Plenaries







PLENARY #1

Connect. Learn. Lead. We Begin with Connection

Ninety minutes. More than 120 JCC leaders. Zero trust falls.

You spend all year making sure everyone else feels connected, supported and safe. Now it's your turn. This interactive session is built to do in 90 minutes what often takes years: turn a room of colleagues into people you'll call when things get tough and when they go right. First Mifgash or 15th, you'll leave with shared language, practical skills and a close group of peers you'll stay connected with all year.

Megan Ragsdale, co-founder, The Hatch Company

PLENARY #2:

TZOMET: JCCs and the Jewish Community of 2050

It's 2050. What does Jewish life in North America look like, and how did we get there?

In this interactive *Tzomet* (crossroads) game, you'll explore four possible Jewish futures, looking past the next day-to-day to the forces that will shape North American Jewish life two decades from now.

Working in teams, you'll draw from a deck of possible events and build a timeline from today to 2050.Could you have predicted the impact of social media, the rise in antisemitism, or the changing Jewish family? Everything's on the table: Israel, Jewish identity, AI, the economy, technology, changing societal norms and the role of government. How might these variables affect the JCC of the future?

You'll leave ready to future-proof your JCC or JCC Camp, so you can see change coming and meet it head-on.

Barak Sella, senior research fellow, Middle East Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School

Phil Siegel, founder and managing partner, Tritium Partners

PLENARY #3:

Leading at This Moment

What we've built. Where we're headed. What it asks of you.

Our closing plenary is your chance to step back and take stock. What have we learned, built, and achieved together? And how do we keep growing as change speeds up, both inside the Jewish community and beyond it?

Barak Hermann, president and CEO of JCC Association of North America, will address the movement with a strategic update: insights on where the JCC Movement stands today and how JCC Association is working to support it. Last Mifgash, attendees named Barak's address one of the conference's most valuable experiences, pointing to the clarity of his vision and the momentum it created.

Barak then sits down with a special guest (to be announced soon) who has interviewed hundreds of Jewish voices, including rabbis and authors, journalists and artists, and thought leaders and influencers. Together, they'll look at the Jewish future and the part our movement will play in shaping it, for our communities and far beyond them.

Then we turn the question to you: what does this moment demand of you as a leader, of your JCC or independent JCC Camp as the anchor of your local community, and of all of us as one movement?

Barak Hermann, president and CEO, JCC Association of North America

Special Guest to be announced

QUESTIONS?
Check out the FAQ. Still have questions?
Email mifgash@jcca.org and we'll get back to you soon.

Last Modified on 11/10/2026 11:40 am EST