



A glimpse at what we have accomplished in  
the past year

# Israel Day at the Federation

**The Alliance had a strong presence at Israel Day at the Jewish Federation. Several board members maned a table promoting our organization which resulted in several new people joining the Alliance.**



# Demonstrations to Save the Hostages



Demonstrations in Sarasota continued in support of the hostages on Saturday mornings at the downtown Farmers Market and with Run for their Lives, on Sunday evenings

# Living Room Conversations and Potluck Dinners



The Alliance has started several living room conversations with members on topics ranging from the “Rules of War”, to “Immigration Stories from Members”, to the “STOP Woke Act of 2022 and its Legacies for Florida's Academics”

# Living Room Conversation

## **ANTI-SEMITISM: HOW SECURE ARE WE?**

Discussion led by Tom Baugher, Community Security Director for the Jewish Federation and facilitated by David Kaufman, SJA Board member



# Partnering with the Gathering

Alliance members attended a vigil at Payne Park sponsored by one of our collaborative groups, “The Gathering”. Program led by Rev. Bixby.



# Attending the vigil on Behalf of Immigrants



- Rabbis Michael Shefrin and Mimi Weisel, Sarasota School Board member Tom Edwards, Julie Friedman, Robin Taub Williams, Don Friedman, Marty Goldstein, Norman Olshansky, and Reverend Wes Bixby

# Attending protest at Alligator Alcatraz



## Uniting Our Community with Jewish Values



- Our Jewish values shape our actions.**
- We speak out on issues of ethical concern.**
- We bring together people of different political views to create nonpartisan approaches to policy concerns.**
- We support the State of Israel.**
- We speak about antisemitism and other hate.**
- We collaborate with nonprofit and faith-based community programs which share our values.**
- We embrace *tzedek, tikkun olam* and *derekh erez*.**



The time is late; the hour is short and the matter is urgent. It is not incumbent for us to complete the task, but neither are we free to desist from doing all we can. — *Pirkei Avot, Ethics of Our Fathers*

[suncoastjewishalliance.org](http://suncoastjewishalliance.org)  
941-685-1690



# Legislative Meeting

1. Several board members attended a legislative meeting with our Florida state representatives. (The meeting was sponsored by)
  - A. A new bill that will put more religion in the schools and if passed, would be a major violation of church state separation.
  - B. Concern over the appointment of an antisemitic individual to be a trustee at the University of West Florida.
2. We have submitted several letters to the editor on issues related to immigration, Israel, antisemitism and potential deportations.
3. We have met with several congregations to form collaborations and help with programming. Also we are pleased that 8 local congregations have been recognized for their leadership.
4. Our representatives have testified about immigration issues at the Sarasota County Commission and also about issues that affect the School Board.



# Reproductive Rights



**Prior to the referendum on Choice, the Alliance held a program with Florida Humanities on Reproductive Rights. Presenters were Rabbis Singer and Weisel.**

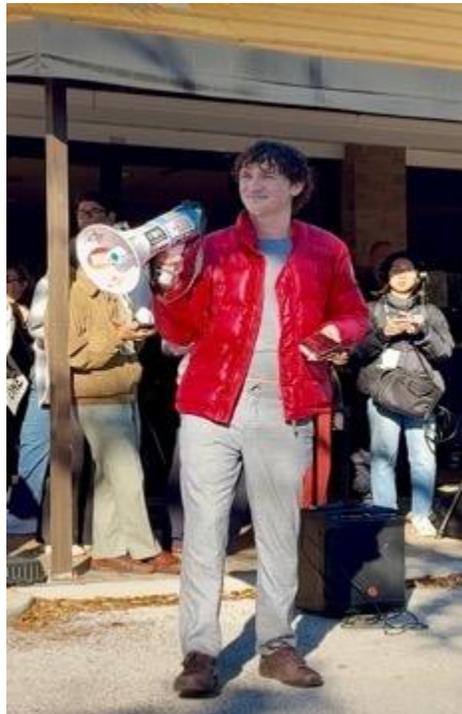
# Book Banning Program With Temple Emanu-El





**The Suncoast Jewish Alliance stands steadfastly with the Jewish State of Israel and held an emergency Zoom discussion just for Alliance members to respond to our immediate concerns. Board member Professor Uzi Baram and Alliance President Norm Olshansky provided a concise, history overview and then moderated the discussion.**

# ADVOCACY AT SCHOOL BOARD RALLY AGAINST PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT ICE IN THE SCHOOLS



# Ripped From the Headlines: From Program This Morning in Tampa



January 25 at Kol Ami Congregation Tampa

# Community Presentations and Educational Events

- Bay Plaza
- Cascades
- Jewish War Veterans
- TBS Mens Club
- Manatee Dems Club
- TBS Education Committee
- Venice Jewish Congregation Board
- Temple EmanuEl
- Kol Ami Congregation Tampa

Upcoming

League of Women's Voters

Social Justice Alliance

Temple Beth Israel LBK

# Co Sponsor of Israeli Hostage Event

**FROM CAPTIVITY**



**BRING TO FREEDOM**

**27 OCT**  
**MON**  
**6:00PM**

An evening with  
**OMER SHEM TOV**  
Hostage Survivor and Activist

Join us for an inspiring evening as Omer reflects on his harrowing journey through **505** days of captivity, his release, recovery, and his unwavering advocacy for the hostages still held today.

Sponsored by:  

In Partnership with:     

The Ora - 578 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, FL 34232  
**FREE - RSVP required**

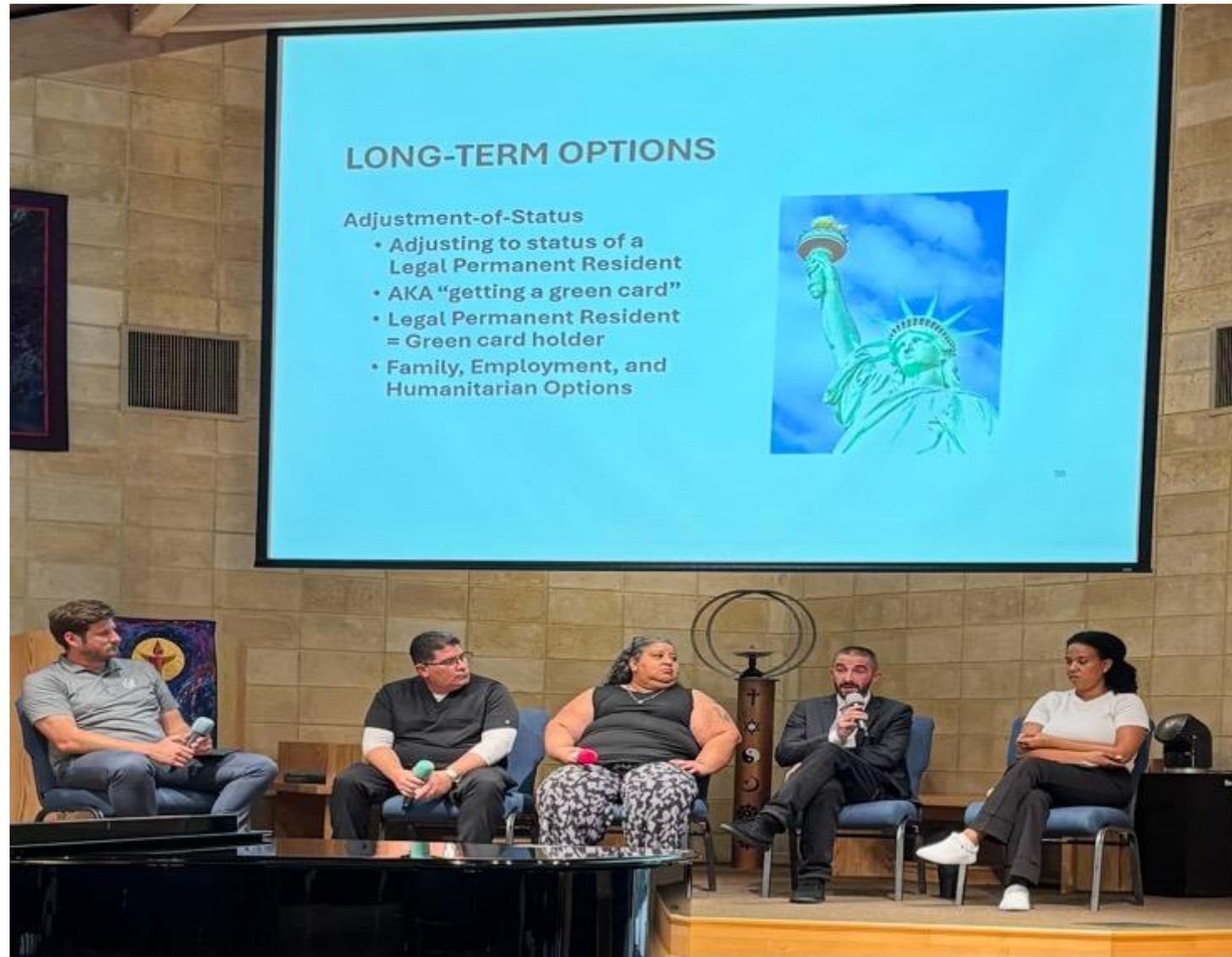
**TO REGISTER, VISIT:**  
[www.OmerInSarasota.com](http://www.OmerInSarasota.com)



Special thanks to: Arad Social, Impact Suncoast, LLC, and Three North Management/ Allison & Matt Branson

For more information: [GiselePintchuck@yahoo.com](mailto:GiselePintchuck@yahoo.com) Content may not be suitable for young audiences

# Partnering with Immigration Justice Coalition



# Living Room Conversation Immigration

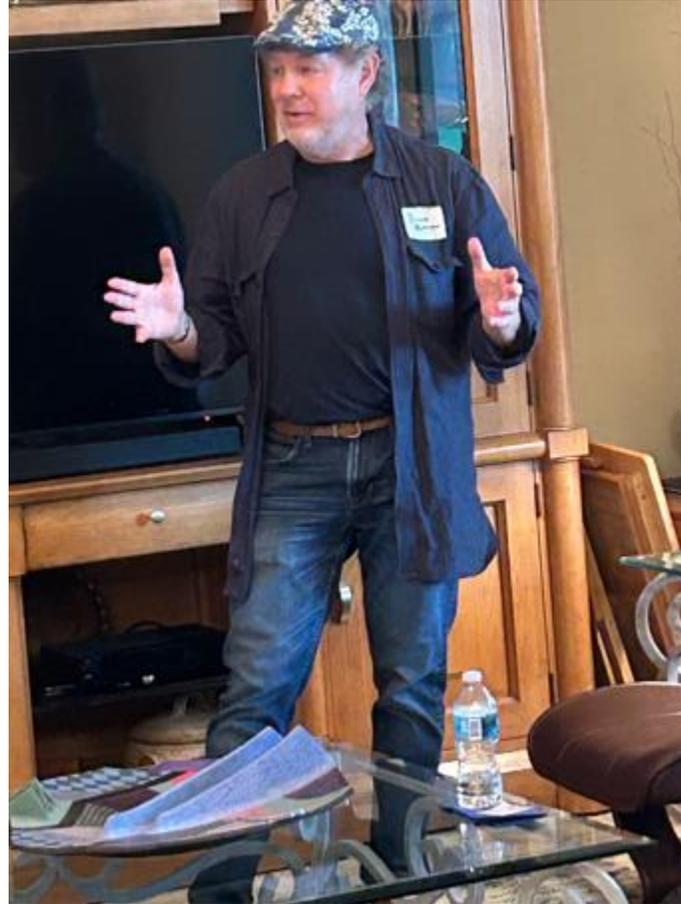


## IMMIGRATION JUSTICE COALITION



- Discussion led by Maria Robayo and Juan Pablo Salas
- and facilitated by Uzi Baram, Alliance Board Member and Program Chairman

# LRC with Dr. Bruce Abramson: New College Discussion on Florida Stop the Woke Act



# Christian Roots of Antisemitism

## LRC Presented by Reverend Wes Bixby



# Living Room Conversation with Tampa and National Staff from the Anti-Defamation League



*Come to a Living Room Conversation with Friends  
and Potluck Dinner*



**ADL Mission: "to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all"**

Discussion led by Lucas Martinez, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Emily Bernstein, Tampa Bay Community Manager

A briefing on the national, state, and regional trends in antisemitism and latest ADL initiatives

**Sunday December 7, 2025, starting at 5 pm**

**Hosted by Karen and Paul Kade**

Please RSVP to [suncoastjewishalliance1@gmail.com](mailto:suncoastjewishalliance1@gmail.com)  
by November 21st for directions to their home and  
for suggestions on what you can bring for the potluck



# Antisemitism in Florida Living Room Conversation



# The Art of War Living Room Conversation

## February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

*Potluck Dinner*

Discussion led by  
David Kaufman

**Sunday February 15th, starting at 5 pm**

**Hosted by Julie and Don Friedman**

RSVP to [suncoastjewishalliance1@gmail.com](mailto:suncoastjewishalliance1@gmail.com) by February 7th  
for directions to their home

- Bring your favorite dish for the potluck

# Topics: Opinion Editorials and LTE's in Herald Tribune by Members of the Alliance

Charlie Kirk

Freedom of Speech

Antisemitism

Anti Israel Rhetoric

BDS

Gaza War

Immigration and ICE

War Against Libraries

Separation of Church and State

Gaza Real Estate

FSU trustee appointment

UNWRA

Appreciation of Dr Fauci

New Laws re: Public Schools

College Campus Protests

Invocations at School Bd Meetings

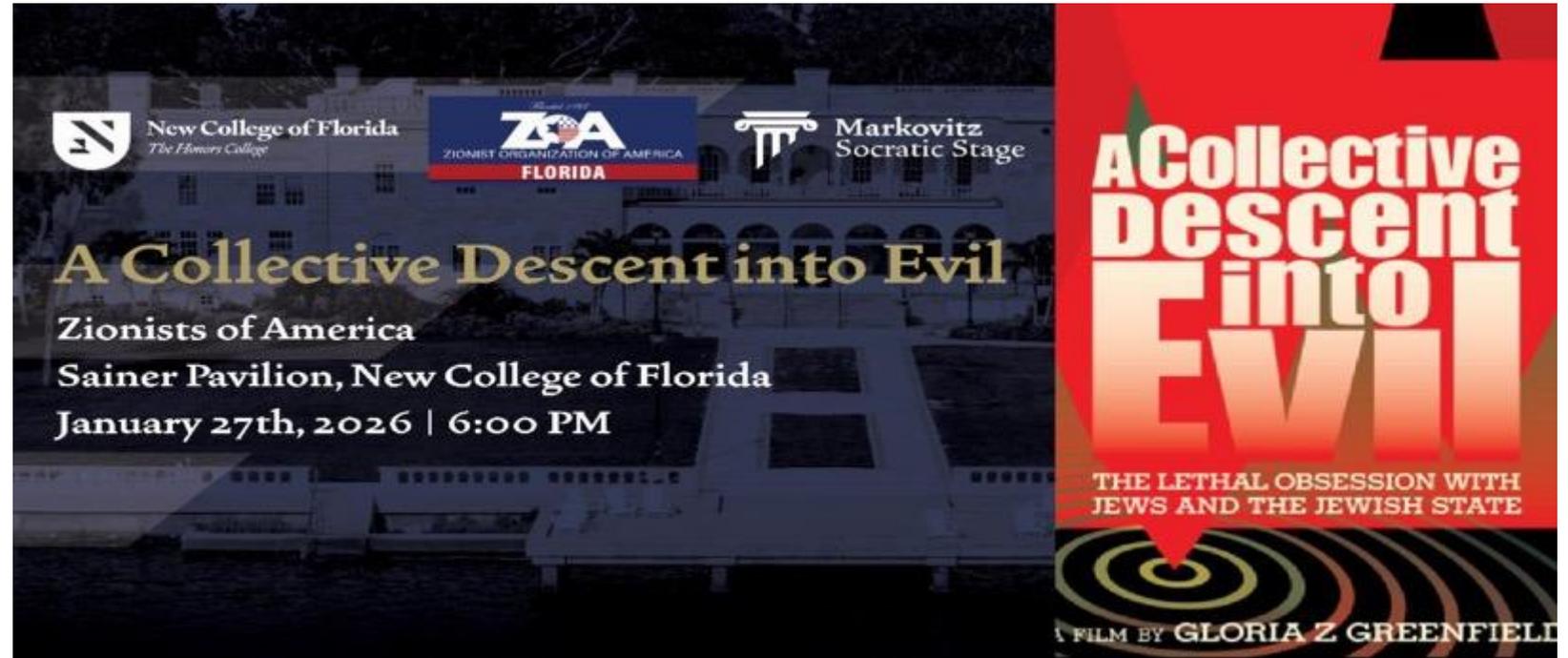
Opposition to Problematic School Board and Florida Legislation

# A Few of our Collaborating Organizations



Reminder: Dues for 2026 are now due  
Additional contributions are always appreciated





Join us at New College of Florida for Gloria Z. Greenfield's newest documentary, **A Collective Descent into Evil: The Lethal Obsession with Jews and the Jewish State** (2026).

The film delivers a powerful examination of the forces driving modern antisemitism, hostility toward Israel, and the broader ideological threats to Western civilization. Through expert voices, the film clarifies what is at stake and what must be done to confront these dangers.

An award-winning filmmaker and founder of Doc Emet Productions, Greenfield has spent more than 15 years strengthening Jewish identity and confronting ideological attacks on democracy through internationally acclaimed films translated into ten languages. Her notable works include *Civilization in the Danger Zone*, *The Fight of Our Lives*, *Unmasked Judeophobia*, and *The Case for Israel*.

# FYI: Future Events By Other Organizations

CHABAD OF VENICE AND NORTH PORT PRESENTS IN COMMEMORATION OF HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

**CHABAD VENICE**

**A MORNING WITH SORA VIGORITO**

# **YOUNGEST KNOWN SURVIVOR OF MENGELE'S EXPERIMENTAL TWINS**

*A historic opportunity to hear a surviving voice from Auschwitz's infamous "Angel of Death"*

**WEDNESDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 4, 10:00 AM**  
Doors Open: 9:30 AM

**NEVER AGAIN!**

**VENICE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
326 NOKOKIMS AVE, VENICE FL 34985

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR  
**GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

**TICKETS: [ChabadOfVenice.com/Tickets](https://ChabadOfVenice.com/Tickets)**

The poster features a background image of a concentration camp with a gate and train tracks. A woman, Sora Vigorito, is shown in the bottom right corner. The text is primarily in white and yellow on a dark background.

# FYI

**BUILDING BRIDGES**  
Spring 2026 Discussion Series

**BOXSER DIVERSITY INITIATIVE**

**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Sarasota County**  
Presenting Sponsor

## THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN-JEWISH CIVIL RIGHTS ALLIANCE

### SHARED LEGACIES



Join **Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.**, Civil Rights leader and former NAACP Executive Director, and **Rabbi Dr. Judy Schindler**, Professor of Jewish Studies and Executive Director of Spill the Honey Foundation, for an inspiring film screening and conversation about the Black-Jewish partnership that helped shape the Civil Rights Movement—and offers hope and guidance in today's divided present.

**February 5, 2026**  
**7:00 PM**

Unitarian Universalists of Sarasota

Free & open to all. Space is limited. **Please register.**  
[BoxserDiversityInitiative.org](http://BoxserDiversityInitiative.org)

**WATCH THE TRAILER**



**SAVE YOUR SEAT**



*Our Partners*



*"Powerful and inspiring." —World Jewish Congress*

FYI



# Serving Hope Luncheon

hosted by the **Bread for the World**  
*Coalition of Sarasota*

Join us for a special luncheon with **Rev. Eugene Cho**,  
President & CEO of Bread for the World.

Learn how you can be part of the movement to end hunger —  
and connect with others committed to advocacy and change.

**Friday,  
February 6, 2026**  
11:30 a.m. Doors Open  
12:00 p.m. Lunch and Program

**Palm Aire  
Country Club**  
5601 Country Club Way,  
Sarasota, FL 34243

Attire: Country Club Casual

Kindly RSVP by **Monday, January 26**  
**Register or Donate:** [bread.org/Sarasota](https://bread.org/Sarasota)  
Questions? Contact **Doreen Dowd**  
at [ddowd@bread.org](mailto:ddowd@bread.org)



FYI



ZOA Florida invites you to our  
upcoming event with

## **AVI ABELOW**

Host of The Pulse of Israel daily  
CEO of 12Tribe Films Foundation  
Founder & Senior Editor  
*IsraelUnWired.com*

# **FROM MISSILES TO MIRACLES**

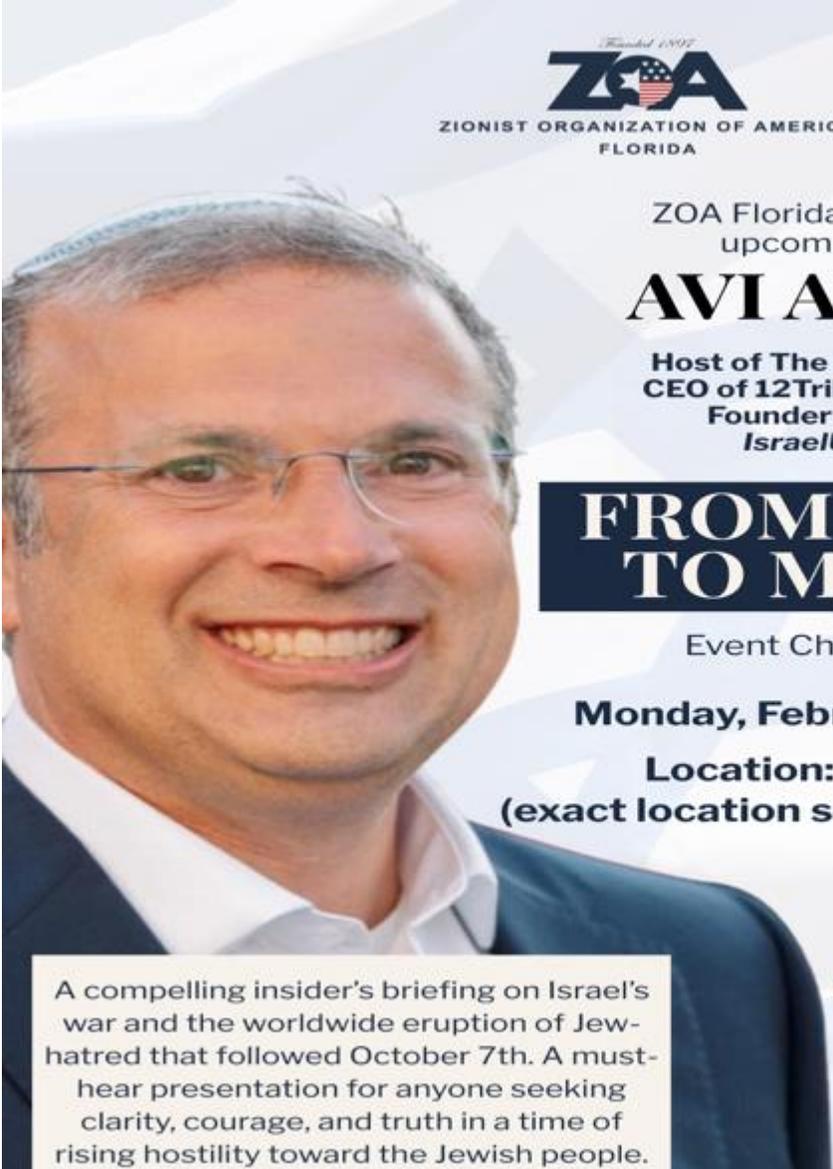
Event Chair: Brent Rubin

**Monday, February 16 | 7:30 PM**

**Location: Bradenton, FL**  
**(exact location sent after registration)**

No cost to attend.  
To register, please visit:  
[www.zoa.org/events](http://www.zoa.org/events)  
Sponsorship opportunities  
listed in link above.

Questions?  
Contact Allison Zur:  
[azur@zoa.org](mailto:azur@zoa.org)

A portrait of Avi Abelow, a middle-aged man with glasses, smiling. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt.

A compelling insider's briefing on Israel's war and the worldwide eruption of Jew-hatred that followed October 7th. A must-hear presentation for anyone seeking clarity, courage, and truth in a time of rising hostility toward the Jewish people.