoshana Boyd Gelfand, Pears Foundation (Introduction)</p> <p>Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis</p>

<p>Plenary: Pause With Purpose: The Future of Global Service</p>	<p>When international travel came to a halt in March, global Jewish service programs in the developing world had to recall volunteers and cancel upcoming cohorts. Today, most remain on hiatus, uncertain when in-person operations can resume. This plenary session explores how we can take advantage of the current pause in global service programs to reevaluate and build new models that are more ethical, sustainable, and meaningful for volunteers and local community members alike.</p>	<p>Aviva Steinberger, Shalom Corp (Moderator)</p> <p>Ruth Messinger, AJWS</p> <p>Yonatan Bram, Tevel B'Tzedek</p> <p>Annie Levy, World Jewish Relief</p> <p>Mayan Gafin, Project Ten</p>
<p>Open Space Technology: Bring Us Your Ideas!</p>	<p>A time for you, the participant, to "self-organize" and "own" the virtual space, by suggesting discussion topics for breakout rooms that are important to you. Stay with one topic or move from room to room to get a dose of several conversations and perspectives. This is your chance to delve deeper into areas of interest with the incredible network of people at Focal Point.</p>	
<p>Closing Plenary: Focus Forward: Voices of Young Social Entrepreneurs</p>	<p>The next generation will be inheriting a complicated and messy world, and many young people are not waiting for the problems to be solved for them. This closing plenary will spotlight three exceptional young Jewish activists and changemakers, each with their own unique experiences to take action on global issues, who will share their vision for a globally-responsible future. Leave Focal Point feeling renewed drive, vigor, and inspiration for the shared work of global Jewish responsibility.</p>	<p>Graham Carpenter, OLAM (Moderator)</p> <p>George Rosenfeld, Student & Young Entrepreneur</p> <p>Dr. Analucía Lopezrevoredo, Jewtina y Co</p> <p>Olivia Krok, LivCurious</p> <p>Ori Schnitzer, KitePride</p>