

# GIVING INSIGHTS

## Investing in Children, from Birth to Age Five



### Overview

Recent brain science research has made clear how much early childhood experiences matter. Research shows that investing in early childhood development yields a 13% economic return, because quality care leads to success in school, increased earnings, improved health, stronger families, and reduced crime rates.<sup>1</sup> During these early years, brain development is also vulnerable to the long-term negative effects of trauma. Exposure to childhood trauma impacts the ability to learn and develop, into the school years and beyond.<sup>2</sup>

### Using your Donor-Advised Fund

As policymakers and entrepreneurs are seeing the value in investing in children, we also believe that caring for the youngest and most vulnerable in our society falls firmly within Jewish values. Whether you choose organizations committed to nurturing young families in Jewish life or research and advocacy work to develop early learning policies, there are many ways to invest in children through your giving.

Our donors are giving to many of the Jewish and secular organizations listed below. You may want to consider these when implementing your giving strategy.

<p><b>Zero to Three</b> zerotothree.org</p>	<p>Provides programs aimed to ensure that infants and toddlers thrive emotionally, socially, cognitively and physically; have emotionally nourishing relationships; live in strong families and healthy communities; and provide resources to families and caregivers so that they have stronger relationships with children. It also supports policies that advocate for better funded systems and services for families.</p>	
<p><b>Center for Youth Wellness</b> centerforyouthwellness.org</p>	<p>Aims to improve the health of children and adolescents exposed to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Recognizing that childhood exposure to stressful or traumatic events such as violence, neglect, and household dysfunction can increase the likelihood of long-term health problems, behavioral issues, and learning difficulties, the Center for Youth Wellness advocates for increased awareness of ACEs research and improved pediatric health care. The Center works in partnership with the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland, the UCSF School of Medicine and Pharmacy, and the Bayview Child Health Center for Youth Wellness in San Francisco to conduct research and provide pediatric care services.</p>	
<p><b>Educare California at Silicon Valley</b> educareschools.org</p>	<p>Helps prepare financially disadvantaged children to be academically, socially, and emotionally ready for kindergarten and beyond. This specialized early childhood school uses data and research, high-quality teaching, and intensive family engagement to support increased student achievement and kindergarten readiness. Educare also helps parents develop skills to support and advocate for their children's education and partners with state advocacy organizations to promote policies that favor investment in early childhood education. The Silicon Valley school serves 168 children birth to age five and their families, has a teacher training facility, and houses a resource center for families and the community.</p>	

<sup>1</sup> Garcia, Jorge Luis, James J. Heckman, Duncan Ermini Leaf, and Maria Jose Prados. "Quantifying the Life-cycle Benefits of a Prototypical Early Childhood Program." May 26, 2017. [https://heckmanequation.org/www/assets/2017/12/abc\\_comprehensivecba\\_JPE-SUBMISSION\\_2017-05-26a\\_sjs\\_sjs.pdf](https://heckmanequation.org/www/assets/2017/12/abc_comprehensivecba_JPE-SUBMISSION_2017-05-26a_sjs_sjs.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> WestEd. "Learning From the Field: Trauma-Informed Practices." wested.org. <https://wested.org/wested-insights/a-conversation-about-trauma-informed-practices/>

<p><b>Learning Policy Institute</b> learningpolicyinstitute.org</p>	<p>Seeks to advance evidence-based policies that enable equitable learning for children. The institute works with policymakers, researchers, educators, and community groups to provide evidence and recommendations to inform policies to strengthen educational systems from preschool through college. It produces publications and policy insights on topics such as improving California’s early learning system, preschool effectiveness, investing in early childhood educators, and the need to transform the public education system to be equipped to handle the complex challenges of a changing world.</p>	 Advocacy  Learning
<p><b>Khan Academy Kids</b> khanacademy.org/kids</p>	<p>Uses technology to facilitate early learning and discovery for children ages two to six. Through an app that parents can download for free, children become visually engaged, can participate in interactive activities, and learn through books and creative lessons that are designed to captivate children’s attention. The learning app is personalized for every child and each learning path dynamically adapts to allow children to learn at their own pace. Khan Academy partners with institutions like NASA, the California Academy of Sciences, The Museum of Modern Art, and MIT to develop the content on its learning platforms.</p>	 Learning  Technology
<p><b>Jewish Family &amp; Children’s Services – Parents Place</b> parentsplace.jfcs.org</p>	<p>Offers high quality services and programs to support healthy children and thriving families across the region. A leading Bay Area family resource center, Parents Place provides parent coaching and consultation, child behavior and school support, clinical and special needs services, parent/child activity groups, and child and family therapy.</p>	 Jewish  Health  Learning  Community
<p><b>Jewish Baby Network</b> jewishbabynetwork.org</p>	<p>Connects expectant parents and families with newborns and children up to 36 months to Jewish life and community in the Bay Area. Founded in 2014, JBN has expanded its reach through three local chapters to meet growing demand for its programming. Committed to creating a pluralistic community, JBN welcomes unaffiliated, interfaith, single parent, multiethnic and LGBTQ families. JBN offers a range of events, resources, and learning experiences on how to bring the beauty of Judaism into a new family’s life.</p>	 Learning  Community  Jewish
<p><b>Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund</b> jewishfed.org</p>	<p>Supports and engages young children and families in Jewish life and learning in the Bay Area. Programs include PJ Library which sends free, award-winning books and music that celebrate Jewish values and culture to families with children aged 6 months to 8 years and partners with local agencies and artists to bring live programming to communities. Sprout, formerly of the East Bay Federation, serves families in the East Bay with personalized concierge and referral services, and access to Jewish community through a strong network and ongoing engagement. The Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund also offers scholarships for preschool, camp, and other formative Jewish experiences.</p>	 Learning  Community  Jewish

## Have Questions or Suggestions?

If you have additional suggestions or questions on this topic, or would like information on other causes and ways to give, contact your philanthropy advisor or call us at **415.512.6211**.

**Federation Philanthropy Partners** connects impact and meaning by helping others view the world through the lens of Jewish values. Our 100 year history at the center of Bay Area generosity—supporting both those who give and those who benefit—grants us a unique ability to amplify results and create moments of transformation in the world, our community, and ourselves.