A Place for Belonging
FY18 Impact Report
July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018
A PLACE FOR LEARNING
200 children grow and learn at the Sondra and Howard Bender Early Childhood Center.

For our son to participate and truly love camp makes me so happy. I’m very impressed with the Bender JCC’s inclusive community, the accommodations for children of greatly varying abilities, and everyone’s positive attitudes.

—Lauren, parent of a camper with disabilities

A PLACE FOR CONNECTIONS
We partner with 75 community organizations who use the Kreeger Auditorium for dance, film and theater performances.

I attend many concerts, but the JCC’s are far and away the most enjoyable.

—Sid, who has been attending Polinger Artists of Excellence Concert Series for more than 40 years

A PLACE FOR ILLUMINATION
The lives of 8,500 patrons of the arts are enriched by attending our films, concerts, literary events and gallery exhibits.

We looked into other preschools, but felt that the JCC provided the best balance between learning and letting children be children. We like the Bender preschool’s philosophy, where teachers facilitate learning through exploration.

—Neelam and Samir, parents of a Bender Early Childhood Center student

A PLACE FOR FAMILIES
The Bender-Dosik Parenting Center, where parents engage with their little ones and families connect with each other, serves more than 1,100 individuals.
A PLACE FOR BELONGING
We offer $500,000 in financial assistance and support services annually to ensure that programs and services are available to all who walk through our doors.

“A PLACE FOR INCLUSION
250 counselors care for 650 children – 117 of whom have disabilities – each day at Camp JCC.

“I really appreciate how inclusive and welcoming the Bender JCC is to all ethnicities and abilities. Everyone with whom my sister associates knows her name and greets her when she comes in. It seems like a small thing, but it makes a big difference in making her feel comfortable and welcome.”

—Carolyn, sister of a Bender JCC member who has disabilities

“A PLACE FOR INCLUSION
I have always wanted to understand not only the word, but also the spirit—the ‘Jewish soul’—behind the Hebrew language. For me, it has been an awakening of Jewish culture.”

—Robert, on why he enrolled as a student in the Bender JCC Hebrew language program

“A PLACE FOR BELONGING
We offer $500,000 in financial assistance and support services annually to ensure that programs and services are available to all who walk through our doors.

“The fitness center has the equipment I need and the atmosphere I want. Those who exercise here are accepted for who they are and for what they can do.”

—Darryl, Bender JCC member (whose workouts contributed to his 65-pound weight loss!)

“A PLACE FOR WELLNESS
900 people attend group exercise classes each week, participating in the 90+ group exercise classes that are offered for all interests, ages and skill levels.

25% of the Bender JCC’s annual budget comes from our generous donors, who enable us to provide the warmth of community to so many.

The Bender JCC touches the lives of more than 35,000 unique individuals each year. This report illustrates the impact we made in FY18.
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