

## **NCJW/GDS CELEBRATES 120 YEARS!**

On March 15, 1891, Mrs. Bernard Ginsburg addressed the first meeting of the Women's Club of Temple Beth El, charging those present with the tasks of "alleviating needs" and "devoting a part of your time to the great human family." In 1925, the Women's Club officially affiliated with the National Council of Jewish Women, but the goals articulated in 1891 have remained largely unchanged. They are reflected in the multitude of programs and projects we have undertaken in the past 120 years. From our oldest project; Education Assistance, which began in 1902 and was originally named the Ida E. Ginsburg Scholarship Fund, through our newest ones, All Kids Playground and Wrapped in Love Blankets for Children, we have met needs in the Jewish and general community and spoken out on vital issues at home, in Washington, D.C. and in Israel.

We have answered the needs of troubled children through the Orchards, secured the safety of youngsters in guardianship cases through Children's Advocates, met the needs of older adults through Meals on Wheels and of families dealing with divorce and death through SPACE. We have spoken out on choice, on women's rights in the United States and in Israel, on immigration – wherever we have seen injustice, we have taken a stand to secure rights denied.

As we begin year 121 of the National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section, we look forward to continuing to fulfill the charge we were given in 1891, to "alleviate needs" and "devote our time to the great human family."

**Barbara Grant, Past President NCJW/GDS** contributed this article.