

Milwaukee Jewish Federation: Nominees sought for Robert H. Friebert Social Justice Award

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MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin – The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation is seeking nominees for its annual Robert H. Friebert Social Justice Award. The award will be given to an individual who has demonstrated leadership, courage and compassion as a social justice advocate, while working to eliminate discrimination and injustice in the greater Milwaukee area. Nominees' professional and personal contributions to social justice will be considered. Previous recent honorees include Darryl Morin, Judge Derek Mosley, Anita Johnson, Pardeep Singh Kaleka and Arno Michaelis.

The honoree will be recognized at the JCRC's Annual Meeting on May 20, 2026. Nomination forms are available at MilwaukeeJewish.org/Friebert. The submission deadline is Feb. 27.

This award was created in memory of prominent Milwaukee attorney and activist, Robert H. Friebert. He was driven to pursue social justice through the law and public service, and he believed deeply that everyone deserves equal social, economic and political rights. Bob Friebert (1938-2013) dedicated himself to the pursuit of social justice and the Jewish value of tikkun olam (repairing the world). A graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, Friebert was a founding partner of the law firm Friebert, Finerty and St. John S.C. He argued four cases in the United States Supreme Court, addressing the rights of teachers to organize, due process for federal youthful offenders, reproductive rights of women and the rights of people to vote in primary elections. He served as the first public defender for the State of Wisconsin from 1966-1968.

About the Jewish Community Relations Council

Founded in 1938, the Jewish Community Relations Council, the public affairs arm of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, advocates for the rights and values of Jews individually and collectively, here and abroad. The Council implements a coordinated program of education, action, and advocacy for the Jewish community. For more than 100 years, the Milwaukee Jewish Federation has been dedicated to building a strong Jewish community. We distributed \$20 million last year to Jewish and non-Jewish organizations locally and around the world, and manage philanthropy through our \$220 million Jewish Community Foundation.