

## The Jewish Community Foundation Receives Anonymous Gift for Holocaust Education Fund



Jewish Community Foundation  
of Central Pennsylvania

The Jewish Community Foundation of Central Pennsylvania received an anonymous gift of \$250,000 plus many additional gifts toward building the **Never Again Holocaust Education Fund**. The Fund will support initiatives in line with PA's Act 70 (Commonwealth schools are encouraged to teach Holocaust, genocide and human rights utilizing criteria in the Act). As a component fund of the Foundation, donors are assured that their gifts will be used as intended.

A committee including Foundation Board Member Elliott Weinstein as Chair; Hank Butler, Executive Director of the PA Jewish Coalition; Arthur Hoffman; Dani Fessler, former York JCC Director; Debbie Kravitz; Josh Millman, our Foundation Chair; Jerry Morrison, past Chair of the Foundation along with potential others, and with the guidance of the Foundation, will oversee the distribution of grants from the **Never Again Holocaust Education Fund**. The committee will ensure that grants are used to support initiatives consistent with PA Act 70 which is the intent of the Fund.

"This initiative will transform the instruction of topics such as the Holocaust and bigotry in schools throughout Pennsylvania and, in time, around the country," said Weinstein, who has been instrumental in leading the initiative.

President Trump recently signed the *Never Again Education Act* into law. Under the auspices of the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, this federal law provides \$10 million over five years for Holocaust education. With anti-Semitism at levels not seen since the Shoah, these initiatives are critical.

"Imagine the impact of this exciting collaboration," said JCF Executive Director Paulette Keifer. "Using lessons of the Holocaust—how bigotry led to the attempt to eliminate a people—we will equip educators with tools to inspire humanity. Imagine seeing that impact—when never again means never again for anyone."

Offering Pennsylvania K-12 teachers free professional development, the State College Campus of Penn State and the pending Harrisburg Penn State Campus Initiatives seek to pioneer a new approach to difficult-topic instruction that incorporates the latest research and best practices.

With our first major gift, we're in a stronger position to help support this initiative to provide valuable Holocaust Education resources to teachers and their students to utilize lessons of the Holocaust to ensure *never again means never again* for anyone. Thanks to our donors we will educate students to become critical thinkers and agents of positive change.

**If not us then who? If not now then when?**

The Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Initiative at State College's Penn State University will be a beneficiary of grants. Penn State developed the Initiative with the PA Department of Education, the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh, and the Shoah Foundation at the University of Southern California along with local Jews. Together they created a curriculum that will provide educators with tools to tackle these difficult topics in their schools.

The initiative will offer support to teachers and students to enhance and upgrade the instruction of vital difficult subjects in our Commonwealth's 775 schools, 501 districts, and 67 counties. It will also build a national model. The first set of free learning resources to assist teachers and parents with virtual education and home schooling was rolled out in March. Free access to ready-to-use individual learning activities for students in fifth grade and older (ages 10 and up) is available.

"The Penn State Initiative and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania stand to take a national lead with its synergy of a state legislature, state Department of Education, and the major state university as a model for all 50 states," Weinstein said. With the **Never Again Holocaust Education Fund** at the Jewish Community Foundation, we will ensure that our financial investments will be used as we intend.

**Please join us in supporting the Never Again Holocaust Education Fund or other critical funds and initiatives of the Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA.**

**Contact us via mail at 3211 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110 or our website at [www.pajewishendowment.org](http://www.pajewishendowment.org).**

**To discuss this fund or any initiative of the Foundation, please contact Paulette Keifer, Executive Director via email at [paulette.keifer@pajewishendowment.org](mailto:paulette.keifer@pajewishendowment.org) or call her at 904-307-2413.**

Call the Jewish Community Foundation to discuss what is in your heart and how you can leave a legacy to causes that are important to you!  
Contact Rebecca Robinson at (484) 269-6732 or email her at [rebecca@pajewishendowment.org](mailto:rebecca@pajewishendowment.org)