Legacy Letter ISSUE 3 SPRING 2018

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SAVE THE DATE

4th Annual LIFE & LEGACY Celebration

June 14, 2018 8:30 am - 10:00 am Beth El Synagogue, East Windsor

Join us for breakfast, a festive awards ceremony and distribution of grants.

RSVP by June 7 www.foundationjewish.org/rsvp

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As our Jewish Community Foundation believes profoundly in a thriving endowment for all our local Jewish institutions, we will make a contribution to the endowment fund of any LIFE & LEGACY Partner that chooses to invest its annual incentive grant in their own organization's endowment fund. This special gift from our Foundation shows how committed we are to helping our whole Jewish community prosper.

LIFE & LEGACY Update

Special Thanks

We are incredibly grateful to the dedicated individuals who have made 570 LIFE & LEGACY
Promises to date, to one or more of our partner organizations.
Thank you to the following donors, who made a legacy commitment from January through March 2018.

Anonymous (14)
Joel Finkelstein
Matthew and Jaimee Gold
Nora Horn
Michael Manning
Yanky Nadoff
Ira B. Newman z"I
Richard Perlman
Ari Rosen
Don and Sara Schenker
Adria Sherman
Lisa and Andrew Smukler
Catherine Taeffner
Marc Wisotsky

Thanks to the efforts of the many visionaries in our community, including staff, clergy, volunteers and donors, we are pleased to share that our LIFE & LEGACY Year 4 Program has concluded on a very high note indeed. Our Greater Mercer region, consisting of 14 Partner organizations, has exceeded the annual goals, set by our Jewish Community Foundation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. We went beyond the number of legacy commitments, also known as Promises, expected this year, and secured 67 new commitments from many dedicated members of our Jewish community. We also surpassed the goal for formalized gifts. And it gives us great pleasure to share that following four years of diligent efforts by so many, our community all together has achieved 570 legacy commitments, totaling more than \$32 million in future gifts to our local Jewish institutions. Mazal Toy on this achievement!

Scott Schaefer and Florence Kahn, Co-Chairs, LIFE & LEGACY

Your Impact

At our Jewish Community Foundation, individuals and families provide financial assistance to meaningful causes, year after year, through Donor Advised Funds. One such fund, originally created by Ruth and Nathan Feldstein, is focused on Jewish continuity. Their Israel Travel Scholarship fund is rooted in the conviction that Jewish teens will more likely mature into committed Jewish adults if presented with the opportunity to visit Israel. Each year, the fund makes grants to teens ages 14 to 17 taking educational trips to Israel. In 2018, the Feldstein fund at the Jewish Community Foundation has allocated scholarship money to deserving students at Abrams Hebrew Academy for its annual 8th grade trip to Israel, a celebrated school tradition discussed since the first day of Kindergarten! A highlight of the Abrams trip is the 8th grade graduation at the Kotel, the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Our Foundation is grateful to the Feldstein family for making this trip possible for select Abrams students, and for their overall vision and dedication to Jewish preservation and continuity.

Mailbox

Dear Friends,

We are grateful for our family, our community and the values that have shaped our lives, all of which are rooted in Judaism. Our connection to Judaism has provided meaning and fulfillment on so many levels. In turn, we feel compelled to give back, to devote time and resources to our Jewish community, as both a gesture of gratitude and in an effort to preserve the local organizations to which we hold dear. This is why we have established a fund at our Jewish Community Foundation, which helps us organize our giving. We view our fund as a philanthropic savings and retirement account, which we can grow over time and make annual allocations to the causes closest to our hearts, including Beth Chaim, Federation and the Foundation. And, we have taken the additional step to participate in the community wide LIFE & LEGACY program, as both legacy donors where future gifts (known as Promises) will grow in perpetuity, and as ambassadors to others in our Jewish community, friends just like you. It has been refreshing for us to learn about the many synagogues and agencies in our Greater Mercer region, and to advocate together for their future preservation. If you envision a thriving Jewish future for our community, we encourage you to consider making a Promise too.

In gratitude, Don and Karen

Pictured: Karen Brodsky & Don Leibowitz

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