

# Community Wish List

Fall 2023 (as of Oct. 24)



**JEWISH  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
OF GREATER HARTFORD



This newsletter highlights activities you can partially or fully fund to keep our community strong, vibrant and resilient. Thank you for your generous support!

## SENIORS

### Flower Arranging

Federation Homes

Residents love to create and they frequently ask about bringing back flower arranging classes. Your grant will pay for residents to attend classes - taught by professionals - eight times a year. Residents will be provided with flowers and vases they can take with them, and their floral creations will brighten up their apartments!

**PARTIALLY FUNDED - STILL NEEDS \$500**



### Movie Night

Federation Homes

Residents enjoy spending time together, especially movie night. Unfortunately, the 15+ year old television at Federation Homes no longer works. Your grant will cover the cost of installing a brand new wide-angle view 65-inch television and Blu-ray player, so residents can once again enjoy the latest flicks together, especially during the winter.

**PARTIALLY FUNDED - STILL NEEDS \$2,250**

### BrainSavers

Mandell Jewish Community Center

BrainSavers is a program dedicated to helping older adults keep their brains sharp and resilient while reducing their risk of age-related cognitive decline. Your grant will support the cost of bringing Paul Bendheim, founder of BrainSavers, to Hartford to promote this life-changing program to physicians and our community. This will be the "first of its kind" program in the Northeast.

**FULLY FUNDED**

### Cameras in the Kitchen

Hebrew Senior Care

Security cameras can be used to deter, detect and investigate incidences at assisted living communities. Hoffman SummerWood has added cameras to high-traffic areas, but needs to add cameras in the kitchen to monitor processes and procedures, minimize theft, and ensure safety. Please consider a grant for these cameras to help safeguard our communities.

**FULLY FUNDED**

### Automatic Door Opener

Hoffman SummerWood

Hoffman SummerWood residents use the lobby area throughout the day. The two nearest bathrooms have heavy fire-proof doors that residents find difficult to navigate with a walker/wheelchair. Your grant will help pay for a new automatic door opener that will make the environment easier to navigate for our residents, especially those with limited mobility.

**FULLY FUNDED**

## SPECIAL NEEDS



### **Music Therapy** Jewish Association for Community Living

Music therapy helps people with developmental disabilities improve their social skills and self-esteem. You can support the popular music therapy program at the Jewish Association for Community Living (JCL). People who attend the program look forward to it each year! JCL partners with the Mandell Jewish Community Center and music therapist Maggie Carchrie, who creates a fun and rewarding experience within a sensory-friendly environment.

**FULLY FUNDED**

### **Community Disability Awareness Event** Chabad Friendship Circle

Your grant to Chabad Friendship Circle will cover the cost of bringing renowned New York City theater performers to West Hartford for a live show. Performers will use life-size puppets with disabilities to build awareness and acceptance, spark questions and teach community inclusion. Children will examine attitudes surrounding disabilities while fostering empathy.

**\$3,000**

### **Purim in the Tropics** Chabad Friendship Circle

Chabad Friendship Circle wants to host a fully inclusive holiday celebration for families. Your grant will create a supportive, nonjudgmental environment in which children with disabilities and teenage volunteers can feel the JOY of Judaism with tropical animals, smoothie making, Hamantaschen and Hulas.

**PARTIALLY FUNDED - STILL NEEDS \$1,800**

## COMMUNITY BUILDING/SOCIAL ACTION

### **Project Shema** Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford

Project Shema trains the Jewish community to understand and address contemporary Antisemitism, with an emphasis on how anti-Jewish ideas can emerge in progressive spaces (around Israel/Palestine.) Your grant will help Jewish Community Relations Council build a cohort of local leaders already engaged in progressive spaces to combat Antisemitism and misinformation.

**\$3,000**

### **JCRC/West Hartford African American Social Cultural Organization Podcast Club** Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford

This podcast club meets monthly to build bridges and increase understanding of two historically allied groups. Led by lay leaders, club members choose a topic and engage in deep discussion every month. Your grant will underwrite the cost of using a facilitator to help direct and garner the most meaning from each discussion.

**FULLY FUNDED**

### **Survivor Interview Project** Voices of Hope

Due to the aging survivor population, it's critical that we record survivors' testimonies to preserve their stories for use in the classroom. Your grant will support the cost of producing these meaningful, historical recordings.

**FULLY FUNDED**

### **Holocaust Yom HaShoah Exhibit** Voices of Hope

Please consider recommending a grant to create an exhibit highlighting Holocaust survivors in our community. The exhibit will be displayed during Yom HaShoah at the Mandell Jewish Community Center.

**FULLY FUNDED**

## ARTS & CULTURE

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### Sing-in Shabbat and Holidays

Mandell Jewish Community Center

Who wouldn't want to support the sheer joy of singing and dancing together every month? Your grant will defray the costs of these activities during our monthly community Shabbat/Holiday Celebrations for families with children, grandparents and friends. These lively gatherings will feature a musician and song leader, and snacks such as challah for Shabbat, hamantaschen and Purim.

**FULLY FUNDED**

## HUMAN SERVICES

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### Training to Support Youth Mental Health

Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford

Our youth are in need of mental health services, but there are not enough clinicians to provide one-on-one support for all who need it. Your grant will help solve this issue. You can support innovative trainings like Yale's SPACE or Mental Health First Aid, which help JFS staff train and empower non-clinicians to be a support for their friends and family.

**FULLY FUNDED**

### Geriatric Care Management Program Angel Fund

Schoke Jewish Family Service of Fairfield County

This fund subsidizes Geriatric Care Management services as families navigate the complexities of aging. Approximately 30 individuals will receive assessments, individualized care plans, preliminary care management and social support services at a deeply discounted rate; providing vital, life and independence-affirming services to those who need them most.

**\$3,000**

## EDUCATION

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### Health Curriculum and Teacher Training

Solomon Schechter Day School

Students face choices and challenges that we never could have imagined even ten years ago. We are ready for a new, current health curriculum (and accompanying teacher training) for grades 3-8 that will help them to understand themselves, build healthy relationships, and make responsible decisions as they grow. Your grant will be an important investment in the health of our youth.

**FULLY FUNDED**

### Exhibit: The Hartford-Israel Connection

Jewish Historical Society

You can support a travelling exhibition on the relationship between Israel and Hartford's Jewish community over the past 120 years. The exhibit, which explores the impact of personal connections with Israel through photos, oral histories, and more, will be displayed at the Mandell JCC in Nov. 2023 and will then be moved to other community sites.

**PARTIALLY FUNDED - STILL NEEDS \$1,500**

### Kaddish Stones

Jewish Historical Society

Help create an educational program to connect students with historic Jewish cemeteries in our area and learn about Jewish traditions for remembering those who have passed away. Your grant will help us transport students to a cemetery where they will place decorated stones on graves.

**\$1,000**

### Simplest and Best Building Blocks Ever

Solomon Schechter Day School

In this program, students learn how to code, design and build with simple wooden blocks. Your grant will help pay for a set of 2,500 KEVA Planks, which will equip students with the materials to build bridges, arches, towers, and marble runs. Help us unleash their creativity!

**FULLY FUNDED**

### Teen Leadership Philanthropy Institute

JTConnect

JTConnect is expanding its Teen Philanthropy Leadership Institute with a yearlong program at a 3rd site, and by developing curriculum to include leadership development, fundraising strategy and strategic grantmaking. Your grant will help cover program costs including online teaching, fundraising tools and food.

**\$2,000**

### Summer of Service

JTConnect

Summer of Service (SOS) is a weeklong Social Action Camp offering 7th-10th graders the chance to volunteer and explore needs in our community, develop leadership skills, build relationships, and of course have fun! This year we had 42 students participate in SOS. Next year, we want to add a second bus and grow our program. We need your support to make this growth possible! Your grant will underwrite the cost of workshop materials, transportation, increased staff for increased student registration, and Kosher catering throughout the program.

**PARTIALLY FUNDED - STILL NEEDS \$2,000**

### Did Jew Read This?

UConn Hillel

Students have expressed an interest in forming a monthly Jewish student book to discuss a wide range of books on Jewish culture and identity. This group will build community and engage in thoughtful literary conversation. Your grant will support the cost of books and food for meetings.

**\$1,000**

### Women's Wellness Circle @Hillel

Trinity Hillel

Rabbi Rachel Putterman will lead a monthly Rosh Hodesh group for women and non-binary students, faculty, and staff. Rabbi Putterman will help participants examine aspects of Jewish practice and thought through a gendered lens using multiple platforms including poetry, music, and traditional Jewish texts. Your grant will support the costs of these monthly group meetings.

**\$2,400**

### Scholar in Residence - Measuring Antisemitism: Jew Hatred by the Numbers

Trinity Hillel

Your grant will underwrite the costs of having Trinity Alum Dr. Ayal Feinberg '09 speak at Shabbat dinner at Trinity Hillel. He will present the findings of recent research documenting Antisemitism and explain the limitations and benefits of quantitative measurements of Antisemitism.

**\$1,500**

### Shabbat Across Storrs

UConn Hillel

This is a unique opportunity for students to create their own Shabbat traditions in their residence halls/apartments. Your grant will support "Shabbat-to-go" kits (including ritual information, grape juice, challah, and a UConn Hillel challah cover) and either prepared meal kits or money for students to cook a meal to host their own Shabbat experience.

**\$2,500**

We invite our donors and the community at large to review our wish list and consider supporting these initiatives. For more information, please contact: Michael Eifenbaum, Vice President, Grant Programs at [melfenbaum@jcfhartford.org](mailto:melfenbaum@jcfhartford.org) or (860) 727- 6187.

