

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Craig Demchak, 443-738-1159 <a href="mailto:cdemchak@hjweinberg.org">cdemchak@hjweinberg.org</a>

## Weinberg Foundation announces \$131 Million in Grant Activity in 2019

Total Assets Reach Approximately \$2.9 Billion

Baltimore (February 1, 2020) – The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation today announces \$131 million in grant activity in 2019, as well as an increase to \$2.9 billion in total assets. Since 1990, the Foundation has distributed grants totaling more than \$2.4 billion.

"The Foundation's growth in grantmaking and assets is part of another transformational year for our organization," said Rachel Garbow Monroe, Weinberg Foundation President and CEO. "Thanks to the leadership of our Board of Trustees, as well as our investment, finance, and real estate teams, this growth allows the Foundation to expand its grantmaking and philanthropic impact throughout 2020 and beyond."

Last year's highlights include first-time convenings, record funding for partnerships supporting youth, and milestone opportunities for the Foundation's staff. For the first time in its 29-year history, the Foundation convened a distinguished slate of national experts for a series of conversations focused on addressing Jewish poverty in the United States. More than 200 people from 19 states and Washington, DC, as well as Israel and Canada, attended, including direct services professionals, funders, Jewish Federation leaders, researchers, government leaders, media representatives, and faith leaders. This convening also led to a \$600,000 commitment over three years (and a new partnership with Jewish Funders Network) to create the National Affinity Group on Jewish Poverty—a community of learning and action focused on fighting poverty within the Jewish community.

In addition, the Foundation supported the nationwide launch of the Foundation for Jewish Camp's \$12 million Yashar initiative to increase accessibility for campers and staff with disabilities, as well as the Baltimore Summer Funding Collaborative. Now in its fifth year, the Collaborative announced \$3.4 million in grants to support 88 high-quality summer programs for children and youth.

The Foundation also selected its newest trustee, Nimrod Goor, the first Israeli trustee in the Foundation's history. This appointment was celebrated during another milestone for the Foundation—its first Community Gathering in Israel.

During the Foundation's two, now, biennial Employee Giving Programs in Baltimore and Hawai'i, a total of 46 employees each presented a check for \$20,000 to a nonprofit of their choice (consistent with the Foundation's grantmaking guidelines)—a total of \$920,000 awarded in two single-day events and the largest grants distribution to date for this program. The Foundation also hosted its Mahalo Community Gathering in Hawai'i. Nearly 200 friends of the Foundation attended this celebration of the Foundation's work, as well as its grantees and partners.

## ###

**About The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation:** The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the 50 largest private charitable foundations in the United States, is dedicated to meeting the basic needs of vulnerable people experiencing poverty. The Foundation provides approximately \$130 million annually in grant activity supporting nonprofits that provide direct services in the areas of Housing, Health, Jobs, Education, and Community Services. The Foundation's priority communities include Baltimore, Chicago, Hawai'i, Israel, New York City, Northeastern Pennsylvania, San Francisco, and Rural Communities (primarily rural areas within proximity to priority communities). The Foundation's trustees include Robert T. Kelly, Jr., Chair; Ambassador Fay Hartog-Levin (Ret.); Paula B. Pretlow; Gordon Berlin, and Nimrod Goor. Rachel Garbow Monroe serves as President and CEO. For more information, please visit <a href="www.hjweinbergfoundation.org">www.hjweinbergfoundation.org</a>.