



PRESS RELEASE

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First Endowment Leadership Institute Session Held

More than 40 lay and professional leaders from twelve local Jewish organizations, schools and synagogues joined together on April 21st for the first session of the Endowment Leadership Institute. Through the program, the Jewish Community Foundation will partner with each of these agencies for three years to establish bequests and other legacy gifts for our community.

Endowment Leadership Institute Chair Jane Scher kicked off the April 21st session by expressing her excitement about the wide impact of the program. "We at the Foundation truly see ELI as a powerful investment in the future of our community. There are so many people who would be happy to establish charitable bequests, if they were only asked."

Rabbi Simcha Weiser, Headmaster of the Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School shared the significance of the Jewish concept of eternity, noting the importance of achievement and contribution beyond one's mortal years. After the *d'var torah*, each participant signed a *brit kodesh*, a sacred covenant, with the Foundation. The contract stipulated the responsibilities of each organization.

Nationally-recognized planned giving consultant and author, Betsy Mangone, then led an interactive workshop about the key steps of building a bequest program. Following the group session, Mangone met with representatives from each organization to discuss their respective programs.

"The individual coaching and training is one of the most important components of ELI," said Marjory Kaplan, Foundation Executive Director. "Foundation staff and consultants serve as resources, educators, mentors, advisors and guides."

ELI participating organizations include:

Agency for Jewish Education
Congregation Adat Yeshurun
Congregation Beth Israel
Hillel of San Diego
Jewish Family Service
Lawrence Family JCC
Jacobs Family Campus

San Diego Jewish Academy
Soille Hebrew Day School
Temple Adat Shalom
Temple Solel
Tifereth Israel Synagogue
United Jewish Federation of San Diego County

Through advertising and public relations throughout San Diego, the program will also benefit all local Jewish organizations by encouraging members of our community to **Leave a Jewish Legacy**.

For more information, call the Foundation at 858-279-2740.

Since 1967, the Jewish Community Foundation has partnered with donors and community organizations in achieving their philanthropic goals. In addition, the Foundation works to increase current and future support for a vibrant and secure Jewish community in San Diego, Israel and around the world. During fiscal year 2002/2003, the Jewish Community Foundation distributed more than \$36 million in 3,000 separate grants to 700 different charitable organizations.

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Photo Caption:

From left to right: Planned Giving Consultant and Special Guest Presenter Betsy Mangone; Edgar Berner, Jewish Community Foundation President Elect; Marjory Kaplan, Foundation Executive Director; Jane Scher, Endowment Leadership Institute Chair