

WINNICK FAMILY *Foundation*

Gary Winnick Supports the Jewish Federation's KOREH L.A. Literacy Program

LOS ANGELES, CA – June 25, 2008 — KOREH L.A. is the non-sectarian volunteer literacy program created by The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles' Jewish Community Relations Committee. Koreh is the Hebrew word for read. Each volunteer spends one hour, once a week, reading with a pre-school or elementary school child.

The program was launched in 1999 in response to a serious literacy crisis; surveys have shown that some 67,000 third grade students in Southern California have significant reading problems and 80 percent of fourth graders read below their grade level.

At the time of its launch, KOREH L.A. began to recruit, train, place and support volunteers at 30 public schools throughout Los Angeles. In 2000, The Jewish Federation received a special grant of \$500,000 from the Winnick Family Foundation, founded by international financier and philanthropist Gary Winnick. The grant was used to expand the reach and scope of KOREH L.A.

“With the support of Gary Winnick, to date the program has trained over 7,500 volunteers who have worked with more than 16,000 children in 100 Los Angeles elementary and pre-schools,” stated Elaine Albert, director of KOREH LA. “Principals, teachers, and volunteers have noted the impact that KOREH L.A. volunteers have on the reading abilities, attendance, classroom participation, and self-esteem of the children.”

SOURCE

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