



## **CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS** **of Major American Jewish Organizations**

### **Message from Dianne Lob**

#### **Conference of Presidents Chair-Elect**

April 20, 2020

New York, NY

I am honored to be nominated to serve as Chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and thank the Nominating Committee for their trust and confidence.

As someone deeply devoted to Jewish values, and to the importance of safeguarding the special US-Israel relationship, it is the role of a lifetime, which I promise to fulfill to the best of my abilities. Under the leadership of Arthur Stark, and his predecessors as Chair, and of Malcolm Hoenlein, and now William Daroff, the Conference has ably served as the consensus voice of our member organizations and of American Jewry. If elected, I intend to keep us on the course that has resulted in such significant successes for the Conference and for the Jewish community.

My involvement with HIAS developed from my personal history as the child of refugees from Nazi Germany and the grandchild of family members murdered in the Holocaust. Today, my support for a strong and vibrant Israel is rooted in my belief that the safety and security of Israel is critical to Jews in the United States and across the world. I firmly believe that a secure Israel is necessary for our community to thrive, and I will do everything in my power to assure that strength is maintained and enhanced. The Conference must continue its historical commitment to support the democratically elected government of Israel and to strengthen the ties between Israel and the United



States as well as with the American Jewish community. The delegitimization of Israel continues to be a threat we must counter, as is the reprehensible BDS Movement, which we must continue to strongly oppose. I believe that we must also re-focus on fighting the new and old antisemitism, which is more acute than it has been at any time since World War II, as well as anti-Zionism, which is simply a modern form of Jew hatred. I look forward to continuing the unique role the Conference plays in helping vulnerable Jewish communities across the world, which is critically important to their survival. We must also ensure that the halls of government - in Washington, Jerusalem, and across the globe - continue to be open for us to advocate and advise.

I will devote significant time to meeting with and learning the views and concerns of the leadership of member organizations. The role of the Chair is to build and present the consensus view that will ensure a unified communal response on the important challenges and issues of the day. I will wholeheartedly uphold that responsibility and will work to strengthen unity in our community.