

# Grandfriend's Day 2015 at CJDS

Shavuot, the holiday that celebrates the giving of the Torah was last month and we are reminded of the Midrash which is truly the very reason of the existence of CJDS. In fact, it really should be our mission statement.

Rabbi Meir said: "When the Jews stood before Sinai to receive the Torah, God said to them: 'I swear, I will not give you the Torah unless you provide worthy guarantors who will assure that you will observe its laws.'

"The Jews responded, 'Master of the world, our forefathers will be our guarantors!'

"Your guarantors themselves require guarantors!' was God's reply.

"Master of the world,' the Jews exclaimed, 'our prophets will guarantee our observance of the Torah.'

"I have grievances against them, too. 'The shepherds have rebelled against Me' (Jeremiah 2:8),' God replied. 'Bring proper guarantors and only then will I give you the Torah.'

"As a last resort, the Jews de-

clared, 'Our children will serve as our guarantors!'

"They truly are worthy guarantors,' God replied. 'Because of them I will give the Torah.'"

Midrash Rabba, Song of Songs 1:4

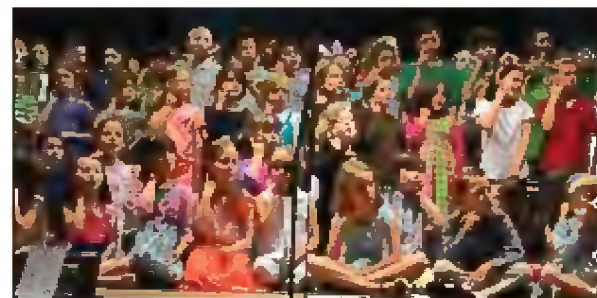
The white-bearded rabbis and the prophets weren't sufficient to satisfy God's "need" for a guarantor. Why? Who can better guarantee the transmission of the Law than the intellectuals and philosophers, who devote their lives to developing it and teaching its wisdom to so many throughout the ages? Why did God prefer the Torah study of the child whose mind is constantly distracted, moving on to far more important subjects, such as which game to play during recess, the caliber of the snack which his mother packed in his lunch bag, or his plans for summer vacation?

Because there is a unique quality exclusive to a child's learning; and it is the most effective guarantee for the future of the Torah, a quality which is appealing to God.

We at CJDS carry a great re-

sponsibility to educate our students so that they recognize the privilege they have to treasure the Torah, its teachings and its mitzvot. Through the experiences, lessons, stories, games and celebrations, CJDS instills and imbues a love and joy for God and the Jewish heritage.

So, on Grandfriend's Day of 2015, we celebrated the guarantors that God requested in order to give the Jewish people his precious Torah. ☆





FOUNDATION FOR THE  
CHARLOTTE JEWISH  
COMMUNITY

## Report to the Community,

During the past year, FCJC continued to evolve in its unique role in serving Charlotte's Jewish community. In collaboration with Foundation For The Carolinas (FFTC), we assist our non-profit clients and individual donors by:

- Building, managing and investing long-term charitable assets
- Linking the philanthropic intent of our donors with community needs
- Facilitating legacy planning to create and build endowments
- Helping to sustain the financial future of Jewish Charlotte

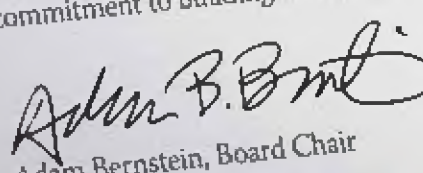
As of December 2014, your Jewish community foundation managed in excess of \$112.6 million in philanthropic funds to benefit organizations locally and nationally. Our asset growth was led by new giving and strong investment performance. Following a national trend, donor advised fund assets continued to grow and at year-end represented 73.4% of our total assets. In 2014, FCJC received more than \$13 million of new gifts to new and existing funds, including donor advised.

Guided by the expertise of FFTC's Investment Committee and an independent investment advisor, portfolios gained between 2.8% and 8.1% for the year. All portfolios continued to outperform our benchmarks over the trailing five-year periods.

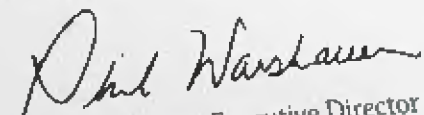
In 2014, more than \$3.6 million of grant distributions were made from FCJC managed funds, with 96% supporting local organizations, both Jewish and otherwise. This included \$81,000 of incentive grants to the ten Create Your Jewish Legacy (CJL) partner organizations. Since 2009, FCJC-managed funds have distributed more than \$10.7 million to support local Jewish organizations, including \$2 million in 2014. Sources included donor advised funds, designated and scholarship funds established by individuals, families or community organizations, as well as designated and unrestricted FCJC funds.

We were honored to receive Jewish Federations of North America's Community Endowment Excellence Award for achievement. In June, we hosted more than 150 legacy donors to celebrate the success of our CJL initiative. At year-end, as a result of CJL and previous legacy initiatives, FCJC had identified future legacy commitments in excess of \$22.5 million. This total will continue to grow in 2015 as FCJC leads our community into CJL's next phase.


All of our 2014 achievements are a tribute to the generosity of our fund holders, whose fees are FCJC's primary revenue source. We look back on the past year, as well as forward, with an ongoing commitment to building and sustaining Jewish life in Charlotte and beyond for generations to come.



Adam Bernstein, Board Chair



Phil Warshauer, Executive Director



To review our 2014 annual report, visit our website at [www.charlottejewishfoundation.org](http://www.charlottejewishfoundation.org).

**cjds**  
Charlotte Jewish  
Day School

New this year, CJDS was able to livestream the Grandfriend's performance to family and friends around the world in over five countries, seven states, and fifty homes. Emails are coming in expressing how thankful they were that they were able to participate in this celebration with their children, grandchildren, and friends. Working parents who cannot break away from their day were not left out from watching their children perform in our annual musical program. It is best expressed by the emails we have received:

"BRILLIANT !!!!!!!!!!!  
I had my parents and brother also watching this from Israel!"

"THANK YOU !!!  
Thank you so very much for giving me the opportunity to watch the Grandfriends Day performances on YouTube.

It was truly wonderful to be a part of it even though I was not able to be there in person. Thanks again."

"Thank you for giving us a way to see our grandchildren at Grandfriends Celebration. I just finished watching and although I am sorry I could not be with you, at least I got to see Jacob on stage. Please thank the music teacher as well."