JDC announced as Heart to Heart International’s Heart for Humanity Award recipient

For Immediate Release

Lenexa, KS (March 30, 2018) — Heart to Heart International announced American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) as the recipient of its 2018 Heart for Humanity Award. JDC will be honored on Saturday, April 14, 2018, at Heart to Heart International’s 25th Anniversary Gala celebration at the Overland Park Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas.

The Heart for Humanity Award is presented to a group, organization or company that exemplifies compassion toward the underserved and victims of disaster by supporting Heart to Heart International (HHI) through monetary, volunteer and gift-in-kind support.

JDC and Heart to Heart International’s relationship began through an introduction from Deborah Granoff and Patricia Uhlman of the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. In response to the catastrophic disaster in Haiti, JDC provided funds for critically needed vehicles used by HHI to provide emergency medical care to victims, as well as funding to help build a school in Fondwa, Haiti. Since that initial collaboration, JDC has been an important supporter of many of Heart to Heart International’s missions, including the Ebola response in Liberia, hurricane Matthew in 2016 and hurricane Irma in 2017.

In addition, JDC and JDC Entwine, its young adult engagement platform, have collaborated with HHI’s PowerServ and a number of local and national Jewish groups to assemble hygiene kits for people impacted by crisis and disaster. HHI has distributed these kits to people around the world, from Syrian refugees in Turkey to U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico.

"Both JDC and Heart to Heart International seek to serve those people whose lives have been devastated by disaster. We have been privileged to have a relationship with both the JDC and the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City for many years. With their support, we’ve been able to provide aid to countless more victims in need," Jim Mitchum, CEO, Heart to Heart International.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) is the world’s leading Jewish humanitarian assistance organization. JDC works in 70 countries and in Israel to alleviate hunger and hardship, rescue Jews in danger, create lasting connections to Jewish life, and provide immediate relief and long-term development support for victims of natural and man-made disasters.

Michele Rosen will be accepting the award for JDC. Rosen is a member of the Executive Committee for JDC and Past Chair of the JDC GRID (Disaster Relief, Recovery, and Development Programs) Committee. She serves as a community volunteer and has held a variety of local and national positions, including President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, General and Women’s Campaign Chair of Seattle.

“It’s a profound honor for me to accept this award and pay tribute to our partnership with Heart to Heart International. For almost a decade, we have changed the lives of the vulnerable for the better, created opportunities for hundreds of Americans to volunteer and aid those most in need, and put into
action the values we hold dear. In all of this, we play a role in repairing a broken world and
strengthening two organizations, JDC and Heart to Heart, that put saving lives before all else,” JDC Board
Member Michele Rosen said.

For information on the gala, go to www.hearttoheart.org/gala2018.

Heart to Heart International is a nonprofit international health organization with its headquarters in Lenexa,
Kansas. Since its inception in 1992, HHI has delivered medical aid and supplies worth $1.5 billion to more than 130
countries, including within the United States. HHI responds to crises and natural disasters both domestically and
internationally by supplying medical relief and mobilizing volunteers. The organization is a BBB Accredited Charity
and is on the "Philanthropy 400."

Contact: Amy Lafferty (913.538.7908)
amy.lafferty@hearttoheart.org