

# 60 Years of Excellence in Impact

**Our Foundation Family shares 60 ways the Jewish Community Foundation exemplifies Excellence in Impact.**



1

- “JCF has enriched our lives in so many ways. Not only has it made charitable giving easier, but also we have seen the good the Foundation does with the administrative fee we pay. We have seen B’nai Tzedek members learn to appreciate the local charities while they determine the best recipient of their gifts, the programming and education made available to both J-LEADers and families with young children, and the Foundation’s efforts to make certain the charitable needs of this community are met long after we are no longer involved. I am so grateful to be a part of the Foundation.” - ALICE JACKS ACHTENBERG



2

- “This is a great organization to work with. We have easy access for making grants from our Donor Advised Fund. It’s a simpler way to make and keep track of our charitable donations. The staff is very helpful. We always get a quick response and answers to our questions when we contact them.” - SHARON MILENS

3 “It’s not always easy for donors to find an organization to adequately fulfill their philanthropic goals. It can also be challenging for organizations to connect with potential donors. JCF bridges this gap, and its strategic approach to maximizing its donors’ charitable impact has helped to fund countless life-enriching programs at Village Shalom.” - MATT LEWIS



4 “As immediate past chair of the Board, I’ve had an opportunity over the past year to see the functioning of JCF from a perspective that is a step removed from the day-to-day operations of the Foundation. What I’ve seen from that perspective makes me proud. Not only is JCF being run well in my view by the excellent staff and extremely talented Board, but the vision is as relevant and important today as it ever has been. Just in the past couple of years, funds that were under the stewardship of the Foundation have been used to complete major capital campaigns that will enable several of our community organizations to operate in the most up-to-date and appropriate facilities in order to maximize their impact. JCF gives us all an opportunity to support causes, larger and smaller, in a tax-efficient and meaningful way. Whether one has a committed direction for charitable dollars or is looking for ideas from our staff and other philanthropic-minded people as to what is available to support, the JCF offers customized assistance and a shared set of values for helping others and repairing the world. I am so pleased to be part of this giving community.” - IRV BELZER



5 “The Jewish Community Foundation has opened the door for us to have meaningful conversations with our children regarding philanthropy and tikkun olam. When they were younger, we used a B’nai T’zedek Fund to help them appreciate connecting their financial resources to organizations they care about. Now that they are adults, we use the Charitable Giving Cards as a way to recognize their milestone celebrations and continue to encourage them to give back in a way that is meaningful to them.”  
- ROBERTA & SAM GOLLER



6

“I have learned numerous leadership skills given the opportunities the B’nai Tzedek Youth Council has provided me. I’ve also learned how a nonprofit works which will influence my future donations.”  
- ISAAC DECKER

“B’nai Tzedek has given me a way to give back to causes that I believe in and it has helped me give the resources I have for the betterment of others.” - ANNA CLAUER



7



8

“I love the Foundation! As a member of their B’nai Tzedek Youth Council, I learned a ton about philanthropy!” - SAGI RUDNICK

“J-LEAD enables participants to make a greater impact than we could make individually, and in the process, we learn about the great projects taking place in our community and have an opportunity to invest in their success.” - BEN ABELSON

9



- "Being a part of J-LEAD has been a really
- wonderful, eye-opening experience! Not only
- has it reconnected me with old friends and
- given me an outlet to meet new ones, it has
- helped introduce my husband and me to many
- of the incredible programs/initiatives that are
- happening within our local Jewish community!
- As part of this giving circle, we hear from non-
- profit organizations about where our group
- funding could make
- the biggest difference
- and we know that, by
- pooling our charitable
- contributions, we
- can make a greater
- impact than we could
- individually."
- - LINDSAY FINEMAN



10

"Without the support and partnership of JCF and its emphasis on planned giving and stewardship, our community simply would not have the philanthropic resources we have been able to generate and utilize for impact. We are grateful for this outstanding partner whose programs and services set the standard of quality in the Kansas City community."

- DEREK GALE



11



12

"I have been involved with the Jewish Community Foundation in one capacity or another since the age of 13. From that young age, JCF taught me the importance of giving back. Their B'nai Tzedek program is at the heart of teaching young adults that giving time and money to those in need is a central value in Jewish life. They have among the friendliest and most knowledgeable staff. Even now when I am no longer living in Kansas City, they keep me closely connected with what is going on in the community."

- JONATHAN EDELMAN



“In 2019, we were in the middle of a transition of JET Express, our volunteer driver program, as we modernized the program to take advantage of rideshare services as a supplement to the volunteer rides. We needed funding for the transition. The Jewish Community Foundation was a great partner, helping us bring our case to potential funders. We needed to raise \$25,000 and with their help, we exceeded that goal in 3 months time. We have now successfully made the transition, thanks to the funding that JCF helped provide.” - DON GOLDMAN



13



14

“A hallmark of the Jewish Community Foundation is their innovative, engaging programming on topics related to philanthropy. Dave and I can rely on them to provide intelligent, thoughtful analysis regarding community and individual philanthropic projects. They are wonderful community partners.” - CAROL PORTER

“JCF has provided me with a place where I can encourage other Jewish teens to make a difference by donating their Bar and Bat Mitzvah funds.” - ABBIE DAVIS

15



16

“As two busy attorneys, we are always looking for ways to do things more efficiently. Our Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation enables us to simplify our charitable giving by allowing us to direct funds to causes we care about with the click of a button and avoid the stress of pulling together multiple charitable tax acknowledgments at tax time.” - CATHERINE & DANIEL SINGER



17

- “My family greatly values our supporting foundation at the Jewish Community Foundation. The Lowenstein Family Supporting Foundation benefits tremendously from the expertise of our community trustees; their broad knowledge and thoughtful approach to grant-making allows us to be better philanthropists.” - LON LOWENSTEIN



19

- “Community is not just a part of the Foundation’s name, it is central to the mission and work that is done here. I am proud to work for an organization that advocates for philanthropy and the future of this community.” - TRACIE HOLLEY

- “We are more recent fundholders, and one of the best parts of having the fund is how helpful all of the staff have been, as well as making us be more discriminating in funding the organizations whose principles we really want to support. In the past, every fundraising request that came got filed away or small donations were sent here and there with really no consideration to our personal goals of more thoughtfully funding those organizations and programs that are in keeping with our family’s interests and values.”

- MINDY & DAVEY WAJCMAN



18

- “The Jewish Community Foundation is fortunate to have really great people throughout its organization. I’ve recommended using Donor Advised Funds through the Jewish Community Foundation to several friends. I recognize what a great job the Foundation does and its strong relation to supporting the Jewish community here in Kansas City.”

- PETE LEVI



20



21

- “The Jewish Community Foundation is a wonderful way to take control of all
- my giving now and in the future. It is convenient, practical, and allows me a
- way to leave a legacy so that those who oversee my fund after I’m gone can
- preserve my philanthropic intentions.” - ROBIN ONIKUL



22

- “The Jewish Community Foundation makes it easy to
- support the organizations I care about now and has
- helped me create a lasting legacy gift for when I’m no
- longer here. It feels good knowing I will be making a
- difference for many generations!” - ANN STERN

• “The Foundation serves as a trusted creative partner for donors and community  
• organizations. One great example was JCF’s work with the Jewish Heritage Foundation  
• and the Menorah Legacy Foundation in connection with a bequest from Rheta Sosland  
• to create significant endowments for Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy, The J, and  
• Jewish Community Campus. JCF facilitated a major leveraging of the bequest, turning  
• what would have been a very significant gift in its own right into one of, if not the,  
• very largest endowment gifts ever for each of these three institutions. In addition to  
• amplifying the gift’s impact, the Foundation created complex fund agreements and  
• acted as trusted stewards of financial resources. Without JCF’s help, the arrangement  
• would have been far more difficult and expensive to execute.” - L. JOSHUA SOSLAND



23





24

• “At 60, our Foundation is one of the oldest  
• independent Jewish community foundations in  
• North America. As its role and impact has grown,  
• so too has its strength and commitment to and  
• reputation for excellence. I am blessed to be  
• able to do this important work together with so  
• many outstanding lay and professional leaders.  
• Congratulations to the entire Foundation Family on  
• this important milestone. May we go from strength  
• to strength!” - LAUREN MATTLEMAN HOOPEs



25

• “Tzedakah is an important part of  
• our family’s life. Having a Donor  
• Advised Fund at the Jewish  
• Community Foundation has enabled  
• us to support the organizations we  
• care about in a more convenient,  
• streamlined way.”  
• - BETH & MICHAEL LISS

• “We opened a Donor Advised Fund to further our  
• philanthropic connection with the Jewish community. It has  
• made the giving process simple and organized, while providing  
• additional tax benefits. The matching grant was a great way to  
• increase our charitable impact on an organization we love.”  
• - AMANDA & BRAD KOFFMAN



26

• “JCF’s unmatched impact on our  
• community has continued to develop  
• to assure our future. And its success  
• and excellence in creating vehicles  
• for every person to participate  
• in tzedakah has changed our  
• community for the better.”  
• - MARVIN SZNELER



27





28

“Our family has been involved in several organizations in our Jewish community. Through our fund at the Jewish Community Foundation, we will be able to continue our support of those organizations in perpetuity and help ensure the success of our community for generations to come.”

- CINDY & FRED BODKER

“I am honored by the opportunity to be back in my hometown working at the Jewish Community Foundation, focused on securing the long-term strength and vibrancy of this community that I care so deeply about. I continue to be inspired each day by the generosity of our community and the dedication of so many people to maintain the high quality Jewish life, social services and the arts that have become a hallmark of this city. May we go from strength to strength as we enter the next decade as a thriving Foundation.”

- JOSH STEIN



29



30

“I want to share and express gratitude for the impact JCF has had on my children and our family through their involvement with B’nai Tzedek. I love that our community has such a youth-focused philanthropy program to educate and inculcate a powerful and meaningful culture of giving. Moreover, the opportunity for my son first, now followed by my daughter, to become involved in leadership of the program through the Youth Council has deepened their connections to tzedakah in general, and identifying specific organizations and missions which resonate with them and thus attract their ‘giving’ attention. Toda rabba for helping make such an impact possible - for living up to and into the ‘C’ in JCF!” - RABBI JONATHAN RUDNICK



31

- “The Jewish Community Foundation provides our family fantastic
- implementation tools to organize and grow our charitable giving dollars. It
- also is a great resource for educational information on the so many wonderful
- organizations in our community that do such great needed work, helping us
- make our charitable decisions.” - JEFF MALLIN

“The Jewish Community Foundation is a wonderful organization committed to building a strong community. It helps individuals and families think strategically and intentionally when making charitable contributions. It helps nonprofit organizations obtain funding by, as one example, pairing specific donors with organizations that match their interests. The Foundation acts as a partner for nonprofits and donors alike. The Foundation’s staff is smart, hard-working, committed, and creative.” - LARA KRIGEL PABST



32

“The Kansas City Jewish Community Foundation skillfully works to improve the Jewish community and the world. The staff has provided my family with the highest level of personal attention, turning our philanthropic interests into reality.”  
- RONNA NUSSBAUM

33



- “I love having a Donor
- Advised Fund with JCF.
- They are always coming
- up with new ways to
- make my charitable
- giving easier and more
- convenient!”
- - ANNIE WISHNA

34



35

- “JCF is a great organization making a positive impact on KC and the world. Keep up the good work.”
- - SUSAN WASKOW

- “JCF’s work, commitment and competence is of enormous benefit to our entire Jewish community. While the dollars over which they are stewards is of great importance, of greater value is the spirit behind the dollars: a commitment to serve others and bring about positive impact and change for so many.”
- - RABBI DOUG ALPERT



37

- “JCF has offered so many ways to connect and strengthen our community. Through their educational programming, we’ve been able learn tangible tools to get our child involved in philanthropy, even at a young age. I’ve also been fortunate to partner with JCF in my professional role at JFS to expand and create meaningful volunteer opportunities and connect with new organizations and individuals to help us further our mission.”
- - TALY FRIEDMAN

36



- “Having a Donor Advised Fund at the Foundation helps us provide a legacy and share our values and our feelings of joy and fulfillment in the act of giving with our family.”
- - SHERYL & RON DAVIDOW



38



39

- “Turning appreciated property into a significant charitable gift is one of the most valuable benefits of the Jewish Community Foundation. JCF helped facilitate my contribution of real estate and managed its ultimate sale deftly and professionally. They handled every aspect of the transaction beautifully. It’s a terrific way to go!”
- - MEL MALLIN



40



- “Working with the professional staff at JCF has helped us organize our thoughts on the legacy we want to leave in our community - and beyond. They’ve also guided us in the best way to communicate those wishes to our children to ensure the issues that are most important to us continue to benefit.” - RACHEL KRANTZ & EDWARD GOLDSTEIN



43

- “Our fund at the Jewish Community Foundation allows us to set aside funds for charitable giving during our working years that will support our giving now and into the future. Doing so allows us to maximize tax savings and ensures that we can continue to support the causes that we care most about.” - CAROL & JEFF MARKS



41

- “JCF allows me to form a connection to my community through tzedakah.”
- - MIRRA GOLDENBERG

“Don and I care about a number of causes, in both our Jewish community and the general community, both locally and around the country. Our Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation has let us manage our support for these organizations in an easy, organized way – allowing us to focus on making philanthropic choices in line with our interests and values. We are very grateful the Foundation makes donating so user-friendly and rewarding.” - MARTHA GERSHUN



42



“The Jewish Community Foundation listened to our goals and created a strategy that made great sense for us. It’s comforting to have our plan in place, while knowing we can make changes in the future.” - SHANNY & ERIC MORGENSTERN



44



45

“The Foundation provides great information and creative ideas which help us refine our philanthropic priorities and turn our charitable visions into action.” - JAMIE & BUSH HELZBERG



46

“The Jewish Community Foundation very simply serves this community. The staff is highly trained and very knowledgeable in the legal aspects of charitable giving.” - MIKE SCHULTZ



47

“JCF has helped me make an impact because it has allowed me to donate and be a philanthropist and see visible changes in my community.” - MANDY UNTERHALTER



48

“The knowledgeable and supportive staff of JCF assists community agencies in numerous ways. JCF operates with as much transparency as possible and acts in the best interests of agencies.” - JEAN ZELDIN



- “Giving back is an important part of our identity. We are investing in a stronger
- community for future generations to enjoy, including our children and grandchildren.
- The Jewish Community Foundation is a trusted partner in our charitable giving.”
- - GAIL & HARRY HIMMELSTEIN

49



- “I grew up in a town with 2,000
- people. Working at the JCF is so
- inspiring because it underscores
- what a rich and vibrant Jewish
- community we have and how
- important it is to endeavor to
- keep it thriving. I am proud to
- help our Jewish organizations
- ensure their financial stability
- through our generous donors,
- grant-making, and philanthropic
- education. The legacy gifts
- I have created will help this
- wonderful community even after
- I am gone.” - BEATRICE FINE

50



- “We have had a fund at the
- Foundation for many years,
- and one of the many things we
- value is the interactions with
- their professional team. They
- are friendly, knowledgeable
- and responsive.”
- - JENNY & JOHN ISENBERG

51



- “JCF helps Congregation Beth Shalom
- immeasurably in doing the holy work we are
- designed to do by providing solid leadership,
- unbiased advice, and having superb programs
- that are open to the entire community.”
- - RABBI DAVID GLICKMAN

52



53

“I love this organization! I’m grateful for the good work the staff and volunteers do to reinforce the importance of charitable giving and supporting our community.”  
- ALANA MULLER



54

“The most important outcome of JCF’s excellence is the development of a community of lifelong givers who give from the heart, who give meaningfully, who appreciate how good our Kansas City community is and how wonderful it will continue to be for generations to come.”  
- STANLEY BUSHMAN

“We established our Donor Advised Fund twenty years ago and it has allowed us to efficiently support our community’s needs in a beneficial tax manner. The Foundation has been a wonderful partner in making our charitable wishes a reality.”  
- ESTHER & STEWART STEIN



55

56



“The guidance and assistance of the professional staff of the Foundation have been invaluable to us, and we are most grateful for their participation in shepherding us through the intricacies of planned giving.”  
- JANET & ALLEN AGRON





- “We appreciate the
- Foundation’s personalized
- service and knowledge of
- the nonprofit landscape.”
- - PAM & BILL KANTER

57

58



“Our Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation has facilitated our estate planning and helped us provide a legacy which will allow our family to continue our tradition of giving.” - DEBRA & HOWARD COHEN



59

- “The Jewish Community
- Foundation is a connector at the
- deepest level. My family has funds
- that span three generations. The
- fourth generation lit Chanukah
- candles at the Annual Meeting.
- Every name on every fund has a
- face. When I see a name, I see my
- great uncle who came here from
- Poland and quietly took care of
- those in need. I see the faces of
- my niece and my cousin whose
- lives were far too short. I see the
- face of my mother who knows the
- importance of family. I see the faces
- of my children who have stepped
- up with compassion and caring. All
- these faces and the faces on every
- fund at the Foundation reflect the
- values that always have and always
- will sustain us and nourish us.”
- - MERILYN BERENBOM

60



“The diversity of options and supports at JCF gives every fundholder a great start on philanthropy. The ability to set up everything from a single, multi-generational fund to multiple funds with very specific purposes allows donors to create a structure which works for them to clarify their objectives for, or to leave decisions to, future generations. In our family, that has translated to a combination of vehicles which address my parents’ philanthropic priorities while also creating space for the next generations to support the causes of importance to them.” - RITA CORTÉS