

How JWFA defines SOCIAL CHANGE

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta is committed to expanding opportunities and promoting social change for Jewish women and girls.

Social Change addresses the underlying factors contributing to the challenges faced by Jewish girls and women.

Social Change is a systemic approach seeking to alter cultural or social patterns.

Social Change for Jewish women and girls seeks to address the inequity and disparity within our community that works against women's empowerment, self-determination, economic empowerment, and gender equity.

For example, social change programming approaches an issue such as the elimination of domestic violence in the Jewish community from a place of prevention, rather than funding direct services meeting the needs of victims who have already suffered abuse.

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta seeks to achieve **Social Change** by:

- Creating long-term changes in the lives of Jewish women and girls and their communities
- Addressing underlying causes of inequity, suffering, and disenfranchisement
- Identifying and testing innovative programming solutions
- Facilitating leadership development as well as the self-empowerment efforts of Jewish women and girls

JWFA looks at five indicators of Social Change.

1. An issue or idea has a **new meaning**. The community or society sees the issue differently.
2. Research, **documentation of actual experiences**, articulating concepts through writing and/or presentations.
3. **Shifts in behavior**: People behave differently (and for the better) in the community or larger society, usually building a sense of personal empowerment.
4. **Shifts in engagement** - More people are engaged in an idea of action. Ideally, enough people get involved that they are noticed; voices are heard, and a "tipping point" is reached.
5. **Shifts in policies** - Organizational, local, regional, state, national, or international policy or practice has changed to better serve social change ideals. Public policy reform, education and interaction with policy and system-level decision-makers.