

JF&CS honored to be recognized with three awards



SHCFP Director Matthew Bolton

Congratulations to our own Matthew Bolton, Director of the Squirrel Hill Community Food Pantry, who has been named the 2017 winner of the Ira & Nanette Gordon Community Professional Achievement Award. This prestigious honor from the Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh recognizes a professional in the early years of his career who has "rendered exemplary leadership through his/her initiative, creativity and productivity."

Matthew has been the Food Pantry's Director since 2012, during which time the number of people offered food assistance has grown every year. Additional programs that educate children and volunteers about hunger in our community serve to increase compassion and community activism.

Many local organizations and businesses also support the Food Pantry on a regular basis: farmers with excess produce, and organizations and clubs with food drives and special item donations - like slow-cookers, shoes, winter clothes, school supplies and kitchen prep kits for children. The Squirrel Hill Community Food Pantry has come to inspire an entire community to fight hunger in every way.

"I am extremely honored and humbled to be recognized by the Jewish community as the recipient of the Ira and Nanette Gordon Community Professional Achievement Award," said Matthew. "It is only with such strong support from the greater Pittsburgh Jewish community that social service programs such as the Squirrel Hill Community Food Pantry and SOS Pittsburgh can thrive and provide a strong safety net for those experiencing life transitions. I am proud to be part of a dedicated and compassionate team and I am grateful to serve our community."

The Gordon Award includes a cash prize, a plaque and a celebratory luncheon.

And speaking of awards, JF&CS is the proud recipient of two additional community awards. JF&CS President & CEO Jordan Golin accepted the United African Communities (UAC) of Pittsburgh's Humanitarian Award in early September. This award was given in recognition of the work that JF&CS does to better the lives of individuals in the Pittsburgh region.

Additionally, the YWCA of Pittsburgh notified us that they will be honoring us with their annual Racial Justice Award for the work we do with refugees and immigrants. The annual Racial Justice Awards is a signature event of YWCA Greater Pittsburgh's Center for Race and Gender Equity (CRGE). CRGE seeks to "promote a society in which all people receive equal treatment and have equal access in the workplace, public services, justice system, classroom, and throughout the Greater Pittsburgh community."

"I'm very proud of the recognition given to JF&CS as an organization and to our individual staff members. All of these awards are a reflection of JFCS's dedication to improving lives, especially those who have been marginalized either by prejudice or circumstance," said Jordan Golin. "This organization has always been about identifying needs in the community and working to reach those who have been left out so that every member of our community lives a productive and fulfilling life."



UAC Award