

Jewish Federation Announces Officers and Board for 2010-2011

The Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte took place on Monday, May 24 in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts at the Shalom Park. The business meeting included a special tribute to outgoing President, Todd Gorelick and the installation of incoming President, Sam Bernstein as well as the election of the 2010-2011 Board of Trustees.

Even as the Federation looked forward to new leadership, it looked back in appreciation for the Todd's leadership and dedication over the past two years. As the torch is passed to Sam we look forward to continued growth. In Sam's speech he relayed the message, "We should go back to our roots. We all have to work harder together to strengthen the Jewish values that support our philanthropic work."

The Executive Committee will include: Sam Bernstein, President; Alan Kronovet, First Vice President; Linda Seigel, Vice President Financial

Resource Development; Risa Miller, Vice President Allocations and Planning; Jen Algire, Treasurer; David S. Miller, Secretary; Todd Gorelick, Immediate Past President. Board members for 2010-2011 are: Amy Augustine, Cary Bernstein, Lisa Blau, Josh Greenwald, Jonathan Howard, Nancy Kipnis, Holly Levinson, Andy Nicholson, Pam Levy, Rich Osborne, Betsy Rosen, Stacey Slomka, Jenny Stern and Brad Winer. Constituent agency designees are: Harry Lerner (Foundation of Shalom Park), Larry Schwartz (Levine JCC) and Harry Sparks (JFS).

Another highlight of the evening was guest speaker Efraim Zuroff, The Last Nazi Hunter. More than 350 guests were on the edge of their seats as Dr. Zuroff shared his stories of locating Nazi war criminals and bringing them to justice. He says, "what keeps me going is the sense of obligation to the victims—the need to try to bring their murderers to justice."

Overall the evening was a perfect reflection of what Federation is about; the most respect for those who've served us, the warmest wishes and welcome for those who've joined our mission – and a touching reminder of why it is we do what we do every day. *Special thanks to Rob Morse of Visual Impressions for Rabbi Ezring's video introduction of Sam Bernstein.* ☆



Incoming board president, Sam Bernstein.



Outgoing board members, left to right: Robert Valenstein, Jenny Meiselman, Michael Koss, Alison Lerner, Cary Bernstein, Robert Abel, and Todd Gorelick.



Charlotte Jewish Preschool won the Super Sunday award. Accepting the award, left to right: Lisa Blau, Elka Bernstein, director of CJP, Amy Terkel, Jill Blumenthal, and David Levin, Super Sunday chairs.

P2K Makes Volunteering in Israel a Reality for Local Teens

By Haley Sklut

I sat in the English classroom at Talpiot waiting for the kids to arrive, feeling a bit out-of-place in a foreign environment. That feeling disappeared when Liran, a 14-year old girl at Talpiot, strutted into the classroom, headed for the seat right next to me, and said, "Good morning!"

Anyone who had as great a first visit as I did on Birthright Israel knows that strong feeling of a desire to find any way to return to Israel. Luckily for me, Charlotte has a partnership with Hadera, a city located between Haifa and Tel Aviv. This Partnership 2000 initiative, known as P2K, is about people to people relationships and making the two communities feel as though they have a "living bridge" connecting them. The P2K Program provides opportunities for volunteers from Charlotte to spend any length of time at any agency in Hadera funded in part by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, including but not limited to youth villages, Ethiopian after school tutoring, youth at risk outdoor programming that promotes successful integration into Israeli life for new immi-



Haley Sklut visits with the students at the Talpiot.

grants, or one of Israel's most popular Science centers. I chose to volunteer at Talpiot, a community-based village in Hadera, which caters to high-risk children. Talpiot is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.

When I arrived at Talpiot, the children and staff made me feel immediately welcome and comfortable. I participated in many ways, working in the English classroom as well as accompanying the kids to after-school activities such as art, music, or sports. My favorite part of the day was spending time in the family units getting to know the kids and working through the language barrier. One of boys, Eli, who is only 12, showed me

the way to the family unit I was assigned to that day. He took his book bag off and made himself comfortable there. I realized it was his family unit. Then some of the other boys who I just had English class with walked in, and I helped them set up for lunch. We had simple conversations and the boys made me feel comfortable there.

I made a very close connection with one of the girls' family units. When I had lunch with them, it felt very much like a family environment. We sat at a U-shaped table so everyone could see each other and we tried to communicate from across the table. Luckily, their national service girl was sitting in the middle and she was very helpful with translating.

I made connections with the children despite the verbal barrier, and I hope to go back soon. I love Israel and I feel a strong connection to it. Volunteering at Talpiot made my visit to Israel even more meaningful.

For more information on P2K, including volunteer opportunities in Hadera, please contact Sarah Kaplan at the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte 704-944-6757. ☆



Shalom Baby Dad's Singalong with Lori Handler

On Sunday, June 27 more than twenty dads and their children joined Lori Handler for a fun filled hour of songs, dances and games.

This was part of the Jewish Federation's Shalom Baby initiative for new parents in our Charlotte Jewish community. For more information, please contact Tair Giudice, Young Adult Coordinator, at 704-944-6759.

JEWISH
FEDERATION
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE
Local, Global, Eternal

Applications are now being accepted for the 2011 Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte Allocations process.

Application Deadline is August 25. For more information or to receive an application, please contact the Federation office at 704.944.6757.



Luck doesn't buy & sell homes... Experience does!

Buying... Selling... Relocating...
Connecting people to the Jewish Community
for over 25 years.



Ann Langman
704-367-7240
ann.langman@atcmail.com



GREENSPON
& ASSOCIATES

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND PERSONAL & BUSINESS INSURANCE

AN INDEPENDENT BROKERAGE FIRM SERVING THE REGION SINCE 1974
Our objective is to find you the most comprehensive plans at the lowest price while providing a high level of service and support.

SPECIALIZING IN:

◆ Life Insurance ◆ Health Insurance ◆ Dental & Vision Insurance
◆ Disability & Long Term Care Coverage ◆ Annuities ◆ HSA's

Keith Greenspon • Stanley Greenspon

704-376-7434

www.greenspon.com