Community Security Initiative
2020 Year-End Report
January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

prepared by Federation's Impact Department
How the Community Security Initiative Assists Institutions within Greater MetroWest.

During 2020, the Chief Security Officer (Bob Wilson) assisted:

**73 institutions 110 times**

- **58** Threat Assessments
- **31** Assistance - Security Grants
- **26** Physical Assessments
- **6** Training Classes

53% of the institutions requests were for threat assessments.
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Threat Assessments:
Threat assessments involved vandalism, emails, social media postings, interrupted video-conferencing, flyers posted, letters received and phone calls, which often included displays of hate symbols and anti-Semitic messages. The most common incidents assessed were expressed threats, implied threats and vandalism.

During 2020, Bob Wilson conducted 58 threat assessments.

48% of the requests for threat assessments were located in Essex county.

48% of institutions are located in Essex county.

# of requests
- Essex: 28
- Union: 16
- Morris: 12
- Somerset: 2

# of agencies
- Essex: 12
- Union: 4
- Morris: 4

# of synagogues
- Essex: 29
- Union: 22
- Morris: 21
- Somerset: 4
- Sussex: 3
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Threat Assessments:

Threat assessments were requested by:

- **30** synagogues
- **17** partner agencies

63% of the synagogues were located in Essex county.
53% of the partner agencies were located in Essex county.

* 11 threat assessments were requested by law enforcement, community members and security partners.
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Physical Assessments:

During 2020, Bob Wilson conducted 26 physical assessments.

54% of the requests for threat assessments were located in Essex county.

13 assessments were during COVID-19 & physical assessments being conducted every 3 years.
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Physical Assessments:

Physical assessments were requested by:

- **17 synagogues**
  - 53% of the synagogues were located in Essex county.

- **9 partner agencies**
  - 55% of the partner agencies were located in Essex county.

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"I love Bob Wilson. He's been a friend and a trusted advisor. A lot of what we did to secure the synagogue is thanks to him." - Rabbi in GMW NJ
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Security Grant Assistance:

Bob Wilson assisted 31 synagogues and partner agencies in obtaining security grants.

| State grants | 17 | 12 synagogues & 5 agencies |
| Federal grants | 14 | 12 synagogues & 2 agencies |

53% of institutions that Bob Wilson assisted received a state grant.

64% of institutions that Bob Wilson assisted received a federal grant.

The Greater MetroWest community received $210,000 in nonprofit security grants.

The Greater MetroWest community received $900,000 in nonprofit security grants.
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Security Grant Assistance:

Bob Wilson lobbied on the existing threat in the Greater MetroWest Jewish community.

before the State Senate:

NJ increased security state funding to $1,000,000
an increase of $500,000.

in Washington DC:

Department of Homeland Security increased federal nonprofit security funding to $90,000,000
an increase of $40,000,000.
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What our Synagogues and Partner Agencies are saying*

**93%** believe their organization is **better prepared** for a security threat because of Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest's Chief Security Officer, **Bob Wilson**.

**83%** always or usually use Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest's Chief Security Officer, **Bob Wilson** as a **resource** when it comes to security and threats.

"I had called **Bob** in the evenings, in the mornings, weekends, spur of the moment, at home and even multiple times when he was on vacation, **always taking my calls**. I have asked him to meet in person or accompany me to meetings with LE/Security Officials on more than several occasions; **he obliges each of my requests eagerly**." - synagogue

"There is a plethora of Law Enforcement (LE)/Homeland Security agencies at the local, state, federal and cross-jurisdictional levels. As seems to be apparent in the Capitol Hill attack, they do not always communicate or work together seamlessly. The echelons of security are built on interpersonal relationships; **Bob has created a career's worth of excellent relationships**. I have witnessed these relationships. I have **leveraged my relationship with Bob to access his network, which has served our synagogue well.**" - synagogue

"Robert (Bob) Wilson is a **vital asset** for MetroWest and and our synagogue in particular. He is **thoughtful, pragmatic** and not shy about expressing a point of view. I **trust his judgment and assessments**." - synagogue security chairman

"**Bob Rocks!!!!!!!** He is our go to guy whenever we have any question related to security. Our security chair, our co-presidents are all familiar with Bob and respect his opinion and info." - synagogue Rabbi

* 53% response rate
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How concerned do synagogues and partner agencies feel about security of their organization?*

The preparedness of our synagogues and partner agencies:

92% of institutions had a security assessment.*

Bob Wilson completed 63% of the partner agencies and synagogues assessment.

Physical assessments are typically conducted every 3 years.

* 53% response rate
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The preparedness of our synagogues and partner agencies:

73% of institutions have **Emergency Operations Procedures** and 67% have a **committee for security planning**.*

- 32 institutions have an emergency operations procedure (8 were not sure)
- 30 institutions have a committee for security planning

- 25 institutions were synagogues
- 22 institutions were synagogues

48% of institutions had a security-related **training** with their congregants.*

- Active shooter training was the most popular.

* 53% response rate
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The preparedness of our synagogues and partner agencies:

55% of institutions use security personnel and security equipment.*

- 50% of synagogues have both security equipment and personnel.
- 70% of agencies have both security equipment and personnel.

The majority of institutions fund their security personnel and equipment from dues.*

*53% response rate
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The preparedness of our synagogues and partner agencies:

82% of institutions used security personnel prior to COVID-19.*

7 out of 10 partner agencies used security personnel.

24 out of 28 synagogues used security personnel.

88% of the synagogues who have security personnel assign them during High Holidays.*

* 53% response rate
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The preparedness of our synagogues and partner agencies:

89% of institutions have a good relationship with their police department.*

- **25** Synagogues have a good relationship. (3 have a decent relationship)
- **9** Partner Agencies have a good relationship. (1 does not have a relationship)

What institutions are doing during COVID-19

53% of institutions feel the same concern about their security as last year.*

- 54% Synagogue less concerned
- 8% Synagogue same
- 39% Synagogue more concerned
- 7% Partner Agencies less concerned
- 53% Partner Agencies same
- 39% Partner Agencies more concerned

*53% response rate
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68% of synagogues had services both inside and outside.*

*53% response rate