CEO LETTER

Joel Marcovitch
Chief Executive Officer

These pages contain just some of the amazing programs and services Federation has provided over this past year. As just two examples, we have seen record program attendance and we have served more people than ever at our food pantry. We are proud of what we have achieved, but the hard work of building a sustainable, vibrant, and safe community continues. We couldn’t fill these pages without our donors. On behalf of the staff of Federation and its affiliated agencies, thank you for your support and partnership. We can’t wait for what is to come this year.

Thank you,
Joel
 Calling all foodies...
Jewish Toledo Food Festival
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) is guided by the core values of Judaism: “Tzedakah” (justice, charity and righteousness); “Tikkun Olam” (restoring the world) and “Gemulit Chassidim” (acts of loving-kindness). It is our mission to support and enhance the health, welfare, education, spiritual life, unity and continuity of the Jewish community of Toledo, the surrounding areas and Klal Yisrael, the world community of Israel, with services and programming consistent with Jewish values.

Our vision is one of unity of the entire Jewish people, inspiring a dynamic partnership with a family of congregations, agencies, organizations and individuals locally and throughout the world.

Campaign

The Campaign Department’s mission is to raise funds for Federation and affiliated agencies to continue programs and services such as Federation-funded Gan Yeladim Preschool and Jewish Family Service Food Pantry and to support Jewish agencies abroad. In addition to our ongoing annual fund drive, the Campaign cabinet also sponsors fundraising events like community-wide programming and social events designed to appeal to specific demographics in our community. These programs help connect donors to the needs of the Toledo Jewish community in ways that are both beneficial to the mission of Federation and gratifying to donors.

Highlights of the past year:

Federation was delighted to honor our donors who have given to the annual Campaign for 25 years and longer. This special group has helped us build the vibrant Jewish community structure we employ in our programs and services. We are very excited to have launched our Pearl Society, which links generations of dedicated women. Members will have opportunities to come together for social and service activities.

Major Gifts Division donors took part in three special opportunities. As part of the Art Festival, our donors enjoyed a breakfast and the chance to purchase beautiful art pieces before opening to the public. At the Book Festival, donors enjoyed a hands-on pickling demonstration by author Jeffrey Yoskowitz. During the Film Festival, donors were invited to a dinner and presentation by Sheldon Cohen, writer and producer of The Pickle Recipe before the film was shown to the community. At our Hebrew Hoedown, community members reveled in a festival-like atmosphere including food, games, entertainment, and, of course, kibitzing.

Lion of Judah Endowment, Lion of Judah, and Pomegranate members will come together in July for a tour of Schedel Arboretum and Gardens, cooking with a chef on-site, and a fabulous dinner to follow. Through their philanthropic endeavors, these women make significant differences in our Jewish community locally and abroad. The Cardozo (attorneys) and Maimonides (health care professionals) societies will have the chance to attend a dinner and educational presentation by Dr. Kenneth Pargament this summer at Olander Park. Please mark your calendars for a special community program happening September 13. Details to come.

The Campaign department thanks the community for their generous support to our mission. For more information concerning your campaign donation or to get involved, please contact Wendy Goldstein, Campaign Director, at 419-724-0360 or wendy@JewishToledo.org.

Hillel: University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University

Hillel is the center for Jewish life at The University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University. It provides a Jewish home-away-from-home, develops leaders and enhances students’ commitment to Jewish life now and beyond their college years. Hillel’s mission is to enrich the Jewish people and the world. Together, Hillel and its members are building the next generation of Jewish leaders.

Thank you to the entire community for all of your wonderful support!

For more information, please contact Elizabeth Lane, Hillel Director, at 419-724-0377 or elizabeth@JewishToledo.org, or visit www.toledohillel.org.
The Foundation’s goal is to be a rich resource of funding for community needs. This is made possible by the support of community donors who support both our current needs through the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo’s annual campaign and who also have made a commitment to support our future needs through legacy gifts.

The Foundation’s $2 million dollar Long Term Community Needs Fund, once known as our Unrestricted Fund, stretches each and every dollar as far as possible to support our community. In our early years, the Foundation’s unrestricted funds distributed approximately $15,000 in annual grants. Today that number has grown tenfold with grants from this fund now totaling $176,000 for the upcoming year fiscal year 2017/2018. This very small fund of $2 million is truly the only unrestricted fund in the Foundation.

Grants from our Long Term Community Needs impact so very many in our community. The Foundation Board through its grants program attempts to ensure that its grants are directly related to the core community priorities set forth by the Federation.

One of the community’s newest initiatives, the EMOJI program – Experience a Memorable Overnight Jewish Initiative Program – a new program offering of the Federation with support from the area congregations, received a significant grant of up to $58,000. Through this program, 32 children received significant financial support to attend Jewish overnight camp programs. Of the 32 children, 17 first time campers were able to have a fully funded free camp experience.

The Foundation maintained its investment in the University of Toledo Hillel program as well as the Federation’s Book and Art Festival. Also during the past year, the Foundation provided support for the community’s annual Diversity Program, a program of the Jewish Community Relations Council and the Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center which featured Jennifer Teege, granddaughter of Nazi Commandant Amon Goethe. Further, the Foundation continued its direct support to the education programs of Temple Shomer Emunin, Congregation B’nai Israel and Congregation Etz Chayim.

During the past year, the Foundation launched its L’Dor Va’Dor Matching Life Insurance program. This program provides a dollar for dollar match of insurance premiums for policies which are designated to the Foundation’s Long Term Community Needs Fund or dedicated to the endowment of a Lion of Judah or Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) gift. The use of a life insurance provides a very meaningful opportunity by which to create a legacy gift.

Individuals who wish to ensure that their Annual Campaign gifts continue into perpetuity have created PACE gifts. These gifts are a permanent source of revenue to the annual campaign. For the 2017 campaign, these combined gifts will start off the campaign with a jump start of $92,880.

Yes, we have accomplished a great deal in a short time, but greater challenge stand before us. As our community needs become diverse and priorities grow, we will have greater need for reliance on our Long Term Community Needs Fund. Please consider joining with us in creating a community safety net for the generations to come. A permanent endowment designed to reflect your interests can ensure the future of our community.

Department of Jewish Programs

The Department of Jewish Programs provides Jewish programs, events, and opportunities for Jewish youth, adults, seniors, families, and young professionals. The Department of Jewish Programs hosted a year of fantastic programming. This year featured a far-out hippie Hanukkah Palooza celebration, PJ Library and Gan Yeladim’s Tiny Treasures Playdates, and Mitzvah Day. Young Jewish Toledo continues to focus on engaging post-college to pre-family community members as well as young couples, singles, and families. This year, YJT held its second highly successful Soiree at the Valentine Theatre, which raised over $15,000 for the Ahava program. YJT is now taking on monthly meet-ups, quarterly service projects, outings to various sports venues, local attractions, and other avenues for networking. The first Jewish Art Festival showcased 25 local Jewish artists and our first Jewish Toledo Food Festival brought in over 400 foodies. An action packed 5th Annual Toledo Jewish Film Festival featured six outstanding films. The 2016 Northwest Ohio Jewish Book Festival was a great success thanks to the outstanding support of our community members. More than 300 people attended the Book Festival events. Committee members are working endless hours planning and implementing ideas and concepts to bring you a quality finished product. We hosted eight authors and one mom who brought us laughter, drama, food, music, love for one another and so much more. We are excited that 2017 will commemorate 13 years of Book Festival. For more information on community programming, PJ Library, or Young Jewish Toledo, please contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@JewishToledo.org. For more information about the Northwest Ohio Jewish Book Festival, please contact René Rusgo at 419-531-2119 ext. 1 or rene@jewishtoledo.org.
The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo’s mission is to reach out and bridge communities. This year, we continued our work by reaching out to more than 2,000 Toledoans through our events.

In February, JCRC worked once again with our allies in the African-American community and Toledo Public Schools, joining more than 300 middle and high school in celebration of Black History Month with the presentation of the movie *Rosenwald*.

In early April, 600 local high school students participated in the 13th Annual Diversity Program during which Jennifer Teege, the award-winning author of “My Grandfather Would Have Shot Me,” shared her life story at the Valentine Theatre in downtown Toledo. Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson spoke to the students about lessons to be learned from the Holocaust. Jennifer Teege also spoke at a community-wide event at the Franciscan Center at Lourdes University in collaboration with the Toledo Lucas County Public Library and the nonprofit Friends of the Library. The event was followed by a question and answer period and a book signing. Later in the month, a Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) event took place at Temple Shomer Emunim, where students from the congregations were involved in a project where they painted stones in honor of the 1.5 million Jewish children killed during the Holocaust. The stones were placed under a horse chestnut tree newly planted near the Holocaust Memorial. The ceremony featured a musical reflection performed by Cantor Ivor Lichterman and Rabbi Evan Rubin.

In May, we had the opportunity to collaborate with the first Toledo Jewish Food Festival in celebration of Israel’s 69th Independence Day. During the festival, 300 participants arrived to enjoy a wide selection of Jewish cuisine.

In collaboration with the MutiFaith Council of Northwest Ohio, a peace pole was purchased this spring and erected near the entrance of the YMCA/JCC (an official ceremony will take place in December). In collaboration with the Western Galilee Medical Center and the college of Medicine and Life Sciences of the University of Toledo, Dr. Eisenman and chief nurse Smadar Ocanpo, participated in the 2017 Global Medical Mission Hall of Fame ceremony. The Galilee Medical Center received the recognition for the humanitarian work the hospital does for its Syrian patients.

JCRC also represented the Toledo Jewish community in different events in the city, from panel events at Lourdes University and Bowling Green State University to several multi-faith lunches and religious services around the area. The Jewish community also has representation on the Board of Community Relations, an independent organization chartered by the city of Toledo. For more information about JCRC, please contact Sharon Lapitsky at 419-724-0315 or sharon@JewishToledo.org.
Jewish Family Service (JFS) continued to provide individuals and families with a cadre of services that enhanced their lives. In addition, current programs were evaluated and planning for the future was initiated. Our Care Management program continued to grow, providing 41 percent more subsidy (funded by Jewish Senior Services Supporting Organization) for in-home services to 28 percent more people than last year. These services enabled individuals to recuperate at home from surgeries and postponed or avoided nursing home placement for others. Individuals and their families who were facing a crisis found JFS social workers to be an incredible and rare resource where they received valuable guidance, reliable information, and reassurance as they navigated unfamiliar and daunting situations. The food pantry served 587 people.

With the move of the JFS Senior Adult Center into the Sekach Building, the food pantry was relocated within the building and redesigned so that individuals now “shop” for their food, affording them choice and dignity. In all, 587 seniors, adults, and children received food, fresh produce, paper products, and personal hygiene items. Our social workers also provided information about additional community resources and a caring, listening ear. The number of seniors served by our pantry who are raising grandchildren without financial benefits significantly increased this past year. Our clients represent diverse ethnicities and cultures, including newly resettled Syrians.

Seniors and their caregivers discovered the tremendous benefits of having a Patient Advocate volunteer accompany them to routine medical appointments. All of their concerns were fully addressed and questions were clearly answered by the physician. They received a report written by the volunteer that provided accurate information about what transpired during the medical visit which was also available to concerned loved ones.

Individuals with memory loss, agitation, pain, or anxiety unlocked memories from their youth and achieved a sense of peace, comfort, and joy by listening to personally selected music through our Music and Memory program. Linking these individuals to family, friends, and meaningful events of their past through music helped them feel the happiness of those times, smile, and relax.

Friendly Visitors brought friendship, fun, and companionship to those who are homebound. Meaningful relationships grew through sharing, laughter, and acts of kindness. Refugee Services were given to those who we resettled and need help with translation for medical care and continued vital benefits. This program is a lifeline for our Russian Jewish community.

The Senior Adult Center had a very exciting year. Brown Consulting developed a separate strategic plan for the Center, presented their findings to the board and staff, and shared what you, the community, wanted to see happen with our programming and facility usage. All programming for those 60 and better is now under the umbrella of the Senior Adult Center. That includes day and extended travel trips, speakers, theatre outings, luncheons, art class, poker group, transportation, wellness nurse, exercise programs, and so much more. The past year has been used to evaluate programs with questionnaires at programs and we thank you for completing them.

Our travels took us to the Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, Michigan; Your Toledo Zoo and You! A Behind the Scenes Tour; Frankenmuth, Michigan; and the famed Henry Ford Museum for The Beatles Tour. Kosher shopping up north is always a hoot and helps everyone get what they need for the holidays. The luxurious Biltmore Estates in North Carolina was a trip filled with fun and laughter. Take Me Out to the Ball Game is always a favorite and a Day at the Bay was just perfect. The Lake Erie Shores Wine Tour was refined and tasteful, and who knew we had so many wineries so close to home?

Prime Time Summer continued to engage the senses by offering an array of stimulating offerings such as massages, facials, and manicures, You Can Be an Artist (canvas painting), John Pickle Entertainment, dinner theatre day trip to Cornwell, smart phone lessons, Pickle Perfect and More by Toledo Flavors, and others.

We continue to partner with the Area Office on Aging through Title III-B of the Older American Act for transportation and local levy funds for our wellness nurse.

We also want to acknowledge JSSSO for the very generous grant that has afforded us to deliver the outstanding programs and services that are presented to our community members. We are excited that the Senior Adult Center is now located in the Jewish Family Service building on Sylvania Avenue.

To best prepare the Agency to meet the needs of our changing community, Brown Consulting also guided the board and staff through a strategic planning process for our core programs, evaluating what and how services are provided and what we need to do to best position the Agency for the next five years. JFS has sustained itself for 68 years because of the funders, donors, and volunteers who believe in our ability to serve the community in a professional and compassionate manner that responds to changing circumstances.
Jewish Senior Services of Toledo

The mission of Jewish Senior Services (JSS) of Toledo is to serve the cultural, emotional, physical, social and religious needs of older Jewish adults residing in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan in accordance with the precepts of Judaism.

This year, JSS sponsored For more information, please contact Nancy Newbury at 419-724-0408 or nancy@jewishtoledo.org.

Pelham Manor

Pelham Manor is a 100-unit affordable senior apartment community for persons age 62 and older with some accessible units available to non-elderly mobility impaired persons. Pelham Manor is subsidized by the Department of Housing and Urban Development allowing rent to be charged according to a person’s income. Utilities and basic cable are included in the rent payment. Pelham Manor became a tobacco-free property in 2010.

A Service Coordinator assures that residents are linked to specific supportive services that assist them in living independently. The dedicated staff strive to keep Pelham Manor one of the most sought after affordable residences in northwest Ohio.

There are currently 34 Jewish residents living at Pelham Manor.

For more information, please contact Eileen Gates at 419-537-1515 or eileen@jewishtoledo.org.

Toledo Board of Jewish Education

Toledo Board of Jewish Education’s (TBJE) mission is to provide a variety of educational formats for the Toledo Jewish community. Gan Yeladim Preschool, a joint partnership between Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and Chabad House of Toledo, teaches children in ways that are not quantifiable, but have lifelong positive rewards and is housed under TBJE.

Toledo Board of Jewish Education

For more information about Gan Yeladim, please contact Raizel Shemtov at raizel@JewishToledo.org or 419-724-0402.
Toledo Jewish Community Cemetery Association

This year, Federation achieved its longtime goal of forging a plan to assure the long-term care of the community’s two local Jewish cemeteries. Toledo Jewish Community Cemetery Association began managing Beth Shalom Cemetery in Oregon and Eagle Point Cemetery in Rossford in late February. Together, the cemeteries contain more than 6,000 named gravesites. TJCCA has effectively replaced Toledo Jewish Cemetery Association, the party previously responsible for the cemeteries. Funds formerly regulated by congregations Etz Chayim, B’nai Israel and Toledo Hebrew Cemetery Association to take care of cemetery needs were moved to Federation, under which TJCCA was created to manage operations. Toledo Jewish Community Foundation manages the funds. Multi-year funding for the TJCCA is supplied by Jewish Senior Services Supporting Organization, Jewish Senior Services, and the Stone Communal Needs Fund. About 30 community members are buried in either cemetery annually. The shuls continue to carry out burial traditions and rituals.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

SPIRIT OF JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE AWARD
Sheryl Levin

BOB WICK JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Sylvania Township Police Department

BENNY SCHALL SPIRIT OF COMPETITION AWARD
Roy Sperling

YOUNG VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP AWARD
Anne Barchick
Emmie Brody

TOLEDO JEWISH CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
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Charles Traugott - CONGREGATION B’NAI ISRAEL REPRESENTATIVE
Andrew Golding - JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TOLEDO REPRESENTATIVE
Jon B. Liebenthal - TOLEDO JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE
Catherine Noble-Isenberg - TOLEDO HEBREW CEMETERY ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE
Ernie Brookfield - JEWISH SENIOR SERVICES-SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE
Janet Rogolsky - AT-LARGE MEMBER

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Tina Stieben - CFO, JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TOLEDO
Arleen R. Levine - DIRECTOR, TOLEDO JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Phyllis Walkin - DIRECTOR, TOLEDO JEWISH COMMUNITY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) operates in more than 70 countries around the world, rescuing Jews in distress, providing relief for Jews in need, reconstructing and rebuilding Jewish communities and helping Israel address its social challenges by serving as a force for innovation and reform.

Birthright Israel provides the gift of first time, peer group, educational trips to Israel for Jewish young adults ages 18 to 26. The organization was created to diminish the growing division between Israel and Jewish communities around the world; to strengthen the sense of solidarity among world Jewry; and to strengthen participants’ personal Jewish identity and connection to the Jewish people.

Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) is a humanitarian organization committed to the highest ideals of freedom and equality. JAFI has been pivotal to Israel’s remarkable story of immigration, renewal and growth. Since the establishment of the State of Israel, the Jewish Agency has been the driving force behind the unique bond between Jews worldwide and Israel.

Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) represents 157 Jewish Federations and over 300 independent Jewish communities. The Federation movement, collectively among the top 10 charities on the continent, protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide through the values of tikkun olam (repairing the world), tzedakah (philanthropy and social justice) and Torah (Jewish learning).

Partnership2Gether (P2G), an extraordinary global platform connecting some 550 communities around the world in 47 partnerships, is a program of the Jewish Agency and JFNA.

Our Partnership2Gether is literally about our community coming together and people-to-people relationships. Toledo’s own Dr. Dena Eber, American Chair of the P2G Arts & Community Task Force, worked to help create and develop opportunities for our 13 communities. Toledo’s Fagie Benstein was American Chair of the fundraising division within the Resource Development Task Force and Toledo Chair of Partnership2Gether.

World ORT is one of the largest non-governmental Jewish education and training organizations in the world with activities in more than 100 countries past and present with current operations in Israel, the CIS and Baltic States, Latin America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, North America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific.
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TOLEDO 2017 - 2018

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Laurie Gross – Treasurer
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Paul Goldner – At Large
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Nancy Jacobson – Congregation Etz Chayim
Wendy Payne – Temple Shomer Emunim
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Paul Goldner
Alix Greenblatt
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Gail Mirrow
Jay Mirrow
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** Members are appointed and not selected through a community vote.
JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TOLEDO

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Tina Stieben – Chief Financial Officer
Paul Causman – Marketing Director/Editor, Toledo Jewish News
Hallie Freed – Community Program Director
Wendy Goldstein – Campaign Director
Sharon Lapitsky – Jewish Community Relations Council Director

Colette Adams – Gan Yeladim Toddler Preschool Teacher
Rochelle Barchick – Gan Yeladim Preschool Teacher
Cindy Feldstein – Gan Yeladim Preschool Teacher
Barb Hager – Toledo Jewish Community Foundation Associate
Emily Gordon – Media and Marketing Assistant
Stacey Jackson – Gan Yeladim Preschool Teacher
Colette Lundberg – Events Coordinator
Sherry Majewski – Finance Associate
Mushka Matusof – Gan Yeladim Preschool Toddler Judaic Specialist/
                  Friendship Circle Program Coordinator
Andy Richards – Gan Yeladim Preschool Secretary
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Julie Szymkowski – Financial Analyst
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Tanya Borochin – Refugee Services Coordinator
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Emily Harel – JFS Senior Adult Center Program Associate
Anthony Boardman – Transportation Manager

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Joyce Moran – Service Coordinator
Russ Damschroder – Maintenance Assistant

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