



November 5, 2008

The Honorable Barack H. Obama  
Obama for America  
P.O. Box 8102  
Chicago, IL 60680

Dear President-elect Obama:

On behalf of United Jewish Communities (UJC) and the entire Jewish Federation system, we congratulate you and Vice President-elect Biden on your historic victory. We very much look forward to working closely with you and your administration on the challenges facing our country, beginning with the economy and the need for an economic stimulus package.

As you know, UJC is the umbrella organization for 157 Jewish Federations and 400 independent communities across North America. Our network of thousands of hospitals, aging and assisted living facilities, group homes, family service agencies and vocational training programs, community centers and camps provide a full continuum of care for our nation's most vulnerable citizens – senior citizens, persons with disabilities, children and at-risk youth, and immigrants and refugees. Through our philanthropic prowess and with the assistance of government support in a true public-private partnership, we serve millions of clients in every state of the country, in Israel and more than 60 countries around the world. We know you are aware of the accomplishments of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, which has worked with you and your team on many initiatives since you were first elected to the Illinois State Senate.

Please feel free to call on us and our Washington office led by William Daroff, UJC's Vice President for Public Policy, for any assistance in the transition and beyond.

Best wishes and, again, congratulations on your victory.

Sincerely,

Joseph Kanfer  
Chair, Board of Trustees

Howard M. Rieger  
President and CEO

cc: Steven Nasatir  
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Alan Solow

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