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**News Release**

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**Contact:** Adam Hertzman

**E-mail:** ahertzman@jfedpgh.org

**Direct Dial:** 412.992.5225

**MERYL AINSMAN AND LINDA JOSHOWITZ TO CHAIR 2016 ANNUAL  
CAMPAIGN OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PITTSBURGH**



The Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh is pleased to announce that the Chair for the Federation's 2016 Annual Campaign will be Meryl Ainsman, a devoted community member who has held numerous service and leadership roles throughout the Jewish community over the past twenty years. Ainsman currently holds several executive committee roles: Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, Vice Chair of the Executive Committee, Chair of the Community Building Committee and Chair of the Community Scorecard Committee.

At Federation, she co-chaired several missions to Israel, including the Centennial MegaMission in 2012, and co-chaired Partnership2000 (now Partnership2Gether). She has also served on a host of committees, including the Administrative Committee and the Ad Hoc Financial Reporting Committee, as well as the Women's Division, which she chaired. In addition to her work with the Federation Annual Campaign, Ainsman has generously donated her time and expertise to the Jewish Community Foundation, advising resource distribution as a member of the Fund for a Jewish Future Founders Council and the Foundation Grantmaking Committee.

Ainsman's leadership in the Jewish community extends to some of the most well known organizations in the area. She chaired the board of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh from 2007-2010 and continues to serve as a JCC National Association Board Member. She has also made a uniquely visible philanthropic impact on the region as the executive director for the Philip Chosky Charitable and Educational Foundation. In this capacity, she has impacted Pittsburgh's cultural and educational environment in innumerable ways. From the Pittsburgh Promise to Emma Kaufmann Camp, and from City Theatre to the Carnegie Mellon campus, Ainsman has carried out the mission of the fund's namesake in a way that has enriched the lives thousands of Jewish and non-Jewish Pittsburghers.

Beyond her leadership in governance, Ainsman is a tireless volunteer, devoting her time and expertise to Federation groups such as the Community Relations Council's Rapid Response Team, the Yesod Leadership Development Program and the Centennial Mega-Mission. She has been widely lauded for her service to the Jewish community, receiving honors such as

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the William and Olga Stark Leadership Award in 1997, the Gerald S. Ostrow Volunteer of the Year Award in 2005 and the Community Day School Community Leadership Award in 2007.

Ainsman is the financial manager for the law firm Ainsman, Levine and Drexler, LLC. She and her husband David have four children, Laura, Molly, Jesse, and Lucy, and a new grandson, Charlie.



Joining Ainsman in leading the 2016 Annual Campaign is co-chair Linda Joshowitz. This year, Joshowitz will finish her tenure as Chair of Women's Philanthropy, during which time she also served on the 2014 and 2015 Annual Campaign Board and the Federation Board of Directors.

Joshowitz is a dedicated volunteer and community leader, with a particular interest in Israel. She currently leads the local chapter of Bnei Akiva, the international Zionist youth movement, and she is a participant in the Yesod Leadership Development Program. In her more than 15 years of service to the Jewish community, Joshowitz has served on the Aging and Human Needs Commission and the Board of Hillel Academy, as well as chaired the Federation's Fundfest phoning event.

Joshowitz worked as a physical therapist for 20 years. She and her husband James live in Squirrel Hill and have four children, Andrew, Jill, Leah and Sari.

"Meryl and Linda bring a wealth of experience and a demonstrated love for our Jewish community. With these extraordinary women championing the Federation's Annual Campaign, I'm confident that Jewish Pittsburgh will grow even more vibrant in 2016 and that the future of our community is in good hands," said Woody Ostrow, Chair of the Federation Board.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, a member agency of The Jewish Federations of North America, raises and allocates funds to build community locally, in Israel and around the world. With the vision of a thriving, vibrant and engaged Jewish community, the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh aims to carry out its work in the context of cooperation and inclusiveness. For information, visit [www.jfedpgh.org](http://www.jfedpgh.org).

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