



THE JCRC'S 2019 MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

State Issues:

- **Advocating for state operating funding for:** (1) The Hate Crimes Grant Fund for schools and child care centers at-risk of hate crimes; (2) Holocaust survivors and the Coming of Age programs; (3) The ElderSafe Center; and (4) The Maryland Israel Development Center. Advocating for state capital funding for: (1) The Charles E. Smith Life Communities to make safety upgrades for the residents and patients at the Hebrew Home; (2) The University of Maryland's Hillel Student Center to build a new facility that benefits all students regardless of faith; (3) Sunflower Bakery to help with the build-out of their new facility to open this Spring; and (4) The Jewish Foundation for Group Homes for the purchase of new residences.
- **Advocating for an increase in security funding measures** and programs to help our faith-based institutions and schools.
- **Seeking additional resources for programs serving children and adults with developmental disabilities**, vocational programs, adult literacy and transitioning people back into the workforce.
- **Supporting legislation:** (1) To help protect victims of domestic abuse; (2) To expand aging-in-place programs; (3) For criminal justice reform that results in a more efficient, effective, and just system; (4) To strengthen and modify the state hate crime statutes to allow for civil remedies in a court of law; and (5) That opposes discrimination in all its forms as to race, color, religion or creed, sex, age, ancestry or national origin, marital status, physical or mental illnesses or chronic conditions, physical, intellectual and cognitive disabilities, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information.
- **Advocating for immigration reform that does not discriminate** as a matter of policy based solely on the race, religion, gender, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other immutable characteristics of the prospective immigrant or refugee.
- **Seeking to expand access to early childhood education programs** for all children and support for both public education and private Jewish day schools; increase legislative efforts around voter registration/early voting and to ease access to voting; and generally support other services for Maryland's most vulnerable citizens.

County Issues:

- **Securing funds for social services** in the Health & Human Services capital and operating budgets and helping create more public-private partnerships supporting nonprofit community.
- **Advocating for security funding for all places of worship**, Jewish Day schools, and Jewish agencies, which service the entire community on a non-sectarian basis.
- **Increased dialogue focused on criminal justice reform issues** and policies that show an increased utilization of community policing practices, restorative justice models, and diversion programs.
- **Advocating for both public education and support for Jewish Day schools**, with a specific focus on not diverting funds away from public school budgets, but at the same time looking for funding opportunities for transportation, security, nursing and other ancillary services for the county's day schools.