

Jewish Women's Foundation of San Diego Invests in Jewish Teenage Girls

By Jamie Zander



In conjunction with its fifth anniversary, the **Jewish Women's Foundation of San Diego**, (JWF) has funded its second major initiative, an investment in Jewish teenage girls. The JWF recently awarded funding to enable the Agency for Jewish Education to continue and expand **Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing**, a program that addresses the specific issues of adolescent girls from a Jewish perspective.

The program brings together small groups of girls for monthly Rosh Hodesh (new moon) celebrations. Each group is facilitated by an educator who connects Jewish values with life lessons while exploring such issues as body image, friendship, relationships, assertiveness, stress and family. The safe and supportive atmosphere is designed to enable girls to articulate questions and concerns, to connect to peer and adult mentors, and to build Jewish identity.

"The Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing program clearly addresses the JWF's mission of improving the lives of Jewish women and girls," said **Chair Marcia Hazan**. "Teenage girls face many issues and challenges, and it's important for them to feel supported and connected."

The Jewish Women's Foundation (JWF), a program of the **Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego**, is dedicated to supporting the Jewish community through innovative and creative funding to benefit and enhance the lives of Jewish women

and girls locally and globally. The JWF combines hands-on philanthropy with community-driven projects. The JWF consists of more than 70 women who have joined together to improve the lives of Jewish women and girls in San Diego, Israel and around the world. New members are welcome. To join the JWF visit www.jcfsandiego.org/Programs_womens.htm or call Charlene Seidle at 858-279-2740 for more information.

The JWF established its first program, **Supporting Jewish Single Parents (SJSP)** at Jewish Family Service three years ago

and continues to significantly fund the program. SJSP connects single mothers and single fathers and their families to the Jewish community and advocates for their needs. Visit www.supportingjisp.org.

The Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego partners 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. With assets of more than \$265 million, the Jewish Community Foundation is the largest grant maker in San Diego and awarded more than \$55 million in grants last year.

