

# Community News

## Domestic Abuse Organization Gets a New Name

Shalom Bayit-NC - "Peace in the Home" - is the new name for what was formerly Jews against Domestic Violence. The all-volunteer group, now in its second year, is working with Jewish organizations in Charlotte-Mecklenburg County to raise awareness, offer support services, and foster change necessary to end domestic abuse in the Jewish community.

"The Jewish ethnic 'shalom bayit' has come to imply that abuse does not exist in the Jewish home, and if there is discord it is

the woman's fault," said Marsha Stickler of Shalom Bayit-NC. "Many women feel that to ask for help is to bring shame on their families and their Jewish community, and indeed many have felt a backlash of resentment and disbelief," she explained.

"We hope that our new name will spread a new message - not of keeping the family together at all costs, but of the right to true peace and sanctuary in the lives of Jewish women and children," Ms. Stickler concluded.

Domestic abuse is probably the most hidden and ignored problem in the Jewish community. According to recent studies, more than 20% of Jewish families are experiencing domestic abuse at any one point in time. Yet, Jewish women are among the least likely to seek help and take longer than most women to leave the abusive partner.

To learn what you can do to end domestic abuse or for further information on Shalom Bayit email info@shalombayit-nc.org. ☆

## The Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community

By Richard J. Osborne

As I begin my second and final year as chair of the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community, I see great progress. As of June 30, 2007, the Foundation reports \$39 million in assets. Those are assets donated by individuals in the Jewish community to benefit a wide array of organizations- local agencies like the synagogues or JCC; the Federation; Shalom Park; and a good number of organizations providing social and cultural services to the general community. In 2006, over \$1.4 million in grants were made to Jewish organizations throughout the community. The \$39 million will enable gifts of more than \$2 million during the next twelve months.

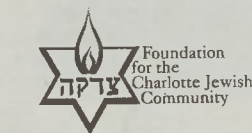
Today we have a great opportunity to do still more. Our first full-time executive, Phil Warshauer, is able to support more initiatives for new gifts while still providing proper "care and feeding" for the \$39 million already in place. Our partnership with the Foundation for the Carolinas enables the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community to offer state of the arts administrative and money management services at prices typically available to only the largest donors.

We are launching a Book of Life Society to recognize those who have made provisions in their wills or estate plans to bequest funds to one or more agencies serving the Jewish community. These provisions can be of any amount. Several Jewish communities, notably New Orleans and Toronto, have generated real

excitement around Book of Life societies, and our co-chairs, Margie Goldstein and Jill Newman, will be examining what has worked elsewhere as part of their effort to shape and launch a successful society in Charlotte. You will be hearing more about this in the months to come.

Finally, we continue to see more people establishing donor advised funds to make their charitable giving easier. Anyone can establish his or her own donor advised fund at the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community. It is a great way to manage all your philanthropic giving and provides the equivalent of a philanthropic bank account. You can donate cash or securities to it at any time, and the donation constitutes a tax deductible contribution to the Foundation at the time of the gift. The donor then can initiate consideration of a gift either online or with a written request. This grant can take place in the same or subsequent tax years. For agencies and charities with which the Foundation is familiar- and we are familiar with most of the important Jewish organizations- a recommendation for a gift can be processed and a check dispatched to the agency specified within a matter of days. If a donor recommends a gift to an agency with which the Foundation lacks experience, it takes a week or so to confirm that the agency is a qualified, tax-exempt recipient, and then the agency is added to the catalog of known recipients, and the check is dispatched.

This tool gives a donor great flexibility in that he or she can



easily donate appreciated stock and receives full credit for the gift, never having paid the capital gains tax. It enables donors to better time their tax deductible donations and to separately advise the distribution of those donations among charities and qualified agencies. Donor advised can be established through Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community for individuals making gifts of \$10,000, and recommendations for disbursements may be for amounts of as little as \$250. Donors receive confidential, quarterly reports on their funds and specific reports during each quarter on any donations or disbursements.

A donor advised fund is just a tool to help manage your charitable contributions. The Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community provides tools so that you can make your charitable activities - your tzedakah - go further, more efficiently. This is a classic "win-win" and I hope you will take full advantage of it.

Rich Osborne is the Board Chair for the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community. For more information or questions please contact Phil Warshauer, Director for Planned Giving, at 704-973-4544 or pwarshauer@ffjc.org. ☆

## JCC Tributes

### August Family Teen Programs Endowment Fund

In memory of the father of Judi Norman from Judy and Stan August

### Oasis Senior Hot Lunch Program Fund

Wishing Harry Berzack a happy birthday from Pat and David Somerstein

Stuart Ostrow Athletic Memorial Fund  
In honor of Lane Ostrow from Morris Spil ☆

## New Jewish Wall of Fame Exhibit in the Levine JCC

**Question:** What do King Herod, Moshe Safdie, Frank Gehry, and Rose and Abraham Lusk have in common?

**Answer:** They all appear on the new Jewish Wall of Fame exhibit, entitled "Jews in Architecture." The Luskis are the sponsors of this display, while Herod, Safdie, and Gehry are three of the six Jewish architects featured, whose

works include the Second Temple in Jerusalem and Masada, the Yad Vashem Museum in Jerusalem and Habitat 67, and the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain. Come read about these notable Jews and see examples of their work. Many thanks to our generous sponsors, Rose and Abraham Lusk. ☆

**Donating an Old Cell Phone Can Save a Life**  
Temple Beth El, the Jewish Community Center, and Jewish Family Services, in conjunction with the North Carolina Women's Commission, are now collecting cell phones for victims - or potential victims - of domestic violence. Old, used and unwanted cell phones will be reprogrammed to call 911 and used in the event of an emergency. Simply bring them to any of these organizations' offices for collection. For more information contact info@shalombayit-nc.org.

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