



AMERICAN
JEWISH
WORLD
SERVICE

FORWARD TOGETHER

ANNUAL REPORT 2022





DEAR FRIENDS,

Despite the grave challenges that continue to define life around the world today—including escalating threats to democracy, human rights and the very planet beneath our feet—we must keep moving forward together.

Here in the U.S., we have grappled with racial injustice, attempts to undermine the rule of law, the erosion of reproductive rights and the ongoing impact of COVID-19. Around the world, massive food shortages caused by the climate crisis and Russia's war on Ukraine have left millions of people without basic sustenance. Sham elections and political violence have continued to disintegrate democracies worldwide. And, as always, those already marginalized in their societies—like LGBTQI+ people, Indigenous communities, and women and girls—continue to bear the brunt of these calamities.

Jewish tradition has fortified us to confront this deeply broken world. The sages of the Talmud taught us, “You are not expected to complete the task, but neither are you free to desist from it.” What they understood then—and we know today—is that although the struggles for justice may seem insurmountable, we must press forward.

While we cannot solve every problem alone, if we work *together*, little by little we will bring about a better world.

From India to Haiti to Thailand, AJWS's grantees are fighting to build a more equal and sustainable world. Clockwise from top: Photos courtesy of Talash Society, by Réginald Louissaint Junior, and courtesy of Public Policy on Mineral Resources.

FRONT COVER: In the Casamance region of Senegal, members of AJWS grantee USOFORAL gather to celebrate International Women's Day and pay tribute to Casamance's first female mayor. Photo courtesy of USOFORAL.

Again and again this year, we've witnessed the power of unity: From activists pursuing a new path for democracy in Haiti, to Indigenous farmers banding together to reclaim their right to water in Mexico, to movements of women and girls rising up to advance gender equality in India—extraordinary people have come together to forge a path ahead that is rooted in equity and justice.

This annual report celebrates the progress that the AJWS community has made this year, thanks to 541 courageous activist organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and our global human rights advocacy in Washington, D.C. Our work is fueled by your philanthropic solidarity, compassion and action.

When we work together, we know that *tikkun olam*—repairing our broken world—is within reach.

Thank you for your support in 2022 and beyond.

With our deepest gratitude,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Bank".

Robert Bank
President and CEO



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley Abelow".

Bradley Abelow
Chair of the Board of Trustees

TOGETHER We
Rise Up for Justice
TOGETHER We Make
Progress TOGETHER
We Transform Lives
TOGETHER We Turn
Compassion into
Action **FORWARD**
TOGETHER ▶



INVESTING IN A MORE JUST WORLD

Thanks to your generosity,
AJWS invested
\$37.5 million
in advancing human
rights in 2022.

Aspiring journalist Pooja Gurjar (left) interviews a woman in her community, using reporting skills she learned from AJWS grantee Mahila Jan Ashikar Samiti. Photo by Deepak Sharma. Read Pooja's story on page 24.

To ensure that these dollars will make a lasting difference, we deploy our multipronged model of social change:

In 2022, we funded and supported **541 grassroots, national and global human rights organizations in 17 countries**—with the understanding that the people who are most affected by problems are best suited to address them. We served as a strategic partner to these grantees, learning from them and helping them grow and ensure their sustainability. We promoted their work to the media and fostered their leadership on the world stage. And we facilitated connections between our grantees, supporting them to form, expand and participate in social movements—gaining strength in numbers and expertise to influence laws and society on a much larger scale.

Meanwhile, AJWS advanced these same issues through our own advocacy. Throughout the year, our staff on Capitol Hill and a dedicated volunteer base of rabbis, Jewish leaders and supporters called on Congress, the White House and global bodies like the United Nations to uphold the rights of marginalized people everywhere.

Whether we're setting meetings at the White House, helping grantees access international speaking platforms, funding trusted groups around the world or nurturing the growth of powerful movements that span borders, all of our work is "grassrooted"—meaning that the talent, courage and know-how of the activists we support are at the center of everything we do.

AJWS is the **fourth largest human rights funder** in the world, by number of grants awarded.*

88% of the organizations AJWS supports engage in **advocacy to advance laws and policies** to promote human rights.

77% of our grantees are members of **networks or coalitions**—and **45% are leaders** of these groups.

100% of our **in-country staff and consultants** provide support to our grantees, developing their strategies, leadership and financial security, and creating opportunities for networking and collaboration so they can learn from each other and build stronger movements for change.

Around the world, AJWS partners are engaged in **38 social movements**—including women's rights, climate justice and democracy—all building momentum to pursue social change.

**According to the Human Rights Funders Network's 2021 Annual Review of Global Foundation Grantmaking.*

“

It’s an amazing testament to AJWS that every grantee I’ve met has been visionary, inspiring, and effective. If you care about human rights, our planet, and our collective global welfare, then AJWS’s grassroots approach to justice is the most effective way to bring your resources to bear.

—JOCELYN GOLDFEIN
AJWS Supporter

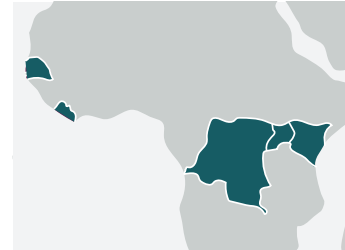
In 2022, AJWS supported **541 social justice organizations** in **17 countries** around the globe making change on **4 key issues**. With their ingenuity and courage—and backed by your support—these powerful groups are transforming millions of lives.

▶ **AJWS’S GRANTEES AROUND THE WORLD:**



LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN
171 Grantees

- Dominican Republic
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Mexico
- Nicaragua



AFRICA
128 Grantees

- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Senegal
- Uganda



ASIA
224 Grantees

- Cambodia
- India
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand

CROSS-REGIONAL: 18 Grantees

Two countries have been omitted to protect the security of our staff and grantees working in regions of intense political upheaval.

MAKING AN IMPACT, ISSUE BY ISSUE:

CIVIL & POLITICAL RIGHTS

177 grantees are:

- Building peace
- Promoting democracy
- Challenging authoritarian regimes
- Defending religious and ethnic minorities
- Empowering women leaders

SEXUAL HEALTH & RIGHTS

170 grantees are:

- Advancing gender equality
- Ending gender-based violence
- Stopping child and early marriage
- Empowering adolescent girls
- Defending LGBTQI+ rights
- Ensuring the safety and health of sex workers

LAND, WATER & CLIMATE JUSTICE

164 grantees are:

- Protecting Indigenous and rural lands
- Mitigating impacts of the climate crisis
- Stopping harmful development projects
- Reducing hunger and ensuring food security

DISASTER & HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

30 grantees are:

- Recovering from tsunamis and earthquakes
- Rebuilding after storms, flooding and mudslides
- Aiding communities displaced by drought, hunger and conflict

In 2022, AJWS also supported grantees in every country and issue area to protect their communities from COVID-19 and address the human rights issues exacerbated by the pandemic.



At the Cavillon community garden in western Haiti, Antoinier Saint-Cyr harvests corn grown from seedlings distributed by AJWS grantee Tèt Kole Ti Peyizan Ayisyen. Photo by Réginald Louissaint Junior. Read more about Tèt Kole's work on page 23.



A YEAR OF ACTION

AJWS grantees joined together to strengthen movements for justice all year long—from engaging girls in India to think about gender equality on International Women’s Day, to marching in Kenya on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to demanding fair access to water in Mexico on World Water Day.



“We will never know the value of water until the well runs dry.”



Clockwise from top: Photos courtesy of Talash Society, Husika Trust, and by Paulina Vega-González.



In Senegal, AJWS grantee Y'en a Marre has built a powerful movement of youth speaking out against corruption and defending democracy. Founded by rappers and activists, they use hip-hop to fuel political engagement and encourage young people like Rim Ji, pictured below, to express themselves. Photo by Maroussia Mbaye.

TOGETHER, WE
**RISE UP FOR
JUSTICE**

Each and every one of us has the ability to be an agent of change—and when we come together, our power multiplies exponentially. In 2022, in the face of a multitude of human rights challenges, the activists AJWS supports rose up for justice: They led movements against corruption, advocated for sexual and reproductive rights for everyone, mounted multifaceted responses to crises like COVID-19, and sought to secure safety and justice for persecuted communities.

▶ YOUTH SPEAK OUT FOR DEMOCRACY IN SENEGAL AND BEYOND

For over a decade, **Y'en a Marre (YAM)**—French for “Fed Up”—has been a force for change in Senegal. AJWS began supporting YAM soon after its founding in 2011, when the nascent group of young journalists, artists and rappers mobilized 300,000 young people to vote. Their dynamic campaign of music and public art is credited with unleashing a surge of support that ousted corrupt President Abdoulaye Wade from office—and made YAM a household name representing youth’s hopeful vision for the future.

Today, YAM continues to speak truth to power, as widespread corruption, authoritarianism and economic inequality persist. Pioneers in using hip-hop to engage young people in activism, YAM’s leaders are some of the most beloved rappers and political activists in Senegal—and now, they’re training the next generation to speak out.

AROO, a founding member and an acclaimed Senegalese rapper, is helping young people find their voice. At YAM’s youth center, he and his team mentor young adults from one of Dakar’s poorest neighborhoods



“The more they try to shut our mouths,
the more people want us to speak.”

—ALIOU SANÉ

Coordinator of Y'en a Marre



to use hip-hop to channel their frustrations into art. “We’re not interested in rapping about money or fame,” says AROO. “We rap about politics and rights.”

Among YAM’s ambitious young leaders are 25-year-old Big Ooz and 18-year-old Mira—a woman making her way in the male-dominated rap scene. Both had to cut their educations short to support their families, but YAM has given them a platform to learn and express themselves. “I write about the problems we face, about politicians forgetting all their promises to us,” says Big Ooz. “I wasn’t

made for school, but I’ve been empowered by hip-hop. Hip-hop changed my life.”

Over the last decade, YAM has inspired the creation of many other movements in Africa, bringing its powerful model to an even larger scale. One of these is **Afrikki**, a pan-African platform where social movements led by young people can come together to exchange ideas and advocate for change. AJWS now funds Afrikki’s efforts to mentor new youth-led social movements to defend democracy across the continent.

Portraits in this story (from left to right): Aliou Sané, Coordinator of Y'en a Marre (YAM); AROO, founding member of YAM and an acclaimed Senegalese rapper; and Mira and Big Ooz, young rappers learning to channel their political frustration into hip-hop through YAM's mentorship program. Photos by Maroussia Mbaye.

FIGHTING FOR SAFE ABORTIONS IN KENYA AND AROUND THE WORLD

In a year when reproductive rights were severely undermined in both the U.S. and around the globe, we're defending the right to abortion worldwide.

In Kenya, seven women die every day from unsafe abortions, despite the fact that abortion is a constitutional right. The reason? Kenya's Ministry of Health has made it nearly impossible to access abortion, by constantly changing its guidelines and even banning the training of abortion providers. But AJWS grantee **Trust for Indigenous Culture and Health (TICAH)** is determined to change that. TICAH recently helped secure a groundbreaking High Court ruling that the government must allow medical schools to train abortion providers and ensure that clinics can access medicines and equipment for abortion.

Meanwhile, in the U.S., our advocacy team has convened a passionate community of rabbis, activists and supporters to press vigorously for passage of the Abortion is Health Care Everywhere Act and similar legislation that would ensure U.S. foreign assistance funds include access to abortion globally.

“We will not tire until all women can access reproductive health services.”

—JEDIDAH “JADE” MAINA
Executive Director of TICAH

MOBILIZING FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN CAMBODIA

Same-sex marriage is illegal in Cambodia, but AJWS grantee **Rainbow Community Kampuchea (RoCK)** envisions a different reality. This year, RoCK launched a multiyear national media campaign called “I Accept,” which is bringing together the voices of LGBTQI+ community members, their families and allies to work

in tandem to educate the public about marriage equality. RoCK activists are in dialogue with the Cambodian government, and they have the energy and passion to bring marriage equality to the forefront of Cambodian society—building a movement of supporters to ensure all people can marry whomever they choose.



RoCK celebrates Pride Week and International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia with a series of discussions and team-building activities designed “to strengthen the body and mind.” Photo courtesy of RoCK.



Above, a team member from Empowering Marginalized Communities (EMAC) visits the egg stand of a graduate of their chicken-farming training program. To the right, staff of Sadbhavana Trust coordinate the distribution of food and hygiene kits for families at risk of COVID-19. Photos courtesy of EMAC and Sadbhavana Trust.



▶ A MULTIFACETED PANDEMIC RESPONSE

As COVID-19 continued to wreak havoc around the globe this year, AJWS grantees stepped up to help, mobilizing aid and activism that slowed the spread, saved lives and safeguarded livelihoods. For example: In India, **Sadbhavana Trust** supported over 1,000 families with food and hygiene kits, dispelled vaccine misinformation, and helped young women stay in school. In eastern Kenya, the pandemic had a devastating effect on sex workers, who couldn't earn a living during lockdowns. AJWS grantee **Empowering Marginalized Communities** supported sex workers by training them to become chicken farmers, giving them a sustainable source of income and expanding their choices for the future.

TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND GLOBAL HUNGER

This year, the deadly convergence of the climate crisis and disruptions in the food supply chain created a global hunger emergency. AJWS responded in full force, supporting grantees like **Samburu Women's Trust** in Kenya to distribute food, press for government aid, and help communities learn new ways to make a living and prepare for future droughts. Indeed, dozens of our grantees in the global climate justice movement are addressing the root causes of the crisis and ensuring that those most unjustly affected have the tools to build resilience, survive and thrive.

To spread this message on the international stage, this year we funded three activists to attend the U.N. climate change summit, COP26. One of these activists, Sostine Namayana of AJWS grantee **National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE)** in Uganda, called on global leaders to phase out fossil fuels, stop deforestation, fund sustainable farming and ensure that communities most affected by the climate crisis are at the table at the next global climate summit.



Members of Samburu Women's Trust distribute food in northern Kenya, where catastrophic droughts worsened by the climate crisis have left millions at risk of starvation. Photo courtesy of Samburu Women's Trust.

“We can only build a future with climate justice for all by working together to make it possible.”

—SOSTINE NAMAYANA

Gender and Food Security Officer, NAPE

Farmers in El Porvenir, Mexico, tend to their crops—drawing on ancestral wisdom and new techniques for water conservation and organic farming. With the support of AJWS grantee Flor y Canto, El Porvenir was one of 16 Indigenous communities that won a major victory for water rights this year, after nearly two decades of struggle. Photo courtesy of Flor y Canto.

TOGETHER, WE MAKE PROGRESS

This year, many of the changemakers AJWS supports were able to reap the fruits of their labor. From protecting the water of Indigenous people, to rooting out corruption, to building democratic institutions, AJWS grantees and the movements they're a part of made inroads toward justice and brought us closer to a world where human rights for all are realized.



INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES RECLAIM THEIR RIGHT TO WATER IN MEXICO

After 16 years of struggle, longtime AJWS grantee **Flor y Canto** achieved a historic victory for Indigenous communities in Oaxaca's Central Valley: They secured official State recognition of the rights of 16 Zapotec communities to manage their own water systems.

Since 2006, the Mexican government had allowed industrial farms, mines and hotels to use up water in the drought-prone Central Valley, while banning the Indigenous communities who had managed this vital natural resource for thousands of years from extracting water for agricultural use. After the National Water Commission fined local farmers for using water to irrigate their lands, Flor y Canto helped the 16 affected communities fight back.

With the guidance of Flor y Canto, the communities pursued legal action and formed the “Association of Peoples United for the Care and Defense of Water,” or COPUDA, to unify their activism. Under this new banner, they worked together to restore the depleted water levels, while also negotiating with multiple government



“When I go to the fields and see people putting into practice what I taught—and I see people getting results—it fills me with pride.”

—JOSÉ MISAEL ANTONIO MARTÍNEZ
Agricultural Engineer, Flor y Canto

agencies to fight for their right to manage their water resources and bring the land back to life. Both strategies worked.

After building 300 deep wells and planting 100,000 trees, farmers were able to restore water levels to those of half a century ago—proving that they were more than capable of stewarding their lands. In 2013, they achieved their first legal victory when the courts mandated that the National Water

Above, José Misael Antonio Martínez of Flor y Canto leads a workshop on organic earthworm composting techniques for women farmers from Oaxaca's Central Valley communities. Photo courtesy of Flor y Canto.

Commission begin a consultation process with Indigenous communities throughout the region. And in 2019, after more than four years of consultations, the federal government recognized their right to water.

Finally, in June of 2022, the 16 Zapotec communities and the national authorities signed the country's first Indigenous Community Water Concession Title—a binding agreement that set the stage for

these communities to collectively manage their water and recognized their agency to cultivate and protect their land.

Though the wheels of justice turned slowly, Flor y Canto's work on this process has established a powerful precedent. Now, Indigenous communities throughout Mexico have a roadmap to get their water rights recognized by the government and be able to flourish in their ancestral lands.



Zapotec farmers in the drought-prone Central Valley region restored healthy water levels in this reservoir, with the training and support of Flor y Canto. Photo by Paulina Vega-González.



On World Water Day, Flor y Canto commemorated the passing of Carmen Santiago Alonso, the tenacious Zapotec activist who led the organization until her death in February 2022. They paid tribute to her lifelong dedication to protecting local water resources with an ofrenda (offering) of corn, seeds, vegetables and flowers symbolizing the circle of life, and planted trees in her memory. Activists' signs read: "Water is life and we have to take care of it and defend it."

Photo by Paulina Vega-González.

SHAPING DEMOCRACY IN HAITI

Haiti continues its struggle to establish a true democratic government, after suffering a brutal dictatorship and being hamstrung by decades of foreign interference. Last year, after then-President Jovenel Moïse dismantled the parliament, overstayed his term and propped up violent gangs, he was assassinated—further destabilizing the country. But amid this difficult landscape, Haitian activists banded together to form the Commission to Search for a Haitian Solution to the Crisis, which seeks to create a transitional government, organize free elections and repair broken institutions. Though Haiti’s de facto President Ariel Henry and the Biden administration initially dismissed the Commission, persistent advocacy is paying off.

To support the Commission’s success, AJWS’s team helped form a coalition of individuals and organizations working to shift U.S. policy and media on Haiti. We collaborated with Haitian civil society leaders to uplift their voices in U.S. publications, including in *Foreign Affairs* and *The New York Times*. And we planned several Congressional briefings featuring our Haitian grantees, which have led to invitations to testify before Congress and the U.N. Security Council.

In April, after months of advocacy and building political alliances, AJWS organized a meeting between Pierre Espérance (leader of AJWS grantee **The National Network for the Defense of Human Rights**), Magali Comeau Denis (a leader of the Commission) and top U.S. government officials. In the wake of these meetings, the U.S. State Department directed its embassy in Haiti to shift its stance, urging Henry to negotiate with the Commission and bringing Haiti one step closer to democracy.



In March, thousands of Haitians in Port-au-Prince peacefully protested recent kidnappings, rising insecurity and lack of action by their government. Photos by Valérie Baeriswyl.

RULING FOR LGBTQI+ JUSTICE IN INDIA

When a lesbian couple in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu came out to their families earlier this year, their parents not only disapproved—they called the police, who hunted down their daughters and apprehended and harassed them. But with the support of an AJWS grantee (whose name is omitted to protect their safety), the couple took the police to court—and won. The judge issued a watershed order demanding changes to eliminate discrimination against the LGBTQI+ community—a precedent that could one day apply across India. By fighting for their right to be together, this couple set changes in motion that could make India safer for their entire community.



LGBTQI+ community members and allies march in a Pride parade in Bengaluru, India. Photo by Aijaz Rahi.



Public transit workers and MASUM staff hold a sign reading “Safety Ally” following their training to combat gender-based violence. Photo courtesy of MASUM.

ENSURING SAFE TRANSPORT IN INDIA

Girls and young women in India have long faced sexual harassment and even assault in public spaces—especially on public transportation. In many parts of the country, the fear of violence has led parents to forbid their daughters from taking buses to go to school, university or work—severely limiting their mobility.

AJWS grantee **Mahila Sarvangeen Utkarsh Mandal (MASUM)** has sought to foster a safer environment for women riders. Recently, the organization conducted a first-of-its-kind training for 208 public bus officials, teaching them to become allies in breaking the cycle of gender-based violence.

TOGETHER, WE TRANSFORM LIVES

Within every powerful movement for change are individuals—ordinary-yet-extraordinary people who have the courage to call out injustice, grasp opportunities for leadership and forge new paths ahead. AJWS supported thousands of these activists this year—and the organizations that helped them manifest their dreams of transforming their own lives and those of their communities. Here are a few who inspired us in 2022...

In western Kenya, adolescent girls lead an awareness march to stop violence against women and girls. They're learning to be strong and outspoken activists from the leaders of Box Girls Kenya, an organization supported by AJWS in their community. Photo courtesy of Box Girls Kenya.



PROMOTING LEADERSHIP THROUGH SELF-DEFENSE IN KENYA

When Mercy Musila Musikali was growing up in the slums of Nairobi, she was expected to do the same as all girls of her generation—keep her head down and be deferential to men. She was also contending with the threat of sexual harassment, which was common in her neighborhood. But Mercy began to view her options differently when she discovered **Box Girls Kenya**, an AJWS grantee that enables girls and young women to develop leadership skills, learn about their bodies and boundaries, and defend themselves—literally. Box Girls taught Mercy how to box, and it changed her life entirely: “I used to be a shy girl. Now they call me Mercy the Boxer.”

Today, Mercy is a professional boxing coach, and through Box Girls, she trains girls from the slums of Nairobi to stand up for themselves, in and out of the ring. She also runs mentorship sessions, teaching girls about essential topics that are considered taboo in their community, like menstruation, hygiene and reproductive health.

“I teach the girls to make great decisions and be assertive,” Mercy says. “I have the passion to be a champion for girls, for them to be confident in whatever they do ... and



I’m proud of myself seeing that young girls want to be like me.”

For over 3,500 girls who have joined Box Girls’ programs, the organization has become a haven where they can freely express themselves—and amplify their voices through the group’s vivid and strategic social media presence. Ultimately, Box Girls is transforming the way Kenyan society views what girls can and cannot achieve, making their way toward a future where women are celebrated as equals.

“I used to be a shy girl.
Now they call me
Mercy the Boxer.”

—MERCY MUSIKALI
*Boxing Coach and Youth Mentor,
Box Girls Kenya*

Mercy Musila Musikali (left) spars with students in the Box Girls Kenya training program. An alumna of Box Girls herself, Mercy is now teaching the next generation about self-defense, leadership and agency. Photo courtesy of Box Girls Kenya.

A RAPID RESPONSE TO THE EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

After a massive earthquake struck southern Haiti last year, Orijen Louis, Executive Coordinator of AJWS grantee **Tèt Kole Ti Peyizan Ayisyen** (Kreyol for “Heads Together Peasant Farmer Movement”), knew he had to do something. “So much of what peasant communities had was destroyed,” he remembers. Orijen quickly gathered his team, and together they organized to meet the most basic needs: food, water and shelter. Then, because the earthquake caused farmers to lose entire crops, Tèt Kole began distributing seeds that could grow and ripen quickly—ensuring people’s long-term survival. Throughout 2022, they continued to help farmers recover. “Working together is part of our life, our culture,” Orijen says. “When there’s a heavy load to carry, people carry it together.”

In the wake of last year’s earthquake, Haitian farmers sow and harvest seedlings distributed by Tèt Kole Ti Peyizan Ayisyen. Tèt Kole is helping these farmers achieve food sovereignty—meaning that they can grow diverse and healthy foods themselves, earn a sustainable living, retain their cultures and preserve the land they depend on. Photos by Ricardo Cabano (top and bottom left) and Réginald Louissaint Junior.



GIRLS PURSUE THEIR DREAMS IN INDIA



*Pooja Gurjar conducts an interview in the village of Hansiyawas, Rajasthan.
Photo by Deepak Sharma.*

In Rajasthan, India, an area where young women are often expected to get married and raise children rather than study or aspire to careers, Pooja Gurjar is living a different dream. She was married at 16, but fought for her right to continue her education. She recently graduated with 31 other girls from a six-month

grassroots journalism course organized by AJWS grantee **Mahila Jan Adhikar Samiti (MJAS)**. MJAS, which builds girls' leadership and skills, recruited journalists to train these aspiring writers to investigate injustice and report on activism in their community. Inspired by the course, Pooja is now exploring a career in journalism.

FIRST INTERSEX PERSON IS NAMED TO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN KENYA

In Kenya, many intersex people must hide their identities. But Dr. Dennis Nyongesa Wamalwa has stepped into the spotlight, achieving an important victory for intersex representation and visibility. Following extensive advocacy by AJWS grantees **Jinsiangu** and the **Intersex Persons Society of Kenya**, Dr. Wamalwa was voted onto the Kenyan National Commission on Human Rights, making him the first openly intersex person to assume such a high-profile position in Africa. His appointment brings with it an opportunity to keep the priorities of intersex people atop the human rights agenda—both in Kenya and across the continent.



Dr. Wamalwa (left) is sworn into the Kenyan National Commission on Human Rights. Photo courtesy of Intersex Persons Society of Kenya.

TOGETHER, WE TURN COMPASSION INTO ACTION

The entire AJWS community is united by a powerful shared commitment to justice—and generous supporters and activists like you make a difference every day. Through your philanthropic solidarity, your advocacy and your leadership for change, you are honoring the central Jewish tenet of tikkun olam—to repair our world.

Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for persevering in this sacred struggle together with AJWS.

PHILANTHROPIC SOLIDARITY

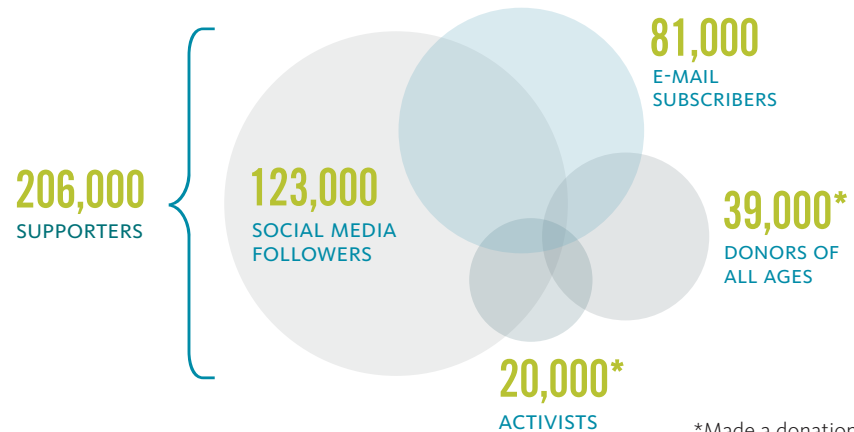
Nearly 40,000 donors choose AJWS as their vehicle for *tzedakah*—giving for justice. Collectively, they enable changemakers to aid communities after disasters, champion gender equality and LGBTQI+ rights, promote democracy, and defend human rights for all.

ALLYSHIP AND ACTIVISM

Our community also propelled our fights for justice forward through advocacy in 2022. Our Trustees, leading donors and committed rabbis lobbied Congress, while thousands of AJWS action-takers wrote to their elected officials to advance climate policy and global reproductive rights legislation, and demand accountability for oppressive regimes.

JEWISH LEADERSHIP FOR JUSTICE

Throughout the year, AJWS mobilized the Global Justice Chavurah, an active cohort of rabbis and other clergy across the U.S. who came together to learn and advocate for human rights. These Jewish leaders are vital ambassadors, putting Jewish values into action for social justice.



*Made a donation or took action between 2020-2022.

2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

American Jewish World Service, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position as of April 30, 2022

(with summarized comparative financial information as of April 30, 2021)

ASSETS	2022	2021
Cash and cash equivalents	\$22,565,067	\$15,395,727
Contributions receivable, net	14,700,474	27,656,553
Investments	32,379,428	33,395,341
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,078,869	879,941
Property and equipment, net	1,058,068	1,236,508
Total assets	\$71,781,906	\$78,564,070
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
<i>Liabilities:</i>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$1,019,573	\$815,514
Grants payable	3,507,894	4,407,808
Loan payable	-	2,132,540
Deferred rent	1,085,181	1,044,730
Unearned revenue	14,274	6,950
Charitable gift annuity obligations	383,686	377,338
Total liabilities	6,010,608	8,784,880
<i>Net assets:</i>		
Without donor restrictions:		
Undesignated	16,171,948	13,962,098
Designated for donor-advised fund	732,536	1,706,374
Board-designated for reserve fund	21,122,901	19,616,146
Board-designated for working capital fund	4,463,885	4,522,449
Total without donor restrictions	42,491,270	39,807,067
With donor restrictions	23,280,028	29,972,123
Total net assets	65,771,298	69,779,190
Total liabilities and net assets	\$71,781,906	\$78,564,070

AJWS's total assets vary year-to-year due to the timing of the receipt and usage of commitments and payments for multi-year grants.



AJWS supports the leadership and expertise of local people, community organizers and builders—and when AJWS makes a commitment to a place, they'll be there for as long as it takes. It's this respect for communities and understanding that change doesn't happen overnight that continues to inspire us and make us proud of our charitable giving.

—ANITA SIEGMAN AND
MARTIN KRAKOW
AJWS Supporters

American Jewish World Service, Inc.

Statement of Activities for the year ended April 30, 2022

(with summarized comparative information for the year ended April 30, 2021)

	2022		2021	
	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL	TOTAL
REVENUES AND SUPPORT				
Contributions:				
Individuals	\$14,847,227	\$6,172,258	\$21,019,485	\$21,265,596
Donor-advised fund	2,100,000	-	2,100,000	3,600,000
Bequests	802,123	-	802,123	411,822
Foundations and corporations	721,796	17,880,821	18,602,617	37,190,325
Donated services and goods	671,938	-	671,938	631,995
Government agencies	852,510	-	852,510	411,771
Investment return, net of expenses of \$205,166 in 2022 and \$172,108 in 2021	(2,772,927)	(30,867)	(2,803,794)	5,465,909
Miscellaneous revenue	43,528	233	43,761	103,243
Gain on loan forgiveness	2,132,540	-	2,132,540	-
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	25,619,766	(25,619,766)	-	-
Satisfaction of time restrictions	5,094,774	(5,094,774)	-	-
Total revenues and support	50,113,275	6,692,095	43,421,180	69,080,661
EXPENSES				
<i>Program services:</i>				
Programs	32,673,912	-	32,673,912	32,744,168
Communications	3,672,291	-	3,672,291	3,298,845
Strategic learning, research and evaluation	1,167,985	-	1,167,985	1,100,787
Total program services expenses	37,514,188	-	37,514,188	37,143,800
<i>Supporting services:</i>				
Management and general	2,962,403	-	2,962,403	2,850,717
Fundraising	6,952,481	-	6,952,481	6,679,520
Total supporting services expenses	9,914,884	-	9,914,884	9,530,237
Total expenses	47,429,072	-	47,429,072	46,674,037
Change in net assets	2,684,203	(6,692,095)	(4,007,892)	22,406,624
Beginning net assets	39,807,067	29,972,123	69,779,190	47,372,566
Ending net assets	\$42,491,270	\$23,280,028	\$65,771,298	\$69,779,190

AJWS's revenue and expenses fluctuate year-to-year based on variations in multi-year gifts and the donor-advised fund (DAF).

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Our mandate is to repair the world. I am grateful AJWS does this holy work in our name.

—HARRY NATHAN GOTTlieb
AJWS Supporter

**Of blessed memory*

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AJWS trustees Katherine Haynes, Derek Kaufman and Jayne Lipman at AJWS's board meeting in New York City in spring 2022. Photo by Christine Han.

“

I joined the Board of AJWS because this organization integrates two parts of my identity—being Black and being Jewish—and gives me the opportunity to pursue justice in a world that is experiencing a dearth of it. For me, being part of AJWS means cultivating an understanding of the dynamics of both oppression and resistance. It means working to accelerate the pace of change—change that is bringing about a more just world.

—KATHERINE HAYNES,
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AJWS has 28 in-country experts working around the world. Their names don't appear here due to security risks related to human rights work.

AJWS staff as of September 1, 2022. We express deep gratitude to former members of our staff who contributed greatly to AJWS's success this year.

▶ ADVANCING DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

At AJWS, when we say “forward together,” we mean it. It takes all of us to bring about change—and we’re just as responsible for this work within our own walls as we are in the 17 countries we serve.

As we live our Jewish values as an organization, rooted in the belief of *b'tselem Elohim*—that each one of us has inherent and infinite value—we continue our journey to shift our consciousness from within. Anchored by the philosophy and practice of anti-racism, and through learning from diverse teachers and one another, we seek to ensure that AJWS is an organization that is both fully Jewish, and fully inclusive and multicultural. We believe that our internal culture must reflect our mission—and that in order to dismantle systemic inequity and pursue justice around the world, we must do the same within our organization and within ourselves.

That is why we continue to prioritize Diversity, Equity and Inclusion among our staff and Board of Trustees. To that end, we have organized a robust learning agenda that has included organization-wide trainings and monthly “learning labs” on various DEI topics led by experts, scholars and colleagues from around the globe with diverse lived experiences. We are also focused on advancing the goals and priorities established in our DEI Roadmap—like addressing microaggression and bias, supporting our staff who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color, and developing metrics to measure our progress.

Ultimately, we seek to make AJWS a place where each member of our team is welcomed and respected in their full humanity. We are confident that this will make us even more effective in our work.



Above, Villien Hubert plants eggplants in his garden in Cavaillon, Haiti—a community hit hard by the 2021 earthquake. He received seeds and support from Tèt Kole Ti Peyizan Ayisyen, which is helping build resilience by ensuring that families like his can replant their crops and farm sustainably. On the back cover, Villien crosses an irrigation canal that connects two farming communities supported by Tèt Kole. Photos by Réginald Louissant Junior.



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Compassion into
Action **FORWARD**
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