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This experience is made possible thanks to a generous donation from The Leon Levine Foundation.

For more information, please contact the Federation office at 704.944.6757.



Allocations Committee Hard at Work for You

As the 2010 Campaign gets underway, we'd like to thank the members of the Allocations Committee for the hard work and long hours they dedicated to ensure that our 2009 community campaign dollars were well spent. Each year the Allocations Committee accepts the awesome task of reviewing agency programs, budgets and requests and evaluating future needs. When asked to share their experience with the community, here's what several of the committee members had to say:

According to **Ira Slomka**, a past co-chair of the Federation's Main Event, "I've been involved with Federation for many years but for me there was no better way to understand the actual impact each donation has on the agencies than to be involved in the process of allocations."

David Levin, 2010 Super Sunday co-chair expressed the following: "I found the three years I served on the allocations committee to be a wonderful and enlightening experience. Working with so many committed members of our community was humbling. Seeing presentations from so many beneficiary agencies and understanding the true impact our dollars make in so many lives locally and abroad was inspiring. Witnessing the amount of time, effort, and thoughtful consideration that so many people spent determining how campaign dollars are allocated was heartening. I feel even more confident that my annual campaign donation is a smart investment and a great way to

give back to the community. I highly recommend taking the opportunity to get more involved and to "answer the call" for this year's campaign."

Pam Levy described her experience by saying, "Serving on the Federation Allocation Committee for the past two years has been a rewarding and enlightening experience. I observed and admired each member of the Committee spending long hours studying applications, listening to agency presentations, asking questions, and discussing the most prudent and effective allocation of community dollars. We were thoughtful and deliberate about each agency's stewardship of their prior years' allocations and worked hard to be sensitive and fair. For those who wonder how and to whom their annual contributions are applied, you will be pleased to know how seriously those on the Allocation Committee take their responsibilities."

"It was truly an honor to participate in the Allocations process," explained **Phil Warshauer**, Executive Director of the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community. "The experience was enhanced by the rabbis' discussions of the role of tzedakah and community in the Torah. It was particularly moving to hear from each organization and it was powerful to work collaboratively as a committee to efficiently direct the philanthropic resources of our community."

"Serving on the Allocations

Committee for the first time reinforced my belief that we have many talented people in our community who are willing to get involved and be objective in analyzing and prioritizing the needs of our community," said **Sam Bernstein**, vice president of the Federation Board of Trustees.

Risa Miller, co-chair of the 2010 Allocations Committee shared the following: "Federation is truly the "umbrella" organization of all non-profit Jewish agencies locally and overseas. Your contribution to the Federation touches the lives of Jewish people of all ages across the globe. Whether you feel passionately about one or several Jewish agencies, giving to the Federation is the only way to truly make a difference in the lives of so many. I feel privileged to be part of a committee that works tirelessly as good stewards of community resources, ensuring that our dollars are being used to strengthen our Charlotte Jewish community and other Jewish communities in Israel and around the world."

The Federation thanks the following members of our community for serving on the 2010 Allocations Committee: Leslie Archer, Cary Bernstein, Sam Bernstein, Irv Bisnov, Lisa Blau, Stephanie Brodsky, Jennifer Greenwald, Josh Greenwald, Bob Haber, Mark Lerner, David Levin, Pam Levy, Risa Miller, Brad Rabinowitz, Larry Schwartz, Colby Schwartz, Ira Slomka, Lisa Strause, Phil Warshauer and Brad Winer. ☆

Leon Levine Foundation Gives \$130,000 to Birthright Israel for Charlotte Community Buses

Eighty Jewish Young adults to Go on Educational Trip to Israel

The Leon Levine Foundation has given \$130,000 to the Birthright Israel Foundation, leveraging a 2009 2-to-1 challenge match in order to send 80 Jewish young adults from Charlotte, North Carolina, to Israel.

"The Leon Levine Foundation has made an investment in the future of young Jews in Charlotte and beyond," said Sue Worrel, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. "Sandra and Leon Levine's generosity offers 80 young Jews the opportunity to connect with Israel, strengthen their Jewish identity, and build community – all of which insures Jewish continuity for our children and our children's children."

The gift of \$130,000 – the cost of one Birthright Israel bus – qualified for Birthright Israel's 2009 Adelson Family Foundation grant, gaining an additional bus for Charlotte and sponsoring a third bus for youngsters from elsewhere. Participants will go to Israel this coming summer and next winter.

"This unique experience for young adults in our community will have tremendous positive impact for their entire lives. We can think of few better ways than through Birthright to emphasize the importance and

benefit of Jewish values than this direct connection to the roots of Judaism," said Tom Lawrence, Executive Director of the Leon Levine Foundation.

Jewish young adults from Charlotte have gone on every Birthright Israel trip in the ten years since the program was founded, with 46 participants during the largest round and 37 participants this winter, but just as many applicants are left behind every year for lack of funding.

"This is a great example of local leadership collaborating with us to great effect," said Robert Aronson, President of the Birthright Israel Foundation. "This is the Charlotte Federation telling dozens of young adults that they are vital to the future of the Jewish community."

Since its launch in 1999, the Birthright Israel program has provided free educational peer group trips to Israel to 220,000 Jewish young adults ages 18 to 26 from around the world. The first ever study of the long-term impact of the trips, published this year by Brandeis University, shows that Birthright Israel is achieving its original objectives of enhancing participants' personal Jewish identity and connection to the Jewish people, closing the gap between Israel and Jewish communities around the world, and strengthening the sense of solidarity among world Jewry. ☆

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