

THE JEWISH CHRONICLE

Metro Briefs June 6

06.06.13 - 09:14 am

Jewish Women's Foundation of Greater Pittsburgh is marking its 10th anniversary of funding women's and girls' initiatives in Allegheny County and Israel.

"JWF's 10th anniversary of grant-making offers an opportunity to reflect on the many achievements of the Foundation and our grantees, and the tremendous impact JWF has made in the Pittsburgh community and Israel over the past decade," Judy Greenwald-Cohen, executive director of JWF, said in a prepared statement. "Funding social change is at the core of the JWF mission, and we're proud to look back on 10 years of necessary, impactful change that has enriched and improved the lives of women and girls, as a result of JWF's grant-making focus and priorities."

Founded in 2000, JWF began making grants in 2003 to fund innovative initiatives and projects specifically serving and supporting the unique and critical needs of women and girls. Previous years' grant-making cycles have focused on women and girls' education and women's economic security and empowerment.

To date, JWF has granted nearly \$400,000.

Over the years, JWF has collaborated with individuals and organizations to increase the impact of grant-making dollars, advocacy efforts and community work. Notable past collaborations include the Women and Girls Foundation of Southwest Foundation (WGF), FISA Foundation and Eden Hall Foundation to create the Girls as Grantmakers group, which implemented the "girlcott" against sexist T-shirts distributed by Abercrombie & Fitch.

JWF was also one of the first foundations to contribute to the Pittsburgh Promise, and was one of the founding members of the steering committee of the Girls Coalition of Southwestern PA.

More recently, JWF engaged in a partnership with the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) to form The Center for Women, a Squirrel Hill based initiative intended to serve women throughout the community, including female heads of households, women in need, women who are newly divorced, separated or widowed or who are experiencing domestic abuse, as well as women in transition or undergoing hardship, in areas related to achieving and maintaining economic independence. The Center will begin implementing programming in the fall.