

Jewish Community Centers – St. Louis, Denver, Omaha

Michael is passionate about quality of life issues, particularly in the areas of health & wellness, education and the arts. It is his vision of a vibrant and welcome community gathering space that has driven his work at Jewish Community Centers in several cities. The Jewish Community Center in St. Louis is the “flagship” project that embodies Michael’s interest to bring all of these facets together under one roof.

"I am proud of what we created here in St. Louis. It took great vision and the help of many to make it a success. I have been asked on more than one occasion why I am interested in investing so much time, money and passion to support campaigns to renovate Jewish Community Centers. The easy answer is that I believe that JCC's have the potential to make the greatest impact in our communities. Now, and for many years to come."

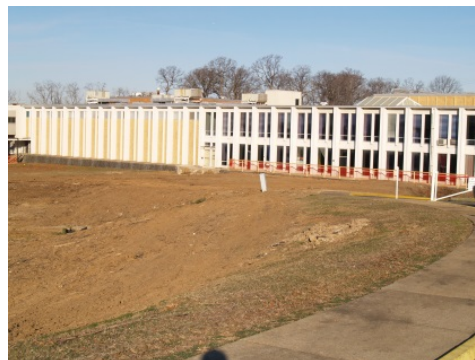
Jewish Community Center - St. Louis Staenberg Family Complex



Photo courtesy of Rick Rovak

What began as a strategic discussion on the future of the J in St. Louis, turned into a transformational project to establish a new vision, anchored by state-of-the-art facilities, great leadership and programming that would adapt to serve the needs of the community.

The Need, Opportunity and Goal



In 2005, the Creve Coeur facilities were outdated, programs had overrun their spaces and membership had declined significantly. The J needed a structural makeover, both internally and externally, to continue to build upon the strength of their 125 year legacy. The board, staff and community came together to envision a new plan that would serve as a framework for excellence, and success. New facilities would become the catalyst to renewed growth and engagement.

The Impact

“Success is never the result of one, but created by the efforts of many.”



The project was expansive and required the expertise of many people with the determination and vision to succeed. Michael’s hands-on approach and involvement helped to bring in the right talent, leadership, resources and cost-saving measures into play.

Today, the Staenberg Family Complex is comprised of a new fitness center with state-of-of-the art facilities, indoor and outdoor pools, basketball, courts for racquetball and squash, locker rooms, spa services, early childhood and adult education, kitchen facilities, arts and theater spaces, offices and community gathering spaces for special events.

“I’ve seen the impact of the work we did in St. Louis. It took vision and resources of time, connections to the right contractors and innovative ideas to introduce cost-saving measures that would save money up front and down the road. For example, we were able to save millions on renovation costs, reduce the maintenance expense by more than \$50,000

per year and leverage new donor support in excess of \$20 million. Artwork is also placed throughout the facility to welcome visitors and enhance the member experience.”

A \$35 million philanthropic investment by Michael, Carol and the Staenberg Family Foundation over the past decade has helped to turn the JCC in St. Louis into a model for Jewish Community Centers nationwide.

“The result is a facility that is inspirational as well as functional.”

“The numbers alone can’t tell the whole story on the impact Michael has had on this agency. He led the charge and helped us to change the culture of the J. Beyond writing a check, he has provided thousands of hours of expertise to help us save money on various projects, and opened his little black book to vendors and supporters we may not have known otherwise. It’s not just the financial support, that’s really important, but it is also sharing his vision and driving for operational excellence. I think that speaks volumes for the impact that one person can have.”

– Lynn Wittels, President and CEO, JCC St. Louis

By the Numbers

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2017</u>	
Members:	9,921	14,536	(+46.5%)
Revenue:			
- Agency	\$12.9 million	\$20.4 million	(+58.4%)
- Program	\$ 5.7 million	\$ 9.2 million	(+60.5%)

We encourage you to visit the JCC website at www.jccstl.org for more information. Please contact Lynn Wittels at lwittels@jccstl.org to discuss opportunities to get involved.