



PRESS RELEASE

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Jewish Community Foundation Awards Grants for Hunger Relief in Israel and FSU

The Jewish Community Foundation recently awarded **special grants to vital hunger relief programs in Israel and in the Former Soviet Union** through its donor advised fund program. Both giving opportunities were publicized by the Foundation in a special High Holiday bulletin of critical needs for Jews worldwide.

The hunger relief grants in Israel were distributed in response to a recent study just published by the Ministry of Health and Brookdale Institute. The study reported that 22% of Israeli citizens or one million people are too poor to maintain a balanced diet. Doctors also reported that a significantly increased amount of patients are suffering from malnutrition. The grants in the Former Soviet Union were awarded to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) to address ongoing issues of hunger confronted by elderly Jews, most of whom are alone, isolated and poor. The JDC food packages are often their sole source of nutrition.

“As Jews, one of our primary mandates is to feed the hungry, yet we often forget that these life and death issues impact our own community. By partnering with donors and providing them with important information, we can truly save lives,” said Marjory Kaplan, Foundation Executive Director.

Through the Foundation’s donor advised fund program, individuals and families set up charitable funds and receive an immediate tax deduction. They then retain the privilege of recommending grants to compelling community organizations in their interest areas and receive education and advice in grantmaking.

For more information about establishing a donor advised fund with the Jewish Community Foundation, call Merle Brodie at 858-279-2740.

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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.