

# JEWISH COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

for the quarter ending December 31, 2020



**Ira Malis**  
Chair, IMC

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A year ago, I wrote to you about the outstanding performance the JCIF had in 2019 only to see Covid happen, and the markets dropped like a stone when the economy closed down in March. In April, we were wondering how the economy would recover from the pandemic. Nine months later and the equities markets have rebounded, surpassing the highs we experienced at the beginning of 2020. I am pleased to report that the JCIF ended the fourth quarter of 2020 up 10.5%! The trailing one-year was +15.7%. Considering the JCIF was -14.6% in the first quarter, we are extremely pleased with the performance.

As with other quarters, the global equity managers were the prime drivers of performance for 2020. Collectively, they were up 40.6% for the year. Tiger Long was up an astounding 64.5% for the year. Almost every sector recovered from the March downturn and were positive for the year. Our only problem area has been a small allocation to Real Assets, in the form of a leading MLP manager. While that manager

has outperformed their benchmark, the committee is concerned that the volatility associated with this asset class has not provided the inflation hedge we had hoped for.

Regardless of the market conditions, the Investment Management Committee (IMC) continues its work monitoring the JCIF and making sure our managers continue to perform. The quick rebound in an already extended market has made us even more diligent in finding managers whose strategies are not correlated to the equity markets. These managers should provide a steady base that will remove some of the volatility associated with the equity markets.

In recent quarters, our emerging markets managers have underperformed their peers in large part because they were underweight China. This quarter, the IMC sought to rectify that gap by engaging a new emerging markets manager, WCM, who has a higher exposure to China. This new manager will be funded by trimming the current emerging markets managers to keep the current allocation.

The IMC also made a commitment to another private equity fund as we look to expand on our private capital portfolio. We are also close to adding a new alternative manager who will be funded by trimming two existing alternative managers who have underperformed in recent quarters.

Finally, BlackRock CEO Larry Fink recently mentioned in his annual letter that climate change creates direct financial risk and that as investors we need to adjust to account for these risks. Coincidentally, a few of our investors have inquired about our view on ESG (environmental, social, and governance) investing in light of the recent heightened attention in this area. The IMC, with the aid of its investment consultant, FEG, will look at the issue and start a dialogue with our managers to see what they have done to address making investing more in line with the concerns of the Associated and our investors.

We are taking a deeper look at the diversity of our existing and potential managers as we believe, as a committee, that a diversity of backgrounds lead to better decision making.

We will report back to you as these conversations evolve.

We hope you and your families continue to remain safe and healthy. And, as always, thank you for your trust.

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## WHAT IS THE JCIF?

The Jewish Community Investment Fund (JCIF) is a Maryland business trust. The Associated Jewish Charities of Baltimore (AJC) serves as the sole trustee. Prior to 2013, the program was part of the AJC and called the CIF. When the board of the AJC voted to create the JCIF, it was done to separate the endowment assets from other assets (e.g., real estate) of the AJC. For more information, contact Michael Dye at [mdye@associated.org](mailto:mdye@associated.org).

## INVESTMENT TEAM

The JCIF is managed by the Investment Management Committee consisting of 25 volunteer leaders with extensive investment experience. Led by Ira Malis and aided by an executive committee and four sub-committees, the Committee is responsible for manager review and oversight. Day-to-day operations are handled by the professional staff of The Associated and aided by investment advisor, Fund Evaluation Group, and custodian, Wilmington Trust. The JCIF is audited annually by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

FUND VALUE \$749,998,970

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020

## PERFORMANCE

	QTR	1-year	3-year	5-year	10-year
JCIF	10.5%	15.7%	8.3%	9.5%	7.5%
Benchmark	10.2%	11.2%	7.6%	8.9%	6.2%
75/25*	11.1%	14.7%	9.2%	10.5%	8.0%

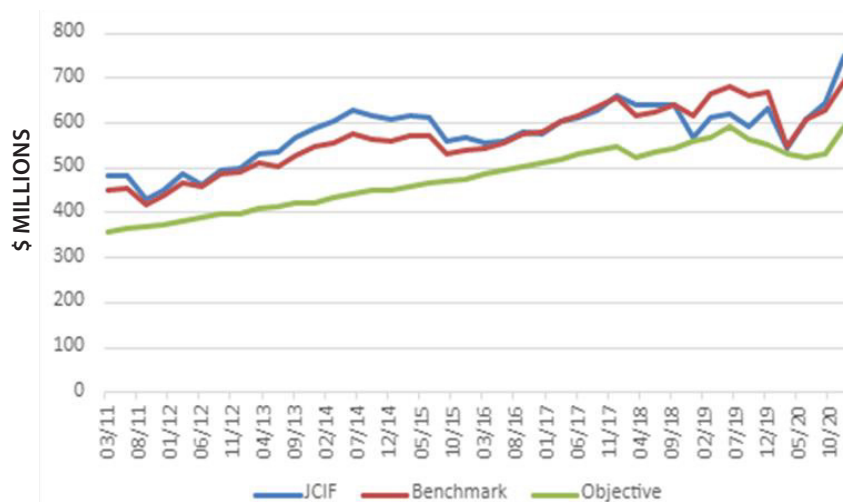
\* 75% MSCI ACWI and 25% Barclays Aggregate Bond Index

## PERFORMANCE BY SECTOR

	Asset Value #	% of JCIF	QTR	1-year	3-year	5-year	10-year
Domestic	203.4	27.1%	16.1%	21.7%	14.7%	15.8%	14.7%
Global	94.3	12.6%	13.9%	40.6%	18.6%	16.7%	14.0%
International	92.8	12.4%	16.4%	12.7%	4.9%	9.7%	7.3%
Emerging Markets	38.1	5.1%	21.9%	7.9%	1.9%	9.1%	2.9%
Lower Volatility	26.9	3.6%	9.9%	45.7%	16.1%	10.9%	8.4%
Fixed Income & Cash	106.4	14.2%	0.8%	5.2%	3.9%	3.3%	2.4%
Marketable Alternatives	104.1	13.9%	5.5%	5.5%	4.9%	5.0%	5.3%
Private Capital	74.9	10.0%		12.9%	8.9%	10.4%	9.3%
Real Assets	8.8	1.2%	22.6%	-25.6%	-15.0%	-4.9%	-8.3%

# in \$ Millions

## PERFORMANCE OVER TIME



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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