



Jewish Community Foundation
of Central Pennsylvania



The
CORNERSTONE
of the Community

May 2020

Special COVID 19 Response Edition

Dear Friends,

In 2019 Foundation was planning our 2020 Donor Recognition Gala (formerly the Tzedakah Dinner), scheduled for Thursday, May 14. Given the COVID 19 pandemic, our event has been postponed.

We have instead been busy planning how to help our friends and neighbors survive this crisis. Members of our Jewish community have lost jobs and income. We can only imagine the fear and uncertainty they are experiencing. Our people need our help.

Foundation has created funds to support those who are struggling. These funds will help keep their lights on, feed their families and allow them to remain safely in their homes. The need is great and growing. Our people are frightened and wondering how they will survive the crisis.

Please consider making gifts from your donor advised fund or other resources that will build the needed funds. **See following pages for details.** Consider a minimum gift in an amount equal to what you would have spent to attend the May 14th event (formerly the Tzedakkah Society Dinner).

If not us then who? Please make your gifts and support our people who have exhausted all other financial options. Give in ways that are meaningful, and amounts that are comfortable, to you. Return your gift today.

Thank you in advance for your gifts. Please contact Paulette Keifer, Executive Director at (904) 307-2413 or paulette.keifer@pajewishendowment.org with any questions about the funds.

Your gifts will change lives and ensure life with dignity for Jews who need our support now, more than ever. To you and yours, stay safe and healthy.

Paulette Keifer,
Executive Director

Josh Millman,
Chair

P.S. And if you are able, please also support our agencies and synagogues. They are working creatively to provide for our spiritual needs, an outstretched hand of hope and comfort, nutrition, education, elder care, youth programs and so much more for the community!

YOUR GIFT IN ANY AMOUNT WILL HELP OUR PEOPLE THROUGH COVID 19!

These extraordinary times are trying for us all, and even more so for people facing enormous hardship.

Historically Jews have pulled together to offer aid to our Jewish friends, neighbors and community.

Please join us now. Let's *go above and beyond* to ensure life with dignity for every Jew.

You will give our people a reason to hope!

**Choose from these 5 Foundation sponsored funds to help meet emergent needs of our community.
Or choose another Foundation fund (or) create a fund that is meaningful to you.**

Emergent Needs Fund (Community Impact Fund):

100% of gifts during the COVID 19 Pandemic will be used to support our people in the Jewish community of Central PA who have exhausted all other means of support and are in need of critical financial assistance.

Never Again Holocaust Education Fund:

"We are facing an epidemic of anti-Semitism and hate unlike anything I've ever witnessed." Rabbi Marvin Heir, Founder and Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Support Holocaust education and curriculum resources for teachers - and other initiatives - to teach lessons of the Holocaust to help prevent anti-Semitism, bigotry and hate behaviors.

Philanthropic Fund: Our synagogues and Jewish agencies are keeping us connected through creative virtual community programs. Even without events they have financial needs. There is also a need for more iPads for seniors and youths who have no way to stay connected. Food packages are essential for our children and older adults who are sheltering at home. Your gift can brighten their lives.

Free Loan Fund: Provides interest free loans to families who have exhausted other sources of financial assistance. Recipients will not be obligated to repay the loan. They will be asked to *pay it forward* by making gifts to the Free Loan Fund when they are able, in any amount within their capacity, to help replenish the fund so it will be there for others who need it.

Legacy Program Fund: Support year 5 of our community wide Legacy Program. Through our legacy program we have been building critical financial resources. Many have already been received and are benefiting our people now. Legacy gifts give us hope that we can sustain our Jewish future. We can say yes to a legacy gift even if we cannot say yes to cash gifts now.



Contact the Foundation for more details about how you might help our community during this COVID 19 Pandemic, through these and other designated gifting opportunities.

Please contact JCF to find how we can assist you in supporting the causes that are important to you.

Thank you for joining us on this journey to supporting our Jewish friends, neighbors and community when our help is needed most.

We appreciate your willingness to ***go above and beyond*** to be part of and to support the efforts of the Foundation to provide life with dignity for every Jew during these uncertain times for us all.



JOSH MILLMAN,
Chair

MICHAEL DOCTROW,
Vice-Chair



MAGGIE GROTZINGER,
Sec/Treasurer



SAM LEVINE,
Immediate Past Chair

HARVEY FREEDENBERG,
Steering Committee Chair



PEGGY GROVE,
Allocations Committee
Chair

LEE SIEGEL,
Investment Committee
Chair



Advanced Planning: These are challenging times for you, for all of us, for our Jewish community agencies and synagogues - and for our Jewish Community Foundation.

It is during times like this that we have the opportunity to reflect on past planning and make course corrections that will lead us into the future. We will learn lessons now from what we are not able to do to respond to the needs of our Jewish community. We will develop strategies and put into place mechanisms now to assure the sustainability of Jewish life and overall community viability in our region – for the future.

Foundation leadership is investigating community needs. The data will be presented to our Steering Committee for use in identifying the types of funds JCF might establish that can be developed now and funded during the next economic expansion, with the goal being that the funds will be in place for the future.

It is with humility, and a great source of pride that leaders of the Foundation acknowledge we have the opportunity to relieve some current suffering. And even during a crisis, we have the intentional leaders, the wherewithal and the desire to initiate innovative approaches now, to increase our future resilience.

Thank you for being part of our Jewish Community Foundation family.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments you may have. We would love to hear your ideas for how we can improve our work on behalf of the Central PA Jewish community.

Financial Update Investments: None of us could have anticipated the current situation and resultant market conditions and we are all experiencing the consequences. Rest assured the Foundation is not reactionary and has in place and adheres to sound policies. The Foundation has an Investment Policy Statement (IPS) and an Investment Committee whose members have the acumen to effectively monitor and oversee our investment managers. We recognize that we are in control of our own policies, not the market. Given our endowment directed IPS, our strategy is to listen to our trusted investment advisors, monitor the economic market and remain on course. We have been advised and feel that the current market conditions are temporary (albeit we have no idea how temporary). Our investment strategy has put us in a reasonable position to weather the current market fluctuations caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Our professional investment advisors include the Baltimore Jewish Associated, PNC, Vanguard and Fulton. With the oversight of our own savvy members of the Foundation's Investment Committee, our community's investments and JCF Endowment, Donor Advised and other funds are in good hands.

Assessing Community Needs: Our Foundation Board members are being asked to volunteer for an outreach initiative to Jewish organizations and synagogues in our region. The goal is to contact Jewish organizations with which board members are most familiar and others in the Central PA region, to assess their financial health and any critical, unmet financial needs.

From the data collected, JCF will alert our Donor Advised fund holders and the greater Jewish community of the identified needs, for their information and consideration when deciding where to direct gifts. It will also help the Foundation determine its own role in providing resources and services within its purview.

We Need to Hear from You: We all have feelings about and the need to have a voice during this extraordinary time. We want to hear your thoughts.

In a paragraph tell us about what you imagine for the near and distant future of our Jewish community. Your thoughts will be published and sponsors' and all of your gifts will be recognized.

Mail to Jewish Community Foundation, 3211 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110 or contact us using emails below.

Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to keep our Jewish community vibrant and to ensure life with dignity for every Jew.

**On behalf of the Executive Committee, Board and Professional Team of the
Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA**

3211 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Josh Millman, Chair

Michael Doctrow, Esq., Vice Chair

Sam Levine, Immediate Past Chair

Dr. Margaret Grotzinger, Secretary/Treasurer

Harvey Freedenberg, Steering Committee Chair

Peggy Grove, Allocations Committee Chair

Lee Siegel, Investment Committee Chair

Paulette Keifer, Executive Director paulette.keifer@pajewishendowment.org 904-307-2413

Rebecca Robinson, Legacy Program Director rebecca@pajewishendowment.org 484-269-6732

Michele Wickwire, Fund Administrator michele@pahewishendowment.org 717-649-3465

Call the Jewish Community Foundation of Central Pennsylvania to discuss what is in your heart and how you can leave a legacy to support causes that are important to you!

“It is when the winds blow the hardest that you need the deepest roots.”

~ Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks