Jewish Community
BOARD OF AKRON

2016
5576

ANNUAL REPORT

Jewish Community
BOARD OF AKRON

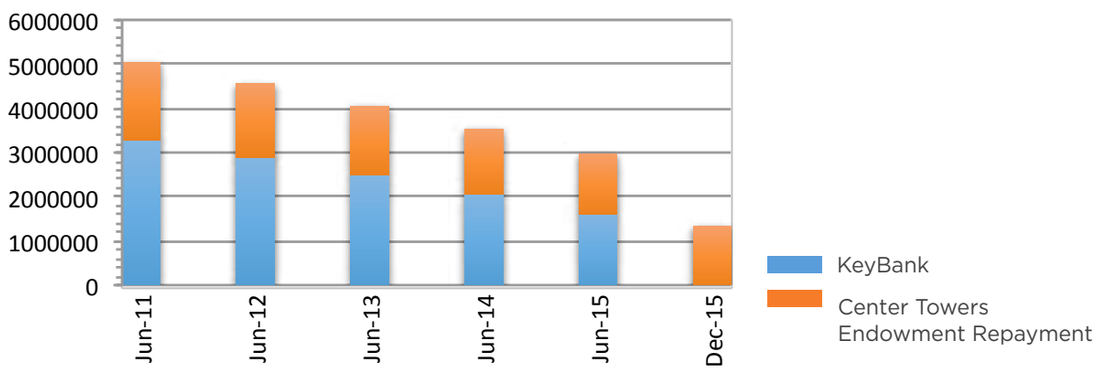
ENDOWMENT VALUES
at 12/31/2015

Akron Legacy & Endowment Fund

CREATE A Jewish LEGACY

$277,456	JCBA Unrestricted Endowment
$10,011,934	General Purpose Restricted
$1,154,816	PACE
$1,366,015	JCBA Agencies
$797,350	Benefiting Local Synagogues
$3,652,809	Philanthropic
$4,203,479	Custodial

DECREASED CAMPUS DEBT



the charitable investment of YOUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DOLLARS

44% Investing in Jewish education in Akron

4% Engaging young adults & developing leaders in Akron

18% Nurturing a Jewish community in Akron

11% Caring for Jewish seniors in Akron

23% Building bridges to Israel & to Jews around the world

2016 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

585 donors contributed $1.347 million dollars (a 2% increase from 2015)

49 donors were donors who did not give to the 2015 Campaign

YOUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK

Investing in Jewish education in Akron $362K

JEWISH TEEN PROGRAMMING AT THE SHAW JCC

Teens between the ages of 13-18 connect with each other and their Jewish identity through the new Schultz Campus Teen Leadership program and BBYO activities.

$44K

JEWISH & ISRAEL CULTURAL EXPERIENCES AT CAMP JCC

Camp JCC embeds Jewish values such as loving kindness, acceptance, and Tikkun Olam in each and every activity. About 20% of the children served are Jewish, many of whom are not otherwise exposed to formal Jewish education.

$51K

THOM & LISA MANDEL CENTER FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT THE SHAW JCC

The Mandel ECE Center nurtures our youngest community members, through care and education rooted in Jewish traditions and values.

$115K

JEWISH STUDIES AT THE LIPPMAN SCHOOL

The Lippman School serves 93 children from transitional kindergarten through eighth grade. Jewish values and a global perspective are the school's foundation.

$152K

YOUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK

Caring for our seniors in Akron $89K

JEWISH CARE MANAGEMENT & COUNSELING AT JFS

Jewish Family Service (JFS) enhances the mental, emotional and social wellbeing of individuals 45 and over and their families, through counseling, care management, and education, consistent with Jewish values.

$59K

JEWISH ADULT AND SENIOR PROGRAMMING AT THE SHAW JCC

Programming nurtures fellowship and a sense of belonging through Jewish holiday celebrations, community Shabbat dinners and programs such as the monthly Be'Tay Avon Café.

$30K

YOUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK

Engaging, developing young adults $29K

RUBBER CITY JEWS

Young adults in their 20s and 30s engage in monthly Shabbat dinners, group-led Jewish learning sessions and discussions, volunteerism and social activities.

$12K

HILLELS AT KSU & U of A

Hundreds of Jewish students at Kent State and University of Akron took part in Shabbat dinners, university-wide service events, major speakers, Israel advocacy programming, learning sessions, and leadership events over the course of the year.

$17K

YOUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK

Connecting Akron's Jewish community $151K

COMMUNITY CONCIERGE

The community concierge connects newcomers to the Akron Jewish community by helping them find jobs and locate housing, make social connections, and connect to local resources, specifically Jewish agencies and congregations.

$31K

AKRON JEWISH NEWS

Since 1929 the Akron Jewish News has kept the greater Akron Jewish community connected. it's a true community publication: for the community, about the community, and by the community.

$45K

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

Hundreds of people celebrated Israeli Independence Day, commemorated the Holocaust, and rejoiced in a community Shabbat. These community events connect us to our history, identity, and tradition, as well as to one another.

$13K

KOSHER KITCHEN AT THE SCHULTZ CAMPUS

Our kitchen operates separate meat and dairy sections, rests on Shabbat and holidays, serves only kosher products and ingredients, and keeps kosher for Passover.

$45K

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE (JCRC)

The JCRC advocates Jewish interests in the broader community. Through initiatives like the annual legislative reception and the joint interfaith trip to Washington DC, JCRC sheds light on issues significant to the Jewish community.

$17K

YOUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK

Building bridges to Israel and the world $187K

JFNA: JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

Through our national office, JFNA, we protect and enhance the well-being of Jews around the world. Your contributions help deliver essential social services, educate and empower Jewish communities and leaders, and provide a lifeline to communities in conflict and crisis.

$145K

BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL

Taglit-Birthright Israel seeks to ensure the future of the Jewish people by strengthening Jewish identity and connection with Israel via an educational trip to Israel.

$4K

ISRAELI SHLICHIM (ISRAELI EMISSARIES)

The JCBA's shlichim provide programing through all Jewish agencies and congregations, directing activities to all age groups. Through the their events and work on campus, they educate and personally move hundreds of people in our community.

$38K

The Schultz Gift at work in our community

In 2015, the Akron Jewish community received a game-changing $10 million gift from the Albert and Janet Schultz Supporting Foundation of the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation. In accordance with the Schultz Supporting Foundation's wishes, the Jewish Community Board of Akron allocated the funds. Here's how the monies have been spent and/or endowed:

$2M SPENT on capital improvements to the Schultz Campus façade, indoor pool, and HVAC system

$1M ENDOWED in perpetuity for capital improvements to the Schultz Campus

$7M ENDOWED in perpetuity for programming for Jewish seniors, Jewish youth & young adults, Jewish day school, Hillels, Jewish cultural arts, Jewish leadership, Jewish camping, and Israel experiences.

This spring, approval was granted to use some of the funds toward the new J-Ticket initative, which reduces cost of Jewish participation in our Jewish institutions, particularly among local young Jewish families.

Thriving at The Lippman School

A current parent of a Lippman School student shares: "I just wanted to let you know the overall improvement that everyone has seen in Joseph. As a mom I can tell you how different our family life is. He comes home happy and enthusiastic about school. He actually wants to go; mornings used to be a nightmare for us. I know that he has gaps in his learning due to the last few years, but hopefully now he can catch up. He is working on a story and is excited and motivated. I never thought I would get that side of Joseph back, so thank you for your patience and acceptance. It has meant a lot."

Serving senior adults at the JCC

Jack and Marilyn Kent have attended the Shaw JCC's adult program offerings for over 10 years, they estimate. "We enjoy the programs Myra [Feinberg, adult program coordinator] brings here," Marilyn says. "Anything musical, informative, and anything with the shlichim—which I think is a wonderful program."

"We go on the bus trips," Marilyn says. Feinberg plans trips to Cleveland to see theater performances, to go shopping for Passover, and to visit the Hartville Flea Market, for example.

"And we go to the get-togethers in the evenings," Jack adds, like outings to local restaurants. He feels they benefit from the socialization and wishes more senior adults would attend the programs.

"There's a Jewishness about the programs," Marilyn notes, which they appreciate. The Kents are lifelong Akron residents, who met when they became neighbors in the early 1940s. They were charter members of the Akron Jewish Center, when it was on Balch Street.

The JCC was central to their lives then, and it's important to them now, at a different stage in their lives.

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN MAKES AN IMPACT

Community Concierge welcomes new community members

New York, San Francisco, Mexico…Akron.

In the last two decades, that was Shauna Leff's residential trajectory. Now, she is back home. "I left Akron for college, and 20 years later it's my mom's dream come true!" she says.

"It actually wasn't my decision; it was my husband's," Leff notes. "He wanted to be closer to my family here, and he is in the healthcare industry and felt there was more opportunities for his career."

She's very happy with the decision, though. "Coming home has been so welcoming," Leff says. "I felt like I didn't have roots elsewhere."

She met her husband Jorge Reyes while they were traveling (separately) in Thailand. For nine years, they lived in Mexico, welcoming a daughter (now 6) and son (now 2) there. But they felt a little limited by urban life in Mexico City. "We were contemplating where to move for two years," Leff explains. "We wanted [our kids] to feel free to go outdoors and play–without fear."

A year ago, Jewish Akron Community Concierge Cathy Baer reached out to the Reyes-Leff family. "It's always nice to have family help, but it was nice to have someone outside the family help, too," Leff says. "Cathy was like the homecoming committee. It helped make the decision [to come to Akron] feel right."

"As soon as we got here, we got letters of welcome from all the temples," she says. "Everyone was sending emails and cards. You're not just some number...Everyone is excited you are here to be part of the larger community." Baer has also "been vital in helping Jorge build a local professional network," Leff says.

Their son now attends the Shaw JCC Early Childhood Education program, where the family appreciates the Jewish traditions it offers. Leff likes that so many non-Jewish families also embrace the Jewish values and teachings the program instills.

▶ Since Nov. 2014, the Community Concierge program has welcomed 38 families or individuals to Jewish Akron!

Shaw JCC Akron

140 children enrolled in Thom & Lisa Mandel Early Childhood Education Center

1st 5K race held

300 campers will attend Camp JCC

jcc tours are up **35%**

we've grown to nearly **2,000 members**

over **150 kids** served in after-school program

teacher certifications **15%** following start of the "Step up to Quality" program at the Mandel ECE

The Lippman School

4 new Jewish families enrolled their children, after relocating to Akron because we have a Jewish day school

1st joint fundraiser between Lipmann and Mandel ECE

crowdfunding raised **$6,500+** **from 30 new donors**

challenge grant raised **$17,000+** in two weeks

$14,300 grant from GAR Foundation for students to develop a mobile app about history of the Portage Path

provided counseling & case management for **204 clients**

distinguished service award received from Akron Area Interfaith Council

205 clients served at **community education** programs

developed educational seminar for **AMHA residents**

"Hoarders: A Day with Matt Paxton" continuing education program generated revenue for JFS

Safe Place training for LGBT seniors

recruited **69 Volunteer Guardians**

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Names in **bold** are either new donors to the campaign who did not give to campaign in 2015 or donors who increased their pledges from 2015's pledge. *Asterisked names are individuals of blessed memory. List current as of May 13, 2016. All efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. The names were taken from Campaign pledge cards.

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