

**December 18, 2007**

News Media Contact: Susannah Hogendorn 860.523.7460  
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### **Jewish Community Meets Challenge!**

West Hartford, CT – Thirteen local Jewish agencies, schools, and organizations have increased their endowments by more than \$1.5 million over the last three years, thanks to their successful participation in the Jewish Community Foundation’s Endowment Challenge for the Community. The Challenge, which began in 2004, offered matching grants to qualified Jewish organizations to raise new endowment dollars within a three-year period. All 13 participants have now completed the Challenge and have established a strong financial base for the future.

“The Challenge has been a great success, and we intend to continue our community endowment building efforts,” says Bruce Fischman, Trustee and Chair of the Foundation’s Development Committee. “More than 20 organizations--including our Endowment Challenge participants--are keeping up the momentum by participating in *Leave a Jewish Legacy*, which encourages bequests and other legacy gifts to strengthen our Jewish future.”

To learn more about the successful Endowment Challenge or the *Leave a Jewish Legacy* initiative, please call Deborah Rothstein, Director of Development, at (860) 523-7460, or click on [www.jcfhartford.org](http://www.jcfhartford.org).

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The Jewish Community Foundation’s Endowment Challenge for the Community is now complete. More than \$1.5 million in endowment dollars has been raised in three years to strengthen local Jewish agencies and schools.

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### **About the Jewish Community Foundation**

For 35 years, the Jewish Community Foundation has partnered with individuals, families and community organizations to help them achieve their charitable goals and secure a vibrant Jewish future in Greater Hartford and around the world. The Foundation, which holds more than \$82 million in endowment funds for individuals, families, and organizations in Greater Hartford, awarded more than \$3.3 million in grants to more than 160 different charities this past year.