



## Endowing a Lion of Judah

Michele Kostin took steps to endow her annual gift to the Women’s Campaign in August 2004. Michele feels strongly about continuing her family legacy of helping others and wants her children to know the importance of planning for the future. By endowing her gift, Michele was following the examples of her grandmothers, Sophie Stecker and Bessie Goldstein, both of blessed memory, her mother Jean Stecker Weil, and her mother-in-law Irene Osias Kostin, of blessed memory.

“My mother is English, one of 10 children. Despite their modest means, my grandparents always were charitable. My mother told me that my grandmother Sophie would regularly invite homeless people in their east end of London neighborhood to have dinner with her family. The women in my family, in particular, have been role models for me as I hope to be for my children.”

Michele’s husband, Dane, also was raised in a philanthropically oriented family with a commitment to Jewish continuity and a sense of communal responsibility. The Kostins have been deeply involved in so many of the organizations that make up the basic fabric of Jewish life in Greater Hartford. Michele serves on the Federation board and its executive committee and is chairperson of its audit committee.

Being a mother herself affected her decision to endow her Lion of Judah gift. “Teaching Jewish philanthropy to our children is what I am passionate about.”

# STORIES OF PHILANTHROPY

The Jewish Community Foundation is proud to present donors who have created new funds this year, inspiring us with their passion and commitment to give back to their community and plant seeds for the next generation.

## **Anonymous XI Fund**

A Bridgeport Connecticut resident created this donor advised fund to carry out her philanthropy. She chose the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford as her partner because of its sound fiduciary practices and ethos of transparency.

## **Beth Hillel Synagogue Funds**

*Edward N. Bromberg Ritual Education Memorial Fund*  
*Abe Morrison Fund*

Beth Hillel Synagogue in Bloomfield has a long term relationship with the Foundation. The congregation, led by Rabbi Gary Atkins, lay leadership and a group of volunteers, provide a warm and friendly atmosphere for a community of 250 families. This year, two new funds were established by committed congregants who value the synagogue community.

## **Beth El Temple Funds**

*Gloria Goldenberg Music and Lecture Series*  
*Endowment Fund*  
*Herman Family Fund*  
*Cipie and Daniel Miller Family Fund*  
*Gerald and Paula Steinberg Endowment Fund*

Last year, four new Beth El Temple endowment funds were created to provide long term protection for the

Temple, and to help ensure its vitality as a center of Jewish life for its members. The Jewish Community Foundation has been working collaboratively with Beth El Temple for over a decade in its endowment and legacy building efforts.

## **Abe and Bobby Bobrow Family Fund**

Dr. Claudia R. Coplein is proud to continue a tradition of charitable giving started by her grandparents, Abraham and Bobby Bobrow.

She established a donor advised fund in their memory to support the charities she cares about and to involve her children in the process.

Claudia's daughters, Alexandra and Noah Stanton, will take part in deciding what charitable projects to support.

Claudia is Senior Medical Director for ConnectiCare, and a proud Lion of Judah. Her daughters are students at Kingswood Oxford School, and previously attended Solomon Schechter Day School, where Claudia was a member of the Board of Trustees. Claudia and her children live in Farmington and are members of Beth El Temple.





**Joan Brundage Charitable Gift Annuity**

Joan’s desire to build a legacy for the Jewish community inspired her to set up a charitable gift annuity with the Foundation. She will receive guaranteed payments for her lifetime and make a future gift to the Jewish community. Although Joan and her husband Lyle reside in Florida, they feel strongly about their Hartford roots and continue to build the Silverherz, Brundage and Rosenberg Fund, which Joan’s parents endowed many years ago.

**The Adrienne Cohen Education Fund  
The Adrienne Cohen Israel Fund**

Adrienne Cohen brightened the lives of everyone she touched. Warm, smart and caring, she gave to her family, synagogue and community in immeasurable ways. When she connected with the Jewish Federation 25 years ago, she started a Jewish journey that continued throughout her life.



Adrienne’s Judaism and spirituality blossomed when she and her husband Mark joined the Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation-Emek Shalom in their hometown of Simsbury. As a long time Board member, she was a strong and dynamic leader. She was committed to ensuring the happiness and welfare of congregants, as well as the longevity of the Temple. In 2002, Adrienne fulfilled her dream of becoming an adult *Bat Mitzvah*. In 2006 she fulfilled another dream when she travelled to Israel with a group from her synagogue, led by Rabbi Herman.

When Adrienne passed away this past winter, her husband Mark and their children, Jared, Ali, Ian and Max, approached Rabbi Herman at the Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation and established two funds in her memory. The Adrienne Cohen Israel Fund will provide financial need-based scholarships for first time travellers to Israel. The Adrienne Cohen Education Fund will support the Temple’s religious school that carries Adrienne’s name, and offer a variety of learning experiences at every grade level, from pre-school to high school. Her family is proud to have created these funds in her memory.

**Congregation Beth Israel Funds**

*Laura Rapport Legacy for Our Future Fund*

Congregation Beth Israel transferred a portion of its endowment for management to the Foundation in 1998. Building a strong financial base through endowment has

been a top priority for the Temple. With a realized bequest to the Temple, a new fund was established to help the synagogue meet its current and long term needs.

**Robert Eisner Charitable Gift Annuity**

Bob Eisner is proud of his many years of service as a volunteer in the Jewish Federations of Boston, New Britain and Hartford. He was born and raised in New Britain and moved to West Hartford with his wife Laurel, of blessed memory, and their two daughters. A retired accountant, Bob is a Wharton School graduate who lived in New Britain for many years, where he served as President of the New Britain Jewish Federation. Now a resident of West Hartford, Bob is a Life Trustee of the Hartford Jewish Federation and stays active in the Jewish community.

The competitive rates offered by the Foundation prompted Bob to set up a charitable gift annuity this year. He says it is a “win-win” for all parties: he receives income for life and the Jewish community has a legacy gift it can count on.



## Hebrew Health Care Funds

*Greenberg Family Endowment Fund*

*Leshem Family Endowment Fund*

Founded more than 100 years ago, the Hebrew Home and Hospital, an affiliate of Hebrew Health Care, is recognized as a leader in health care, providing skilled nursing and rehabilitation services to adults of all ages. This year, two new funds were established that will help build a strong financial base for the future of this important community institution.

## Hartford Jewish Cemeteries

### Restoration Fund

Caring for our Jewish cemeteries is a sacred responsibility, one that the Jewish Community

Foundation takes seriously. The annual cost of maintaining and preserving our cemeteries continues to increase. With every season that passes, our Jewish sites continue to deteriorate.

This year the Foundation Board of Trustees awarded a grant from unrestricted funds to create a permanent fund for capital maintenance, restoration and continuity of historic Jewish cemeteries in the Greater Hartford region.



## Donald and Barbara "Cookie" Hauss Family Fund

Her friends and family remember Barbara "Cookie" Hauss as a determined, smart and passionate person. Daughter of the late Abraham and Rachel Kopplemann, Cookie was born and raised in the North End of Hartford. She graduated from the Oxford School in West Hartford and completed two years of undergraduate studies at Mount Holyoke College. Education was a priority in her family, especially for Abe Kopplemann, whose life as first generation in this country never afforded him the luxury of completing his own education.

Cookie was married for 40 years to the late Donald S. Hauss, M.D., who practiced family medicine. They raised two children, Neale and Devorah. Cookie became active in the community when she volunteered with the Jewish Federation, helping to launch "Jewish Dial-a-Ride" and serving on the committee charged with the opening of Federation Homes. She also worked on interfaith programs, always bringing her sense of humor to the table.

Cookie especially enjoyed her involvement with the

Mandell Jewish Community Center's Jewish Book Festival, which she

supported each and every year. This year her son and daughter plan to continue support of the Jewish Book Festival in her memory.



## Jack Hutensky Fund

In June, Jack Hutensky became a *Bar Mitzvah*. Jack discussed the meaning of this rite of passage with his parents and together they decided to establish a donor advised fund so Jack can give back to the community in a meaningful way. At the same time, Jack would have an opportunity to become a "hands on" philanthropist and connect to the larger tradition of Jewish continuity and *tzedakah*. In becoming a *Bar Mitzvah* and learning about giving back, Jack follows in the footsteps of his uncles, grandfathers and great grandfathers on both sides, as well as his father, Brad, who also became a *Bar Mitzvah* at Beth El Temple.

Jack is a voracious reader and is curious about the world. He loves sports, music, politics, and the outdoors. He is also kind and compassionate, and serves as a wonderful role model for his brother Will. A donor advised fund is a great opportunity for Jack to learn about funding needs, both in the local community and in Israel, and to support charitable causes that touch his heart.



### **Robert Kennedy Charitable Fund**

Bob Kennedy has several funds at the



Foundation. This year he entered a new phase of his philanthropy by establishing a donor advised fund to take advantage of the resources that are available to advisors—online grantmaking, easy access to fund activity and assistance with identifying charitable projects to support. Bob plans to concentrate funding on local and national organizations that benefit individuals with special needs.

### **George Kleman and Eva Kleman Fund**

Siblings Eva and George Kleman left meaningful legacies to the Jewish community through their charitable remainder trusts. Their parents, Jacob and Francis Kleman, owned and operated a grocery store in Hartford. The family moved to West Hartford when George, Eva and their sister Rose, were young.

Eva became a teacher in the Hartford public school system, where she taught for 40 years. George graduated from Yale University with a business degree. A certified public accountant, he was a recognized tax expert and owned a successful business consulting firm. George and Eva moved to Florida in their later years. Their legacy will support the Mandell Jewish Community Center in perpetuity.



### **Doris and Simon Konover Fund for U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum**

“The Holocaust has shaped my Jewish identity and who I am as a person. It is important to remember its



impact and those who perished,” explains Simon Konover. After losing his parents, grandparents, several sisters and brothers in the Holocaust, Polish-

born Simon Konover survived a Nazi labor camp, Siberia, the Russian Army and the Battle of Stalingrad. He fled to America via France and Cuba after discovering the Jewish population of his small town near Warsaw – including most of his family - was murdered.

From his humble Hartford beginnings as a floor tile layer who never completed high school, Simon Konover built a real estate powerhouse. Known for his tireless work ethic, boundless energy and high standards in business, personal and communal relationships, he and his wife have given back to their community in deed and by example.

The Doris and Simon Konover Fund for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum will inspire individuals worldwide to confront hatred, promote human dignity, prevent genocide and ensure the Museum’s permanence. What a profound and meaningful legacy the Konover’s have put in place to ensure that future generations understand the lessons of the past.

### **Samuel and Frances Kosto Fund**

A fund honoring Samuel and Frances Kosto was created through a generous gift from their Brazilian nephews, the Hara brothers, in recognition of the assistance their family received in a time of need. Their uncle, Samuel Kosto, emigrated to the United States from Damascus, Syria in 1928. Shortly after he enrolled in night school, he met his future wife Frances, a Russian émigrée. They operated a small children’s shop in Springfield, Massachusetts and raised three children who became successful professionals.



When his sister, Fardosa Hara, lost her husband, Samuel provided financial assistance to help support her eight young children. The three Hara brothers emigrated to Sao Paulo, Brazil where they created a prosperous textile manufacturing firm. Just as they were helped by their uncle’s generosity, the Hara family’s endowment will make it possible for others to enjoy the success that a college education brings.



**Jason Miller  
and Elise Miller  
Charitable Fund**

Siblings Jason Miller and Elise Miller started a donor advised fund at the Foundation this year that allows them to make

decisions as a team about charitable projects to support. Both were raised in West Hartford and live and work in New York City. Their proud parents, Lauri and David Miller, *kvell* at their achievements and the young adults they have become.

Jason works as the Lead Broadcast Associate on NFL Today at CBS. His charitable interests lie in helping the elderly, supporting Israel and protecting minorities against hate crimes and violence. Elise works at The Vera Institute of Justice in New York as a research analyst, where her focus is on protecting the rights of immigrants and their families, including unaccompanied children and detainees. Elise is inspired by projects that bring diverse groups together to solve problems, as well as those that help underserved and disadvantaged communities.

**Marilyn Orkin Fund**

Stanley Orkin, a Vernon resident, established an unrestricted fund to honor the memory of his beloved wife, Marilyn. Marilyn was an active member of Congregation B’nai Israel (now Temple Beth Sholom B’nai Israel, in Manchester) and a passionate advocate of enhancing the Greater Hartford Jewish community “east of the river.” She was a founding member of “Honorable *Menschen*”, an older adult group that was created to provide social, cultural and recreational services to senior adults in the suburbs east of Hartford and “Connecticut Bubbies.”

Stan served as Vice President of Engineering for Kaman Corp for more than 40 years and now spends his time enjoying his five grandchildren. The Marilyn Orkin Fund will help the Foundation meet critical community needs—from helping seed new programs that reach younger generations, to sustaining our local agencies during difficult economic times.



**Piaker Family Fund**

A time honored Jewish value is to give back to one’s community. Steve and Randi Piaker embody this value and are active in the Greater Hartford Jewish community. Steve serves as a Trustee of the Jewish Community Foundation and is a member and past Chair of the Grants Committee and a former member of the Audit Committee. Randi serves on the Development Committee of the Jewish Federation and is past chair of Women’s Philanthropy.

Through the donor advised fund they created this year, Steve and Randi will enjoy making decisions about which projects to support in the Jewish community, and pass on this privilege to their daughters, Lindsay and Rachel. By setting an example for their children, Randi and Steve have turned philanthropy into a family affair.



**Andrew Roy Sheketoff Memorial Fund**

Andrew Sheketoff passed away last year. To honor his memory, his parents Sylvia and Lew Sheketoff established a permanent fund to sustain programs and services that serve children and adults with emotional, behavioral or mental impairments, and their families.

### **Solomon Schechter Day School**

*Kruger Family Award for Embracing Jewish Values Fund*

Solomon Schechter Day School provides a challenging and nurturing educational environment infused with Jewish values to students of diverse social, cultural and economic backgrounds. This year, a charitable fund was established to grant awards to students who are enrolled in the school from kindergarten through 8th grade.

### **Paula S. Steinberg Lion of Judah Endowment Fund**

In March 2009, the Greater Hartford Jewish community lost one of its most beloved members, Paula Steinberg. Born in New Britain, she lived in West Hartford most of her life with her husband Jerry. Her philanthropy and leadership in the Jewish community were substantial. She served as the first woman President and General Campaign Chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, as Chair of the Board of Visitors of The Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Hartford, and was a member of The United Jewish Communities Women's National Philanthropy Board. Paula traveled to Israel many times and served on countless committees and boards for the Jewish community at both local and national levels.



Paula took great pride in being a Lion of Judah, and took steps during her lifetime to leave a legacy for the community she loved. The Paula S. Steinberg Lion of Judah Endowment Fund will generate campaign dollars each year for Federation's Women's Philanthropy.

### **Temple Beth El of Stamford Endowment Fund**

A bustling, warm and inclusive community of over 600 families from Fairfield and Westchester counties, Temple Beth El of Stamford is an egalitarian synagogue with members from multiple generations and diverse backgrounds. Recognizing the need to continue building for the future, Temple leadership began an endowment early on to provide stability and generate revenue over the long term. They chose to work with the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford because of its sound fiscal management and personalized donor services.

### **Temple B'nai Abraham of Meriden**

*William Smith Scholarship Fund*  
Temple B'nai Abraham, located in Meriden, has a 115 year history and long time members who love their spiritual community. This year the Temple set up a new scholarship fund to award to the student in the hebrew school who is the "most improved in hebrew reading".

### **Miriam Toubman Family Fund**

Miriam Toubman was a diminutive but huge hearted woman who was loved by her children and extended family. She was generous, compassionate and caring, always celebrating life and bringing comfort to individuals in need.

Born in Hartford, Miriam was the daughter of the late Isidore and Rose Giber. A graduate of Weaver High School, she had a distinguished career with the Connecticut Department of Children and Families, retiring at age 77. Miriam and her late husband, William S. Toubman, had a strong relationship and raised six beloved children in whom they instilled a strong sense of compassion, tolerance and social justice.

Establishing a charitable fund in her memory is a way for her six children and their families to express their love and respect for Miriam and support the many causes that were dear to her. Andrea White, Elliot Taubman, Allan Toubman, Stephen Toubman, Ilene Coman and Sheldon Toubman are advising this fund and making decisions on grants that best represent their mother's visions and values.



### **Zoë Isabelle Zachs Fund**

To celebrate the high school graduation of their granddaughter Zoë, Henry Zachs and Judy Zachs established a donor advised fund that will allow Zoë to decide what projects to support and to develop as a philanthropist in her own right.

Her sensitivity and commitment to helping those in need started at an early age. When Zoë became a *Bat Mitzvah*, she volunteered to lead a project for teen mothers through the Village for Families and Children by creating and delivering baskets of household goods, clothing and coupons. Zoë recognized that disadvantaged young mothers' needs are often overlooked. She continued volunteering at the Village and participated in the holiday toy drive. Serving as president of her junior and senior classes at Loomis Chaffee School, editor of its yearbook, and captain of the tennis team, this extraordinary young woman has strong leadership skills that will shape her future personal and professional choices.

Zoë is a freshman at Syracuse University, where she plans to major in psychology and social work. Through her advised fund, she will stay informed about what is happening in the Greater Hartford Jewish community and in Israel and recommend grants to programs that meet critical needs for basic human services and help the most vulnerable members of the community.



### **Zachs Family Fund for Charter Oak Cultural Center**

The Zachs family support of the Jewish community extends to nearly every Jewish organization in Hartford. Preserving our Jewish heritage and planting for the next generation are driving forces behind their family philanthropy.

The Zachs family understands that endowment giving is a way to ensure that the causes they care about and support will be funded long into the future. This year they created an endowment fund to benefit Charter Oak Cultural Center. The family established a similar fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving last year, and supports the Center annually.

Charter Oak Cultural Center is housed in Connecticut's oldest synagogue and offers innovative Jewish and original programs. Through exhibitions, performances, in-school programs and workshops, the Center provides residents of the neighborhood and the Greater Hartford area with the opportunity to learn, celebrate and understand a diversity of cultures.



# THE FOUNDATION'S GROWING FAMILY

Through the Jewish Community Foundation, you can create a fund that starts working today, or leave a legacy to benefit the community in the future. No matter what you choose to support, the Jewish Community Foundation can help you fulfill your philanthropic goals.

## CREATE A FUND

### **Donor advised funds**

Support your favorite causes on your time schedule; recommend grants to the organizations and charitable causes you care about; and involve your family in a meaningful giving experience

### **Unrestricted community funds**

Help the Foundation award grants where the needs are greatest and fund innovation and long term solutions to community challenges

### **Designated funds**

Distribute grants each year for a specific organization or cause and endow your support for generations to come

### **Scholarship funds**

Provide scholarships to deserving students pursuing higher education and help teens and young adults enjoy learning experiences in Israel

## JOIN A GIVING CIRCLE



Partner with others who share your passions to

- Help women and children in need
- Support vulnerable populations in Israel

## GET STARTED

Call us at 860.523.7460 and visit our website at [www.jcfhartford.org](http://www.jcfhartford.org).