JUST TEENS: Transforming Tzedakah into Grantmaking
A study by the Jewish Teen Funders Network 2017-2018

Top 3 Jewish Values
- Tikkun Olam: Repair the World
- Tzedakah: Righteous Giving
- Kehillah: Community

73% of teen philanthropy programs are engaging teens from their community that are not involved in any other formal Jewish educational programming.

285+ grants awarded

Grantmaking pools ranged from $500 to $187,000

Top 3 Grantmaking Issue Areas
- Poverty
- Education
- Jewish Identity

Supporting the Jewish community was a priority for Jewish teen philanthropists.

61% of dollars were allocated to Jewish and Israel organizations even when no parameters were set.

Parameters frame the grantmaking process and can include guidelines on giving to local, global, Jewish, or Israel organizations.

Jewish teen foundations granted nearly 1 Million Dollars in 2017-2018.

The data in this report is based on responses from approximately 60% of teen foundations in the Jewish Teen Funders Network (JTFN) including 10 JTFN Foundation Board Incubator communities. The Foundation Board Incubator is a project of JTFN, generously funded by Laura Lauder and the Maimonides Fund.
**JEWISH TEEN FUNDERS NETWORK**

JTFN’s mission is to strengthen Jewish engagement and identity through supporting and elevating the field of Jewish teen philanthropy.

We achieve this transformative impact by:

- Setting field standards and tools for program development and evaluation
- Providing resources, training and networking for professionals
- Mainstreaming philanthropy into the Jewish teen experience
- Serving as the lead catalyst for new programs

JTFN’s vision is to create generations of engaged, empowered and experienced changemakers and givers.

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**JEWSH TEENS GIVE WITH INTENTIONALITY**

Conservative, Orthodox, Reconstructing Judaism, Reform and Unaffiliated

Diverse Host Organizations
- Camps, Community Foundations, Federations, Jewish Community Centers, Jewish Day Schools, Synagogues and Youth Movements

Diverse Participant Backgrounds

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“Maimonides’ Ladder of Giving is an essential teaching that helped me understand Jewish beliefs on giving. Using this rubric we see that not all giving is equal and how to create the greatest impact.”

- Isaac Keiser
  JTFN Youth Ambassador Council Cohort III
  Teen Giving Project, Philadelphia PA

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