



There's Something About This Place!

FY17

Impact Report

July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017





*There is something
about this place...*



...that is welcoming to all.



*...that promotes healthy
bodies and minds.*



...that inspires creativity.



*...that creates meaningful
connections.*

The support that our generous donors provides has a direct and immediate impact on the lives of so many individuals and families in our community.



WELCOME

The Bender JCC embraces and welcomes the diversity of our community and encourages everyone to seek meaning and fulfillment by participating in our rich programming inspired by our Jewish heritage.

We open our doors to everyone, including people of all backgrounds, religions, abilities and sexual orientations, and interfaith couples and families.

Inclusion permeates our Center. Inclusion is belonging.

CORE VALUES

- **Respect for one another (*Kavod Ha-briot*)**

We respect the dignity of every person.

- **One people (*Klal Yisrael*)**

We welcome all Jewish traditions and backgrounds.

- **Community (*Kehilla*)**

We connect individuals to the community and communities to each other.

- **Israel (*Eretz Y'israel*)**

We connect our community to the people, history, culture and land of Israel.

- **Working together (*B'yachad*)**

We partner with Jewish and secular organizations to build a stronger community.

- **Welcoming guests (*Hachnassat Orchim*)**

We open our doors to everyone.

- **Acts of loving kindness (*Gemilut Chasadim*)**

We help those in need through acts of loving kindness.

- **Repairing the world (*Tikkun Olam*)**

We make the world a better and more just place.

- **Preserving nature (*Shmirat Ha-teva*)**

We respect our environment.

- **Jewish learning (*Torah*)**

We promote Jewish learning and intellectual enrichment.

- **Preserving our selves (*Shmirat HaNefesh v'HaGuf*)**

We promote the well-being and fitness of every person.

- **Spirit (*Ruach*)**

We infuse spirit and fun into our activities and programs.



Sahar Khamis, Ph.D. and Rabbi Batya Steinlauf at the Multifaith Film Fest, the first of its kind in our community.

“...celebrating diversity while honoring differences.”

There's something about this place that is welcoming to all.

The Bender JCC's inaugural Multifaith Film Fest was a celebration of faith featuring five award-winning films, each selected for its unique perspective on identity and discovery, common social and spiritual values, and the intersection of the human experience. More than 400 community members visited the Bender JCC to view and discuss these captivating and thought-provoking films.

The film fest was the first of its kind in this community. It was crafted to promote peace, understanding and friendship among the many faith communities in Montgomery County, celebrating diversity while honoring differences. Our goal was to promote positive relationships between neighbors and build a greater appreciation for the teachings, customs, history and practices of our community's faith traditions.

We were honored to receive the support of many organizations, including Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County, Islamic Center of Maryland, Islamic Community Center of Potomac, Interfaith Conference, Israeli American Council, Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, The Jewish Studio, Kids4Peace and Maryland State Arts Council.

Sahar Khamis, Ph.D., associate professor of communication at the University of Maryland, commented that it is important to hold events such as the multifaith film fest. "Showing these kinds of films promotes the idea of interfaith dialogue, the idea of getting to know others and the idea of reconciliation and harmony and peace."

IMPACT: BEING INCLUDED

35,000 individuals, from the very young to the young at heart, were enriched by attending classes or programs at the Bender JCC.

139 members age 65+ received financial aid to join the Bender JCC, allowing them opportunities for socialization, fitness and continuing education.

There's something about this place that promotes healthy bodies and minds.

While recovering from an injury, Dana Ginsburg joined the Bender JCC to utilize the indoor pool for water running. Soon after, she realized it was a great place for the whole family. "My kids enjoy swimming, my teen likes the workout center, and I enjoy the classes, especially 'Women with Weights.'"

An avid runner for about five years, Dana has completed several full marathons. "Running has helped me to build confidence. The power of finishing something after months of training is awesome."

As a religiously observant Jew, Dana says that running has taught her, and helped show her children, that one can maintain a healthy and active lifestyle without compromise.

IMPACT: ENHANCING HEALTH & WELLNESS

50 individuals participated in Bender JCC programs, in partnership with The Edmond J. Safra National Parkinson's Wellness Initiative and Medstar Georgetown Movement Disorders Clinic, designed to maintain and enhance quality of life for those with Parkinson's.

40,000 square feet is the size of the Weinberg Health & Fitness Center, one of the premier fitness centers in the Greater Washington area, where thousands come each year to become or remain physically fit.



Runner Dana Ginsburg enjoys the Bender JCC fitness classes, especially Women with Weights.

“ ...one can maintain a healthy and active lifestyle without compromise. ”



Barry Perlis displays his artwork that was included in the Lifetime of Perspective exhibit.

“...a way to connect my Jewish involvements and my creative passion.”

There's something about this place that inspires creativity.

"A Lifetime of Perspective" is the Bender JCC's celebration of the creative talents of our community's amateur artists age 65+.

Barry Perlis, whose work is included in this year's exhibit, is primarily a self-taught artist. He enjoys being involved in the Jewish community and has always looked to art as his creative outlet. "Participating in the Lifetime of Perspective senior art show is a way to connect my Jewish involvements and my creative passion."

This special exhibit, now in its 19th year, was created by Deena and Jerome Kaplan and their family in memory of Deena's parents, Eve and David Berliant. It is underwritten by the Kaplan family, the Bender JCC's Deena and Jerome A. Kaplan Fund for Senior Adult Programming, and the Berliant Kaplan Fund of the United Jewish Endowment Fund of The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.

IMPACT: INSPIRING CREATIVITY

163 children, teens and adults participated in Bender JCC School of Dance, expressing themselves through creative movement.

122 Camp JCC campers participated in our programs for creative arts and theater arts, encouraging their efforts to pursue their creative passion.

There's something about this place that creates meaningful connections.

Max Lasko, a student in the Bender Early Childhood Center, has spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a motor neuron disease which leads to degeneration of the muscles that help the body to move. His mind and sensory nervous system are unaffected, so Max thinks like a typical child his age.

Because respiratory infections pose a risk to children with neuromuscular weakness, Max attends the Bender JCC preschool via BEAM, a telepresence robot. Every day for up to two hours, Max "BEAMs" into class. He loves art, music, chasing friends (and being chased), and talking with his friends.

Teacher Allyson Levine says that having Max in their class has been an incredible experience. "The children went from being excited about having a robot in our class to simply being excited to have Max in our class. It's as if they don't even see the robot anymore. They are all constantly finding new ways to connect."

IMPACT: CREATING CONNECTIONS

600 children, parents and grandparents attended Shabbat Shabbang, four meaningful Shabbat experiences allowing families with young children to connect and celebrate Shabbat together.

91 percent of adults who participate in our Selma Sweetbaum Senior Nutrition Program reported that the program has significantly improved their quality of life.



Through use of a telepresence robot, Max interacts with classmates from his home.

“...constantly finding new ways to connect.”

Thank You to Our Donors

This list reflects gifts of \$500+ received during fiscal year 2017 (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017).

\$25,000+

INDIVIDUALS

Cindy and Richard Zitelman

INSTITUTIONS

Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County
Bender Foundation Inc
Sondra^{z1} and Howard^{z1} Bender Nan and David Bender Barbara Bender Eileen and Richard Greenberg Michelle and Jason Belinkie Jena Belinkie Riley and Chris Riley Julie and David Silver Jewish Federation of Greater Washington The Gottesman Fund The Ina Kay Foundation Annette M & Theodore N Lerner Family Foundation Lerner • Cohen • Tanenbaum families Maryland State Arts Council Montgomery County The Morningstar Foundation Susie and Michael Gelman Jane L. Weiner Trust

\$10,000-\$24,999

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous
Carol and Gary Berman
Jillian and Scott Copeland
Candy and Gregory Fazakerley
Robin Hettleman and Matthew Weinberg
Leslie and Bruce Lane
Ellen and Stuart Lessans
Amy and Alan Meltzer
Heather and Andrew Sachs
Douglas Silverman

INSTITUTIONS

Aid Association for the Blind
Anonymous
Estate of Dorris T. Beckler
Jane and Dennis Carlton
Philanthropic Fund
Children's Charities Foundation, Inc.
Ryna & Melvin Cohen Family Foundation, Inc
Ryna Cohen Marcy and Neil Cohen Diane and Howard Zack Theresa and Mark Cohen Cora and John H. Davis Foundation The Samuel and Robert Decker Foundation

EagleBank
E.M.S. Inc./ Semilia Sack Charitable Gift Fund
Louis and Helyn Fanaroff Charitable Foundation
Sunny and Mark Polsky Wendy Fanaroff Debby and Gary Bortnick Susan and Steve Fanaroff Carl M. Freeman Foundation FRO Enterprises LLC Beth Glassman Gali Service Industries, Inc. The Aaron and Cecile Goldman Family Foundation Michael Goldman Jennifer Margiolius Fisher GreenbergTraurig, LLP The Isadore and Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation, Inc. Arlene Gudelsky Kaufman Shelley Gudelsky Mulitz Michael T. Friedman Laura Gudelsky Mulitz Abraham and Freida Hochberg Foundation Jane and Phil Hochberg Jerome A. and Deena L. Kaplan Family Foundation The Marinus and Minna B. Koster Foundation, Inc. Meals on Wheels Association of America Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy Charles E. Smith Family Foundation Robert P. Kogod David S. Stone Foundation, Inc. TD Charitable Foundation United Jewish Endowment Fund US Department of Homeland Security George Wasserman Family Foundation Ada and Albert Wibel Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

INDIVIDUALS

Wendi and Daniel Abramowitz
Lila Asher
Heidi and Michael Brodsky
Suzanne and Michael Feinstein
Arlene Friedlander
Catherine and Michael Gildenhorn
Phyllis and Ralph Gittleson
Lisie and Michael Gottdenker
Connie Heller
Betty Kerns
Lisa and John Ourisman
Joel Plotkin
Barbara Pollock

Idelle and Gerry Rosenberg
Tracy Bloom Schwartz and Alan Schwartz
Lissa and Andrew Shorr
Kathy Sklar and Paul Love
Susan and Bradley Stillman
Helene and John VerStandig
Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman
Janyse and Bernie Weisz

INSTITUTIONS

Gary and Pennie Abramson Charitable Foundation
Vicki Berman and Dori Yeheskel
James G. Davis Construction Corporation
Alvin and Louella Epstein Foundation
Robert P. and Arlene R. Kogod Family Foundation
National Council of Jewish Women, Montgomery County Section
Nauticon Imaging Systems
The Orlofsky Company LLC
Aaron Orlofsky Prince George's County RAFFA, PC Kathy and Thomas Raffa The Basil and Margaret Rifkind Memorial Fund The Carlynn and Lawrence Silverman Family Foundation, Inc. Carlynn Silverman Sanford and Doris Slavin Foundation Sanford^{z1} and Doris Slavin Jeffrey Slavin 3M United Way of The National Capital Area Wilkes Artis/Eric Kassoff World Bank Community Connections Fund

\$2,500-\$4,999

INDIVIDUALS

Mindy and Louis Berger
Sandra and Stanley Bobb
Shawn and Jonathan Capon
Jessica and Andrew Chod
Ann and Robert Copeland
Yvonne and Jeffrey Distenfeld
Eve and David Farber
Annette and Bernard Forseter
Lisa and Murry Gunty
Meredith and Jonathan Jacobs
Holli Beckerman Jaffe and Matthew Jaffe
Leslie and Samuel Kaplan

Anita and Alvin Lann
Sharon and Jack Levin
Fulton Liss
Robin and Jeremy London
Jodi and Rodd Macklin
Michelle Marks and Lance Clawson
Brenda Erb Marquis
Molly Meegan and Abbe David Lowell
Debra Moser and Mitchell Berliner
Joan Paregol
Helen and Albert Pollin
Anita and Arthur Polott
Irma Poretsky
Lisa and Dan Reichmann
Joanne and Richard Rome
Helen and David Rubin
Soraya and Steve Rubin
Sondra and Edwin Schonfeld
Audrey and Steven Wasser

INSTITUTIONS

The Rona and Jeffrey Abramson Foundation
The Anne and Ronald Abramson Family Foundation
Berliant/Kaplan Senior Arts Fund
Deena and Jerome Kaplan Dennis Berman Bronfmann E.L. Rothschild, LP Jennifer and Neal Simon Brooke Grove Retirement Village Dr. Edward and Mildred Cafritz Family Foundation, Inc. Linda and James Cafritz CSC Service Works Cushman & Wakefield Gateway Legal Placements, LLC Goodman-Gable-Gould/Adjusters International Elaine Gorbach Levine Foundation Joanne Peck LA & LK Greenberg Charitable Foundation MedStar Health Suzy, Nancy and Carol Minkoff Charitable Fund Howard and Geraldine Polinger Family Foundation Curtis and Amanda Polk Charitable Fund Pollin Properties Irene Pollin Harold and Shirley Robinson Philanthropic Fund Bruce and Paula Robinson The Tomares Family Foundation, Inc. Steven Tomares Valcourt Building Services, LLC

\$1,000-\$2,499
INDIVIDUALS
Lisa and Marc Abrams
Deborah and David Astrove
Ruth Baars and Rabbi Stephen Baars
Melanie and David Bachrach
Jamie and Joseph Baldinger
Laurel Barron and Robert Mendelsohn
Barbara Bender
Risa Bender and Ben Klubes
Carolyn and Dr. Brent Berger
Roslyn and Robert Black
Rebecca and Nathan Bortnick
Katherine and David Bradley
Tina and Andrew Bridge
Patricia and Alan Cohen
Robin and Todd Copeland
Nancy and Marc Duber
The Honorable Stuart Eizenstat
Joy and Herbert Epstein
Judith and Ralph Evans
Phyllis and Sam Feder
Elana and Sandy Fine
Wendy and Noam Fischman
Barbara Hackman Franklin
Laurie and Jerry Friedman
Stivaly and Brett Friedman
Arlen and Brian Gaines
Brian Gaister
Robin and Todd Galkin
Julie and Sam Gallo
Carole and Douglas Gelfeld
Richard Gerber
Alma and The Honorable Joseph B. Gildenhorn
Debra Goldberg and Seth Waxman
Sara and Ron Gorfinkel
Lynne Groban
Jill and Donnie Gross
Janice and Richard Grossman
Barry Gudelsky
Judah Gudelsky
Paul Heldman
Leon Heller
Adele and Roy Igersheim
Jessica and Michael Isen
Ellen and Allen Joseph
Melanie and Rami Kandel
Robert Kettler
Kay Klass and Mark Levitt
Rebecca and the Honorable Marc Korman
Ilene and Paul Korman
Debra and Louis Kovalsky
Stuart Kurlander and David Martin
Barrie and David Kydd
Alan Levine
Stefanie and Michael Levy
Gary London

Thank You to Our Donors Continued

This list reflects gifts of \$500+ received during fiscal year 2017 (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017).

Margery and Sheldon London
 Randi and Martin Meyrowitz
 Linda and Larry Mann
 Wendy and Matthew Morris
 Susan and Mark Moskowitz
 Jill Myers
 Karen and Scott Nudelman
 Melanie and Larry Nussdorf
 Frances and Rajmiel Odinec
 Bernice and Roger Packer
 Joy and Ron Paul
 Karen Mohr and Preston Plous
 Diane and Arnold Polinger
 Meredith and Adam Polsky
 Lois and Frank Poper
 Diane and Michael Sapir
 Karen Schneier and David Kornhauser
 Amy and Harris Schwalb
 Joanna and Reed Sexter
 Amy Shenker and Bill Kline
 Claire and Alan Sherman
 Douglas Shine
 Lisa and Andrew Shulman
 Julie and David Silver
 Dale and Andrew Singer
 Elaine Snider
 Rita and Chet Stein
 Kathryn and Jon Sternburg
 Jon Sternburg and Fred Sternburg
 Mindy Strelitz
 Rachel Sullivan
 Robin Taub and Michael Pfeifer
 Sonya and Dr. Joel Taubin
 Mac VerStanding
 Debbie Vodenos and Samuel Boxerman
 Joanna and the Honorable Jeff Waldstreicher
 Courtenay and Ed Wallach
 Susan and Adam Wegner
 Nancy and Mark Weinberger
 Bunny and the Honorable Paul Weinstein
 Ellen and Bernard Young
 Mariela and Robert Zimmerman
 Sharon and Jeremy Zissman
 Anna and Jason Zuckerman

Carol and Robert Burman Family Foundation
 Evelyn Bushwick Family Charity Trust
 Coldwell Banker
 Colonial Parking, Inc
 Crest Cleaners
 The Elno Family Foundation
 Drs. Ensor, Johnson and Lewis
 The Andrew and Jami Fireman Family Foundation
 Glazer, Windston, Honigman, Ellick
 Grossberg, Yochelson, Fox & Beyda, LLP
 Jteen Philanthropy
 S. Kann Sons Company Foundation, Inc.
 Rose and Harold Kramer Fund *Rose Kramer*²¹
 The Julius and Dorothy Lazarus Foundation, Inc.
 Lincoln Property Company
 The Marlis Foundation
 Melrod Family Charitable Foundation
 The Meridian Group
 Debbie and Stephen Newman Family Charitable Fund
 Ntiva, Inc.
 Jack H. Olender and Associates, P.C.
 Ottenstein-Cohen Family Charitable Fund
 Paycom
 Peak Settlements, LLC
 Ruppert Landscape
 Mary Sachs Charitable Trust
 Alan C. Shakin Revocable Trust
 Serenity Gardens Assisted Living LLC
 Simcha Havurah of Congregation Beth El
 Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School
 Charles E. Smith Life Communities
 Union Financial Corporation

Anne and Howard Clemons
 Kamal and Barry Cohen
 Lorraine and Robert Cohen
 Amy Doberman and Joe Griminger
 Karen and Richard Dreisen
 Betty and John Eichberg
 Norma and Dean Eisen
 Diana Eisenstat
 Deborah and Stephen Ellick
 Shula and Alan Elser
 Richard Eskin
 Margaret and Samuel Flax
 Earl Foreman
 Beth Freeman
 Tracey and Andrew Friedlander
 Harriet and The Honorable Gregory Friedman
 Lisa and Gregory Galipeau
 Amy I. Gantz
 Amy and Eric Gates
 Margie and Ronald Glancz
 Caren and Barry Glassman
 Diane Goldblatt
 Jason Goldblatt
 Shari and Harvey Goodman
 Toby Gottesman
 Rae Grad
 Jill and Robert Granader
 Sherry and Neil Green
 Sandra and Herbert Greenwald
 Barbara and Irvin Guterman
 Sybil Haberman
 Lorraine and Leo Halpert
 Jane and Robert Isaacson
 Susan Kay and Barry Flax
 Glenn Katz
 Karen and Robert Keats
 Dara and Seth Kessler
 Joan and Harold Krauthamer
 Mimi Kress
 Sarah and Jeff Kuhnreich
 Carole and Robert Kurman
 Jolie and Vladimir Lechtman
 Dina and Gerald Leener
 Stephanie and Keith Lemer
 Mickey and William Lemer
 Jill Lesser and Jonathan Diesenhaus
 Ilene and Norman Leventhal
 Roberta Levy and Morris Liss
 Jody and Sam Lish
 Jodi and Philip Lowit
 Lois and Michael McCabe
 Susan and Eric Meyers
 Paulette and Manny Miller
 Sara Morningstar and Philip Katz
 Robin and Gary Orseck
 Mary Parrish
 Amy and Bruce Pascal
 Jackie and Franklin Paulson
 Halina Yasharoff Peabody
 Suzanne and Charles Peyser

Barbara and Robert Phillips
 Mauri Pioppo and Keith Funger
 Jodi and Richard Reff
 Allison Rosenberg and Michael Landerer
 Lori Rothfeld and Jonah Green
 Lauren and Gene Sachs
 Susan Small Savitsky and Gerald Savitsky
 Barbara and Andrew Ship
 Mark Shriver
 Beth and Leonard Sloan
 Shirley and Albert Small
 Tina and Sonny Small
 Deborah and Jonathan Sokobin
 Hazel and George Solomon
 David Stearman
 Heather Strauss and Paul Hudson
 Laurie Strongin and Allen Goldberg
 Sheila and Dr. Stuart Taylor
 Sherri and Ronald Tempchin
 Lori and Leslie Ulanow
 Ruth and Simon Wagman
 Lori Weinstein
 Anne and Richard Wellens
 Staci and Gary Weltmann
 Tal and Steven Widdes
 Carol and Michael Winer
 Audrey and Colin Winston
 Ellen and Bruce Winston
 Bernard Wolfe
 Carla and Steve Yegher
 Susan and Alan Zuckerman

Olney Assisted Living Partners
 Progressions Salon Spa Store
 Ratner Companies
 Robert & Lillian Philipson Foundation, Inc.
 Sagel Bloomfield Danzansky Goldberg Funeral Care, Inc.
 Lawrence Sanders and Stefanie Levy Family Foundation
 Sandy Spring Builders Renovations, LLC
 Shapiro, Lifschitz & Schram, PC
 Sharsheret
 Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Porly & Ecker, P.A.
 Strathmore
 Summit Strategies, LLC
 Torchinsky Hebrew Funeral Home
 Village of Friendship Heights
 Carol and Donald Vogel
 Warman Home Care
 The Wine Harvest

INSTITUTIONS

Clement and Sandra Alpert Designated Endowment Fund
 Alston & Bird
 Amity Club of Washington Charitable Foundation, Inc.
 Adler Family Philanthropic Fund *Esther and James Adler*
 Art Display Co.
 Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
 Bedford Court
 The Bernstein Companies

\$500-\$999

INDIVIDUALS

Rachel Abraham
 Amy and Michael Aquilino
 Billy Barlia
 Vivian and Raymond Bass
 Marla and Barry Beck
 Bonnie and Guy Berliner
 Amy and Scott Brody
 Treva and Simon Bustow
 Jessica and David Chambers
 Nancy Chasen-Spero and Don Spero

INSTITUTIONS

AJC Global Jewish Advocacy
 Alfred House Eldercare Inc.
 American Pool Enterprises, Inc.
 ClearCaptions, LLC
 The Diener School
 Easy Elder Tech
 Embassy of Israel
 Family and Nursing Care
 Fentin Family Fund
 Todd and Tracy Foreman Family Foundation
 Foundation for Jewish Camp, Inc.
 S. Albert Glass Company
 Gottdenker Foundation
Felicia and Michael Gottdenker
 Randy and Don Greenberg Foundation
 Help Unlimited Inc
 Hercules Fence
 Hyatt Regency Bethesda
 Israel Bonds
 Keats Family Foundation
 Daniel A. Kohl Family Charitable Trust
 Mental Health Association
 Network For Good

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. We apologize for any omissions or errors. If you have any questions or correction, please contact Development Director Adam Tennen at 301.348.3815 or atennen@benderjccgw.org.

Centennial Capital Campaign

On July 6, 2016, we announced our new name. What began as the Jewish Community Center of the District of Columbia and was renamed the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington over 50 years ago will now be named the Bender JCC of Greater Washington (Bender JCC), as the result of a \$6.25 million gift from the Sondra and Howard Bender family to name the JCC and the Early Childhood Center.

On September 29, 2016, we held a grand re-opening ceremony to celebrate our new name and to dedicate the Sondra and Howard Bender Early Childhood Center, which has been renovated.

The Bender family has a long and meaningful connection with the JCC starting in the 1940s when, as a teen living in Washington D.C., Sondra would take a bus across town to get to the JCC (then located in Washington, D.C.). That link has spanned four generations and continues today.

We thank the Bender family for their transformative gift. We also thank Janyse and Bernie Weisz, Howard Forman, Carole and Barry Forman, and Gail and Paul Chod for dedication-level gifts (\$25K or more) for spaces in the Bender ECC.

In September 2016, we also opened the new Herman Indoor Aquatic Center, the proud home

of the Isadore Morton Gudelsky Pool. Swimming has always been a critical part of JCC life. When we moved to Rockville in 1969, the Gudelsky family fulfilled the dream to continue the aquatics program in our current location.

Thanks to an extraordinary gift from Sheila and Sy Herman, we undertook an extensive renovation of this nearly 50-year-old pool. The Hermans have been members since the building opened in 1969, and aquatics has been a big part of their life.

We also acknowledge the sustained investment by the Isadore and Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation over the years by generously contributing to the pool renovation and maintaining the Gudelsky Exceptional Swim Program. The program allows children, teens and adults with orthopedic-related disabilities the opportunity to have an aquatic experience.

We also renovated the adult locker rooms. We thank the following donors who made dedication-level gifts for the renovation of the locker rooms: Linda and James Cafritz, the Sanford and Doris Slavin Foundation, and Mark Levitt and Kay Klass. Thanks to the support of the Wagner-Braunberg Family Foundation we were able to refresh the family locker rooms, which served as a temporary home for our adult fitness users during the past renovation.



Scott Cohen, Centennial Campaign Co-Chair and Past President, and Lisie Gottdenker, current Board Chair, hold the ribbon at the entrance to the Bender Early Childhood Center for Julie Bender Silver, assisted by granddaughter Sienna.



Julie Bender Silver and David Bender with Michael Feinstein (left) at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Sy and Sheila Herman at the opening of the Herman Indoor Aquatic Center, home of the Isadore Morton Gudelsky Pool.

We sincerely thank those who have committed to being a part of the Centennial Capital Campaign*.

*As of November 30, 2017

Cornerstone – \$3,000,000+

The Bender Foundation

Visionary – \$1,000,000 - \$2,999,999

Sheila and Seymour Herman
State of Maryland
Smith/Kogod Family

Guardian - \$500,000 - \$999,999

Ellen and Stuart Lessans

Founder – \$250,000 - \$499,999

The Ryna and Melvin Cohen Family Foundation
Carol and Gary Berman
Susie and Michael Gelman
Jerome A. and Deena L. Kaplan Family Foundation
Irene and Edward Kaplan/The Kaplan Funds
Joy and Ron Paul
The Silverman and Roffman Families

Champion – \$100,000 - \$249,999

Anonymous
Sandra and Stanley Bobb
Gail and Paul Chod
The Colburn Family Foundation
The Gildenhorn/Speisman Family Foundation
The Honorable Joseph B. and Alma Gildenhorn
Blanche Speisman
Carol and Michael Winer
Cathy and Michael Gildenhorn
Stephanie and Ian Speisman
Leslie and Dennis Speisman
Brenda and Robert Speisman
Lisie and Michael Gottdenker Family
Isadore and Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation
Estate of Gary Meltzer
Montgomery County
Montgomery County Arts and Humanities Council
Janyse and Bernie Weisz
Cindy and Rick Zitelman

Benefactor - \$50,000 – \$99,999

Wendi and Daniel Abramowitz
Marthaz'I and Stuart Bindeman
Jodi and Scott Cohen Family
Jillian and Scott Copeland
Cora and John H. Davis Foundation
Norma Lee and Morton Funger
Barbara and Jerry Herson

Lesley and Fred Israel
Kay Klass and Mark Levitt
Amy and Alan Meltzer
Melanie and Larry Nussdorf
Joel Plotkin
The Reiner Family
Sanford and Doris Slavin Foundation
Susan and Brad Stillman
John VerStandig and Family
The Wagner-Braunsberg Family Foundation

Pillar – \$25,000 - \$49,999

Abramson Family Foundation
Anonymous
Heidi and Michael Brodsky
Linda and James Cafritz
Karen and Bobby Epstein
Carole and Barry Forman
Howard Forman
Philip Graham Foundation
Kerry Iris and Eric Kasso
Leslie and Samuel Kaplan
Carolyn Goldman and Sydney Polakoff
Anita and Arthur Polott
Heather and Andrew Sachs
Deana and Gerald Stempler
Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman
Robin Hettleman and Matthew Weinberg

Sustainer – \$18,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous
Carolyn and Brent Berger
Vicki Berman
Yvonne and Jeffrey Distenfeld
Barbara and Robert Phillips

Patron – \$10,000 - \$17,999

Renee and Gilly Arie
Mindy and Louis Berger
Monique, Brad and Charlie Buckles
Jessica and Andy Chod
Norma and Dean Eisen
Louis and Helen Fanaroff Charitable Foundation
Suzanne and Michael Feinstein
Hilary Dworkin and Norman Freidkin
Elissa and Saul Goldfarb
Debbie and Jerry Greenspan
Neil Gurvitch
Lorraine and Leo Halpert
Connie Heller
Susan and Perry Hookman

Joan Kahn and Leonard Blackman
Kay Family Foundation
Dina and Gerald Leener
Thelma and Melvin Lenkin
Judie and Harry Linowes
Joan and Kenneth Lorber
Phillip and Phyllis^z Margolius
Irma Poretsky
Helen and David Rubin and Family
Sondra and Edwin Schonfeld
Lissa and Andrew Shorr
Jennifer and Neal Simon
Ellen and David Waghelstein
Carol and Michael Winer

Advocate – \$5,000 - \$9,999

Lorraine and Robert Cohen
Vera and Ralph Deckelbaum
Richard Dubin^z and Elizabeth Dubin
Annette and Bernard Forseter
Harriet Friedman and The Honorable Greg Friedman
Arlen and Brian Gaines
Lisa and Murry Gunty
Holli and Matt Jaffe
Rosalyn Levy Jonas
Kovler Fund
Robyn and Steve Lustig
Linda and Larry Mann
Jennifer and Dan Mendelson
Randi and Marty Meyrowitz
Debra Moser and Mitch Berliner
Mia and Brian Pearlstein
Barbara Pollock
Adam, Meredith, Hayden, Lucy and Emma Polsky
Terry and Howard Ross
Liz Schrayner and Jeffrey Schwaber
Sandy Perlstein and Rabbi Sid Schwarz
Joanna and Reed Sexter
Shapiro, Lifschitz and Schram, PC
Pamela and Darryl Shrock
Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker, PA
Dale and Andy Singer
Beth and Leonard Sloan
Albert and Lillian Small Foundation
Robin B. Taub and Michael G. Pfeifer
Audrey and Steven Wasser
Lolly and Joel Zipp
Anna and Jason Zuckerman
Susan and Alan Zuckerman

Children of All Abilities Benefit from Capital Campaign Funds



As part of our capital renovation, we completed two outdoor play areas in FY17: an inclusive playground that enables full accessibility and inclusion for children of all physical abilities, and a natural playscape.

The renovated inclusive playground adheres to the following philosophy: 1) provide social justice by being equitable and usable by children of all abilities so they can enjoy their right to play; 2) support the participation of individuals with diverse abilities in social and physical activities for inclusive, multiage-group play; 3) be easy to understand, allowing individuals to be successful and gain confidence through play; 4) allow children to effectively explore and participate in play at their own level; 5) address current safety standards while providing developmental opportunities needed for exploration and challenge; 6) support various degrees of physical and social participation in play while minimizing unnecessary fatigue; 7) be usable for individuals with sensory needs, diverse body size, posture, mobility and motor control. The space is used by the Bender JCC day camp, preschool, and after-school programs; members; on-site program participants and the local community.

The Bender Early Childhood Center's natural outdoor playscape came about based on the latest research and our goals for educating children. Much has been written about the children of this generation being nature deprived. Video games and indoor play have taken the place of the backyards and woods many of us played in when we were young. Outdoor play leads to discovery and imaginative play. It is open ended and encourages exploration.

Last year, Bender JCC staff members met with a landscape architect and parents to discuss what the space should include. Conversations also took place with the children, asking them what they thought the new playground should look like; many of the elements they suggested have been incorporated.

In place of metal structures are a fallen tree and a hill to climb, and a large sand pit with a stream that runs into it from a child-sized pump. A path of different textures encircles the hill for tricycles, and two picnic tables are available for picnic lunches and small group work. "Loose parts," circles from logs and other wooden shapes, invite children to build and imagine. The "mud kitchen" is a source for experiments and dramatic play.

Thank You

We thank all those who supported the Bender JCC during fiscal year 2017. Photos from some of our major events are found below.



Dr. Stuart Lessans and Dr. Ellen Lessans at the Lessans Family Annual Book Festival



Tracy Bloom Schwartz and Susan Wegner, Lessans Family Annual Book Festival chairs



Corey Migdal and Nelson Migdal, Dinner of Champions co-chairs



Meredith & Adam Polsky, Dinner of Champions co-chairs (rlstevensphotography.com)



Hyman M. and Phillip D. Perlo Award recipients, Dinner of Champions (rlstevensphotography.com)



Jillian Copeland, Irene and Abe Pollin Humanitarian Award winner at the Dinner of Champions (rlstevensphotography.com)



Sports Hall of Fame inductees and JCC Maccabi Legacy Award recipient (rlstevensphotography.com)



Robin London and Jeffrey Slavin, chairs of IMAGINE: A Night Supporting Scholarships at the J



Bruce Lane, Benjamin Ourisman Award for Civic Achievement recipient, and Bruce Pascal (rlstevensphotography.com)



Bender JCC of Greater Washington

FISCAL YEAR 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

Felicia K. Gottdenker
Board of Directors Chair

Heidi Hookman Brodsky
Chair Elect

Helen Rubin
Administration/Finance
Chair & Treasurer

Arthur Polott
Development Chair

Adam Polsky
Membership &
Programming Chair

Holly Beckerman Jaffe
Governance Chair

Noam Fischman
General Counsel

Andrew Chod
Secretary

Brian Gaines
Assistant Secretary

Matthew Weinberg
Assistant Treasurer

Lisa Gunty
Ombudsperson

FISCAL YEAR 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brent Berger, MD

Mindy Berger

Robert I. Black

Nathan Bortnick

Andrew Bridge

Elana Fine

Brett Friedman

Samuel Gallo

Ron Gorfinkel

Toby Gottesman

Meredith Jacobs

Rami Kandel

Randy K. Meyrowitz

Jill Myers

Tracy Bloom Schwartz

Reed Sexter

Andrew P. Shulman

Dale Singer

Maurice "Mac" VerStandig

The Honorable Jeff

Waldstreicher

Sharon Zissman

PAST PRESIDENTS

Morris Cafritz ^{z"l}

Marcella E. Cohen

Scott M. Cohen

The Honorable Stuart E.
Eizenstat

Barry P. Forman

Rosalie B. Gerber ^{z"l}

Michael S. Gildenhorn

Col. Julius Goldstein ^{z"l}

Simon Hirshman ^{z"l}

Lesley Israel

Rosalyn Levy Jonas

Edward H. Kaplan

Joel S. Kaufman ^{z"l}

Harry King ^{z"l}

Fred Kogod ^{z"l}

Robert P. Kogod

Samuel Lehrman

Harry M. Linowes

Steven D. Lustig

Philip N. Margolius

Col. Benjamin Ourisman ^{z"l}

Sydney M. Polakoff

Richard B. Reff, M.D.

Leo Schlossberg ^{z"l}

Burnett Siman ^{z"l}

Beth C. Sloan

Charles E. Smith ^{z"l}

Andrew M. Stern

Bradley C. Stillman

John D. VerStandig

Bernard M. Weisz

Bernard S. White ^{z"l}

Morton H. Wilner ^{z"l}

Donald E. Wolpe

^{z"l} of blessed memory

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Michael Feinstein
President & CEO

Treva Bustow
Chief Marketing Officer

Debra Cooper
Chief Financial Officer

Denise Fowlkes
Chief Human Resources
Officer

Amy I. Gantz
Chief Operating Officer

Adam Tennen
Chief Development Officer

Robert H. Weiner ^{z"l}
Executive Director Emeritus

Contact Us

Phone 301.881.0100
E-mail info@benderjccgw.org
Donate donate@benderjccgw.org

Address
Bender JCC of Greater Washington
6125 Montrose Road • Rockville, MD 20852

benderjccgw.org

