

Legacy Testimonial

Since I was a child, the JCC has been a part of my life. The city I grew up in had a very small Jewish population compared to the Weinstein JCC. It was a place to celebrate our heritage, culture, traditions, religion, and sportsmanship.

The original Center was in an old USO building from WWII. A few rooms, a basketball court where they had dances for the soldiers and a kitchen. We learned to cook Jewish dishes, do arts and crafts, and have friends that were like us. Anti-Semitism was still high in the early 60's. Blacks and Jews weren't allowed or welcomed in many places.

My parents divorced when I was young, and I was raised by my father who was a wonderful parent. My Dad was self-employed and with two kids, money was often tight. When the Jewish community built a better and new Center and a camp it was a blessing – and not for just child care. The JCC worked with my Dad to pay for us to attend camp for years. He would pay when he could until it was paid off.

I learned to canoe, swim, archery, art and crafts, badminton, tennis, volleyball, etc. and how to respect and care for the American flag. Many children don't have those opportunities today. The sense of team, camaraderie, sportsmanship, self-confidence are life lessons one needs to be a responsible and caring person. All because people helped my Dad out.

Fast forward when I decided to update my will and looked back at all those that helped me accomplish my goals it was a no-brainer. The Weinstein JCC is a diverse, inclusive, loving, caring and teaching environment. I want others to have the opportunities of camp and education I had.

I'm not wealthy but if I can help a few kids, it's a blessing to all of us. I have received many blessings myself because of others' generosity. We can all do a small "mitzvah" to make our community even better for the future.

Please consider a legacy gift to the Weinstein JCC to continue their good work and to continue to make memories and life lessons for those to come.