



The Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago Grants Awarded December 2004

Economic Security/Advocacy

Economic Empowerment for Women A Business of One's Own –This organization specializes in helping Jewish and Arab women across Israel establish micro enterprises (cottage industries). Support is for the Access to Market (ATM) project. Businesswomen will be taught more sophisticated product design, marketing and distribution, thereby bringing their businesses out of isolation and exposing them to a broader market. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$9,000**

Adva Center Budget Advocacy for Women and Girls in Israel- This project will build a coalition of Israeli women from diverse backgrounds (including business, women's organizations, & higher education) who will advocate for government budgets that benefit women and girls. The core of the project is organizational work: creating approaches, tactics and roadmaps for obtaining a greater share of the budget for women and girls or reversing earlier budget cuts harmful to women and girls. **Amount: \$7,500**

Isha L'Isha LEAP Forward Project- Support for this project will teach low-income, unemployed and immigrant Israeli women how to advocate for their government unemployment and child –support benefits, to minimize debt during the current economic crisis, and especially, how to re-enter the job force. Each participant will develop a pragmatic action plan and receive individual follow-up counseling. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$5,000**

WEPOWER Women's Electoral Power- This project seeks to permanently change Israel's political landscape by increasing the numbers of women in public office. Israeli women, with potential for public leadership, will attend a series of workshops designed to improve their skills in public speaking, political strategy and communication. **Amount: \$8,500**

Education/Spirituality/The Arts

The Hillels of Illinois Rosh Chodesh and Beyond: Jewish Women's Programming at the Hillels of Illinois– This project will maintain communities for Jewish women on 6 campuses and engage them in programming focused intentionally on issues relevant to young Jewish women. Each campus will have a Jewish Women's Group and a Women's Seder at Passover. New this year is a focus on political/social activism on issues particularly relevant to women. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$14,000**

Jewish Women's Archive Making Our Wilderness Bloom: Bringing Jewish Women's History to Chicago Classrooms- JWA has a new curriculum celebrating the contributions of American Jewish Women to their communities and nation. The curriculum is designed for both middle-school girls and boys. With this grant, JWA will train 30-40 teachers from Chicago supplementary (religious) and day schools to use the curriculum. They will provide assistance throughout the school year to support the teachers, allow for web-based sharing of best practices, and evaluate the curriculum. **Amount: \$7,500**

Girls/Special Target Populations

Dina and Eli Field EZRA Multi-Service Center Peer Advocacy Network- This pilot project will train 8 elderly Jewish women from the FSU to act as peer advocates (PAs) and advisors to approximately 200 homebound low-income seniors in Chicago's Uptown community. The PAs will be trained to help recent immigrants navigate the complex processes and paperwork to apply for public benefits and other critical social services, as well as teach and empower others to be self-advocates in order to obtain the appropriate services when needed. Funding will support small stipends for the PAs. **Amount: \$5,492**

Etgarim Adventure Therapy Project for Disabled Women and Young Women at Risk-This project will provide a unique experience for young disabled women in Israel. With challenging outdoor sports activities such as sailing, kayaking, scuba diving, and windsurfing, four groups of fifteen women will learn to confront their fears, develop team cooperation and spirit and most importantly learn that the power to overcome their obstacles and disabilities is within them. The groups will be conducted in Jerusalem, Beer Sheva, Ashdod, and Maalot. **Amount: \$10,000**

Israel Association of Community Centers The Youth Coordinator Training Program for Empowering Adolescent Girls- Continued support for this project, which will train female youth coordinators and counselors working in community centers throughout the country to form empowerment groups for adolescent girls from the most marginalized sectors of Israeli society. The program consists of a course, examining the status of women in Israel, and a practicum, which combines female self-image workshops and practical community service projects. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$9,250**

SHILO Choices: Healthy Relationships for High Risk Adolescent Girls and Young Women- Continued support for this project will target disadvantaged adolescent girls, including North Africans, Russian immigrants, and Ethiopians. Multi-session workshops focus on self-image, decision-making skills, assertiveness, and taking responsibility for one's sexual health. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$5,000**

Health & Violence Prevention

Jewish Children's Bureau Project Shield- This Chicago project is designed to respond to the issues of child sexual abuse and molestation in the Orthodox community. Project Shield will provide training at 4 Jewish day schools and 4 Jewish camps for a total of 200 school staff and 90 camp staff on identifying and addressing child sexual abuse. Training will help to ensure that cultural and religious factors do not impede early intervention and victim assistance. **Amount: \$4,880**

Jewish Women International Domestic Abuse Awareness Campaign- Phase 2 – JWI's ongoing public awareness campaign will continue its focus on educating and training Jewish communal professionals in Chicago to be better able to identify, address and respond to domestic abuse. JWI will continue to coordinate the Task Force on Domestic Abuse in the Chicago Jewish Community, a group of 25 organizations, working to increase awareness of domestic abuse and craft quality responses to it. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$6,000**

SHALVA- General operating support for this organization whose mission is to bring safety to Jewish homes and relationships through the prevention and alleviation of domestic abuse in the Jewish community. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$5,000**

Mount Sinai Hospital with Sinai Medical Group Breast Care Initiative for Jewish Women

Immigrants: Year IV –Continued support for this program at the Touhy Health Center that provides breast care screening and education to Jewish immigrants from the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. JWF funding will provide approximately 65 women with mammography, clinical breast examinations and instruction in breast care, and help pay for an immigrant outreach coordinator.

Renewal Grant Amount: \$6,500

International

Association of Rape Crisis Centers in Israel ARCCI's Legal Department Project: Promoting legislation towards the eradication and prevention of sexual assault in Israel – Continued financial support for the legal department, dealing with sexual assault legislation and litigation, as well as coaching of law enforcement professionals dealing with sex crime victims and the court system. Funding also supports two courses for attorneys, two study days, and a stipend for two internship students.

Renewal Grant Amount: \$8,000

ELI, the Israel Association for Child Protection Treating Child Abuse- Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Violence- This project seeks to prevent the psychological effects of abuse in Israeli girls between the ages of 6 and 16. JWF funding will support a half-time therapist, who will provide a combination of individual and group therapy for 25-30 girls who have been physically or sexually abused by their parents.

Amount: \$8,000

MaTaN Women's Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies: Allied Health Professionals Program- The project will provide Israeli female immigrants from Ethiopia and the Bnei Menashe from Northern India with vocational training in direct patient care. The program, run in conjunction with Sarah Herzog Hospital, will offer these women professional vocational skills, cultural training, and auxiliary support to fill much needed positions in nursing homes, hospitals, and community clinics. **Amount: \$6,500**

Jerusalem Rape Crisis Center Supporting Abused Women with Disabilities- Continued support for this program will educate professionals who work with women with disabilities about sexual violence. This population is often overlooked in addressing sexual violence. The program includes: a six-session training course for professionals on identifying and responding to sexual assault and supervised support groups for professionals run by JRCC affiliated psychologists. At the end of the project, an academic evaluation will be carried out with an eye to replication by other rape crisis centers. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$5,000**

Nisan Young Women Leaders Leadership Development Program- Continued support for Nisan's two-year Leadership Development Program, which provides young women with the knowledge, tools, and experience fundamental for effective leadership and increases their familiarity with peers from the diverse populations in Israel. The program operates in multiple Israeli communities and works with equal numbers of Arab and Jewish girls. Nisan is one of the few organizations in Israel focusing exclusively on leadership development for girls. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$3,500**

New Israel Fund Empowerment and Leadership Training Program for Ethiopian Women – Renewal support for this project that targets Ethiopian women throughout Israel to foster their development as effective advocates for themselves and their families and to cultivate a cadre of Ethiopian women leaders. The project reaches 200 Ethiopian women ages 20 to 45. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$2,500**

TOTAL GRANTS = \$137, 122