

“

In the brokenness of our time,
a new hope is being born.

It is rooted in the clear,
unabashed insistence that

a better future
is possible.”

— RABBI SHARON BROUS

.....

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are proud to share AJWS's 40th anniversary annual report, which highlights our enduring commitment to **grassrooted activism and global progress**, the themes of this milestone year. In these difficult times, we invite you to look back on four decades of human rights progress and celebrate the life-affirming victories of AJWS's grantee-partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Today, the global movement for justice is under extraordinary attack. Authoritarianism is surging, human rights defenders operate under escalating threats, and the U.S.—along with other global leaders—have gutted foreign aid, creating an unprecedented funding crisis for hundreds of millions of marginalized people across the Global South.

Fortunately, AJWS was made for this moment. Twelve years ago, we chose to limit our reliance on U.S. federal funding—a decision which has proved prescient. Despite the devastating impact of foreign aid cuts on our grantee-partners, your generous and sustained philanthropic partnership has enabled AJWS to weather the storm and increase our support for pioneering changemakers during this grave time of need.

In these pages, you will read about the extraordinary accomplishments of our partners, who are always ready to act—even in the face of overwhelming odds.

With your support:

- Indigenous communities in Thailand won historic legal protections—after years of campaigning—for their land, natural resources and traditions.
- Youth and LGBTQI+ people across India are breaking free from harmful gender norms and building movements rooted in mindfulness, nonviolence and empathy.
- Girls and young women in Kenya are battling drought and famine by leading climate actions, planting trees and purchasing tanks to store communal water.

These successes are born through a constellation of partners—from activists to philanthropists—working in unison, each motivated by the need to build a better world. Guided by our Jewish values and Rabbi Brous's words, we will continue to insist that an equitable future is possible. Powered by your partnership and trust, AJWS enters into our next 40 years with steadfast commitment and limitless ambition to create a world where everyone is free from poverty, persecution and prejudice.

With our deepest gratitude,



Robert Bank

Robert Bank
President and CEO



Jill Minneman

Jill Minneman
Chair, Board of Trustees



Top: Activists from ethnic minorities across Thailand call on the Thai government to guarantee rights and protections for their communities (photo by Indigenous Media Network—Thailand). Bottom: Ritu from HUMSAFAR, which unites tens of thousands of youth and LGBTQI+ people in Lucknow, India, to resist gender- and sexuality-based violence (photo by Ranita Roy).