

PRESS RELEASE

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Kansas City Jewish Chronicle
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Jewish Heritage Foundation of Greater Kansas City Distributes over \$1.6 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 2007 Program and Core Agency Support grant awards to local Jewish agencies.

"We are delighted to provide approximately \$1.56 million in Program and Core grants to local Jewish nonprofits. For the first time in our history, we will be allocating funds directly to local temples and synagogues in recognition of their tremendous importance to our Jewish community" stated Daniel L. Scharf, M.D., Foundation Board President.

"During our recent strategic planning process, our board expressed a strong desire to find a way to support our religious and spiritual organizations. As a result of this process, unrestricted grants totaling \$50,000 have been distributed as part of a one-year pilot program to determine how we can best help these vital institutions. Our hope is that these funds will serve as an additional resource to support congregation operations."

2007 Program grants were given to the following Jewish organizations:

Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy: \$100,000, financial assistance program;

Jewish Community Center: \$64,316 Department of Adult Jewish Learning; \$53,526, Genesis Program, an educational program for interfaith couples; and, \$280,310 for funding of the Heritage Center;

Jewish Family and Children Services: \$32,067, Jewish Chaplaincy program; \$24,094, Community Assistance Program; \$23,915, Community Support Network; and, \$34,760, BLING, an educational program aimed at pre-adolescents who are at risk of developing eating disorders;

Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City: \$133,000, Sasone Program for special needs children; \$150,000, Jewish Senior Network Client Subsidy Program; \$34,580, Jewish Community Simcha Box Program; \$24,788, Young Professionals Program; \$15,000, Young Emissary Program; and \$25,000, Jewish Student Union;

Jewish Vocational Services: \$28,000 Career Management Services Program;

Kansas University Endowment Association: \$45,000, enhanced curriculum in modern and Biblical Hebrew language and culture at University of Kansas;

Kansas University Hillel Foundation: \$26,505, Friday Night Shabbat Experiences program; \$22,900, Student Leadership Development Program;

Lawrence Jewish Community Center: \$19,175, Lawrence Jewish Learning Center;

Midwest Center for Holocaust Education: \$31,300, Holocaust Witnesses Archive Project;

Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City: \$14,825, Conversion to Judaism course; \$5,500, Community-Wide Second Night of Passover Seder; \$7,700, Community-Wide Selichot Program; and, \$5,000 Community-Wide Day of Jewish Learning;

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:

B'nai B'rith Youth Organization: \$10,000, rental expenses at the Jewish Community Campus;

Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy: \$10,000, marketing campaign;

Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City: \$10,000, office equipment and partial Program Director salary;

Jewish Community Center: \$10,000, rental expenses at the Jewish Community Campus;

Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee (JCRB/AJC): \$8,000, Calendar of Jewish Holidays Project and website design;

Jewish Family Services: \$10,000, multi-year strategic plan;

Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City: \$5,000, start-up costs for the Jewish Organization Health Initiative;

Jewish Vocational Services: \$9,975, new carpet and chairs;

Kansas University Hillel Foundation: \$10,000, house utilities and annual financial review;

Lawrence Jewish Community Center: \$10,000, facilitator and administrative support for strategic planning;

Midwest Center for Holocaust Education; \$10,000, replace network server and convert GiftMaker Pro database to Raiser's Edge;

National Council of Jewish Women: \$7,500, subsidize rental costs;

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 twelve 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: Daniel L. Scharf, M.D., president; Sheryl T. Davidow, executive vice president; Howard T Jacobson, vice president-investments; Marilyn Berenbom, vice president-grants, James M. Klein, secretary; and Steven A. Gershon, treasurer.

Foundation board members include: Barbara Atlas, Stanley J. Bushman, Robin Carr, Bernard P. Erdman, Susan L. Goldsmith, Sharon Greenwood, Joseph L. Hiersteiner, Tom Isenberg, Gina Kaiser,

Sue McCord-Belzer, Michael Milens, Rodney T. Minkin, Carol Sader, Jane Sosland, Ph.D., Ann Stern, Stanley P. Weiner, Jeanette Wishna, 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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