

SHABBAT MESSAGE
APRIL 18, 2025



Hi Everyone,

I hope you've had a great week and a nice Passover. As the news continues to come out about federal funding cuts, the numbers being thrown around can feel too large to comprehend or can feel like they are distant. I wanted to let you know that these cuts are affecting several of our Jewish communal organizations, including the Alliance. Federal funding touches many parts of our Jewish community, from security to social services, to the work we do in support of others. Today I want to focus on the impact on social services and to ask for your help.

One of the places that saw immediate impacts from federal funding cuts is Jewish Collaborative Services, our partner agency who leads social service efforts in our Rhode Island Jewish community. Jewish Collaborative Services runs programs like the Kosher Senior Café here at the Alliance, and Kosher Meals on Wheels, which delivers kosher meals to seniors throughout Rhode Island. Cuts to the Meals on Wheels program threaten the long-term viability of these programs.

But nowhere do we expect to see more of an impact than the Kosher Food Pantry operated by Jewish Collaborative Services. In just the last few months 35 additional families have come to rely on the pantry for weekly support. At the same time, the federal government announced \$1 billion in funding cuts to the New England Food Banks. That funding directly supports Jewish Collaborative Services in their efforts to purchase food for the pantry.

Here is where you can help. The Kosher Food Pantry accepts food donations from community members, and they have a variety of needs, including cereal, jam, oatmeal, coffee, and much more. You can find a full list of items needed in this morning's Shabbat message email. Those wishing to donate items can contact Kristany Jaycox at Jewish Collaborative Services to arrange the drop off. I included her contact information in the email as well.

Passover is a holiday that not only reminds us of our journey from slavery to freedom, but that as a Jewish people we have experienced difficult times and that we get through them when we come together. I hope you can help us join together to help those in our community that need it most.

Until next time, I wish you a safe, peaceful, and joyous Shabbat.

Shabbat Shalom!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam".

Adam Greenman
President & CEO