## Communicating Impact Figuring out what matters & Telling your story

### Life & Legacy Knowledge Center May 2019

Karen Secular, Create a Jewish Legacy Program Manager









### Our process, or, so what?

- How will we know if we are successful?
- What are measures/data/quotes that will tell us?
- Who are our audiences?
- It's not just about the numbers

### What we think matters

- How are we doing?
- Is anyone better off?
- The story behind the numbers Two case studies

Temple Emanu-El's Success

47 gifts

Future Value Approximately

\$1.3 mil

Total Number of Legacy Gifts in Our Community

te a Jewish Legacy as of March 28, 2011

813
to 20 organizations:
14 synagogues
5 agencies
1 day school

Who is making legacy gifts?



How people make legacy gifts

54%
are bequests in wills or trusts
26%
are retirement plan assets
20%
are via life insurance, cash, other









## How Well Are We Assuring Jewish Tomorrows?

A presentation to the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ November 7, 2017 (rev. March 2018)

Karen Secular, Create a Jewish Legacy Program Manager







# CJL by the Numbers

# Total Number of Legacy Gifts in Our Community

## 1,012

to 23 organizations: 17 synagogues 5 agencies 1 day school

## **Estimated Future Value**

**Approximately** 

\$29

million

We know the value of 64% of the gifts.

Of the gifts we know, the average size is approximately

\$28,800

# How people make legacy gifts

Create a Jewish Legacy as of May 15, 2019

46%

are bequests in wills or trusts

33%

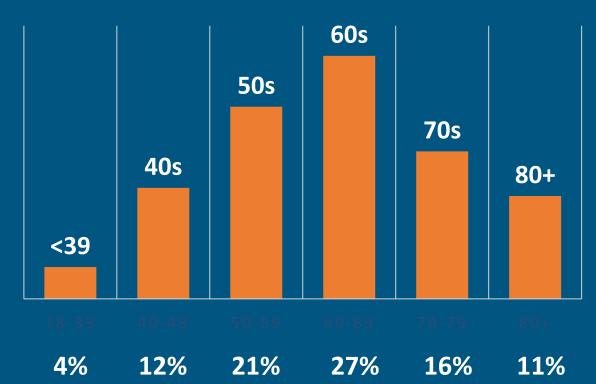
are retirement plan assets

21%

are via life insurance, cash, other

# Who is making legacy gifts?







# CJL provided 9 trainings to Legacy Teams

- Why Legacy? Why Now?
- Creating Your Legacy Plan
- Having the Conversation
- Marketing Your Program
- Excellent Donor Stewardship
- Donor Testimonials: Telling Powerful Stories
- Integrated Ask: Annual & Legacy, Yes!
- Best Practices & Trends in Legacy Giving
- What Does It Mean to be Donor-centric?

## Who we've engaged

More than 150 lay leaders have become involved in the CJL effort

# How Are We Doing?

## Exceeding Goals

**Group 1** 

### YEAR 1

All 15 synagogues and agencies met their goals

6 exceeded them

### YEAR 2

All but 2 synagogues and agencies met their goals

7 exceeded them

### YEAR 3

All synagogues and agencies met their goals

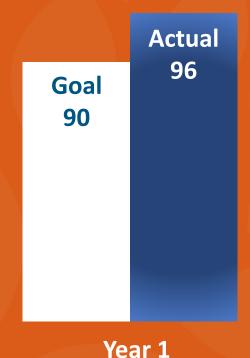
13 exceeded them

Create a Jewish Legacy as of June 30, 2017

## Exceeding Goals

**Group 2** (5 organizations)

### # of Gifts Obtained Group 2



Create a Jewish Legacy as of June 30, 2017

## Exceeding Goals

**Group 2** 

### YEAR 1

All 5 synagogues and agencies in Group 2 met their goals

3 exceeded them

### YEAR 2

4 out of 4 organizations met their goals

3 exceeded them

Create a Jewish Legacy as of June 30, 2017

# Is Anyone Better Off?

# YES! Agencies & Synagogues Are Better Off

#### **Short-term:**

Benefitted from >\$500k in incentive grants from JCF & HGF

#### Long-term:

Better equipped to solicit gifts of all types & steward all donors

# YES! Agencies & Synagogues Are Better Off

"We knew for years that we had to start an endowment program but we just didn't know how to do it.

We needed the tools to get started.

Then CJL came along and you've given us that and so much more."

JFS - MetroWest



## YES! JCF is better off

### 10

CJL organizations

opened new funds at JCF

(Eventually they all will)

## YES! JCF is better off

**CJL** organizations moved

>\$900,000

in existing endowment funds from other financial institutions to JCF

# The Story Behind the Numbers

# Mt. Freedom Jewish Center Randolph, NJ

**Total number of gifts** 

51

% of membership

40

CJL average is 16%

## Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim Cranford, NJ

**Total number of gifts** 

75

% of membership

31

### **CULTURE:**

Don't need to be BIG to do this well!

### **CULTURE:**

They both seem to have tight-knit congregations.

### **CULTURE:**

They both have strong fund-raising cultures and have enthusiastically embraced the practice of donor stewardship.

### **CULTURE:**

They've incorporated legacy giving into the fabric of what they do at their synagogues.

### **CULTURE:**

They make good (and frequent!) use of mentorship offered by CJL staff.

### **LEADERSHIP:**

Both have strong, charismatic leaders who are well-known within their organizations and seem to be well-liked.

### **LEADERSHIP:**

Leadership is comfortable asking people to be part of CJL. No reluctance. **Conversations flow** freely.

### **PROMOTION:**

**Celebrate annual Legacy Shabbat** 

Display legacy society banners in lobby

Publicize CJL on webpages and often in newsletters

**Host donor celebrations** 



