



Foundation Update: June 2011

Farash Foundation News Release

July 19th, 2011

The last several months have been dedicated to strategizing, listening, and planning for the grant and gifts program that will begin in earnest in 2012. We will have our guidelines available, on this website, by November 1, 2011.

How are we arriving at those guidelines?

The Board of Trustees has adopted a mission statement for the Foundation, as follows:

The Farash Foundation is dedicated to the civic and religious communities of its founders, who believed in the importance of education in all of its aspects and knew the power of entrepreneurial creativity. The Foundation places its highest priority on endeavors designed to transform the lives of individuals and the work of organizations.

Holli Budd, Executive Director, and Isobel Goldman, Director of Grants and Special Projects, have been engaged in a "listening tour" involving productive conversations with more than fifty community leaders. These leaders represent organizations in Jewish life, education, health and human services, arts and culture, the business and governmental sectors, and other local foundations.

After careful consideration, the Board has approved five general categories that define the extent of Foundation grants. Within each of those categories, one or more specific focus areas will be eligible for grants at any given time. We will describe the initial focuses by November 2011.

We are building a web-based system for the submission of letters of inquiry and grant applications in order to most efficiently assess and respond to the requests of applicants.

We urge you to re-visit our website this fall to learn more about our plans and processes. Our overarching goal continues: to bring meaningful change to Monroe and Ontario counties and to Jewish life.