

Jewish Community Youth Foundation Ten Years of Impact: 2003-2012 Key Findings

JCYF Participants Gained, and Still Use, Leadership Skills

- How to work in a group (98%)
- How to listen to others (94%)
- How to disagree with someone else respectfully (87%)
- How to build consensus (84%)
- How to present ideas (84%)
- How to form an opinion (77%)
- How to be a leader (76%)
- How to speak in public (73%)

“ Being in JCYF helped define myself as a Jewish person. It helped me to connect to my Jewish roots and discover how important it is to give back to the culture that has given so much to me. ”

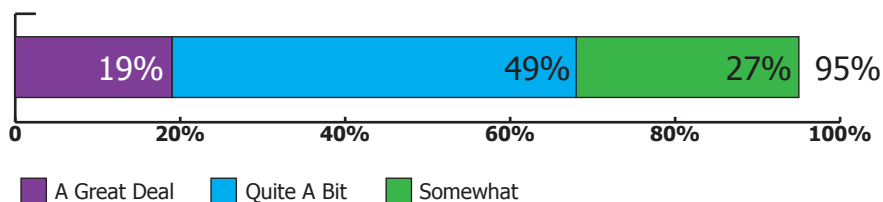
- JCYF alum

Through the grantmaking process, participants acquire leadership skills as well as learn core concepts of Judaism that relate to repairing the world and the giving of Tzedakah. Former participants are still using the skills they acquired in JCYF.

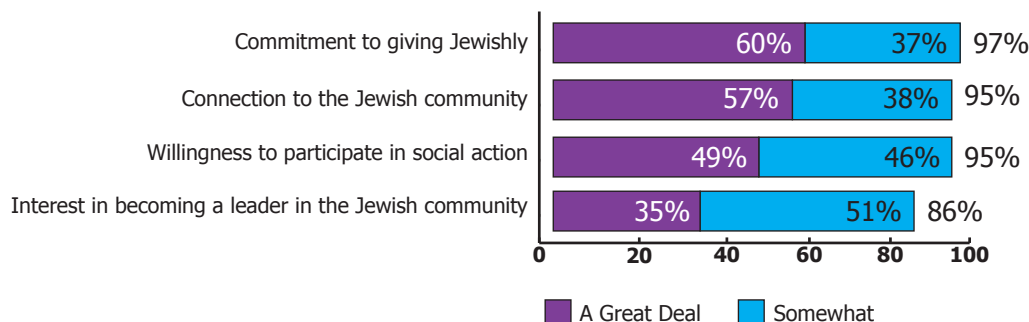
“Not only has JCYF made me more aware of Jewish obligations and values that I have incorporated into my life, but also the skills of working together with people to make educated decisions on Jewish issues that matter.”

JCYF Strengthens Jewish Identity

Fully **95%** of alumni responded that their Jewish identity was enhanced as a result of their experiences with JCYF.



JCYF Supports Connections to the Broader Jewish Community



Nearly all of the graduates (**95%**) believe that taking part in JCYF has increased their ties and commitment to the Jewish community and to taking action to repair the world.

JCYF creates a core network of young Jewish adults with roots and relationships in the greater Jewish community.

New JCYF graduates are linked with others attending their colleges through the Alumni Connect program which orients them to the Jewish community on campus. Meeting another Jewish student when they arrive is especially significant for individuals who attend college without a Hillel.

“ I went to a small liberal arts college with only 25 Jewish students. When I was a freshman there were no Jewish organizations on campus. I wanted to build a reputation for the college so that more Jewish students would come. I worked in the admissions office and gave tours to Jewish teens and their parents. Then, I was asked and agreed to start a Hillel. If I hadn't been involved in JCYF I wouldn't have had the confidence to do this. JCYF laid the groundwork and gave me knowledge and skills for campus leadership. ”

- JCYF alum



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As a result of JCYF, parents now:

- Talk about giving Jewishly (52%)
- Talk about Tzedakah (47%)
- Have conversations about Tikkun Olam (42%)
- Make donations as a family (40%)
- Provide their student with money with which to practice philanthropy (30%)
- Volunteer (28%)

“ I think in our community our kids grow up with a very specific view of the world - philanthropy teaches them that along with privilege comes responsibility for others as well as themselves. It teaches them that each person can indeed make a difference and that it is important to do so. Also it teaches that philanthropy is not merely about the amount you give but also about the act of giving and that the act of giving is what matters. ”

- JCYF parent

How parents interact with their students in regards to Jewish philanthropy has been positively impacted. Two-thirds (**66%**) of the parent survey respondents indicated that the nature and/or frequency of conversations with their teens/young adults had changed as a result of JCYF.

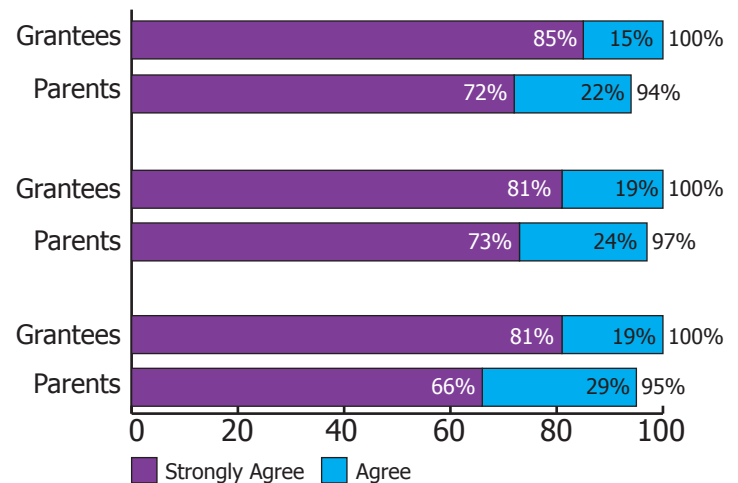
JCYF Prepares the Next Generation to Embrace Their Jewish Responsibilities

Parents and grantees believe that JCYF engages participants in an innovative way and empowers them to address community needs. Adults understand that young people's links to Jewish nonprofits, through their practice of core Jewish values, prepares them well to be the next generation of philanthropists and leaders in the Jewish community.

JCYF is an innovative way to engage diverse teens in making a difference Jewishly.

JCYF educates youth about the needs and challenges of their community and empowers them to address those needs.

JCYF helps prepare the community's future leaders while teaching Jewish values and practices of philanthropy.



“ JCYF has allowed me to connect to my Jewish identity, which throughout the past several years has become very important to me. In a sense, the Jewish Community Youth Foundation is a stepping stone, an entry into certain ideals that are fundamentally Jewish, and what it means/is to be Jewish today. I think JCYF is an amazing program and is very important for young adults. ”

- JCYF alum

For More Information

For more information about the Jewish Community Youth Foundation, contact Celeste Albert at 609-987-8100 or celestea@jfcsonline.org or visit our website, www.jfcsonline.org/jcyf.html.