

Legacy Profile



The Bobrow/Knoble Family

Karen Knoble and Barry Bobrow are among the 255 individuals and families in our community who have created 501 unique legacy gifts to support its future. Please take the time to read their story and thank them for their generosity. It is our hope that you will be inspired and encouraged to think about how you can create your own Jewish legacy.

By Karen Knoble

Barry grew up in a suburb of Detroit, Michigan and I was raised in Northern Virginia. We met in 1983 at graduate school at the University of Michigan and married several years later. Although Barry's family was not particularly observant, his parents wanted him to have a strong Jewish education. His family belonged to Temple Beth Shalom, a conservative synagogue where Barry thrived in Hebrew School and became Bar Mitzvah. I am a Jew by choice. After meeting Barry, I came to love Jewish traditions and perspectives. Barry and I lived in sync with the Jewish calendar and decided to raise our family within the Jewish religion and traditions, but I did not have plans to formally convert to Judaism - until Barry's father died. Through his death, I experienced how Judaism encourages family members to grieve and provides rituals for grieving. I began the conversion process and completed it several years later.

When we moved to Charlotte in 1996, as an interfaith couple with three young children in tow, we were unsure what kind of Jewish Community we would find. We were welcomed by a vibrant and strong community - a community made richer and stronger because of the pluralistic structure of Shalom Park. Our children enrolled at Charlotte Jewish Preschool and enjoyed a variety of offerings at the LJCC. They graduated from Temple Israel Reli-

gious School and became b'nei mitzvah at Temple Israel. In our eighteen years in Charlotte, through our Jewish community we have found spiritual fulfillment and established lifelong friendships.

We are part of an unprecedented generation in American history. We are fortunate to have financial resources so much greater than our parents, and it is not at all clear that future generations will have the same wherewithal. Yet the needs of our Jewish community will still exist for those future generations. We know that families and individuals will still seek spiritual guidance and Judaic education; require assistance from Jewish Family Services; and desire sacred burial places for their loved ones. We know that they, too, will benefit from of a strong Jewish community. As we evaluated the merits of leaving legacy gifts, we wanted to help reduce the cost burden of those future generations, and ensure that the diverse needs of our community members are met well into the future.

During our lifetimes, we have given back to our community through financial contributions and by taking on leadership positions throughout Shalom Park. For us, leaving a legacy gift was a logical next step. We want to continue to give back to the Charlotte Jewish Community after we are gone. We hope that our legacy will help build the financial security of our community for generations to come, and by doing so to inspire others to do the same. ☆



“Most people worry about their own financial needs and their neighbor’s soul. Better they should worry about their neighbor’s financial needs and their own souls.”

– Rabbi Israel Lipkin Salanter

Our Community’s Newest Legacy Gifts

There are now 255 individuals/families throughout our Jewish community who have included a local Jewish organization in their legacy plans creating 501 unique legacies. We thank the following individuals/families who have recently informed our community, through Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community (FCJC) or one of the ten Create Your Jew-

ish Legacy community partners, that they have created a legacy gift to support the future of Charlotte’s Jewish community.

We welcome the newest donors into our community’s Book of Life Society:

Robert and Linda Isser
Sam and Linda Levy
Ira and Stacey Slomka

We thank our legacy donors who have added new organizations to their previously created legacy plans:

Ellen Block Engelhardt
Janet and David Lefkowitz
Steven and Stephanie Starr

Thank You Legacy Donors

The following individuals/families are in the Book of Life Society and have granted us permission to share with you that **Foundation of Shalom Park** has been included as a beneficiary of their legacy gift.



Anonymous*
Don and Bobbi Bernstein
Mark and Louis (OBM) Bernstein
Steven and Olivia Cohen
Barry Bobrow and Karen Knoble
Adam Foodman
Bill and Patty Gorelick
Jeff and Bari Gorelick
Mark and Alison Lerner

Leon and Sandra Poliakoff Levine
Holly and Hal Levinson
Abe and Rose Luski
Polly and Steve Menaker
Eliot and Shirley Rosen
Kevin Levine and Louis Sinkov
Lori and Eric Sklut
Marilyn and Harry Swimmer

*Donors who wish to remain anonymous
OBM - Of Blessed Memory



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Financial assistance is available. Please inquire about the Malone Scholarship for gifted students in Grades 7-12.