



2013 Annual Letter

Giving is a weighty responsibility one that takes a measured approach--balancing between a natural bent towards optimism with a fiduciary's eye towards skepticism. At the Claire Friedlander Family Foundation the board embraces this all-important balance--making grants that embrace its mission and assisting non-profits along the way.

In the last year we made grants to over 40 non-profit organizations that span the spectrum of our interest areas. From tolerance education to performing arts and several educational and health care initiatives in between. The Foundation has been instrumental in the development of Tolerance Centers (where teaching the lessons of the Holocaust is the crux of our educational work) in Nassau County and the Bronx. The board has taken a leadership role in the development of arts-based programming for children in areas affected by educational budget cuts—providing for the critical after-school programming that many young people (many of 2-working parent households) desperately need. In the area of healthcare, the foundation has made important strides in developing the research protocols at major universities and local support groups—together we are making a difference in the most pernicious diseases.

Grant making requires a disciplined and thoughtful approach--again that all-important balance--that goes to answering several introspective questions:

What's the non-profit's "case for support"? Does it make economic and philanthropic sense?

How does the non-profit plan to use the grant? Is this plan well thought out with financial projections and "what if scenarios"?

How will the non-profit continue to sustain its work post-grant? Its plan for building capacity and additional funding sources going forward?

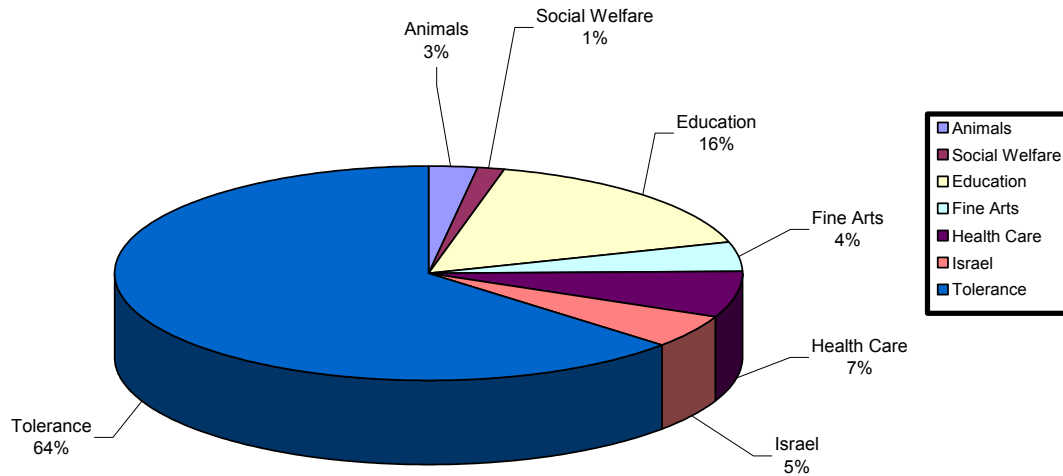
Clearly there is much that goes into making a grant to a non-profit organization. Besides the above questions, the insightful and proactive leadership of the foundation's board must be prepared to vet the non-profit on their financial responsibility. How much of the budget is directed to the non-profit's mission? How much to overhead? While there aren't (nor should there be) "quick tests" in this regard it

is implicit upon the grantor to dig deep on these issues in order to gain a better understanding of the non-profit's operating model. Maybe there are business issues that the board could help them with---advising them on increasing efficiency with their operations? It is this kind of proactive assistance that really puts the non-profit on good footing—and it only requires a "little help from their friends" on the board.

At the Claire Friedlander Family Foundation the board is fully engaged in making solid grants but also in assisting our grantees in executing their missions in an effective manner. In the last year we have:

- Assisted in the design and implementation of a brand new Holocaust Museum and Studies Center at the Bronx HS of Science. Bronx Science is the only public HS in the nation with a dedicated, state-of-the-art museum that seeks to teach the lessons of the Holocaust to increase tolerance training.
- Dante Foundation: for nearly 20 years The Dante Foundation has awarded scholarships representing 100% of the capital it raises to HS seniors with exemplary academic achievements. Now these Dante Scholars are “paying it forward” by mentoring and becoming more involved in this annual process.
- The Diabetes Research Institute (DRI): their work has been on the cutting edge of diabetes research for decades and for many of the children, their parents and adults that are afflicted by this insidious disease the cure could not come soon enough. But cures don't come easy—they require continued commitment and a concerted, global approach to research. That is exactly the plan-of-attack that DRI deploys in their mission to cure type 1 diabetes. Check out their latest progress, especially with their exciting Bio-Hub project at <http://www.diabetesresearch.org/>
- The Tilles Center for the Performing Arts: providing world-class music and performing arts is an important mission and one that the Tilles Center, for more than 25 years, has consistently achieved. We are pleased to partner with such an esteemed organization to provide arts-based education to children whose schools no longer offer such important programming. Visit their site and learn more about Tilles and their wonderful programming here: <http://www.tillescenter.org/>

Grants 2012-13



Finally a word on the future—from the perspective of the board and our grant making. We see our work as one of critical importance for the longer term good—that through strong collaborative interactions we can continue to move the proverbial needle for many on profits—in our community and around the world. Collaboration, synergy and similar terms may seem hackneyed to some but from our perch we see these interactions as opportunities. We have begun to think of our roles as more “phil-activists” than merely philanthropists—where our fostering of good organizations with strong business plans can make a substantive difference.

In the months (and years!) to come the board of The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation will continue its important work in making grants that make a difference—that move the proverbial needle. We appreciate your continued support and guidance and look forward to future discussions.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Klein, CFA

President & Treasurer