BEYOND CHICKEN SOUP: JEWS & MEDICINE HIGHLIGHTS MT. SINAI MEDICAL CENTER

A \$36,000 Mt. Sinai grant to the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage is sponsoring Beyond Chicken Soup: Jews & Medicine, an exhibition adapted for Cleveland.

Hands-on activities and artifacts, documents, and images illustrate the challenges faced by members of the Jewish community in gaining access to proper, culturally-sensitive medical care and becoming doctors themselves as well as the role of Jewish-sponsored hospitals in Cleveland and across the country.

An advisory committee, led by Mt. Sinai Vice-Chair and Chair of the Foundation's Academic Medicine Strategic Grantmaking Advisory Committee Jeffrey L. Ponsky, MD, helped tell the story of the Jewish role in Cleveland medicine. "Today Jewish physicians are ubiquitous in America. It was not always so. The story of this evolution and the contributions of Jewish doctors to modern medicine are the focus of this exhibit," said Dr. Ponsky, Professor of Surgery at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University and former surgeon-in-chief at both Mt. Sinai and University Hospitals.

Beyond Chicken Soup: Jews & Medicine is a unique opportunity to highlight Jewish contributions to medical innovation regionally and

nationally. The original exhibition was developed and produced by the Jewish Museum of Maryland and explores how Jewish hospitals were created to train Jewish doctors amid a system of quotas limiting the number of Jewish students allowed to matriculate in mainstream medical schools and enter hospital residency training programs. The exhibition demonstrates the enduring value Jewish institutions brought to the medical field and society as a whole and highlights Cleveland's Mt. Sinai Hospital, predecessor to Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, its service to the most vulnerable in society, and medical contributions by Cleveland Jewish doctors.

"The exhibit tells the powerful story of the out-sized role of both the Jewish community and individual Jewish clinicians, researchers, and teachers in the commandment to preserve human life at all costs," said Foundation President Mitchell Balk. "There is also a focus on the critical role of Cleveland's Mt. Sinai Medical Center and other Jewish-sponsored patient care, research, and teaching institutions in achieving this task."

The Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage | 2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood, OH 44122 | www.maltzmuseum.org Beyond Chicken Soup: Jews and Medicine in America, is on display through Sunday, April 8, 2018



(Left to Right) Milton Maltz, The Maltz Family Foundation President
 Mitchell Balk, Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation President
 Jeffery L. Ponsky, MD, Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage Exhibition Advisory Chair
 David Schafer, Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage Managing Director



Former Mt. Sinai Medical Center volunteer Peggy Wasserstrom (today and in photo on far right)

CWRU AND PARTNERS LAUNCH CLEVELAND BRAIN HEALTH INITIATIVE

With \$1,000,000 grants from the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation and the Cleveland Foundation, Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) has established the citywide Cleveland Brain Health Initiative (CBHI) and has recruited a dedicated Director and Chair of CWRU's Department of Neurosciences.

The role of the Director will be to nurture existing partnerships, explore opportunities for growth, and foster collaboration among CBHI researchers and clinicians at partner sites. The formalization of the CBHI is expected to establish CWRU as the research hub for brain health in Cleveland with translational trials and patient care at participating hospital sites.

The overarching goal of the Initiative is to enhance research and patient care in Cleveland, advance understanding of myriad diseases and disorders, and disseminate discoveries made in Cleveland throughout the world, raising the city's reputation for excellence in medicine.

The CWRU School of Medicine, University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth and the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Hospital comprise the institutional core of the CBHI.

Accomplished faculty from the School of Medicine, including Dean Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, and Anthony Wynshaw-Boris, MD, PhD, Chair of the CWRU Department of Genetics, along with colleagues from clinical affiliates, played leading roles in the recruitment of the CBHI Director/Neurosciences Chair, and the appointment of new junior faculty.

Lin Mei, MD, PhD, was recently selected for the role, among four excellent finalists. His wife, Wen-Cheng Xiong, MD, PhD, was also hired by CWRU as a Neurosciences professor. The couple arrived from the Medical College of Georgia after thirteen years where, since 2014, Dr. Mei served as the inaugural Chair of Neurosciences and Regenerative Medicine. Prior to that, he was Director of the school's Institute of Molecular Medicine and Genetics for five years.

Dr. Mei's research focus is on neural development and his work has been continuously supported by the National Institutes for Health (NIH) for more than twenty years. Dr. Mei ranks number 28th in the United States in terms of level of funding from the NIH, and he has published more than 150 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Mei is an outstanding teacher and mentor, having trained and supervised dozens of PhD students, research fellows, and visiting scholars in the U.S. and China. He serves on the editorial boards of a number of journals and has played an organizing role in professional conferences globally, and has delivered over 100 presentations worldwide.

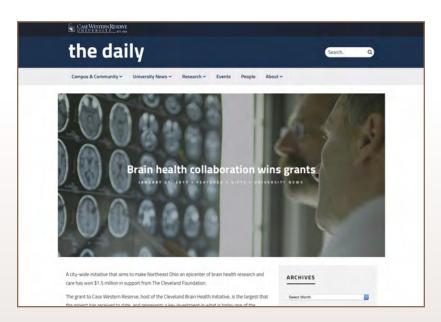
Presenting on his CBHI vision to the Mt. Sinai Board of Directors, Dr. Mei stated NIH has concluded that more than one hundred million individuals in the U.S. may have some type of brain-related disorder, prompting CWRU leadership to identify brain health as a top priority. He expects the newly expanded Department of Neurosciences will support the CBHI by continuing to advance discoveries, education and training within CWRU and in collaboration with other institutions.

The complexity of brain disorders makes it all but impossible that any single lab will succeed working alone, and it is Dr. Mei's strong contention that all institutions, working through the Cleveland Brain Health Initiative, will need to leverage expertise and strengths with other research institutions, hospitals and the community.

Dr. Mei hopes to put the Cleveland Brain Health Initiative on the world map and add to the body of medical knowledge on disease processes in Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, Autism and other neurological disorders.



Lin Mei, MD, PhD,
Director, Cleveland Brain Health Initiative and
Chair, CWRU Department of Neurosciences
Photograph by Dan Milner



http://thedaily.case.edu/brain-health-collaboration-wins-grants/

FOUNDATION NEWS

CWRU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE WELCOMES NEW MT. SINAI SCHOLARS

A Foundation initiative at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, the Mt. Sinai Scholars Program in the Basic Sciences continues to build bioscience research capacity for the University and for the Greater Cleveland community.

Inaugurated in 1998 and currently supported by \$2 million in foundation grants over three years, the Mt. Sinai Scholars Program has attracted new faculty from prestigious research institutions to come to Cleveland to establish their labs and conduct basic science research.

The competitive state of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding presents a considerable challenge to many junior scientists and makes it difficult to recruit the best faculty members. This presents a challenge to institutions like Case Western Reserve University to secure the appropriate funding required to offer attractive start-up packages to hire the best and the brightest and to maintain the expensive infrastructure necessary to support leading biomedical science.

The Mt. Sinai Scholars Program in the Basic Sciences has been an exceptionally successful program for CRWU's School of Medicine because it has significantly bolstered the School's efforts to attract talented researchers to its basic science departments.

Through the program to date, the School of Medicine has elevated its research programs in the departments of Neurosciences, Physiology and Biophysics, Molecular Biology and Microbiology, Pathology, Biochemistry and Pharmacology, Proteomics and Epidemiology and has garnered about \$70 million in external federal and foundation grants and indirectly influenced many more. The most recent Mt. Sinai Scholars cohort includes: Polyxeni Philippidou, PhD, and Ashleigh Schaffer, PhD.

Polyxeni Philippidou, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Neurosciences, earned a Bachelor of Science degree summa cum laude from Stony Brook University, where she was a Fulbright Scholar. She then earned a PhD at Stony Brook in Neurobiology and Behavior in 2009 and completed a

postdoctoral fellowship at New York University Medical Center in 2015. Dr. Philippidou has already received a number of awards and honors. Her scientific interests focus on understanding the molecular mechanisms that control neuronal identity and connectivity and her work on respiratory neural circuitry has been published, along with a commentary describing her study, as a major milestone in this field.

Dr. Philippidou is focusing her efforts on the effect of neurons on circuits that affect breathing and how defects in these processes lead to disorders, such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a neurodegenerative disease; and Rett Syndrome, a developmental disorder that causes significant respiratory dysfunction due to circuitry defects. The ultimate goal of her work is to find treatments for these terminal disorders. Dr. Philippidou has NIH support to carry out her work.

Ashleigh Schaffer, PhD, is assistant professor in the Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Genetics at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and continued her education at the University of California-Irvine, earning a PhD in Biological Sciences in 2010.

In 2017 she completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California-San Diego, and she has already received a number of awards and grant support, including NIH awards. Dr. Schaffer's scientific efforts are aimed at understanding the causes of childhood neurological diseases and their progression.

Dr. Schaffer is using human genetics to try to find cures for neurodegenerative disorders, with a focus on pediatrics. Most of these diseases have no current treatments and lead to early death.



(Left to Right) Dean Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine Polyxeni Philippidou, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurosciences
 Ashleigh Schaffer, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences
 President Mitchell Balk, Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation

OHIOGUIDESTONE AND NEON: IDENTIFYING AND TREATING CHILDHOOD TRAUMA

Mt. Sinai awarded OhioGuidestone \$160,099 over two years to launch the child-parent psychotherapy (CPP) project targeting low-income children and their families who have experienced trauma. Founded in 1864, OhioGuidestone provides job training, foster care, addiction and mental health services.

OhioGuidestone is working to improve availability and accessibility of trauma-informed services through an integrated behavioral and physical health model designed to impact life-long health and wellness for children up to five years of age who are currently, served by Northeast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, Inc. (NEON) clinics.

Traumatic experiences and toxic stress, clinically referred to as adverse child experiences (ACEs), can result from a variety of encounters during childhood. Research shows that the long-term impact of ACEs can be mitigated by specialized interventions and supportive, stable relationships.

OhioGuidestone is expanding its reach to provide CPP for young children and their families. CPP has been identified by the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) as an evidence-based treatment model designed to meet the unique needs of young children who have experienced trauma, while including caregivers in the process.

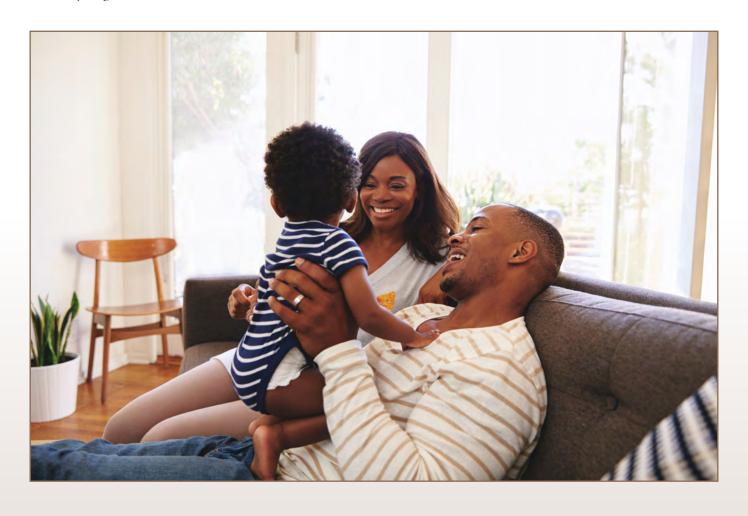
There is currently no universal screening process used by health care providers to identify exposure to trauma. By partnering with NEON, the OhioGuidestone project seeks to implement a universal screening protocol and evidence-based trauma treatment. OhioGuidestone and NEON staff are identifying children and families in need of CPP; providing on-site CPP-informed consultations for children and families; offering on-site and home-based therapeutic support for children and families with a determined need; and training health care workers and staff on the signs, impact, and treatment of trauma in young children.

Since April 2017, the program has screened almost 400 children for ACEs. Those numbers are expected to rise dramatically as a result of a decision to shift the ACEs screen from well-child visits only to all pediatric visits. Clinicians have been extremely receptive to this move. Of those screened, 187 or approximately 48% have experienced one or more ACEs and 110 children have been referred for services. Thirty-four children and families have started CPP as a result of the OhioGuidestone-NEON partnership. This number is expected to rise over the course of the grant period.

The Foundation has a significant history investing in behavioral health services for young children. Unlike other forms of clinical care, addressing trauma, abuse, and neglect is in itself a form of primary prevention because mitigating ACEs can result in a reduction of risk factors and outcomes later in life such as smoking, alcoholism, drug use, mental illness, obesity, chronic disease, and disability.

Moreover, CPP has been shown to be especially effective at improving outcomes for children who have experienced multiple traumatic life events. CPP promises to shift clinical culture to better meet the needs of Cleveland's youngest and most vulnerable children, and it represents an innovative approach to bringing trauma-informed services to scale.

www.ohioguidestone.org | www.neonhealth.org



FOUNDATION NEWS

STATEHOUSE RALLY AGAINST MEDICAID EXPANSION VETO OVERRIDE

Last June, Ohio's legislature passed a budget bill that would have disallowed new people from enrolling in Medicaid Expansion beginning in 2018.

This move would have crippled the program and potentially prevented hundreds of thousands of low-income people from receiving Medicaid health benefits. Governor Kasich vetoed this denial of services, but the Ohio General Assembly was intent on overriding the veto. Mt. Sinai joined the Universal Health Care Access Network (UHCAN) and Organize Ohio to fight the General Assembly by funding two buses that allowed dozens of Cleveland-area residents to attend a rally at the Statehouse in Columbus to demand the legislature to keep Medicaid Expansion. Although Ohio House leadership has indicated that legislators are still considering a vote to reinstate a freeze on Medicaid expansion enrollment, the first round of that fight has been won!



Rallying against the Medicaid Expansion veto override at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus in June 2017.

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Brought to Cleveland for the first time by Mt. Sinai, the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) is an evidence-based, patient-centered, maternal-child health program for first-time, low-income mothers and their babies.

A \$1.2 million signature program of the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, NFP aims to promote child development and provide support and instructive parenting skills to parents.

The program is designed to serve young mothers who are from economically-disadvantaged backgrounds or households. Women voluntarily enroll as early in their pregnancy as possible and continue with the program through the first two years of the child's life.

As reported in a previous edition of LEGACY, the program is operated by MetroHealth. In its first year of existence, the program surpassed enrollment goals and has served 136 women, welcomed 50 babies, and referred clients to more than 200 health and human services.

www.nursefamilypartnership.org



FOUNDATION NEWS

SENIOR TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION HONORS MT. SINAI HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

On October 19, 2017, Senior Transportation Connection (STC) honored founder Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation and President Mitchell Balk.

The event celebrated the Foundation and Mr. Balk's leadership in ensuring comprehensive, coordinated and affordable transportation is available to seniors and adults with disabilities throughout Cuyahoga County and raised a record-breaking more than \$77,000. Event Chair was Lois Goodman. Honorary Chairs included: Hon. Armond D. Budish, Cuyahoga County Executive; Beth E. Mooney, KeyCorp Chairman & Chief Executive Officer; Albert B. Ratner, Forest City Realty Trust Co-Chairman Emeritus; and Barbara R. Snyder, President, Case Western Reserve University.

STC was founded in 2005, as a response to a serious lack of transportation for seniors. The buses drive clients to medical appointments, senior centers for meals and social activities, grocery shopping and personal errands. The fleet logs nearly one million miles each year. From its inception, the Foundation has been committed to allowing seniors to remain independent in their own homes "once their years behind the wheel have ended."

Senior Transportation Connection website: www.ridestc.org



Foundation President Mitchell Balk in front of one of Senior Transportation Connection's new vehicles





(Left) Beth E. Mooney, KeyCorp Chairman & Chief Executive Officer with Foundation President Mitchell Balk (Right) Armond Budish, Cuyahoga County Executive, Susan Ratner, Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation Board Chair and Barabara R. Snyder, President, Case Western Reserve University

RECENT GRANT AWARDS

SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER 2017 GRANT AWARDS

ACADEMIC MEDICINE/BIOSCIENCE

Case Western Reserve University

\$500 for the School of Medicine: Medical Student Doc Opera MMXVII (December 16, 2017)

Cleveland Clinic

\$400,000 over four years for the The Mt. Sinai Scholars Program in Transformative Nanomedicine: A Partnership between Cleveland Clinic and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Cleveland State University

\$250 in Tribute to the Public Service Scholarship and Award (October 10, 2017)

Community West Foundation

\$5,041 for the 2017 Rudolph Reich Orthopaedic Lectureship

University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

\$532 for the Dr. William Herman Pediatric Lectureship (June 15, 2017)

University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

\$550 for the Resident Awards (Drs. Klein & Bernbaum Awards)

University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

\$9,676 for the Robert S. Garson Neurology Lectureship and 8th Annual Neurosciences Research Day (May 9-10, 2017)

HEALTH POLICY

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

\$5,000 for the Annual Meeting and City Club Speech

The Center for Community Solutions

\$138,000 over two years for the Medicaid Policy Center

The City Club of Cleveland

\$2,500 for the Sponsorship Lecture featuring Robert Greenstein (June 16, 2017)

Community Initiatives (fiscal agent)

\$25,000 for Groundwork Ohio Early Childhood Racial Equity Project

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

\$175,000 over two years for the Healthy Housing Project to Prevent Child Lead Poisoning

UHCAN Ohio (Universal Health Care Access Network)

\$40,000 for Grassroots Organizing and Coalition-Building for Health Care

UHCAN Ohio (Universal Health Care Access Network)

\$3,700 for the Save Medicaid rally

OTHER

Grantmakers in Health

\$8,500 for 2017 Funding Partner Program

FOUNDATION NEWS



Foundation Director Larry Pollock completes the maximum three, 3-year terms on the Mt. Sinai Board

During his tenure, Mr. Pollock served on various committees of the Foundation including Chair of the Investment and Finance Committees. He also served as Foundation Vice Chair and Treasurer. Mr. Pollock has served as chair and continues to serve on numerous Boards, including Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau, Cleveland Clinic, ideastream, The Cleveland Foundation, the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, University School, and Kent State University. Mr. Pollock was unable to attend the Annual Meeting where outgoing Directors are customarily recognized for their service.

(*Left*) **Susan Ratner**, Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation Board Chair, presenting **Larry Pollock** with a proclamation honoring his service to the Foundation.

SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER 2017 GRANT AWARDS

HEALTH OF THE URBAN COMMUNITY

Alliance for a Healthier Generation

\$100,000 over two years for Cleveland Healthy Schools Program

Care Alliance Health Center

\$10,000 for Strategic Planning Support

Centers for Families and Children

\$65,000 for Healthy Eating, Fresh Food Bag Pilot Program

Cleveland Metropolitan School District

\$1,500 for the 10th Annual Army of Believers Scholarship Luncheon (July 28, 2017)

Cleveland Public Theatre

\$15,000 for the ENDependence Project

Cleveland Sight Center

\$100,000 for Advancing Outcomes through Electronic Health Records

The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio

\$350 for 63rd Annual Humanitarian Award

East Cleveland Neighborhood Center

\$2,500 for Nutrition Programming in Summer Freedom Schools

Engage! Cleveland

\$1,000 for Young Professional Week: Health and Wellness Initiative

Foundation Center - Midwest

\$3,500 for General Support

FrontLine Service

\$2,500 for 2017 Annual Camp Bridges for Urban Kids

Who Have Witnessed Violence

Greater Cleveland Food Bank

\$190,500 over two years for Food as Medicine Planning and Implementation

ideastream®

\$1,000 for Jerry Wareham Opportunity Fund - Health Programming

Lexington Bell Community Center

\$10,000 for Youth Yoga for Early Childhood and After-School Program Pilot

May Dugan Center

\$40,860 over two years for Alcohol and Drug Counselor and Behavioral Health Re-design

M.C. Chatman Center for Humanitarian Services

\$3,000 for Healthy Living Expo (October 21, 2017) Neighborhood Family Practice

\$250 for NFP Benefit Honoring John Corlett (August 19, 2017)

Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition

\$2,000 for State of Mental Health Disparities Conference (August 18-19, 2017)

Senior Transportation Connection of Cuyahoga County

\$20,000 for Senior Transportation: Celebrating Connections (October 19, 2017)

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center

\$80,000 over two years for new Medical-Legal Partnership between St.Vincent Charity Medical Center and the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

Thea Bowman Center

\$15,000 for Senior Connections Outreach Project

United Cerebral Palsy Association

\$10,000 for Community Needs Assessment for the LeafBridge Feeding Clinic

HEALTH OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

The Cleveland Women's Orchestra

\$1,500 for the Orchestra's Musical Concert Outreach Program at Long-Term Care Facilities at Menorah Park

Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation

\$25,000 for Cleveland Area Jewish Donor Recruitment

Hebrew Free Loan Association (HFLA)

\$50,000 for Interest Free Loans for Health Career Education

Jewish Federation of Cleveland

\$1,650,737 for the 2018 Campaign for Jewish Needs for Health Services

Jewish Federation of Cleveland

\$1,200 for Helping Others and Saving Lives: Stories of Organ Donation in Cleveland and Israel

Jewish National Fund

\$250 for the Tree of Life Award Dinner (August 27, 2017)

Menorah Park Center for Senior Living

\$150,000 for Electronic Health Records Implementation

Montefiore

\$1,000 for Shining Star CLE 2017 (October 22, 2017)

Naaleh Cleveland

\$18,000 for Mental Illness Awareness in the Orthodox Community

CONTRIBUTIONS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation expresses its sincere appreciation to its friends and supporters for their many generous contributions.

In addition to honoring or remembering loved ones, gifts to the various funds help to improve the health status of the Greater Cleveland community through the Foundation's grantmaking.

Contributions received between July 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017

SPECIAL GIFTS

Dr. William Herman Pediatric Lectureship Fund

In Memory of *Dr. William Herman*Marilyn H. and Mitchel S. Ross

Dr. Rudolph S. Reich Lecture Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Reich

CONTRIBUTIONS

Marjorie & Jerome M. Besuner Cancer Fund

In Memory of Michael Mickey Klausner, David Stanley Liff, Levan "Van" Maddox

Marsha J. Besuner Klausner Abby Dawn & Michael Elmudesi Alison & Daniel Mathew Klausner

The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation General Fund

In Memory of *Rabbi Steven L. Mills*Geraldine and Bernard Abrahams

FOUNDATIONS & TRUSTS

The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation is pleased to acknowledge that the following philanthropic distributions were recently received.

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★ of Blessed Memory

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FOUNDATION NEWS IN BRIEF

Foundation Director **Walter Schwartz** became Investment Committee Chair, succeeding Treasurer Randy Korach, who served three years in the role.

Foundation Director **Beth Wain Brandon** received the Jewish Federation's Women's Philanthropy Ruby Bass Award, which demonstrates service to the Federation and commitment to its Women's Campaign.

Foundation Director and Chair of the Urban Health Strategic Grantmaking Advisory Committee **Kim Meisel Pesses** was named the 2017 recipient of the Gries Family Award for Community Leadership at the Jewish Federation of Cleveland. The award recognizes Pesses for her lasting impact on Cleveland's Jewish and general communities.

President **Mitchell Balk** was appointed to the Executive Committee of First Year Cleveland, a citywide collaborative that aims to reduce the infant mortality rate in Cleveland.

Program Officer Daniel Cohn was elected Vice-Chair of the Lakewood Foundation Planning Task Force.

As part of the dissolution of the Lakewood Hospital Association, assets were set aside to form a new wellness foundation.

The City of Lakewood established a Foundation Planning Task Force to determine the structure and mission of the new foundation.

Foundation Directors **Dr. Jeffrey Ponsky** and **Scott Simon** were named by the Cleveland Jewish News (CJN) as 2018 CJN Difference Makers. Twenty-four leaders in the Jewish community were honored for giving back and exemplifying the quality of tikkun olam, or repairing the world.

The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation seeks to assist Greater Cleveland's organizations and leaders to improve the health and well-being of the Jewish and general communities now and for generations to come.

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