



Tips for Writing a Testimonial

Having made a decision to leave a legacy to one or more organizations you value, we encourage you to write a brief statement **(up to 150 words)** about yourself, your family or philosophy, which can serve as a message for future generations and encourage others to leave a legacy as well.

Here are some suggestions to help you get started crafting a statement that reflects your values and your commitment to the _____ Jewish community.

1. Instead of trying to compose just the right number of words for the page, take a separate sheet of paper and **write** as much as you want. It's much simpler to take what you've written, make choices, and edit the long story down to a short one.

There is no required formula or guidelines for the type of material you may want to include in your entry. However, you could answer any of the following:

- When did your family arrive in the U.S. and from where?
- What or who were your greatest influences in shaping your Jewish identity and/or commitment to supporting the Jewish community?
- What is most significant to you about being Jewish?
- How would you like to be remembered?
- What are your hopes for the Jewish community of the future?
- Why did you choose to make this legacy gift commitment?
- What do you hope to accomplish with this gift?
- Is there anything else you would like to mention?

2. **Create** your **150-word** statement based upon the above.
3. **Include** a photograph to be scanned and printed on your page. Photos will be handled with care and returned.
4. **Submit** your statement and photograph to _____
5. Contact _____ if you would like assistance