Jewish Federation of San Diego

Lead the Healing

The Rady Match for Israel's Recovery

A $5M Challenge to Catalyze $10M in Trauma Recovery and Resilience

A Crisis in Israel

Following the October 7 attacks and nearly two years of war, Israelis continue to face loss, trauma, and displacement. Hostages remain in Gaza under brutal conditions, the injured endure long recoveries, and families grieve unimaginable losses. Communities like Sha'ar HaNegev—already carrying years of trauma—now bear even deeper scars.

The attacks have triggered a mental health crisis across Israel. Rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and addiction have sharply risen. Many parents report declines in their children's well-being, with increased irritability, withdrawal, and aggression.

The demand for mental health care now far exceeds available resources, especially in the hardest-hit areas. Targeted interventions and support are crucial, and experts warn the crisis will have lasting impacts, requiring sustained assistance for individuals, families, and Israeli society.

The Response

Ernest and Evelyn Rady have stepped up with exceptional leadership: a $5 million challenge match to support a $10 million program of trauma recovery and resilience initiatives. Their message is clear: Israel needs bold, immediate, and sustained support to recover.

Jewish Federation of San Diego is leading a fundraising campaign to support families affected by the war and to strengthen Israel's mental health system. At least $5 million will aid trauma recovery and resilience in Sha'ar HaNegev, San Diego's partner region near the Gaza border, including the creation of a Resilience & Community Village and other initiatives for children, families, and young adults.



How the Rady Match Works

- Every new dollar pledge to this initiative will be matched 1:1 by the Rady family, doubling your gift. Donors giving $25,000 or more can direct their funds to a specific program or region within the initiative or allocate them flexibly to where they are most needed.
- To support staffing and operations for our Israel program, ensuring accountability, partnership, and oversight of these essential investments, Federation retains only 5%.
- Payments can be made over time, but to count for the match, all payments must be received by July 31, 2027.

What You Will Help Fund

The $10 million package funds a carefully vetted list of emergency response and long-term infrastructure projects that address trauma at every level—individual, family, school, and community. These initiatives collectively represent a national effort to build a more resilient future for Israel.

Targeted Investment Areas

- Trauma therapy and mental health services for families, children, and reservists
- Therapeutic spaces and centers located in high-impact areas such as Sha'ar HaNegev
- Summer programs and school-based interventions for students who were evacuated and are returning
- National infrastructure to support families of reserve soldiers
- Building financial resilience for individuals and small businesses

These efforts are not only about healing from the past two years. They aim to build a stronger, more supported future for Israel.





Your Gift and Impact, Doubled

With the 1:1 match from the Rady family, every dollar you donate will go twice as far—for families in crisis, children returning to school, and communities like Sha'ar HaNegev rebuilding their lives. You can:

- Make a matching gift of any amount for trauma recovery and healing across Israel
- Sponsor a named space at the Sha'ar HaNegev Resilience Center
- Join a community of visionary donors shaping Israel's resilient future

Let's work together to lead the healing.

Make Your Commitment Today

To discuss your commitment, please contact:

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Lead the Healing: Project Portfolio

The following project portfolio reflects a curated set of initiatives that exemplify the goals of the Rady Match—supporting trauma recovery, community resilience, and long-term healing across Israel. Additional projects may be included within this initiative, provided they meet these criteria and have been vetted by Federation and our strategic partners.

Sha'ar HaNegev Resilience Center

A new 530m^2 trauma-informed facility serving 3,500+ people per year. Provides therapy, stabilization, group programs, and professional training. Naming opportunities available.

Sha'ar HaNegev Animal-Assisted Therapy Center

Offers accessible, non-verbal trauma therapy for children as young as five. Includes individual, family, and group treatment using animal-assisted methods in a healing, natural environment. Available as a naming opportunity

Hosen Yeladenu – South (via Sheatufim)

Comprehensive trauma support system for children in Gaza-border communities. Includes therapy spaces, wearable tech research, parental support, and school-based interventions.

Habaita Summer Programming

Two-year initiative for children in grades 4–12 returning to Gaza-border schools. Offers academic, emotional, and social support to ease the transition and foster community resilience.

National Headquarters for Families of Reserve Soldiers

A first-of-its-kind national initiative launching in 2025. Builds infrastructure to support reservist families through local coordinators, data systems, training, and municipal partnerships. Momentum is the primary operational partner.

Israel's Collective Action for Resilience (ICAR)

ICAR, Israel's Collective Action for Resilience, fosters collaboration among leading experts in medicine, psychology, public health, philanthropy, and investment, to accelerate trauma healing and safeguard the health, productivity, and security of Israel.

JDC Housing Relief for Displaced Israelis

Temporary housing and support services for families who lost homes or remain evacuated from conflict zones.

Tamar: Arabic-Speaking Psychosocial Services

Emergency response serving 58,000+ Arabic-speaking Israeli citizens. Delivers culturally sensitive therapy, helplines, and child interventions where no other services exist.

Ogen: Economic Recovery Lending

Rapid-response lending and financial guidance for families and small businesses economically impacted by war. Supports stability and long-term resilience through affordable, accessible credit.

HaOgen: National Volunteer Network

Supports more than 30,000 reservist families with day-to-day needs when a parent is called to serve. Built in the days after October 7, it mobilizes 20,000 trained volunteers across 800 communities to provide practical assistance and sustained community support.