

How Does an Endowment Impact You?

By Phil Warshauer

As a loyal reader of *The Charlotte Jewish News* you already understand the value this publication provides to our Jewish community. Whether you identify yourself as a newcomer or a "lifer," *CJN* brings forth new information, opportunities, and events that make our community special.

As a professional it provides the opportunity to educate and inform by giving you, the reader, some insight into how the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community impacts our community. We have attempted to deliver the message that our Jewish community requires endowment funds to provide future services for our next generation. Our institutions have begun addressing this issue and will continue to blow that shofar louder and stronger into the future.

How does an endowment impact you? It affects the programming at the Levine Jewish Community Center and the services provided by Jewish Family Services. It impacts Temple Israel, Temple Beth El, Congregation Ohr Ha Torah, and Charlotte Jewish Day School's ability to educate our children. The grounds of Shalom Park and our Hebrew Cemetery benefit from endowments. Endowments will play an increasing role in the future campaign successes of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.

It seems to me that the best way to share this message to you is in their words.

Eric Sklut, president of Foundation of Shalom Park speaks about the trickle down effect an endowment has on other local organizations. "Since the costs of operating Shalom Park are shared by our partners/tenants, plus the Foundation itself, the faster we build our endowment, the better it will be for our agencies on the Park, who can then utilize their internally generated funds for specific programming."

"One of the ways that endowments assist Temple Israel is to

help perpetuate Jewish holidays by allowing us to celebrate them in a public way and share our faith and holiness," says Temple Israel President Marcy Mehlman. "An endowment is a gift that can be opened more than once. It enables an organization to be able to use its funds in the future, not just for a one time event or program."

Phil Berman, Executive Director of the Levine Jewish Community Center, looks toward the future when assessing his organization's needs. "Endowment income is a crucial component to keeping the LJCC's facilities state-of-the-art, as well as our ability to provide increased programming to our membership. Continued upgrades to our fitness center, vans to transport our seniors and youth, tennis and pool upgrades and arts expansion all require large investments which our operating income and endowments cannot currently support."

"Endowments enable us to continue to provide services, expand what we are able to do and function at our highest level without over-burdening our constituencies," adds Sara Schreiber, Executive Director at Temple Beth El. "Endowments allow us to meet the day-to-day challenges and be creative and innovative at the same time."

"Currently, about 90% of our operating budget comes through our annual Friends Campaign," says Jewish Family Services' Endowment Chair Karen Knoble. "If Charlotte experiences a severe economic downturn or suffers a catastrophic event a well-funded endowment would ensure that Jewish Family Services can continue looking after our community when we need it the most."

Mariashi Groner, Director of Charlotte Jewish Day School, provides this insight. "The scholarships needs of CJDS are continuing to grow each year. An endowment to fund scholarships would help us avoid having to refuse a family's admission because they cannot afford the tuition. It would help us to meet the imperative



goal of offering a Jewish education to every Jewish child."

"The Federation's history of successful annual campaigns is a reflection of the many generous people in our community. In the future, the campaign alone will not be able to meet the needs of our community," explains Donald Jacobs, Federation Endowment Chair. "It is important that our annual campaign efforts be supplemented by a strong endowment.

An emphasis on endowing one's annual gift to the Federation will leave a legacy for our donors and position the Federation to continue to serving our Jewish institutions at home, in Israel and abroad." ✦

Phil Warshauer is the Director for Planned Giving for the

Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community. For more information or questions about how you can leave a legacy by supporting your favorite endowment please contact Phil at 704-973-4544 or pwarsbauer@ffc.org.



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Paul Spil Memorial Softball Fund

In honor of Eric Sklut's birthday from Linda and Morris Spil

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In memory of Cantor Stephen Dubov from Robyn Benjamin ✦



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