Bet Shalom Endowment Quarterly

Your Giving Today,
A Lasting Legacy for Tomorrow

WHY DONORS MAKE TESTAMENTARY GIFTS TO THE BET SHALOM ENDOWMENT (BSE)

Last May several people at the BSE Donor Thank You event shared why they have included BSE in their estate plans by making testamentary gifts. The 10 minute video of their responses is worth watching if you have time. Here's an outline of their themes and specific quotes.

Laurie Levin and Jim Brickwedde

- **A deep sense of home, belonging, and community**
    - Linda Hulbert: "From the time we walked in we felt at home."
    - Jim Brickwedde: "Bet Shalom really has been a family to us."
    - Laurie Levin: "I tell everybody who I meet that this is my home."
- **Commitment to children and future generations**
    - Linda Hulbert: "We want [Bet Shalom] to thrive… obviously for us and then for our children and grandchildren who are here."
    - Dick and Debby McNeil: "Heart reasons go to our kids and thinking about future generations."
- **Belief in long-term Jewish continuity, a desire to ensure the synagogue — and the Jewish people — thrive and survive for generations to come**
    - Kent Rissman: "We see Bet Shalom as an important institution for the long term… as part of the Jewish people, we should have a long-term perspective."

Jeff Upin

- Jeff Upin: "It's important to me that we're doing something to maintain and continue that Jewishness. I want to make sure that the Jewish people survive. By making a testamentary contribution, it really will help continue that."

Kent Rissman and Linda Hulbert

- **Trust in the synagogue's responsible financial stewardship**
    - Linda Hulbert: "I have always seen at Bet Shalom a terrific concern for the money that is entrusted to the congregation to do the right things… and that makes me willing to put it in our wills."
    - Kent Rissman: "We have put not only the Bet Shalom Endowment but also Bet Shalom *per se* into our trust… to balance… the more immediate and intermediate needs as well as the longer term needs."

- **Recognition of the financial realities facing congregations**

Debby and Dick McNeil

    - Dick McNeil: "The money for [running a synagogue] just can't come from dues pledges. It just doesn't work. We need to have an endowment that's large and throws off significant money."
    - Jim Brickwedde: "We made the commitment to put Bet Shalom in [our will]… and have even adjusted it up as we've gotten more comfortable with how secure we are in our own retirement."

How do you donate to the BSE? Here's our website with all the details: Bet Shalom Endowment

Questions? Please call or email me! Thanks for reading this and considering making a gift.

Eric Bressler, President, Bet Shalom Endowment, ericbresslermd@gmail.com 612-281-7766