

**The Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago  
Grants Awarded December 2005**

**Economic Security & Advocacy**

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

**Renewal Grant Amount: \$5,000**

**Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) JWOMEN- Jewish Women's Opportunities Through Microenterprise and Education Network Part 2**-JVS will purchase a micro-enterprise training program and train their staff to implement it. JVS staff will then recruit and train Chicago Jewish women in the mechanics of running and expanding a micro-enterprise. The program is open to all Jewish women but is targeted toward low-income women and women with young children.

**Renewal Grant Amount: \$7,500**

**Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) WBDC Advocacy**- Senior staff at the WBDC will meet regularly with government officials in Cook County and the City of Chicago to press for women owned businesses to get more of their fair share of the millions of government contracting dollars.

**Amount: \$8,000**

**Itach-Women Lawyers for Social Justice Turn up the Volume**- Itach will advocate for social change on behalf of low-income Israeli women through case-law advocacy. Itach represents women in court cases addressing issues such as employment benefits, childcare protection, and proper housing, targeting cases where a victory will lead to significant change in government policy.

**Amount: \$13,500**

**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 in Illinois 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. Women's programming will be focused on leadership development and political/social activism surrounding issues particularly relevant to women.

**Renewal Grant Amount: \$12,000**

**The Ciesla Foundation Gertrude Berg- America's Molly Goldberg**-This ninety-minute documentary, produced by award winning filmmaker Aviva Kempner, will highlight the extraordinary accomplishments of Gertrude Berg- creator, principal writer, and star of the popular TV sitcom *The Goldbergs*. Berg did all of these things in the 1940s and 50s, when few women played a leadership role in creating mass culture.

**Amount: \$5,000**

**Girls/Special Target Populations**

**Dina and Eli Field EZRA Multi-Service Center Peer Advocacy Network**- Continued support for this project will train 5 older Jewish women from the FSU to act as peer advocates (PAs) and advisors to approximately 100 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, medical assistance, and other critical social services, as well as teach women to be self-advocates in order to obtain the appropriate services when needed.

**Renewal Grant Amount: \$4,300**

**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 working in community centers throughout Israel to form empowerment groups for adolescent girls from the most marginalized sectors of society. The program consists of a theoretical course, examining the status of women in Israel, and a practicum, in which the teenage girls create and run small business projects in their respective communities.  
**Renewal Grant Amount: \$8,000**

**SHILO Choices: Healthy Relationships for High Risk Adolescent Girls and Young Women-** Continued support for this Jerusalem-based 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 Promotion & Violence Prevention**

**Jewish Children's Bureau *Project Shield-*** Continued support for this Chicago project will respond to the issues of child sexual abuse and molestation in the Orthodox community. Project Shield will provide training at 5 Jewish day schools and 10 Jewish camps for a total of 110 school staff and 250 camp staff on identifying and addressing child sexual abuse. In addition, the Project Shield staff is training all of the Chicago area JCC executive staff and will be training approximately 200 early childhood education staff at the JCCs later this year. Training will help to ensure that cultural and religious factors do not impede early intervention and victim assistance.  
**Renewal Grant Amount: \$6,450**

**Jewish Women International *Domestic Abuse Awareness Campaign-*** JWF funding will support the staffing of the JWI led 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**

**Mount Sinai Hospital with Sinai Medical Group *Breast Care Initiative for Jewish Women Immigrants: Year V-*** Continued support for this program at the Touhy Health Center in Chicago that provides breast care screening and education to Jewish immigrants from the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. JWF funding will provide approximately 55 women with mammography, clinical breast examinations and instruction in breast care, and transportation to and from the mammography center.  
**Renewal Grant Amount: \$6,500**

**Response Center *Creative Campus Collaborations-*** Through partnerships with Jewish Women International, the Hillels of Chicago, Jewish youth groups, and campus sororities and fraternities, the Response Center will train teams of male/female youth leaders to co-facilitate prevention and education workshops that raise awareness about dating violence and sexual assault. Workshops will be targeted to young adults at college campuses and Jewish youth groups across metro Chicago.  
**Amount: \$8,500**

### **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 its legal department, which promotes rape reform legislation, trains law enforcement professionals to handle sex crimes cases in a victim-sensitive manner, and keeps current regarding sex crimes case law in Israel. Funding supports a part-time legal consultant.  
**Renewal Grant Amount: \$8,000**

**MaTaN Women's Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies: Allied Health Professionals Program-** Continued support for this 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 clinics.

**Renewal Grant Amount: \$8,000**

**Jerusalem Rape Crisis Center Supporting Abused Women with Disabilities-** Continued support for this program will educate Israeli professionals working with women with disabilities about sexual violence. This population is often overlooked in addressing sexual violence. The program includes training for professionals run by JRCC staff on identifying and responding to sexual assault. Funding supports the costs associated with coordinating a support group of approximately 10 victims. 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: \$5,250**

**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. Funding supports Nisan's first young women's leadership conference.

**Renewal Grant Amount: \$3,000**

**Project Keshar Project Keshar-** Project Keshar will create and distribute 1,000 manuals to women's groups in the Former Soviet Union. The manual will provide step-by-step instructions on organizing women to work on such issues as domestic violence, trafficking in women, breast cancer, and building tzedekah collectives.

**Amount: \$10,000**

**Yad L' Isha Legal Aid Center and Hotline-**Yad L'Isha will provide Israeli agunot with legal representation in the religious courts. Yad L'Isha will also raise public awareness by lobbying the Knesset and placing pressure on the Rabbinical Courts to find solutions to the problem of the "chained women."

**Amount: \$10,000**

**TOTAL GRANTS = \$140,000**