



# JEWISH WOMEN'S FUND

The Federation's San Francisco Jewish Women's Fund (SFJWF) strives to strengthen the Jewish community by helping women and girls flourish. As the only Northern California fund specifically focused on that population, we allocate grants primarily in the Bay Area and at times, in Israel.

This expression of *tikkun olam* deepens our connections to each other and pays homage to our Jewish heritage.

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## GRANT RECOMENDATIONS FOR 2017-2018

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A total of \$198,000 was granted in the areas of health and well-being, economic security, and leadership development benefiting women and girls. As diverse as the missions of these organizations are, they all captured the core values of our increasingly influential giving circle, now in its fourth year, leveraging philanthropic resources to shine a light on inequalities and unmet needs in the Bay Area and Israel. Through these grants, we highlight basic necessities, ranging from women struggling to gain access to capital on par with men, to young women finding a spiritual home in Judaism as they seek to transform their physical health. We empower women to find their political voice, learn methods for self-advocating, and help young women and men explore what healthy relationships should look like.

▶ **At the Well** – \$45,000

Founded by Sarah Waxman, is a pluralistic and inclusive “wellness organization” incorporating Jewish spirituality and values in its mission to foster community and tend to the mental, physical, and emotional well-being of women around the country. The grant will support their Bay Area hub’s efforts to scale, partner locally, and empower women throughout Northern California.

▶ **The Center for Women’s Justice** – \$40,000

Employs the grant to support their work in Israel by providing legal advocacy and Knesset activism to ensure women’s rights in the face of growing religious control over marriage, divorce, and personal status.

▶ **Hebrew Free Loan Association** – \$75,000

Providing interest free loans for more than 120 years throughout Northern California to Jewish people in need. The grant will establish the San Francisco Jewish Women’s Loan Fund which will provide interest-free loans for a variety of needs with the intention to give Jewish women access to capital who otherwise might struggle in the Bay Area.

▶ **IGNITE** – \$13,000

A nationwide charity based in Oakland dedicated to “building a movement of young women to become the next generation of political leaders.” The grant will fund their pilot leadership program with San Francisco State’s Hillel chapter.

▶ **Shalom Bayit** – \$25,000

Fights to eradicate domestic violence in the Jewish community, supporting and advocating for the rights of abused Jewish women and children. The grant will update and implement their “Love Shouldn’t Hurt” curriculum which has been implemented in dozens of Bay Area and national schools, through youth-led education programs designed to stop dating violence and abusive behavior in teen relationships.

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## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

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*“Having grown up attending Jewish summer camp and finding a sense of home and belonging there, I had always hoped for the same experience for my daughter. As a single parent, I have been challenged to provide these opportunities for my child due to the expenses involved with them. This year, I was both ecstatic and relieved to receive financial assistance to attend Family Camp through the generosity of the Jewish Women’s Fund.” – Julie F., Single Mom, Camp Tawonga Family Camp*

*“I am one of the participants in JVS’ “Persistent Women” Pilot Program. The program is quickly coming to an end (six sessions) and I just wanted to let you know how great it has been. Thanks to the guidance of Nicoll, Terri and Betty – and their experiences and expertise – I now have a working resume that reflects me now, a new LinkedIn profile and experience practicing interview responses, including PAR (problem, action, reflect) statements. I’m ready! One of the best things about the program has been the incredibly interesting, supportive and accomplished women who have been a part of it. I hope our group will keep meeting one way or another – the support and camaraderie made such a difference. Thank you to JVS for spear-heading such an innovative and necessary program and the Jewish Women’s Fund for supporting it. – J.S., 62, JVS Persistent Women Participant*

*“It was so moving to sit in that conference room at the JCC, speaking to such a remarkable group of intelligent, capable women who are committed to improving the lives of women throughout our Jewish community. I remember describing Hebrew Free Loan’s origins in a men’s Torah study group and telling you about the ways our agency has evolved and had an impact that those founders could never have imagined.... We couldn’t be prouder to join with the Federation and the San Francisco Jewish Women’s Fund in assisting women achieve financial self-sufficiency and equality. We look forward to building this new Fund, making more loans than ever to women in need, and reporting back to you on the ways in which it’s making a difference in women’s lives.” – Cindy Rogoway, Hebrew Free Loan*

*“I’ve been in a Well Circle for over two years now and I cannot imagine my life without it. As a young urban professional, life moves fast, and some relationships feel transactional. Holding a sacred time each month to gather with my Well Circle, a place where we are each seen and heard, adds such a beautiful depth to my life here. The Well Circle revived a sense of spirituality within me I had been missing. I appreciate the idea of wellness, taking care of ourselves emotionally and physically, as a spiritual practice. I also love being more in sync with the Hebrew calendar. I’m grateful to be able to deeply connect with other women who share these values, allowing me to feel more at home in my chosen city of San Francisco.” – Lauren W., At The Well Participant*