

# Community Wish List

Winter 2024



**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

### Movie Night Federation Homes

Residents enjoy spending time together; one of their favorite pastimes was movie night. Unfortunately, the 15+ year old television no longer works. Your grant will help purchase and install a brand new wide angle view 65" TV and Blu-ray player, so residents can once again enjoy the latest flicks together especially during the cold weather.

**\$2,250**

### Painting for Seniors Federation Homes

Federation Homes wants to offer residents weekly drawing and watercolor painting classes. Over the past three years, these classes have developed a devoted following! Your grant will support residents' love of learning as well as painting supplies.

**\$3,000**

### Can I Get That Door for You? Hebrew Senior Care

Hebrew Senior Care needs to add an automatic door opener to the dining room doors. These doors are very heavy and residents find it difficult to navigate along with a walker/wheelchair. Your grant will help solve this problem and make the environment easier for residents, especially those with limited mobility.

**\$3,000**

### Give Our Staff a Break Hoffman SummerWood

SummerWood employees attend to the needs of residents 24/7. Monitoring their health and ensuring their safety and happiness requires constant diligence. The break room is the only space employees have to rejuvenate and eat lunch. Your grant will provide this important space with a much-needed upgrade, including a microwave, toaster oven, refrigerator, new tables and new paint.

**\$1,500**

## COMMUNITY BUILDING/SOCIAL ACTION

### AntiSemitism Training Project Shema

Project Shema builds bridges of understanding between the Jewish community and our peers in progressive spaces. The organization specializes in educating non-Jewish leaders and DEI professionals to identify and respond to contemporary antisemitism, particularly as it relates to Israeli/Palestinian conflict. Please consider a grant to finance the organization's antisemitism training.

**\$2,500**



## COMMUNITY BUILDING/SOCIAL ACTION

### Collecting Survivor Testimony

Voices of Hope

With the current surge in antisemitism, promoting the truth of the Holocaust has never been more important. It is critical to collect NEW testimonies from survivors (those who do not have video recordings) to use as an educational tool in the classroom today and in the future. Your grant will help cover the costs of this timely program.

\$3,000

### New Curriculum

Voices of Hope

To address the increase in contemporary antisemitism, the State of Connecticut asked Voices of Hope to develop new educational curriculum with lessons from the Holocaust. This curriculum will be used to support important classroom discussions. Please consider a grant to fund this educational initiative.

\$3,000

## EDUCATION

### Summer of Service

JTConnect

Summer of Service is a weeklong Social Action Camp offering 7th-10th graders the chance to explore needs in our community, develop leadership skills, build relationships and have fun! Please consider a grant that will cover the program's costs. Last year, 42 teens participated and the 2024 goal is to add a second bus!

\$3,000



### Teen Leadership Philanthropy Institute

JTConnect

The Teen Philanthropy program operates in four sites and has increased over two years, from 13 to 40 participants, thanks in part to your grants! Support is needed to continue offering high-level programming and create curriculum on leadership development, fundraising strategy and strategic grantmaking.

\$3,000

### Kindergarten and 1st Grade Reading Program

New England Jewish Academy

You can strengthen NEJA's early reading program with a grant to buy new books of various reading levels.

\$1,000

### Arts Program

New England Jewish Academy

Enhance the art education experience for students of all grade levels. Your grant will invest in new materials for pottery, working with clay and other 3-dimensional projects.

\$3,000

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Digitize Jewish History

Jewish Historical Society

Help the JHS digitize photographs of Jewish athletes from the past to display online as part of the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame program in partnership with the Mandell JCC. Your grant will support the archivist's time to scan and catalog photographs from JHS' collection, which will be shared with the public.

\$1,000

### Living Through History Today

Jewish Historical Society

Your grant to the JHS will support staff time for interviewing teenagers and community leaders, and documenting how the Israel-Hamas war has affected people in our community.

\$750

## OUTREACH

### Academic Engagement Network Visiting Professors

University of Hartford Hillel

Your grant will fund two speakers from the Academic Engagement Network (AEN) to speak at UHart. AEN mobilizes networks of university faculty and administrators to counter antisemitism, oppose the denigration of Jewish and Zionist identities, promote academic freedom and advance education about Israel.

**\$3,000**

### Museum of Jewish Heritage and Harmony on Broadway

University of Hartford Hillel

Your grant will subsidize admission for 20 UHart students and two staff to visit and tour the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York, and group admission to see Harmony, a new Broadway musical. Students will pay for their own train transportation to/from NYC.

**\$2,000**

### A/V Equipment for Events and Coffeehouses

UConn Hillel

UConn students are interested in bringing more music events to Hillel, but lack proper equipment. Your grant will help students purchase a soundboard, mic stands, lapel mic, stage monitor, cables, etc., for student coffeehouses, open-mic nights and guest lecture events.

**\$3,000**

### Get Cookin' with Hillel

UConn Hillel

UConn Hillel's Israel fellow would like to offer Israeli cooking classes! And, UConn Hillel wants to upgrade its Kosher kitchen with a food processor and two sets (meat and dairy) of commercial grade pots and pans. Please consider recommending a grant for both of these initiatives.

**\$1,500**

## SPECIAL NEEDS



### Kicks 'N Hoops Sports Club Friendship Circle

Your grant will empower local teens to bring together children with special needs to experience the thrill of sports, develop teamwork skills, and most of all, have fun! Through these experiences, they will develop an understanding of people with disabilities and differences, while fostering empathy and acceptance.

**\$1,800**

### Inclusion Purim

Friendship Circle

Your grant will give families of children with special needs a chance to unwind and relax at a "sensory friendly" inclusive holiday celebration that suits everyone's needs. The celebration will include hot brunch, entertainment, hamantasch Bake and Shalach Manos gift exchange.

**\$2,500**

### **Support Fundraising Services**

#### **Jewish Family Services**

JFS is undergoing a transition in its Development Office. Your grant will support the “on boarding” of a new Director of Advancement by a local expert consultant.

**\$3,000**

### **Mental Health Clinical Program Seating**

#### **Jewish Family Services**

It has been more than 10 years since JFS updated its offices. The look and feel of a space can impact the way people feel, and JFS wants to ensure the best possible support. Your grant will invest in new office furniture, including replacing sterile-feeling chairs in clinicians’ offices with comfortable seating for clients.

**\$3,000**

### **JCC Maccabi Games**

#### **Mandell Jewish Community Center**

The JCC Maccabi Games bring more than 3,000 Jewish teen athletes from around the globe to participate in Olympic-style sports competitions. The Mandell JCC is building a team of six teens to go to the JCC Maccabi Games in Houston in August 2024. The Games provide an opportunity to further build Jewish identity, but each athlete must pay or raise \$2,400 to cover participation costs. This may not be affordable for some families, so funds are needed to subsidize these costs through scholarships.

**\$3,000**

### **Music for Older Adults**

#### **Mandell Jewish Community Center**

The Mandell JCC wants to add another music appreciation program for older adults, with performance and educational components, six times per year. Your grant will underwrite the costs of adding this program.

**\$1,800**

### **Tzofim Scouts**

#### **Mandell Jewish Community Center**

Camp Shalom wants to bring the Tzofim scouts back to camp after a four-year hiatus. These Israeli scouts will share their experiences and backgrounds with the campers, deepening the camp’s connection to Israel and enhancing Israeli culture programs. Estimated cost is \$4,000 per scout.

**\$3,000**

### **Holocaust Survivor Services Isolation Reduction Programs**

#### **Schoke Jewish Family Services of Fairfield County**

Schoke JFS wants to introduce wellness programs that will connect over 100 Holocaust survivors to crucial supports and reduce survivors’ isolation. Your grant will help pay for these online and in-person programs.

**\$3,000**

### **Storytime for Your Soul: A Coping and Resiliency Program for Young People**

#### **Schoke Jewish Family Services of Fairfield County**

Your grant will fund a program that helps young people use story telling and volunteer experiences as a way to learn valuable coping skills. Families will complete chesed projects, including assembling personal care items and laundry care packages. Parents will gain support around topics such as helping children through difficult moments of transition, experiences of grief and loss, and social challenges.

**\$2,000**

For more information, please contact: Michael Elfenbaum, Vice President,  
Grant Programs at [melfenbaum@jcfhartford.org](mailto:melfenbaum@jcfhartford.org) or (860) 727- 6187.