## **ASU Hillel Case Statement**

Hillel has changed my way of thinking, it has taught me about my heritage, and it has made me a better person. Being part of this Jewish community has changed my life. Hannah Ossman '15

Hannah's story is one of hundreds of ASU Hillel stories. Hillel's impact on students results in stronger Jewish leaders, creative Jewish thinkers and more engaged Jewish young adults and families.

ASU Hillel, the only campus pluralistic home base for Jewish students, is present for students during their most formative years. Hillel provides rich training for student leaders using cutting edge engagement strategies that enable us to reach students no one else is reaching. Through leadership development, professional mentoring, religious, cultural and Israel education initiatives, students gain the confidence, knowledge and skills to take ownership over their own adult Jewish experiences and subsequently make an enduring commitment to Jewish life. Hillel advocates for students and for Jewish interests. When a student needs to miss class for a holiday, or when there is anti-Israel activity on campus, Hillel is the first place administrators call for counsel and collaboration.

We don't just know of Hillel's impact from anecdotes like Hannah's. In fact, aside from having two Jewish parents, Hillel was the most frequent common denominator amongst young Jewish leaders surveyed by the Avi Chai Foundation in 2010. More than Jewish summer camp, Jewish youth groups, or day schools, young Jewish leaders today have been groomed at their respective Hillels.

As so many graduates of ASU stay in our local community, an investment in ASU Hillel impacts not only the lives of our students, but also the future of Jewish Phoenix. ASU Hillel alumni currently serve in countless professional and volunteer roles that strengthen the fabric of our Jewish community. People cut their teeth at Hillel and graduate ready to impact their society in new ways.

Our legacy donors, individuals just like you, want to ensure that Hillel will always be the place at ASU to inspire and lead Jewish life, ultimately building the future leaders of our Jewish community, changing lives, and deeply impacting the course of the American Jewish future. Please join us!