



Hear Our Voices - שמע קולנו

The Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago Grants Awarded December 2003

Economic Security/Advocacy

Economic Empowerment for Women *A Business of One's Own* – To support this project, dedicated to helping Jewish and Arab women across Israel establish micro enterprises (cottage industries) by offering life skills and empowerment training, business development training, distribution of small loans and ongoing consultation and network building. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$9,000**

Jewish Vocational Service *JWOMEN: Jewish Women's Opportunities Through Microenterprise and Education*- To support at-risk low-income women, such as those with large families; single mothers, divorced or widowed women, and new immigrants. The project is a seminar on home-based businesses to be presented in four locations to 200 women. Seminars will focus on developing a realistic business plan, and basic financial, operating and marketing skills. Follow-up technical and support services will be provided by the Duman Microenterprise Center of JVS. **Amount: \$4,500**

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. **Amount: \$5,000**

Jewish Communal Professionals of Chicago (JCPC) *Sulam: A Ladder for Women in Jewish Communal Service* - This project seeks to enhance women's professional advancement in the field of Jewish communal service. The project will offer professional development workshops for women, and will gather and share successful strategies used by Jewish communal organizations, for-profit corporations, and other employers for addressing issues such as work/life balance.

Ongoing Support

Education/Spirituality/The Arts

The Hillels of Illinois *Rosh Chodesh and Beyond: Jewish Women's Programming at the Hillels of Illinois*– This project will establish communities for Jewish women on 6 campuses and engage and empower them through cultural, educational, and religious programming. Each campus, as well as the Hillels Around Chicago, will have a Jewish Women's Group, featuring Rosh Chodesh programming and a Women's Seder at Passover. There will be joint programming across campuses as well as programs that can be replicated across Illinois and across the country. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$14,000**

The Jewish Women's Center *The Jewish Women's Center*- This two-year pilot project will support a Jewish Women's Center that will connect women throughout the Chicagoland region by providing a wide spectrum of workshops and experiences designed by and for Jewish women and girls. These include feminist torah study, programming on women and social justice, and the creation of new women's rituals and spiritual practices. **Amount: 3,600**

Hillel Foundation at the University of Wisconsin: A Woman's Voice: Jewish Women Programming at the University of Wisconsin- Support will expand UW's Jewish women's programming, which will consist of six monthly gatherings, several issue-centered programs, and a one-time women's retreat offered in partnership with the Hillels of Illinois. Each month, in celebration of Rosh Chodesh, the crossroads of Judaism and Feminism will be explored through ritual, study, and discussion

Renewal Grant Amount: \$2,000

Dina & Eli Field EZRA Multi-Service Center: Celebrating Russian Women Through Art, Culture and Education-The Russian Senior Center (RSC) provides Jewish Russian seniors with programming and services designed for their specific needs. Support for this project brings Jewish female seniors a culturally sensitive, warm milieu to participate in monthly cultural events, the Melody Choir, and the RSC International Women's Day Festival.

Amount: \$2,400

Girls/Special Target Populations

Israel Association of Community Centers The Youth Coordinator Training Program for Empowering Adolescent Girls- 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 will consist of a theoretical course and a practicum. The course will examine the status of women and social policy in Israel, and the practicum will combine female self-image workshops and practical community service projects. **Amount: \$9,250**

Girls in the Game Female Youth Development Collaborative- With the support of JWF, Girls in the Game will continue its collaboration with Solomon Schechter Day School to enhance the health and well being of up to 20 girls from 6th-8th grade, through an after school program, consisting of sports and fitness, leadership and health education. This program uses sports to build leadership skills, improve body image, and enhance self-esteem.

Renewal Grant Amount: \$6,000

Response Center Medical Unit – Continued funding for consultation and training related to dating violence, date rape drugs, sexual assault and sexual abuse. JWF funding will support the purchase of 40 copies of "Deal With It! A Whole New Approach to Your Body, Brain and Life as gURL", a part-time clinician, staff training, and offset expenses of program supplies for support groups for rape victims and community presentations regarding sexual violence prevention. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$10,000**

SHILO Choices: Healthy Relationships for High Risk Adolescent Girls and Young Women- The project targets socially disadvantaged adolescents; the majority of whom are of North African background, Russian young women and teenage girls from Ethiopia. Multi-session workshops focus on self-image, decision-making skills, assertiveness, and taking responsibility for one's sexual health.

Amount: \$5,000

Health & Violence Prevention

Mount Sinai Hospital with Sinai Medical Group Breast Care Initiative for Jewish Women Immigrants: Year III – Continued support for this program that provides breast care screening and education to a target group of Jewish immigrants who have been processed through the Touhy Health Center, an affiliate of Sinai Health Systems. Mammography, clinical breast examinations and instruction in breast care are provided to this group of women from the FSU and Bosnia and parts of Eastern Europe. The funding will provide approximately 95 women with breast cancer screening.

Renewal Grant Amount: \$10,000

Jewish Women International Domestic Abuse Awareness Campaign – The campaign will use the needs assessment funded by JWF in 2002 to affect systemic change within the Jewish community, advocate for increased attention to the problem of domestic violence, train Jewish and secular organizations about domestic abuse in the Jewish community and serve as a model for other faith-based communities. **Amount: \$10,000**

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: \$10,000**

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 formation of 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. Also, funding supports two courses for attorneys, two study days, and a stipend for two internship students. **Renewal Grant Amount: \$8,000**

Nisan Young Women Leaders Leadership Development Program- Support for Nisan's two-year Leadership Development Program, which empowers young women with 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: \$7,500**

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: \$7,500**

Jerusalem Rape Crisis Center Supporting Abused Women with Disabilities- 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: raising awareness of sexual assault within the disabled community, 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. **Amount: \$5,000**

American Jewish World Service/ Project Keshar: The Jewish Women's Initiative of Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine: Support for Women Initiated Programs- In June 2004, Project Keshar and AJWS will bring together 200 women from the United States, FSU, and around the world for a conference on the Volga River entitled "Women Turning the Tide." The conference will work to rebuild Jewish life and promote women's rights in this region and serve as a catalyst for the next wave of activism. AJWS and Project Keshar will create a pool of money to distribute to the participating Russian women activists in the form of \$2,500 or \$5,000 grants to be used to build grassroots women's groups in the FSU. JWF support will fund one grant. **Amount: \$2,500**

TOTAL GRANTS = \$131,250