

הקשר היהודי שלך

Your Jewish Connection

Brought to you by the Lifelong Learning Committee – *Written by Linda S Trapasso*

A Roadmap for Jewish Giving

Please give to TBA's annual fundraising campaign

There is much to consider in building your own giving strategy and getting started with your philanthropy. (See a [brief history of philanthropy](#) and [Jewish philanthropy here](#).) There is also significant potential for life-enriching work.

Great philanthropists, like great business leaders, take inspiration from their intuition as well as personal insight and passion, and build their good works on a foundation of planning and experienced advice. In other words, you don't have to do this alone. In fact, it is recommended that you involve your personal advisors and family from the beginning.



REFLECT: Make an effort to understand why you want to give so that your giving will be its most meaningful. You have many options when it comes to choosing your issue areas and which approaches to use to achieve your desired outcomes.

ACT:

- Think about what you've learned as a result of your life experiences
 - Draw inspiration from the rich Jewish tradition and values surrounding [tzedakah](#) (and [here](#))
 - Incorporate the wisdom of individuals who have influenced you
 - Involve family members in these discussions
 - Use value exercises for clarification and to prioritize your giving
- 1: Allow yourself a learning period and take the time to research thoroughly what you want to achieve. These choices will determine the parameters of your philanthropy and should be informed choices.



ACT:

- Seek out opportunities and resources for Jewish learning and narrowing your focus within the causes you have identified as important
- Learn about and join organizations for funders such as [Jewish Communal Fund](#), [Jewish Funders Network](#), and [Combined Jewish Philanthropies](#) that can accompany you along your philanthropic journey and from which you can obtain advice
- Access the wealth of information on charitable giving and on specific issues on websites and in print (a [Google](#) search on a specific issue can show you plenty of links)
- Attend educational programs from professional and academic institutions
- Define the outcome you seek to achieve

REFLECT: Making informed strategic choices is important, but it is also critical to give your attention to implementation.

ACT:

- Jump in; the learning continues as you begin the process of giving
- Gather feedback and information about your grant-making
 - Ask your charities for data that demonstrates results
- Adjust your strategy as you move forward

REFLECT: Discover the excitement and joy of the process of giving.

PHILANTHROPY
IT TAKES A TEAM



(Continued on the following page ...)

A Roadmap for Jewish Giving continued...

ACT:

- Involve family members or like-minded people
- Join a giving circle
- Volunteer
- Serve on the board of a non-profit organization

Enjoy the Journey of Discovering the Meaning and Value of Philanthropy for YOU!

For more information, go to the Jewish Funders Network, Jewish Communal Fund, and CJP sites. Each provides resources and information regarding charitable giving and philanthropy. A [Forward article on Jewish charitable giving](#) provides information on American giving. For lists of Jewish charities, see [GuideStar](#); a Charity Watch list of [top-rated Jewish charities](#); and information on [selecting charities](#) at Jewish Magazine.

NOTE: This article is an excerpt from “Your Jewish Philanthropy Roadmap”, a resource produced by the Jewish Funders Network and Jewish Communal Fund. Additional links added by the author.



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