

Polly  
Strasser

I grew up in Meridian, Mississippi, in a small Jewish community. I was not exposed to a lot of other Jewish teenagers until 7th grade when I joined SOFTY. I found it very special to be with other Jewish teenagers. My parents were very involved in the Temple and the local community. They spent a lot of time trying to help people who were less fortunate than we were.

When we arrived in Greensboro in 1976, I was immediately interested in the Women's Division of the Federation. I became very involved and in the years that followed enjoyed many Federation events. I was always amazed at the Jewish need that the Federation knew about and funded--not only the local organizations, where I was involved with B'nai Shalom Day School, the Blumenthal Home and Jewish Family Services--but many other organizations in our community and around the world that needed funding.

I feel that our Federation does a wonderful job of stretching the dollars to reach so many in need. I was at a Women's Cabinet meeting in 1998 when the subject of endowing our Lion of Judah pins was brought up. We discussed ways to do this, and I did mine with a life insurance policy. I felt that this money would help to fund the Federation long after I was gone. I also felt I could be a role model for my children and upcoming generations. I am happy I decided to endow my Lion of Judah pin and hope the Greensboro Jewish Federation continues for years to come.

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