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MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.

Series I: Wexner Heritage Foundation, 1947-2004.

Subseries 1: General Files, 1949-2004.

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Corporation for the Future. Tax exemption background
information. 1 August 1994.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

NOTE

This statement is intended as background information for the application to IRS and/or SEC for tax-exempt approval.



BASIC STATEMENT

The basic purpose of **THE CORPORATION FOR THE FUTURE** is to serve the educational needs of the American Jewish community. These needs are particularly crucial today as a result of the Population Study of the CJF in 1990. That study indicated an unexpectedly high intermarriage rate, stemming from an equally high rate of assimilation based on another high rate - namely, ignorance of the Jewish heritage in the broadest sense. That ignorance resulted in a loss of any sense of value of the tradition. When the freedom and permissiveness of the general American environment, which placed no barriers on inter-religious marriage, was joined with the fact of no particular affinity to Judaism on the part of the young Jewish man (in the majority of cases), the exogamous marriage took place with the greatest of ease. The villain in the piece, if that phrase is appropriate, is the Jewish partner's ignorance of his or her own heritage - i.e. religion, history, sacred literature, holy days, philosophy, connection to the Land of Israel, and all similar related subjects.

A sense of crisis developed in the organized Jewish community and all sorts of dark predictions clouded the landscape. *CONTINUITY* became a new buzzword, with its implication that the very existence of the community was threatened by this new phenomenon of which everyone had suddenly become aware. Volumes of speeches were made, hundreds of task forces were appointed, a national commission struggled to find solutions - and, after a year or two, some rudimentary actions began to appear, notably in two fields. One was the Hillel movement for Jewish students on college campuses, which had been functioning on a quiet level for many decades, but which suddenly acquired a new cruciality, for it was these very college students who were suddenly realized to be the "endangered species" requiring some special treatment. And the other was a movement possessed of an engaging name, Israel Experience, whose purpose was to expose large numbers of younger students to varying programs in Israel, thus buttressing their knowledge of aspects of Judaism.

It was clear to all that enhanced education was the antidote to endemic ignorance - enhanced education of all sorts for all ages and in all forms that could be possible by constructed, both in the United States and in Israel. And that is the purpose of the new **CORPORATION FOR THE FUTURE**.

THE CORPORATION will concern itself with:

1. Building the ISRAEL EXPERIENCE into a machinery capable of handling scores of thousands of young people per year.
2. Supporting the Hillel Foundations on American and Israeli campuses.
3. Creating a new model altogether - the elite boarding school for grades 9-13, with the highest possible standards, both for admission and achievement.
4. Stimulating the construction of urban parochial high schools.
5. Encouraging the growth of day schools, at the elementary level, on a broad communal basis, or a denominational basis.
6. Assisting the two congregational summer camp systems - Ramah (Conservative) and NFTY (Reform) to expand their present numbers, five and nine, respectively, at least five-fold.
7. Assisting congregations to develop Lehrhaus-type adult education lecture series and small seminars.
8. Seeking benefactors who are willing and able to establish Wexner-style teaching institutes for top leaders in their communities.
9. Analyzing other projects which might be proffered.

FINANCING

The Corporation is intended to be a non-profit tax-exempt entity, of the 501(c) 3 type, entitled to receive contributions as well as income from investments.

GOVERNANCE

The Corporation shall be governed by a small (9 person) board and a small professional staff. A lay person shall serve as Chairman, and a professional person as President and CEO. Meetings of the board shall be held as needed; decisions of the board may be made by telephone conferencing; reports shall be filed as required by state and federal regulations. Legal counsel shall be retained as required, as shall accounting counsel.

The board shall pass resolutions regarding expenditures in Israel; shall control those expenditures through its own monitoring system; and shall execute those expenditures through its own staff or sub-contractors.

Prepared by: (Rabbi) Herbert A. Friedman
President, Wexner Heritage Foundation
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