

# Questions

## What is the Jewish Communal Fund?

The Jewish Communal Fund is an independent public charity established in 1972. Its mission is to facilitate and promote charitable giving and make it possible for individuals and families to meet their philanthropic goals using donor-advised funds.

In partnership with its donors, the Jewish Communal Fund supports voluntary organizations—sectarian and nonsectarian—that respond to needs in all sectors of society: health, education, social services, the environment, religion, and the arts.

## How does it work?

### ● Make a contribution

Open a fund quickly and easily by filling out an application. You may name the fund and designate family members or others to participate.

A new fund is activated with an initial contribution of \$5,000 (\$1,800 for individuals age 30 and under) or more in cash or appreciated securities. Subsequent contributions may be made in any amount at any time. All contributions to the Jewish Communal Fund are eligible for the highest tax deduction allowed by law.

### ● Recommend grants to charities

You may recommend grants of \$100 or more to IRS-qualified public charities at any time. Upon approval, the Jewish Communal Fund issues a check to the charity indicating that the donation was made at your recommendation from your fund. You may also choose to have grants made anonymously.

### ● Watch the fund grow tax-free

The Jewish Communal Fund offers 20 investment options, which have varying levels of risk and potential return. These options include a fixed income fund, a money-market fund, numerous managed equity and equity-indexed mutual funds, and several privately managed accounts. You have the privilege of recommending how the assets in your fund are invested.

In addition, **donors with fund balances in excess of one million dollars may request particular investment options not currently offered**, subject to the approval of the Jewish Communal Fund's Investment Committee.

## What are the benefits?

A donor-advised fund at the Jewish Communal Fund allows you to carry out your charitable giving simply and efficiently without the limitations and expenses associated with a private foundation.

### You may:

- Receive an immediate fair market value tax deduction for gifts of long-term appreciated securities and pay no capital gains tax.
- Recommend an asset allocation from a menu of highly rated investments.
- Recommend as many grants as you wish to IRS-qualified **sectarian and nonsectarian** public charities.
- Receive quarterly reports and **access your fund online**.
- Involve family and friends in the joys of charitable giving.

## What does it cost?

Funds are charged an annual administrative fee of 75 basis points for fund balances up to \$5 million. (The minimum annual fee is \$150.) Higher fund balances are charged at reduced rates. Investment management fees vary depending upon the chosen portfolio. Other fees such as brokerage commissions or legal fees incurred in connection with the contribution of special assets may be charged to your fund.

## What else should I know?

- Over 2,500 donor-advised funds.
- Approximately \$800 million in assets.
- More than two billion dollars granted to charities since 1972.
- 4-Star rating by Charity Navigator past five years and #1 Slam Dunk Charity in May 2009.
- May be used with some Matching Gift programs.
- At year-end, the Board of Trustees awards community grants from our fees and endowment income to the Annual Campaign of UJA-Federation of New York and to causes that promote the welfare and security of the Jewish community at home and overseas.

**For more information, please call Abby Tucker at (212) 752-8277, ext. 13, or visit our website.**