

# Goldring Family Foundation CENTER FOR JEWISH/ MULTI-CULTURAL AFFAIRS

a program of the



## OVERVIEW

### Who:

Under the leadership of Chief Executive Officer Arnie D. Fielkow and the Board of Trustees, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans has broadened its mission over the last two years to incorporate more programs that more directly outreach to the wider community, both Jewish and non-Jewish. In line with this expanded mission, the Federation has established an in-house initiative that will contain all of the Federation's existing and new external relations programs. The Center for Jewish/Multi-Cultural Affairs will be placed within the Federation's governance structure, but will be led by its own Advisory Committee, as well as a full-time, dedicated Executive Director. The Center was made possible by a generous gift from the Goldring Family Foundation, which has funded the Center as a three-year pilot program.

### What:

The Center for Jewish/Multi-Cultural Affairs is a novel, groundbreaking concept, as the Federation's research has showed that no other Federation around the country is undertaking such a project. The Center will initially focus on four primary outreach areas with the Jewish community: [1] African-American relations; [2] LGBTQ relations, through the existing Jewish Pride New Orleans (JP NOLA) program; [3] Latin-American relations; and [4] Multi-faith relations. Additional outreach areas may be added over time. Programs that are already underway will be brought under the Center's auspices, and new program ideas will be developed.

### Why:

The idea for the Center was the product of several factors, and the Center in turn has several related objectives, most notably (in no particular order): [1] the Jewish principle of *tikkun olam*, or "repairing the world," often interpreted as a duty to perform this type of outreach work; [2] increased visibility in the region for the Federation and the Jewish community; and [3] a means to combat and pre-empt anti-Semitic activity, which has seen a marked uptick in recent years.

### When:

The Center was formally launched on January 1, 2020, with a major launch event tentatively scheduled for the early spring of 2020.