

Three powerful words are at the core of the Hebrew Cemetery's sacred mission: Honor – Celebrate – Embrace. These words capture the essence of the cemetery's purpose: to honor the past, to celebrate the present and to embrace the future.

For Jews, honoring our departed is a central value. Our rabbis teach that the mitzvot (good deeds) we perform to honor our dead are among our most sacred and caring for the Hebrew Cemetery that hosts the physical remains of our dead is a tangible way to continue this mitzvah. It is important to safeguard our Jewish heritage and to make sure it is secured for generations to come. To embrace the future we need your assistance. Your legacy gift ensures that these holy grounds will continue to be a historic site and one whose existence and beauty will be secured forever.

The Hebrew Cemetery is a community cemetery, not governed by any one synagogue. These holy grounds unite the community as the Hebrew Cemetery is available to all Jews, regardless of affiliation. Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbis supervise the cemetery's religious policies.

The Hebrew Cemetery was the first Jewish organization in Charlotte. When Jews first came to Charlotte, they built a cemetery before they built a school or even a synagogue. Our forefathers founded the cemetery on 11 acres of land near the city center in 1867. Today the Hebrew Cemetery serves the Greater Charlotte area, including parts of North and South Carolina, and remains a vital player in the life of our Jewish community.

Over the last decade, the Hebrew Cemetery board has transformed our holy grounds into a place of beauty and serenity. We have expanded the cemetery, increasing the number of plots available; opened our Memorial Building, which provides space for smaller funerals, memorial services and unveilings; purchased cemetery software; and added a kiosk to help mourners easily locate the graves of their loved ones.

Membership in and support of the cemetery is separate from support of one's own congregation, and membership fees are set at just a few dollars per month. Members have an opportunity to pre-plan, or to make burial arrangements at a significant discount, plus saving their families stress in a time of grief.

While membership dues and burial fees cover a significant portion of the cemetery's expenses, our Hebrew Cemetery needs the support of the entire community to endure in perpetuity and continue to honor our current and future dead. The Hebrew Cemetery relies upon the generosity of our Jewish community to help:

- Maintain the beauty and upkeep of the cemetery in perpetuity
- Underwrite the ongoing expense of having a director available to comfort and to arrange burials for families in time of need
- Provide charitable funds for indigent Jewish people needing membership, burial plots and funeral services.