



Foundation Newsletter

Mission

The mission of the Jewish Community Foundation of Durham Chapel Hill is to foster and support the members of our community in fulfilling their philanthropic goals – social, educational, and charitable – and maintaining the longstanding Jewish traditions of pursuing Tzedakah and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world).

Purpose

We strive to accomplish our mission by:

- Empowering donors to convert generous ideas into deliberate action;
- Serving as a central hub and advocate for charitable giving to help individuals, families, and community organizations achieve their charitable goals; and
- Receiving, administering, investing, and disbursing funds to ensure the viability of our community life for generations to come.

Donor Spotlight

With our wedding upon us, we recently established the Narrow Bridge Donor Advised Fund. The purpose of this Fund is to contribute to non-profits that envision entire communities of people with the privilege, tools, and clarity to live purpose-drive lives for generations. This Fund’s mission is to invest in the creation, cultivation and care of abundant community building in Durham, the United States, and Israel.

Our giving from this Fund falls into three categories: fearless community, Jewish spiritual renewal, and high-performing integrated public schools. After our wedding, our first recipients will be the newly-founded Durham Public Schools Foundation, and At the Well.

We are thrilled to be able to launch this type of Tzedakah at such a special moment in our lives.

-Ben Abram and Sophia Chitlik

Performance Snapshot

The investment committee is pleased to provide the Foundation Portfolio performance report for the third quarter of 2018. The net return for the quarter of 2018 was 2.71%. The portfolio has achieved a net return¹ for the trailing 12 months, beginning 10/1/2017 and ending 9/30/2018, of 4.93%.

Things have changed in October, since the quarter end reported above. You may have noticed being an investor this year has been no fun, especially over the last few weeks. Many people point to reasons the market is troubled in 2018. And there are as many hypothetical reasons as people pointing them out. That said, seasoned investors understand this is part of investing. We do not get the upside without the downside volatility. The last time we saw a significant market downturn was 2015. Because of this, whatever reasons professional prognosticators spit out to explain, I would tack on: we are due.

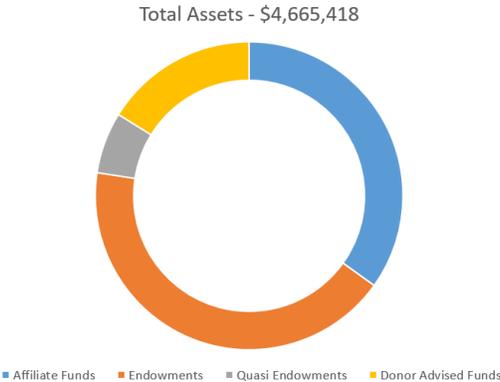
The market experiences a downturn one out of every three years on average. This is how the market has always worked. The most important part of this ratio, though, is the two out of three years the market is up. The Investment Committee understands it can be difficult to remain disciplined when we are watching portfolio values declining. Our methodology insists, however, that our best course is to not make portfolio alterations in reaction to what happens during a few months or years.

This applies to owning a few things that are skyrocketing as well as when everything seems to be dropping like a hot rock. Prudently diversified investors are handsomely rewarded for not jumping ship, changing ships, or doing anything shippy. This too, is how the market has always worked. As we go into and through this election cycle, it is likely volatility will continue. Not a bad time to brace for more bad numbers over the near future. If you have questions or comments, please contact me at the email address below.

Sincerely,
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Chair, Investment Committee for The Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill
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Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Nothing herein is intended to be used as investment advice or a recommendation to buy or sell any security. Content is for information purposes exclusively, and is provided by the portfolio manager, BB&T.

Foundation Financial Summary
Total Assets Held at Foundation-



Making the Most of Tax Law Changes

The new standard deduction for itemizing your taxes is nearly double what it was last year. This means that fewer people will have to itemize deductions, making tax filing simpler. But what if you want to itemize? Here are a couple of tax-efficient strategies some people are using to hurdle the standard deduction while also giving to philanthropic causes.

“Bunch” Gifts

Make multiple years-worth of charitable gifts in one year to overcome the standard deduction for that tax year.

Front-Load a Donor Advised Fund

Open a donor-advised fund or add to a donor-advised fund with a sum that allows you to “bunch” multiple years’ donations to overcome the standard deduction for the tax year. The dollars will be invested with the goal of growing your donor-advised fund, increasing the dollars available to give to charity tax-free. You can then make charitable donations on your own timeline.

Year-End Reminders

It’s that time of year when you are most generous to the community and we thank you for that. Here are some important dates to remember when giving back this year.



Year-End Gifts INTO Your Fund

To secure your charitable deduction in 2018, gifts must be received before the end of December.

- December 14 Deadline for initiating a gift of stock, bonds, or mutual funds
- December 31 Deadline for checks or cash gifts

Year-End Gifts FROM Your Fund

To ensure grants are made from your fund by December 31, we must have received your grant recommendation by 5pm on Wednesday, December 19, 2018.

Contact Jill Madsen, jmadsen@shalomdch.org, to recommend a grant or if you need any other assistance.