

**MOTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES OF
THE JEA AND SAVANNAH JEWISH FEDERATION**

WHEREAS, Jewish organizations have a fundamental obligation to ensure the perpetuation of the Jewish people from generation to generation (Dor l'Dor); and

WHEREAS, the entire Savannah Jewish community has always supported the principle that Jewish education is essential to the accomplishment and achievement of this fundamental obligation of Dor l' Dor; and

WHEREAS, the Savannah Jewish Federation, the Jewish Educational Alliance and Rambam Day School, after a thorough investigation including surveys, focus group research, analysis and fair and open community discussions, have concluded that there is a significant need for the next generation of young Jewish families in Savannah for a comprehensive full day early childhood education program; and

WHEREAS, a successful and comprehensive early childhood education program will provide a point of entry and source of engagement into our community organizations for many of the young Jewish Savannah families, provide a significant source of financial resources and stability to the JEA and provide greater exposure to the young Jewish Savannah families of the quality educational opportunities provided by Rambam Day School's kindergarten through eighth grade program;

WHEREAS, Rambam Day School has served the educational needs of the Savannah Jewish Community for the past Twenty-One years and that it is expressly understood that Rambam Day School is not dissolving its pre-school but it is willing to collaborate with the JEA's Community Early Childhood Education (CECE) Program for the betterment of the entire Jewish Community.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Savannah Jewish Federation, the Jewish Educational Alliance and Rambam Day School agree that the JEA and Rambam Day School will provide to the entire Jewish community a joint Community Early Childhood Education program beginning August 2013 utilizing the following structure:

1. The Community Early Childhood Education (“CECE”) center, a collaborative effort between the JEA and Rambam Day School, will consist of a seamless Jewish full day program consisting of daycare, preschool and aftercare for children ages four years old and under.
2. All components of the CECE center shall consist of the highest quality programming with age appropriate Jewish content, state of the art physical facilities and meet the highest level of safety and security. The JEA may limit enrollment in the CECE program to JEA members only. Parents will be able to enroll their children using a CECE application which will be available through both the JEA and Rambam Day School.
3. The CECE center shall develop a Jewish curriculum that utilizes throughout its programs the values and principles exemplified in the Ethical Start™ program developed by the National JCCA organization which is based on the text of Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers).
4. The JEA shall be responsible for the overall operation of the CECE program. All revenues shall be received and administered by the JEA. A CECE committee made up of leadership from the JEA and RDS will be responsible for the initial naming, branding and promotion of the new CECE program. Other committees associated with the CECE program shall have members appointed by both the JEA and Rambam with the precise makeup and responsibilities of the committees to be determined by the ECE director. It is the aspirational goal of the JEA and Rambam Day School that the CECE program be filled with Jewish students and that the students that are enrolled in the CECE program be from all of the age eligible Jewish

children in the Savannah area. The JEA and Rambam Day School will each utilize its financial resources and the best efforts of the community's leadership to identify, recruit and solicit all eligible Jewish children in Savannah into the CECE program.

5. The JEA shall pay to Rambam Day School the sum of Twenty Thousand dollars (\$20,000) per year for two years beginning September 2013.

6. A Curriculum committee chaired by the principal of Rambam will be responsible for developing and evaluating on an ongoing basis the Ethical Start™ curriculum for the two to four year old preschool component of the CECE center.

7. The Principal of Rambam Day School shall be responsible for the development, implementation and staffing of a voluntary Judaic enrichment tract for those participants that request it. The Principal of Rambam shall also be a member of the committee that is charged with the responsibility of developing and analyzing the evaluation instruments to be used in assessing the ongoing success of the CECE program. The principal of Rambam Day School shall be an employee of Rambam Day School and will be supervised by the Rambam Day School Board of Directors. The principal of Rambam Day School and the Director of the CECE center shall work in a collaborative manner to ensure that the CECE program satisfies the goals set forth in Paragraphs Two and Three above.

8. The CECE Director shall be responsible for the day to day operation of the entire CECE center. The CECE Director shall report to the Executive Director of the JEA. Either the CECE director or the Principal of Rambam shall be equally available for the initial contact with prospective new parents, referring one to the other for any specifics. The CECE Director is encouraged to assess and consider retaining the secular staff currently teaching in Rambam Day School's 2-4 year old program.

9. It is the goal of the parties to this agreement that the ECE program will have both a Jewish content and to have a majority of the children who participate in the program be Jewish. Understanding that participation in a pre-school program is a choice made by a child's parents, it is also the goal of the ECE program that, subject to the available scholarship funds, no Jewish child shall be denied access to the CECE program due to a demonstrable financial need.

The JEA and Savannah Jewish Federation will provide needs – based scholarships in an amount that each organization believes are fiscally appropriate. Scholarships shall be determined on a case by case basis and administered by a committee of the JEA. Additionally, all of the parties to this agreement will utilize their collective best efforts to raise funds from private donors to be used for Jewish members of the community for scholarships for children in the 2 & 3 year old program and for Apogee scholarships for children in the 4 year old program.

10. The lease between the JEA and Rambam which will currently expire in July 2012 shall be extended for an additional 3 years at its current rate of \$71,500 per year. The JEA and Rambam will sign an addendum to the lease that reflects the 3 year extension and the use of the space for the CECE program. The Savannah Jewish Federation agrees to maintain Rambam's allocation at no less than the 2011 allocation received by Rambam unless the Federation annual campaign drops below the 2011 campaign total of \$961,000.

11. This agreement will be for a 3 year period beginning in August 2012 and ending August 2015. Prior to the end of this agreement, the parties will review the terms and conditions of this agreement to assess the CECE programs success in fulfilling the goals set forth in the recitals in the beginning of this agreement. In December 2013, either organization shall have the right to terminate this agreement. In the event of an early termination, all of the rights, duties and obligations set forth in this agreement between the JEA, Rambam Day School and Savannah

Jewish Federation shall end. At such time, the JEA and Rambam Day School will negotiate new terms and conditions of the lease with the JEA having the right to continue to occupy the CECE space. Additionally, in the event of an early termination of this agreement, each respective organization shall be free to pursue separate early childhood education programs which will meet the needs of each organizations constituents. Each organization will support and show good will towards the other in their pursuit of these separate ECE programs. The organizations will pledge to continue to find common interests and opportunities to work together for the betterment of the entire Savannah Jewish community in pursuit of our common goal of Dor l' Dor.

Additionally, for the first year of the agreement, Rambam Day School and the Jewish Educational Alliance will only solicit Jewish families for the Early Childhood Education program.

Motion approved by a vote of 33 – 6 at the Joint Board meeting of the Federation and JEA on April 18, 2012.