

# NEWSLETTER Spring 2021

### LEGACY OF **PHILANTHROPY**

After taking one look at the framed picture of Eleanor Schneider (Ellie), placed on the lid of the piano at a

friend's home, Irv Burg announced, "I'm going to marry that girl." And he did. Their marriage of 69 years began after Captain Burg's discharge from the US Army Air Corps (later renamed the Air Force) where he'd served as an aerial photographer in the China-Burma-India theatre.



Captain Irv Burg z" with his aerial camera

Irv was a mechanical engineer, working in sales and later in real estate development. The Burgs lived in Pasadena while raising their children, Laurie and Paul, while working together to build the Pasadena Jewish community and serving in numerous leadership positions.

After moving to Orange County in 1971, the Burgs immediately volunteered their considerable leadership and fundraising skills as well as their financial resources to establish our local Jewish community – and to encourage their peers to join them in these ambitious efforts. Ellie was the first woman to serve as President of UJA and the first woman President of our local Jewish Federation. Irv was one of the original founders of our Jewish Community Foundation (JCFOC), serving as President for three terms and as a board member for 34 years while creating our slogan, "We Guarantee a Jewish Tomorrow." Irv and Ellie were also founders of Heritage Pointe, and supporters of TVT and the Merage JCC. They chaired the campaign to create the Teller Family Chair of Jewish History at UCI, and were active members of Temple Bat Yahm and the Chancellor's Club at UCI.

Philanthropy was a way of life for the Burgs. Ellie was on a philanthropic Board almost every year of her married life and rose to leadership in most groups she supported. She built Boards and got donations with charm and persistence. Irv called his support of Jewish organizations "paying Jewish taxes," believing that every Jew has an obligation to support their Jewish community. As proud

Americans, Irv and Ellie also supported their wider community, including locally Hoag Hospital, the Performing Arts Center, Opera Pacific, UCI, Chapman University and the Mental Health Advisory Board of Orange County.

Irv and Ellie's children married and had children and grandchildren of their own. Over time, the Burgs looked

forward to December each year when they made gifts from their Donor Advised Fund at JCFOC. Irv and Ellie's discussions were lively, and they routinely made grant recommendations to 40 or 50 nonprofits.



Ellie Burg<sup>z"</sup> with daughter Laurie Minerbi and son Paul Burg

While Irv and Ellie passed away four months apart in 2015, their values live on in their children. Paul and Laurie each created successful businesses and contribute in their own communities in Seattle, WA and Bethesda, MD.

The Burgs did their own legacy planning during their lifetimes to ensure permanent endowment funds were established after their passing to benefit the charitable organizations closest to their hearts, including Heritage Pointe, the American Israel Education Foundation,



Irv and Ellie's 59th wedding anniversary in 2005

Magen David Adom, Hoag Hospital and the Merage JCC. They also converted their Donor Advised Philanthropic Fund into an endowment fund benefitting the nonprofit they worked with to adopt Laurie. These endowment funds continue to provide funding each year in Irv and Ellie's names, enabling them to continue their annual tradition of giving generously to their favorite charities, to share their

values with their family, and to encourage all of us to join them in their quest to ensure a flourishing Jewish community.

### HONORING THE PAST AND INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

#### A PEEK AT FOUR DECADES

OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ORANGE COUNTY

# 1991 2001 2011 2021

30
ENDOWMENT FUNDS held at the Foundation

\$6.1 MILLION assets under management

distributed to local
Jewish nonprofits by
JCFOC Grants Program
in 1991

This is the first year of the JCFOC General Grants Program

**82 ENDOWMENT FUNDS**held at the Foundation

\$20,8 MILLION assets under management

95 GRANTS
distributed to local
Jewish nonprofits by
JCFOC Grants Program
from 1992 to 2001

In addition, funds raised through the Foundation provided emergency financial relief in response to the tragic events of September 11, 2001 ENDOWMENT FUNDS held at the Foundation

\$28.8 MILLION assets under management

distributed to local Jewish nonprofits by JCFOC Grants Program from 2002 to 2011

By 2007, the amount of funds available for the Grants Program more than tripled 207
ENDOWMENT FUNDS
held at the Foundation

\$100.1 MILLION assets under management

distributed to local Jewish nonprofits by JCFOC Grants Program from 2012 to 2021

PLUS .

**45** GRA

distributed to local Jewish nonprofits by the Weissman Arts Grants Program, which began awarding Grants in 2019

Phone: 949.435.3490

## In March 2021, for the first time in history, the Foundation surpassed **\$100 Million** in assets under management.

We have managed and invested the philanthropic dollars of individuals, families and nonprofit organizations to provide easy, effective and meaningful giving combined with solid financial practices since 1981. As we celebrate our 40th year of being a leading resource for philanthropy and building a secure future for local Jewish nonprofits, the Foundation upholds our well-earned reputation for integrity, transparency and exceptional service. For more information on how you can join in guaranteeing a Jewish tomorrow, contact Wendy Arenson at wendy@jcfoc.org.