January 9, 2015

*Joint Statement by the San Francisco-based Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and the Jewish Federation & The Jewish Community Foundation of the East Bay*

San Francisco ---- Today, as the worldwide Jewish community enters its weekly observance of the Sabbath, we mourn deeply with the people of France, including the Parisian Jewish community, who are reeling from three days of terror. The deadly terrorist attack by Islamic extremists on French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo was followed today by the murder of hostages seized by the terrorists at a kosher supermarket in Paris. We condemn in the strongest terms these barbaric attacks, which are part of a pattern of violent fundamentalism that has swept across Europe in recent years.

We stand with the people of France and the Paris Jewish community in opposition to hatred and terror, and offer our prayers to the victims' families. We call for the restoration of calm and security for all. These tragic events underscore the importance of safeguarding our cherished democratic freedoms.

The leadership of our local Jewish community remains vigilant and, while there are no imminent or specific threats, in an abundance of caution, we maintain in close contact with law enforcement and security officials in the Bay Area.

Community members are encouraged to join a vigil organized by the French Consulate this Sunday, January 11, at 2:00 pm at San Francisco Civic Center, to demonstrate our support and solidarity with the French people, including the French Jewish community.