Marcia Riklis (JFN Board Chair) is a businesswoman with a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from New York University. Marcia worked as an account executive at Grey Advertising and later joined her family business, a diverse conglomerate. In 1990 she founded a hair care business which she later sold to focus on personal investments and philanthropic endeavors.

Marcia’s major involvements revolve around Israel, Social Services, Women’s Issues, Organizational Excellence, and opportunities for bringing together diverse voices. Marcia’s philanthropy ranges from small entrepreneurial projects that she can seed fund to bring to scale to working with large existing legacy organizations to help to increase their productivity.

Marcia has devoted significant resources to UJA Federation of New York, serving for eight years on the Executive Committee, for two of which she served as Campaign Chair. She presently chairs the IPAD committee, that part of the organization devoted to Measuring and Evaluating the Impact of all of the work of UJA. Previously, she founded and chaired a special cross commission task force designed to encourage collaboration across all divisions at UJA as it relates to work in Israel.

As an entrepreneurial philanthropist, helped to found One Voice on Campus, a fast growing project which brings together students of all faiths to engage in conflict resolution, particularly as it relates to The Israeli Palestinian conflict. Another project involves working with Yehuda Kurtzer from The Hartman Institute on issues relating to Courageous Leadership in the Jewish Community. She also conceived and sponsored the writing of a unique textbook on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict which was team written by an Israeli, a Palestinian, and an Egyptian, designed to demonstrate for graduate students the differing narratives which can be created around the same facts.