



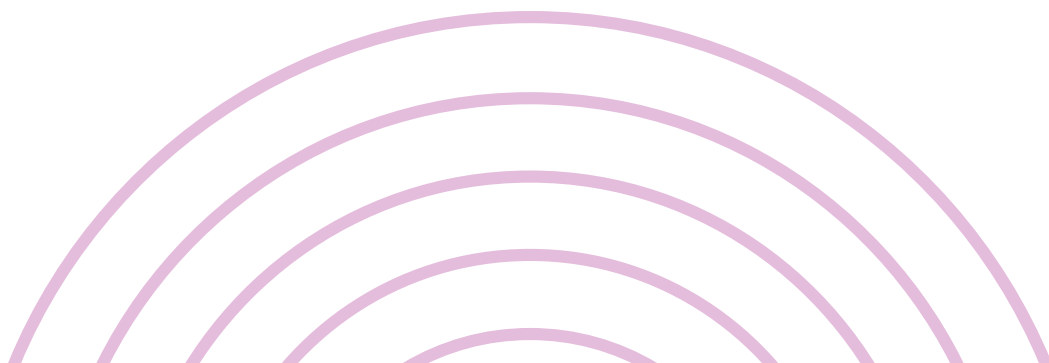
COVID-19 Giving Guide

Giving in a time of crisis can feel overwhelming and that's true of the COVID-19 pandemic. There are countless needs, demands on your time, and uncertainty about the economy. We believe that, although the circumstances have changed, the path forward hasn't. Giving thoughtfully, connected to community, and in alignment with your values brings clarity, guidance, and purpose.

This guide is designed to help you move past "[analysis paralysis](#)" and navigate a path towards meaningful, values-aligned giving, no matter the size of the gift. You may find that some of the questions challenge you; that is by design.

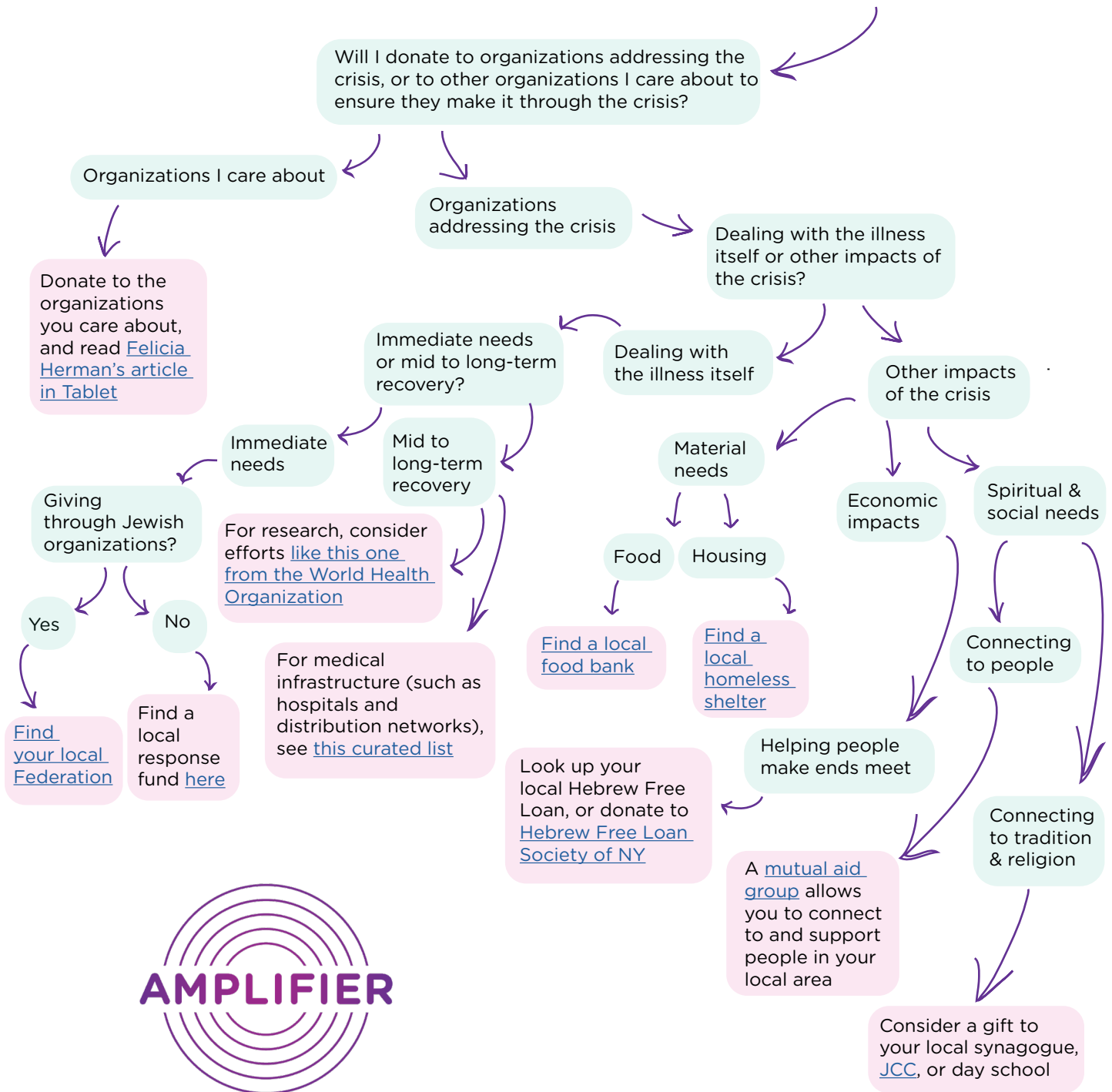
While we can't change the current state of the world, we can decide how to respond to it. Consider which Jewish values are most important to you, for example, the sacred value of saving human life (pikuach nefesh) or acts of loving kindness (gemilut hasadim)? How can you use those values to navigate a path through the COVID-19 crisis?

Consider starting with a grounding practice, such as taking three deep breaths. Then make your way through the decision tree below. You can do this multiple times if you'd like to make more than one gift. Use this guide in conversations with friends, colleagues, or family to foster connection and decide on a meaningful donation.



START HERE:

When considering my values, and who I want myself and the world to be *after* this crisis, how will I donate *during* the crisis?



These are just a small handful of the many organizations and people doing amazing work right now. We encourage you to make multiple gifts. Go through the flowchart again or research other organizations.

We have a curated list of additional resources [here](#).

Consider your capacity to give.

When considering your capacity to give, ask

- Materially, do I and those I support have what I/we need right now?
- Do I have a safety net to fall back on that will provide food, housing, and support if I, or others in my family lose my/our income?
- What about my income? Is it stable? Likely to remain so?
- Am I saving money by not going out, shopping, and/or travelling?
 - Tip: Is there a specific expense that I'm not paying right now that could be re-allocated to giving?
- What do I normally give each month or quarter?
- What is the most I can give right now: time, care, or money?
- Am I in a position to double or triple what I would generally give at this time of year?
- Am I able to give some or all of my year end gifts now?



Use disaster relief best practices when giving.



- Donate unrestricted funds so organizations can apply them where there is the greatest need as situations change.
- When possible, and unless otherwise requested by an organization, donate money, not goods, so organizations can buy the materials they need based on community sensibilities, needs, and changing realities.
- Support infrastructure and long-term sustainability by becoming a monthly donor and continuing to fund organizations once media coverage has subsided and/or after the crisis has passed.
- Many nonprofit organizations are hard hit by this pandemic. Continue supporting organizations you have always supported to ensure they endure.
- Consider giving your year-end gifts now.
- Check out the [Center for Disaster Philanthropy](#) for additional information on giving in times of crisis

“Hope is not a lottery ticket you can sit on the sofa and clutch, feeling lucky. It is an axe you break down doors with in an emergency... To hope is to give yourself to the future - and that commitment to the future is what makes the present inhabitable.”

- Rebecca Solnit, *Hope in the Dark*

“In an emergency, the responsibility to sustain the poor rests on the individual. Over time the responsibility shifts to rest on the community.”

- Commentary by Moses Isserles in Ketubot 67b



We'd love to know how you're using this resource!
Email us at hello@amplifergiving.org to let us know.