



JEWISH COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
ORANGE COUNTY

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025

FUND HOLDER EXCLUSIVE: BEHIND-THE-SCENES ACCESS

JCFOC Fund Holders now have an exclusive opportunity to go behind the scenes of the local nonprofits making a real impact in Orange County.

We launched this initiative with **special site visits to OC Hillel and The Rohr Chabad Jewish Student Center**, two vital organizations supporting Jewish students at UC Irvine. Fund Holders gained firsthand insight into how these organizations foster Jewish life on campus, especially in today's climate, where strong Jewish communities are more important than ever.

Our recent visit to **OC Hillel** and **The Rohr Chabad Jewish Student Center** was a powerful reminder of the impact of generosity. Despite the challenges Jewish students have faced, we saw a thriving community—happy, confident, and supported.



“ Last week's Love and Light Shabbat at Chabad was truly an incredible experience. The event chairs dedicated the entire week to bringing our vision to life, ensuring everything came together just as we had envisioned. From designing decorations and planning the menu to cooking together the night before and setting up for Shabbat, we infused so much meaning into every detail for our friends and community.

Seeing everyone come together on Shabbat—singing, learning, enjoying, and appreciating the effort we put in as a team—was incredibly rewarding. Themed Shabbats like this create a special opportunity not only for board members to collaborate but also for our entire community to unite and share a meaningful, joyful experience.

Clarissa, Chabad UCI Board Member and Student



“ I'm grateful for our weekly Shabbat dinners and the opportunity to reconnect with the community after a long week. It's comforting to know that I am safe, welcomed, and loved in this space.

Supporting Hillel through a donation will help ensure that students continue to thrive, shine their light, and strengthen their presence on campus while fostering their authentic Jewish identities. Hillel has given me a place to turn to when I feel overwhelmed by the ever-changing news. I know I can always count on my Hillel staff to support me when I'm uncertain about what to do or where to go.

Sami, UCI Student



Don't Miss Our Next Visits!

- ▶ **APRIL:** Explore the new **City of Hope** location in Irvine, Orange County's only hospital exclusively focused on treating and curing cancer.
- ▶ **AUGUST:** Experience the creative and inspiring work of **Arts & Creativity for Healing Inc.**

To learn more about these site visits, contact Rachael Ripps, Donor Engagement Manager, at rachael@jcfof.org.

Thank you to our generous donors for making these experiences possible! Your support helps create meaningful opportunities that strengthen Jewish life in Orange County.

TOGETHER WE GUARANTEE A JEWISH TOMORROW

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

1,018 legacy donor commitments worth an estimated future value of **\$26 M** with **\$40.5 M** realized to date



LIFE & LEGACY



\$34.3 M donated to funds within the Foundation during 2024

DONATIONS

1,989 donor advised grants sent to **622** nonprofits in 2024 valued at more than **\$10.8 M**



DONOR REQUESTS/GRANTS



\$5 M awarded to Jewish nonprofit programs in Orange County since the inception of the program

JCFOC GRANTS PROGRAM

365 signatures and stories fill the Foundation's Endowment Book of Life



ENDOWMENT BOOK OF LIFE

GRANTS IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

52

GRANTS to

37

ORGANIZATIONS

153,700+

EXPERIENCES were funded by **JCFOC GRANTS** to Orange County Jewish nonprofits in this cycle.

4,567 SENIORS

made connections through educational programs, Jewish holiday celebrations, and intergenerational experiences.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM

97,733 PARTICIPANTS in the **ADL Incident Response and Prevention and Youth Leadership Initiative.**

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

44,647 teens participated in Jewish engagement and leadership development, strengthening Jewish identity.

SUPPORTING JEWISH STUDENTS ON CAMPUS

1,501 Jewish students on campuses throughout Orange County engaged in Jewish learning and social experiences through Jewish campus organization programming funded by JCFOC grants.

Data is based on grantee reporting as of January 31, 2025 for grants that were awarded in 2023 - for programming that took place in 2023 and 2024.

FUND HOLDER PORTAL GETS A REFRESH!

Starting April 1, 2025, our Fund Holder Portal will feature a more user-friendly design while keeping all the tools you rely on. Key updates include a streamlined menu and an improved grant request process for easier giving. Login credentials remain the same. **Stay tuned for a better, more intuitive experience!**



For any questions, or if you are a fund holder who would like to request online access, please contact Taylor Davis, Donor Services & Database Administrator, at taylor@jcfo.org.

10 WAYS JCFOC SIMPLIFIES YOUR CHARITABLE GIVING

Donor Advised Funds

Experience the benefits of strategic, impactful giving with a Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County.

- 1. Easy Setup, Major Rewards:** Establish your fund with ease – no legal costs or startup fees. Make your contribution to the causes you care about. We offer a competitive tiered fee structure which is funneled directly back into programming for our local Jewish community.
- 2. Foundation-Level Giving Without the Hassle:** Enjoy benefits of a private foundation without the red tape. There are no complex reporting or accounting headaches—just pure charitable power.
- 3. Tax-Smart Equities Donations:** Transfer appreciated equities to us, and we'll sell them tax-free. This is a win-win for you and your chosen charities.
- 4. Supercharge Your Tax Deductions:** Contribute more than you plan to distribute immediately, potentially boosting your tax deductions for the current year. (Consult a tax professional about carrying over deductions for up to 5 years.)
- 5. Effortless Philanthropy, Maximum Impact:** We streamline your charitable giving by handling all administrative tasks. Simply recommend grants through our user-friendly online Fund Holder portal, and we'll manage the rest. You'll receive timely updates on grant statuses and only need one donation acknowledgment letter from us for tax purposes. This allows you to focus on what truly matters: driving meaningful change through your philanthropy.
- 6. Heartfelt Giving, Honored Memories:** Each grant is issued with a description of your choosing, shown on the check and accompanying grant letter, with the option to create a customized tribute.
- 7. Flexible Giving Schedule:** We process grants twice a month, all year round, in amounts of \$100 or more.
- 8. Support What Matters Most:** Distribute funds to both Jewish and secular charities. When secular institutions receive a check from the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County, it sends a powerful message of unity.
- 9. Your Philanthropy at a Glance:** View online monthly statements detailing all your charitable activities. It's like having a personal "charitable banking" dashboard.
- 10. 24/7 Access to Your Giving:** Our online Fund Holder portal puts you in control. You can view your fund balance, check statements, review your donation history, and make new grant recommendations anytime, anywhere.

It's not just smart philanthropy – it's philanthropy made simple, efficient, and deeply connected to your community.