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A Message From Your CEO



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This past year has provided us with several events that caused us to look deeply within our communities and ourselves. These events stirred us all and as a result, many in our community took action. These actions and the response from our community reinforced for me the strength of our LJCC. Whether our community members took action by choosing to say no to hate – from Charlotte to Charlottesville – or whose actions were to shower us with an outpouring of support for our friends, family, and fellow members of the human race in Houston, South Florida and the Caribbean islands devastated by Hurricanes. These actions are so much more than the acts of individuals in our community in response to these events. Each act, some as simple as coming to the J each day, provided thousands in our Charlotte community an opportunity to connect, share experiences, offer support, and deepen relationships. We know we will continue to face challenges in the days, months, and years ahead. We also know that we will face these challenges with renewed community strength. We know this because each event created an action, and each action was a reflection that each day brings an opportunity for us to **exercise our values**.

When Charlottesville stirred in us memories of the Holocaust, and we asked ourselves “*What would I have done if I had lived in Eastern Europe during the times of the Holocaust?*”; we made the choice to exercise our values by supporting the Butterfly Project.

When Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria pounded Houston, South Florida and the Caribbean islands, we exercised our values by donating our time, our money, and our support for all, as we know that our tradition teaches us that everyone is created equally, B’tzelem Elohim.

When Refugees and Immigrants were singled out, we learned about the challenges within our Charlotte refugee community and partnered with JCRI to exercise our values, because we remember that we too were once strangers in a strange land.

When we face the constant deluge of imagery, articles, and Social Media posts that address the challenges in our nation and our world, we are far too often overwhelmed. Rather than succumbing to the paralysis, or sitting and crying, or getting angry; we have a choice. We chose to exercise our values by coming to the Levine JCC and being with other members of our community who share our passion, our values of inclusivity and thus, ensure that we remain #JStrong.

When we exercise our values we are continually reminded of our collective strength and power to make our world a better place. We are continually reminded that your Levine JCC, your Shalom Park, offers a safe and values-driven environment for all those who seek to live a healthy life: physically, emotionally, spiritually, and socially. This inclusive environment embodies the very nature of who we are, and the great diversity of those we serve draws attention to our impact on our community through our schools, our synagogues, our Levine Jewish Community Center, and our community organizations who call Shalom Park home. We meet our missions here every day and because of the strength you give us, will for many years to come.

Each day we have a choice - that choice is to act - and act is what we do. These actions are evidence that we are continually exercising our values. As we send this message to our community, now numbering well over 10,000 active J members, we are concluding the holiest days of our Jewish year. We have a new beginning, a clean slate. These days of awe remind us of the difference one person can make.

And so, we ask you to join us on our journey **to exercise our values** this year - help to repair our world by working to understand one another better, celebrate one another's differences, respect one another more, and love one another more.

L'Shana Tova,
Peter Blair

As members and donors to the Levine Jewish Community Center, I want to ensure that you know your generosity is having a positive impact on the operation of the J as we position ourselves to best serve the next generation.

Our new Outdoor Aquatics Complex opened on time for Memorial Day weekend and best of all, was on budget! This revitalized part of our facility opened to rave reviews and appreciation, offering an improvement over past years. To ensure that we met our pledge to you to ensure an enhanced level of service and safety throughout the summer, we brought on and maintained more staff this past summer.

In addition to the investments we continue to make to our facilities, your Board of Directors recently organized two Task Forces whose charge was to assess the climate for increased program offerings and organizational enhancements that would broaden Jewish Engagement amongst the members of our community as well as expand our program offerings for Adults. The Task Forces listened to our members through focus groups and collaborated with staff in our planning process for 2017-2019. Our Board Task Forces made some wonderful recommendations for areas of partnership and new initiatives to continue to

meet our mission of enriching Jewish life in Charlotte by focusing on Jewish values and customs throughout our Levine JCC. We look forward to rolling out expanded program offerings soon to meet the ever-changing needs of our Adult members.

In our further work to ensure that we are JStrong, not only now, but into the future, your Board of Directors has been focused on improving our Governance structure and practices. This summer, your Board of Directors reconstituted its Finance Committee and redefined their charter to ensure that we will continue our strong financial oversight and position. This work enables us to support those donors who create an endowment, support their favorite program, or leave a legacy gift for our JCC.

As President of the Board these past two years, it has been my pleasure to work with members and Staff to ensure we operate with efficiency today and establish sustainability for the future. As I end my term, I am pleased that we have established a culture of listening to your suggestions and responding to your needs. Thank you for continued commitment to the Levine Jewish Community Center.

– Jon Simon

LJCC Board President



Jon
Simon



EXERCISE YOUR VALUES

Family

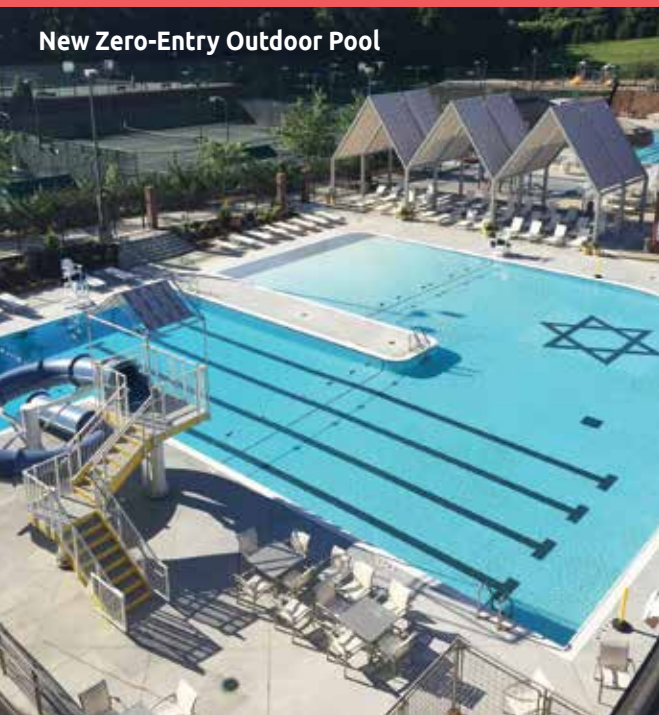
mishpachah משפחה

LEVINE JCC CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN VISION

This Capital Campaign will shape the future of your Levine JCC by allowing us to meet the changing needs of our growing community for many years to come. Our hope is that your J will continue to be the leading community center in Charlotte, not just for your family today, but for many generations in the future.

New Zero-Entry Outdoor Pool



"My husband and I are proud to be LJCC Capital Campaign donors because we know of the lasting impact it will have on LJCC families, including our own family. We were particularly excited for the new pool, as the zero entry has been wonderful for my young children and has allowed us to use the pool more comfortably, easily, and safely. The pool is such a central part of our lives that we even have a standing date with friends every Tuesday to meet there. Our children play together, we chat, and our husbands meet us after work and we all go to the J Café together for an early dinner. We just love the J and feel very fortunate that we have this welcoming, friendly place to come together. There's always something for us to do!"

— Amy Udoff, LJCC Member

COMMUNITY IMPACT

When you look at the core of a successful JCC, you find a mission of **building a strong community and deepening relationships**. Campaign projects and renovations will not only transform our campus physically, but they will also ensure the long-term sustainability of your J's community impact programs and initiatives.

■ With every tennis match played...

you help to continue our partnership with *United Way* to deliver quality programs to seniors;

■ With every jog on the treadmill...

you help to continue our partnership with the *Levine Children's Hospital* to support their Adaptive Sports and Adventures program;

■ With every lap you swim in the pool...

you help the *Butterfly Project* teach **more than 5,500** CMS and surrounding county school students annually, the lessons of the Holocaust and what they can do in their lives to stop discrimination, stereotyping and bias from flourishing;

■ With every personal training session you attend...

you help to continue our partnership with *Special Olympics*, serving over 350 in our community each year;

■ With every J-Force class you sweat through...

you help *Camp Mindy* serve more than 700 kids annually with quality summer programming.

Mazel Tov!

Our goal was to raise
\$5,950,000.

Together we
exceeded our goal
by more than
\$100,000.



This figure includes all entities
that gave to the campaign.

Building a Foundation For Our Community's Future.

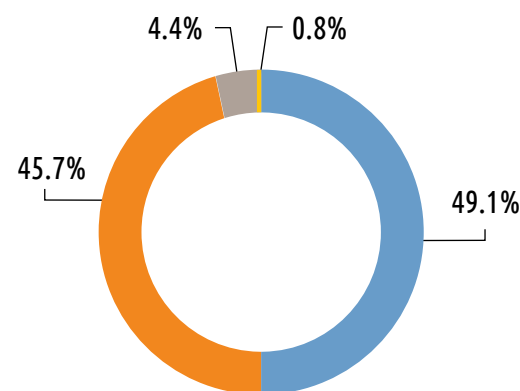
COME SEE YOUR RENOVATED GORELICK HALL!

NEW STAGE CURTAINS
NEW LED STAGE LIGHTS
Plus ADDITIONAL
SPEAKERS, MONITORS
& MICROPHONES

Annual Report 2016

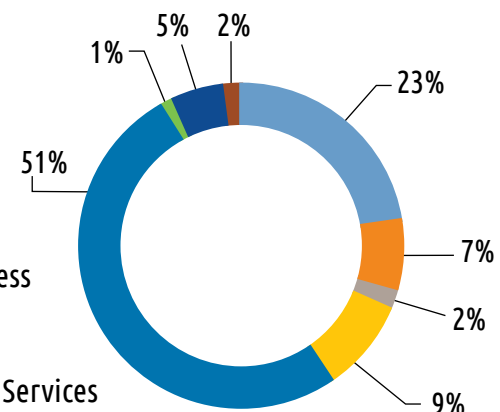
REVENUES

- Programs
- Membership
- Community Support
- Miscellaneous



EXPENSES

- Summer Services
- Seniors & Adults
- Community Services
- Family & Early Childhood
- Health, Recreation & Fitness
- Teens
- Cultural Arts
- Administration / Member Services



Did You Know...

By 2030, Charlotte's population is predicted to grow an astonishing

47%

Your Levine JCC has
DOUBLED in size
over the past decade, and
currently serves over
10,000 members.

We receive **30,000** member visits
per month, with over **45,000** visits
per month in the summer. These figures
continue to grow from year to year.

Your Levine JCC is the leading community center in Charlotte. We have been blessed to be able to provide a home for our Charlotte Jewish Community where we have built, nurtured, and sustained relationships for decades and look forward to continuing our mission for many decades in the future. Thank you for investing in your Levine JCC; thank you for investing in your community.

2016 By-the-Numbers

1183

CHALLAH
Sales

5000+

CHARLOTTE JEWISH
FILM FESTIVAL
ATTENDEES
For the 2016-17 Season

8400

PERSONAL
TRAINING
SESSIONS

5506

BUTTERFLY PROJECT
Participants during
the School Year

2620

SENIOR LUNCHEES
Served

HEPTATHLON

"Through our support, we believe that children can be taught where and how they best learn which will enable them to reach their highest potential."



Freedom School Partners

Shalom Park Freedom School

Levine
JCC
Charlotte

Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

TEMPLE
BETH EL

agency
partners

CJDS
Charlotte Jewish
Day School

temple israel



Jewish Family
SERVICES

Foundation Of
Shalom Park

80

swim
suits & towels
Donated to the LJCC
Swimsuit & Towel Drive

2900 snacks
2900 drinks

FOR WEEKLY SWIM LESSONS

Generously donated by Jewish community members

Freedom School

Shalom Park Freedom School (SPFS) is a six-week literacy and character building summer program for elementary children (called scholars) who most need but can least afford summer learning opportunities. The first Jewish-sponsored Freedom School in the nation, SPFS is a collaboration among eight Jewish agencies on the Shalom Park campus. The program began in 2011 and includes 80 scholars from Huntingtowne Farms and Sterling Elementary, the two schools in faith-based partnerships with Temple Israel and Temple Beth El.

In addition to working on their reading each day, scholars participate in enrichment activities. One of those – and often a favorite – is swimming lessons provided by the LJCC each week. Each scholar wears a new swimsuit and brings a new towel, which have been donated through the LJCC Cares swimsuit drive held each spring.

"We are thrilled to be able to enhance the Freedom School experience with these programs."

The JSTAGE and Camp Mindy Performing Arts Camp has hosted the Freedom School kids for several drama and dance workshops over the past three summers. The students enjoy theatre games, improvisation, using their bodies and voices to create a character and learning choreography to their favorite songs. Many of these kids do not get any drama or dance opportunities during the year and they really thrive in this creative and less structured atmosphere where they can express themselves in a different way. Involvement in the arts boosts self-confidence, communication skills, relieves stress and creates memories and friendships that last a lifetime.

– Susan Cherin Gundersheim
Cultural Arts Director



Andrew Lindner

Partner at Frontier Capital
Chairman of the Children's Scholarship Fund

- Long-time member of the Levine Jewish Community Center
- Winner of the 2017 Charlotte Kosher BBQ Championship

Andrew's personal reason for giving back: His son's teacher felt that he could benefit from a different type of learning style, which would come from private school, which obviously would cost money. He saw his son flourish from the school and the teaching style. He thought about how other children would also benefit from a private school setting. What if the family did not have the means to send their child to private school? This was his chance to help.

"The Charlotte Heptathlon is exactly the type of event with which the Levine JCC likes to partner. This event aligns with the mission and values here at the J. We are proud to be a second year sponsor and look forward to sponsoring the 3rd Annual Charlotte Heptathlon on May 19, 2018."

– PETER BLAIR, LEVINE JCC CEO

About the Charlotte Heptathlon

Charlotte has become one of the largest financial centers in the nation over the last two decades. Naturally, this leads to competitive attitudes among the Charlotte firms. In 2016, two industry leaders decided to channel this competitive spirit for good.

Inspired by similar competitions in other cities, Andrew Lindner, partner at Frontier Capital, and Trey Tune, partner and portfolio manager at Brown Advisory, started the Charlotte Heptathlon.

The Charlotte Heptathlon is an athletic fundraising competition that consists of teams of two who compete in a series of seven events that test speed, agility, strength and endurance. The competition is open to all men and women. Each team is required to raise a minimum of \$1000. All proceeds from the competition benefit the Children's Scholarship Fund-Charlotte.

Children's Scholarship Fund-Charlotte is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing educational options for children (grades K-8) from low-income families residing in Mecklenburg County. Since 1999, Children's Scholarship Fund-Charlotte has invested over \$8.5 million in approximately 6,500 scholarships for at-risk children in Mecklenburg County. The CSF's purpose is to fund partial tuition assistance to economically disadvantaged children so that they may attend participating partner independent schools, which most effectively address their academic, emotional, physical and/or spiritual needs.

Levine
JCC
Charlotte

GRATITUDE!

from our young scholars...



Thank you so much for letting us in the pool and helping us swim. Thank you I love you. Thank you very much we love you. –Nicole



My favorite part of Freedom School is swimming in the pool. I did not know how to blow bubbles and my teacher helped me so much that now I like swimming in the pool! They told me that I was doing great. –Leslie



I love swimming. My swim teacher is named Mrs. Larry. She is nice. She taught me how to swim. She has green eyes. Swimming is fun even though I scream alot! I love the way the water feels. –Camille



CHARLOTTE Kosher BBQ CHAMPIONSHIP

September 4, 2017

For the 4th year the Levine JCC was proud to host Charlotte's only community-wide kosher barbeque contest and festival. Over 1,000 community members of all faiths came together to enjoy a fun-filled day with many great activities for all ages.

The Kosher BBQ's mission is to promote unity and create a deeper understanding of the Jewish culture while sharing food and fun.

At this year's Kosher BBQ we collected Tzedakah for those who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey. Through selling J shirts, we were able to donate over \$1,400 to the Jewish Federation of North America's Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund.

We are excited to share the news that **Publix Super Markets Charities** has been officially named the **Presenting Sponsor** for the 2018 Charlotte Kosher BBQ on Monday, September 3, 2018.



With Publix's support, the 2018 Kosher BBQ proceeds will go directly to fund food insecurity programs for children at Title I Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and to educate our community about childhood hunger.



Andrew Lindner and his son Maxwell took home the 4th Annual Charlotte Kosher BBQ Grand Champion trophy.

"The LJCC Kosher BBQ Championship is a fantastic way to end the summer, bringing the entire community to the park for fun and great food. The vibe is great with music, great smells of BBQ, kids laughing, playing and everyone enjoying the company of one another. The teams, judges, sponsors, entertainers, volunteers and guests all make the event such a success for our community!"

—Debra Van Glish
Charlotte Kosher BBQ Co-Chair



A Very Special Thanks to our Generous Sponsors:



Shirlee Wadsworth

If you would have asked me 2 years ago if I would consider myself a "boxer," the answer would be "No way!" I had no interest in watching it and certainly not doing it!

But that all changed when I was introduced to the Levine JCC's personal trainer Suzanne DiOrio. Suzanne introduced me to boxing and all the benefits that came along with it. I have Parkinson's disease and research shows it is very beneficial to box both physically and mentally. When I box, I only think about boxing and my tremors decrease and my balance is better.

As I tell my experience to others, more and more members are now boxing at the J! I am so grateful and appreciative to the J and to my personal trainers. The staff here continue to find ways to improve the health and wellness of their members. They have seen the benefits of boxing and plan to launch Rock Steady Boxing later this year. Rock Steady Boxing gives people with Parkinson's disease hope by improving their quality of life through a non-contact boxing based fitness curriculum. I can't wait to be the first to sign up!



The Mond Family

The JCC is our home away from home. Our babies sang, clapped to music and played with friends while we got some much needed grownup time. Our toddlers chased soccer balls while we cheered from the sidelines. We love the basketball and swim programs, Camp Mindy and JTEAM to name just a few. Our theater experiences were terrific! From the time our kids were babies, we were utilizing the JCC on a daily basis. We enjoy the adult programs, and have fun hanging

out with friends. My parents moved to Charlotte to be closer to us, and the JCC was a wonderful place for them to make friends in the Oasis program. It is truly a welcoming place for everyone.

Both kids attended Camp Mindy until they aged out, as well as JTEAM. Through the years, we have watched our children learn and grow; the JCC is our

"village" and we are eternally grateful for the Jewish environment and values in everything it provides. Now that they are older, the J is a comfortable place for them to hang out – going to the teen lounge, meeting at the J for BBYO, swimming, playing sports, and numerous other activities.

We have done so many events together as a family, (either participating or cheering someone on) it's hard to pick a favorite, but the JCC JAWS Swim Team certainly was a fun way to start each summer! What stands out? Not any program in particular, but the people – truly they are what makes the difference. The friendships we made, the feeling of community with staff and members alike, the fun – the J is just an amazing place.

We find it's also a great place to give back as both of us have served as volunteers on various committees and the Board of Directors. I often think, what would we have done without the JCC? Looking back at all we have been fortunate enough to be a part of, and now looking ahead to the teen and adult programming, we know the JCC is definitely a part of our future!

– Staci, Darren, Lauren & David

Create Your Jewish Legacy

A FCJC program

Through the Charlotte Create Your Jewish Legacy Program, you can make a difference in our community for years to come. Please consider joining the many who have already committed to leave a Legacy Gift ensuring that generations of Jewish families continue to have a strong and vibrant community to call their own. Endowment funds will help provide for continuous growth and long-term capital improvements.

Thank You

...to our LJCC Legacy Donors

Anonymous (4)
Wilma & Gerson Asrael
Judy & Stan August
Shellie & Harvey Barer
Gail & John Baron
Meredith & Michael Baumstein
Lois & Sanford Benjamin
Philip Berman
Glenda & Brian Bernhardt
Elka & Andrew Bernstein
Traci Walker Blair & Peter Blair
Justin Bregman
Suly & Richard Chenkin
Jena Coen
David I. Cohen
Andrea & George Cronson
Deedee & Gene Daumit
Andrea & Jeremy Davids
Aleen & David Epstein
Roni & Glenn Fishkin
Jennifer Cohen Golynsky & Leon Golynsky
Patty ל"ר & Bill Gorelick
Stanley P. Greenspon
Anna Gunsher
Jodie, Michael, Elyssa & Alex Iagnocco
Raizel & Brian Kahn
Dana & Andrew Kapustin
Nancy & Robert Kipnis
Lorrie & Barry Klemons & Family
Elise & Jaime Kosofsky
Alison & Mark Lerner
Susan & Eric Lerner
Gloria & Harry Lerner
Julie & Howard Levine
Sandra & Leon Levine
Laura & Marc Lewin

Jill & Marc Lipson
Annie & Harrison Lord
Rose ל"ר & Abe ל"ר Luski
Karen & Gary Maniloff
Pam & Scott Menaker
Staci & Darren Mond
Elsa & Martin Multer
Gwen & Paul Orland
Brenda & Floyd Patten
Harriet & Mark N. Perlin
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Melissa & Steven Raphael
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Elaine & Marty Schefflin
Larry Schwartz
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Maxine ל"ר & Gary Silverstein
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Anne & Mike Sinsheimer
Lori & Eric Sklut
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Emily & Steve Snyder
Phil Solomon
Marilyn & Harry Swimmer
Karen & Jeff Turk
Amy & Ross Udoff
Debra & David Van Glish
Judie & Michael Van Glish
Diana Warth
Debby & Evan Weiss
Joanna & Eric Wisotsky
Kim & Marc Wojnowich
Lisa & Scott Yarbrough

ל"ר Of Blessed Memory (updated 09/13/2017)



One of the main things that made Charlotte attractive to us was its vibrant Jewish Community. Through the Levine JCC, Temple Israel and other Shalom Park facilities we quickly became integrated and welcomed into Charlotte life, both Jewish and secular.

At the Levine JCC we see the harmonious interaction of people of all ages; from small children to super Seniors. We also see the daily interaction of members who are of different abilities, races and religions. The Levine JCC is a model that the world beyond Shalom Park would do well to emulate.

We were delighted to have the opportunity to create a Legacy Gift that was within our means and easy to establish. Our Legacy gift will help to ensure that other Jewish families will be attracted to our beautiful community in the future, and be embraced and enriched as we were.

L'dor v'dor, from generation to generation.

For more information, or to learn how you can be a part of this wonderful and important initiative, please contact:

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