



**Jewish Community
OF GREATER
Foundation METROWEST NJ**

Overview of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ

Leaders of the MetroWest Jewish community created the Jewish Community Foundation (JCF) in 1949, understanding that the well-being of our community depended upon planning for and investing in our future, regardless of changing times or economic conditions. At the heart of JCF is our commitment that the communal resources of MetroWest will be there for generations to come.

JCF is the largest public community foundation in New Jersey and serves as the planned giving and endowment arm of Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest New Jersey (Federation).

Mission

The mission of JCF is to service the charitable aims and interests of JCF donors by gathering, investing and disbursing charitable funds on their behalf and encouraging allocation of these monies to enhance and ensure the continuity of charitable institutions designated by the donor and approved by the JCF Board.

While JCF offers special encouragement for planned giving and the use of endowments for Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ and its beneficiary agencies, it also welcomes the opportunity to be of service to recognized charities of every kind, religious, educational and secular in content, regional, national and international in scope.

In this way, JCF works to fulfill the cherished Jewish precepts of *tzedakah* and *tikkun olam*, taking an active part in the ongoing process of creating a more perfect world for all people.

Achievements

JCF has long been known as a leader among its peers with regard to the development of endowments that will permanently support our Jewish community. In the mid-1990s, the creation and development of the William and Betty Lester Society – honoring commitments of \$100,000 or more to Annual Campaign Endowments and Lion of Judah Endowments – served to initiate this reputation.

In the time since then, JCF has gained national and international attention for its Community Day School Campaign, which has broken new ground in addressing issues of academic excellence and middle income affordability for all three of our community's day schools, as well as for our efforts on MetroWest Tomorrow, an initiative to create restricted endowment funds of \$100,000 based on the intersection between donor interest and community need.

In recent years, Charity Navigator has awarded a coveted 4-star rating to Federation, JCF's parent organization. Also, JCF has received several awards for its work and achievements, including the Community Endowment Excellence Award from the Jewish Federations of North America.

Our Work in the Greater MetroWest Community and Beyond

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, JCF awarded more than \$25 million to over 900 charitable organizations and educational institutions around the world. Over 31% of those grants were awarded to the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ and to Jewish agencies Greater MetroWest, NJ. During that same time, JCF received over \$25 million in contributions to the more than 630 component funds that we manage.

JCF houses the assets and helps to develop the programmatic content – in whole or in part – for several key initiatives of benefit to the Greater MetroWest Jewish community, including: Hebrew Free Loan of New Jersey, the annual United Jewish Appeal Benefit Concert, Jewish Women’s Foundation of New Jersey, the Beth El Memorial Park Foundation (Jewish cemetery maintenance), Grotta Fund for Senior Care, Holocaust education and remembrance and the Iris Teen Tzedakah Program. We also manage a series of scholarship funds and over 50 endowments benefiting programs in Israel and overseas.

Donors may make planned gifts to JCF through many different vehicles, including charitable bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable lead trusts, charitable remainder trusts, designated endowments, donor advised funds, gifts of appreciated property (including real estate and illiquid assets), life insurance policies, pension or other retirement assets and supporting foundations.

Financials

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, total assets of JCF were \$393 million. Our operating expenses for that fiscal year were \$1.4 million, approximately 0.4% of our total assets. JCF received more than \$25 million in contributions and distributed \$40 million in grants to over 900 organizations.

What We Can Achieve Together

While we are proud of our achievements to date, our best work lies ahead. For more information on what we can achieve together, visit us online at www.jcfmetrowest.org, or contact a JCF professional at 973.929.3113 or jcf@jfedgmw.org.