

# 2016-17 Jewish Teen Foundations Grant Recommendations Totaling \$186,000

Director of Youth Philanthropy: [Lom Friedman](#)

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## North Peninsula Jewish Teen Foundation - \$54,000

Project Director: [Daniel Farkas](#)

The NPJTF will fund organizations that assist both physical and social environments affected by violence and conflict, locally, globally, and in Israel.

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## American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee - \$10,000

[Greece: Health & Education for Refugees]

See Project Description on page two.

## Israel Gay Youth (IGY) - \$10,000

[Israel: Trans Youth Support Groups]

IGY is Israel's only nationwide organization dedicated to serving LGBTQ+ youth, creating safe spaces, leadership, and institutional change for a more inclusive society. IGY trains out, adult mentors in the urban centers and sends them to communities in the periphery. Specialized groups exist for Ethiopian Israelis, religious, deaf, and Palestinian youth. This grant supports three transgender support groups in Tel Aviv and Haifa, quarterly events, and a designated social worker.

## Jewish Community Federation - \$5,000

[Israel: Job Training for Former Haredim]

"Hillel - The Right to Choose" helps Israelis leaving the ultra-Orthodox community who are unprepared for living independently in a secular society, a process that leaves many unemployed, homeless, isolated, and depressed. The program provides a hotline (receiving 1,000 calls/year), subsidized housing, employment training, and social support for those making this independent decision. Hillel is the only organization in Israel dedicated to helping former Haredim.

## Jewish World Watch - \$5,000

[Congo: Vocational Skills for Abused Women]

JWW works to end genocide and mass atrocities worldwide by educating and mobilizing individuals, advocating for policy changes, and funding projects to support and build resilience in conflict-affected communities. The Tumaini Project in the Congo is a residential, vocational training program for victims of rape, domestic violence, and women displaced due to the civil war. Graduates are also provided base materials for starting their own businesses and new life.

## Kulanu - \$9,000

[Zimbabwe: Water Storage for Lemba Jewish Community]

Kulanu supports isolated and emerging Jewish communities around the world. The 640-member Lemba community are subsistence farmers, descendant from ancient Israel, and are rejoining the world Jewish community. This grant will fund a dam and 1,000,000 liter reservoirs providing safe and reliable water over the 6-month dry season. Water will be for homes, irrigation, and livestock, allowing children to go to school instead of fetching water over long distances.

## Old Skool Café - \$10,000

[Local: Job Skills for At-Risk Youth]

Old Skool Café helps at-risk youth break out of the cycle of violence, incarceration, and despair by offering community, mentorship, and employment skills. The youth run a supper club, providing teens with practical, professional restaurant management and operational experiences. Old Skool Café's life coaching also helps lower the recidivism rate for its participants.

## SF Child Abuse Prevention Center - \$5,000

[Local: Child Abuse Hotline]

San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center's mission is to prevent child abuse and reduce its devastating effects. On-site services include a team of medical, mental health, and legal professionals. There is also a 24/7 hotline for parents in distress or others looking to report abuse. This grant will support TALK Line weekend supervisors, who ensure that the hotline is always running, even on holidays and weekends.



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## Marin/San Francisco Jewish Teen Foundation - \$67,000

Project Director: [Lucia Panasci](#)

The MSFJTF supports the health and education needs of at-risk youth and young adults through prevention and early intervention solutions.

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### Ambassadors of Hope and Opportunity - \$10,000

[Marin: Safety Net of Stable Housing for Youth]

Homeless youth are a growing demographic in Marin County (nearly 2,600 young people aged 18-25), and AHO is the only nonprofit providing them support to transform their current circumstances and avoid becoming homeless adults. This grant supports temporary motel stays and rental assistance provided by AHO to 65 homeless youth.

### American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee - \$10,000

[Greece: Health & Education for Refugees]

JDC is the chair of all Jewish organizations assisting Syrian refugees in eight countries (food, shelter, clothing, health care, and psycho-social support), in addition to its humanitarian assistance work providing immediate relief and creating lasting connections to Jewish life around the world. This grant supports a new mother-child care unit in refugee camps, providing privacy, hygiene counseling, and follow-up treatment for children's diseases. Additionally, it will help JDC provide children's school supplies and train volunteers assisting in the refugee camps.

### Bat Melech - \$6,000

[Israel: Animal-assisted Therapy for Child Victims of Domestic Abuse]

Bat Melech is the only organization in Israel serving women and children victims of domestic abuse within the Orthodox community. 50 women and 200 children annually receive shelter, childcare, therapeutic counseling, and legal services. The animal-assisted therapy is an essential part of their therapeutic services, and this grant fully covers the cost of the therapist's weekly visits at one shelter for the year.

### Ethiopian National Project - \$10,000

[Israel: Holistic Afterschool Empowerment Program]

Many Ethiopian Israelis still struggle to find acceptance, equality, and economic opportunity in their new homeland. ENP's afterschool programs provide academic, social, and emotional support to struggling students from 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. With matching funds from the Israeli government, this grant funds a year of holistic care for 20 Ethiopian-Israeli teens.

### Jewish Community Federation - \$5,000

[Former Soviet Union: Humanitarian Aid for Elderly Jews]

In partnership with JDC, this program provides destitute elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union (FSU) with immediate, life-saving assistance – including hunger relief, health care, homecare, and winter relief. The FSU is home to some of the world's poorest Jews, some living on as little as \$2/day. Since 1989, JDC has become the lifeline for 150,000 destitute elderly Jews and families in the region.

### Kulanu - \$9,000

[Zimbabwe: Water Storage for Lemba Jewish Community]

Kulanu supports isolated and emerging Jewish communities around the world. The 640-member Lemba community are subsistence farmers, descendant from ancient Israel, and are rejoining the world Jewish community. This grant will fund a dam and 1,000,000 liter reservoirs providing safe and reliable water over the 6-month dry season. Water will be for homes, irrigation, and livestock, allowing children to go to school instead of fetching water over long distances.

### Life Learning Academy - \$10,000

[Treasure Island: Construction Training for Disadvantaged Students]

LLA is committed to creating a nonviolent community for students who have not been successful in traditional schools. This project will allow students to take STEM classes as they design, and eventually construct the new LLA Boarding School, a residential program to accompany the regular school. This project also fights the affordable housing epidemic in the Bay Area by providing LLA students with a structured and stable home community.

### Tikva Children's Home - \$7,000

[Ukraine: Basic Needs for Jewish Day School Students]

This Odessa orphanage rescues neglected, abandoned and homeless children providing shelter, food, clothing, education, job training, and Jewish community to 900+ children a year. This grant helps fund teachers, student meals, building repairs, and new security upgrades required by the recent instability in Ukraine.



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## South Peninsula Jewish Teen Foundation - \$65,000

Project Director: [Beth Delson](#)

The SPJTF supports the health of those affected by violence in the Bay Area, Israel, and around the world.

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## American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee - \$10,000 [Ukraine: Basic Needs for Jewish Refugees]

JDC is the world's leading Jewish humanitarian assistance organization, working in 70+ countries to alleviate hunger and hardship, rescue Jews in danger, create lasting connections to Jewish life, and provide immediate relief for disaster victims. This grant supports Jewish families displaced by the recent conflict in Eastern Ukraine, providing fresh food, hot meals, medical care, winter relief, and day centers for approximately 50 at-risk children.

## Child Advocates of Silicon Valley - \$10,000 [Local: Advocates for Foster Youth]

CASV provides stability and hope to abused and neglected children by recruiting, training, and supporting volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) to work one-on-one with victims. These consistent, supportive adults help improve academic performance, healthy lifestyle, emotional healing, and navigation of complicated systems, including court appearances, financial aid, and housing and employment as adults. This grant supports 20 new CASAs.

## Cure Violence - \$2,000 [Chicago: Reducing gun violence]

Cure Violence is a program of the Public Health department at the University of Illinois that looks at violence in a similar manner as experts look at disease in its transmission and treatment. Central to the approach is training "violence interrupters" viewed as trustworthy by the population being served, in this case predominantly low-income, African-American males, ages 16-25. These workers detect and interrupt potentially violent situations, change thinking and behavior of the highest risk transmitters, and change group norms that perpetuate violence. This grant supports Chicago staff salaries.

## Eden Center - \$8,000 [Israel: Support for Domestic Violence Victims]

Eden Center works to improve Jewish women's health and well-being by offering access to medical, educational, and religious resources. This grant funds a unique program training mikveh attendants to recognize signs of domestic violence, approach women about these topics, and offer useful referrals to community resources for victims. Thousands of Israeli women across the religious spectrum use the mikveh, and this is a unique space to care for them.

## IsraAid - \$10,000 [Greece: Art Therapy for Syrian Refugees]

IsraAid brings Israeli volunteers and professionals to disaster victims around the world, including long-term support. This grant funds a mental health clinic on the island of Lesbos, the first landing point for Syrian refugees fleeing their civil war by sea. The funding will specifically cover art therapy supplies and practitioner salaries over a six-month period.

## Jewish Community Federation - \$5,000 [Israel: Job Training for Arab-Israeli Women]

The Federation plays a leading role in strengthening Israeli society and securing its future by promoting pluralism, democracy, and equality of opportunity for all Israel's citizens. Beyond just funding, they working hand-in-hand with organizations to build their capacity and ensure significant, positive impact. Tsofen (Hebrew for 'code') is an Arab-Jewish nonprofit that promotes the integration of Israel's Arab citizens into the hi-tech industry. This grant specifically supports Tsofen's work with Arab-Israeli women who are historically less educated and employed, and more isolated.

## Ruby's Place - \$10,000 [Local: Domestic Violence Shelter]

Ruby's Place is Alameda County's longest-running domestic violence and human trafficking shelter, with 42 beds, a 24-hour hotline, children's programs, therapy, outreach, and prevention services. Of the 290 clients served last year, 153 were children and 87% were fleeing violent crime. This grant will fund food, legal services, transportation, and emergency hotel vouchers for times when the shelter is full.



## World ORT - \$10,000

[Kyrgyzstan: Jewish Day School Security System]

World ORT works for the advancement of Jews and others through educational and vocational training to foster economic self-sufficiency. Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan's 2,000-person Jewish community largely lives peacefully with its 800,000 Muslim neighbors, but there have been violent events. This grant supports necessary upgrades to the school's security systems (fencing, cameras, satellite phone, emergency generators, etc.) that remove the question of safety (families and staff) from anyone's decision to attend the school.

