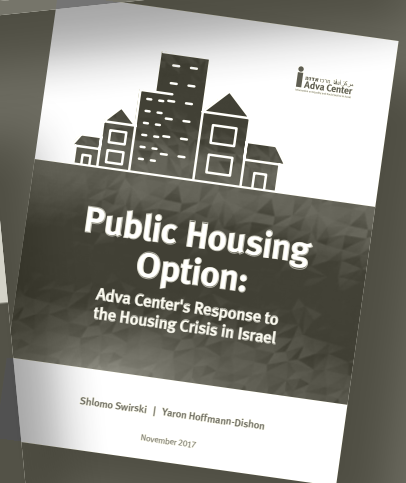
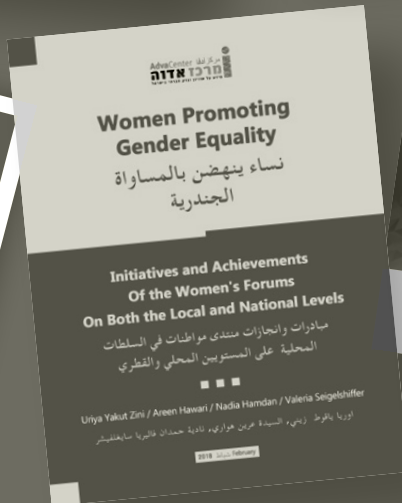
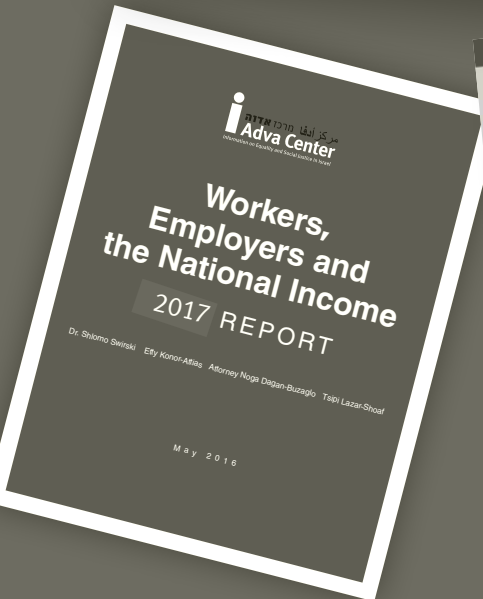
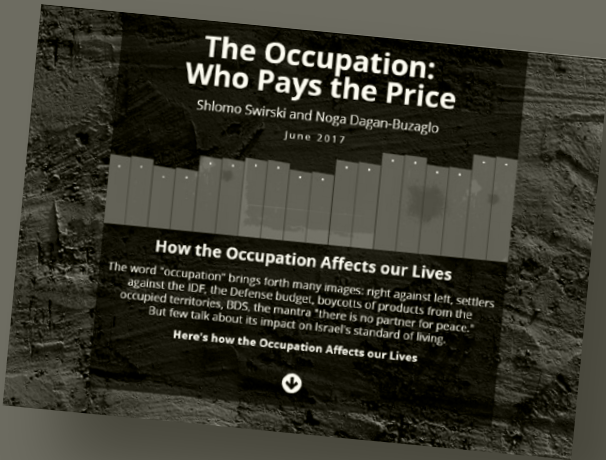
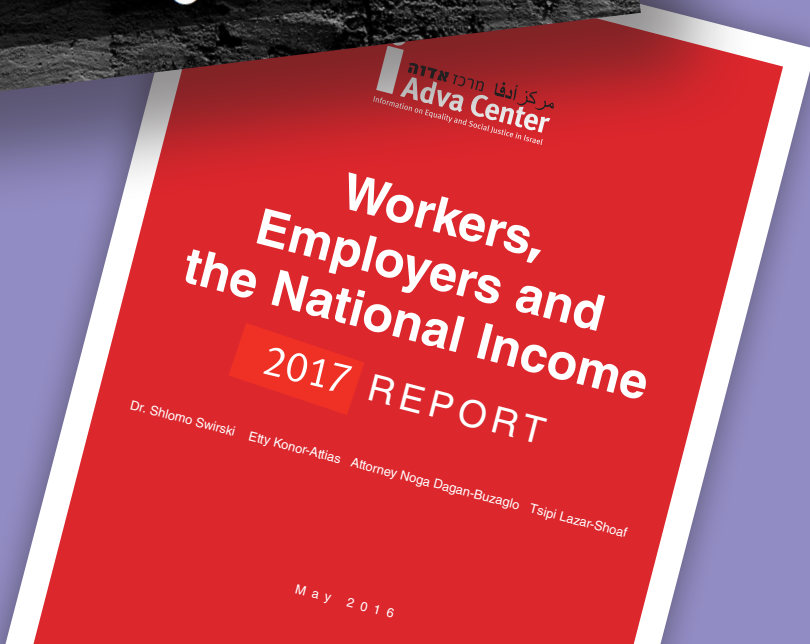
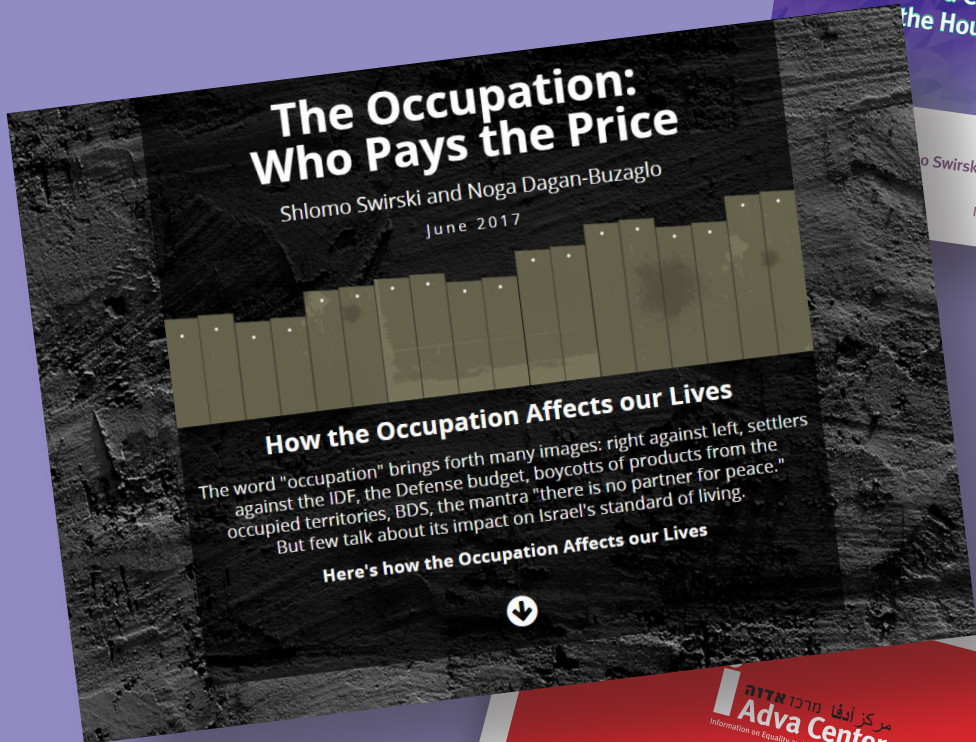
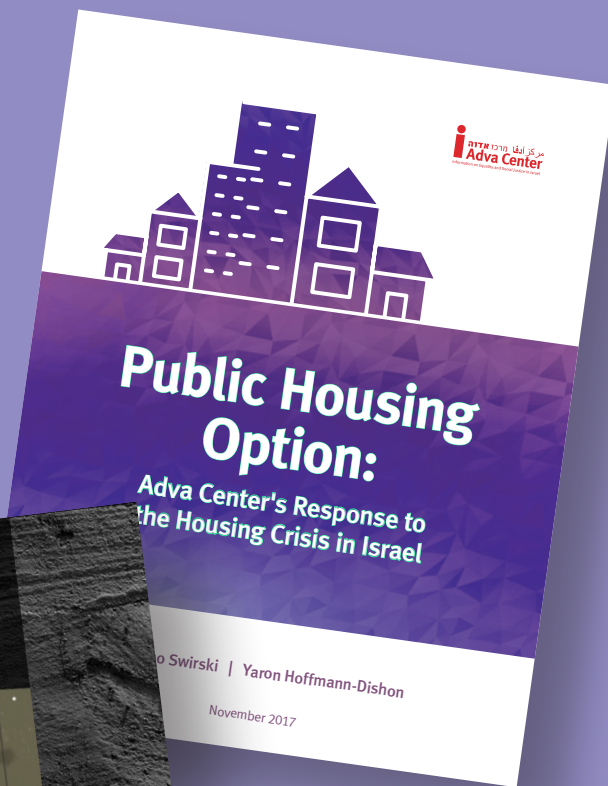


# Annual Report 2017



# What Adva Center Does



The Adva Center was founded in 1991 for the purpose of providing independent monitoring of social and economic developments in Israel. It is still one of the few non-governmental sources of such information. In some areas, like the monitoring of budgetary policy, it is the only source of information and analysis that is completely independent and non-partisan.

In recent years, Adva has developed an additional line of action: community work designed to motivate citizens to become involved in the setting of local priorities. At any given point in time, Adva is involved in dozens of communities, many in the geographic and socio-economic periphery of Israel.



**Adva Center reports** have gained wide recognition as “top-of-the-news” essential information, and their findings and conclusions are broadcast over the radio and discussed on TV programs with the highest ratings. The information and analysis in Adva reports are sought after by politicians, policy makers, NGOs, academic teachers and researchers, and municipal authorities. Adva is routinely approached by all of the foregoing for information, consultations and second opinions. Adva Center position papers may elicit disagreements, as policy papers are bound to do, but the academic standards to which they adhere are universally acknowledged to be of the highest level.

Independent monitoring of policies and policy outcomes is a long-range, multi-annual unglorious undertaking requiring persistence, perseverance, and consistency. In this sense, it is neither fashionable nor sexy. But it is an essential component of the democratic process.

**Adva Center community action work** is making a difference for thousands of ordinary citizens. This work includes conducting popular education courses on social justice issues and democratic processes and mentoring local groups to engage for social change.

The beneficiaries of Adva Center's community action work include women and men, Arabs and Jews, low and middle-income persons, old timers and new immigrants, migrant workers and Israeli workers.

The target groups of Adva Center include informal local groups, local and national decision makers, non-profit leaders, media people, teachers and researchers.

**Adva Center in the social media:**

In 2017 we worked harder than ever to make our reports accessible to more and more people, creating video films and infographics and making frequent postings on Facebook.



# Cherchez la Femme in the National

## Adva Center Assists Ministry of Social Equality to Implement Historical

*A gender audit provides insight into how resources are divided between women and men, and to what extent this division meets the needs and priorities of women and men, girls and boys. In acknowledging that the state budget – the most important tool for distributing resources – is not neutral, but has differential repercussions on men and women, a gender audit of the budget represents a national strategy for promoting the status of women and narrowing gender inequalities in society.*

The Budget Books for fiscal 2017/2018 submitted by government ministries and agencies to the Knesset for approval in 2016 contained gender audits of the salaries of government employees, the recipients of public services, grants awarded to businesses and researchers, requisitions, and the composition of ministerial committees. Thanks to the Blueprint for Gender Auditing prepared by Adva and to the numerous consultations provided for budget officials in different ministries, the audits performed in 2016 were much more extensive and informative than the initial efforts made in connection with the budget for fiscal 2015/2016.

Following submission of the draft budget to the Knesset, the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women held a series of meetings, each devoted to the gender audit of a specific ministry. At these meetings, the highest professional in the ministry – the director-general --presented the gender audit of his or her ministry, followed by comments and suggestions

# Budget of Israel

## Decision: National Budget of Israel to be Gender Audited

by attending Members of Knesset and civil society representatives. Adva Center gender experts were called upon to respond to the presentations, and their comments set the stage for further meetings with ministry officials, at which ways and means of improving both the audit and the measures taken to correct inequities were advanced.

This innovative process was set in motion by the Adva Center 13 years ago, with the establishment of the Women's Budget Forum. It is already bringing tangible results to women, like higher salaries, more opportunities for promotion, services tailored to their needs, grants and business opportunities, and more input into decision-making.

Adva Center also works as a consultant to local authorities:

- Adva gender experts performed a gender audit of one of the many services provided by the municipality of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo and brainstormed with officials to institute gender mainstreaming into their day-to-day work. The results: Changes in the audited service to the benefit of women and new practices integrated into the work of the municipality.
- Adva was contracted by the local authorities of Beer Sheba and Azur to provide training to officials and active citizens. Result: More work was carried out on behalf of women in the Negev and a Women's Council was established in Azur.

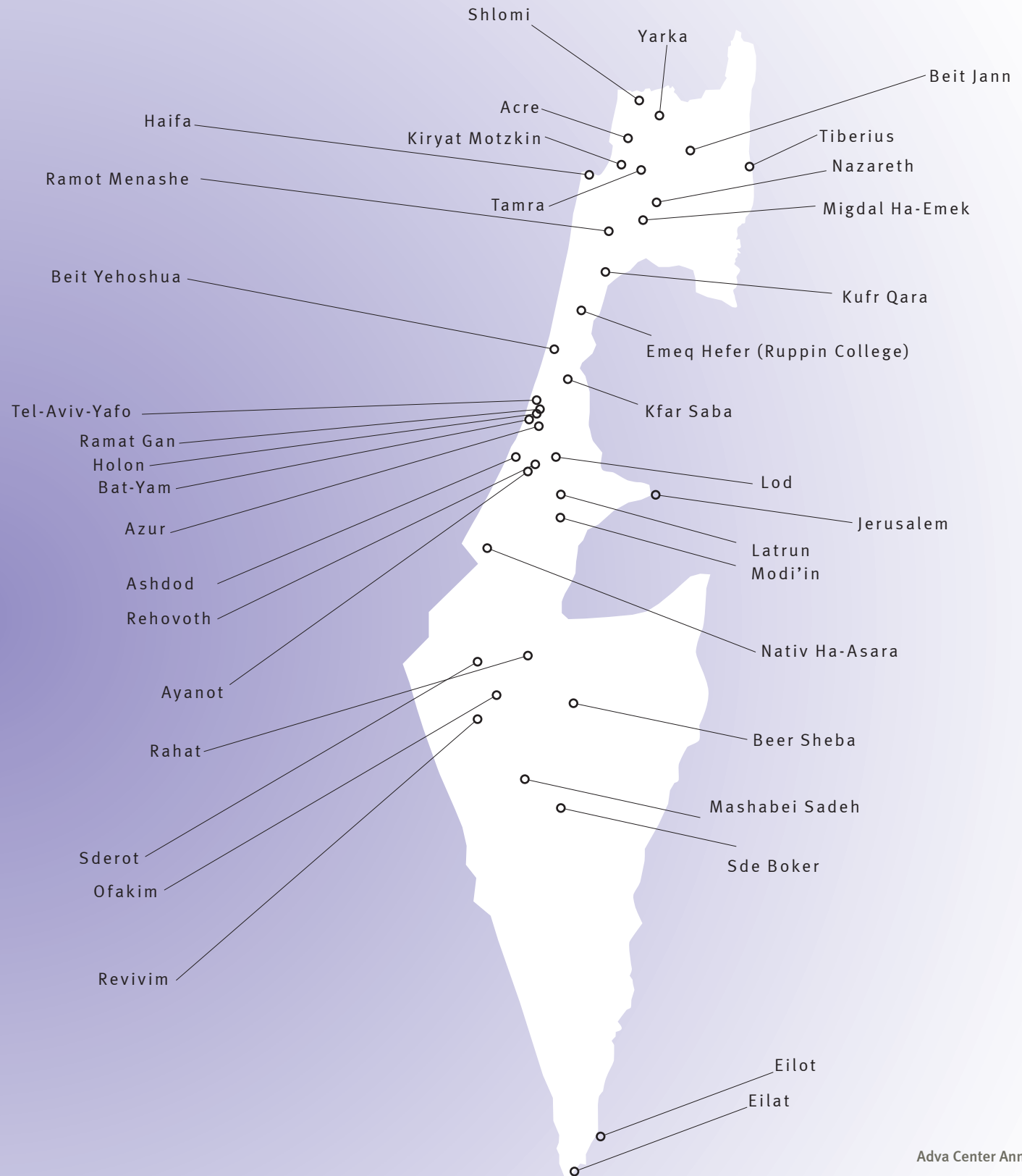
## Adva Center Advocates:

In 2017, Adva's advocacy work for a more just Israeli society included:

- Participation in a public committee established to submit recommendations to the Knesset on how fast to increase the entitlement age for social security and work pensions for women. Adva's representative, Attorney Noga Dagan-Buzaglo, assumed leadership and worked closely with MKs Shelly Yachimovitch (Zionist Union) and Zahava Galon (Meretz), with civil society representatives, and with officials at the Ministry of Finance.  
**The result:** A decision was taken to make the increase gradual rather than abrupt and to make provisions for unemployed women unable to find new jobs due to ageism.
- Writing position papers showing a dire need to increase disability pensions, in cooperation with a disabled persons association. The papers were utilized by the association in its negotiations with the government.  
**The result:** Disability pensions were raised in 2018.
- Dialoging with government ministries to convince them to promote gender mainstreaming at the local level.  
**The result:** a conference is planned for 2018 sponsored by the ministries of Social Equality and Internal Affairs, for the purpose of promoting gender mainstreaming at the local level, and pilot audits are being carried out in two municipalities.
- Writing a position paper for *Shutafot*, a coalition of Israeli feminist organizations, on practices implemented worldwide to increase women small business owners' opportunities to benefit from government procurement.  
**The result:** the city of Bat Yam is presently undertaking a pilot project to this very end.



# Where did the Adva Center work in 2017?



## The work in 37 localities in Israel included:

### 85 lectures/workshops on:

- Socio-economic trends in Israel;
- Budgeting from a gender perspective;
- Gender mainstreaming worldwide;
- The Israeli economy: Between a market economy and a welfare state;
- Trends in the Israeli labor market;
- Women in the labor market and gender pay gaps;
- Inequalities between center and periphery in Israel;
- Inequality in the schools and higher education system;
- The Occupation: Who Pays the Price?

### Clients included:

- Government ministries and agencies;
- Local authorities;
- Institutes of higher learning;
- Schools and youth movements;
- Non-profits;
- Local activists.

**In addition, Two courses on Gender Mainstreaming**, in cooperation with the Social Involvement Program for students at Tel-Aviv University and Sapir College, in partnership with the Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung.

**A Course on Feminism**, for Israeli women from varied backgrounds and positions. This very popular course explored the concepts, history and issues of the different waves of feminist activism in Israel. It connected feminist research with with grass roots activism and with the life experiences of the participants.

### And also: Regional community action project:

- Included participants from 3 Jewish and 3 Arab localities, organized into
- A national action group working for the benefit of women and girls.





## In 2017, Adva published 22 reports and position papers, among them:

- Annual report on socio-economic trends; *Israel: A Social Report – 2017*;
- Annual report on trends in the Israeli labor market;
- In-depth report on a public housing option that could solve the crisis of affordable housing in Israel;
- Comprehensive report on the socio-economic cost of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict;
- 2 position papers on the urgent need to raise disability pensions;
- 5 budget papers;
- 8 reports on gender issues;
- 8 op eds.

# How Much?

## Adva Center in Figures



## In 2017, Adva Center counted 287 media exposures, of these:

- 11 on television;
- 16 on radio;
- 157 on internet media;
- 103 in the printed media.

## Adva Center in the Social Media

- The Adva website posts all Adva reports and position papers for easy access. In 2017, Adva hosted an average of 300 visitors per day, with a daily average of 523 page views.
- The Adva Facebook page includes links to new Adva publications and media appearances, invitations to Adva events, and Adva staff reactions to current events. **In 2017, more than half a million people were exposed to content from the page.**
- Adva publishes a monthly newsletter in Hebrew and a quarterly newsletter in English. In 2017, the newsletter had 2,000 Hebrew subscribers and 350 English subscribers.
- Adva YouTube channel features media interviews with staff members, video films of Adva lectures and animated films about Adva publications and activities. In 2017, 6 new films were posted, and the channel received some 4,200 viewings.



## More Adva Center figures

- Adva Center has a modest budget, which it utilizes with utmost efficiency: \$600,000.
- Adva Center has a dedicated staff of 13.
- Adva Center adopts volunteers from Israel and abroad who enrich its work with their professional skills.
- Adva Center has a teaching staff of 6 regular staff members and 10 external lecturers and facilitators.
- Adva Center is blessed with a stable, dedicated Board of Directors and Audit Committee.

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**Adva Center is supported by individuals, foundations and government-supported programs, without which it could not do its work, and by income-producing activities:**

New Israel Fund  
Heinrich Boell Stiftung  
Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago  
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung  
Sally Gottesman  
Hadassah Foundation  
Levi Lassen Foundation  
Rosa Luxemburg Foundation  
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger  
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Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Phoenix  
Sam and Bella Sebba Charitable Trust  
Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation  
US Embassy  
Women's Amutot of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation  
Zabar Family Foundation

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**Contributions can be made, donor-advised to**

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