

INTRODUCING THE **BLAZE BERNSTEIN SCHOOL OF CULINARY ARTS** AT THE **STERN FAMILY TEACHING KITCHEN**



Ralph and Sue Stern and family with Chef Liroz Herzog



The Bernstein and Pepper families



JCFOC Board Member
Ralph Stern

This fall, a new state-of-the-art teaching kitchen was inaugurated at the Merage Jewish Community Center. The kitchen offers daily hands-on cooking classes for children, teens and adults with a professional chef. The Foundation has a close connection to this innovative and exciting new offering, as it was created as a result of the direct involvement of two of our Board members and their families: Ralph Stern and Gideon Bernstein. Gideon and Jeanne Bernstein endowed a fund held at the Foundation honoring the memory of their son, Blaze, to establish the Blaze Bernstein School of Culinary Arts. Blaze had a passion and talent for cooking that began while creating Shabbat dinners with his mom. Ralph and Sue Stern established the Stern Family Teaching Kitchen to provide a place for the community to cook, eat, laugh and learn together as inspired by a granddaughter who excels at baking. **Do you have a passion? Let us help you to create your own personal legacy.** Contact Wendy Arenson at wendy@jcfoc.org.

MOTIVATED TO ACTIVISM **A MITZVAH PROJECT**

Inspired by the story of Blaze Bernstein and the #BlazeltForward movement, local teen Joe Suvalle put a mitzvah into action. Last September, for his Bar Mitzvah project, Joe created "Joe Mama Bakes". All proceeds benefit the Blaze Bernstein Memorial Fund held here at the Foundation. Here, in his words, Joe describes his motivation to take action and make a positive impact.



JCFOC Board Chair Gideon Bernstein and the Suvalle family

“When Blaze was still missing, I was worried that something bad must have happened. When I found out he was targeted, I felt upset and angry but this has made me a stronger person. His story made me realize I am very lucky to be here and spread my Judaism to everyone.

I decided to give to his fund as my Mitzvah project because it's important that the world should know that one good act can go a long way. I wanted to raise money by baking because that's one of the things Blaze loved to do. So, what I did was open a business called Joe Mama Bakes and my mom and I have raised over one and a half thousand dollars. We made cookies, buckeyes, granola, and much more.

I feel that doing this for my Bar Mitzvah project has been a great success in many ways.”

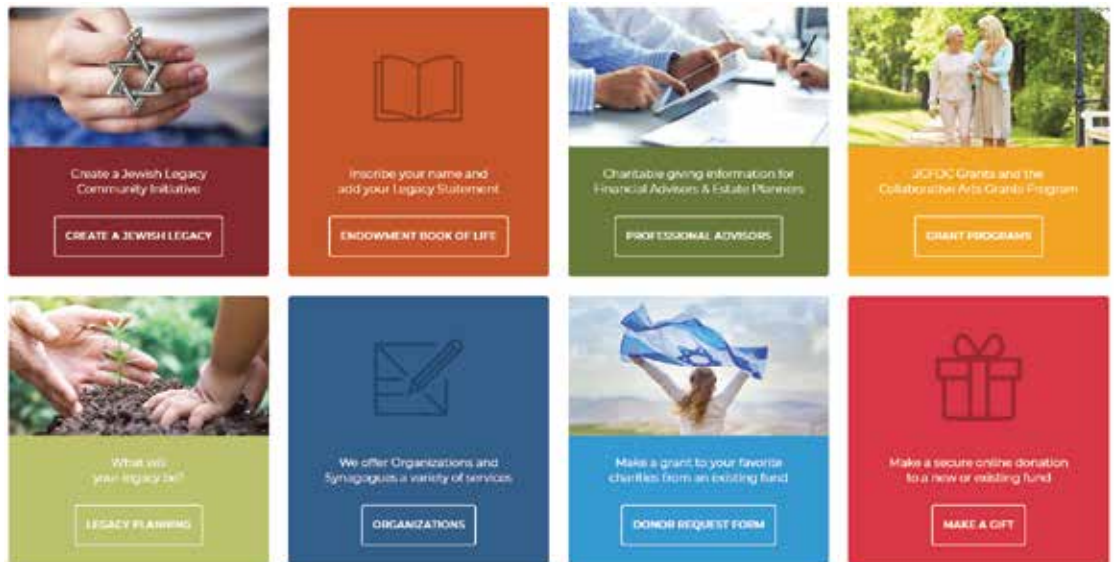
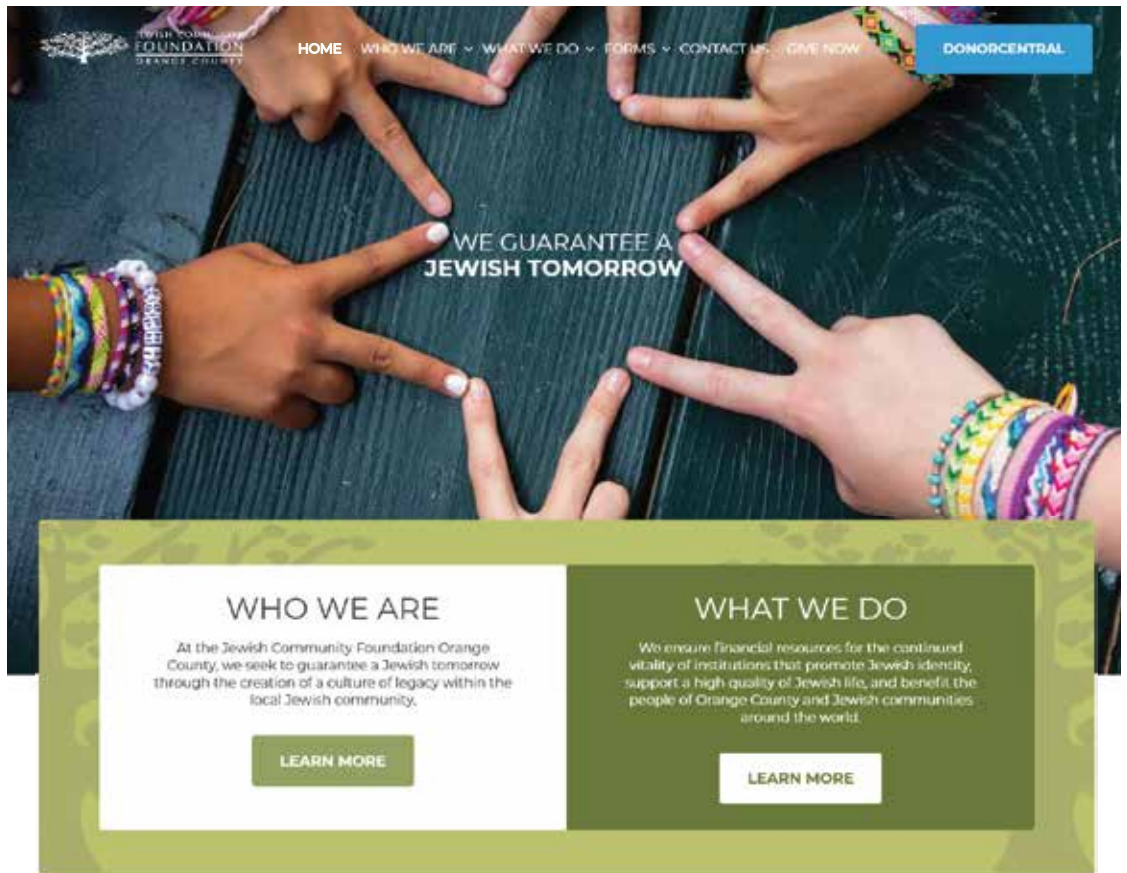
- Joe Suvalle



Joe Suvalle presenting his Mitzvah project earnings

WE'VE REDESIGNED OUR WEBSITE **WITH YOU IN MIND**

Over the summer, we launched our revamped website. We've redesigned it from the ground up, with you in mind. The primary objectives of our new site are focused on providing our visitors with streamlined menus, clear navigation and enriched content. The website allows for seamless viewing and interaction on mobile devices. Commonly used features like visiting DonorCentral, donating to a fund, and recommending a grant on our convenient Donor Request Form, are still prominently featured on the new site for your convenience.



We encourage you to explore the new website at <https://jcfc.org>, to familiarize yourself with its features. We value your input and appreciate your feedback. Please email us at info@jcfc.org or give us a call at (949) 435-3490. Thank you for your continued support in helping us guarantee a Jewish tomorrow.