

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders Announces Fall 2025 Grant Awards

**Portland, OR —11/25/2025** — The Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders (RFJE) is proud to announce more than \$341,200 in grants awarded through its Fall 2025 cycle, supporting programs that enrich the well-being, dignity, and connection of Jewish older adults across Greater Portland. This brings the amount granted by the Foundation in its inaugural year to over \$360,000.

This funding supports organizations providing essential services, meaningful Jewish engagement, intergenerational connection, spiritual support, and culturally rooted community-building. The awards reflect RFJE's continued commitment to ensuring that Jewish elders are cared for, included, and honored.

*“Our elders deserve community, belonging, and the dignity that comes from being seen and supported,” said Michael Millender, President of the Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders. “This year’s grantees embody those values through programs that reduce isolation, nurture Jewish identity, and meet critical needs for older adults across our region.”*

A committee of community members met to review the applications and make recommendations to the Robison Foundation board. *“The diversity of initiatives funded this cycle—from emergency financial assistance to spiritual care to intergenerational learning—shows the depth of commitment our community has to its elders,” said Michelle Gradow, Grant Committee member. “We are grateful to all the organizations whose creativity, compassion, and expertise make these programs possible.”* The following grants were recommended and approved:

- **Eastside Jewish Commons** — *Strategic service expansion for Jewish elders. \$56,000*
- **Chabad of Northeast Portland** — *Chesed Connection/Shabbat Hugs senior visits and volunteer engagement. \$50,000*
- **Jewish Family & Child Service** — *Wraparound Senior Services \$50,000*
- **Jewish Family & Child Service** — *Emergency financial assistance for Jewish elders. \$35,000*
- **Nehamah Jewish Chaplaincy Services** — *Community-wide spiritual care and support for elders. \$50,000*
- **BB360** — *New programs for elders, including musical intergenerational programming and a spiritual retreat. \$46,000*
- **Jewish Association for Death Education (JADE)** — *L’dor v’Dor End-of-Life Learning Cohort. \$18,000*
- **Jewish Federation of Greater Portland** — *Elder-led relational engagement program. \$18,000*
- **Tigard Chabad Jewish Center** — *Twice-monthly senior community gatherings. \$6,000*
- **Chabad Center for Jewish Life – SW Portland** — *Story Time with Seniors, connecting seniors with preschoolers. \$3,000*
- **Chabad of Gresham** — *Senior gatherings and Shabbat meal deliveries. \$3,000*
- **Chabad of Hillsboro** — *From Our Heart to Your Home holiday outreach. \$3,000*
- **Jewish Federation of Greater Portland** — *Jewish Grandparents Cohort. \$3,000*
- **Jewish Association for Death Education (JADE)** — *Memory Shabbat gatherings \$2,600*
- **Chabad Center for Jewish Life – SW Portland** — *Chanukah celebrations in senior living communities \$1,800*

- **Chabad Center for Jewish Life – SW Portland** — *Purim celebrations in senior living communities* **\$1,800**
- **Chabad of Lake Oswego** — *Holiday gatherings and warm community connections for seniors* **\$1,800**

As the Robison Foundation prepares for future funding rounds, it is committed to ensuring that resources reach the people in the community who need them most. To support this effort, the Foundation has launched a year-long listening project, engaging Jewish adults ages 65+, along with those who care for them. Insights gathered through this project will directly shape future grants and programs, helping the Foundation better meet the needs of the community. To complete the initial survey, please do so here: <https://tinyurl.com/RobisonSurvey>