

Two Additional Plagues

A Reflection by Rabbi Susan Freeman,
Center for Jewish Care



**Jewish
Family
Service**

Moving Forward
Together



**Center for
Jewish
Care**

As we gather tonight to retell the story of our people's journey from bondage to freedom, we are reminded that the struggles of the past still echo in the challenges we face today. "B'chol dor va-dor" (in every generation) we are called to confront injustice and draw on the resilience and hope of our ancestors to create change. Acknowledging modern plagues helps us reflect on ongoing suffering, including in our San Diego community, and reminds us of our duty to take action.

1. The Plague of Hunger

Hunger is not a thing of the past—it affects many in our community today. Every day, hard-working families who can't afford food are forced to make impossible choices. *How do you choose between keeping a roof over your head, food in the fridge, and keep up with your medication? What if you can't afford all three?* The most vulnerable in our community, children and elderly, are the ones who suffer the most. **May we work together to ensure no one goes hungry, and may our efforts nourish our bodies, hearts, and souls.**

2. The Plague of Homelessness

Homelessness is a complex social problem that affects our communities in many ways. Maintaining a healthy diet, getting enough rest, and recovering from injury and illness is almost impossible without a place to call home. Right now, thousands of our neighbors lack safe shelter and stability, leaving them without security and with few places to turn. **May we open our hearts to those in need of shelter and advocate for lasting solutions, ensuring everyone has access to safe housing and support.**

This Passover, may these reflections inspire action, just as our ancestors fought for freedom. May we carry their lessons of resilience and hope into our efforts for a world where justice, dignity, and compassion extend to all.

Wishing you and your loved ones a safe and meaningful Passover!

Our Commitment

Jewish Family Service of San Diego (JFS) is committed to addressing hunger and homelessness in our community with care, compassion, and dignified support. By meeting people where they are with vital nutrition assistance like Lieber's Corner Market and Foodmobile home-delivered meals, and a clear pathway out of homelessness through Safe Parking, we're uplifting the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community and helping them move forward with purpose and resilience.

Every day...

30 bags of emergency food are picked up by individuals and families experiencing hunger.

490 meals are delivered to isolated older adults.

293 unhoused individuals sleep safely in their vehicles in our six JFS Safe Parking Lots.