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CONTACT: **Emily Jennewein**  
**Director of Marketing and Communications**  
**858-279-2740 or 858-775-5887**  
[emily@jcfsandiego.org](mailto:emily@jcfsandiego.org)

### **Jewish Community Foundation Graduates First Class and Transforms the Culture of Giving in San Diego**

With pomp and circumstance, the Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego recently graduated the first class in its Endowment Leadership Institute (ELI). Three years after ELI launched with the goal of transforming the culture of legacy giving in San Diego, the results speak for themselves. So far, almost 500 families have stepped forward to promise an estimated \$120 million for the community.

And that's just the beginning. Even as it graduated its first class, ELI enrolled a second class of eight community organizations, and launched a graduate program for the initial group of 12 participating community organizations.

The ELI program has succeeded in helping families leave legacies to ensure the future of the community. In the process, 100 volunteers and professionals learned together how to build endowments for their synagogues, community agencies and day schools.

"Leaders not only learned together about how to raise endowments, they worked together throughout the process," said Jane Scher, ELI Committee chair. "I was so pleased with the friendly collaboration between organizations."

Inaugurated in April 2004, ELI is a unique, high-quality, results-oriented program in which the Foundation partners with agency, synagogue and day school lay and professional leadership to establish bequests and other estate gifts. These bequests will build future endowments for the Jewish community.

The key element of the program is maximizing the positive relationships organizations already have with their donors. The Jewish Community Foundation provides each participating organization with a focused course of study including group sessions and individual coaching as well as an incentive grant, payable over three years upon the completion of established goals. In addition, the *Create a Jewish Legacy*® marketing program creates an awareness of bequests, endowments, and other planned gifts in the overall Jewish community.

***ELI's First Class:***

Agency for Jewish Education  
Congregation Adat Yeshurun  
Congregation Beth Israel  
Hillel of San Diego  
Jewish Family Service  
Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center  
Jacobs Family Campus  
San Diego Jewish Academy  
Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School  
Temple Adat Shalom  
Temple Solel  
Tifereth Israel Synagogue  
United Jewish Federation of San Diego County

***ELI's Current Class:***

Beth Jacob Congregation  
Chabad of University City  
Congregation Beth Am  
Congregation Beth El  
Congregation Dor Hadash  
Ohr Shalom Synagogue  
Ner Tamid Synagogue  
Temple Emanu-El

***About the Jewish Community Foundation:***

Founded in 1967, the Jewish Community Foundation 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 in San Diego, Israel and around the world.

With managed assets of more than \$260 million, the Jewish Community Foundation is the largest grant maker in San Diego. During fiscal year 2006-07, the Foundation awarded more than \$55 million in grants. Since its inception, the Jewish Community Foundation has granted more than \$400 million to nonprofits that serve the community.

Visit the Jewish Community Foundation at [www.jcfsandiego.org](http://www.jcfsandiego.org) or call 858-279-2740.



***Caption:*** Members of the ELI Committee (l to r) Elaine Chortek, James Nierman, Jane Scher, chair, Betty Byrnes, David Wax and the Jewish Community Foundation Endowment Director Gail Littman.

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