

# ANNUAL REPORT

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THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE. THE POWER OF A COMMUNITY.

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2015/5575



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# LEAD VISIONARY IN THE AKRON JEWISH COMMUNITY

The JCBA improves the quality, availability, and cost-effectiveness of services to the Jewish community of Summit County by providing a central governance structure for the Shaw JCC, The Lippman School, and Jewish Family Service, all located on the Schultz Campus for Jewish Life.

Our main activities include fundraising, financial oversight, and centralized services- such as security, financial resources development, accounting, marketing, community relations, PR, and facility operations.

## GUIDED BY BEST PRACTICES

The JCBA leverages best practices in its charitable allocations decisions. Our Planning and Finance committee (P&F) is a specialized task force charged with evaluating funding requests and making recommendations to the JCBA's Board of Trustees. The main objective of the evaluation process is to impact Jewish life in Akron – both quantitatively and qualitatively. In alignment with best practices, all requests are required to describe the program's purpose, objective, and implementation strategy, as well as to describe measurable outcomes and evaluation metrics by which the progress will be measured and evaluated over the course of the year.

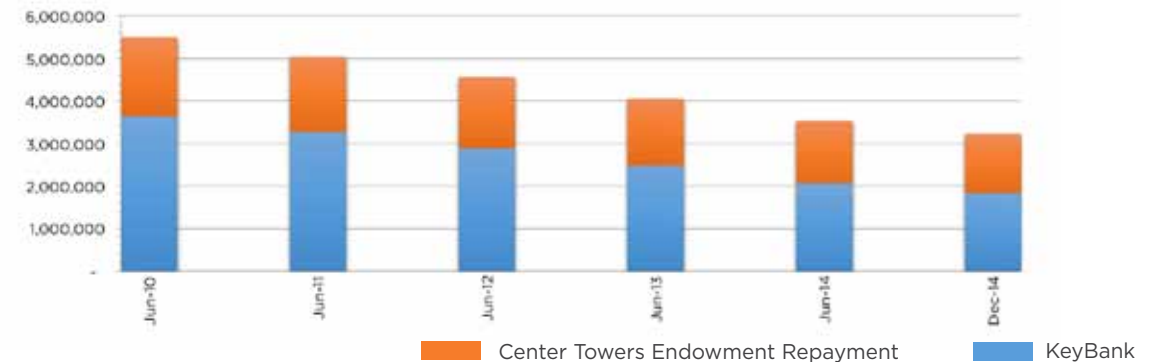
## ENDOWMENT VALUES

at 12/31/2014

\$1,836,454	JCBA Unrestricted Endowment
\$10,417,816	General Purpose Restricted
\$1,258,641	PACE
\$2,726,745	JCBA Agency
\$866,452	Benefiting Local Synagogues
\$4,013,484	Philanthropic
\$4,231,205	Custodial



## DECREASED CAMPUS DEBT



# THE 2015 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

- ▶ 585 donors contributed \$1.32 million dollars
- ▶ 65 (or 11%) of donors were new donors or returned donors who have not given in the last three years

# THE CHARITABLE INVESTMENT OF YOUR CAMPAIGN DOLLARS

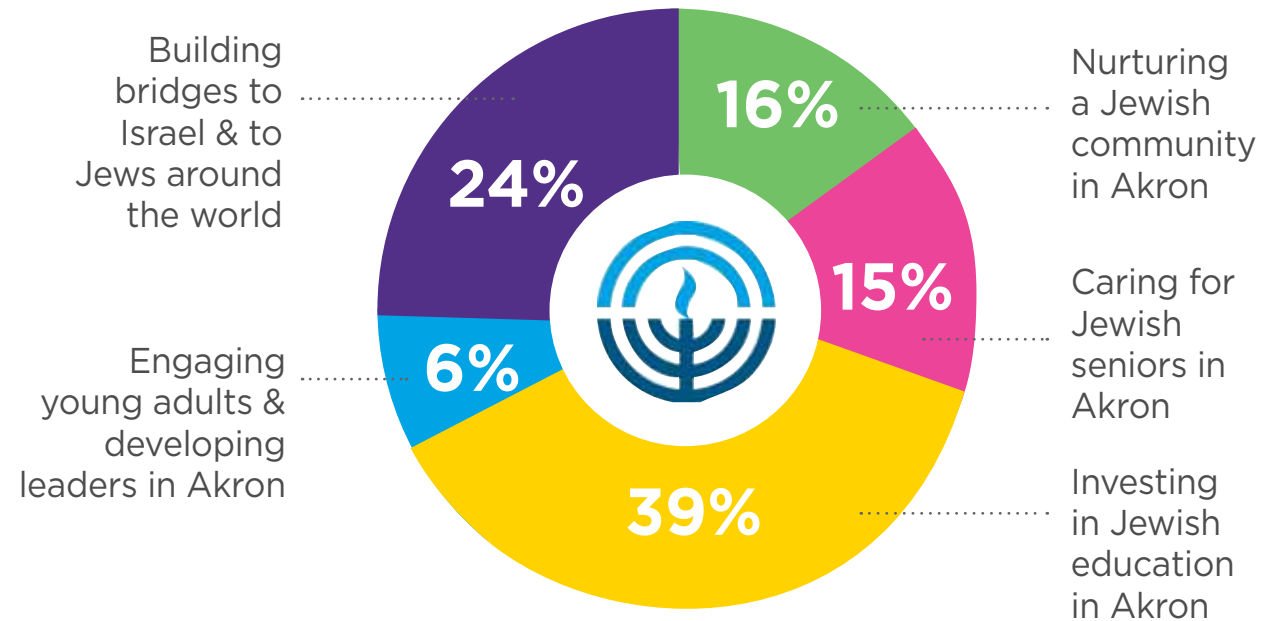


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PHOTO BY: NANCY WILLIAMS



# YOUR CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK INVESTING IN JEWISH EDUCATION

## IN AKRON \$317K

### Jewish Studies at The Lippman School

The Lippman School serves 120 children from kindergarten through eighth grade. Interlacing Jewish values into everyday curriculum, the school nurtures learners' Jewish identity in the context of diversity and cross-culturalism.

\$130K



### Early Childhood Education (ECE) at the Shaw JCC

The Thom and Lisa Mandel ECE Center of the Shaw JCC encourages a lifelong love of learning and the actualization of values rooted in Jewish observance and tradition through such programs such as CATCH and Sheva. The ECE educates 120 children from six weeks to five years of age.

\$75K



### Jewish & Israel Cultural Experiences at Camp JCC

Camp JCC serves 250 children throughout the summer. It 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.

\$50K



### Jewish Teen Programming at the Shaw JCC

Thirty teens between the ages of 13-18 are engaged through BBYO activities and the annual Macabbi games. The programs help teens find their Jewish identity and connect to one another, regardless of their affiliation (or lack thereof) with a particular congregation.

\$62K





# YOUR CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK CARING FOR OUR SENIORS \$119K



## Jewish Counseling & Care Management at 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 Adults 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, which features a free, kosher deli-style lunch and a speaker.

\$60K



# YOUR CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK ENGAGING OUR YOUNG ADULTS \$49K



## Rubber City Jews

Forty-five young adults in their 20s and 30s regularly engage in monthly Shabbat dinners, group-led Jewish learning sessions and discussions, volunteerism and social activities. For many of the participants, RCJ is their only connection to a Jewish organization.

\$17K

## Hillels at Kent State University and University of Akron

Three-hundred Jewish students took part in Shabbat dinners, university-wide service events, major speakers, Israel advocacy programming, smaller group discussions, learning sessions, and leadership events over the course of a year.

\$32K





# YOUR CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK CONNECTING AKRON'S JEWISH

# COMMUNITY \$115K



## 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.

\$25K

## Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC)

The JCRC of the Jewish Community Board of Akron advocates Jewish interests in the broader community. Through initiatives like the annual legislative reception, the joint interfaith trip to Washington DC, and the recent Lawyers Without Rights exhibit, JCRC sheds light on issues significant to the Jewish community and helps promote Jewish interests in the public arena.

\$22K



## Kosher Kitchen at the Schultz Campus for Jewish Life

If a kitchen is the heart of a home, our kitchen has certainly been the heart of our 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.

\$15K

## 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. Twelve new families were welcomed to the Akron Jewish community this past year.

\$17K



## Akron Jewish News

Since 1929 the Akron Jewish News has kept the greater Akron Jewish community connected. Published 11 times a year, it's a true community publication: for the community, about the community, and by the community.

\$53K



# YOUR CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AT WORK BUILD BRIDGES TO ISRAEL \$191K

## Israeli Shlichim (Israeli emissaries)

The JCBA's Shlichim provide programming through all Jewish agencies and congregations, directing activities to all age groups. Among the Shlichim's bi-weekly events on Campus, their large community events, like the Israeli Youth Band (KVYB), and all their collaborations, they educate and personally move hundreds of people in our community.

\$32K



## Taglit-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. More than 400,000 young adults have participated in the program since its inception in 1999.

\$8K



## JFNA: Jewish Federations of North America

Through our national office, JFNA, we protect and enhance the well-being of Jews around the world. With your 2014 donations to the Annual Campaign, we provided humanitarian support to Israeli citizens under fire during Protective Edge, supported vulnerable and displaced Jews in Ukraine, and responded to fatal attacks in France and Denmark, as well as to vandalism against synagogues and other Jewish facilities in Europe.

\$151K



PHOTO BY: SHANE WYNN

The future - made possible by the \$10 million gift from the Albert and Janet Schultz Supporting Foundation of the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation - looks bright. In accordance with the Schultz Supporting Foundation's wishes, the JCBA will allocate the funds in the following ways:

- ▶ \$2 million for immediate capital improvements to the Schultz Campus façade, pool, and HVAC
- ▶ \$1 million, placed in an endowment fund, restricted for the upkeep of the Schultz Campus in perpetuity
- ▶ \$7 million, placed in an endowment fund restricted for programming, with the income to be used in perpetuity in the following specific areas: Improving the quality of life for Jewish seniors, youth, and young adults; Jewish Day School; Hillel; Israel experiences; Jewish cultural arts; and Jewish camping



PHOTO BY DANNY HAZAN

# HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Renovated The Thom and Lisa Mandel Aquatics Center and men's and women's locker room facilities
- ▶ Unprecedented levels of participation and support for our fundraisers
- ▶ Increased ECE enrollment to 145 students
- ▶ Revitalized the BBYO program



PHOTO BY SHANE WYNN



PHOTO BY DANNY HAZAN

# 2014-15

- ▶ New staff leadership:
  - Kathy Klein - Early Childhood Director
  - Roberta Kleinman - Membership/Marketing Director
  - Laura Roberts - Camp/Youth and BBYO Director
  - Marcy Gabel - Fitness Coordinator
  - Ryan Miller - Aquatics Coordinator



**250+**

campers enrolled throughout the summer at Camp JCC



**130+**

children served each day in our Afterschool Program



**350+**

people attended the Sports Dinner featuring David Blatt



**300+**

attendees at the Campus Gala



Growing up I wasn't very religious, but we always observed and celebrated the Jewish holidays. Unfortunately, over the years our traditions lessened. We would observe the holidays, but, for example, we would no longer do a Seder at Passover.

Now I have my own family. My son Max went to the Shaw JCC Early Childhood Education program since he was two years old and is now a kindergartner at The Lippman School.

What I love about the Shaw JCC is that at times my kids educate me about Judaism. It's beautiful to listen to them sing Hebrew songs they learned at the J—not even realizing that I am listening and loving every moment. The J has similar core values as my family, which is why the best thing I have done for my kids was enroll them at the Shaw JCC.

The Shaw JCC and Lippman have played major roles in my son's confidence—socially, academically, athletically, and more. My daughter Emma has been attending ECE for two years and is learning about our religion and special traditions.

When I was a young girl I went to camp, we would always say the HaMotzi blessing before each meal. The last time I recited it was 25 years ago. Recently, my daughter Emma said the HaMotzi blessing before dinner. Since then she has inspired me to recite this blessing before meals as a family.

Emma ends the HaMotzi with “and give a friend a hug.” This doesn't surprise me. After all, the Shaw JCC and Lippman have always done such a great job creating a community for all and they continue to instill the importance of tradition, friendship and family in my children, and all of their fellow classmates.

The Shaw JCC staff does a great job at including family members. Whether it's my dad (grandpa) reading to Emma's class or me helping set up and being part of a family Seder, the J encourages us as parents and family members to share these special moments with our children.

There is no question the Shaw JCC is creating a time in Emma and Max's life that they will cherish forever and for that I am forever grateful.

*Susan Kalal*



“The best thing I have done for my kids”

THE IMPACT OF THE SHAW JCC



PHOTO BY NANCY WILLIAMS



## 2015/16 GOALS

- ✓ Continue to stabilize budget
- ✓ Increase membership
- ✓ Increase all programming opportunities
- ✓ Pursue community partnerships and collaborations



▶ Recognized through Slingshot Fund Award for our cross-cultural learning experiences with the Cheyenne Nation



- ▶ Celebrated the school's 50th year by planting 50 trees in Akron and 50 trees in Israel
- ▶ Raised \$40,000 in honor of our 50th anniversary
- ▶ Received a \$20,000 challenge grant commitment to our annual fund



20

New students enrolled



10

Transitional Kindergarten students enrolled



25%

Increase in admissions visits  
*(compared to last year)*



# “I have learned to lead a fuller, more meaningful Jewish life”

REFLECTIONS  
OF A LIPPMAN  
GRADUATE

The Lippman School staff helped me strengthen and expand my Jewish knowledge and faith. As part of the multicultural approach, our class went to Montana for a cultural exchange with the Northern Cheyenne Nation. We were asked to teach about our faith and learn theirs.

It was special for me to learn about a culture unlike any other. It was important to me when we went into the sweat lodge to and participated in traditions that are important for the Northern Cheyenne and see the correlation between our worlds.

Going to Israel for my 8th grade class trip was unlike any other trip I have experienced. I will never forget our first night in Jerusalem and visiting the Kotel the next day. This connected me to the land and made me closer to Judaism in a whole new way through ancient traditions and prayer. It was also very special praying in an ancient synagogue on top of Masada. This trip made me feel very connected to my homeland and spiritually. In preparation for the trip, we also discussed current events. We learned about the challenges of triumphs Israel faces in modern times. Through this class and the trip, I renewed my interest in Israel and its people.

The staff at Lippman helped me take pride in my Judaism as a way of life. I have learned to lead a fuller, more meaningful Jewish life. After Lippman, I have helped teach Hebrew to younger students. This is so important to me as I see the younger kids in our community beginning to search for their own personal meaning of Judaism.

*This Lippman grad is currently a high school student.*





# HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Launched the Volunteer Guardian program, which trains and supports 43 volunteers to be paired with impoverished wards of probate court
- ▶ Acquired Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority building Fowler I to deliver JFS service, while saying goodbye to Chapel Hill Apartment and satellite office

- ▶ Developed support team for volunteer guardians
- ▶ Introduced budget and finance program by Toby Rosen to the building residents
- ▶ Provided education on Israeli customs and traditions to building residents by Shlichim
- ▶ JFS/Bar Association collaboration: *The Social and Legal Implications of Same Sex Relationships*



# 2014-15

 **43**

Volunteer Guardians paired with wards of probate court

 **214**

Clients served from July 2104-April 2015

 **101**

Judaism 101 education program offered to building residents



- ▶ Held The Game Change educational event during the 2014 Gay Games
- ▶ Continuing education program for professionals- Diagnosing with the DSM-V Part I and II
- ▶ Met with Barberton Mayor William Judge about our services
- ▶ Showed *GenSilent* movie in collaboration with Cross Roads Hospice and Area Agency on Aging
- ▶ Provided apples and honey to Center Towers residents for Rosh Hashanah

## 2015/16 GOALS

- ✓ Acquire two more senior-dominated buildings in which to provide JFS programs
- ✓ Continue to offer Jewish-themed education in buildings
- ✓ Staff will acquire professional specialization (including LGBT and hoarding) in work with seniors
- ✓ Welcome packets for new seniors in the buildings
- ✓ More supportive services for wards and guardian volunteers

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PHOTO BY: DANNY HAZAN

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