

Create Your Jewish Legacy (CJL) Shows Early Successes

By Nancy Kipnis, Create Your Jewish Legacy Coordinator

The Create Your Jewish Legacy initiative is off to a great start. To date, this community-wide program has resulted in 20 donors and families (see the adjacent list) creating 42 unique legacy gifts to support the Jewish organizations that serve our community and have special meaning to the donor and their families. These legacy gifts represent an estimated \$1.5 million of future gifts to our Jewish community. What is a legacy gift? It is a commitment to establish a deferred gift (a gift after death) to support those Jewish organizations that you supported throughout your lifetime. And, if you ask any of the legacy donors, each of these individuals will tell you how easy it was to establish and that it had no impact on their annual giving. All it takes is an update to your will or a beneficiary change in the beneficiary designation of your life insurance policy or retirement plan.

While we are off to a great start it is only the beginning. This initiative will help create a culture of legacy giving where each of us will be asked to consider how we will be remembered and which organizations will remember us.

Our early successes have been realized because of the hard work of each of our ten community partner organizations and their CJL teams. These teams, comprised of more than 50 lay and

professional leaders, meet on a regular basis. They have attended three community training sessions and have either established or will establish legacy gifts of their own.

"Temple Israel is proud to be an active participant in CJL," said Barry Bobrow, Temple Israel's Board President and member of their CJL team. "Working proactively with our members regarding legacy gifts is an important way for us to assure the long term viability of our congregation. The FCJC leadership has been strong and we're really seeing the momentum build for our legacy gifts and those for all of the participating groups."

It is important to remember that our CJL effort was designed to follow the model that has resulted in successful legacy programs in many Jewish communities throughout the country. This model, in addition to the individual team and community training sessions, requires that each of the ten community partner organizations create their own case statements and legacy plans. The case statements describe the importance of legacy gifts to an organization's future success. These case statements will soon be available on the web sites of each CJL community partner organization by clicking on the CJL website link.

"Temple Beth El is pleased and honored to be a participating agency in the CJL program," said Marshall Lindner, leader of Tem-

ple Beth El's CJL team. "Response to date has been absolutely outstanding. Thanks to this new and exciting program, we look forward to a secure future filled with promise and assurance that Temple Beth El will be a strong

Our Jewish Community's Newest Legacy Donors

The following individuals/families have recently informed our community through FCJC or one of the ten CJL community partners that they have created a legacy to support the future of Charlotte's Jewish community. Their 42 newly created legacies join the 154 legacies previously recognized in the Book of Life Society.

Anonymous (2)
Raymond "Monty" Bennett
Lillian & Irving Bienstock
Jill Blumenthal
Karen Knoble & Barry Bobrow
Stephanie Brodsky
David Jacobsen
Nancy & Robert Kipnis
Alison & Mark Lerner
Sue Littauer
Adina & Josh Loewensteiner
Karen & Gary Maniloff Family
Risa & David Miller
Harriet & Mark Perlin
Stephanie Rauch
Stephanie & Steven Starr
Debra & David Van Glish
Amy & Mark Vitner
Jennifer & Mark Weintraub

and vibrant center of Jewish life in the Carolinas."

The CJL effort is a collaborative one. It started with a commitment by each of the ten community partner organizations to reach out and educate their own constituents. It continues with the realization that legacy giving is something we all can do and ends with the understanding that legacy conversations must now be an expected norm in our Jewish community.

"The Federation is thrilled to partner with Create Your Jewish Legacy to create a culture of philanthropy within our Jewish community," said Sue Littauer, Development Director for the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and member of their CJL legacy team. "We will be encouraging all of our donors regardless of their age or giving levels to take the simple, innovative steps to make legacy gifts that are within their reach." ☆

For more information on creating a Jewish legacy, please call Nancy Kipnis at 704-973-4554 or Phil Warshauer at 704-973-4544 or one of our ten community partner organizations.



Second Annual Kids Triathlon

The Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center's (LJCC) mission is enriching lives and building relationships through quality Jewish experiences. The LJCC is a multi-faceted, family oriented, vibrant community center that seeks to bring people together by offering



cultural, educational, social, recreational and social action programming for youth, adults, families and seniors. It is because of that philosophy of community and responsibility that the LJCC is holding its 2nd Annual Kids Triathlon on June 2, to benefit Levine Children's Hospital (LCH). This special event is about more than just good, fun athletic competition – it is about giving back. It is about children swim-

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