Foundation Overview

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

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The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation is dedicated to meeting the basic needs of people experiencing poverty.

The Foundation provides about $150 million annually in grants and other activities to support direct services in the areas of **Housing, Health, Jobs, Education,** and **Community Services.** These focus areas, as well as the funding priorities that guide the Foundation’s grantmaking, are detailed on pages 5 through 16. Grants serve a range of individuals, including older adults, women at risk and their children, people with disabilities, veterans, and the Jewish community.

To learn more about the Foundation, please visit [www.hjweinberg.org](http://www.hjweinberg.org).
Like most immigrants coming to the United States in the early 1900s, Harry Weinberg’s family arrived with little more than hope and a willingness to work hard. Beyond their many challenges, Harry and his wife, Jeanette, saw opportunity.

Harry was gifted with a keen business mind and entrepreneurial spirit. Despite leaving school at age 12, he built a career that turned one successful investment into another, often seeing value where others did not. In the 1950s and 1960s, he owned bus lines in several cities, including Honolulu, Hawai‘i. Again seeing opportunity, and before many others recognized the eventual value of real estate in Hawai‘i, Harry began purchasing properties throughout the Hawaiian Islands. At the time of his death, he was the largest single real estate investor in Hawai‘i.

However, Harry never forgot his humble roots. In 1959, he created The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation to help meet the needs of low-income people. The Foundation as we know it today has existed since 1990, when Harry Weinberg died, one year after his wife passed away. Today, the fortune that Harry amassed has grown to $3.1 billion — the assets that make possible the Weinberg Foundation’s grantmaking.
Our Commitment to the Jewish Community

The Weinberg Foundation supports organizations that serve people experiencing poverty within the Jewish community in the United States and Israel. Grants to support the Jewish community align with the Foundation’s funding priorities.

In Israel, the Foundation has a long history of supporting direct service providers, including the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee’s work dedicated to serving older adults (Eshel) and providing job training for low-income people (TEVET). In 2018, the Foundation expanded its commitment in Israel to organizations serving women at risk and their children.

In North America, over nearly three decades, the Weinberg Foundation has provided about $30 million to organizations serving Holocaust survivors, and in Baltimore, the Foundation is the largest contributor to The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore, providing one of the single biggest annual campaign gifts to any Jewish Federation.

The Foundation is also engaged in a range of strategic initiatives (see p. 4) to address Jewish poverty on a national scale, especially through its leading role in founding the National Affinity Group on Jewish Poverty. In addition, the Foundation supports various initiatives that strengthen the Jewish nonprofit sector at-large, including those working to develop the next generation of leaders and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the Jewish community.
Key Jewish Community Initiatives

**National Affinity Group on Jewish Poverty**

In partnership with the Jewish Funders Network, the Foundation supports a nationwide collaborative effort dedicated to addressing poverty within the U.S. Jewish community. Launched in 2019, the affinity group’s goals include assembling reliable and uniform data on Jewish poverty in America; changing the narrative on Jewish poverty; and developing, aggregating, and sharing best practices and models for reducing poverty.

**Jews of Color Initiative**

This national initiative and related efforts aim to build and advance the professional, organizational, and communal field for Jews of color through grantmaking, research, and community education.

**Leading Edge**

This nonprofit helps Jewish organizations attract, develop, and retain top talent by offering programs for onboarding new CEOs, strengthening partnerships between lay leaders and professionals, and conducting original research.

**Yashar - Support for Inclusion at Jewish Camp**

This initiative in partnership with the Foundation for Jewish Camp aims to enhance accessibility and inclusion for campers and staff with disabilities through capital improvements, professional development, staff training, research, and evaluation at participating camps and the broader field.

**SafetyRespectEquity**

The SafetyRespectEquity (SRE) Network works to foster safe, respectful, and equitable Jewish workplaces and communal spaces. Through gatherings, research, and development of national standards, the network advances women’s leadership and gender equity, in addition to addressing sexual harassment, sexism, and gender discrimination.
Our Focus Areas

The Weinberg Foundation provides grants across five focus areas:

- Housing
- Education
- Health
- Community Services
- Jobs

Note: The Community Services focus area is intended for community organizations operating multiple programs that span the other four areas.
Housing

Stable housing provides a foundation for individuals, children, and families to lead healthy and productive lives. Without housing, people are unable to focus on education, employment, health care, and other basic needs.
Funding Priorities

1. Supporting the creation of housing or renovations of existing units to provide and maintain affordable and quality options that offer services to help people remain stably housed.
2. Helping people secure or sustain permanent housing within their communities by providing comprehensive services that meet a range of social, economic, and health needs.

Key Initiative

Deeply Affordable Housing

The Foundation has committed $8 million for programs in Maryland and Illinois to provide affordable housing for people with disabilities. In partnership with state agencies, these programs create apartments that enable eligible individuals to live independently and within their communities.
Health

Good health is essential to help people move and remain out of poverty. Poor physical or mental health can prevent or complicate the pursuit of education, employment, and other opportunities for economic mobility.
Funding Priorities

1. Supporting organizations that provide access to health care and strive to improve patient health.
2. Enabling older adults to remain independent and in their communities, with maximum quality of life.
3. Enhancing the mental wellness of veterans who are returning to civilian life.
4. Increasing access to nutritious food.
5. Promoting family safety and reducing the long-term traumatic effects of abuse and neglect, sexual assault, intimate partner or family violence, elder abuse, and exposure to community violence.

Key Initiatives

Aging in Community Collaboratives

Housing Upgrades to Benefit Seniors (HUBS) in Baltimore City and Baltimore County Age-friendly Upgrades for Seniors (BCAUSE) are collaborations of nonprofits, local government, and philanthropy to enable low-income older adult homeowners to remain independent by providing home modifications and repairs — including grab bars, electrical and plumbing repairs, and roof and furnace replacements — in addition to other services.

Community Health Centers

This initiative aims to make dental and behavioral health care more accessible through federally qualified health centers located across the Foundation’s priority communities, particularly in Hawai‘i and rural areas with severely limited access. Supporting the renovation, expansion, and operational support of these facilities allows them to serve more patients.
Jobs

Employment provides the best opportunity for personal success and financial security. Quality training programs that lead to employment enable individuals and families to achieve economic stability.
Funding Priorities

1. Supporting job-training programs that result in industry-recognized credentials, as well as job-placement and retention services.
2. Providing opportunities for career exploration in high school and hands-on learning opportunities for youth ages 14-24.

Key Initiatives

National Fund for Workforce Solutions

The National Fund for Workforce Solutions consists of more than 30 regional collaborative efforts that help workers succeed and provide employers with the talent they need. The Foundation supports two new collaboratives in Hawai‘i and Northeastern Pennsylvania, coaching for the leaders of the collaboratives, and capacity building throughout the network.

Wage Record Study for Maryland Grantees

This study — supported in partnership with the Abell and Annie E. Casey foundations — analyzes pre- and post-training earnings for participants of Maryland’s employment and training programs to better understand their long-term impact.
Education

Education can help break the cycle of poverty. Providing children and youth with academic opportunities helps prepare them for a stable and productive future. The Foundation is dedicated to supporting organizations that provide or supplement a high-quality education from kindergarten through high school.
Funding Priorities

1. Supporting STEM programs, as well as programs proven to boost math proficiency, to help prepare youth for jobs in those fields.
2. Funding academic programs for K-12 students that take place after school, on weekends, and during the summer.
3. Helping students develop a postsecondary plan and position them for success after graduation from high school.

Key Initiatives

Baltimore Elementary and Middle School Library Project
This $30 million multiyear partnership builds and transforms Baltimore City’s public school libraries in neighborhoods where many students face academic and economic challenges. The Library Project serves over 7,700 students and their families through 17 libraries.

Baltimore Summer Funding Collaborative
This annual partnership supports high-quality summer programs for children and youth. It has grown to include nearly a dozen national and local funders.
Community Services

The Weinberg Foundation helps build stronger communities through strategic partnerships.
Funding Priorities

Grants in this area support organizations whose programs and services span the Foundation’s focus areas of Housing, Health, Jobs, and Education. The Foundation also funds select national initiatives to address Jewish poverty, as well as efforts to strengthen the leadership of organizations that serve the Jewish community.

Key Initiatives

Mobility LABs (Learning and Action Bets)

This $25 million initiative is a strategic collaboration among national and regional philanthropic partners — including Robin Hood, Tipping Point Community, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation — to develop solutions that lift families out of poverty in diverse communities by piloting approaches to increase economic mobility.

Baltimore’s Promise

This collaborative effort is dedicated to improving Baltimore children’s health and academic outcomes from birth through college and career.
Our Approach to Grantmaking

The Weinberg Foundation provides capital, program, and operating grants and accepts requests for funding through an online application at www.hjweinberg.org/apply.

The Foundation distributes most of its funding to places that represent personal ties to the life and legacy of Harry Weinberg; communities where Weinberg Foundation trustees reside and provide leadership; and rural areas within or near these locations.

- Baltimore
- Hawai‘i
- Israel
- New York City
- Northeastern Pennsylvania
- San Francisco

For more on our work in these areas, visit www.hjweinberg.org/where-we-give.
Special Programs

Small Grants Program
Through a simplified application process, the Foundation provides small operating, program, or capital grants of up to $50,000 over two years. The organization’s work must align with the Foundation’s focus areas.

Baltimore City Community Grants Program
This program offers one-time support to small nonprofits (with an annual operating budget of $500,000 or less) that provide direct services to low-income individuals and families in Baltimore City. Eligible organizations may apply for up to $10,000 for one year to cover operating, program, or capital costs, including equipment purchases and evaluation and audit expenses, among others.

Learn how to apply for these programs at www.hjweinberg.org/how-we-give.
It is not upon you to finish the work, but neither are you free to desist from it.

לָא עַלְּךָ הַמַּלַּאכָה לְגַמּוֹךָ, וְלָא אָתֶּךָ בַּעֲרוֹר לְהַבָּטֵל מְמוֹנָה.

Pirkei Avot 2:16