



AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE

Working together to build a more just and equitable world

WHO WE ARE

American Jewish World Service (AJWS) is the leading Jewish organization working to promote human rights and end poverty in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

WHAT WE DO

AJWS's unique **grants-multiplier model** makes demonstrable human rights progress possible. Through this one-of-a-kind strategy, our donors are helping AJWS make change in three unique ways: We **fund** nearly 500 social change organizations around the globe; we **accompany** our grantees, leveraging the expertise of local staff who share their knowledge and bring grantees together, emboldening social movements; and we **advocate** in Washington, D.C., and internationally to educate legislators and promote laws and policies that support human rights and strengthen grassroots efforts to combat poverty, oppression and injustice worldwide.

OUR ISSUES

Sexual Health and Rights

We support **153 organizations** empowering women, girls and LGBTQI+ people to stop violence and discrimination and live with dignity, safety and health.

Civil and Political Rights

We support **160 activist organizations** advancing civil and political rights around the globe—promoting justice under the law for all and the right to be heard, vote and participate in political life.

AJWS BY THE NUMBERS

Since our founding in 1985, AJWS has granted **MORE THAN HALF A BILLION DOLLARS** to advance human rights around the world.

\$33.4 MILLION INVESTED IN 2025 in grantmaking, accompaniment, and advocacy to advance human rights and strengthen social movements

498 GRANTEES changing lives and building movements for justice

206,800 SUPPORTERS from 50 states and 19 countries

4 ISSUE AREAS: Sexual Health and Rights | Civil and Political Rights | Land, Water and Climate Justice | Disaster and Humanitarian Response

4,500 RABBIS, CANTORS, AND OTHER JEWISH LEADERS who communicate to Congressional legislators and to their congregations about AJWS's policy priorities

36,200 MESSAGES to member of Congress through the AJWS Action Network

Land, Water and Climate Justice

We support **164 grassroots groups** fighting the climate crisis and protecting the land, water and natural resources that rural and Indigenous people depend on for survival.

Disaster and Humanitarian Response

In the wake of earthquakes, hurricanes, droughts, epidemics and other crises, we support **21 grassroots organizations** to provide relief, save lives and build resilience for the future.

"Jewish tradition teaches that if a person saves one life, it is as if they've saved the entire world. By that measure... [AJWS has] saved the world many, many times over."

—PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

“AJWS was our first core funding, and that has set the pace for everything we’ve built since. You were not only giving us money—you came to us as partners.”

—LUCY WANJIKU NJENGA, *Founder of AJWS grantee Positive Young Women Voices in Kenya*

OUR GLOBAL GRANTMAKING



AJWS supports 511 organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Many of them are grassroots groups led by people who have been directly affected by discrimination, violence and other human rights violations.

The populations we support include:

- 👤 Religious and Ethnic Minorities
- 👤 Youth
- 👤 Indigenous Communities
- 👤 Women and Adolescent Girls
- 👤 Refugees and Internally Displaced People
- 👤 LGBTQI+ People
- 👤 Farmers, Fishers and Laborers
- 👤 Human Rights Defenders

WHY WE PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS

AJWS strives to overcome the root causes of oppression and inequality by supporting grassroots organizations and social movements for justice. We fund grantees to fight for people’s rights—to live without violence, to influence the laws and norms that govern their societies and to freely express their full identities.

Beyond grantmaking, we serve as thought partners to our grantees and help them improve their organizations and programs. We also support our grantees to form and participate in social movements—gaining the power to transform society on a much larger scale.

Meanwhile, AJWS staff in Washington, D.C., and a base of rabbis, cantors, Jewish leaders and supporters advocate to Congress and the executive agencies to protect and promote the rights of marginalized people everywhere.



Jewish leaders from AJWS’s Global Justice Fellowship, AJWS staff and board members convene in Washington, D.C., to meet with elected leaders and urge Congress to join our movement for human rights. *Photo by Joshua P. Roberts.*

GET INVOLVED!

All of AJWS’s work is made possible by our committed community of supporters and activists.

To donate, attend an event, learn more about our work or find out about opportunities to take action with AJWS, visit www.ajws.org.

Updated December 2025

American Jewish World Service

45 West 36th Street
New York, NY 10018

📞 212.792.2900
800.889.7146
✉ ajws@ajws.org

🌐 ajws.org
📘 [/americanjewishworldservice](https://www.facebook.com/americanjewishworldservice)
🐦 [/ajws-humanrights.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/ajws-humanrights.bsky.social)
📷 [/americanjewishworldservice](https://www.instagram.com/americanjewishworldservice)

