

Legacy Letter

Foundation News

As we welcome in a new year, our Jewish Community Foundation takes a step forward. Over the summer, we said farewell to Julie Meyers, after nearly a decade of inspiring philanthropy in our Jewish community. We now welcome **Linda Meisel** as our Interim Executive Director. With three Donor Advised Funds named for her parents and grandchildren, Linda brings her own passion for charitable and legacy giving combined with over 30 years of nonprofit management experience at Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Mercer County and Corner House. Currently a nonprofit consultant, Linda is excited to work with **Amy Zacks**, who will continue to coach our LIFE & LEGACY Partners and serve as a resource for our Fund Holders in a new Director of Philanthropy role. Completing the Foundation team is **Catherine Taeffner**, our amazing Administrative Director. Please know that Linda, Amy and Catherine are eager to work with all members of our community as you consider meaningful and personal ways to direct your philanthropy. Thank you for your continued commitment to the Foundation, to our shared Jewish community and to the causes that resonate with you and your family.

THANK YOU!

Through LIFE & LEGACY, members of our Jewish community are making long-term commitments to the organizations they hold most dear. We are grateful for the 570 *Promises* made to date. We also appreciate those who have made philanthropy a priority today through Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) at our Jewish Community Foundation. *Thank you* to the nearly 60 individuals and families who have done BOTH... by opening funds to direct their annual charitable giving *and* by making legacy gifts to sustain the future of our local Jewish organizations.

QUESTIONS? We have answers!

We are here to help you with all your charitable giving questions and needs.

- ▶ To make a contribution to your Fund or process a grant to your favorite charities, please contact Catherine at 609-524-9915 or catherine@foundationjewish.org
- ▶ To discuss opening a Donor Advised Fund or how to participate in our LIFE & LEGACY program, please contact Amy at amy@foundationjewish.org
- ▶ To discuss the work of the Foundation and its role in our Jewish community, please contact Linda at 609-524-9914 or linda@foundationjewish.org

Your Impact

With the changes made in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, many families in our community are working with financial professionals to assess the most tax-efficient ways to give charitably and still have an impact on meaningful causes. Media outlets have written recently about the following options:

- ▶ **Bunching annual gifts with a Donor Advised Fund (DAF)** allows donors to fund a DAF with several years' annual donations and then take a larger deduction in one given year
- ▶ **Giving appreciated stock directly to charity** helps donors avoid longterm capital gains tax; gifts of stock can go to a Donor Advised Fund or directly to a specific charity
- ▶ **Charitable IRA Rollovers** for those 70.5 years or older allows donors to give up to \$100,000 from an IRA to a charity in lieu of a Required Minimum Distribution

The Jewish Community Foundation does not render legal or tax advice. We recommend that you speak with your financial advisor, attorney or accountant to explore these and other options.

Mailbox

To our loving grandchildren,

As your grandparents, we want to discuss our philanthropy with you and why it's an important part of our lives. We have been fortunate to live successfully as Americans and as Jews. This is something we don't take for granted, and now we owe something. By giving back locally, we are helping the greater good and having a broader reach too. Our motto is *Act Local, Think Global*.

We do much of our charitable giving through a Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation. By doing so, we accomplish two things at once. One, it's easy! Once the fund was set up, we were able to direct grants of any value to any nonprofit at any time. The staff handles all the administration, and we simply focus on the causes that resonate with us, like the American Jewish Committee and the Simon Wiesenthal Center. And second, by having a fund at the Foundation, we help to preserve our Jewish community, right here in Mercer County.

We have also chosen to make a Promise, a legacy gift, to our congregation Beth El Synagogue. It's a comfortable *haimish* place that shares our values and our connection with Israel. This gift is intended to grow Beth El's endowment and to help provide financial security in the years to come.

Our Jewish identity is important to us, and by championing Jewish causes, we also support the Jewish people's many contributions to the advancement of humanity throughout the world. *Act Local, Think Global!*

All our love, Grandma and Grandpa

Pictured: Miki & Randy Krakauer

