

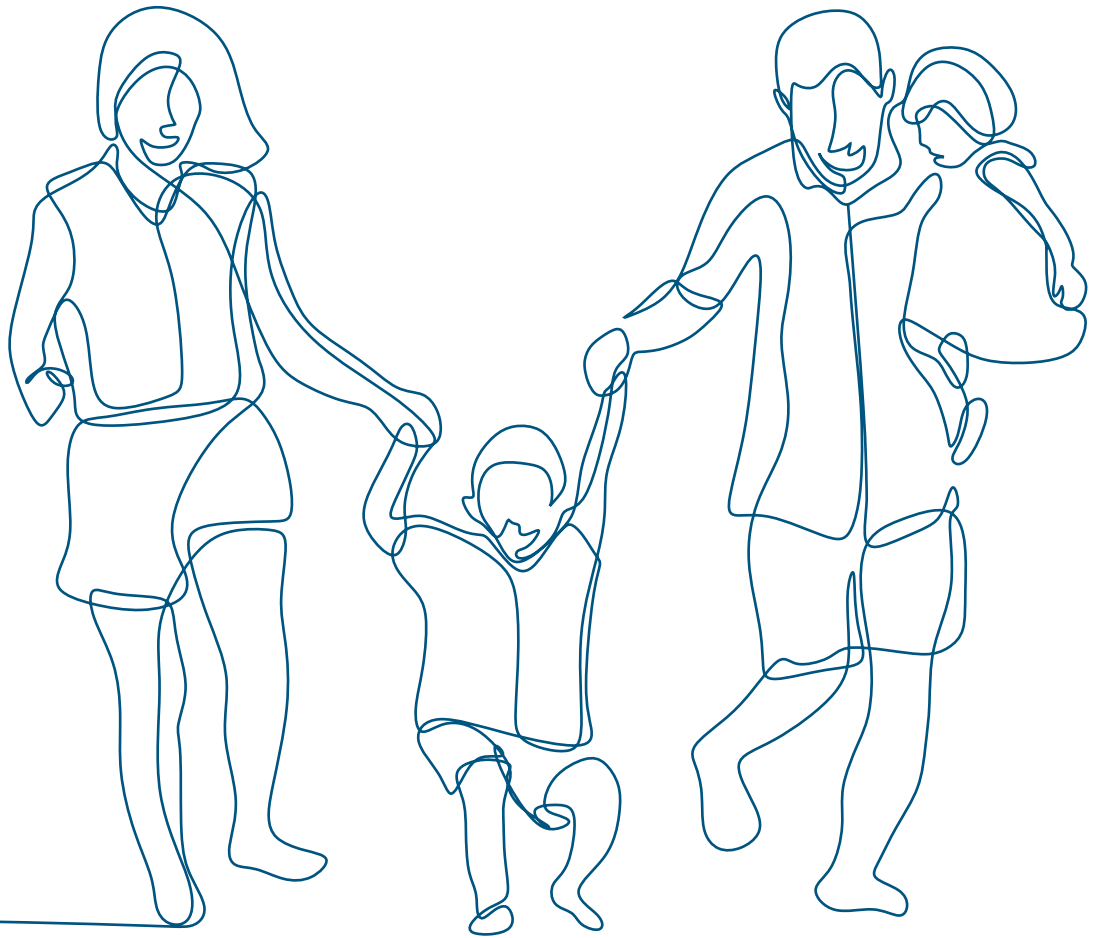
My Legacy Story



A gift from our family to yours

— The Tidewater Jewish Foundation

My Legacy Story is dedicated to



As my ancestors planted for me, so too I plant for
my children and my children's children.

— Talmud

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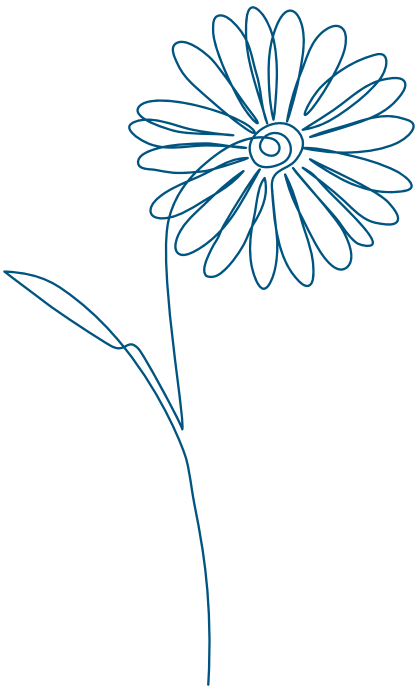
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Our History

My history is your history.

It's important for you to know a few things about our family.

Our family first came to the United States in the year _____
and they settled in _____

Our family originated from _____

Many stories have been passed down about my parents, grandparents, and distant ancestors. I want to share these stories with you.





Through the generations, these special items and heirlooms have been passed down

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Whether it began yesterday or many generations ago, this is what I know about my family's Jewish history and lineage

[illegible]

My Childhood

I have been blessed with a long life. Every story has a beginning...

I was born in _____
(City, State/Country)

on _____
(Date)

to _____
(Parents' Names)

I was given the Jewish name _____

I was named after _____

This is what I was told about the day I was born

One of my earliest and most cherished memories is _____

My classmates from school would remember me as _____

When I was growing up, my favorite thing about being Jewish was _____





My Bar/Bat Mitzvah was on _____
(Date)

at _____
(Name of Synagogue, City, State/Country)

and it was a special time in my life because _____

[illegible]

Childhood is a time to play, learn, and grow. That was many years ago, but one lesson that has always stayed with me is _____

[illegible]

My Loved Ones

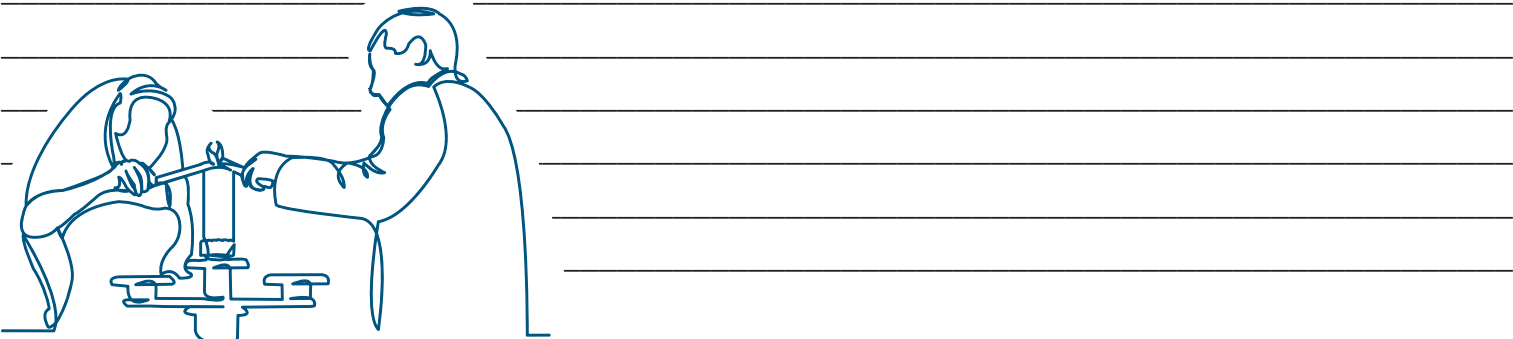
I want to tell you about my family, friends, and mentors.

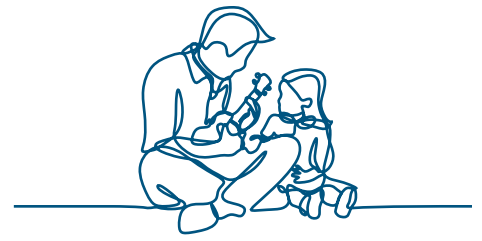
My parents taught me the importance of _____

My most significant romantic relationship has been with _____

We met when _____

My favorite thing about this person is/was _____





My children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews have brought great joy to my life. My hope for them is that they _____

These are the mentors that helped shape my Jewish Identity _____

They taught me _____

The friend I have known the longest/has been my closest friend is _____

Our friendship is important to me because _____

My Journey

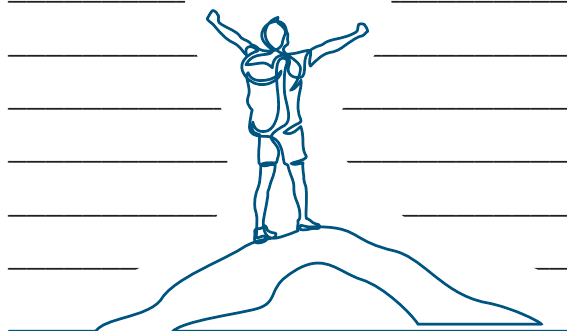
I've experienced great joy, adventure, and hardship along the way.

The happiest days of my life were when _____

Some of my most memorable travels have been to _____

My most important/cherished Jewish experience was when _____

My greatest adventure was when _____





The most difficult time in my life was when _____

I overcame it by _____

As I look to the future, I still have much to see and do! I plan to _____

Facts About Me

I want to share some details about my life with you.

If I entered a talent show, my talent would be _____

My favorite song is _____

My favorite Jewish holiday is _____
because _____

My favorite book is _____

I want to learn how to _____

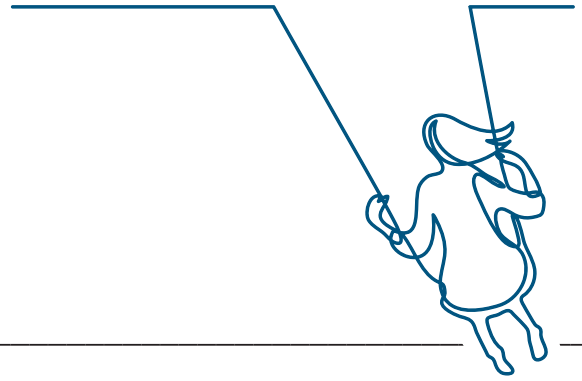
My favorite Jewish food is _____

I once won an award for _____

I am most proud of _____

My favorite family recipe is _____





My favorite Jewish (or non-Jewish) quote is _____

My first car was _____

My first job was _____

My worst job was _____

My favorite color is _____

My pet peeve is _____

My favorite sport is _____

My favorite season is _____

My favorite sound is _____

The chore I always put off is _____

I am most afraid of _____

My hero is _____

because _____

A Word of Advice

I have learned many things along the way. I want to share some of that wisdom with you.

The best advice I was ever given was from _____

This person told me to _____

The hardest lesson I ever learned was when _____

Being Jewish has taught me many things. One of the most important is _____





My advice for someone who has just graduated from college is to _____

My advice for a newly married couple is to _____

My advice for a new parent is to _____

Most importantly, never forget to _____

My Legacy

My beliefs and values have been guiding principles in my life. I hope my story inspires yours.

The principles that have guided me in my life are _____

Looking back, what I like most about how I've spent my time is _____

My greatest accomplishment(s) has/have been _____

Judaism has shaped my values in the following ways _____





Tzedakah (defined as justice or righteousness, e.g. philanthropy or volunteer-ism) is an important value to me because _____

My favorite way to practice tikkun olam "repairing the world" is to _____

Perhaps that is why the following causes/organizations have been so important in my life

My hope for the future is a world in which _____

My Pandemic Experience

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the entire world. Here is what I have learned about myself, my family, and my community.

Today's date _____

Age at time of COVID Crisis _____

Age of family members at time of COVID Crisis

So far, we have been affected in the following ways _____

As a family, we are doing the following activities to stay connected and healthy during quarantine _____

During this time, I am most concerned about _____



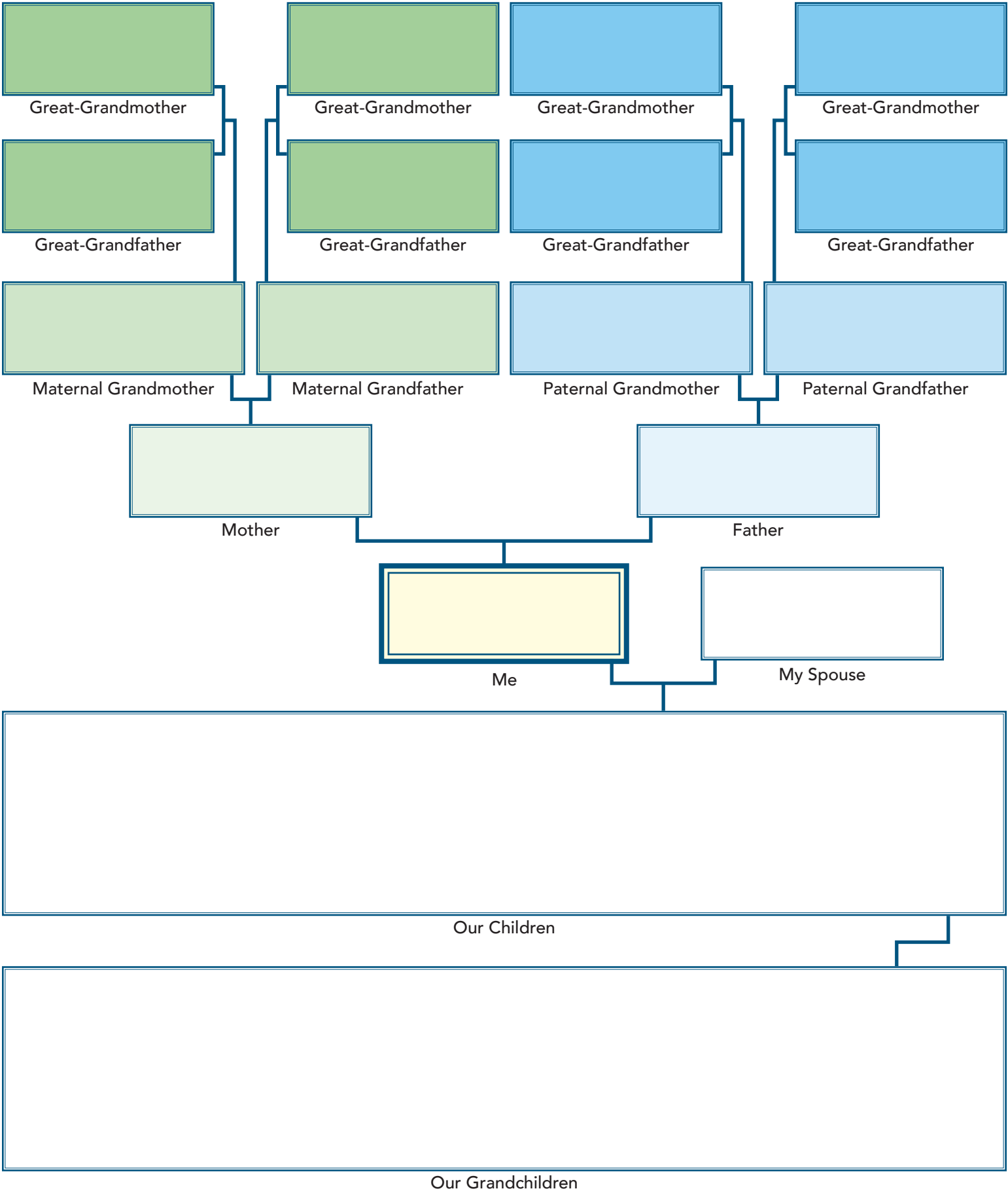
The Jewish community is coming together to care for one another in the following ways

I predict this will change the world in the following ways

My hope for the world is that

An update (to be filled out after the crisis has passed)

My Family Tree



I hope my Legacy Story inspires you to write your own. May each of your chapters be filled with love, courage, and cherished memories.



If I am not for me, who is for me; and if I am (only) for myself, what am I. And if not now, when?

— Hillel, *Ethics of the Fathers*, 1:14

Share your Legacy Story and inspire others! Email a full copy or your favorite entry to foundation@tjfvva.org



For additional copies or more information about the Life & Legacy program, contact

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