

become eligible for funding, the teens must make increasingly difficult decisions about how to distribute limited grant funds.

Organizations that are awarded funding participate in JYPI's closing session at the end of the program, where they are publicly recognized for their valuable work.

Families

Families, and especially parents, are essential participants in the JYPI Grant Program. Parents have some of the most important conversations with JYPI teens, determining how philanthropy and Jewish values can be brought into their homes. They ask their teens about the causes that are meaningful to them, the challenges of the funding process, and ways in which the teens can continue their philanthropic giving once the JYPI Grant Program has ended. Without parents, JYPI would have a limited shelf-life and a significantly smaller impact.

Parents also provide essential logistical support, such as carpools, scheduling assistance, and feedback for JYPI staff and adult facilitators. Parents of 8th and 9th graders attend a JYPI orientation session, part of which is spent with their children and part of which is spent as a separate parent group, reviewing the expectations of teens and families in the program. At the end of the JYPI program, they celebrate the teens' accomplishments at the JYPI closing event.

Of course, as many teens are unable to earn the money to make the minimum contribution to join the program, they turn to their parents to help with this donation. Many teens in the younger group use gifts received during Bar or Bat Mitzvahs to contribute to the program, while others use a combination of their parents' money and their own savings. While JYPI encourages the teens to contribute at least some of their own money, the organization recognizes that each family must make their own decisions about how best to handle the contribution.

JYPI Board

JYPI's Board of Directors includes 18 members, many of whom have both development (fundraising) and community relations expertise. The Board includes three teens who have participated in the JYPI program and can provide input and a "reality check" as the Board helps shape JYPI's direction and vision. Some Board members help facilitate the various JYPI sessions. All members of the Board of Directors either make or raise a minimum contribution of \$2,500. JYPI also has an Advisory Board comprised of educators, philanthropists, and other prominent community leaders. The Advisory Board is more honorary in nature – Advisory Board members meet with JYPI on a more occasional basis and are not expected (though most do) to make a financial gift to the organization. Their service on the Advisory Board lends expertise and cachet to the organization.

JYPI Staff

A paid, full-time JYPI Director manages all aspects of the JYPI Grant Program in close coordination with the adult facilitators. The facilitators oversee teen recruitment and registration; the Grant Application process; Site Visit coordination; scheduling and implementation of all sessions; and program evaluation. The JYPI Director also manages other elements of JYPI's programs – the Service Learning sessions, alumni programming, fundraising and office operations. The Board's Chair also plays an active role in directing the program. A JYPI-style program for a single group of 20-25 teens could be run in another community using 25% of a staff person's time, depending on local community needs and available funding to support the program. Since JYPI runs four such groups, in the Metropolitan Washington DC-area, and other complementary programs, a larger staff is necessary.