



## For Immediate Release

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### **Jewish Home of Cincinnati and Cedar Village Foundation Hold Annual Meeting, Announce Grantees**

Jewish Home of Cincinnati, Inc. (JHC) and Cedar Village Foundation (CVF) held their joint Annual Meeting on May 26, 2022 at Rockdale Temple. A robust crowd attended the event, which was the first in-person gathering for the two organizations since the pandemic began. The annual board meeting provided an opportunity to thank outgoing JHC Board Chair Patti Heldman for her three years of service as Chair, while welcoming new Chair, Jan Frankel. Steve Schwartz, Chair of Cedar Village Foundation, was approved to serve an additional year in that role.

Recognition was also given to outgoing JHC Board of Trustees, Andy Shott and Bob Rosen, both Chair Emeriti and combined have served the organization for over 40 years. Bob Brant and Alan Eichner were approved as incoming JHC Board members.

Heldman expressed her thanks to the board and to the broader community. "As I reflect over these past three years," she said, "our board experienced challenges but we overcame these obstacles by using the opportunity to innovate. I'm proud of the collaborative efforts of our board and I have great confidence in our next Board Chair, Jan Frankel," Patti added. "She has the perfect attributes of leadership, wisdom and energy to lead our organization."

Jan described her vision for the future of JHC. "Our Jewish community is strong, it is vibrant, and it is aging," she explained. "As Chair, I will use what we have learned from Live Well, from Aging 2.0 and from Cincinnati 2030 to guide the organization. I can't wait to be part of this incredible journey."

JHC also announced awardees for grants to support programs which benefit Cincinnati Jewish seniors. Grant Committee co-chair Tovah Kirschner thanked the JHC Grant Committee, which spent many hours designing grant processes and application questions, creating a rubric for evaluating proposals, and of course, reading and reviewing many pages of applications. "This group had great discussions, raised thoughtful questions, agreed, and sometimes disagreed, but in the end, came to some very well-thought out decisions to fund many exciting programs," said Kirschner, adding, "As you can imagine, we had many more applications come in than we were able to fund but this process has really taught us a lot about the dedication that this community has to serving Jewish seniors."

The organizations which were awarded grants are: Isaac M. Wise Temple for the project *Wise Aging*; The Mayerson JCC for the program *Caring for the Caregiver 2.0*; CET for the project *Yom HaShoah 2023*; Hearing Speech and Deaf Center to support *Hearing Aids & Hearing Health for Seniors*; and Cincinnati Community Kollel for senior engagement in their *Kollel Brunch & Learns*.

These awards align with JHC's vision to support Jewish seniors so that they may have meaningful and fulfilled lives. "Caring for seniors is a critical element of creating a sense of belonging and community," added Kirschner. "This cycle's grantees represent a variety of agencies which empower seniors to have engaged and connected lives in very different ways. We are proud of the programs we are able to fund, which not only directly benefit seniors and caregivers, but serve the greater good by strengthening our communal wellbeing."

Kirschner mentioned that additional projects are still under review, and that the next cycle of funding has also opened. "This is just the start of what we look forward to supporting in 2022."

JHC also announced the formation of the Wilbur M. Cohen Family Annual Grant to Support Health and Wellness. This award will designate one \$10,000 grant annually to an organization creating programs which positively benefit the physical and mental health of older Jewish adults and promotes vibrant, active, healthy lives. Wilbur M. Cohen (of blessed memory) was a former board member of both JHC and CVF. "As part of Wilbur's legacy plan, he left a generous bequest to our organization, a cause he cherished," explained Heldman. "He was a mensch who touched many organizations with passion, compassion and dedication of time and energy." Family members Kenneth Cohen and his wife Janet, Kathy Dumes, and Neil Cohen were present at the annual meeting and were recognized on behalf of Wilbur.

For more information about Jewish Home of Cincinnati, please visit [www.jhcseniors.org](http://www.jhcseniors.org).