



LEGACY

WINTER 2017 NEWSLETTER

YAVAPAI COLLEGE ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

In 2012 Yavapai College announced the creation of the largest scholarship program in its history when the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott (JCF) provided full tuition and fee scholarships to 48 students in the nursing and radiologic technology programs over a five-year period. The first recipients of the Jewish Foundation Healthcare Scholarships began their professional studies at Yavapai College in August of 2012. Along the way other community organizations contributed funds to the program such that by the time the program ends in the spring of 2017, the scholarship program will have successfully graduated 54 new healthcare professionals.

Those involved in the initial scholarship program recognized the importance of the program and the need to continue the program for another five years. The 'call' went out and six organizations stepped forward to fund another 48 students for the program through the spring of 2021. The organizations were: **Harold James Family Trust, Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott, Margret T. Morris Foundation, Prescott Radiologists, LLP, Yavapai College Foundation, and Yavapai Regional Medical Center.**

The scholarship program is designed to address two issues: (1) the expected shortage of healthcare professionals in coming years and (2) the inability of rural communities to effectively compete with urban communities for these highly valued professionals. The Community Healthcare Scholarship program is a community effort to identify, support, and train students who are committed to pursuing a healthcare career in our local community. As described by JCF president, David Hess, M.D.: "The program simultaneously supports education and healthcare, while ensuring a 'pipeline' of vital healthcare professionals for the local medical community."

When asked about the Community Healthcare Scholars Program, Paul Kirchgraber, Director of Development at Yavapai College Foundation, said: "The College is overwhelmed with the enthusiasm our community has shown in supporting these aspiring healthcare professionals. The generosity of these respected organizations is truly amazing and the provided scholarships relieve the financial burden for students, allowing them to concentrate on their studies."

For further information about the Community Healthcare Scholars Program, contact the Yavapai College Foundation at (928) 776-2025.



Community Healthcare Scholars for 2016 are: Front row, seated left to right, Lauren Hathorn; Amanda Denzine; Michelle Garcia; Azucena Mercado Martinez; Lisa Jedlow. Second row, standing left to right, Sarah Ireland; Heather Staten; Tracey Dawson; Evelin Astorga; Cate McCabe; Tiffanie Oium.



“DEEDS OF GIVING ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE WORLD.”

HANUKKAH MENORAHS ADORN COMMUNITY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

This holiday season residents of our community found Hanukkah Menorahs in Prescott and Prescott Valley. The first Hanukkah Menorah was publically displayed in November of 2011 with the unveiling of an outdoor Menorah at the 12th Annual ‘Valley of Lights’ in Prescott Valley. Jointly sponsored by Temple B’rith Shalom and the Jewish Foundation, this outdoor Menorah stands thirteen feet tall, is ten feet wide, and displays nine candles that are each five feet tall. This holiday season marked the outdoor Menorah’s sixth appearance in the ‘Valley of Lights’ festival.

Since 2012, Hanukkah Menorahs have also adorned the East and West Campuses of Yavapai Regional Medical Center. And for the third time since 2014, Rabbi Elie Filler of the Chabad of Prescott held a Menorah lighting ceremony on the Courthouse Square in Prescott. This public outdoor lighting event has been a favorite for many during the holiday season.

Hanukkah is the 2,000 year-old story of the miracle of the sacred oil that occurred in ancient Israel. The story began when a Jewish priest and his five sons rebelled against the Syrian tyrant, Antiochus IV, who had outlawed the Jewish religion and defiled the Temple in Jerusalem. Although vastly outnumbered by Antiochus’ soldiers, the tiny army of Jewish rebels, called the Maccabees, defeated the Syrians and regained control of Jerusalem and the Temple.

Once the Temple had been cleansed and the new altar readied for services, the Maccabees discovered that only one vial of sacred olive oil had survived the defilement by the Syrians. Although the vial contained only enough oil to light the altar Menorah for one day, the sacred oil miraculously burned for eight days – enough time to prepare a fresh supply of olive oil for the Temple.

An eight-day festival was declared by the Jewish leaders to commemorate this ‘miracle of the oil’. Each year at Hanukkah, Jews celebrate by lighting the candles on a unique nine-branched Menorah – lighting one candle on each night of the holiday, progressing until all eight are lit on the final night. The ninth, or raised candle, is called the *shamash* and is used to light the other candles.



Hanukkah Menorah display in the lobby of Yavapai Regional Medical Center East Campus in Prescott Valley.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

For the past twelve years the Legacy newsletter has described the Foundation’s multitude of programs. The common thread of those programs has been a desire to improve the life we all enjoy in our community.

The Community Healthcare Scholars Program began as one donor’s vision and has now grown into a community-wide program of support for healthcare students at Yavapai College. By 2021 the scholarship program will have provided full tuition and fee scholarships to 106 students.

The Foundation’s call for grant applications, announced on the opposite page, begins our annual process of awarding funds to local organizations that provide much needed assistance to those in need in our community.

The Foundation’s success is due to the generosity of its donors, the efforts of its volunteers, the wisdom of its Board, and the support of its community partners – to each I want to say thank you. Together we aspire to improve our community.

David S. Hess, M.D., President



FOUNDATION CALL FOR GRANT APPLICANTS LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY



On the left in 2015, Michelle Falick, Chair of the JCF Grants Committee, presents Fritzi Mevis, Executive Director of People Who Care, with a check for the new Prescott Valley office.

For over 5000 years the concept of charitable giving has been an integral part of Jewish life and belief. For more than 240 years, the desire to improve the common good and help one's neighbor has been the fabric of American democracy. With this dual heritage in mind, for the past eighteen years the Jewish Foundation has supported local charitable organizations that provide necessary services to the community's needy, underprivileged, or homeless as well as supporting education and the arts.

Each year the Foundation provides funding to community organizations through its grants application process. Grant applications for 2017 are accepted from February 13th until April 23rd, with the recipients being named in late May of 2017.

To assist those interested in applying for a grant, the general guidelines of importance to the Grants Committee include:

- Organizations requesting funding must be an IRS recognized direct 501(c) (3) charitable organization.
- The organization and program requesting funds must provide its benefits and services to the quad-city area of Yavapai County.

- Grants for new or substantially improved programs are given priority over those seeking support for established programs.
- Programs that promote community partnerships and benefit a broad spectrum of the community will be given priority.
- There must be a demonstrated need for and clear benefits of the program.
- There must be a demonstrated source of continued funding if the program is to be continued beyond the grant period.
- Grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$15,000

If your organization is interested in applying for a grant, more details can be found at www.jcftp.org or by contacting the Foundation at 771-3737.



From the left in 2014, Cindy Elbert and Larry Richards of New Horizons Empowerment accept a check for \$4,500 from Foundation trustee, Rich Adler, to provide transportation services for the disabled.



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FOUNDATION CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

PJ LIBRARY PROVIDES FREE JEWISH BOOKS FOR KIDS IN PRESCOTT

Have you ever wanted a better way to create treasured Jewish memories with your children or grandchildren? Have you wanted a way to introduce them to the richness and depth of our Jewish heritage? This year will mark the ninth year that PJ Library has been doing just that in our community! And it's free!

The Jewish Foundation has partnered with the nationally recognized **PJ Library**, to provide free, high quality children's books and CD's to Jewish families in the greater Prescott area. For children ages 6 months to seven years enrolled in the program, PJ Library will mail a monthly gift of a Jewish book or CD as well as a reading guide to enhance the family's experience. And the best part is: the program is free to all Jewish families in the quad-city area that enroll their children.

To obtain more information or to enroll your child in this wonderful program, visit the Foundation's web site at www.jcfdp.org or call 771-3737.



*A mother and her daughter read the PJ Library book, **The Littlest Pair**, the story of Noah's Ark.*

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