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RENÉ & SUSANNE
BRAGINSKY
STIFTUNG
ZÜRICH

REPORT 2015

SETTING A FOCUS!

At the end of 2015, it will be exactly thirty years since my wife Susanne and I established our family Foundation. A key factor behind deciding to take this step was our gratitude for our healthy family and our personal and professional happiness. At that time we had no major strategic goals for our Foundation, which we established with modest resources, but just wanted to help those who are less fortunate. In retrospect, this motivation may almost sound a little naïve – but I must admit that not much has changed to this day, and I believe that it is simply the duty of those who are prospering to give back to society above and beyond tax obligations.

That being said, we have been running our Foundation with plans and aims since it began. It became clear to us early on just how important it is for a private institution like ours to set realistic goals and make a clear statement. Given the amount of problems in our society, our contributions are only a drop in the ocean. However, this should not prevent each project from being as successful

and sustainable as possible. Achieving this is primarily the role of the Foundation Board. In view of the areas in which our Foundation is active – social affairs, health, science, education and culture – it was therefore important to me and my wife to strengthen the Board in a targeted manner. I am delighted that this has been achieved through the election of Felix Gutzwiller, Eric Stupp and our son David.

To be able to operate successfully, every foundation requires a competent administrative office. We are extremely grateful that Eduard M. Rosenstein has performed this role here successfully and passionately for many years. He considers each applicant with great respect and professionalism, free of bureaucracy.

Our attitude towards transparency has also changed over the last three decades. For years after the establishment of the Foundation, we were convinced that people should do good deeds without talking about them. We both

learnt this principle in our youth. However, it is true that our Foundation has for some time provided information about its work and also has its own website. This allows those who need help to determine in advance essentially whether their application has any chance of success. In addition, our report is the basis for sharing information with other foundations that pursue similar objectives to our own.

We are delighted that, together with our sister organization, "Haus der jüdischen Jugend", one of whose support projects is the Jewish NOAM primary school, we were able to provide more than CHF 100 million in contributions over the past three decades. Our organization's capital remains sound, which will enable us to continue our work in the years to come.

René Braginsky, President of the Foundation Board

PERFORMANCE REPORT 2014

Since late 1985, our Foundation's objectives have been to care for the elderly, handicapped, infirm or needy, to supervise and promote the training of children and young people, to support healthcare establishments, to encourage leisure activities for children and young people, to support religious institutions and to generally promote social, scientific and cultural projects, on an exclusively non-profit basis.

The Foundation Board held three meetings in the year under review. The focus of these meetings was to review the many requests that were submitted to our Foundation in 2014. The Foundation Board granted a total of around CHF 4.1 million (previous year: CHF 4.7 million) for specific projects in the categories of "Social Affairs", "Education and Science" and "Other". The Foundation Board also addressed statutory business (annual financial statement, annual report, auditor's report).

In the year under review we provided the area of "Social Affairs" with funding totaling CHF 432,000. Around half of these funds went to various social welfare organizations in Switzerland and Israel in the form of individual donations of up to CHF 8,000.

In 2014, the area of "Education and Science" received CHF 1,760,000 in total. ETH Zurich was once again the focus of this support. In fall 2011, our Foundation Board decided to help enable ETH Zurich to create a new Chair in the field of medical technology. Our Foundation provides funding amounting to a total of CHF 10 million for this Chair, which ETH administers in combination with the University of Zurich and the University Hospital of Zurich. We supported the University of Amsterdam in developing its research on Jewish writings with a grant of around CHF 250,000. The Swiss Association of Friends of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem also received a major contribution.

"Other" activities accounted for CHF 1,902,000 and we have continued our collaboration with Keren Hayesod. This foundation in Israel has provided successful, practical education and integration work for Jewish immigrants for many years. The University Children's Hospital Zurich and the Zurich Opera House, amongst others, have also received funding.

To measure the success of our work, the Foundation Board regularly assesses both the effectiveness and efficiency of our work. Finally, the Foundation Board is also closely involved with all financial matters (including investment policies, which are regularly reviewed and adjusted if necessary) and monitors the activities of the administrative office.

Despite the challenging financial market situation, our Foundation has made good financial progress in the year under review. Thanks to the encouraging financial results, our Foundation's capital amounts to just under

CHF 57 million. We apply Swiss GAAP FER 21 accounting standards, developed specifically for non-profit organizations, to our annual financial statement.

Subject to the approval of the necessary revision of the Articles of Incorporation by the Foundation Supervisory Authority of the Canton of Zurich, we have expanded the Foundation Board through the addition of our son David Braginsky, Member of the Council of States Prof. em. Felix Gutzwiller and Attorney Eric Stupp. They will all provide an important additional boost to our Foundation.

Susanne Braginsky, Member of the Foundation Board

EXAMPLES OF APPROVED REQUESTS

Friends of the Sheba Medical Center Tel Hashomer association:

Co-financing of medical technology equipment purchased by this hospital near Tel Aviv

Kinderspitex Zürich (home care for children after hospitalization):

Contribution to finance the business

Human Development Foundation:

Financial support for the orphanage in Bangkok managed by Father Joe Maier

Foundation against racism and anti-Semitism:

Support for educational work

Amsterdam University Fund Foundation:

Funding for research and teaching in the field of Jewish writings

Stiftung für klinisch experimentelle Forschung in der Neonatologie (Foundation for clinical and experimental research into neonatology):

Contribution towards a research project

Zurich Opera House, Schauspielhaus Zürich, Zurich Festival Foundation, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation:

Co-financing of cultural highlights

University Children's Hospital Zurich:

Co-financing of a simulation center

Swiss-Israel Association:

Contribution toward information activities

Swiss Friends of the Israel Museum, Jewish Museum in Switzerland:

Support for museums in Jerusalem and Basel

FACTS AND OBJECTIVES

FOUNDATION CONCEPT and HISTORY

The purpose of our Foundation is deliberately broadly formulated, thereby allowing us to place an emphasis on social affairs and the healthcare sector as well as on promoting culture and science. All this is done exclusively on a non-profit basis. We support and promote areas for which public sector inputs are either insufficient or not available at all.

With our contributions, we strive to help people to help themselves. For this reason we work primarily with established organizations; individual assistance is only provided in a few exceptional cases. Our Foundation focuses geographically on Switzerland (with an emphasis on the region of Zurich) and Israel. We provide funding to both Jewish and non-Jewish causes and institutions.

Our Foundation was established in 1985 – so we are celebrating our 30th anniversary at the end of this year. To correspond with the encouraging increase in our organization’s capital over the last few decades, we have increased the amount of funding we provide each year. This now stands at CHF 3 - 5 million per year.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Over the past ten years (financial years 2005 to 2014), we have provided support contributions totaling around CHF 46 million.

	2014 CHF	2013 CHF
Support contributions	4,100,000	4,700,000
Organization’s capital	56,700,000	53,900,000

FOUNDATION BOARD

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Dr. h. c. René Braginsky

Businessman, Honorary Councilor of the ETH
Zurich, President

Susanne Braginsky

Editor of the journal "Aufbau", Vice-president

David Braginsky

Lawyer and investor

Prof. em. Dr. med. Felix Gutzwiller

Specialist in preventative medicine and
Member of the Council of States

Eric Stupp

Attorney, partner of Bär & Karrer

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

René and Susanne Braginsky-Stiftung

Grütlistrasse 68
CH-8002 Zurich

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Eduard M. Rosenstein

Telephone: +41 44 289 66 33

Fax: +41 44 289 66 34

E-mail: info@braginskystiftung.ch

Website: www.braginskystiftung.ch

AUDITOR

REFIDAR MOORE STEPHENS AG

Glattbrugg / Zurich
