

Frequently asked questions

Who can open a fund?

Anyone who is having a Bar/Bat Mitzvah is eligible to open his/her own charitable fund at the Jewish Community Foundation.

How much can I give away each year?

Each year you can grant 10% of your fund balance. All you need to do is decide which Jewish charity interests you the most, and we'll send a check in your name from your fund.

How will my fund grow?

Your fund will also receive investment income annually. As your fund grows, the amount of money you can grant will also grow.

In addition, anyone can donate to your fund at any time, in any amount -- on your birthday, in honor of your Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Chanukah, etc.

What agencies can I give to?

You may make a grant from your fund to any Jewish charity, locally or in Israel. You can even give to a University Hillel. If you need help finding an agency that interests you, we'll be glad to work with you.

How long do I keep my fund?

The fund remains open for 20 years. At that point, the balance in your fund must be \$5,000 or more to continue.

If your fund has a balance of \$10,000 in it, you may convert it to a Donor Advised Fund where you decide how much and where to give. If the balance is less than \$5,000, your fund will become part of the Community Legacy Fund at the Foundation, and be used to support a variety of community needs.

Why should I do this?

You can make a difference in the world--one person reaching out to help another.