

THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

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Marty and Lisa Morantz Establish the Nathan Morantz Respite Care Fund

Fund income to support Manitoba caregivers

“I was excited to learn that we could work through the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba to make a difference in the general community,” said Marty Morantz. “The whole process opened my eyes. I think it is so important that as Jews we contribute broadly to the community.”

Marty and his wife Lisa recently established the Nathan Morantz Respite Care Fund at the Jewish Foundation. Income earned by the fund will support Community Respite Service (CRS), a not-for-profit agency that provides high-quality respite for caregivers of people with physical and intellectual disabilities.

The Morantzes named the fund in honour of their 14-year-old son Nathan who, despite being severely affected by autism, has a zest for life that has long inspired the Morantzes to support autism research and programming.

In a meeting some months ago with Jewish Foundation CEO Marsha Cowan, Marty Morantz learned that not only could he contribute further to a cause that mattered to him, but the Foundation could help identify an appropriate recipient agency.

“We wanted to do something that reflected our experience of raising a child with special needs,” said Morantz. “CRS was not on our radar at all. Marsha did the research, discovered CRS, and introduced me to them. I learned that they were underfunded and had an operational deficit. I also learned about the exceptional work they do helping people who provide care.”

Nathan needs continuous supervision and support with his autism. Marty and Lisa, with the assistance of private help,

are able to care for Nathan. Through their experience, Marty has learned how important respite care is so that caregivers “have the freedom to contribute to society in other ways, too.”

Through the fund, the Morantzes hope that CRS will be able to help more Manitobans. As the population ages and parents and grandparents live longer, the need for respite for caregivers will only continue to grow. “This will be a need at some point for almost every family.”

“When generous donors like Marty and Lisa tell us that there is a special cause about which they are passionate, it is our job to find a beneficiary agency that matches their interests,” said Marsha Cowan. “We were happy to learn about CRS and the work they do. It was a perfect fit.”

The new Nathan Morantz Respite Care Fund is actually the second fund named for Nathan at the Foundation. There is a Nathan Morantz Fund housed under the Jordan Lazareck Special Needs Fund. That Morantz fund was established in 2010 by Jeremy (Nathan’s brother) as a Bar Mitzvah Endowment Fund.

“With tears in his eyes from the pulpit at his Bar Mitzvah, Jeremy spoke with love for Nathan and inspired others to give,” said Morantz. “We’ve learned from both of our boys.”

For more information about Community Respite Service, visit their website at <http://www.communityrespiteservice.ca>.



Nathan is a former student of the Gray Academy of Jewish Education and Glenwood School. He is now in a program for students with autism at Grant Park High School. “He is affectionate and has a happy disposition,” said Marty Morantz.

“This will be a need at some point for almost every family.”

A painting of Rabbi Yacov Simmonds of the Chabad Jewish Learning Centre and Nathan Morantz at his Bar Mitzvah in 2013. (Painting by Shannon Lovelace)



Anonymous JFM Donor Helps Advance Israeli Health Care

Two medical facilities benefit from Winnipegger’s generosity

When he was younger, he gave anonymously partly because he was embarrassed by how little he could afford to give. Years later – and now giving much more – he still contributes anonymously. “I don’t want what I do to pressure others,” the life-long Winnipegger said. “Giving anonymously is what I’m comfortable with. I’m a low-key kind of a guy.”

While his anonymity is automatic, his philanthropic decisions are thoughtful, deliberate, and based on learning what the dollars will do. He is especially interested in Israeli causes, particularly projects or institutions that help large numbers of people. Through the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, he learned about and ultimately supported the Ziv Medical Center in Tzfat, and the Field Family Foundation Medical Simulation Center in Be’er Sheva.

The Ziv Medical Centre, affiliated with Bar Ilan University, is the only medical center in the central and upper Galil. Originally established in 1910, the center is today a robust hospital, clinic, research institute, and more. It serves people of all backgrounds throughout the region, and has been treating wounded refugees from the conflict in Syria.

The Field Family Foundation Medical Simulation Center at Ben-Gurion University will be a state-of-the-art facility designed with 14 computerized simulation classrooms. With mannequins



The Ziv Medical Centre is a sparkling health facility, serving residents of all backgrounds in the upper and central Galil.

☆
“The Jewish Foundation allows me to make a difference while they do all of the research and they do it in a considered manner, which gives me comfort.”
☆

and high-tech equipment, researchers will gain deeper knowledge of human health. Construction will be complete in 2014.

“Israel needs our support in all sorts of ways. It is a miracle and it’s the home of the Jewish people,” said the donor. “Israel is our ultimate defense against anti-Semitism and it makes the world a better place.”

Marsha Cowan and other Foundation personnel helped identify just the right opportunities for the donor. “Marsha did a marvellous job helping me,” he said. “I was able to park my contribution at the Foundation while deciding which projects or institutions to support. This worked for me from a tax perspective and it generated investment interest for the Foundation. I was able to take my time, study the materials the Foundation provided, and make the best possible

decision. Marsha was very patient with me! I appreciate the flexibility I have through the Foundation.”

The donor is also generous with other causes in Winnipeg – including health and education – and chooses to remain anonymous everywhere. He always chooses to memorialize his parents in some way through his philanthropy. “Every donation I make, whether named or not, is in memory of my parents. I am grateful to them for my lot in life. After they were gone, I came to appreciate them more. I can’t think of a better way to honour them than through giving.”

In the past, the donor has considered advancing his philanthropy by establishing his own foundation. “It’s a compelling idea,” he said, “but ultimately it wouldn’t work for me. It would mean extra work, more cost, and greater complexity. The Jewish Foundation allows me to make a difference while they do all of the research and they do it in a considered manner, which gives me comfort.”

New Bar and Bat Mitzvah Endowment Funds

Twenty-two young Winnipeggers opened a Bar or Bat Mitzvah Endowment Fund in 2013. Through these funds, young donors demonstrate their passion for the community.

If the fund reaches \$750 within two years of the Bar or Bat Mitzvah, the Nora & David (z’l) Kaufman Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fund will contribute \$250. This brings the fund to the \$1,000 level, at which point it becomes “donor-recommended.” This means that our young fundholders can suggest which charities receive the income from their fund.

To learn more, see the enclosed flyer or call David Greaves at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, 204.477.7520.



SNAPSHOTS of IMPACT

Through a 2013 grant from the JFM, Brock Corydon School is using tablets in the classroom to help students learn Hebrew.

The JFM provided a grant to BBYO Connect in 2013. The program is for students in grades seven and eight, and is designed to provide meaningful Jewish and social experiences between Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and the start of BBYO in grade nine.

In 2013, the JFM gave a grant to Siloam Mission to buy new tables and chairs for their drop-in centre, which serves as a space for daily meals, conversations, community education, and special events.

Women’s Endowment Fund Welcomes Ida Albo on May 8

On May 8 at the Fort Garry Hotel, the Women’s Endowment Fund will be welcoming Ida Albo, Managing Partner of the Fort Garry Hotel and the Co-owner of Yoga Public, as guest speaker. The luncheon will begin at 12:00 noon.

Albo is a widely respected entrepreneur and community volunteer. Her topic is: “Mothers, Daughters, Sisters, and Friends: A story of entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and community service.”

“We’re excited to have Ida as a guest speaker,” said Foundation CEO Marsha Cowan. “I know her well. She is a remarkable and inspiring business woman and community leader.”

Established in 1994, the Women’s Endowment Fund distributes grants to organizations that help women of all backgrounds in Manitoba. The Fund currently exceeds \$1.1 million in capital and has 725 fundholders.

The Women’s Endowment Fund luncheon is the annual, flagship event.

The luncheon also serves as an opportunity to recognize philanthropic women. This year, Myrna Levin and sisters Linda Finkleman and Pamela Boal will be recognized.

Myrna Levin is a Women’s Endowment Fund Founder and Builder, and also a signer of the Endowment Book of Life. In 2009, she was one of the first donors to step forward to support the Jewish Foundation’s FundMatch initiative. She is a current Governor and former Director of the Foundation. In 1980, she and her husband Harry z’l opened an undesignated fund at the Foundation which has grown significantly over the years. Myrna Levin was one of the original women involved in launching the Women’s Endowment Fund and we celebrate her foresight and vision.

Sisters Linda Finkleman of Winnipeg and Pamela Boal of Great Neck, New York, are long-time, enthusiastic supporters of the Women’s Endowment Fund. They established a fund in honour and in memory of their mother Bernice Brownstone z’l, who passed away in 2000. The daughters have lovingly described her as “vital, energetic, optimistic, and

courageous.” Through their many gifts, the fund continues to grow. The fund is officially known as “In memory of their mother, Bernice Brownstone, by Linda Finkleman and Pamela Boal.”

For more information about the luncheon or to buy tickets, contact Katarina Kliman, Manager of Donor Relations at 204.477.7529.



Myrna Levin



Ida Albo: Guest speaker and Managing Partner of the Fort Garry Hotel.

EBOL Chair Ruth Carol Feldman, David Greaves, and Marsha Cowan: “We like to say that there’s no such thing as a former Winnipegger.”



Nearly 30 guests gathered at the Palm Springs home of Irene and Bob Corne.

“People were happy to be there and talk about the future of the community.”

“It was a huge success with nearly 30 people attending,” said Cowan. “People were happy to be there and talk about the future of the community.”

JFM Meets Donors in Palm Springs

In February, for the first time ever, the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba hosted an event in Palm Springs, California.

“Many Winnipeggers vacation there and some have moved to the area,” said David Greaves, JFM’s Director of Development & Marketing. “With the encouragement of Board members and donors, we decided to hold a session about our Endowment Book of Life program.”

The event, held at the home of Irene and Bob Corne, was organized by Greaves, Marsha Cowan, Endowment Book of Life Chairperson Ruth Carol Feldman, and volunteer Ahava Halpern.

As a result of the event, four new “signers” stepped forward for the Endowment Book of Life, and one donor committed to contributing a life insurance policy to the JFM.

“Signers” are donors who agree to leave a bequest to the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba. They are invited to share their personal life story in the physical and online Endowment Book of Life.

The visit to Palm Springs was part of a growing Foundation focus on reaching out to snowbirds and people who no longer live in Winnipeg.

“We like to say that there’s no such thing as a former Winnipegger,” said Cowan. “Every time we are in touch with people who used to live here or who live here part-time, we are struck by their passion and caring for Winnipeg and our Jewish community.”



Bernice Brownstone z’l is honoured by her daughters through a fund called: In memory of their mother, Bernice Brownstone, by Linda Finkleman and Pamela Boal.



Marsha Cowan: An Experience of a Lifetime

In January, JFM CEO Marsha Cowan travelled to Israel as part of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's historic journey. On January 30, Marsha reflected on her experience in one of the most widely read electronic newsletters in the Foundation's history.

Wrote Cowan: "At the Kotel, seeing PM Harper pausing and praying respectfully was a special and spiritual moment for me as the Prime Minister of my country paid the highest respect to my faith. My pride in Canada and in my Jewish identity swelled."

To read Cowan's entire article, see <http://bit.ly/Op5H99>

Board Member Spotlight

"The Honourable Mr. Justice Guy J. Kroft invited me to join the Board of the Jewish Foundation in the mid-1980s. He was the President at the time and thought that I could make an important contribution to the Foundation's work. I was immediately struck by the quality of the people attracted to the organization. These were talented people dedicated to making the Foundation work and dedicated to strengthening the Jewish community and its institutions. I was also impressed that the Foundation was committed then, as it remains today, to supporting organizations outside of the Jewish community. As I get active again on the Board, I'm delighted to see new faces around the table. Like the members who preceded them, today's Board members are skilled and devoted to the Foundation's long-term success. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary and as we grow steadily toward a capital base of \$100 million, I am happy to see that the Foundation is in very caring, very talented hands."



YHETTA GOLD,
C.M., O.M., B.A., Member,
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to the Board of Directors),
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Pesach is About Freedom

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