

Capital Equipment Grants
March 1, 2011

Applicant Organization: *Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City*

Contact Person: Judy Parelman, Executive Director

Name of equipment:

- a) *Audio Visual Equipment: Camera system and bag and tripod & bag and two wired lapel microphones with headphones and mic cables \$3650.00*
- b) *Power point projector and carry bag for laptop-pc and projector \$1700.00*
- c) *Screen for power point with carry bag \$600.00*
- d) *Portable wireless neck mic and handheld mic with speaker sound system and carry bag \$1495.00*
(Estimate was given to us from KC Audio Visual)

Total Budget: Audio Visual system: \$7445.00

Grant Amount : \$7445.00

Description of the equipment and how it will help your organization better meet the needs of your constituency (200 word limit):

The goals of the JCA are to **teach and collect** our local personal/professional histories.
Fact: History is known from the preservation of documents, photographs and oral histories that survive.

One major concern is that our fellow Jews, whom have immigrated to Kansas City for a better life, have had few one-on-one professional oral histories taken (ie: those coming from the former Soviet Union, as well as from other countries). Their children are now adults and both groups have important stories to tell: finding jobs, learning a new language and customs, making new friends, first days of school, social acceptance, going to synagogue, etc.

The JCA visits classrooms, havarah groups, organizations, congregational sisterhoods, and men's clubs sharing photos and documentation within our collections. Oral histories allow personal stories to be viewed and studied by future generations. All collected archival materials are professionally sorted, itemized and safely stored for family and/or researchers' use by our partners at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at UMKC.

Currently, the JCA is limited as to where we can conduct our presentations. Owning our own high quality equipment will negate this problem. Dependency on a facility's equipment, and its quality, allows the possibility of unknown factors to take away from the presentation itself.

Professionally taped oral histories will bring a critical new depth of understanding to our audiences, that is not currently available.