

## **Board of Commissioners**

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Lake County Board of Commissioners Support Jewish Federation of Cleveland

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, May 19, 2023– Lake County Commissioners attended the "2023 Public Officials Breakfast" on Monday, April 8, 2023, at the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.

The Jewish Federation of Cleveland aims to promote the well-being of the Jewish community, its members, and Jews throughout the world. The annual 2023 Public Officials Breakfast gather Federal, State and Local Public Officials to discuss legislative priorities and offer thanks for their support.

The breakfast also highlighted Stand Up to Jewish Hate, a national campaign designed to raise awareness about antisemitism and hatred against Jews. All people are encouraged to post and share the Blue Square to stand up against intolerance. The initiative uses the blue square to represent the approximately 2.6 percent of Americans



From the left: South Euclid Mayor Georgine Welo, President at Opportunity Funds Association Shafron (Shay) Hawkins, Commissioner John Plecnik,

who call themselves Jewish – but who are on the receiving end of 55 percent of all religious-hate crimes. Stand Up to Jewish Hate provides resources to educate the public about modern antisemitism and understand how they can take action and stand up against it.

"It was an honor to attend the breakfast and help raise awareness of antisemitism," said Commission President John R. Hamercheck. "As leaders, it is important we understand the problem of antisemitism so we can work together to address it."

"This was an incredible event and I am proud to support the Blue Square Campaign to stand up to Jewish Hate," said Commissioner John Plecnik. "I wear the Blue Square pin to help raise awareness, and I encourage everyone to do the same."

"Thank you to the Jewish Federation of Cleveland for inviting us to attend this event. I was honored by the privilege to stand amongst my colleagues and other community leaders to learn more about what action I can take in my community," said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.

Learn more about how to stand up to Jewish Hate at https://www.standuptojewishhate.org/