

# Become a CRC Advocate

## Volunteer Opportunities

The CRC provides many opportunities for men and women to be engaged on key issues. All UJC members are encouraged to become a CRC advocate and ensure their voices are heard on important public policy issues of our time.

- Volunteer to join one of our active committees on Israel, Government Relations, Jewish Faculty, Jewish Women In Network, Newark Advisory Council and more
- Attend our informative programming with dynamic speakers that helps to provide the information and tools you need to advocate on behalf of the Jewish community
- Participate in community mobilizations by attending rallies, missions to Washington and Trenton, and other events
- Become Engaged: Act Now! Send out Action Alerts when needed

The CRC of MetroWest is an active member of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA).

*For more information visit [www.ujcnj.org/crc](http://www.ujcnj.org/crc); click on advocacy and sign-up to be included on the advocacy mailing list.; send an email to [crc@ujcnj.org](mailto:crc@ujcnj.org) ;or call 973-929-3064.*

## Community Relations Committee of MetroWest

**David Lentz** - Chair  
**Joy Kurland** - Regional Director  
**Melanie Roth Gorelick**—Associate Director  
**Jane Gardner** - Administrative Assistant

## United Jewish Communities of MetroWest

**Gary O. Aidekman** - President  
**Max L. Kleinman** - Executive Vice President



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COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

901 Route 10  
Whippany, NJ 07981

Phone: 973-929-3064  
Fax: 973-884-7361  
E-mail: [crc@ujcnj.org](mailto:crc@ujcnj.org)  
[www.ujcnj.org/crc](http://www.ujcnj.org/crc)

# Community Relations Committee of MetroWest NJ

## 2009-10

# Educate Advocate Activate

# ADVOCACY ON BEHALF OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Who We Are

### Mission

The Community Relations Committee of MetroWest NJ (CRC) is the public policy and advocacy arm of United Jewish Communities of MetroWest. The CRC spearheads the development of the public policy agenda for the Jewish community focusing on local, state, and national issues. CRC advocates these views with legislators and engages with other constituencies, such as civic and interfaith leaders and the media, on these matters.

### Visions and Goals

- The CRC works in the areas of Israel & World Affairs, Government Relations, and Community-based initiatives.
- The CRC informs and educates the MetroWest community on current events and public policy matters of interest, and networks and builds various coalitions with the community at large to further common interests.
- The CRC serves as a clearinghouse for new issues, has a rapid response capability, and takes immediate action in support of the Jewish community and Israel.
- The CRC rallies the community to action.

## 2009-10 Program and Policy Areas

### Stop Iran Now Campaign

Informs and mobilizes the community to take action for strong diplomatic and economic measures to deter Iran's nuclear weapons program, including divestment and sanctions.

### Israel Advocacy

- Advocates for legislation in support of Israel
- Responds to anti-Israel & anti-Semitic bias
- Provides rapid response to media bias
- Convenes the Jewish Faculty Network to keep the pulse on what is happening on campuses
- Provides outreach to pro-Israel evangelicals

### Jewish Women's Involvement in the Political Process

A state-wide initiative convenes JWIN (Jewish Women In Network), made up of Jewish women elected officials who mentor and support women to run and become involved in politics.

### NJ Coalition Responds to the Crisis in Darfur

The CRC works in coalition with diverse organizations to end the genocide in Darfur.

### Newark Advisory Council

The Council is made up of Jewish leaders in the business, civic, and non-profit communities in Newark that regularly meet with influentials to forge ongoing relationships and contribute to the betterment of the city.

**VISIT [www.ujcnj.org/crc](http://www.ujcnj.org/crc) for more details**

## Domestic Legislative Priorities

The CRC regularly engages with elected officials at the national, state and local level to advocate in support of the domestic legislative agenda of the Jewish Federations of North America.

### Highlights include:

- Responding to the economic crisis
- Protecting Medicaid and the health safety net
- Securing funding for community programs
- Empowering older Americans to live healthier, more independent, and engaged lives
- Maximizing incentives for charitable giving and supporting interests of the non-profits
- Helping the Jewish community to alleviate poverty
- Advocating on behalf of persons with disabilities and/or mental illness
- And more...

### Regionalization of the CRC

The CRC of MetroWest works in partnership with the Jewish Community Relations Council of UJA Federation of Northern NJ and Community Relations Committee of Jewish Federation of Central NJ. Throughout this program year, the CRCs are engaging in a strategic planning initiative to become a unified entity.