

From Generation to Generation

Laura Galinson, Vice President of the Galinson Family Foundation, recently wrote about her family's remarkable tradition of giving for the Vista Hill Foundation newsletter. The following is an excerpt from that article:

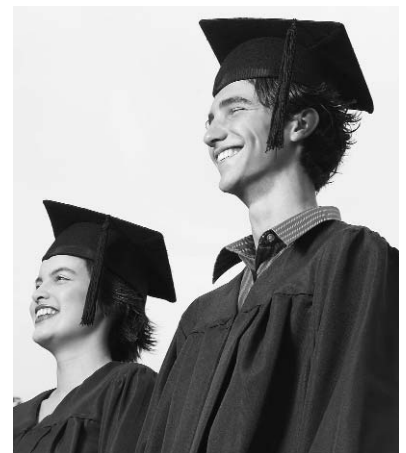
"My parents and their parents have always provided a wonderful example for me and my two brothers of how to live a life of generosity and caring for others. They passed unto us the Hebrew concept of tikkun olam or to repair the world. This is the essence of Judaism and what it really means is that to keep it, you've got to give it away. I'm thrilled to embrace our family's tradition of giving.

I'm also happy I can pass the tradition onto my children. My 14-year old son Bob has become the newest Galinson philanthropist. He's already making funding decisions as a member of the Jewish Community Foundation's Community Youth Foundation. I'm proud of Bob and I'm proud of my entire family."

Foundation Grants Improve Lives

From the aged and the infirm to children with special needs to families in crisis, grants from the Jewish Community Foundation in the past year have touched the lives of thousands of people. Since July 2004, the families who associate with the Foundation for their giving have recommended almost \$50 million in grants to organizations throughout the world. Every dollar awarded tells a story of change, commitment and passion.

Mel and Betty Cohn have been involved in nonprofit organizations for years. Inspired by the dedication of nonprofit employees, Mel and Betty created a pilot program to provide tuition assistance for staff members at six of their favorite organizations. Recipients have included a secretary at **Jewish Family Service** who is receiving her Associate's degree in Business Administration and a project coordinator at **Interfaith Community Service** who is working toward a Master's degree in Nonprofit Management.



Some grants fund scholarships

Susanne Oken was deeply touched by the support her late husband **Fred Oken** received from the **Elizabeth Hospice** in Escondido during his final days. When she heard that the Hospice staff wanted to better serve their Jewish clients, she recommended a grant from the Fred Oken Memorial Fund to allow Elizabeth to receive accreditation from the **National Institute for Jewish Hospice**. With the funding, Elizabeth staff members participated in intensive training about Jewish customs around death and dying.

Andrew and Erna Viterbi support an intensive three-year **Holocaust education program for high school students in Bergamo, Italy** where Andrew was born. The program culminates in a trip from Italy to the concentration camps in Europe. The Viterbis have joined with the students on trips to Auschwitz and Matthaussen to participate in this life-changing experience.

Norm Levi recommended a grant to **San Diego High School** to create six scholarships for graduating seniors. All scholarship recipients were the first in their families to go to college. Norm was a 1938 graduate of San Diego High, and his father, Edgar Levi, graduated Russ High School before him.

Many opportunities exist to proactively change the world through giving. The stories above are just a few examples of how Foundation donors are doing so.

Annual Book of Life Signing Held

On Sunday, May 22, our community celebrated the fourth annual signing of the Jewish Community Foundation's **Book of Life** at the Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School. From all ages and denominations, signers shared at least one common trait: a deep concern for and commitment to the future of the Jewish community.



Book of Life signers Flora and Murray Kuritsky (l) and Avra and Barry Kassir (r)



Book of Life statements truly reflect the varied experiences and traditions of their writers. Some people write about family memories and values. Others discuss their hopes, dreams and vision for the future. Together, they are a **treasured archive for our Jewish community.**

Excerpts from Book of Life statements signed at the event:

"Tzedakah has long been a tradition in my family. Starting with my father's father who never turned anyone away when they came to his door asking for help. I have always felt it a privilege to help others in need and to help build the Jewish community."

"The gift of giving fulfills my obligation as a Jewish woman to a city and a community of people that has brought many honors and happiness to my life."

"Following the example and values of our beloved parents and grandparents, of blessed memory, we have devoted much of our energy to our Jewish community wherever we have lived. Being involved has given us a true sense of fulfillment, and we have by example also instilled in our children the importance of tzedakah that we are confident they will pass on to the next generation."

I wanted to translate my Jewish caring into giving to this community beyond my own lifetime. Individuals who create such gifts do not have to be wealthy, they just need to step up to the plate when it comes to making decisions about their charity beyond lifetime giving. I would like my story to be an example for other women who will make similar financial decisions for themselves."

Book of Life Signers:

Cecelia and Irving Appelbaum

Joyce Axelrod

Leslie and Jacob Bercovitz

Terri Bignell

Lynne Elson

Pauline Foster

Madeline Goldberg

Marcia Hazan

Linda and Edward Janon

Avra and Barry Kassir

Flora and Murray Kuritsky

Ellen and Jonathan Marks

Alan Nevin

Linda and Shearn Platt

Anne Ratner

Laurayne and Sandford Ratner

May Sebel

Charlene Seidle

Gloria and Irving Schiffman

Fern Siegel

Gert Thaler

Endowment Leadership Institute Continues Success

Since the inception of the Foundation's Endowment Leadership Institute (ELI) last April, **190 families have stepped forward to establish bequests and other legacy gifts for our community.** These legacies benefit the 12 organizations participating in ELI as well as 25 other Jewish causes in San Diego, Israel and around the world. They add up to an estimated more than \$41 million in future gifts for the community.

"The power of ELI lies in community collaboration," noted Jane Scher, Endowment Leadership Institute Chair. "Working together reaps many rewards."

Indeed, ELI and the Create a Jewish Legacy marketing campaign have profoundly influenced the way our community thinks about giving. "We were delighted that the San Diego Wexner Leadership program participants each decided to create a legacy for local Jewish organizations," said Marjory Kaplan, Foundation Executive Director and herself a Wexner member. "This expression of gratitude to the Wexner family and local donors who made the program possible will strengthen Jewish San Diego for generations to come."

Congratulations to the organizations participating in the Endowment Leadership Institute. All twelve have met or exceeded their one-year goals of engaging families in creating legacies for the Jewish community.

Agency for Jewish Education

Congregation Adat Yeshurun

Congregation Beth Israel

Hillel of San Diego

Jewish Family Service

Lawrence Family JCC

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

*"As our parents
planted for us
before we were
born, so do we
plant for those
who will come
after us."*

TALMUD

Foundation News

Welcome New Board Members

We welcome the following new Foundation Board members who began their terms on July 1, 2005.

Martin Klitzner

Jeffrey Silberman

Brian Tauber

David Wax

We extend heartfelt gratitude to outgoing Board members **Peter Chortek** and **Gloria Stone** for their leadership and commitment to the community.

Welcome Jeremy Pearl

Jeremy Pearl, J.D., LL.M has assumed the position of Foundation Chief Financial Officer. Jeremy's career has focused on tax, estate and financial planning. He has also held assignments at Heyman and Associates, KPMG LLP, and Miller, Monson & Peshel.

National Youth Philanthropy Conference

The Jewish Community Foundation's Community Youth Foundation has been named as one of six communities to help plan the first-ever national Jewish youth philanthropy conference to be held in Denver in April of 2005. *Mazel tov* to the following students who were selected to represent San Diego:

Amanda Haworth

Aaron Smargon

Aaron Voit

Strategies for Giving Life Insurance

Sarah's Story

Life insurance can be an advantageous option for donors of all ages. A relatively small outlay creates a very meaningful gift for the community.

Sarah transferred to the Foundation a life insurance policy that she had set up eight years ago at the age of 32 and paid regularly. She will reimburse the Foundation for annual premiums of \$1,200 for the next seven years. The premium amounts are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

After her lifetime, \$100,000 will be transferred to the Foundation to establish the **Sarah Endowment Fund**. Each year, a fixed percentage of the fund will be distributed in Sarah's name to two Jewish organizations in San Diego and two in Israel.

Options and Advantages

- Premium payments are tax deductible.
- Other assets are not affected.
- Life insurance proceeds are not subject to taxes or included in probate.

*"How wonderful it is
that nobody need wait
a single moment
before starting to
improve the world."*

ANNE FRANK

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To promote philanthropy through meaningful partnerships with donors and community organizations in achieving charitable goals
To increase current and future support for a vibrant and secure Jewish community in San Diego, Israel and around the world.

