During 2000-01, Mount Zion Health Fund (MZHF) allocated over $5,000,000 to a variety of organizations focused on improving the health of vulnerable populations.

Community agencies successfully proposed creative and responsive initiatives to address a spectrum of health-related needs. Simultaneously, the continued reshaping of UCSF Mount Zion, with the opening of the Cancer Center and the relocation of programs to that campus, created opportunities for MZHF to sponsor new projects in several different departments. MZHF’s special partnership with the Goldman Institute on Aging resulted in a major capital gift to support that organization’s building campaign.

A continued emphasis on improving the health of Russian émigrés led to several grants. The Émigré Leadership Institute, with support from MZHF, initiated a community educational campaign and screenings for Tay-Sachs disease, a genetic illness that disproportionately affects the Jewish population. MZHF also built on its previous commitments to assisting this population with a second year of support for the Newcomers Health Program located at San Francisco General Hospital, which offers health education and screenings targeted to refugees. This program represents a unique collaboration between the International Institute and San Francisco General Hospital’s Refugee Medical Clinic. Funding was also renewed for Jewish Vocational Service’s program to train refugees as licensed vocational nurses. This program enhances participants’ work skills and employment opportunities while simultaneously increasing the pool of trained bilingual nursing staff currently in high demand by our city’s health care facilities.

Programs to improve the health of persons with HIV/AIDS were the focal point of several grants. A media campaign to increase awareness of Hepatitis A and B immunizations in the gay and bisexual community will be developed, an effort that could not compete for limited public funding. A general operating grant was made to Continuum, which has received past funding in support of its adult day health center. A second year grant was made to Jewish Vocational Service to support its program targeted to assist people with HIV/AIDS confronting work force reentry issues.

Two separate grants benefited at-risk young adults. The San Francisco Education Fund’s Peer Resources Program received a grant to help continue its Youth to Youth Health Education Project in San Francisco’s public schools. Huckleberry Youth Programs was granted funds for its Cole Street Youth Clinic, which provides medical care as well as prevention/education and psycho-social services to troubled youth.

Continuing the focus of outreach to vulnerable populations, MZHF approved a grant to the Breast Care Center of the UCSF Mount Zion Comprehensive Cancer Center to help purchase a prototype digital mammography van. The van will use state of the art technology to bring critical mammography screening services to underserved minority communities in San Francisco and other Bay Area counties. Additional support for the Cancer Center went to the Tobacco Education Center, newly established at the Mount Zion campus, which provides innovative smoking cessation programs along with cutting edge clinical and educational services to patients and health care providers. MZHF also approved a contribution to a unique program in cardiology, the Cardiomyopathy and Arrhythmia Research and Education Center. Designed to address the growing burden of heart failure on the health of the... continued on back page.
Patient Care

UCSF Mount Zion
For improvements and amenities in the UCSF Mount Zion lobby $149,000

UCSF Mount Zion
For development of the Cardiomyopathy and Arrhythmia Research and Education Center 110,000

UCSF Mount Zion Cancer Center
To help bring state-of-the-art mammography technology to low income communities 100,000

International Institute
To sustain health screenings and education for refugees at San Francisco General Hospital 80,000

UCSF Mount Zion Cancer Center
For purchase of equipment to aid in breast cancer diagnosis 70,000

Jewish Home
To hire Russian-speaking professional and support staff 70,000

UCSF Hernia Center
To provide nursing support for the program 37,500

Continuum
To support the activities of the adult day health program for persons living with HIV/AIDS 22,000

UCSF Melanoma Center
To support a clinical research nurse 20,000

Jewish Community Library
To assist with the Roving Readers program 10,000

Education

UCSF
To endow the Harris M. Fishbon Chair in Ambulatory Surgery $1,500,000

Jewish Vocational Service
To support Licensed Vocational Nurse training for émigrés 60,000
To continue workforce reentry services for individuals living with HIV/AIDS 50,000

Jewish Community Federation/Emigré Leadership Institute
To undertake educational and screening campaigns for Tay-Sachs disease 49,000

UCSF Mount Zion
To underwrite the Tobacco Education Center 40,000

San Francisco Study Center
For a media campaign to increase awareness of Hepatitis A and B in the Gay/Bisexual Community 25,000
Mothers Living Stories Project
To facilitate written documentation of programs focused on mothers facing life-threatening illnesses $25,000

San Francisco Education Fund
For the Peer Resources’ Youth to Youth Health Education Project $20,000

UCSF Mount Zion Breast Care Center
To develop communication protocols between cancer patients and physicians $20,000

Research

UCSF
- To establish four clinical research fellowships in areas of women’s health $509,800
- To undertake research projects in women’s health $250,000

San Francisco Adult Day Services Network
Continued support for outcomes research in the adult day health community $100,000

UCSF Cancer Center
For research staff to undertake a multicenter melanoma study $68,000

Community

Goldman Institute on Aging
To support the development of a new facility $1,000,000

Rhoda Goldman Plaza
To lease a van to provide transportation for Plaza residents $12,000

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- Art For Recovery Fund
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- Department of Medicine Fund
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- Mae Swig Memorial Fund
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- MZHf Unrestricted Fund

This listing includes awards approved by the Directors of Mount Zion Health Fund during Fiscal Year 2000-01 from Board discretionary and other funds, as well as selected significant awards from donor-advised funds.

A major initiative in women’s health at Mount Zion also continued to take shape, as MZHf approved support for the key research component of this program. Fellowship funds will help develop a cadre of well-trained researchers dedicated to issues in women’s health. Grant money will also be available on a competitive basis for clinical translational or health services research projects designed and directed by the fellows.

Recognizing the value of Goldman Institute on Aging’s services for older adults, MZHf pledged significant support for the GIOA’s major building project at the Coronet theater site. Their development of a new facility will enable them to consolidate programs, services and administrative functions under one roof. Additionally, the new building will provide room to extend current services to more seniors as well as offer new resources. MZHf is proud to be a partner in this effort to provide a model of care to older adults.

MZHF is already reviewing additional proposals in the new fiscal year. We are continually appreciative of the many gifts that multiple generations of donors have contributed and are honored to play a role in allocating these resources for the health of the community.