

Jewish Survival

O LORD, MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE, CREATOR OF ALL LIFE, THE REDEEMER AND ROCK OF ISRAEL, THE SOURCE OF ALL HOPE AND INSPIRATION WHO HAS CREATED EACH OF US WITH THE DESIRE TO ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS FOR OURSELVES BUT ALSO TO TRANSCEND AND BE PART OF SOMETHING GREATER THAN OURSELVES, GRANT THAT AS WE HAVE GATHERED TOGETHER HERE TONIGHT TO INSTALL THE NEW OFFICERS OF OUR JEWISH FEDERATION AND TO HEAR A GREAT JEWISH LEADER, THAT WE WILL BE EVER MINDFUL OF THE FACT THAT THE TWIN GOALS OF DOING GREAT THINGS FOR OURSELVES AND BEING PART OF SOMETHING GREATER THAN OURSELVES ARE NOT CONTRADICTORY BUT COMPLIMENTARY, THAT THE BEST WAY TO ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS FOR OURSELVES IS TO BE PART OF AN ENTERPRISE SUCH AS THE JEWISH FEDERATION WHICH REACHES OUT AND TRANSCENDS ALL OUR LIVES SO AS TO BE A VEHICLE FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE. GRANT, O LORD, THAT EACH OF US WILL ALWAYS REALIZE THAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS WHICH ARE NOT TIED TO OTHERS TO CAUSES BEYOND OURSELVES ARE STERILE AND THAT HOPES WHICH ARE NOT TRANSLATED INTO ACTION ARE FRUSTRATING AND USELESS. MAY WE ALL QUICKLY REALIZE, O LORD, THAT OUR OWN SELF FULFILLMENT CAN ONLY COME FROM GIVING AND TYING OURSELVES TO THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF OTHERS, ESPECIALLY OUR OWN PEOPLE. GRANT, O LORD, THAT NOT ONLY WILL WE FIND PERSONAL SELF FULFILLMENT THROUGH WORKING FOR THE JEWISH FEDERATION AND FOR SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS BUT THAT THROUGH OUR WORK IN THESE ORGANIZATIONS WE WILL BRING THE DAY CLOSER WHEN PEACE, ABUNDANCE, HARMONY, AND GOODNESS WILL FILL OUR GLOBE. MAY ISRAEL AND THE WORLD SOON KNOW TRUE PEACE, AND MAY WE ALL BY OUR DEDICATION TO OUR JEWISH IDEALS BE DRAWN CLOSER TO EACH OTHER AND THUS TO THEE.