

# USING OUR VOICES

## PRESENTED BY:

THE BIRMINGHAM JEWISH FEDERATION'S  
WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM & JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL  
AS WE RAISE AWARENESS AND CONDEMN  
THE USE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS A WEAPON OF WAR  
HIGHLIGHTING THE OCTOBER 7TH ATTACK ON ISRAEL

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## WELCOME:

ZHAUNDR A JONES - VP PHILANTHROPY & LEARNING, WOMEN'S FOUNDATION OF AL

## MODERATOR:

JOYCE WHITE VANCE-PROFESSOR OF LAW,  
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA & MSNBC LEGAL ANALYST

## PANELISTS:

MEREDITH JACOBS - CEO, JEWISH WOMEN INTERNATIONAL  
DR. TINA KEMPIN-REUTER- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UAB INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
MIRIAM SCHLER - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TEL AVIV SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS CENTER  
ANAT SULTAN-DADON - CONSUL GENERAL OF ISRAEL TO THE SE US

## CLOSING:

NANCY GOEDECKE- CO-CHAIR, BJJF WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY  
NANCY GOLDBERG - CO-CHAIR, BJJF WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY  
SARAH SCHAEFFER - CHAIR, BJJF JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL



WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY



# Women's Philanthropy Of The Birmingham Jewish Federation

## WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY



The Birmingham Jewish Federation's Women's Philanthropy offers a way for women to engage in the fulfilling work of "tikkun olam" or repairing our world. Our collective philanthropy enriches our own lives while improving the lives of others. Women Philanthropy members are contributors to The Birmingham Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign and join a circle of remarkable women from our Birmingham Jewish community, all driven by shared values and a deep commitment to philanthropy.

## Jewish Community Relations Council of The Birmingham Jewish Federation



The Jewish Community Relations Council builds bridges of understanding within our Jewish community and to our broader community, combats antisemitism, and advocates for public policy and social justice issues important to the Birmingham Jewish community.

## Thank You To Our Program Committee

Karen Allen, Caryn Corenblum, Lisa Engel, Cathy Friedman,  
Nancy Goedecke , Nancy Goldberg, Sheri Krell, Ronne Hess,  
Sheryl Kimerling, Amy Saag, Sarah Schaeffer, Donna Schiff

# Zhaundra Jones

ZHAUNDRA C. JONES, MBA is a compassionate and dynamic thought leader working at the intersection of social impact, equity and inclusion, and economic opportunity. She currently serves as Vice-President, Philanthropy and Learning of Women's Foundation of Alabama, where she was invited to join the organization's CEO in moving the organization from a local funder to a statewide force leveraging strategic philanthropy, eye-opening research, and powerful policy advocacy to transform the playing field for women and families in the state of Alabama. In her role, Zhaundra leads a team in designing, cultivating, and executing strategic community investments and collaborations that align with the foundation's foremost goal of advancing intergenerational economic mobility for women and families in the state.

Zhaundra began her social sector career after developing foundational strategic thinking and communications skills working for some of the most successful corporations in the world. After moving back to the Deep South, she sought to leverage her skills and talents to make a difference in her hometown and transitioned to the world of nonprofits. The lessons learned through her work in direct services with some of Alabama's most vulnerable families helped shape her compelling approach to philanthropy, which she sees as a powerful tool for innovation, listening, learning, and strategic risk-taking. This approach, combined with her unflinching commitment to equity and magnetic authenticity, make her a sought-after facilitator, speaker, and thought leader on a variety of local and national community initiatives.

Zhaundra is a proud graduate of Howard University, where among many distinctions she was named Miss Howard University. She holds a Master of Business Administration from the Collat School of Business at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and is currently completing a Public Leadership Credential at the Harvard Kennedy School. She graduated in Theatre from the Alabama School of Fine Arts and grew up in the storied Sixth Avenue Baptist Church on the west side of Birmingham. Among many honors and distinctions, Zhaundra is an Aspen Ideas Scholar, a board member of Blight Free Birmingham and the Birmingham Change Fund. The oldest of five, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling, cooking and eating new dishes, reading, and seeing live performances.

# Joyce Vance

Joyce White Vance is a Distinguished Professor of the Practice of Law at the University of Alabama School of Law. She is also a legal analyst for NBC and MSNBC, and the author of the popular Civil Discourse newsletter.

Vance was the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama from August 2009 through January 2017. She spent 25 years at the Justice Department. Before that, she was in private practice in both Washington, D.C., and Birmingham, Alabama.

Vance is a 1985 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and a 1982 graduate of Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. She is married to retired Alabama Circuit Judge Robert S. Vance, Jr.

# Meredith Jacobs

Meredith Jacobs is CEO of Jewish Women International (JWI), a 125-year-old nonprofit dedicated to ending violence against women and girls. Since assuming the role of CEO in 2020, Jacobs has shepherded the development of numerous JWI initiatives, including the National Center on Domestic & Sexual Violence in the Jewish Community; the Collaborative of Jewish Domestic Violence Agencies; the Women's Financial Empowerment Institute; ReStart: job readiness for survivors; the Jewish Communal Women's Leadership Project; Men As Allies: Leading Equitable Workplaces; the Jewish Gun Violence Prevention Roundtable; and the international expansion of Young Women's Leadership Network.

Jacobs is an award-winning journalist and former editor-in-chief of Washington Jewish Week. She is the author of *The Modern Jewish Mom's Guide to Shabbat* (HarperCollins) and co-author, with her daughter Sofie of the bestselling series of interactive journals, *Just Between Us* (Chronicle Books). Prior to joining JWI, she founded *ModernJewishMom.com*, the first Jewish parenting website (now part of *Kveller*), and was the host of the WYPR radio show, *Connecting Family* and The Jewish Channel television series, *Modern Jewish Mom*.

Named one of the "50 Most Influential Jews of 2020" by The Jerusalem Post, Jacobs is a sought-after speaker, moderator and writer. She is a member on the Women's Economic Empowerment Council for the State of Maryland and served on the expert panel on *Improving Access to Services for Domestic Abuse Victims in the Military*, sponsored by the Department of Defense. She earned a B.A. in English from Haverford College and holds a Masters of Science in Business from Johns Hopkins University.

# Dr. Tina Kempin-Reuter

Dr. Tina Kempin Reuter is the Director of the Institute for Human Rights and Director of Social Science and Justice Research pilot-University Wide Interdisciplinary Research Center (UWIRC) program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). She is also a Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration and the Department of Anthropology, specializing in human rights, peace studies, and international politics.

Dr. Reuter's research focuses on human rights with a particular emphasis on the struggle of vulnerable and marginalized populations, including minorities, persons with disabilities, refugees and migrants, women, children, the LGBTQ community, and people dealing with the consequences of poverty. She studies how international human rights principles, norms, and language develop effect at the local and grassroots level and how technology can be used to improve access, inclusion, and participation of marginalized communities in society. In addition, she is an expert on ethnic conflict and peace making with a geographical focus on Europe and the Middle East.

Before joining UAB, Dr. Reuter was the Director of the Reiff Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution and Associate Professor of international and comparative politics at Christopher Newport University. She was formerly associated with the Solomon Asch Center for the Study of Ethnopolitical Conflict, University of Pennsylvania, the Institute of Public International Law at the University of Zurich, and the Center for Security Studies at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

Dr. Kempin Reuter holds a PhD in International Relations and International Law and an MA in Contemporary History, Economics, and International Law from the University of Zurich, Switzerland. She is the author of numerous publications in her field and has been awarded multiple prizes and grants to expand her research and teaching.

# Miriam Schler

Inspired by her years in the Young Judaea youth movement, Miriam moved to Israel after completing her B.A. at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Looking to make a difference via the field of law, she dove into her legal studies at Tel Aviv University: finishing her LL.B. law degree and L.L.M. post-graduate degree, clerking for a district court judge, working at a top law firm and serving as a researcher for The Ministry of the Interior's study regarding children's rights - along with devoting herself to her family, friends and her three beloved children. Yet, even with all of her commitments, Miriam felt the need to do more towards tikun olam.

In 1991, when discourse around sexual violence was still taboo in Israel, Miriam began volunteering with The Tel Aviv Sexual Assault Crisis Center - fielding calls on the crisis hotline, facilitating a variety of programs, and serving on the Center's board of directors for multiple terms. Simultaneously, she pursued other areas of feminist activism, including helping establish Itach Ma'aki - Women Lawyers for Social Justice - where she served on the board of directors for many years.

When the Center needed an Executive Director in 2004, Miriam decided to channel her passion for social justice into her full-time, life's mission - stepping up to manage the Center and leaving behind the private sector for non-profit work.

Under Miriam's nearly two decades of stewardship, the Center has transformed from a tiny NGO for a marginalized cause into a powerhouse that facilitates 40 targeted projects, fields 12,400 hotline crisis interventions for survivors of sexual violence, and has 250 volunteers. She has pushed forward groundbreaking programming not only for women, but also for male survivors and survivors across the spectrum of Israeli society - including underserved, underrecognized or isolated sectors. A key factor enabling this expansion was Miriam's ambitious plan and successful fundraising to build a permanent home for the Center, thus creating a crucial nurturing space vital to combating sexual violence.

Miriam's strategic vision and unrelenting commitment has been critical in transitioning the Center, as well as the subject of sexual violence, into the mainstream. Her hard work has played a central role in developing dynamic macro level programming - to raise awareness through educational outreach and spark social change - along with micro level projects focused on supporting each survivor in the way that she/he needs.

# Anat Sultan-Dadon

Anat Sultan-Dadon assumed her role as Consul General of Israel to the Southeastern United States in 2019.

Sultan-Dadon joined the Israeli diplomatic corps in 2004, and has held various positions at the Embassies of Israel in Cameroon, Germany, the Netherlands and Australia, as well as positions in the Euro-Asia and the Asia-Pacific Divisions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem.

She earned a B.A. in Psychology and Education from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a Master's Degree in Criminology with high honors at the same institution. In 2020, Sultan-Dadon was honored by Morehouse College with induction into the Martin Luther King Jr. International College of Ministers and Laity.

In her current role in Atlanta, the Consul General is responsible for advancing the bilateral relations between Israel and seven southeastern states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Sultan-Dadon is married to Yaron and they are the proud parents of three girls.

## What Can You Do To Speak Up and Speak Out?

**Expand your knowledge** through various resources, including those that can be found by following the Consulate General of Israel to the Southeastern U.S. on social media and signing up for their newsletter.



**Join the call** on social media to #BringThemHomeNow and to #BelievesIsraeliWomen, which should be heard throughout the world. Demand the immediate and unconditional release of the 134 hostages- men, women, and children, who are still suffering in brutal Hamas captivity in Gaza.

**Speak up and raise awareness** of the gender-based violence against Israeli women and girls on October 7th and the ongoing rape and torture that hostages are suffering in Hamas captivity. Call on women's rights organizations such as UN Women to start using their voices rather than to ignore the suffering and crimes against Israeli women.

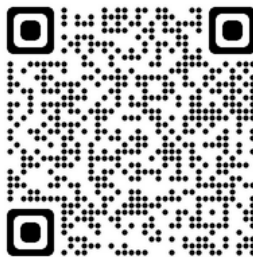
**Show your support** by wearing the yellow ribbon pin, calling for the release of the hostages. Take your photo wearing the pin and share it on social media with the hashtags #BringThemHomeNow and #BelievesIsraeliWomen. You can also purchase a dog tag to wear every day until all hostages are home at <https://freedomtags.org/>.



**Share victims' stories:** <https://www.october7.org/> was created to remember and share stories of those involved in the Oct. 7th attack on Israel. Our responsibility is to ensure that the world bears witness to the horrible atrocities.

**Contact your representatives:** The more calls they receive, the more our representatives will push for the release of the hostages. Emphasizing our concern for and reiterating UN findings that it is likely that the hostages are facing sexual assault in captivity. One Min A Day has a script and is tracking the number of calls made - <https://oneminaday.com/>.

**Donate** to the Birmingham Jewish Federation's Israel Emergency Campaign to support frontline communities, the Fund for Victims of Terror, trauma relief, medical equipment, support for first responders and volunteer efforts.



**Listen to and believe survivors.  
Everyone can take action to ensure they have justice.  
We hear you. We believe you. We stand with you.**