



Jewish Women's Foundation Awards \$96,000 In Grants to Local and Overseas Agencies

The Jewish Women's Foundation of the Greater Palm Beaches (JWF), a fund for social change of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, positively impacts the lives of Jewish women and girls locally and throughout the world. From ending human trafficking to building self-esteem in teens, JWF makes a difference through its support of many organizations.

Recently, the JWF announced its grant awards of \$96,000 for the 2012-2013 funding cycle, which will benefit local and overseas organizations that advance, enhance and benefit the lives of Jewish girls and women.

"We have become, and we continue to be, very successful change agents in Palm Beach County, in Israel and in the former Soviet Union," said JWF Chair Gloria Fine. "We accept responsibility for taking action to address issues affecting Jewish women and girls. Through JWF, we educate ourselves about these issues and discuss how we can create change that will make this world a more equitable and safe one for us, our daughters and our granddaughters."

The following local organizations and their programs receiving funding are:

Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family & Children's Service's *Relationships & Decisions* and *Relationships and Decisions: A Parent's Guide to Promoting Safe Relationships for their Daughters*

The program, which focuses on the prevention of violence and dating abuse, will expand to train additional teen facilitators to educate their peers about unhealthy associations and how to avoid them. A parallel parent training component will work with Jewish women who are interested in teaching other parents about healthy relationships for their children.

Girl Future/Independent Girls, Inc.'s *You Can't Be What You Can't See: Reel (Role) Models for Real Life*

This two-part film series for girls ages 9 to 17 and their moms or caregivers will educate about the pervasive problem of negative and limiting images of women in the media that impact girls' self-esteem and affects the rates at which girls aspire to leadership.

Jewish Community Center of the Greater Palm Beaches' *Academy of Continuing Education (ACE) Women's Track and Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing!*

The first program focuses on senior women's issues concerning traveling solo, women's health, fitness and wellness and aging. The second program proactively addresses girls in sixth through 12th grades and uses

Jewish values and engaging activities to build their self-esteem, leadership skills and Jewish identity.



Jewish Women's Foundation of the Greater Palm Beaches Chair Gloria Fine and Co-Chair Edith Gelfand.

The following overseas organizations and their programs receiving funding are:

Itaach Maaki Women Lawyers for Social Justice's *Access to Justice: Employment Rights of Orthodox Women in the Education System*

This program will work in Israel to raise awareness of employment laws amongst religious preschool assistants and secular kindergarten teachers to encourage women's actions to improve their employment conditions, including collective action against employers.

Eden Association's *Cinderella Project-Professional Vocational Training for Women*

This program helps provide opportunities for unskilled women who work for cleaning agencies in four Israeli cities to receive vocational training.

Kolech-Religious Women's Forum's *Promoting Prenuptial Agreements in Israel as a Means of Preventing the Phenomena of Agunot and Mesuravot Get*

This project will launch a national public relations and educational campaign to encourage Jewish couples in Israel to sign a prenuptial agreement prior to marriage to prevent the refusal of a *get* (religious divorce that allows a woman to remarry).

In addition, JWF will join 16 other women's funds across the country to fund programs in Israel that address the equitable treatment of women in the workplace, court system and all levels of government.

JWF, a fund for social change of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2013. It continues to play a vital part of the Jewish women's funding movement, committed to improving the status of Jewish women and girls through strategic, social change grant-making. Call 561-242-6673 or email Lori.Warner@JewishPalmBeach.org for more information.