

# DESIGN & IMPACT NEWS

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THE FOUNDATION  
JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
LOS ANGELES



*Foundation event addressing homelessness in Los Angeles*

## Events and Resources to Help Design Your Philanthropy

Foundation donors have access to events and resources through our Center for Designed Philanthropy. Several times a year, we host cultural events, informational salons, and educational workshops. We also offer in-depth resources that provide insight into the Los Angeles philanthropic landscape and local nonprofits. Through these events and resources, we can help you identify what core values matter most, learn about the causes that align with your values, and design a strategy to fulfill your core values through meaningful giving to impactful nonprofits. We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities!

When we created the Center for Designed Philanthropy, one of our goals was to curate exclusive events for Foundation donors with experts in several issue areas. Since then, we've hosted notable events, including a salon focused on energy independence with **Robert F. Kennedy Jr.**, a workshop on generational differences in giving with **Sharna Goldseker**, and intimate breakfast briefings with **Eli Groner**, Director General of the Prime Minister's Office in Israel.



# Strategies for Addressing Homelessness in Los Angeles

Our events bring together leading experts with Foundation donors to learn and grow together as a community and to become more strategic, effective philanthropists.

We recently held an inspiring event about addressing homelessness in Los Angeles. The event was held at the home of Foundation Trustee **Keenan Wolens** and his wife, **Orna**, in Beverly Hills, and a panel of leading experts discussed effective ways to address this challenging issue.

The panelists explained that people experiencing homelessness struggle with an array of issues. For decades, Los Angeles has grappled with creating

enough supportive housing services. Due to an increased focus by the Los Angeles community, more affordable housing initiatives have been implemented. As a result, according to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), in the past year, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness has decreased by approximately 4 percent from 55,048 to 52,765.

Though this is a crucial step in the right direction, substantial work remains. Many L.A. organizations, including those represented at our event, have worked to address this issue.



*Elana Wien, Vice President of The Foundation's Center for Designed Philanthropy, introduces the event.*



*Panelists answer questions from the audience.*





(L-R) Rabbi Noah Farkas, Andrea Ilouljian, Estela Lopez, Warren Fong, Tommy Newman

The event was moderated by one of The Foundation's Program Officers, **Warren Fong**, and featured **Rabbi Noah Farkas** of **Valley Beth Shalom** and **LAHSA**, **Andrea Ilouljian** of the **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation**, **Estela Lopez** of the **LA Downtown Industrial District Business Improvement District**, and **Tommy Newman** of **United Way of Greater Los Angeles**. The speakers highlighted several notable points, including:

- About 30 percent of people experiencing chronic homelessness have severe mental health issues.
- About 70 percent of people experiencing homelessness do so because of housing unaffordability.
- Citywide, Los Angeles has a vacancy rate of approximately 2 percent and a massive housing shortage.

"Oftentimes, we think of homelessness as this monolithic issue, where all individuals have the same needs," explained Fong. "But a senior citizen who can't find affordable housing is different from someone with significant mental and physical health issues

who has been homeless for years. Understanding these nuances and how best to address them is critical to formulating strategies to address homelessness. Our panel of experts represents organizations on the frontline of this issue, who deeply understand it and are implementing effective programs to alleviate it, which is vitally important to The Foundation and our family of donors."

To see more photos from the event, turn to pg. 5.



Our gracious hosts, Orna & Keenan Wolens, and daughter, Alana

# Center for Designed Philanthropy Shares Resources

The Center for Designed Philanthropy works closely with donors to help them explore their interests, identify their values and passions, and ultimately connect them with outstanding programs and organizations. We also help donors conduct site visits at the nonprofits they may be interested in supporting so they can see the work that's being done firsthand.

For donors who are interested in conducting their own research, we provide access to several outside resources, including the **Jewish Funders Network's Greenbooks**, guides from Foundation grantee **Bet Tzedek**, and helpful books such as *Raising Financially Fit Kids* by Joline Godfrey.

## JFN GREENBOOKS

The Foundation is a member of the Jewish Funders Network (JFN), which has produced several in-depth guides, or "greenbooks," which address various interest areas for Jewish philanthropists. These downloadable resources are free and available at [www.jfunders.org/greenbook](http://www.jfunders.org/greenbook).

### Greenbook Titles:

- *Jewish Day School Financial Sustainability and Affordability*
- *Hitchadshut Yehudit, Jewish Renewal in Israel*
- *Funding Environmental Stewardship in Israel*
- *Funding Jewish Overnight Camp*
- *Arts as a Driver for Social Change in Israel*



## BET TZEDEK



**Bet Tzedek** provides free legal assistance to eligible low-income residents of Los Angeles County, with a special focus on seniors, adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, low-wage workers, Holocaust survivors, and caregivers helping seniors or children of relatives.

It also provides free downloadable resources, including booklets that address conservatorship, caregivers and companions, and in-home support services.

These resources are available at [www.bettzedek.org/our-services/resources](http://www.bettzedek.org/our-services/resources).

## RAISING FINANCIALLY FIT KIDS by Joline Godfrey

In *Raising Financially Fit Kids*, author Joline Godfrey shares her financial wisdom, gained over decades of experience preparing children and families for financial stewardship and philanthropic effectiveness. Godfrey is a pioneer in the developmental, experiential approach to financial education and the author of several books including *Raising Financially Fit Kids* and *Our Wildest Dreams: Women Entrepreneurs Making Money, Having Fun, Doing Good*.

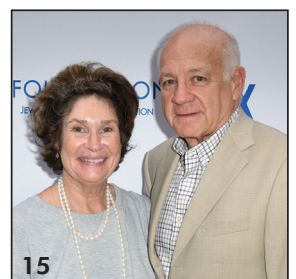
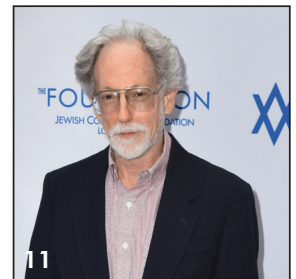
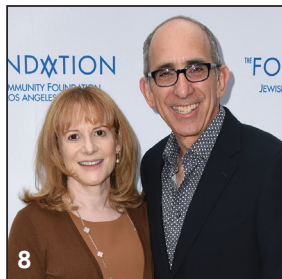
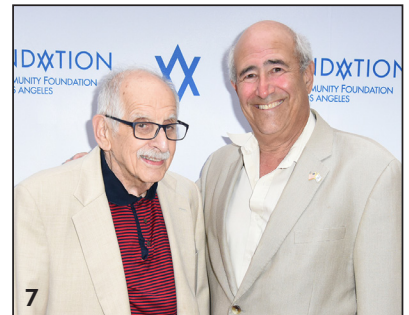
The Foundation has previously hosted events with Ms. Godfrey in which she explained her philosophy and shared tips and strategies for children, teens, college students, and the financial novice of any age to become savers, smart money managers, and responsible decision-makers.



To request a copy of *Raising Financially Fit Kids*, please contact us at [thecenter@jewishfoundationla.org](mailto:thecenter@jewishfoundationla.org). Supplies are limited.



Recently seen at an event hosted by The Foundation and its Center for Designed Philanthropy:



1. Members of The Foundation's Board of Trustees and Marvin Schotland
2. Lyn Levine and Diane Sweet
3. Myron & Arlene Lieberman
4. Sam Yebri, Shawn Landres, Rabbi Noah Farkas, Paul Soroudi
5. Larry Rauch, Estela Lopez, Deborah & Howard Klein
6. Benita & Bert Ginsburg
7. Harold Igdaloff and Robert Aronoff
8. Julie & Steve Bram
9. Rick Burns & Jan Berfein Burns
10. David Horvitz & Saryl Hirsch-Samuelson
11. Henry Morgen
12. Lael Rubin and Ron Blanc
13. Greg & Andrea Smith
14. Pat & Ira Cohen
15. Marcie Polier Swartz & David Swartz

Photos: Vivien Best

DESIGNED GIVING MADE SIMPLE.

## CONTACT US

**To learn more  
about the Center's  
innovative and  
customized services,**

**and/or schedule a complimentary  
consultation, contact the  
Center for Designed Philanthropy at  
[thecenter@jewishfoundationla.org](mailto:thecenter@jewishfoundationla.org) or  
323.761.8705.**

The **Center for Designed Philanthropy** provides the resources, expertise, and connections to create thoughtful giving strategies tailored to your needs.

323.761.8705

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