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Gifts to Jewish Community Foundation Exceed \$3 Million

West Hartford, CT – The Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford received more than \$3 million in gifts since July 1, 2007.

“These contributions represent significant votes of confidence in the Jewish Community Foundation and our goal of endowing the Jewish community for future generations,” said David Fierston, Board Chair.

While every endowment gift is important, Fierston cited two as deserving of special mention:

- ✚ \$410,000 from Temple B’nai Israel of New Britain to create a scholarship fund that provides assistance to Temple families and others who wish to attend day school, pursue Judaic studies at the undergraduate or graduate level, and participate in Jewish camping and organized educational trips to Israel. A portion of the fund will also support the Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford, which now cares for the synagogue’s memorial plaques.
- ✚ \$50,000 from an anonymous donor to provide seed funding for the PJ Library in Greater Hartford, an innovative program that reaches out to Jewish families with young children to help create stronger Jewish homes. The PJ Library program stimulates children’s curiosity about their Jewish heritage by sending free Jewish-content books and music each month to families with children through age six.

Other year-end highlights include:

- ✚ The successful wrap-up of the Foundation’s Endowment Challenge for the Community, a three-year program which raised more than \$900,000 in endowment funds for 13 local Jewish agencies.
- ✚ Agencies, schools and synagogues are continuing to build their endowments through Foundation’s Leave a Jewish Legacy initiative, which encourages bequests and other legacy gifts across the Jewish community. All of the Endowment Challenge participants, plus nine additional organizations, are partnering with the Foundation for this program. The Foundation has confirmed 176 new legacies in the pipeline through the Leave a Jewish Legacy initiative.

To learn more about the Jewish Community Foundation, please call 860.523.7460, or visit our website at www.jcfhartford.org.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Since 1972, 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 established by individuals, families, and organizations in Greater Hartford, awarded more than \$3.3 million in grants to more than 160 different charities this past year.