



Creating a Named Fund at Congregation Beth Am

Creating a new Beth Am fund named after a loved one or in honor of a special occasion in your family's life is a longstanding synagogue tradition and a meaningful way to support Beth Am programs and carry out your philanthropic goals. Below is information about the two fund establishment options available to our members.

Named "Spend-Down" Funds

A named "spend-down" fund is created by a single contributor or group of contributors for a specific purpose. The fund may be named in honor or in memory of someone. The Board must approve establishment of the fund.

The minimum gift amount to open and maintain such a fund is 1% of the prior year's operating budget. **In 2019-2020, the minimum total gift amount required to create a new fund is \$44,000.**

If the fund level falls below 0.2% of the prior year's Operating budget, and remains there for over one calendar year, the fund is closed, and the assets transferred to the Educational Endowment Fund.

With the exception of the 0.2% floor rule, donations made to these funds are considered donor restricted, as the funds will only be used for the purposes specified by the creators of the fund.

Named Endowment Funds

An endowed fund is also created by a single contributor or group of contributors, and is a permanently restricted fund for a designated program or purpose at Beth Am. The fund may be named in honor or in memory of someone. The Board must approve establishment of the fund. The initial gift requirement to create a named endowment fund at Beth Am must be an amount greater than 5% of the year's operating budget. **In 2019-2020, the minimum total gift amount required to create an endowed fund is \$233,000.** Donations made to these funds are considered donor restricted, as the funds will only be used for the purposes specified, with usage limited by the endowment's policy.

When creating a new fund, donors work with Beth Am staff to determine the exact nature of the fund and define its usage for the congregation. We are delighted to work together to meet your needs while addressing the current and future benefits your gift can bring our community. For more information, please contact Director of Development Mandy Eisner in the Beth Am office at (650) 493-4661, ext. 211 or meisner@betham.org.