

## THE LEGACY AWARDS

Our 4th Annual LIFE & LEGACY Celebration was held on June 14 at Beth El Synagogue. Nearly 70 legacy donors celebrated our successful completion of LIFE & LEGACY Year 4. Bravo to our LIFE & LEGACY Partners, who all together have secured 570 Promises to date, totaling \$32 million in future gifts for our shared Jewish community. As our celebration video proclaimed, "WE DID IT!" We have transformed the landscape for our local Jewish organizations. And to mark the occasion, we moved from Broadway to Hollywood this year, and presented movie-themed Legacy Awards. So... lights, camera, action, here are The Legacy Awards!

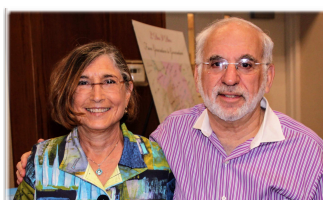
Adath Israel Congregation.....	<i>Places in the Heart</i>
Beth El Synagogue.....	<i>The Best Years of Our Lives</i>
Congregation Beth Chaim.....	<i>The Commitments</i>
Congregation Toras Emes.....	<i>Stand and Deliver</i>
Greenwood House.....	<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i>
The Jewish Center.....	<i>A League of Their Own</i>
Jewish Community Foundation.....	<i>Field of Dreams</i>
Jewish Family & Children's Service.....	<i>Lean on Me</i>
Jewish Federation.....	<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i>
Kehilat HaNahar.....	<i>The Pursuit of Happyness</i>
Museum of American Jewish History.....	<i>Night at the Museum</i>
Or Chadash.....	<i>The Greatest Showman</i>
Rimon Center for Jewish Learning.....	<i>The Miracle Worker</i>
Shalom Heritage Center.....	<i>The Right Stuff</i>
Temple Beth-El.....	<i>Stand By Me</i>

## Special Gift of THANKS!

As a gesture of thanks to the many visionaries in the Greater Mercer region, our Jewish Community Foundation is thrilled to offer all legacy donors a complimentary membership, valued at \$180, to the *amazing* National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia.

A one-year Supporter Level membership includes unlimited free admission, invitations to special exhibits, four guest passes, discounts at the museum store and public programs, and reciprocal admission to over 900 museums and select Jewish museums nationwide!

To receive your FREE museum membership, please contact the Foundation at 609-524-9914. THANK YOU again for your Promise, and thanks to the Museum for this wonderful opportunity!



**WE DID IT!!**



Visit [www.foundationjewish.org](http://www.foundationjewish.org) to view our celebration video!



## Your Impact

### FAST FACTS ABOUT JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GIVING IN 2017

- ▶ Through our funds, the Foundation provided more than \$1.3 million in grants to charities of your choice in 2017
- ▶ We processed 422 grants to 276 local, national and international nonprofits
- ▶ More than 70 percent of total dollars disbursed supported Jewish charities
- ▶ Nearly 63 percent of grants were directed to New Jersey based organizations



*Please call Julie Meyers, Foundation Executive Director, at 609-524-9914 to discuss your 2018 plans for giving purposefully and meaningfully to the causes you value the most.*

## Mailbox

Dear Rabbi Forman,

During the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual LIFE & LEGACY Celebration, it was announced that 25 percent of our Or Chadash congregation have made legacy commitments. You turned to me and said, "You must be very proud of this accomplishment." As the Chairperson, I certainly am proud but it could never have happened without your foresight. About four years ago you asked me to initiate a legacy program. While Or Chadash had been in existence for close to 25 years, we had no endowment funds to provide long-term financial security and sustainability.

I knew nothing about initiating a legacy program but as a congregant since Or Chadash was formed in 1988, I heeded the call. The synagogue has been a special place for our family. As an interfaith couple, we were welcomed with open arms. Both Kathryn and I felt very comfortable there. Now that our children are raising their own little ones, my connection to the synagogue has only deepened. It is especially gratifying to know that my grandchildren are receiving an outstanding Jewish education at Or Chadash.

I want to preserve a Jewish presence in Hunterdon County for them and for all Jewish children. I recall jumping into this project, researching legacy giving and learning how difficult it was to implement. I became apprehensive but then, like a miracle, I discovered LIFE & LEGACY. I can still hear Executive Director Julie Meyers' voice when I called the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Mercer to explore the possibility of joining their program. She said, "Harvey, this is your lucky day."

Yes, we have been lucky indeed. We have benefited beyond our expectations from LIFE & LEGACY, with its step-by-step process within a network of other Jewish organizations. The structure, support, coaching and incentive grants all helped us to secure legacy commitments. Within just three years we have 25 percent of our congregation committed. It's time to plan for the next 25 percent.

I want to thank you, Rabbi, as well as our legacy committee, the Board, the JCFGM and most importantly the many individuals at Or Chadash who share your vision and have made a Promise.

With much appreciation,  
Harvey

*Pictured:  
Harvey Gold*

