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*News Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Generations of Jewish Giving Celebrated**

West Hartford, CT, May 24, 2006 — The Jewish Community Foundation held a special reception on May 24<sup>th</sup> at the Pond House to thank donors and celebrate *tzedakah* as a family affair. More than 150 guests enjoyed a glorious afternoon amidst the beautiful flowers of Elizabeth Park. “There was a glow in the room. . . people were connecting with one another,” reports Doreen Fundiller-Zweig, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Foundation. “So many of our donors relate to the concept of *l’dor v’dor* and want to pass on a love of Jewish giving to the next generation.

David Mayer, son of Allen and Ellen Mayer of West Hartford, is a member of that younger generation who spoke at the reception about his own *tzedakah* experience. David asked his friends and family to make gifts in honor of his becoming a *Bar Mitzvah* to the Federation Homes Endowment Fund. “Choosing Federation Homes was easy for me. My great-aunt Millie has lived there for almost two years. She was living in a second-floor apartment in Cortland, New York, far from family and not able to handle the stairs. When her apartment became available, our whole family went up for a weekend to start cleaning out her apartment and pack. Then my mom and I spent a week finishing the packing and moving her to Bloomfield. I think I made about a million trips to the dumpster! Her new home is much nicer, and safer for her. And I get to see her all the time” he says. David hopes that other teens will follow his example and become involved in their Jewish community.

Judy Zachs shared her family *tzedakah* experience as a proud grandparent to Ben, Jacob, Zoe, and Sarah. Judy recalls the delight she felt when Zoe displayed her *tzedakah* box at her kindergarten “show and tell” and cited “Grandma Judy” as a role model for philanthropy. Judy and Henry Zachs are establishing a donor advised fund at the Foundation upon the high school graduation of each of their grandchildren. The funds will allow them to recommend grants to support various projects in the Jewish community. “I want my grandchildren to feel empowered in this process. They can make the decisions about what to fund and how they want to make a difference,” Judy says. Judy and Henry are passing down their commitment to Jewish philanthropy and teaching their grandchildren the value of giving – a value that will certainly remain with them for years to come.

***The tradition of giving is one of the greatest gifts that can be passed from one generation to the next.*** The Jewish Community Foundation offers strategies to help involve and inspire your own family in *tzedakah*. By establishing a family donor advised fund,

creating a legacy gift or endowing your favorite agency or synagogue, you pass on your values and vision for the future. The Foundation is your partner in Jewish philanthropy.

For more information, please call Doreen Fundiller-Zweig, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Foundation at (860) 523-7460, and visit the Foundation's website at [www.jcfhartford.org](http://www.jcfhartford.org).

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