



Jewish Family Services

Embracing Possibility.

A YEAR OF TRANSITION

2021 Annual Report



A YEAR OF CONTINUING CHANGE

This year has been filled with transitions. One major lesson we've taken out of this time is that life happens to us. JFS faces that reality in our work every single day.

Life happens to our clients day in and day out. And as life happens, we shift from what was to what will be, and find ourselves in what is. We forge ahead, knowing that these transitions and changes are part of life.

In this time of transition, we have forged a partnership as Board President and CEO with the shared passion of serving the community, especially now. Our partnership is based on a mutual commitment to be as present as possible in this time of transition: present with our staff, who shoulder immense responsibility. Present with our clients and their needs. Present with our volunteers, who are giving of themselves to the community. And present with ourselves, as we too are people in this pandemic facing changes in our own lives.

It is all of you who manage to keep the two of us present. We ground ourselves in the understanding that our community has immediate needs, and meeting those needs is what helps keep us all stronger and more connected. That's exactly where

our work at JFS lies: at the crossroads of community needs and community service.

We both take seriously the responsibility to lead JFS at this time of intense uncertainty, and we are honored that you have trusted us both. We acknowledge that we are running a business, and that comes with its own set of constraints. With that, it is important to us that you know our business is one made up of people. We lead with our minds and our hearts. Central to our work is that people thrive and have a better quality of life because of the services that we provide.

JFS would not have made it through this year without our donors and volunteers, who have been with us as we weather this time of change.

This year has brought up many mixed emotions. We feel sad for the losses we've experienced— of people, of things, of expectations, and of ways of doing things in the “before times.” We also feel proud of the work that we have done.

With that, we are honored to share with you this Annual Report of our activities during the Fiscal Year 2021 (July 2020 – June 2021). We invite you to read more about what our organization has accomplished and endured this year. And please know, we are privileged to go through life's transitions with you, it is our mission and our greatest honor.

Here's to another year of community partnership.

With immense appreciation and respect,



Katie Hanley, LMSW
Chief Executive Officer



Lisa Berman
Board President



In common discourse, much of what we learn about and talk about related to the Holocaust revolves around the trauma of World War II.

Society seldom discusses the lives of survivors after the war. Today, a shocking number of survivors live in poverty, right here in our community. JFS provides for a variety of basic needs for 248 Connecticut survivors, 156 of whom live in Greater Hartford. The survivors we support often wait for an hour in line at the Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry distribution. Many cannot afford medical care and prescriptions. And JFS receives multiple calls annually from survivors asking for clothing, blankets, and other essentials.

From International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 21) through Yom HaShoa (April 10), we ran a weekly social media campaign entitled #MyStoryIsNow, which highlighted the current life and experiences of some JFS survivor clients.

These stories focused on their present, and how JFS services have unequivocally improved their quality of life. One example is Miriam Schreiber, who finally received her honorary high school diploma in August 2020. It was her dream to graduate after the war interrupted her formal education. We shared several other stories about companionship and the many ways that JFS meets people's basic needs, from bills, to food, to medical care, and more.

Through our efforts, we spread awareness to 4,135 people and raised \$3,418 to support Holocaust survivors. To learn more about the program, search #MyStoryIsNow on Facebook.



Photo credit: Steven Kapitoff

Miriam Schreiber, who finally received her honorary high school diploma in August 2020



It is the greatest privilege to be able to work with our local Holocaust survivors. After the horrors they withstood, it is the highest honor to be able to help them age comfortably in their homes. This moment was especially meaningful for me to be able to help Miriam receive the recognition she so deserves, in a way that amplifies the continuity of the Jewish people.

– Miriam Brander

Chief Operating Officer/State Coordinator
Programs for Holocaust Survivors, JFS



JFS IN THE COMMUNITY

ANJA ROSENBERG KOSHER FOOD PANTRY

JFS's Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry ensures that the dietary needs of community members are met with cultural competency, sensitivity, and inclusivity. Throughout the pandemic, the food pantry has been an essential support for the community. During the 2021 fiscal year, food pantry distributions were made through curbside pick-up or delivery, and volunteers were masked and practiced social distancing.



Between our bi-weekly curbside pick-up, our Thanksgiving drive, and our pre-Passover distribution, we worked to ensure that families in our community are nourished, and not struggling for their next meal.



MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

In a hard year with many challenges, therapy can be the lifeline that saves an individual in crisis. Telehealth continued successfully, and we are proud to have licensed clinicians offering an array of services, including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EDMR), trauma-informed therapy, and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

JFS clinicians facilitated support groups throughout the community, which offered a supportive environment where people could speak about their challenges and find comfort. Through these group experiences, some individuals recognized that they needed more support and sought individual therapy.

In May of 2020, Tara's Closet's Annual Mental Health Event went virtual and featured author, actress, model, and mental health advocate Brooke Shields who shared her personal experience with loss and depression. This successful event drew over 500 individuals and raised critical mental health awareness in our community.

JFS subsidized mental health services for individuals who could not afford the cost of copays with the support of Tara's Closet. Tara's Closet also supported food pantry clients by offering special goods like laundry detergent, new socks, fleece coats, hats, and gloves.



Volunteer and Board Member Maura Nemirow stands in front of food pantry supplies ready to be packed for distribution



Volunteers and Board Members Lisa Berman and Pia Rosenberg Toro help to pack bags of supplies for distribution



Members of the Rosenberg Toro family gather in front of Odie's Shelf, which is stocked with pet food and supplies

ODIE'S SHELF

We were thrilled to celebrate the induction of Odie's Shelf in our food pantry, providing food and supplies for pets! The initiative was launched as a mitzvah project thanks to the kindness and leadership of Maddison Rosenberg Toro. Pets have been a source of comfort for so many during the pandemic, and Odie's Shelf honors the critical importance of their health and well-being during this difficult time.

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) CASE MANAGEMENT

Victims of crime are often forced to flee violence and start their lives over, usually with nothing in hand and with complex trauma to overcome. JFS's Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Case Management program is well-versed in navigating the complexity of the challenges faced by individuals who have experienced violence. Each issue is inextricably linked to other barriers, and quickly, families may find themselves in crisis. JFS meets individuals in these difficult moments, assists with critical needs, and supports them with a host of wrap-around services that help individuals and families heal and move forward with their lives.





TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) CASE MANAGEMENT

JFS provides case management support for people who participate in the state’s Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program, formerly known as Welfare to Work. Our case management reduces barriers to employment, increases access to community resources, and helps to nurture child development. This year, we reached 150 clients, supporting them in overcoming the many barriers they face.



Artist and JFS client, Irma Barishpolsky, gifting a painting as a token of thanks to our Holocaust Survivor Program Case Manager, Erica Kapiloff. The painting is entitled “My grandmother is cooking chicken soup.”



HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SERVICES

JFS provides case management support for Holocaust survivors in both Greater Hartford and Greater New Haven. The majority of Holocaust survivors in our state are low income, and after the horrors they survived, our program helps to ensure that they can live out the rest of their days with dignity. From providing companionship, to ensuring they can pay their utility bills, to helping survivors receive medical care and get their prescriptions, we directly increase quality of life for survivors who have endured so much. We are proud to have supported 248 clients this year (156 in Greater Hartford and 92 in Greater New Haven).

CARE AT HOME BY JFS

Care at Home by JFS provides in-home support that helps older adults age safely in place, with caregivers who help with a variety of tasks like grocery shopping, cooking, etc. This was an exciting year for Care at Home, we rebranded our agency, and launched a new website that outlines an updated mode of service delivery. We provided support for 90 clients and 120,368 hours of direct care services.



JEWISH EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES (JETS) AND MONEY COACH

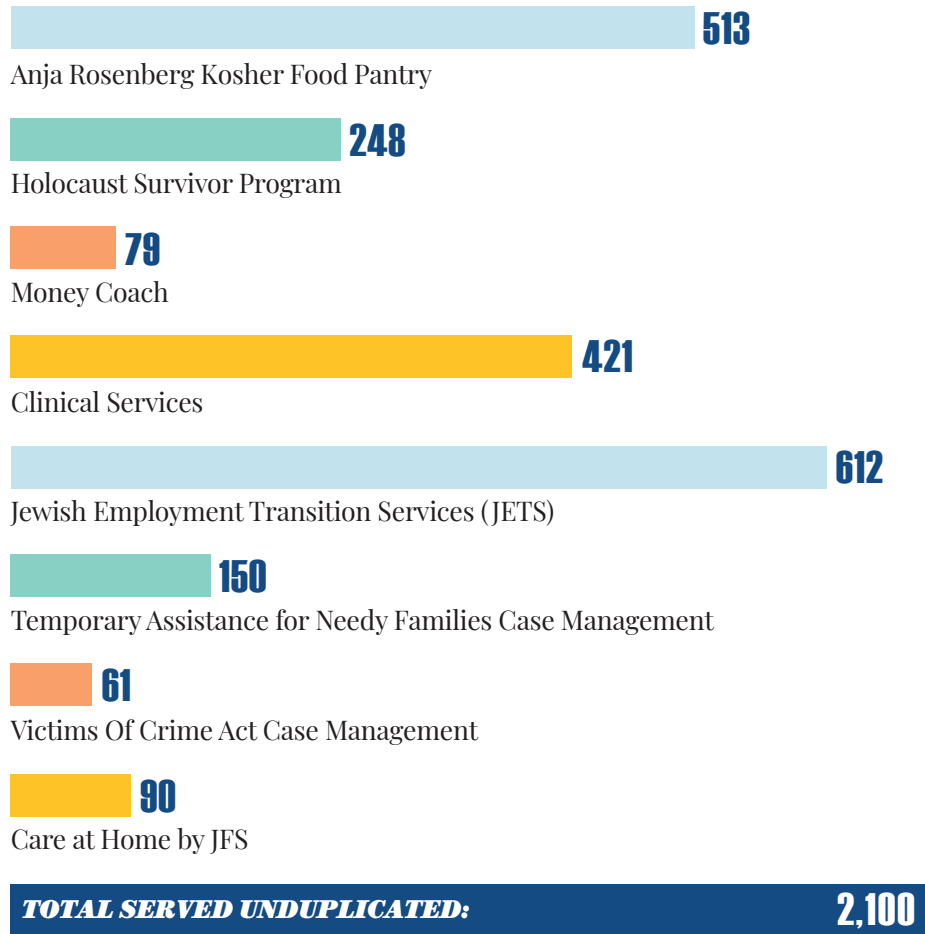
Two of our unique, volunteer-led programs provided much needed support to the community. JETS offers virtual workshops every other week with renowned authors and experts, peer-to-peer job search work teams that provide support and guidance, expert-led resume advice, career counseling, interview training, and so much more. JETS served 612 members of the community this year. Money Coach offers individualized, expert advice with a Certified Financial Planner. The JFS Money Coach provided 79 members of the community with critical financial guidance this year.



your support, our impact

JFS is a results-oriented agency, and our program offerings utilize evidence-based practices. As part of our accreditation, JFS has a comprehensive Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) process that measures outcomes and the quality of service delivery. We are always evaluating and improving our PQI plan, benchmarks for success, and data collection protocols, and we are pleased to share just a few highlights from our FY2021 data.

INDIVIDUALS SERVED IN FY 2021



JETS SURVEY OUTCOMES

I was able to relate the presentation to my own experience:

96%

agree or strongly agree

The atmosphere of the JETS event was welcoming and respectful:

99%

agree or strongly agree

I am likely to recommend JETS to a friend:

100%

agree or strongly agree



ANJA ROSENBERG KOSHER FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry had

3,264

visits and gave out

7,437

bags of groceries



COUNSELING

Provided

6,788

teletherapy sessions and

1,976

hours of case management



PROGRAM REVENUE

Community Foundations/Other Private Grants	\$1,436,878
Fee for Service (including JFS Care at Home)	\$3,437,737
Public Support	\$537,801
Federal and State Grants	\$140,373
Other	\$16,795
TOTAL REVENUE	\$5,569,584

EXPENSES

Family Counseling	\$305,906
Older Adult Services	\$401,728
Benet A. Rothstein Child Services	\$371,625
Programs for Holocaust Survivors	\$661,496
Special Needs	\$119,893
TANF Case and Management	\$76,153
Other Programs	\$459,673
JFS Care at Home	\$2,787,461
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$5,183,935
General and Administrative	\$565,768
Fundraising	\$185,333
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,935,036

Financial statements as of and for year ended June 30, 2021 were prepared by JFS. Whittlesey provided audit opinion in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Fiscal year is July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Copies of completed JFS audit are available upon request.

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE ONGOING SUPPORT OF OUR MAJOR PARTNERS





GRANTOR

Connecticut Foodshare, Food Pantry	\$500.00
Ensworth Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee, JETS Program	\$10,000.00
Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford	\$260,500.00
Jewish Hartford Rapid Relief & Recovery Fund (JCF and JFGH)	\$90,000.00
KAVOD SHEF, Holocaust Survivors Program	\$15,000.00
Royal Bank of Canada Foundation (USA), JETS Program	\$10,000.00
State of CT Case Management Program for TANF and VOCA Recipients	\$136,373.00
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services	\$10,603.59

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

Social services for Jewish Nazi victims have been supported by a grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

German Government Grant, Homecare, and Other Services	\$1,536,020
Alfred Landecker Foundation, Inc. Holocaust Survivor Emergency Assistance Program**	\$28,928
Holocaust Survivor COVID Vaccine Assistance Fund from the German Government	\$8,712

GRANTED TO JFS HARTFORD AND JFS NEW HAVEN ON A CALENDAR BASIS 2021

* Claims Conference funds are based on a calendar year
** Alfred Landecker Foundation, Inc., administered by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, for the benefit of needy Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

HARTFORD FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC GIVING FUNDS

Basic Human Needs Fund, Food Pantry and other basic needs	\$8,000.00
COVID-19 Response Fund	\$20,000.00
Samuel Roskin Trust, Food Pantry	\$27,500.00
Samuel Roskin Trust, Older adult mental health services	\$27,500.00
Harold L. and Marilyn Rothstein Fund, Child and adolescent mental health services	\$8,139.00
Moses Stern Memorial Fund	\$2,915.84



FUND

GRANTEE/PROGRAM

Gail and Jeff Adler Family Charitable Fund	You Are Not Alone Event
Gail and Jeff Adler Family Charitable Fund	Nourishing our Community's Soul event
Helene Alisberg Children's Fund	Child clinic
Anonymous XI Fund	Counseling services
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund	General operating support
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - DBK	General operating support
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - DBK	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - DBK	Computer upgrades
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - RK	General operating support
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - RK	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - RK	Computer upgrades
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - TK	General operating support
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - TK	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund/Koopman Share - TK	Computer upgrades
Malcolm and Brenda Altman Berman Family Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Ida and Louis Blum Fund	Chronic Needs program
Samuel and Frances Blumenthal Fund	General operating support
Lawrence S. and Arline "Lonnie" Brick Fund	General operating support
Naomi and Michael Cohen Fund for Jewish Family Services	General operating support
Jerry and Libbian Cohen Family Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Penny H. Cohn Fund for Indigent Elderly	Older adult counseling services
Penny H. Cohn Fund for Indigent Elderly	Transportation for low income seniors
Primason Dorman Family Fund	General operating support
Emmy and Steve Fast Fund for Jewish Family Services	General operating support
Hinda N. Fisher Fund	General operating support
Fox Family Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Robin and David Gelles Family Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Ida C. and Milton Gladstein Family Fund	General operating support
Deborah W. Goldfarb Memorial Fund	General operating support
Deborah W. Goldfarb Memorial Fund	Counseling services, computer upgrades
Rona Gollob Fund	General operating support
The Helping Fund II	Emergency Client Assistance
*Jewish Hartford Rapid Relief and Recovery Fund	General operating support
*Jewish Hartford Rapid Relief and Recovery Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Jewish Family Services Board Fund	General operating support
Jewish Family Services Endowment Fund	General operating support

FUND**GRANTEE/PROGRAM**

Jewish Family Services Legacy Fund	General operating support
Johnston Family Fund for Jewish Family Services	General operating support
Steven and Deborah Kleinman	General operating support
Deborah and Steven Kleinman Designated Fund	General operating support
Konover Coppa Family Designated Fund	General operating support
Kostin JFS Fund in memory of Jean & Gersh Weil & Lou Goldstein	General operating, with a priority given to Jessie's Community Garden and programs related to feeding the hungry
Bernard Lieberman Memorial Fund	Older adult counseling services
Mark and Merrill Mandell Fund for Jewish Family Services	General operating support
Peggy and Alan Mendelson Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
David and Lauri Miller Family Fund for Jewish Family Services	General operating support
Janet and Harold Moskowitz Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Piaker Family Fund	General operating support
Podrove Family Fund	General operating support
Reynolds Charitable Foundation Fund	General operating support
Rothstein Family Fund	Computer upgrades and general operating support
Lea and Richard Rubenstein Fund for Jewish Family Services	General operating support
Gideon and Mary Rutenberg Family Fund	General operating support
A.I. Savin Family Fund	Tara's Closet
Sharon Levine-Shein and Bruce Shein Fund for Jewish Family Services	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry
Lewis S. and Sylvia C. Sheketoff Jewish Family Services Fund	Chronic Needs program
Felix and Helene Springer Fund for Jewish Family Services	General operating support
Tara's Closet Fund	Tara's Closet
Raymond S. and Gail Weinstein Fund	Chronic Needs program
Zoë Isabelle Zachs Fund	Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry

* *Joint venture of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford and the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford*



We strive to recognize our donors accurately and in accordance with individual preferences. Please inform us of any errors by emailing info@jfshartford.org or calling 860.236.1927. Please accept our apologies for any oversight.

\$10,000+

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IN MEMORIAM



This year, Jewish Family Services was heartbroken to lose a beloved member of our community, Elba Cruz Schulman, a lifelong advocate for those in need and the underprivileged. Elba was the beloved wife of Sydney Schulman, who described Elba as the “most extraordinary woman to come along in a lifetime.” Syd recently shared with JFS that “Elba loved you all and was proud to serve on the Board. Her life was, as yours is, dedicated to community service. The best gift we can give her is to rededicate ourselves to give even more.”

Elba’s time as a Board Member for JFS helped to guide our organization through difficult times, and her work to support the Jewish community changed many lives. May her memory be for a blessing.



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