



Volume I, Spring / Summer 2010

The Hebrew Free Loan Association of Houston 4131 S. Braeswood, Houston, TX, 77025  
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## Going Forward in 2010!

The Hebrew Free Loan Association of Houston maintains so many amazing stories of people who have achieved their dreams simply by receiving the financial assistance from compassionate individuals, just like you!

I am delighted to accept the position of Executive Director so that I may integrate the resources of successful Houstonians and the passion of our volunteers and Board members. Having worked with Jewish Family Service of Houston for nearly four years as an attorney and legislative correspondent, I have collaborated with established members of the Houston community to set up the legal infrastructure for profitable business ventures staffed by developmentally-disabled adults, including Celebration Company and New Living. Further, I am an attorney with 10+ years of experience, working with well-established nonprofits, such as the Association of the Foreign Service Worldwide as well as service on Capitol Hill.

I believe in the power of Houston's Jewish Community.

Hebrew Free Loan works with countless local Jewish individuals and families to establish businesses, purchase their first home, ensure attendance at college and graduate school as well as adopt children.

Take, for example, one anonymous borrower who took out a small loan so that she could experience Israel for the first time. During her trip, she fostered a strong Jewish way of life and met her husband! In 2008, after the wake of Hurricane Ike, we delivered \$60,000 in loans, in emergency funds alone, to those hit hard by the disaster. It was here that we were able to offer hope as well as assist in purchasing necessities, food or medical supplies.

*Continues on page 3*



*Welcome our new  
Executive Director,  
Jennifer-Joy Bronk*

## My Work, My Belief, My Passion

By Barbie Talisman

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*"In 2008, after the wake of Hurricane Ike, we delivered \$60,000 in loans, in emergency funds alone, to those hit hard by the disaster."*

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Having learned of HFLA at Yom Limmud, I was deeply moved by the concept of interest free loans which help Jewish Houstonians, and I immediately knew that I wanted to be part of such a fantastic group.

I started by distributing flyers to all the temples. While speaking with some of the customers in the gift shops, I met previous HFLA borrowers who detailed how the organization was able to help them. One woman desperately needed a new car as she would have lost her job without the loan from HFLA.

It is with great excitement that I speak of the mission and purpose of this organization, and I am excited to become a part of it. I believe that the more donations we have, the more interest free loans we can provide to help those in need in our community.

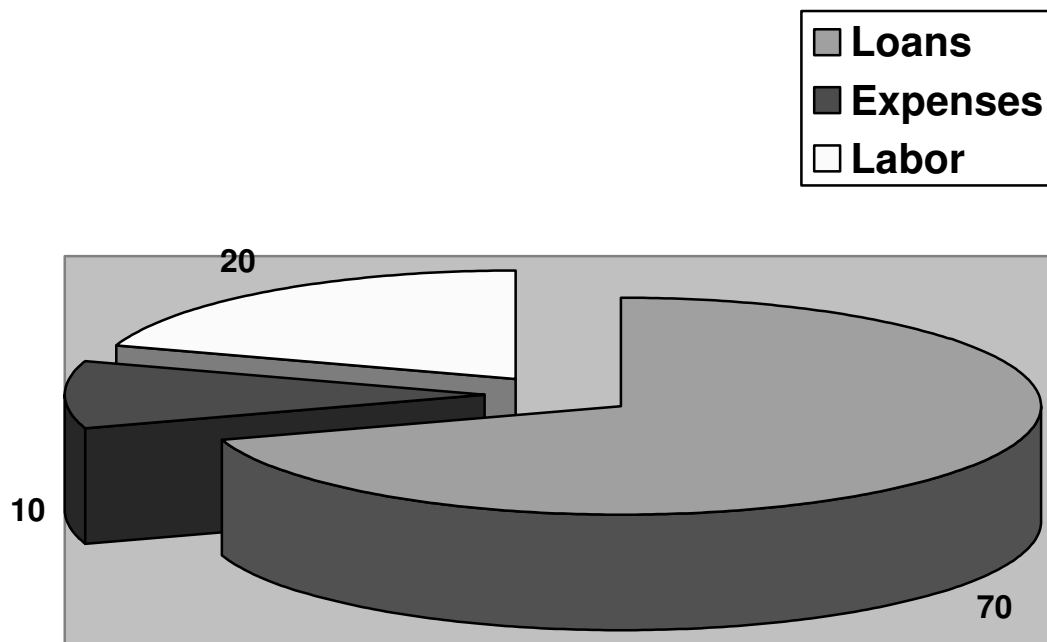
It is an honor to be part of the HFLA. To my friends and family that now know all about it, get your check books out!

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### May 7

Jewish Business  
Networking & Micro-  
Lending Event  
JCC Library, 1-4pm

## Where your donations go



## Making a Difference

*“Thank you so much for helping me go to Israel. If it weren’t for the help I received from HFLA, I would not have met my husband in Israel, nor would I have fostered such a strong Jewish / Zionist way of life. Thank you again.”*

*“Thank you very much for approving my loan application. What this loan represents is beyond words. Please know that these funds will allow me to continue my academic endeavors, which will ultimately make the difference in my life.”*



*Follow us on our Facebook page*

### **Going Forward in 2010!, Continued from page 1**

Many Jewish residents contact us for emergency loans, as we provide the buffer that prevents the decision between food and medicine. Perhaps you know someone who has worked with our organization, attained a loan or donated towards our cause. It is clear that donors like you provide an unparalleled ability to assist individuals who maintain access to no other resources.

In addition to emergency loans, we also provide capital in the form of zero interest loans to entrepreneurs seeking to start their own businesses. I am immensely proud to be a part of an organization that believes in reinvesting within Houston’s community. By providing loans to entrepreneurs seeking to create businesses, we can not only improve people’s lives but our city as a whole. I hope you will join me in this truly incredible valuable charitable effort! Please contact me personally at [jjbronk@hfla.net](mailto:jjbronk@hfla.net), call me at 713-667-9336 x 221 or make an appointment to stop by and see me at the Jewish Family Service building located on South Braeswood.

## **Go Green and Join Our Email List!**

Would you like to receive mailings from The Hebrew Free Loan Association of Houston about new events and mitzvahs? Please email us at [jjbronk@hfla.net](mailto:jjbronk@hfla.net) to be included on our list.

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*“A couple of weeks ago, I received a check from you which made the difference between feeding my children and starving – literally . . . I do want to thank whomever helped me through this rough time. It truly was a mitzvah.”*

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President:	Jeffrey Horowitz	<i>Board at Large:</i>
Vice President of Loans:	Dr. Arnold Wolf	Bryan S. Miller
Vice President of Membership:	Marcia Katz	David Mitzner
Vice President of Foundations:	Barry Sandler	Michael Richker
Loan Servicing Manager:	Larry J. Ellard	Vicki Richker
Secretary:	Julius Chapman	Harvey Rosenstock
Treasurer:	Dr. Arnold Wolf	Jeff Sokol
Immediate Past President:	Scott A. Davis	
Executive Director:	Jennifer-Joy Bronk	

*We are honored to have the support of the following rabbis and cantors:*

Cantor Emeritus Irving Dean United Orthodox Synagogues	Rabbi Steven M. Gross Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism
Rabbi Barry Gelman United Orthodox Synagogues	Rabbi Emeritus Sam Karff Congregation Beth Israel
Cantor Robert Gerber Congregation Beth Israel	Rabbi David Lyon Congregation Beth Israel
Rabbi Dan Gordon Temple Beth Torah	

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“The Association was most helpful when I was exceedingly low on cash flow and high on unexpected expenses, medical and home repairs due to lke.”

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## Become a HFLA Member Today!

As a member of the Hebrew Free Loan Association of Houston, you will serve an integral part of your community by supporting individuals through loans free of interest, to responsible persons unable to obtain a loan from conventional sources.

An annual membership fee, minimum \$25, entitles you to our quarterly newsletter and exclusive invitations to HFLA events. A gift membership is also available to engage others in the Hebrew Free Loan Association of Houston.

*Please make check payable to: Hebrew Free Loan Association of Houston, PO Box 6634, Houston, TX 77277*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership (suggested minimum \$25) Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Gift in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

in celebration or remembrance of: \_\_\_\_\_

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The Hebrew Free Loan Association of Houston is a tax-exempt Section 501(c)(3) organization. All contributions are tax deductible.