making a difference in the world
Youth Philanthropy at the Jewish Community Foundation encourages young people to become philanthropists by teaching them to give strategically and effectively.

Young people are naturally generous and welcome the opportunity to learn about philanthropy, community needs and involvement. Since the program’s establishment in 1997, Youth Philanthropy at the Jewish Community Foundation has involved hundreds of students from various denominations and affiliations throughout the region in these programs:

- Tikkun Olam Camp
- Youth Donor Advised Funds
- Community Volunteer Projects
Tikkun Olam Camp

Tikkun Olam Camp is a one-week day camp that provides high school students with a unique opportunity to learn about the needs in the community while earning community service hours and building friendships. Teens explore Jewish values related to giving, identify charitable priorities and interests, and conduct site visits to local Jewish and secular nonprofits to evaluate their effectiveness. They participate in multiple community service activities and interact with community leaders.

The week culminates with the exciting, and often heart wrenching, collaborative allocation of thousands of dollars to the most deserving community programs and organizations. These dollars are contributed by camp participants and matched by Foundation donors.
Youth Donor Advised Funds

Youth donor advised funds allow young people to be effective givers by providing them with tools needed to be strategic in their decision making. A teenager can establish a fund in his or her own name, and family and friends can contribute to the fund as a gift for a bar or bat mitzvah, birthday or other special occasion. The teen, who is the fund advisor, can then recommend grants from the fund to favorite causes at the most convenient time.

Jewish Community Foundation staff guide teens to identify organizations and programs of interest, arrange site visits and coordinate volunteer projects as desired.
Jewish values of Youth Philanthropy

tzedakah justice

acts of loving kindness

tikkun olam repairing the world
Community Volunteer Projects
Alumni of Youth Philanthropy programs and advisors of youth donor advised funds are invited to continue their involvement, meet new friends and re-connect with old friends by participating in community service projects as a team representing the Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego.

Youth Philanthropy Endowment
The Youth Philanthropy Endowment ensures that programs to provide young people with opportunities to become philanthropists will continue to be a strong priority for the Foundation in perpetuity. The endowment’s annual payout supports existing programs such as Tikkun Olam Camp and Youth Donor Advised Funds, and provides the opportunity for special youth initiatives including regional collaboration, research projects, and the creation of new philanthropic curriculum.

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