



Summer 2025 Foundation Focus

News from the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City

A Summer of Smarter Giving

So much for a summer slowdown at the Foundation, which is a good thing! With the growth of funds and charitable activities, the energy is palpable. As many are on edge awaiting the outcomes and impacts of the federal budget bill and the volatile situation in the Middle East, our donors continue to utilize their funds in order to support causes near and dear to their hearts. As highlighted in our recent annual report, our fundholders take the opportunity to “Be the Change” by deploying their charitable resources in meaningful ways. The resilient markets and continued outperformance of our investment pools are thankfully providing additional capacity.



We also recognize the concern and grief of members of our community as we collectively mourned the tragic loss of Sarah Milgrim and Yaron Lischinsky in Washington, D.C. and were shaken by the violence in Boulder. During these trying times we continue to come together and unite around strengthening our community and doing good together. Our J-LEAD young adult group recently convened to celebrate their \$24,000 of grantmaking to causes throughout the community, including critical care for local Holocaust survivors through Jewish Family Services. This coming year marks the 20th year of this important community initiative. In April, we hosted our B’nai Tzedek Shuk which introduces teens to the joys and responsibility of charitable giving. And, as part of our Smarter Giving Site Visit series, we recently took a group to Kanbe’s Markets to learn about their innovative approach to addressing food insecurity, and to Wayside Waifs to meet some adorable animals and learn about how the organization serves both people and pets in the community.

For those of you with children or grandchildren, stay tuned for our **Raising Charitable Children event on September 14** in partnership with the Jewish Federation and Jewish Experiences. Whether through an organized program, event or an individual consultation, we are here to help you accomplish your charitable goals and maximize your impact.

Please join us in welcoming our newest members of the Foundation team, Leiba Estrin and Jeffrey Udell. Leiba and Jeff are working as part of our accounting team to ensure our continued quality service to fundholders as the Foundation grows. Read more about them in this newsletter.

Joshua Stein, President & CEO, and Joseph Hiersteiner, Board Chair



Remembering Stan Bushman

Stanley J. Bushman, Jewish Community Foundation Life Trustee and Past President, passed away on March 7, 2025. Stan was a visionary philanthropist, leader and mensch whose inspiring generosity made a tremendous impact on the future of our community and the Foundation especially. The following is an excerpt of remarks eulogizing Stan written by his dear friend, Merilyn Berenbom.

Stan never, ever wanted to be singled out or in the spotlight. We had to twist his arm (and it wasn't easy because he was a renowned Golden Gloves boxer) to name the Bushman Community Endowment initiative after him. Because of that program, to date, there have been \$89

million in realized planned gifts and \$125 million in expected gifts. Stan's leadership was the catalyst for planned giving programs in Kansas City and nationally. THAT is impact. Most importantly, though, are the lives that are and will be so meaningfully touched for generations to come.

What Stan taught, and can still teach us as philanthropists, is how to craft the picture that reflects our community now and in the future. That is what the Bushman Community Endowment program was all about. That is what Create A Legacy is all about. What makes a picture a masterpiece is the light and the vision and the willingness to imagine what COULD be. Stan's philanthropy was directed at providing light when people needed it most. His generosity and kindness also shone when people expected least.

Stan's credo was to help somebody, each and every day. As William Blake expressed so beautifully was what Stan was innately able to do. He was able...

"To see a world in a grain of sand
And a heaven in a wild flower."

Stan understood that you could...

"Hold infinity in the palm of your hand,
And eternity in an hour."

Stan's special light reflects deeply held values that have influenced my navigation through life. When we were unsure which direction to turn, which decision to make, so many of us turned to Stan. He was a trusted advisor and a phenomenal listener. If I could only use one word for Stan, it would be CATALYST. He taught us that nothing

is permanent, yet you can be a protector. Nothing is guaranteed, yet you can be a guarantor. He taught us that EVERYWHERE there is promise and we can draw our own blueprint. ANYWHERE is reachable and we can provide our own compass.

To quote Stan's favorite poem, "If" by Rudyard Kipling:

"If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it."

Stan, thank you for making every second count.



A Legacy of Learning: The Seymour Krinsky Scholarship Fund at JCF

The Jewish Community Foundation is honored to announce the establishment of the Seymour Krinsky Scholarship Fund, a permanently endowed fund created by Marsha Krinsky in loving memory of her husband. This fund will provide annual scholarship and financial aid support for students at Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy (HBHA), helping ensure that every child has access to a quality Jewish education, regardless of financial circumstance.

Seymour Krinsky's connection to JCF and to HBHA runs deep. For more than 20 years, Seymour was a true ambassador of the Foundation, using his professional role in the investment world to connect clients not just to smart financial decisions, but to meaningful philanthropy. His heartfelt commitment to tzedakah and tikkun olam inspired others to give back to the Jewish community, often introducing families to JCF as a trusted vehicle for their charitable goals.

In 2008, the Foundation honored Seymour with the "Friend of the Foundation" award, recognizing him as an emissary extraordinaire who elevated the Foundation in the hearts and minds of others. As one tribute noted, "You don't just buy and sell on your clients' behalf, you listen. And when you hear that someone wants to share their good fortune, you point them to the Foundation."

The Seymour Krinsky Scholarship Fund is a beautiful continuation of that legacy—a legacy rooted in compassion, wisdom, and an unshakable belief in the power of Jewish learning. Through this fund, Seymour's name and values will live on in the lives of students and families who benefit from his generosity for generations to come.

If you would like to learn more about scholarship opportunities at HBHA via the Seymour Krinsky Scholarship Fund, please contact Bekah Zitron at rzitron@hbha.edu.

If you are interested in making a contribution to the fund, please contact Suzanne Dicken at sdicken@jcfkc.org.



Marsha & Seymour Krinsky

Jewish Community Foundation Awards Grants for Innovative Programming and Emergency Needs

The Jewish Community Foundation's Community Legacy Fund has awarded \$117,045 in innovative and emergency grants. The grants will support high-quality, new programs that provide an innovative approach to an existing or emerging community need, or respond to financial or humanitarian emergencies.

The Community Legacy Fund is comprised of permanent endowments from which grants are awarded to community agencies whose applications are reviewed and evaluated by the Foundation's Grants Committee and Board of Trustees.

Community Legacy Fund grants were awarded for the following programs:

- Jewish Community Relations Bureau|AJC: Fighting Antisemitism in the Workplace
- Jewish Family Services: Client Assistance Fund for Family-Centered Coaching
- Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City: Sasone Microgrants
- Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City: See KC
- Jewish Vocational Service: Emergency Assistance Program
- KU Hillel: Holiday Experiences by Intentional Design
- Village Shalom: Virtual Reality Equipment for Dementia Care Clients

"We're thrilled to receive this support," said Hope Howe, development manager of Village Shalom. "It means we can bring the ToverCare system to the Memory Support household. It's such a fun and meaningful way to help our residents connect, stay active, and experience real moments of joy."



Village Shalom residents using their new virtual reality equipment

In addition to innovation and emergency grants, the Community Legacy Fund also provides annual core grants which support operations central to the achievement of an organization's mission or for funding unique services not otherwise available within the Jewish community that are essential to Jewish life.

"I've served on the Grants Committee for more than 10 years and am truly honored to now chair the committee, which is composed of people with such rich professional and life experiences," said Lara Krigel Pabst. "We always

have very thorough and thoughtful discussions about how our support can best make an impact on the community. This grant cycle is exciting because although most of the available Community Legacy Fund grant dollars are earmarked for core funding - which supports organizations' overall operations - the innovation/emergency cycle gives the committee a chance to learn about new strategies the organizations are deploying to serve their constituents."

For more information about the Community Legacy Fund, please contact Beatrice Fine at bfine@jcfkc.org or 913-327-4618.

Get the Scoop: An Invitation From Suzanne

This summer, I'd love to invite you to set up some time to come by the JCF office for ice cream and a quick check-in on your Donor Advised Fund with the Jewish Community Foundation. It's a relaxed, easy way to reconnect, talk about your giving goals, and make sure everything is set up the way you'd like it to be. We can also take a few minutes to review your fund's successorship and legacy plans to ensure they still reflect your wishes for the future.

If you don't yet have a fund, no problem! I'd love to meet to talk about how JCF can help you achieve your philanthropic goals.

Come enjoy a sweet treat and meaningful conversation!

To schedule a time to chat, please call me at (913) 327-8286 or email sdicken@jcfkc.org.



New Funds at JCF

Legacy Funds

Kenneth Stein Legacy Fund

Donor Advised Funds

Banks Family Charitable Fund

Laura & Justin Belozzer Donor Advised Fund

Merilyn & Loren Berenbom Fund for Jewish Continuity

L Heller Bettinger / J Francer Fund

Elisa & Megan Davis Donor Advised Fund

Jared Davis Donor Advised Fund

Finnigan Family Charitable Fund

Barbra & Ron Hill Charitable Fund

Steven & Elizabeth Levy Charitable Fund

Maker Family Giving Fund

Lori & Javid Noorollah Donor Advised Fund

William Shaw Foundation

Gerald M. White Donor Advised Fund

B'nai Tzedek Funds

Solomon Abelson B'nai Tzedek Fund

Lila Alyse Fineman B'nai Tzedek Fund

Juliet Sosland B'nai Tzedek Fund

Raya Zigler B'nai Tzedek Fund

Restricted Funds

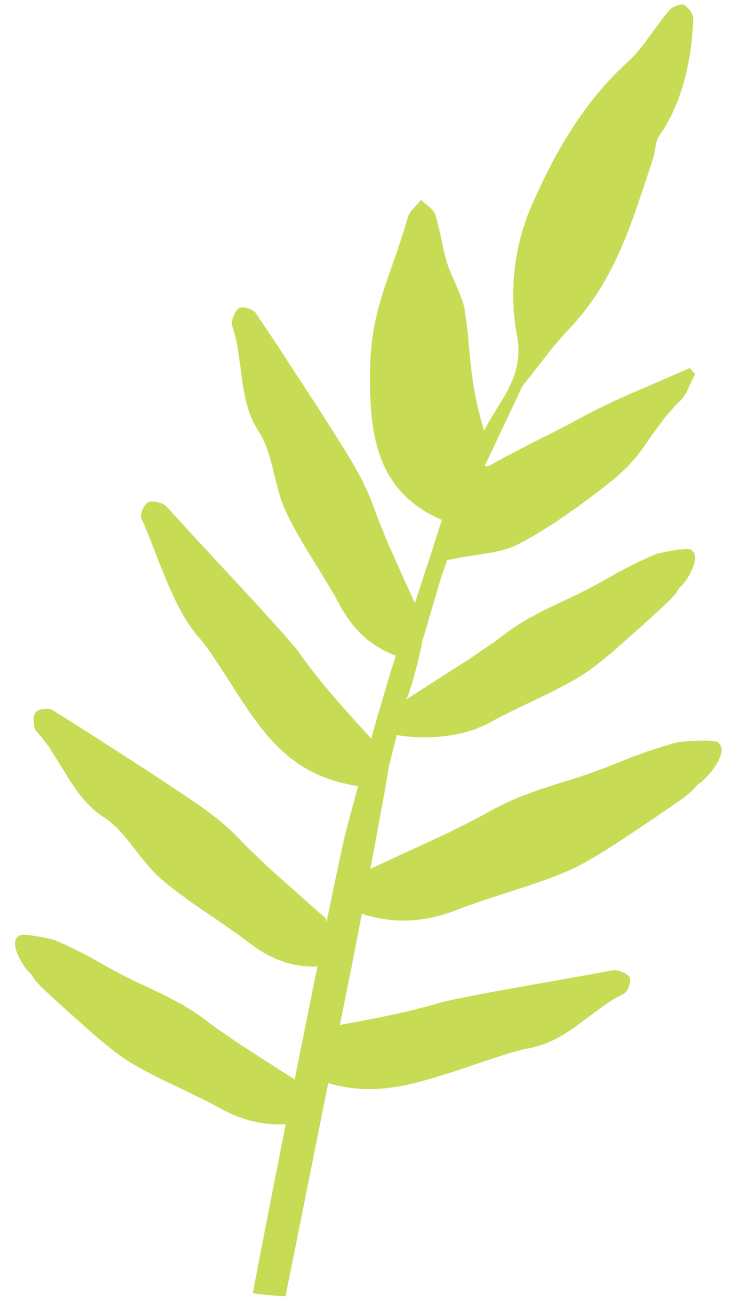
Congregation Beth Shalom Ner Tamid Fund

Fred & Maria Devinki Building Preservation Fund for KI Synagogue

Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy L'Dor V'Dor Fund

Kansas City Hospice Christy Scales Casillas Family Food Fund

Seymour Krinsky Scholarship Fund





The B'nai Tzedek Youth Council

Celebrating Teen Philanthropy at the B'nai Tzedek Shuk

On Thursday, April 3rd, the Jewish Community Foundation welcomed teens and their families to its youth philanthropy fair, the B'nai Tzedek Shuk. This annual event is a highlight of the Foundation's philanthropic programming which connects teens with Jewish communal organizations for an evening of learning, engagement, and fun. The theme of this year's Shuk was "Philanthropy: Rated E for Everyone" which was emphasized throughout the event with playful Netflix inspired references. The Shuk was planned by the B'nai Tzedek Youth Council, a group of dedicated teens that meets monthly to engage their peers in philanthropy.

After visiting the organizations' booths, attendees enjoyed a lively reception with kid-approved menu items such as mac 'n cheese, quesadillas, and Dippin' Dots. The evening concluded with members of the Youth Council sharing personal insights about their positive experiences participating in the B'nai Tzedek program. Since the program began in 2001, nearly 700 teens have opened funds and more than \$475,000 has been donated to Jewish nonprofits.

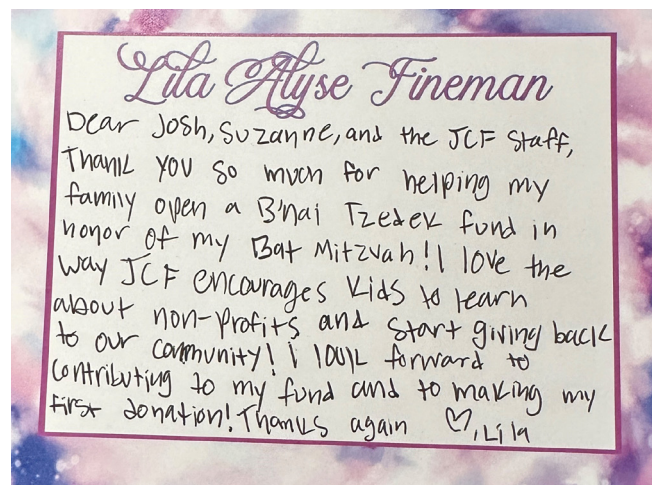
For more information about the B'nai Tzedek program, contact Suzanne Galblum Dicken at (913) 327-8286 or sdicken@jcfkc.org.

Generous program funding was provided by the Lowenstein Family Supporting Foundation.

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We received this sweet card from Lila Fineman thanking the Foundation for helping her open a B'nai Tzedek fund. To establish a B'nai Tzedek fund, each family contributes a minimum of \$125 and JCF adds \$375, creating a fund with a balance of at least \$500 which can be used to support the teen's favorite Jewish charities.

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J-LEAD Announces 2025 Grants

The Jewish Community Foundation's J-LEAD program, a giving circle for adults in their 20s, 30s, and 40s, recently completed their 2025 grant cycle in which they collectively granted \$24,112 to six community programs:

- JCRB | AJC: Student 2 Student Program Pilot
- Jewish Family Services: Care Management & Support for Holocaust Survivors
- Jewish Federation: Indigent Burial Program
- Jewish Federation: Sasone
- Jewish Vocational Service: Emergency Assistance
- Village Shalom: Mynd Virtual Reality Headsets for Memory Support

“Participating in J-LEAD has been an impactful experience for me over the last three years, as it’s given me the opportunity to learn about wonderful Kansas City Jewish organizations and the populations they serve while collaborating with my peers to make a greater impact than we could on our own,” said J-LEAD member Becky Barnett. “Building and strengthening our community at large feels more important now than ever, and being involved in J-LEAD helps us feel that we’re making a tangible difference.”

In addition to grant making, J-LEAD meets several times a year for educational programs, volunteer opportunities and social events. If you would like more information about J-LEAD, contact Suzanne Galblum Dicken at 913-327-8286 or sdicken@jcfkc.org.



SAVE THE DATE : Sept. 14

Raising Charitable Children

Parents and grandparents are invited to save the date of Sunday, September 14 from 9:30-11:30 am for Raising Charitable Children, a special complimentary event brought to you by the Jewish Community Foundation, Jewish Federation, and Jewish Experiences.

MiaLisa Millares, executive director of Doing Good Together and an authority on family philanthropy, volunteering as a family and parenting with purpose, will share creative and practical tips for making empathy and “giving back” a natural part of your child’s life. This event is for parents and grandparents raising children up to age 18.

Look for more information later this summer.



Roberta Goller to Retire

After nearly 21 years of dedicated service to the Jewish Community Foundation and particularly to our fundholders, Roberta Goller has announced her plans to retire later this summer. In her role as Grants Manager, Roberta is responsible for processing grant requests and donations and providing stewardship support. The Foundation is committed to maintaining the high quality of customer service that has been the hallmark of Roberta’s tenure and has hired Leiba Estrin to take over her role.



Meet New Members of the JCF Team



Leiba Estrin, Grants Manager

Leiba joined the Foundation team in July as our new grants manager. She is responsible for processing grants and supporting fundholders.

Leiba recently relocated to the area from Florida as part of the Jewish Federation's SeeKC program. She and her husband Srulie were looking for a welcoming place in which to raise their two children and were impressed by Kansas City's vibrant Jewish community.

Leiba's professional background includes marketing and communications, with a primary focus on nonprofit organizations. She has worked extensively in community building and advocacy efforts to support Jewish causes.

"Supporting people in their philanthropic endeavors is extremely meaningful to me as the impact is far-reaching and can be felt right away," said Leiba. "My goal as JCF grants manager is to make a difference for both donors and recipients, to make sure they realize the extent that they are partnering to grow the Jewish community and secure its future."



Jeff Udell, Accounting Professional

At the end of June, we welcomed Jeff Udell to the JCF team as our new accounting professional. In this role, Jeff processes donations, assists with our database and special projects, and supports our overall accounting operations. This new position was created as the Foundation has grown to help continue providing the highest quality of service to our fundholders.

Jeff is a Kansas City native and an active member of the Jewish community. He has a background in accounting operations, team leadership, and process improvement across both hospitality and SaaS startups. He and his wife, Farrah, have two children.

"I am excited to join the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City because it plays an important role in supporting both the Jewish community and a

wide range of philanthropic efforts," said Jeff. "The opportunity to help individuals and families give to the causes they care most about is incredibly meaningful and rewarding."

We're thrilled to welcome Leiba and Jeff to the JCF team.