

PRESS RELEASE

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Jewish Heritage Foundation of Greater Kansas City Distributes over \$1.5 Million to Jewish Community

KANSAS CITY, MO: The Board of Directors of the Jewish Heritage Foundation of Greater Kansas City is pleased to announce its 2008 Program and Core Agency Support grant awards to local Jewish agencies.

“This year the Foundation received a record number of requests from Jewish Agencies – over \$2,330,000 of combined program and core agency support grant requests,” stated Sheryl Davidow, Foundation Board President. “However, due to the continuing underperformance of the financial markets, the Foundation has fewer resources available to help. After a detailed review of all grant applications, the Board voted to award \$1,561,540 in grants to be distributed through 28 Program Grants for direct services to clients and five Core Agency Support grants to provide support for operational expenses.”

2008 Program grants were given to the following Jewish organizations:

- ***B’nai B’rith Youth Organization (BBYO):*** \$7,040, leadership development;
- ***Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy:*** \$100,000, financial assistance program;
- ***Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters:*** \$15,000, support a one-on-one mentor program with Jewish children;
- ***Jewish Community Center:*** \$46,500, Department of Adult Jewish Learning; \$53,500, Genesis Program, an educational program for interfaith couples; and, \$250,000 for funding of the Heritage Center;
- ***Jewish Community Relations Bureau/ American Jewish Committee (JCRB/AJC):*** \$60,000, Interfaith Clergy Council;
- ***Jewish Family and Children Services:*** \$32,000, Jewish Chaplaincy program; \$21,500, Family Support Services; \$24,000, Community Case Management; \$31,000, BLING, an educational program aimed at pre-adolescents who are at risk of developing eating disorders; and, \$60,000, Supportive Communities, a pilot program based on the Israeli JDC-Ehsel model;
- ***Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City:*** \$133,000, Sasone Program for special needs children; \$145,000, Jewish Senior Network Client Subsidy Program; \$30,000, Jewish Community Simcha Box Program; \$22,000, Young Professionals Program;

\$13,500, Young Emissary Program; \$36,000, Teacher Education Initiative; and \$37,500, Jewish Student Union;

- **Jewish Vocational Services:** \$28,000 Career Management Services Program;
- **Kansas City Community Kollel:** \$12,500, Judaic education programming for post bar and bat mitzvah teenagers and young adults;
- **Kansas University Endowment Association:** \$45,000, enhanced curriculum in modern and Biblical Hebrew language and culture at University of Kansas;
- **Kansas University Hillel Foundation:** \$20,000, Friday Night Shabbat Experiences program; \$25,000, Student Leadership Development Program;
- **Midwest Center for Holocaust Education:** \$7,500, Collective Voice Writing Project;
- **Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City:** \$30,000, community programming
- **Village Shalom:** \$200,000, TAP program; and, \$35,000, Indigent Care Program.

Core Agency Support grants, which provide operational dollars, were given to the following Jewish organizations:

- **Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy:** \$6,000, promotional materials;
- **Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City:** \$10,000, partial Program Director salary and marketing materials;
- **Lawrence Jewish Community Center:** \$10,000, strategic planning and fundraising consultant;
- **Midwest Center for Holocaust Education;** \$5,000, board development;
- **Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City:** \$10,000 funding of a part-time administrator.

The Jewish Heritage Foundation of Greater Kansas City was created in 1994 with the sale of Menorah Hospital to Health Midwest, and throughout the past 14 years has dedicated itself to improving the quality of life to the citizens of the greater Kansas City metropolitan area through its support of the area agencies who serve them.

Officers of the Foundation board are: Sheryl T. Davidow, president; Steven A. Gershon, executive vice president; Stanley P. Weiner, vice president-investments; Susan L. Goldsmith, vice president-grants, Marilyn Berenbom, secretary; and, Michael Milens, treasurer.

Foundation board members include: Stanley J. Bushman, Robin Carr, Mary Davidson Cohen, Ed.D., Bernard P. Erdman, , Sharon Greenwood, Tom Isenberg, Howard T Jacobson, Gina Kaiser, Rob Mandel, Sue McCord-Belzer, Rodney T. Minkin, Mark C. Myron, M.D., Carol Sader, Daniel L. Scharf, M.D., Jane Sosland, Ph.D., Ann Stern, Frank Sterneck, and Stanford A. Zeldin.

Foundation staff includes Ellen Kort, Executive Director; Cathy Boyer-Shesol, Senior Program Officer; and Marianne Mantel, Administrative Director.

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