


2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Jewish Family Services
Embracing Possibility.



“ Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”

ALBERT SCHWEITZER

OUR MESSAGE

As we reflect upon this year, we believe that we have turned this sense of gratitude into actions that benefit others. With our own profound sense of gratitude, we share a few highlights from this most recent fiscal year:

- **In September** our JETS program led by volunteer Facilitator Judy Rosenthal started out their season with two expert guest speakers helping hundreds of community members with the job search process.
- **In October** close to 400 adults and young people gathered to watch the screening of the film Eighth Grade followed by a panel discussion which explored how social media negatively impacts adolescents.
- **In November** over 225 people attended the Annual Hunger Event at the home of Rachel Lutzker and David Jorgensen where we launched our Youth Hunger Project for the Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry. We also fed 100 families with our Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. This year we included a Tara's Closet winter coat and outerwear boutique on this special day.
- **In December** we partnered with Deeds for Needs and the Jewish Federation's Women's Philanthropy on Giving Tuesday. This holiday gift drive ensured that all of our clients received a new gift. We recognize our partner the Jewish Children's Service Organization who provided all of the Chanukah gifts for our young clients and their siblings celebrating this holiday.
- **In February** we started the construction on the new Tara's Closet space at JFS so that clients can now access food and clothing under one roof.
- **In March** we were fortunate to be the recipient of the Federation's Women's Philanthropy Dignity Project which provides discreetly packaged hygiene products for women and girls in need. These lovely bags are now available in our pantry throughout the year.
- **In April** our Annual Volunteer Recognition event honored longtime volunteers Maura Nemirow and Arnie Goldstein for their commitment and dedication to JFS and to the Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry. We also celebrated the grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new Tara's Closet space at JFS, founded by Barbara Roth with the assistance of co-chairs Veronica Dicke, Leigh Farber, Lisa Finman, Fredda Goldstein, Charna Kaufman and Jill Stoner.



- **In May** we hosted another sold out Mental Health Awareness Event. We featured news correspondent Elizabeth Vargas, teenager Sophie Riegel and our friend Liz Zieky who all shared their very personal stories about mental illness. Yale Professor Laurie Santos offered compelling advice on how to lead a balanced and happy life. We also honored Senator Chris Murphy with the 2019 Humanitarian Award. We recognized the hard work of our co-chairs for this event: Alisha Cipriano, Veronica Dicke, Leigh Farber, Monica Hoffman and Charna Kaufman.
- **Also in May** Board Members Robin Fierston and Melissa Weinstock and JFS Director of Operations and Community Programs, Joan Margolis, were all honored at the Family Champions event hosted by our statewide association, the CT Council of Family Service Agencies. It is so well deserved based on all that they do to live the JFS mission and the CCFSA mission of “strengthening CT’s Families.”
- **In June** we held our first Tara’s Closet Spring and Summer Pop Up Shop in Bishops Corner serving over 100 members of our community in need and distributed over 2500 items.
- **Our work in June** also featured the national re-accreditation process by the Council on Accreditation. This is an intensive process which requires over a year of preparation and culminates in a very comprehensive site visit. We were very pleased to receive expedited reaccreditation which means that there were no findings or need for corrective action.
- **We also congratulated** three board members who participated in the Jewish Leadership Academy’s Community Leadership Initiative for 12 months! The graduates included Lisa Berman, Judy Rosenthal and our own President – Pia Toro.

Together, we have accomplished so much this year. We are so grateful to our board of Directors, skilled staff, dedicated volunteers and donors. Each of you lives our mission with us. With you as our partners, we are able to embrace possibility through counseling, education and community support programs. We are honored to work with all of you.



PIA ROSENBERG TORO
Board President



ANNE M. DANAHER
Chief Executive Officer

Anja Rosenberg
Kosher Food Pantry



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES HONORS

EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Extraordinary. Dedicated. Devoted. Those are just a few of the words used to describe the two exceptional people Jewish Family Services honored in April at the Annual Volunteer Recognition event.

For the last 17 years, Maura Nemirow and Arnie Goldstein have contributed countless hours to the Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry. Their commitment has helped thousands of clients overcome hardship and adversity by donating time and vital support to the organization. “On behalf of the JFS Board and staff, we thank you for your amazing contribution. You both have had such a positive impact on many individuals in our community and you make the world a better place,” said Anne Danaher, in front of 75 guests who came to celebrate the two star volunteers. “The Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry is very important to my family and we realize that it could not operate without the



I am fortunate to have the job of managing the Volunteer Program for Jewish Family Services. Our volunteers generously give their time to support the many services we provide and it simply would not be possible to run these programs without them.”

SHERRY WAITSMAN

JFS Volunteer Manager

◀ **Susan Fried**, Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry Coordinator; **Sherry Waitsman**, Volunteer Manager; **Maura Nemirow**, 2019 Volunteer Award Recipient; **Arnie Goldstein**, 2019 Volunteer Award Recipient; **Pia Rosenberg Toro**, Jewish Family Services Board President and **Anne Danaher**, Jewish Family Services CEO

amazing dedication of volunteers like Arnie and Maura,” said JFS Board President Pia Rosenberg Toro.

Every Wednesday morning, regardless of the weather, Arnie Goldstein walks into Jewish Family Services and assesses what is needed at the Anja Rosenberg Food Pantry before driving over to Foodshare where the real work begins. Inside Foodshare’s substantial warehouse, Arnie is tasked with digging through boxes to find Kosher items that are appropriate for JFS’ pantry. Once all the needed items are gathered, Arnie drives back to the agency to sort and stock the pantry to get it ready for JFS clients. He has handled this job for the past 17 years, rolling up his sleeves and manned heavy boxes, never afraid to get his hands dirty. “Helping others has always been part of who I am,” Arnie said. “JFS is my second home, a place where I feel welcome and where I feel the need to give back.”

Arnie Goldstein and Maura Nemirow go way back. They’ve known each other since high school and have served together on the JFS Board. Maura has been involved with Jewish Family Services in several ways starting as a board member. She currently serves on several board committees. In the 1990’s, Nemirow was very active in the Russian Resettlement Program and taught ESL to hundreds of immigrants. Her background in social work has been a huge asset to the agency. She has taught her family the importance of volunteering by inviting two of her granddaughters to join her and help at the food pantry. “Giving back is a family business,” said Nemirow. “Jewish Family Services does vital work in our community. At the end of the day, I always feel like I receive more than I give by volunteering at JFS.”

DID YOU KNOW?



34

VOLUNTEERS SERVE ON THE
JFS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



20

VOLUNTEERS WORK
IN THE PANTRY



60

VOLUNTEERS TYPICALLY
WORK ON THANKSGIVING
FOOD DISTRIBUTION



30

VOLUNTEERS TYPICALLY
WORK AT A TARA'S CLOSET
POP UP SHOP



For Left to Right: **Anne Danaher**, Chief Executive Officer, Jewish Family Services; **Fredda Goldstein, Lisa Finman, Veronica Dicke, Barbara Roth**, Founder, Tara's Closet, **Charna Kaufman, Jill Stoner, Leigh Farber** and **Pia Rosenberg Toro**, President, Jewish Family Services.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES AND TARA'S CLOSET CELEBRATE

OPENING OF NEW SPACE

In April, Jewish Family Services (JFS) and Tara's Closet celebrated the grand opening of a new space at 333 Bloomfield Ave. in West Hartford. In addition to the food pantry, JFS clients will now be able to access clothing year round.

Tara's Closet was founded in 2016 through the generosity of Barbara Roth in memory of her daughter, Tara Savin. "Our dream of having a dedicated space for Tara's Closet inside the Jewish Family Services building has become a reality," said Roth. "I want to thank Tara's Closet leadership, the Board and staff of JFS for helping me make my vision to honor my daughter Tara's memory come true."

Tara's Closet has a dual mission: to provide clothing to JFS clients at no cost in a confidential and dignified manner and to spread awareness about mental illness through education to end the stigma and shift social and systemic barriers for those living with mental health conditions.



I am proud that we will now be able to meet our client's needs under one roof. We are dedicated to continue to work tirelessly to serve the growing needs of our community."

ANNE DANAHER

CEO of Jewish Family Services



WHO WE SERVE

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES SERVED IN FY 2019

Community Support: Jewish Employment Transition Services (JETS)	1,000
Community Support: Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry	1,741
Community Support: Maot Chitim (Passover Food Assistance)	300
Counseling: Families	309
Community Support: Volunteer Program	140
Community Support: Financial and Basic Needs Assistance	150
Community Support: Holocaust Survivors Program	138
Counseling: Older Adults	200
Counseling: Child & Adolescent	196
Community Support: JFS Care at Home	73
Education: Parent Education Program	72
Counseling: Child Psychiatry	128
Community Support: TANF Case Management	108
Education: Money Coach	72
Counseling: People with Disabilities	27
Counseling: Couples	16
Tara's Closet Clothing Distribution	200
Annual Mental Health Conversation/Tara's Closet	600
Other Mental Health Education events/ Tara's Closet	200
TOTAL	5,672



HOW WE SERVE

SETTING GOALS, MEASURING OUTCOMES, EMBRACING POSSIBILITY

The JFS Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) Committee is pleased to share the following results of several key programs for 2019 fiscal year, representing our three core services: Counseling, Education, Community Support.

PROGRAM	GOAL	RESULTS
EDUCATION The Money Coach	The volunteer Money Coach will meet preselected client service quality measures for number of clients seen and for wait time: 85% of the time	Goals were met 100% of the time – Exceeded goals
		
COUNSELING Post Treatment Client Survey	Clients will report at least 80% excellent or very good responses regarding their experience at JFS	Clients reported 91% positive responses – Exceeded goal
		
COMMUNITY SUPPORT Tara's Closet Mental Health Event	JFS will convene 500 people in 2019 for this major annual event which reduces stigma around talking openly about mental health	Over 600 people attended – Exceeded goal

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

PROGRAM REVENUE

Community Foundations/other private grants	\$1,174,243
Fee For Service (including JFS Care at Home)	\$2,506,832
Public Support	\$526,876
Federal and State Grants	\$60,536
Other	\$6,526
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,275,013

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Family Counseling	\$333,200
Older Adult Services	\$392,640
Benet A. Rothstein Child Services	\$287,354
Programs for Holocaust Survivors	\$444,426
Special Needs	\$126,764
TANF Case and Management	\$103,707
Other Programs	\$321,649
* TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$2,009,740

General and Administrative	\$107,034
Fundraising	\$130,812
JFS Care at Home	\$1,897,688
TOTAL ALL EXPENSES	\$4,145,274

The financial statements as of June 30, 2019 were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) by Whittlesey. Fiscal year is July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Copies of completed Jewish Family Services' audit are available upon request.

MAJOR PARTNERS

We gratefully acknowledge the on-going support of the following major partners.





MAJOR GRANTS AND FUNDING

GRANTOR

Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford	\$260,500
State of CT Case Management Program for TANF Recipients	\$65,000
Royal Bank of Canada Foundation (USA), JETS Program	\$9,000
Blum Shapiro Foundation, Child Services	\$1,800
TOTAL	\$336,300

CONFERENCE ON JEWISH MATERIAL CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY, INC. (THE CLAIMS CONFERENCE)

FUND

German Government Grant, Homecare and Other Services	\$1,172,504
Successor Organization – Holocaust Survivor Emergency Assistance Program	\$10,031
<i>Social Services for Nazi victims have been supported by a grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (the Claims Conference.)</i>	
Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Holocaust Survivor Emergency Assistance Fund	\$8,897
<i>Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Holocaust Survivor Emergency Fund, administered by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, for the benefit of needy Jewish Holocaust Survivors.</i>	
URO Holocaust Survivor Emergency Assistance Program	\$10,000
<i>Support was provided by the URO Charitable Trust Limited, administered by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, for the benefit of needy Jewish Nazi victims.</i>	
TOTAL AMOUNT GRANTED TO JFS HARTFORD AND JFS NEW HAVEN ON A CALENDAR BASIS FOR 2019	\$1,201,432

HARTFORD FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC GIVING

FUND

Three Year General Operating Support Grant (3rd year)	\$100,000
Samuel Roskin Trust, Older Adult Programs	\$55,000
Family Service Society Fund, Client Basic Needs	\$4,000
TOTAL	\$159,000

JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FUND	PROGRAM OR PURPOSE
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Brooksie Koopman	General operating support
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Rena Koopman	General operating support
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Trice Koopman	General operating support
Podrove Family Fund	General operating support
Deborah Goldfarb Memorial Fund	General operating support
Lewis C. and Sylvia S. Sheketoff Fund for JFS	Services for low-income families
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Brooksie Koopman	Victims of trauma
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Brooksie Koopman	Outdoor furniture for children
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Rena Koopman	Victims of trauma
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Rena Koopman	Outdoor furniture for children
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Trice Koopman	Victims of trauma
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Trice Koopman	Outdoor furniture for children
Reynolds Charitable Foundation Fund	General operating support
Rona Gollob Fund	Embrace-A-Child
Randi and Steve Piaker Family Fund	Embrace-A-Child
David L. and Barbara E. Brown Family Fund	Embrace-A-Child
Annie's Fund	Trauma services to children and teens
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Brooksie Koopman	Anja Rosenberg KFP for federal furloughed employees
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Trice Koopman	Anja Rosenberg KFP for federal furloughed employees
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Rena Koopman	Anja Rosenberg KFP for federal furloughed employees
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Brooksie Koopman	Build the closet for Tara's Closet
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Rena Koopman	Build the closet for Tara's Closet
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Trice Koopman	Build the closet for Tara's Closet
Fox Family Fund	Anja Rosenberg kosher food pantry
Deborah Goldfarb Memorial Fund	Tara's Closet
Peter and Lisa Fishman Family Fund	Tara's Closet
Rothstein Family Fund	Mental health counseling for children
Rothstein Family Fund	Chronic needs program
Jerry and Libbian Cohen Family Fund	Build the closet for Tara's Closet
Jeffrey and Gail Adler Fund	Tara's Closet
Deborah and Ira Feigenbaum Family Fund	General operating support
Auerbach/Schiro Fund/JH.B. Kaplan	Jewish Employment Transitions program, "JETS"
Auerbach/Schiro Fund/JH.B. Kaplan	General operating support
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Brooksie Koopman	General operating support
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Rena Koopman	General operating support
Auerbach/Koopman Fund/Trice Koopman	General operating support



FUND	PROGRAM OR PURPOSE
Ida and Milton Gladstein Family Fund	General operating support
Bernard Lieberman Fund	In-home counseling services for senior adults
Penny Cohn Fund for Indigent Elderly	Mental health care for low income senior adults
Penny Cohn Fund for Indigent Elderly	Transportation for low-income senior adults
Ida and Louis Blum Fund	Chronic needs program
Hinda Fisher Fund	Support of children with disabilities
JCF Helping Fund II for JFS	Emergency client assistance
Helene Alisberg Children's Fund	Benet A. Rothstein Child Services Program
Lawrence S. and Arline "Lonnie" Brick Fund	General operating support
Naomi and Michael Cohen Fund for JFS	General operating support
Emmy and Steve Fast Fund for JFS	General operating support
Jewish Family Board Fund	General operating support
Jewish Family Legacy Fund	General operating support
Jewish Family Services Endowment Fund	General operating support
Johnston Family Charitable Fund	General operating support
Deborah and Steven Kleinman Designated Fund	General operating support
Michelle G. and Dane R. Kostin Fund	General operating support
Sharon Levine-Shein and Bruce Shein Fund for JFS	Anja Rosenberg kosher food pantry
Mark and Merrill Mandell Fund for JFS	General operating support
David and Lauri Miller Family Fund for JFS	General operating support
Primason Dorman Family Fund	General operating support
Barbara Roth Fund	Tara's Closet
Mary and Gideon Rutenberg Family Fund	General operating support
Lewis C. and Sylvia S. Sheketoff Fund for JFS	Chronic needs program
Felix and Helene Springer Fund for JFS	General operating support
Raymond S. and Gail Weinstein	Chronic needs program
Konover Coppa Family Fund	General operating support
Lea and Richard Rubenstein Fund for JFS	General operating support
Zachs Family Fund for JFS	General operating support
Capital Equipment Fund	JFS entry area security upgrade
Konover Coppa Family Fund	Tara's Closet

2019



A YEAR IN REVIEW



Tara's Closet and JFS Leadership Team along with Mental Health Event Co-chairs, Professor **Laurie Santos** (center)



JFS Volunteer **Maura Nemiron**, (center) with some of her family members.



JFS Hunger Event Art Contest Winner **Olivia Rae**.



Image of Tara's Closet at JFS



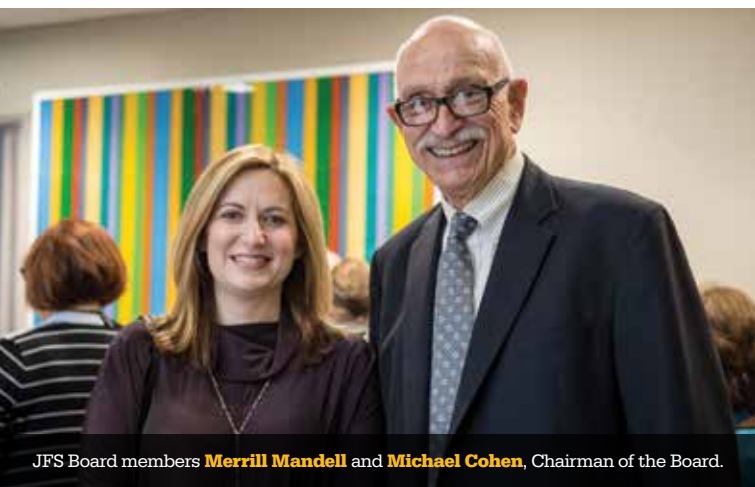
JFS Hunger Event Co-Chairs **Pia Rosenberg Toro** and **Mickey Toro, Judy** and **David Rosenthal** with hosts **Rachel Lutzker** and **David Jorgensen** and **Olivia Rae**.



Theme of Third Annual Mental Health event was " Being Happy Never Goes out of Style."



Promotional item from Third Annual Mental Health event.



JFS Board members **Merrill Mandell** and **Michael Cohen**, Chairman of the Board.



JFS Volunteers at Annual Volunteer Recognition event.



Senator Chris Murphy and **Barbara Roth**, Founder of Tara's Closet. Senator Murphy was recipient of the Tara's Closet/JFS Annual Humanitarian Award.



OUR DONORS

EMBRACING POSSIBILITY

\$10,000+

Sandra and Arnold Chase Family Foundation, Inc.
 James Doran Dornam Foundation
 Harry E. Goldfarb Family Foundation, Inc.
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 The Rosenberg Family
 Barbara Roth
 The Harold L. Rothstein Family Foundation

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Renana and Ron Kadden
Amy Goodblatt and Larry Kahn
Ilene and Martin Kaplan



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Cover Artwork is a collage depicting Welcoming the Stranger at JFS and was created by staff, volunteers, children of staff, children of board members and clients. We greatly appreciate the vision and artistic direction initiated by Shayna Ull, LSCW, a JFS Clinician.

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