

Global Jewish Women's Leadership Summit Report

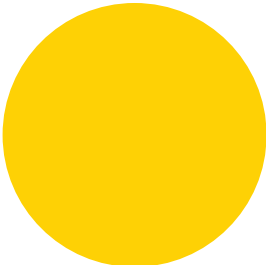
Building a Global Network of
Jewish Women Leaders Driving
Equity and Social Change

April 27–28, 2026



elluminatewomen

Empowering Jewish Women Leaders
Advancing Gender Equity & Social Change



*Elluminate
empowers feminist
Jewish women leaders
and philanthropists
to advance equity
and social
justice.*

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Introduction

IN THESE PERILOUS TIMES, Jewish women leaders are navigating increasing polarization, rising antisemitism, threats to democracy, attacks on women's rights, deepening inequality, and unprecedented social change while continuing to lead with courage, resilience, and vision. There is growing recognition that these complex challenges cannot be addressed by individual leaders or organizations acting alone. They require stronger partnerships, shared learning, and collective action.

In April 2026, Elluminate convened nearly 100 Jewish women leaders from across the United States, Israel, and beyond for the inaugural Global Jewish Women's Leadership Summit, titled "Building a Global Network of Jewish Women Leaders Driving Equity and Social Change".

Bringing together Jewish women nonprofit CEOs from Elluminate's The Collective leadership advancement experience and Women in the C-Suite programs, philanthropists, advocates, academics, clergy, and other aligned leaders, the Summit marked an important milestone

in Elluminate's commitment to advancing feminist Jewish women's leadership and strengthening equity and justice by and for women.

Building on more than 30 years of investing in Jewish women's leadership and philanthropy and seven years of advancing nonprofit CEOs through The Collective, the Summit represented the next step in Elluminate's evolution—the launch of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network.

More than simply announcing a new initiative, the Summit served as a strategic think tank where participants worked together to shape the Network's vision, priorities, and future direction. The concept grew directly from conversations with Collective members who expressed the need for something beyond a traditional alumni model—a member-driven platform that would serve as the connective infrastructure for Jewish women leaders, enabling them to build relationships, share knowledge, collaborate across organizations and sectors, and increase their collective influence and impact.



Over the two days, participants:

- Built meaningful relationships essential to networked leadership
- Explored shared strategies for advancing equity, justice, belonging, women's safety and security, and economic opportunity, always through a gender lens
- Identified opportunities for collaboration and collective action across organizations, issue areas, and geographic regions
- Amplified the visibility, leadership, and influence of Jewish women leaders

The Summit centered on four interconnected themes:

- Jewish Women's Leadership and the Path Forward
- Building a More Equitable and Inclusive World Through a Gender Lens
- Advancing Equity and Justice Through Collective Impact
- Gender Justice, Women's Safety, and Security

Through keynote addresses, framing conversations, participant dialogue, workshops, affinity gatherings, and informal networking, participants explored the challenges and opportunities facing Jewish women leaders today and also helped to shape the future of the Network.

This report captures the major conversations, themes, and insights that emerged throughout the Summit and documents the collective thinking that informed the launch of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network.



Opening Keynote Conversation: *Jewish Women's Leadership and the Path Forward*

THE SUMMIT OPENED WITH A CONVERSATION between Ruth Messinger, Dean and Educator of The Collective, and renowned organizer and activist Heather Booth, whose six decades of leadership in the civil rights, reproductive rights, voting rights, and democracy movements have shaped generations of organizers and social change leaders.

Ruth welcomed participants by emphasizing that the Summit was not simply a conference, but a strategic working session designed to harness the collective wisdom of Jewish women leaders. Throughout the next two days, participants would help shape the future of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network by sharing ideas, identifying priorities, and envisioning new opportunities for collaboration and collective impact.

Heather's inspirational message was a guiding principle for the Summit:

“If you want to go
fast, go alone. If you want
to go far, go together...
When we organize with
love at the center, we will
change this world.”

—Heather Booth



Drawing on her experiences organizing during Freedom Summer in Mississippi, creating the Jane abortion counseling service, advancing voting rights, and strengthening democratic participation, Heather reflected on the lessons that have guided her life's work. While the issues have evolved over time, she emphasized that meaningful social change has always depended on ordinary people coming together around shared values, building relationships, and organizing for collective action.

Reflecting on Jewish values, Heather described justice, inclusion, and mutual responsibility as central to Jewish tradition. She encouraged participants to continue that legacy by building a network rooted in compassion, courage, and a commitment to repairing the world.

The conversation also focused on the unique role of women in advancing social change. Heather acknowledged the many messages women receive that they are “not enough” and challenged participants to reject those limitations.

She noted that while individual leadership matters, transformative change happens when women unite, learn from one another, and use their collective power to influence institutions, policies, and communities.

Throughout the discussion, Heather emphasized that organizing is both a discipline and a practice. Effective leadership requires grounding work in shared values, developing a clear vision, building relationships, mobilizing resources, and creating strategies that lead to lasting structural change rather than isolated actions.

To make these principles practical, she challenged participants to consider four essential elements of organizing:

- **Members** — Who will you invite into the work?
- **Message** — How will you communicate your vision?
- **Money** — How will you secure the resources needed for change?
- **Movement** — Where will you show up and build collective power?

These principles provided a practical framework for participants as they began envisioning the future of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network.

The conversation concluded with a powerful reminder that hope is not passive—it is created through action, relationships, and persistence.

Quoting Chinese writer Lu Xun, Ruth Messinger reflected:

“Hope is like a path in the countryside. Originally there is no path, but as people walk all the time in the same direction, a path appears.”



Framing Conversations

THE SUMMIT'S FRAMING CONVERSATIONS brought Collective members together to examine critical issues shaping women's leadership and social change today. Facilitated by Elluminate's professional staff and featuring Collective members in dialogue, the conversations drew on their expertise, experiences, and perspectives across four areas of focus.

Each Framing Conversation was followed by a **Leadership Action Group**, providing participants with an opportunity to reflect on the conversation, explore its implications for their own leadership and work, and consider opportunities for collaboration and collective action. Rather than presenting the Leadership Action Groups separately following each conversation, this report provides a summary of the four Framing Conversations in the pages that follow, with the insights and reflections from the Leadership Action Groups brought together in a later section.

The four Framing Conversations explored:



Challenges and Opportunities for Women's Leadership

Social Change Through Collective Impact – Advancing Equity and Justice

Creating an Equitable, Just, and Inclusive World Through a Gender Lens

Social Justice and Human Rights: Gender Justice, Women's Safety and Security

Challenges and Opportunities for Women's Leadership

Yavilah McCoy (CEO, Dimensions), **Moran Zer Katzenstein** (CEO and Founder, Bonot Alternativa), **Rabbi Mary Zamore** (Former Executive Director, Women's Rabbinic Network), and **Rabba Daphne Lazar Price** (Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University Law Center)
Moderated by Melanie Roth Gorelick (CEO, Elluminate)

PANELISTS EXPLORED WHAT IT MEANS to lead as Jewish women during a period of profound social, political, and communal change. While each speaker brought a distinct perspective, they shared a common belief that this moment calls for courageous, values-based leadership grounded in resilience, collaboration, and hope.

Panelists described what it was like to be a leader today leading through uncertainty as an exercise in navigating constant change. They spoke of embracing the “both/and,” holding uncertainty, fear, and hope simultaneously to enable people with differing experiences and perspectives to remain in relationship. For example, October 7 revealed the extraordinary leadership capacity of women across Israel, many of whom stepped forward without waiting for permission or direction. In the same vein, speakers discussed the inherent tension between celebrating significant advances women have made over the past 50 years while also confronting the current attacks and rollbacks on gender equity, rights, and inclusion. A similar phenomenon is happening in the Orthodox community, where expanding opportunities for



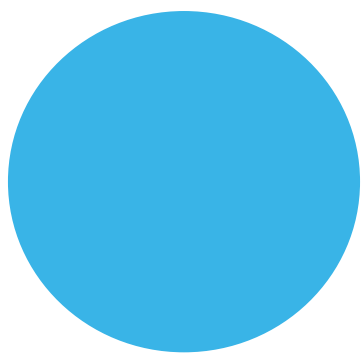
women's leadership have been accompanied by increased resistance and backlash. Together, the discussion underscored that effective leadership today requires resilience, adaptability, and the ability to lead through complexity rather than certainty – and to be ready for backlash.

As the conversation turned to leadership, panelists reflected on the Jewish values that sustain their work. Justice, responsibility, humility, lovingkindness, and the belief that every person is created *b'tzelem Elohim* (in the image of God) were described as practical guides for leadership rather than abstract ideals. Several speakers emphasized that activism begins with everyday choices: speaking up, supporting others, remaining true to one's values, and acting with courage even when outcomes are uncertain. Others highlighted the importance of recognizing the dignity of those with different experiences and perspectives, approaching disagreement with empathy, and remaining committed to relationship rather than division.

Looking ahead, the discussion shifted from the challenges of individual leadership to the possibilities of collective action. Panelists argued that the complexity of today's challenges requires moving beyond competition toward

greater collaboration. They encouraged participants to share expertise, mentor one another, build relationships across organizations and sectors, develop shared advocacy efforts, and explore new models for resource-sharing and fundraising. Several emphasized how trust is the essential foundation for any future collaboration and that meaningful partnerships begin with getting to know one another's work, strengths, and aspirations. Rather than waiting for perfect conditions, participants were encouraged to take small but meaningful steps today.

Throughout the conversation, panelists returned to the promise of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network. They envisioned the Network as more than a professional association—it would serve as the connective infrastructure linking Jewish women leaders across organizations, sectors, geographies, and lived experiences. By fostering relationships, sharing knowledge and resources, elevating women's voices, and creating opportunities for collaboration, the Network has the potential to strengthen the broader ecosystem of Jewish women's leadership. The discussion concluded with a call to build not only a network of connections, but a community capable of bettering society.



Creating an Equitable, Just, and Inclusive World Through a Gender Lens

Ela Alon (Co-CEO, Itach Ma'aki – Women Lawyers for Social Justice), **Maryam Chishti** (Co-Executive Director, The LUNAR Collective), **SooJi Min-Maranda** (Nonprofit Executive), and **Jodi Bromberg** (Principal, Bromberg Consulting)
Moderated by Eva Stern (Director of Strategic Initiatives, Elluminate)

THIS FRAMING CONVERSATION EXPLORED

what it means to build Jewish communities where all people feel they belong and have the opportunity to participate, lead, and shape the future. Panelists reflected on the challenges of creating more equitable and inclusive institutions amid the current backlash over the past two years against such initiatives, as well as declining philanthropic support. Throughout the discussion, they emphasized that belonging is not simply about representation; it is about ensuring that diverse voices shape decisions, influence priorities, and contribute fully to Jewish communal life.

The conversation opened with personal reflections on identity and belonging. Each panelist described how their own experiences – as women, immigrants, Jews of Color, members of interfaith families, LGBTQ+ leaders – shaped their understanding. Rather than viewing identity as something that divides people, panelists described it as a fundamental part of the human experience that organizations must recognize and embrace. They emphasized that people are strongest when they are able to bring their full identities into community and leadership, and that organizations become more responsive when they intentionally include perspectives that have historically been overlooked.

A recurring theme throughout the discussion was that true inclusion requires sharing power, not simply expanding representation. Panelists challenged organizations to ask who is missing from the table, who helped design the table in the first place, and whose voices continue to shape decisions. They argued that accessibility, language, childcare, transportation, disability accommodations, and cultural responsiveness should be viewed as essential elements of leadership. It requires intentional investment, thoughtful planning, and a willingness to remove barriers *before* asking for participation.

Much of the conversation focused on the changing landscape for equity and belonging initiatives due to the rollback of support for diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. Panelists expressed concern about declining philanthropic and institutional support for organizations serving historically marginalized communities, particularly Jews of Color and interfaith families, even as these populations continue to grow and enrich Jewish life. Several reflected on the tension between responding to external expectations and remaining focused on the communities they were created to serve. Panelists stressed that this is the moment to strengthen long-term commitments and partnerships to prevent the loss of gains we have made.

Looking ahead, panelists envisioned a network built on trust, authentic relationships, shared learning, and mutual support that models the values of equity and belonging in its own structure and culture. By intentionally fostering trust and collaboration across differences, panelists suggested that the Network can become both a model and a catalyst for creating more equitable, inclusive, and resilient Jewish communities.



Social Change Through Collective Impact – Advancing Equity and Justice

Michal Gera Margaliot (Executive Director, The Union of Journalists in Israel), **Kimberly Novod** (Founder and Executive Director, Saul's Light Foundation), **Moria Rodal Silfen** (CEO, ATZUM – Task Force on Human Trafficking and Prostitution), **Fraidy Reiss** (Founder and Executive Director, Unchained At Last) and **Dyonna Ginsburg** (CEO, OLAM) **Facilitated by Rachel Siegel** (Director of Jewish Women's Leadership, Elluminate) and **Liron Peleg-Hadomi** (Israel Representative, Elluminate)

THIS FRAMING CONVERSATION EXPLORED

how Jewish women leaders move beyond short-term, symptom-focused direct service toward long-term strategies that influence public policy, shift cultural narratives, and reform institutions to address problems at the local, national, and international level. Despite their different backgrounds, panelists shared strikingly similar leadership journeys catalyzed by deeply personal experiences.

Throughout the discussion, whether advocating for legislation to end child marriage, improving maternal health outcomes, protecting freedom of the press, preventing human trafficking, or strengthening global development efforts, each leader described the importance of combining grassroots experience with systems-level change. They also emphasized that while organizations may focus on different issues, the underlying challenges (such as gender inequality, violence, poverty, democratic erosion, and human rights rollback) are deeply interconnected and cannot be addressed in isolation.

Panelists reflected on how networks are uniquely positioned to identify field-wide challenges, convene leaders across sectors, reduce duplication of effort, encourage collaboration through shared learning and strategic investments, and amplify the work of individual organizations. At the same time, successful networks require intentional stewardship (e.g., by cultivating trust, lowering barriers to participation, listening carefully to members' needs, and balancing visibility for the network with visibility for its partners).

Participants explored the many intersections among their work. Panelists challenged one another to recognize that issues often viewed separately—maternal health, gender-based

violence, trafficking, reproductive justice, democracy, housing, poverty, and human rights—are closely connected. They encouraged the emerging Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network to help leaders see these connections, build relationships across issue areas, and create opportunities for collaboration that no single organization could achieve alone.

Looking ahead, the conversation concluded with a call to imagine the Network as the infrastructure needed to multiply impact on root causes. Participants envisioned a platform that enables each leader to continue pursuing her own mission, while joining a stronger, more coordinated movement capable of achieving greater impact than any one organization could accomplish alone.



Social Justice and Human Rights: Gender Justice, Women's Safety and Security

Tamar Shwartz (CEO, Women's Spirit – Financial Independence for Women Survivors of Abuse), **Dina Shalev** (Executive Director, Lada'at – Choose Well), **Ronie Nof Malc** (Executive Director, Women and Their Bodies), **Keshet Starr** (CEO, Shalom Task Force), and **Julie F. Kay** (CEO and Founder, Reproductive Futures)
Facilitated by Nancy K. Kaufman

THIS FRAMING CONVERSATION EXPLORED

the meaning of gender justice and what it takes to create the conditions for women to live with dignity, safety, autonomy, and agency. Panelists agreed that women cannot fully participate in society unless they are safe, healthy, economically independent, and able to make informed decisions about their own lives.

Throughout the discussion, panelists illustrated that dignity, safety, autonomy, and agency are deeply interconnected. A woman cannot exercise bodily autonomy if she lacks access to healthcare. She cannot pursue leadership if she is living with violence or coercion. She cannot achieve independence without economic security or access to information. Whether discussing domestic violence, reproductive rights, women's health, financial empowerment, or legal advocacy, each speaker described a different pathway toward the same goal: creating the conditions that allow women to thrive.

A recurring theme was the need to move beyond supporting individual women toward transforming the institutions that shape their experiences. Panelists described healthcare systems that have historically

overlooked women's needs, legal frameworks that fail to recognize economic abuse, educational systems that neglect comprehensive sexual health, and public policies that continue to limit women's autonomy. Lasting progress, they argued, requires redesigning these systems through legislation, public education, advocacy, institutional reform, and cultural change. While direct services remain essential, sustainable gender justice depends on addressing the root causes of inequality rather than only responding to its consequences.

The conversation also examined the realities of leading during periods of ongoing crisis. Israeli panelists reflected on the challenge of balancing emergency response following October 7 with long-term organizational priorities, while American leaders described navigating rapidly changing legal and political landscapes surrounding reproductive rights and gender equality. Across both countries, participants emphasized that gender justice cannot be placed on hold during times of crisis. Domestic violence, women's health, reproductive rights, and economic inequality remain urgent priorities that require sustained attention and investment, even amid broader societal upheaval.





Despite these challenges, the conversation remained firmly grounded in hope. Panelists shared examples of meaningful progress achieved through persistent advocacy, including increased public recognition of economic abuse, expanded conversations about women's health and menopause, improvements in reproductive healthcare policy, and stronger collaboration among organizations working across the field of gender justice.

Throughout the discussion, collaboration emerged as one of the most powerful strategies for advancing change. Participants described coalitions, cross-sector partnerships, and international relationships that enabled organizations to combine expertise, strengthen advocacy efforts, and achieve policy reforms that would have been difficult independently. They emphasized that while no single organization can solve these complex challenges alone, sustained collaboration allows women leaders to amplify one another's impact and accelerate systemic change.

Looking ahead, panelists described the Network as a space where Jewish women leaders can strengthen one another, exchange ideas across countries and fields of practice, build unexpected partnerships, and elevate women's collective voice.



Leadership Action Groups

FOLLOWING EACH FRAMING CONVERSATION, participants gathered in facilitated Leadership Action Groups to reflect on the ideas that had emerged and explore their implications for advancing equity and justice through a Jewish and gender lens. Participants were able to share experiences, build relationships, exchange perspectives, and identify opportunities for collaboration.

The Leadership Action Groups reinforced many of the themes introduced during the Framing Conversations, especially the desire to move beyond isolated efforts toward stronger networks, partnerships, and collective leadership and impact.

One area that generated particularly strong discussion was the role of philanthropy in strengthening the field. Participants emphasized that advancing women's leadership requires not only investment in programs, but also sustained investment in the people and organizations leading this work. Participants also reflected on the importance of shifting traditional funding practices to better value collaboration, long-term capacity building, and the well-being of leaders, while recognizing the continued need to expand philanthropic investment in women and girls.

The ideas generated through these conversations helped shape the Seeding the Network session, where participants began envisioning how the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network could move forward and what it could achieve.



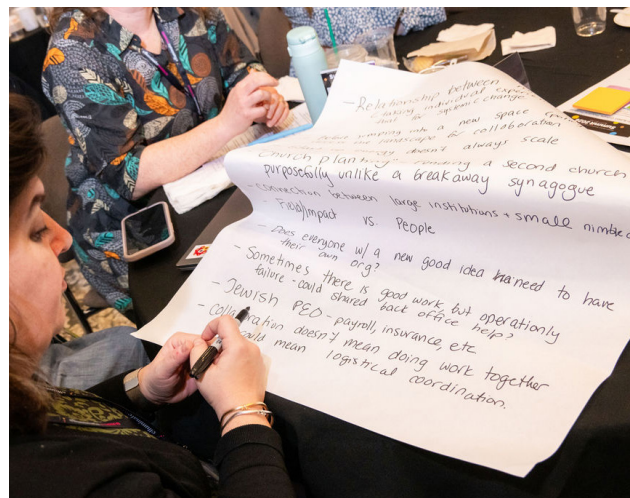
Seeding the Network:

Participant Priorities

AS ELLUMINATE PREPARED TO LAUNCH the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network, Summit participants took part in an interactive visioning session designed to harness the collective wisdom of the room and help shape the Network's future.

Building on the conversations, workshops, and leadership dialogues throughout the Summit, participants reflected on the themes that had emerged, envisioned what success for the Network could look like over the next five years, and generated bold ideas for future collaboration. Through facilitated dialogue and a collective prioritization process, participants identified the priorities they believe will be most important to strengthening the Network and maximizing its impact.

While not intended to be exhaustive, the priorities below reflect the strongest areas of consensus and provide a roadmap for the continued growth and evolution of the Elluminate Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network.



Emerging Participant Priorities

Strengthen Relationships Across the Network

Continue investing in opportunities for members to build trust, deepen relationships, and connect across organizations, geographic regions, and areas of expertise. Participants consistently identified strong relationships as the foundation for collaboration and collective impact.

Expand Mentoring and Peer Coaching

Develop formal and informal mentoring, peer coaching, and communities of practice that enable members to share leadership challenges, exchange expertise, and support one another throughout their careers.

Advance Collaboration and Collective Action

Create structures that enable members to identify shared priorities, launch collaborative initiatives, and build strategic alliances that strengthen the collective influence of Jewish women leaders.

Develop Shared Resources and Infrastructure

Explore opportunities to share tools, expertise, policies, operational resources, and best practices that strengthen organizations, reduce duplication, and increase organizational effectiveness across the Network.

Strengthen Women's Leadership and Governance

Expand opportunities for women to serve on nonprofit boards and in other leadership roles, while encouraging cross-network governance relationships that increase women's influence in decision-making and organizational leadership.

Engage Philanthropy More Strategically

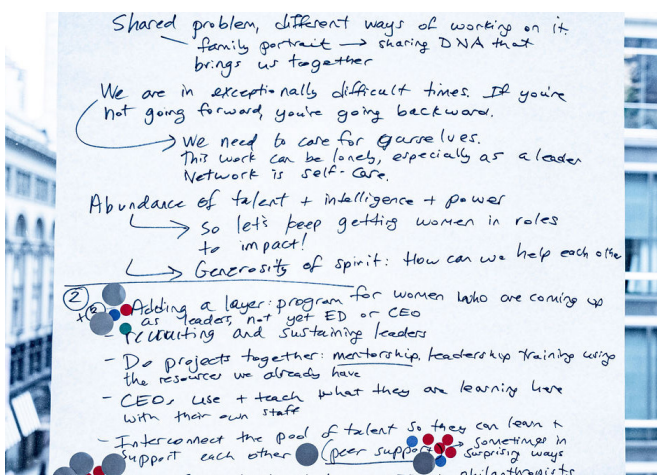
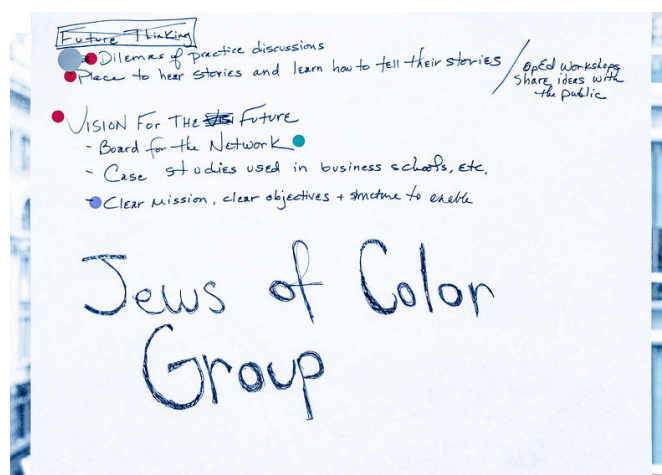
Strengthen relationships with philanthropic partners and explore collaborative approaches to resource development that support shared priorities and increase investment in women-led organizations and initiatives.

Create Spaces for Courageous Dialogue and Shared Problem Solving

Foster trusted environments where members can openly discuss leadership challenges, exchange ideas, navigate complex issues, and learn from one another's experiences.

Cultivate Strategic Partnerships

Identify individuals, organizations, and cross-sector partners that can help advance collaborative initiatives, expand the Network's reach, and amplify its collective impact.



Launch of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network

THE SUMMIT CULMINATED IN THE official launch of the Elluminate Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network—a milestone marking the beginning of a new chapter for Jewish women's leadership.

In welcoming participants to the launch, Elluminate celebrated the collective work accomplished throughout the Summit. Over two days of thoughtful dialogue, strategic planning, and relationship building, participants had helped lay the foundation for a network designed to strengthen leadership, foster collaboration, and serve as a force multiplier for social change.

Melanie Roth Gorelick, CEO of Elluminate, reflected on the purpose of the Summit and the vision behind the Network. She noted that the Summit had been intentionally designed as a strategic think tank where participants could help shape the Network's initial focus. Through conversations on Jewish women's leadership, gender equity, collective impact, and women's safety and security, participants had done more than exchange ideas—they had begun building a shared roadmap for the future.

“Today we are not simply launching a network—we are creating the connective infrastructure for Jewish women leaders to learn, collaborate, and lead together.”

—Melanie Roth Gorelick, Elluminate CEO



Sarah Shapiro-Plevan, Chief Program Officer, then invited participants to look ahead to the Network's next phase of development. She emphasized that the Network would be shaped not by Elluminate alone, but by the voices, leadership, and engagement of its members. She outlined opportunities for ongoing connection through a virtual platform, affinity groups, geographic hubs, mentoring, peer learning, professional development, and collaborative initiatives, reinforcing that the Network would continue to evolve in response to its members' ideas and aspirations.

The launch affirmed that the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network is more than a program—it is a living, member-driven platform designed to connect Jewish women leaders, strengthen their collective voice, and create new opportunities for learning, partnership, and impact.

The launch concluded with an invitation for every participant to help shape the Network's future through a collective call to action.



What's Next

- Build the virtual platform
- Launch mentoring and peer coaching
- Establish affinity groups and geographic hubs
- Continue member engagement to refine priorities
- Convene the Network annually and foster collaboration throughout the year



A Call To Action

TO CONCLUDE THE SUMMIT, Ruth Messinger, Dean and Educator of The Collective, moderated a closing conversation with three distinguished members of the Network: Orit Sulitzeanu, Executive Director of The Association of Rape Crisis Centers in Israel; Idit Klein, Vice President for Public Engagement of New Israel Fund; and Dr. Analucia Lopezrevoredo, CEO of Jewtina y Co.

Building on the ideas generated throughout the Summit, Ruth invited the panelists to reflect on the insights they were taking home, the opportunities they envisioned for the Network, and the role each member could play in advancing its shared mission. Together, their reflections transformed the Summit's conversations into a compelling call for courage, collaboration, and collective leadership.

Several themes emerged from the discussion:

Lead with Courage

The panelists spoke about the responsibility of leaders to continue speaking out, even during times of uncertainty and adversity.

“We cannot give up. We cannot be quiet. We cannot shut up. We have to shout.”

—Orit Sulitzeanu

Strengthen Collaboration and Coalitions

Participants challenged the Network to think differently about collaboration by building deeper partnerships, sharing resources, and working across organizations and communities to increase collective impact.

Support One Another as Leaders

Recognizing that leadership can often be isolating, the discussion reinforced the importance of creating a trusted community where women leaders can learn together, mentor one another, and find strength through authentic relationships.

“We choose to be part of the antidote to isolated leadership.”

—Idit Klein



Lead with Love and Hope

Throughout the Summit, participants returned to the idea that transformative leadership is rooted not only in courage and determination, but also in compassion, hope, and human connection. Reflecting on Heather Booth's opening keynote, Idit challenged participants to embrace the principle of "organizing with love at the center" as both a leadership philosophy and a call to action.

In closing, Ruth Messinger reflected on the collective wisdom that had emerged over the previous two days. She encouraged participants to care for themselves and one another, think creatively, build bold partnerships, and continue advancing change together. Drawing together the Summit's defining themes, she reminded participants that lasting social change requires both resilience and community.

*“Fear. Courage. Rage. Hope. Love. Suit them to yourselves...
That's how we will find ways as a network to keep moving according
to our values and our commitment to the future.”*

—Ruth Messinger

The conversation concluded with an invitation for every participant to help shape the future of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network—transforming the relationships, ideas, and commitments forged during the Summit into sustained collaboration and collective action.



Closing Blessing

Rabbi Benay Lappe, Founder and Rosh Yeshiva, SVARA

Rabba Daphne Lazar Price, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University Law Center

Rabbi Mary Zamore, Executive Director, Women's Rabbinic Network

RIBBONO SHEL OLAM, Creator of the Universe, source of wisdom and courage,

As we gather to mark the launch of the Elluminate Jewish Women's Global Network, may we merit to root ourselves in the legacy of Miriam, a leader of vision, voice, and sustaining strength.

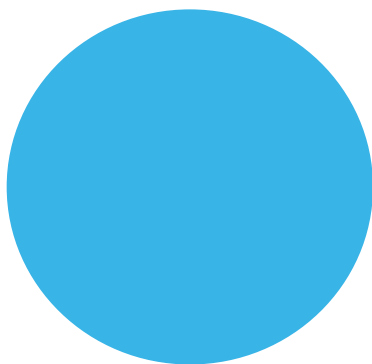
Like Miriam standing watch by the Nile, bless us with the courage to see clearly in moments of uncertainty. Help us to notice what is fragile, what is at risk, and to act with wisdom and resolve. May we be guardians of one another's potential, ensuring that what is placed in our care not only survives, but flourishes.

Like Miriam the prophet, grant us the clarity of moral vision. Help us to lead with conviction, to speak truth even when it is difficult, and to trust that insight and authority

can emerge from every corner of this network. May we cultivate leaders who are grounded in purpose and guided by deep spiritual and ethical awareness.

Like Miriam at the Sea, timbrel in hand, bless us with the ability to create moments of shared joy and collective voice. May this network not only respond to challenge, but also celebrate possibility. Let us sing, uplift, and honor one another, knowing that joy itself is a form of leadership.

Like Miriam's well, may this network be a source of sustenance: quiet, steady, and life-giving. May it nourish those who thirst for connection, for justice, for belonging. And may we remember that the most essential forms of leadership are not always visible, but are felt in the strength and resilience of the community.



And like Miriam who spoke up, even at great personal risk, bless us with the courage to raise our voices with responsibility, and with care. Teach us to navigate disagreement with integrity, to hold one another accountable with compassion, and to grow through the tensions that come with meaningful leadership.

Ribbono shel Olam, as the leadership of Elluminate builds this global network, help us weave together protection and prophecy, joy and sustenance, courage and humility. May Elluminate be a vessel for light, connecting us across distance and difference, strengthening our collective purpose, and expanding what is possible.

And may we go forward, like Miriam, not waiting for the moment to be perfect, but stepping into it with faith, with voice, and with one another.

KEN YEHI RATZON. MAY IT BE YOUR WILL.

TOGETHER: SHEHECHEYANU

**BLESSED ARE YOU, RULER OF THE UNIVERSE,
WHO GIVES US LIFE, SUSTAINS US,
BRINGS US TO THE POWERFUL MOMENT.**



Conclusion

THE INAUGURAL GLOBAL JEWISH WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

marked the launch of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network, the beginning of a new chapter in advancing Jewish women's leadership. Over two days of dialogue, learning, and strategic planning, participants articulated a shared vision for a network that serves as the connective infrastructure for Jewish women leaders—strengthening relationships, fostering collaboration, amplifying women's leadership, and increasing the collective capacity of Jewish women to advance gender equity and social change.

Throughout the Summit, participants reflected on the ways traditional leadership models and institutional systems have too often limited women's voices, undervalued women's leadership, and created barriers at different stages of women's lives and careers. Rather than focusing solely on individual advancement, they envisioned more collaborative, inclusive models of leadership that strengthen women's collective influence and create lasting and inclusive change.

One of the clearest insights to emerge was that the challenge is not a lack of talented feminist Jewish women leaders, but rather the absence of a network that would serve to bring those leaders together. The complexity of today's challenges requires relationships, shared learning, collaboration, and collective action that no single individual or organization can achieve alone.

The Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network was created to meet that need. As a member-driven platform, it will continue to evolve through the ideas, leadership, and engagement of its members, creating new opportunities to learn together, build partnerships, amplify women's voices, and increase collective impact across organizations, sectors, and geographic regions.

By investing in the Network, Elluminate is investing not only in individual leaders, but in the broader ecosystem of Jewish women's leadership. Together, the Network has the potential to strengthen the influence of Jewish women, accelerate collaboration, and help shape a more just, equitable, and inclusive future.

WHAT BEGAN AS A SUMMIT NOW BECOMES A NETWORK. WHAT BEGAN AS A CONVERSATION NOW BECOMES COLLECTIVE ACTION.





Acknowledgements

THE INAUGURAL GLOBAL JEWISH WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SUMMIT was made possible through the vision, generosity, and commitment of many individuals and partners who share Elluminate's belief in the power of Jewish women's leadership.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our keynote speakers, panelists, workshop facilitators, moderators, and presenters for sharing their expertise, insights, and inspiration throughout the Summit. We are especially grateful to the nearly 100 Jewish women leaders who participated with openness, honesty, and a deep commitment to shaping the future of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network. Their ideas, experiences, and aspirations are reflected throughout this report and will continue to guide the Network's growth.

We thank Elluminate's Board of Directors, Visionary Circle members, donors, and philanthropic partners whose leadership and investment made this gathering possible. We are especially grateful to the Barbara Hope Zuckerberg

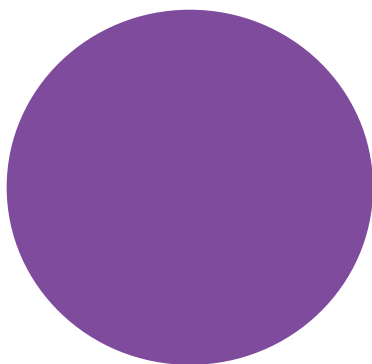
Foundation for its visionary support in helping launch the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network.

Our appreciation also extends to the Elluminate staff, consultants, volunteers, and event partners whose creativity, professionalism, and dedication brought the Summit to life. A special thank you to Sara Shapiro-Plevan, Chief Program Officer; Rachel Siegel, Director of Jewish Women's Leadership; Sasha Somers, Engagement Associate; Laurie Moskowitz, Event Consultant; and the entire Elluminate team.

Finally, we thank every member of the Global Jewish Women's Leadership Network. Your leadership, courage, and commitment to advancing equity and social justice are the foundation of this Network. We look forward to continuing this journey together.

TOGETHER, WE ARE BUILDING THE GLOBAL JEWISH WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP NETWORK.

—MELANIE ROTH GORELICK, CEO



Summit Agenda

BUILDING A GLOBAL NETWORK OF JEWISH WOMEN LEADERS DRIVING EQUITY AND SOCIAL CHANGE – PROGRAM

Monday, April 27 • 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

8:10 AM

Registration

9:30 – 10:00 AM

Room 710/712

Stepping Into Leadership: Setting the Tone For Our Time

10:00 – 11:00 AM

Room 710/712

Welcome

Linda Yarden, President, Elluminate
Melanie Roth Gorelick, CEO, Elluminate

Jewish Women's Leadership and the Path Forward

Heather Booth, National Outreach Director, Battleground Alliance
Ruth Messinger, Dean and Educator, Elluminate Collective

11:10 – 11:55 PM

Room 710/712

Framing Conversation: Challenges and Opportunities for Women's Leadership

Moderated by Melanie Roth Gorelick, CEO, Elluminate
Featuring: Yavilah McCoy, CEO, Dimensions Inc. | Moran Zer Katzenstein, CEO and Founder, Bonot Alternativa | Rabbi Mary Zamore, Executive Director, Women's Rabbinic Network | Rabba Daphne Lazar Price, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University Law Center

11:55 – 12:25 PM

Room 710/712

Leadership Action Groups: From Insight to Action

12:25 – 1:00 PM

Room 710/712

Impromptu Networking: Weaving Our Network

1:00 – 2:15 PM

LUNCH

Affinity Group Lunches & Network Mapping Experiences

2:15 – 2:30 PM

Room 710/712

Re-Gather & Opening Reflection: Collective Impact

Dr. Sara Shapiro-Plevan, Chief Program Officer, Elluminate

2:30 – 3:15 PM

Room 710/712

Framing Conversation: Creating an Equitable, Just, and Inclusive World Through a Gender Lens

Moderated by Eva Stern, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Elluminate

Featuring: Ela Alon, Co-CEO, Itach Ma'aki – Women Lawyers for Social Justice | Maryam Chishti, Co-Executive Director, The LUNAR Collective | SooJi Min-Maranda, Nonprofit Executive | Jodi Bromberg, Principal, Bromberg Consulting

3:15 – 3:45 PM

Room 710/712

Leadership Action Groups: From Insight to Action

3:45 – 4:00 PM

Break

4:10 – 5:15 PM

Multiple Locations

Workshops (Concurrent Sessions)

Participants will choose one of the following:

Room 710/712

Workshop 1: From Noise to Clarity: Leading Yourself in Complex Times

Facilitated by Dr. Mazal (Mazi) Avidov Shaul, Former CEO, WePower, Lecturer, Author & Coach

Room 708

Workshop 2: Expanding the Circle: Practical Tools for Inclusive Dialogue and Shared Leadership

Facilitated by Dr. Ramona Tenorio, Executive Director, TiYuv

Room 711

Workshop 3: Don't Just Venn, Vent!

Facilitated by Elizabeth Mandel, Vice President of Feminist Programs, Moving Traditions

Room 706

Workshop 4: Caring for the Whole: How a Values-Driven Organization Means Everyone Thrives

Facilitated by Cheryl R. Cook, CEO, Avodah; Idit Klein, Vice President for Public Engagement, New Israel Fund; and Lani Santo, CEO, Footsteps

5:15 PM

Room 710/712

Closing Reception

Tuesday, April 28 • 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

8:00 AM

Registration and Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Room 710/712

Affinity Group Breakfasts

9:30 – 9:45 AM

Room 710/712

Welcome and Resetting Our Space

Dr. Sara Shapiro-Plevan, Chief Program Officer, Elluminate

9:45 – 10:45 AM

Room 710/712

Framing Conversation: Social Change through Collective Impact: Advancing Equity and Justice

Moderated by Rachel Siegel, Director of Jewish Women's Leadership, Elluminate and Liron Peleg-Hadomi, Elluminate Israel Representative
Featuring: Michal Gera Margalio, Executive Director, The Union of Journalists in Israel | Kimberly Novod, Founder and Executive Director, Saul's Light Foundation | Moria Rodal Silfen, CEO, ATZUM – Task Force on Human Trafficking and Prostitution | Fraidy Reiss, Founder and Executive Director, Unchained At Last | Dyonna Ginsburg, CEO, OLAM

10:45 – 11:00 AM

Break

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Room 710/712

Framing Conversation: Social Justice and Human Rights: Gender Justice, Women's Safety and Security

Moderated by Nancy K. Kaufman
Featuring: Tamar Schwartz, CEO, Women's Spirit – Financial Independence for Women Survivors of Abuse | Dina Shalev, Executive Director, Lada'at – Choose Well | Ronie Nof Malc, Executive Director, Women and Their Bodies | Keshet Starr, CEO, Shalom Task Force | Julie F. Kay, CEO and Founder, Reproductive Futures

Leadership Action Groups: From Insight to Action

12:30 – 2:00 PM

LUNCH

Room 710/712

Lunch by Geographic Hub

Room 706/708

Elluminate Roundtable: U.S. – Israel Women's Leadership Lunch (By Invitation Only)

2:15 – 3:45 PM

Room 710/712

Seeding the Network: Planting for Future Growth

3:45 – 4:00 PM

Break

4:00 – 6:00 PM

Room 710/712

Launch Celebration: Building the Future of the Network

Welcome

Linda Yarden, President, Elluminate

Activating the Network: Priorities, Possibility, and the Path Forward

Melanie Roth Gorelick, CEO, Elluminate | Dr. Sara Shapiro-Plevan, Chief Program Officer, Elluminate

Voices of the Network: Building Together

Featuring: Ruth Messinger, Dean and Educator, Elluminate Collective | Orit Sulitzeanu, Executive Director, The Association of Rape Crisis Centers in Israel | Idit Klein, Vice President for Public Engagement, New Israel Fund | Dr. Analucia Lopezrevoredo, CEO, Jewtina y Co.

A Blessing for the Network and the Work Ahead

Rabba Sara Hurwitz, President and Co-Founder, Yeshivat Maharat | Rabbi Benay Lappe, Founder and Rosh Yeshiva, SVARA | Rabba Daphne Lazar Price, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University Law Center | Rabbi Mary Zamore, Executive Director, Women's Rabbinic Network

Closing Reception



**Scan here to see
the full program**

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schedule/



Participants

Hana Ackelsberg	Mindy Feldman Hecht
Naomi Ackerman	Deena Fuchs
Ela Alon	Stephanie Garry
Julia Appel	Michal Gera Margalio
Tamar Arenson	Rachel Gildiner
Michal Avera Samuel	Dyonna Ginsburg
Mazi Mazal Avidov Shaul	Joanna Golden
Aimee Baron	Pamela Goldstein
Ifat Baron Donio	Avra Gordis
Pearl Beck	Ellen Harrison
Robin Bernstein	Stephanie Hausner
Stephanie Blumenkranz	Michelle Horovitz
Heather Booth	Fern Hurst
Candice Braun	Sara Hurwitz
Sara Brenner	Julia Jassey
Laura Jane Brett	Marjorie Kaplan
Kerry Brodie	Shuli Karkowsky
Jodi Bromberg	Nancy Kaufman
Maddie Bucksbaum Adamson	Julie Kay
Jessica Chait	Idit Klein
Maryam Chishti	Lela Klein
Cheryl Cook	Adina Konikoff
Goddess Prospère de Passe	Andrea Kopel
Elisa Dell'Amico	Jamie Krass
Leah Eden	Joan Kuriansky
Tali Ehrenthal	Tania Laden
Roberta Elliott	Betsy Landis
Shira Epstein	Benay Lappe

Daphne Lazar Price
Lisa Lepson
Sarah Levin
Analucía Lopezrevoredo
Michelle Malkin
Elizabeth Mandel
Yavilah McCoy
Shoshana McKinney
Shahanna McKinney Baldon
Ruth Messinger
SooJi Min-Maranda
Kai Mishlove
Shelly Mitchell
Aela Morgan
Ari Mosbacher
Laurie Moskowitz
Ronie Nof Malc
Kimberly Novod
Liron Peleg
Sharon Pollack
Barbara Pollard
Susan Popper
Shanie Reichman
Fraidy Reiss
Micki Reiss
Yael Rockman
Moria Rodal Silfen
Judith Rosenbaum
Melanie Roth Gorelick
Bess Rothenberg
Lani Santo
Cindy Scheinfeld

Danielle Segal
Andrea Seiden
Daniella Seltzer
Dina Shalev
Michelle Shapiro Abraham
Sara Shapiro-Plevan
Liron Shoham
Tamar Shwartz
Rachel Siegel
Kelsey Simmons
Rebecca Sirbu
Nina Smith
Anna Solomon
Sasha Somers
Keshet Starr
Eva Stern
Ariel Stewart
Orit Sulitzeanu
Dana Talmi
Ramona Tenorio
Marilyn Thypin
Susan Wachsstock
Gayle Waxenberg
Susan Weidman Schneider
Rachel Weinstein
Stephanie Weiss
Julie Wiener
Sarit Wishnevski
Linda Yarden
Rabbi Mary Zamore
Moran Zer Katzenstein
Barbara Zuckerberg

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Advancing Gender Equity & Social Change

