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Jewish Community Foundation Holds Seventh Book of Life Signing

On the Sunday before Passover, the Jewish Community Foundation honored a group of new signers to inscribe their names in the Book of Life. Individuals and families are eligible to sign the Book of Life by promising to establish a current endowment or legacy gift of any size to one or more Jewish organizations or synagogues. Eleven new families' personal statements and photographs are now included in this philanthropic archive.

"Signers come from all backgrounds and have many different interests," noted Marjory Kaplan, JCF president and chief executive officer and holder of the *Miriam and Jerome Katzin Presidential Chair*. "They are brought together by their commitment to keep the Jewish community strong for generations to come."

Since 2001 when the program was launched, more than 165 people have signed the Book of Life, expressing their commitment to Jewish values and heritage and to ensuring that the Jewish people will survive and flourish. Drawing upon family traditions, Jewish values and life experiences, signers share their hopes and dreams for the future.

"The ability to give back and contribute –time, talent, and financial capacity – is a motivating force for me," said Book of Life signer Joe Cohen. "I am inspired to help others and understand their charitable capacity for doing good in the world. In the mode of living through giving we enhance our true happiness."

If you are interested in signing the Book of Life or for more information, please contact Jamie Zander by e-mail at jamie@jcfsandiego.org or at 858-279-2740.

About the Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego:

Since 1967, the Jewish Community Foundation has partnered with individuals, families and community organizations to help them achieve their philanthropic goals and to increase current and future support for a vibrant and secure Jewish community in San Diego, Israel and around the world.

During fiscal year 2008-09, the Foundation awarded and facilitated \$62 million in 4,700 grants to more than 1,000 Jewish and general organizations in San Diego, the United States and Israel. Visit the Jewish Community Foundation at www.jcfsandiego.org or call 858-279-2740.

Note to editors: A high-resolution image is available. Please contact Jamie Zander, marketing and donor services officer, at jamie@jcfsandiego.org.



Attendees gathered around the Book of Life at Congregation Beth El to recite a special prayer at the end of the ceremony on March 28.