



JEWISH COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
ORANGE COUNTY

NEWSLETTER
Winter 2026

JCFOC FUND HOLDER SPOTLIGHT

A FAMILY COMMITMENT TO JEWISH LIFE AND LEGACY

For Jillian Katz, philanthropy has always been deeply personal. She grew up watching her grandfather sit at the kitchen table writing checks to Jewish causes, an early lesson that giving back is both a shared responsibility and a core Jewish value.

After earning dual master's degrees in Jewish Nonprofit Management and Public Administration, Jillian built a career dedicated to strengthening Jewish life. She served the Orange County community through her work at the Jewish Federation, where she led PJ Library and helped connect hundreds of families to Jewish learning and values.

Today, as Senior Director of People and Culture at Lost Tribe, Jillian continues that work in creative and meaningful ways. She and her husband Jason have also taken a personal step to support the future of the Jewish community by establishing an endowment fund at the **Jewish Community Foundation Orange County**.



“As a young family, we used to think legacy giving was something for later in life,” Jillian says. “The Foundation helped us understand that it can start at any stage. Opening a fund was simple, and it gave us a way to create lasting impact even now.”

Through their fund at the **Jewish Community Foundation Orange County**, the Katz family supports PJ Library and their congregation, Temple Bat Yahm, where their children attend preschool and religious school. Their fund helps ensure that the programs and institutions that have shaped their family will continue to serve future generations.

For the Katz family, establishing a fund at the **Jewish Community Foundation Orange County** is about belonging, responsibility, and continuity. By planning today, they are helping sustain a vibrant Jewish community for tomorrow.

You can do the same! Opening a fund at the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County is a simple and powerful way to support the causes you care about while helping guarantee a Jewish tomorrow. Follow the five easy steps below to begin creating your legacy plan, and contact Wendy Arenson at wendy@jcfo.org to get started.

1 Meet with the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County (JCFOC) to develop your plan

Complimentary and confidential: all legacy planning phone calls, meetings and changes are offered at no charge.



Contact Wendy Arenson, Executive Director, at (949) 435-3490.

2 Select one or more causes to support

Example: Your synagogue, favorite organization and alma mater, secular and/or Jewish



3 Decide what to donate



In consultation with your professional advisor
Example: IRA, % of trust

4 Use this language to accomplish your charitable goals



Example: On your IRA Beneficiary Form or in your will or trust

Jewish Community Foundation Orange County
(Tax ID Number 95-3645825)
To be distributed according to the most recently dated Legacy Instructions on file with the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County.

5 Sign your completed Letter of Intent or Legacy Gift Confirmation



JCFOC will honor your intentions, and you may make changes at any time at no charge.

CELEBRATE!



Join us at our community-wide Legacy Appreciation Celebrations, and participate by signing the Endowment Book of Life.

TOGETHER WE GUARANTEE A JEWISH TOMORROW

BENEFITS OF BEING A JCFOC FUND HOLDER

Last year, JCFOC introduced exclusive site visits for Fund Holders, offering a closer look at the organizations they support. To date, we have facilitated behind-the-scenes visits to five OC nonprofits, offering direct conversations with executive leadership, meaningful interaction with participants, and curated wish lists that create immediate pathways for impactful giving. Each visit was grounded in a core Jewish value, connecting philanthropy to purpose, tradition, and responsibility.

ידידות

FRIENDSHIP



OC HILLEL

Rooted in the Jewish value of Yedidut, friendship strengthens community through connection, mutual support, and shared growth.

קהילה

COMMUNITY



CHABAD UCI

Guided by the Jewish value of Kehila, community is built through kindness, shared responsibility, and meaningful belonging.

תיקוה

HOPE



CITY OF HOPE

Inspired by the Jewish value of Tikvah, hope calls us not only to believe in a better future, but to courageously work to create it.

כבוד הבריות

DIGNITY



ART & CREATIVITY FOR HEALING

Grounded in the Jewish value of Kavod HaBriyot, honoring human dignity affirms the Divine image in every person and uplifts the spirit through healing and expression.

Through these visits, Fund Holders experience philanthropy in action, where generosity meets impact, and **together we guarantee a Jewish tomorrow.**

Join us on our next site visit and see your philanthropy at work firsthand. Reach out to learn how becoming a JCFOC Fund Holder can deepen your impact and strengthen your connection to our community. Contact Wendy Arenson at wendy@jcfo.org for more information.

חברותא

CONNECTION



MOISHE HOUSE

Centered on the Jewish value of Havruta, companionship fosters growth through partnership, shared learning, and authentic connection.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

1,046

legacy donor commitments worth an estimated future value of **\$29 M** with **\$42.4 M** realized to date



LIFE & LEGACY

\$15.4 M

donated to funds within the Foundation during 2025



DONATIONS TO JCFOC FUNDS

1,848

donor advised grants sent to **612** nonprofits in 2025 valued at more than **\$12.6 M**



DONOR REQUESTS/ GRANTS

\$6.1 M

awarded to Jewish nonprofit programs in Orange County since the inception of the program



JCFOC GRANTS PROGRAM

392

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



ENDOWMENT BOOK OF LIFE