

A Little About Norma...

Norma Satten generously shared her wisdom and time with so many of us. To honor her contributions and to continue the work she believed in, Norma's colleagues created the Norma Satten Community Service Innovation Award.



Norma Satten

Norma was a family woman who also worked to improve her community. After getting her undergraduate degree in Economics from Brooklyn College and Masters in City Planning from MIT, she moved to Kansas with her husband Joe. There Norma set up Topeka's first City Planning Department and went on to become the state's first Director of Health Planning. When she and Joe moved to San Francisco, she continued her work in health planning. In 1982, at the start of the AIDS epidemic, Norma was the Director of Development for the Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco. She was most proud of the work she did in establishing Coming Home Hospice, the nation's first residential hospice facility for those with HIV/AIDS.

Norma's pioneering advocacy efforts continued after her formal retirement in 1992. She volunteered for a variety of long-term care related organizations serving those in need. Norma was active in the San Francisco Jewish community, at Temple Emanu-El, Jewish Family and Children's Services, and the National Council of Jewish Women. Norma was recognized for her community work by Planning for Elders, SteppingStone, 30th Street Senior Center, the National Council of Jewish Women, UC Berkeley School of Public Health, and the Mayor's Long Term Care Coordinating Council.