



# Community Foundations Offer You Tangible Benefits And The Means To Repair The World

By Dan Rothblatt

THE FOUNDATION  
JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
LOS ANGELES

In 1954, Judge Isaac Pacht assembled a group of prominent local leaders to take a long-term view of the Los Angeles Jewish community. Post-World War II Los Angeles was evolving rapidly, the State of Israel had been established just a few years prior, and this visionary group foresaw the need for a permanent source of charitable funds to support causes here and half a world away alike.

What resulted is the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles (The Foundation), which will mark its 65th anniversary in 2019. Now ranking among the nation's largest Jewish charitable institutions, The Foundation today manages about \$1.25 billion in charitable assets for Los Angeles's Jewish philanthropists and last year distributed \$100 million to more than 2,600 causes and programs locally, nationally and around the globe.

## Serving the Community and Donors Alike

Organized as a grantmaking public charity, The Foundation exists to address the needs of the communities it serves—making a positive, lasting impact now and in the future. As a resource to donors, we help develop flexible, efficient and tax-effective giving strategies that enable them to fulfill their charitable passions and ambitions. One of our most important roles is to make it easy to become a philanthropist, offering charitable products for people of all means to leave a lasting impact on their community and the causes about which they care most deeply.

## Partnering with The Foundation

Through charitable funds established with us, donors can support not only a countless number of Jewish causes, but also a broad range of societal needs, such as healthcare, arts and culture, education, homelessness, domestic violence, at-risk youth and many others. At the heart of The Foundation's mission is the Jewish precept of Tikkun Olam—Hebrew for healing the world—and nothing underscores this more than the continuum of causes and programs donors elect to support. More than 1,300 Los Angeles Jewish individuals and families, as well as nonprofit institutions, place their trust in us to manage their charitable assets.

The reasons they turn to The Foundation include:

**Deep understanding of Jewish and general community nonprofits.** Our ongoing interaction with various nonprofit agencies and program providers offers a deep reservoir of knowledge on where the best work is being done to improve the community.

**Convene thought leaders for the benefit of donors.** Acting as a convener, we host programs and offer access to experts—the best and the brightest—on topical matters and pressing issues.

**Collaborative approach to solving pressing social issues.** We work cooperatively with other funders and segments of the community which can provide leverage in addressing our most complex social challenges.

**Engage multiple generations in thoughtful, effective philanthropy.** Among our many resources is the Center for Designed Philanthropy, which partners with donors and their families to develop effective intergenerational giving strategies.

**Broad range of products affords flexible charitable solutions.** One of the value-added benefits of partnering with us is that there is no “one-size-fits-all” solution. We can work with you and your professional advisors to develop the charitable-giving vehicles most appropriate to your circumstances, including donor advised funds, endowments and support foundations.

**Stability and permanence.** Here today and for tomorrow, The Foundation administers approximately 300 charitable endowments on behalf of donors, ensuring that bequests intended to extend beyond their lifetimes are faithfully implemented in perpetuity.

**Stewardship and accountability.** The Foundation affords donors peace of mind—from ease of administration, to access of information 24/7, to sound investment management of charitable assets.

**Your ability to contribute a range of charitable gifts.** As a public charity, The Foundation is permitted to accept contributions of cash, securities, IRA distributions, real estate, limited liability companies and other assets, making it easy to fund your philanthropy.

**Favorable tax treatment.** Contributions to a fund established with us afford donors deduc-

tions for income and estate tax purposes to the maximum extent permitted under current tax laws. Donations of appreciated assets are not subject to capital-gains taxes and an income-tax deduction is permissible on the full, fair market value of the gift.

## A Commitment to Giving Back

The rabbi Hillel the Elder asked: *If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I'm only for myself, what am I?* These philosophical questions are as relevant today as they were when the rabbi first pondered them over 2,000 years ago. They also motivate many of our Foundation donors. These individuals and families, governed by compassionate hearts, deem it their solemn obligation to use their good fortune to repair the world and help those in need.

This primer about The Foundation is the first in an informational series. Upcoming articles will cover various gifting vehicles, as well as tax-advantaged giving strategies under the recent tax-reform act.

To explore how you can embark on your own journey in giving—and the joys that come with it—as well as to maximize the potential of your giving through one of The Foundation's charitable products, we invite your inquiry. You can learn more by visiting [www.jewishfoundationla.org](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org), calling (323) 761-8704, or emailing [development@jewishfoundationla.org](mailto:development@jewishfoundationla.org).

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## PITTSBURGH SHOOTING

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survivors, my heart is broken that we still live in a world full of anti-Semitism and hate. Many people have perished because of their religion, race, skin color, sexual orientation and more. I am numb and at a loss for words.”

Members of the Jewish community throughout the City have expressed their support for Pittsburgh and many of the City's synagogues are participating in international expressions of support across the Jewish community and beyond, such as #ShowUpForShabbat, sponsored by the American Jewish Committee, a global advocacy group that counts among its missions combatting anti-Semitism.

To that end, Rabbi Pini Dunner of Beverly Hills Synagogue Young Israel of North Beverly Hills joined with other rabbis and communities on the Westside of L.A. for a Community Evening of Tefilla & Solidarity Monday following the shooting.

Dunner has announced an Extended Kiddush this Shabbat, “to honor the memory of the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting victims and take our stand against anti-Semitism and all forms of hate by participating

in the nationwide #ShowUpForShabbat campaign.”

“May we all be consoled in the face of such evil, and may we come together in love and unity as a community that looks forward with hope and with faith in God,” said Dunner.

The community of Temple Emanuel will also participate in #ShowUpForShabbat. “We are joining in solidarity with synagogues, elected officials, religious and civic leaders, and other communal allies from all over the country as we take on hatred and violence with love and peace,” wrote Rabbi Jonathan Aaron. “We join together for comfort and community, and we honor the eleven Jewish souls who were killed while praying in their synagogue, to show that this act of violence will not intimidate us from entering our house of worship.” #ShowUpForShabbat events are expected to take place throughout the nation Friday, and a GoFundMe campaign has been set up for the survivors. With a goal \$1.2 million, \$1.053 million had been raised by deadline Thursday.

To participate, call your local synagogue or check their website for more information.

## FITNESS BLAST

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signature initiative, Walk with the Mayor.

Since then, the City has taken health seriously, banning smoking and vaping in public areas and multi-family dwellings, recognizing small businesses and legacy businesses, and creating bike lanes and improvements towards a Complete Streets initiative that will honor all forms of transportation in a safe and inclusive manner.

The Beverly Hills 5K-10K Run/Walk & Fitness Blast is a perfect complement to the City's image as a healthy place to live, benefitting the local schools.

Launched by celebrity personal trainer Dion Jackson of All Seasons Fitness Media in its inaugural year (2018) the event presented a check for \$30,000 to the Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF) from the proceeds.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Streisand, Jack Benny, Peter Falk, Betty Grable, Diane Keaton, Madonna, David and Victoria Beckham, Jennifer Lopez, Kirk Kerkorian, Agnes Moorhead, Ricky Schroder, Hedy Lamarr, Ginger Rogers,



The starting line at last year's inaugural 5K Run/Walk Fitness Blast

This year's event is set to be even bigger, with the addition of a 10K event, the perfect training distance for quality runners training for the Los Angeles Marathon that takes place in March, according to Jackson.

“The runners had such a good time running the 5K up and down Rodeo Drive and the beautiful streets of Beverly Hills Golden Triangle this year, we decided to give them a chance

to run it twice by adding the 10K in 2019,” said Jackson.

Additional kid-friendly events and a Fitness Blast that will feature some of the most renowned instructors in the health and fitness industry leading short classes in yoga, dance, kickboxing and more will round out the program.

All the proceeds will benefit the BHEF.

Save the date: registration is coming soon.

[society.org](http://society.org) on a smart phone and click on the Star Tour. The tour is absolutely free and the event is free.

The walk will take place without traffic escorts, so participants are encouraged to be aware of traffic, to wear comfortable shoes and to bring water, a hat and sunblock.