

Please fill out this form and submit it as a fillable PDF to globalgrants@associated.org by Friday, February 1, 2019. Applicants will be notified of their application status by June 2019.

Organization Name: Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) Project Name: Mezonot: Hunger Relief in Argentina
Organization Contact: [REDACTED] Organization Website: www.JDC.org
Contact Title: Director of Partnerships Contact Email: Stefan@jdc.org Contact Phone Number: [REDACTED]

For Israeli organizations, please provide a contact that speaks English.

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Amount Requested: \$ [REDACTED] Previous Grant Amount (if applicable): \$ [REDACTED]

Proposal Abstract

Please provide a brief description of the program and funding request. Please include a video hyperlink to a video that describes the program, if available.

For some time, financial commentators have predicted economic decline in Argentina. Today despite great hopes for increased foreign investment, Argentina's economy remains unstable.

In 2018, the Argentine peso's dollar value halved, leading imported goods' prices – which includes food – to double. 2019 is not looking better for the country's citizens. The government announced increases in taxes, which will amount to up to 40 percent on transportation, 35 percent on gas and 55 percent on electricity for 2019. With unemployment rate the highest in a decade, poverty is expected to increase. In the provinces, where poverty is more widespread and entrenched and resources are much scarcer, 16 small Jewish communities still rely on JDC to care for their needy members. To combat hardship and hunger, JDC runs several programs including Mezonot, which provide critically needed funding for food.

Mezonot: Hunger Relief in Argentina is a lifeline for 516 individuals in need, including families with children and elderly. Registered families and individuals receive monetary aid to cover food costs, ensuring they can feed themselves and their families. Additional support is provided during Rosh Hashanah and Passover for holiday food expenses.

Local social workers meet with Mezonot recipients regularly to assess their needs; help access government benefits to which they may be entitled; provide job search support; and information in how to access free services such as psycho-social support. The goal is to help recipients become self-sustaining while providing vital support during a challenging time in their lives.

JDC respectfully requests your support for the Mezonot program with a gift of ~~100,000~~ for the 2019-2020 program year.

Program Details

Issue/Need	For some time the economy in Argentina has been with inflation, increases in the price of food and utilities, high unemployment, and stagnant wages. Many people, including children and the elderly, struggle to put food on the table, and others who are still just making ends meet could soon join their ranks
Evidence regarding this issue/need	The situation is especially dire in 16 provinces across the country where resources and employment opportunities are limited. Most of these small communities are not set up for fundraising or helping their weakest members with severe crisis situations.
Size of target population to be served	Currently there are 516 Mezonot recipients including families with children and elderly.
Organizational partners for the program and their role	JDC partners with Jewish communities in Bahía Blanca, Basavilbaso, Córdoba, Mar del Plata, Mendoza, Moisés Ville, Paraná, Resistencia, Rosario, San Juan, Santa Fe and Tucumán.

For new projects, please describe how the model was developed. For ongoing programs, share some of the history and accomplishments of the program.

After the major financial collapse in 2001 almost wiped out the country's middle class, JDC responded with a large-scale direct aid program that pulled Argentinian Jews back from the brink of disaster. In the years after, JDC continued its aid while also building the community's capacity to provide this care themselves. Today in Buenos Aires (home to 80-85% of the country's Jews,) Jewish community agencies autonomously provide aid to the poorest Jews. JDC retains a consultant role and partners with local organizations to periodically measure and monitor vulnerability in the Jewish Community. In the provinces, where poverty is more widespread and entrenched and resources are much scarcer, 16 small Jewish communities still rely on JDC's help to care for their needy members. As economic upheaval threatens once again, JDC continues to work to secure the care of destitute Jews. In these communities, JDC aims to maintain its

Impact Plan

IMPACT (What are you ultimately trying to achieve?)	OUTCOMES (The change in behavior attained in order to achieve the impact.)	MEASUREMENTS (How do you know you are successful? What are the indications?)
<p>JDC's Mezonot: Hunger Relief in Argentina aims to provide members of 16 Jewish communities in Argentina – those who are most needy and battling hunger – with monthly financial food assistance.</p> <p>Over-arching goals include assisting Jewish community members who are severely impacted by the widespread economic instability that continues to affect the country; and assist community leaders towards providing this assistance in a self-sustaining manner in the long run.</p>	<p>#1 Needy Jews and Jewish families' nutritional needs will be met through direct financial assistance.</p>	<p>#1 JDC is currently providing monetary support to 516 recipients to purchase groceries.</p>
	<p>#2 Strengthen capacities of Jewish community care organizations to increase their resources and care for themselves, and create a strategic approach to care</p>	<p>#2 Lay and professional leaders are being trained to identify and connect with potential fundraising resources, and encourage philanthropy and volunteerism; and social workers are</p>
	<p>#3 Recipient families will have help accessing other Jewish communal services.</p>	<p>#3 Social workers maintain contact with the most vulnerable community members and monitor their status to ensure that they are receiving the help they need.</p>

Implementation Timeline

Length of the Program	This is an ongoing program.
Start Date	The program was launched after the Argentinian financial crisis.
Date of Anticipated Completion	The JDC will build and strengthen local capacities aimed at achieving self-sustainability within a five to eight

Please provide any additional relevant information regarding the anticipated implementation of the program, if funded.

Sara, 79, is a Mezonot recipient. She lives in the Mendoza province in a small apartment on a monthly pension of 2,500 pesos (about \$160). She barely covers her expenses, which include medications she takes for hypertension, neurological and heart problems, dizziness and anxiety attacks. Sara worries about her overdue utility bills, which plunged her into debt. Speculations of a new wave of economic troubles only weigh on her further. In despair, Sara sought help from her local Jewish community in Mendoza. Thanks to JDC, the community now provides Sara with financial aid for food and housing costs. Without Mezonot, people like Sara would be unable to purchase the food they need for basic survival.

Organizational Background

1. Provide one to two paragraphs describing the organization's history, including the year the organization was founded, mission, goals and priorities.
2. Indicate connections with other organizations, municipalities and/or NGOs.

Mission and History: JDC is the world's leading Jewish humanitarian assistance organization, impacting millions of lives in more than 70 countries today. JDC leverages a century's experience confronting poverty and crisis around the world to:

Help the World's Neediest Jews: Tens of thousands of elderly Jews go to bed hungry every night, homebound in dilapidated apartments and Jewish families trapped in a cycle of poverty struggle to make ends meet and secure a future. We bring life-saving relief to the worlds' most vulnerable Jews living in places where nearly no other social services exist.

Empower All Israelis: Israelis on the margins seek the chance to participate fully in the nation they love. We make it possible, increasing independence, opportunities, and support for the most vulnerable people. We partner with the Israeli government to develop innovative solutions to social challenges, tapping into Israel's famous entrepreneurial spirit to help close the achievement gap. Our investment in Israel's human capital uniquely strengthens her future.

Build Jewish Life & Leaders: At this chaotic and critical moment in time, Jews around the world still choose to connect — or reconnect — to their cultural heritage. JDC makes it possible. We're fostering inspiring Jewish experiences for children, teens, and families, and investing in exciting young leaders from nearly every continent who are committed to shaping their communities' futures.

Respond to Global Emergencies: An earthquake. A tsunami. A civil war. A public health crisis. The lives of millions annually are irrevocably altered in an instant when natural disasters or other calamities strike. We leverage more than a century of experience helping Jewish communities to provide expert, immediate humanitarian aid for communities in crisis around the world.

For more information, please visit <http://www.jdc.org/our-work/>

Baltimore Connections

Please explain in detail how the program can provide an impactful site visit for groups from Baltimore visiting Israel or how it will connect the Baltimore Jewish community to global Jewry.

The Mezonot: Hunger Relief in Argentina program is the difference between sustenance or hunger for hundreds of Jews. JDC shares the Global Responsibility Committee's commitment to meeting needs of the most vulnerable and strengthening Jewish communities at once.

JDC welcomes a mission from The Associated to Argentina, and JDC is happy to connect Baltimore community visitors to Argentina with the local Jewish community. Further, JDC is happy to share stories for the field to be shared with the Baltimore Jewish community.