



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE
★ OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY ★

2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

“Small Miracles Every Day”

A photograph of a hand holding a large green leaf against a blue sky with white clouds. Several other green leaves are scattered around the hand, some appearing to be falling or floating in the air.



JFS EVOLVING OVER 50 YEARS



Robin Rosenau



Debbie Zoller



Dear Friends:

Jewish Family Service of the Lehigh Valley reached a milestone in 2022, our 50th anniversary. On November 6th, a grand celebration honored visionary leaders of our community who have helped JFS develop into a thriving agency for Jewish social services. JFS began in 1972 as an extension of the Jewish Federation and became independent in 1984. A commemorative booklet featuring a timeline of the history of JFS was produced in conjunction with the celebration. Our Board of Directors undertook a 50 Acts of Kindness Initiative to mark this milestone. Volunteers could be seen throughout the community planting gardens at Tikvah House and the JCC, cleaning neglected cemeteries, providing holiday and Shabbat programs to older adults residing in long term care residences, baking honey cake, making blankets, collecting dental supplies for children, and much more.

JFS is proud of its core services. We provide a community food pantry for the 18104-zip code and the Jewish community across the Lehigh Valley, counseling by licensed clinical social workers, case management for older adults by a licensed social worker, and accessibility and inclusion consultation to other Jewish communal organizations.

During 2022-2023, the agency transitioned from provision of services that was primarily remote toward a hybrid format of in-person and remote activities. Volunteers returned in full force. We resumed the delivery of Mazel Meals to older adults with a brief visit in their homes. JFS also partnered with the Clergy Association to host a series of healing services on Zoom.

Our 50th anniversary celebration demonstrated how Jewish Family Service evolved over 50 years with past and present dedicated board leadership, executive directors, capable staff, and amazing volunteers. JFS has maintained its values of helping people live more stable lives through professional and compassionate care. Clearly, JFS's ability to adapt and meet our community's real time needs is fundamental to our success.

We look forward to our next 50 years of serving those who are vulnerable and need assistance in our community.

B'Shalom,

Robin Rosenau, JFS Board President

Debbie Zoller, MSW, LCSW, JFS Executive Director



PROGRAM IMPACT



916

Individuals served by the food pantry,
in 255 households



1423

Prepared meals delivered to older adults
across the Lehigh Valley



217

Rides completed through the GoGo
Grandparent and ShareCare programs
totaling 2,670 miles



581

Hours of professional counseling



221

Visits to older adults in long term
residences by the Outreach Coordinator



2145

Hours of service by 82 active volunteers



Jane Cohen, JFS Volunteer

JFS is a "miracle for our community" that brings light into the darkness that people feel. Bringing love and kindness to the community "makes my life worthwhile and gives my life meaning."



CORE SERVICES

COUNSELING

Licensed social workers provide confidential individual, couples, and family counseling to people of all ages. Meeting in person or virtually, clinical counselors work with clients to develop tools to improve their overall mental health. By addressing strategies to cope with life's challenges such as depression, anxiety, grief and loss, and issues that accompany aging, clients learn to build a foundation for resilience. JFS accepts Medicare and many insurance plans. Financial assistance is available because JFS believes cost should not be a barrier to getting help.



FOOD PANTRY

In partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, the Community Food Pantry serves households in the 18104-zip code, and Jewish people across the Lehigh Valley. 160 clients each come for a monthly appointment to select food to best feed their families at this choice model pantry. In 2022-2023, JFS saw a 36% increase in clients due to inflated food prices and a challenging economy. JFS is grateful for weekly in-kind food donations from Giant Food, Monocacy Farm Project, Not Just Bagels, Wawa, Wegmans, and community members. These donations go directly to Community Food Pantry clients who express appreciation for a larger selection of food and personal care items to choose from.



ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSION

JFS continues to be dedicated to helping community agencies be more accessible and inclusive. The Accessibility & Inclusion Committee provides information and education to local Jewish agencies and synagogues to raise awareness regarding barriers to full participation. The accessibility and inclusion coordinator has developed a cache of trainings for organizations, such as Digital Accessibility for Marketing, Disability Awareness, Inclusive Practices, and LGBTQIA.





CORE SERVICES

OLDER ADULT SERVICES

Aging is not a “one size fits all” experience. With compassion and expertise, JFS Older Adult Services helps individuals navigate the complex stages of aging. The older adult social worker provides case management services which include connecting older adults to resources and developing treatment plans to improve their quality of life. To address feelings of loneliness for clients, JFS focuses on programs that increase touchpoints and connect clients to their community. Mazel Meals provides two prepared meals a month that include multiple phone calls from staff and a visit from a volunteer upon delivery. In 2022-2023, 1,423 meals were delivered to older adults. Through a decade-long partnership with ShareCare Faith In Action, older adult clients receive two rides per month to medical appointments, community programs, and grocery stores. Additionally, the GoGo Grandparent program is available to those who need additional rides each month.



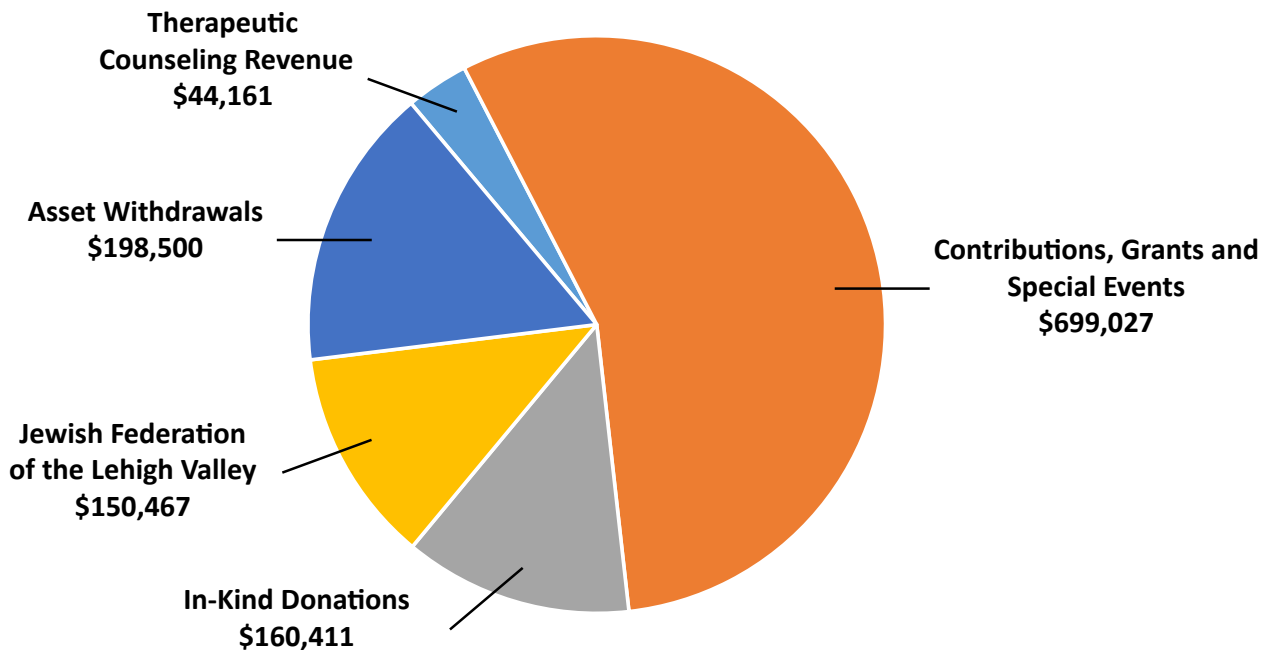
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!



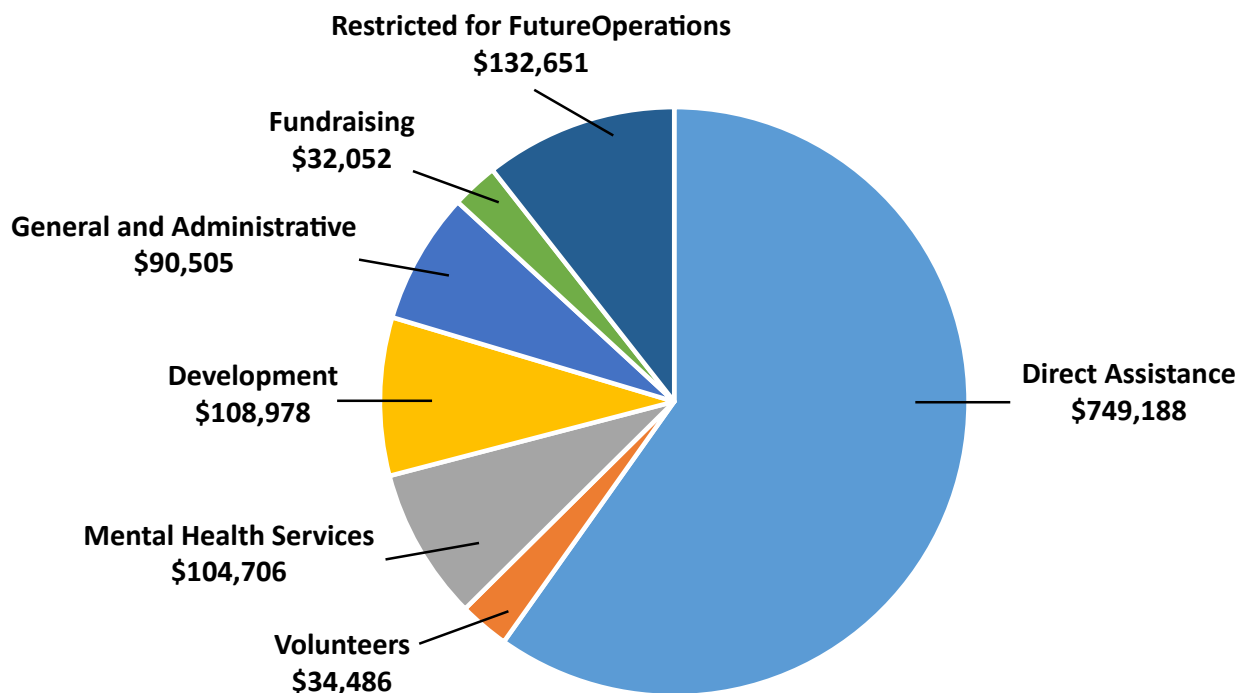


FINANCIALS

Funds Received: \$1,252,566 FY Ending 6/30/23



Funds Disbursed: \$1,252,566 FY Ending 6/30/23





BOARD, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robin Rosenau

President

Pam Lott

Vice President, Secretary

Audrey Nolte

Vice President

Susan Sosnow

Secretary, Treasurer

Rabbi Allen Juda,

Immediate Past

President

Board Members

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Rabbi Melody Davis

Andrew Ellis

Michael Finley

Emily Ford

Roberta Gaines

Barry J. Halper

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Ellen Hof

Stuart Horowitz

Cary E. Moritz

Andrea Reich

Alan Salinger

Lorrie Scherline

Kimberly Valuntas

Emeritus

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Clinical Chair

Alan Abraham

Bill Bergstein

Finance & Audit Chairs

Alan Salinger

House Chair

Lew Gaines

Investment Chair

Pam Lott

Marketing Chair

Lorrie Scherline

Personnel Chair

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Debbie Zoller

Executive Director

Rebecca Axelrod-Cooper

Impact Coordinator

Ann Biernat-Rucker

Front Office Admin.

Amy Buchanan

Operations Manager

Phyllis Kaufman

Office Administrator

Laura Garber

Clinical Therapist

Chelsea Karp

Grant Program

Manager

Sarah Morse

Bookkeeper

Jennifer Oxfeld

Volunteer Liaison

Amanda Thomas

*Accessibility and
Inclusion Coordinator*

Wendy Rapoport

Clinical Social Worker

Marcia Schechter

Outreach Coordinator

Rachel Shurman

Development Admin.

Jacqui Schwartz

Program Coordinator

Doug Trachtman

Food Pantry Liaison

Carol Wilson

*Clinical Coordinator of
Older Adult Services*

VOLUNTEERS

Allen Abbott

Nancy Amols

Ajai Ananthan

Aaron Berger

Ally Bergstein

Clara Bergstein

Carol Bernhard

Lauren Berson

Dynashia Blue

Sam Bub

Allen Carroll

Marjorie Carroll

Larry Center

Marilyn Claire

Jane Cohen

Diana DeFanti

Ralph DelAguila

Ana Deledda

Doris Den Herder

Elaine Deutch

Samantha Ebert

Gail Eisenberg

Keren Erez

Shahar Erez

Sandi Fine

Emily Ford

Casey Goldblatt

Sandra Greenfield

Lisa Griffiths

Barry Halper

Anita Hirsch

Donna Iorio

Gia Jones

Irving Kaplan

David Karp

Jannie Kay

Maxine Klein

Fay Kun

Mary Laronge

Diane Lemberg

Rachel Levin

Rosalie Levine

Janet Mandelker

Rill Miller

Alicia Moreno

Daniel Morgenbesser

Amy Morse

Richard Morse

Julie Mylnarsky

Howard Nathanson

Audrey Nolte

Alan Penn

Roberta Penn

Rabbi Seth Phillips

Howard Pitkoff

Jane Pitkoff

Andrea Reich

Liz Reinsmith

Ilene Ringold

Robin Rosenau

Bobbie Rudolph

Ellen Schaffer

Vickie Semmel

Richard Shadick

Ilene Shaefer

Richard Silverman

Amy Singer Douglass

Ellen Sosis

Sue Sosnow

Kimberly Sterner-Stein

Diana Talsania

Gabe Tamarkin

Abby Trachtman

Susan Travis

Kimberly Valuntas

Yale West

Carol Wilson

Gail Wolson

Julia Young

Carly Zager

Miriam Zager

Leon Zoller

Jewish Family Service is a proud LIFE & LEGACY partner. Thank you to all of the members of our L'Chaim Society, who have already joined the effort in assuring Jewish tomorrows with JFS, the Lehigh Valley Jewish Foundation and LIFE & LEGACY, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Leonard Abrams
Rony Ackerman
Tama Lee Barsky
Sheila Berg
Ross Born
Wendy Born
Emily Charlap
Nancy & Daniel Cohen
Edwin Davis
Rabbi Melody Davis
Glenn Ehrich
Jan Ehrich
David Eiskowitz
Ellyn Elstein
Iris Epstein
Elizabeth Fear
Eileen Fischmann
Roberto Fischmann
Amy Fisher
Fran & Jay Fisher
Peter Fisher
Emily & Brian Ford
Lora & Stanley Geftic
Patricia & Gary Glascom

Shirley Gross Charitable
Gift Fund
Ben Grossman
Melissa & Harvey Hakim
Bonnie & Robert
Hammel
Florence & Jerome z"l
Hausman
Maryellen & Kevin
Hausman
Ellen & Philip Hof
Arthur Hoffman
Barbara Hoffman
Rabbi Allen Juda
Toby K. Juda
Binae Karpo
Kathi Katzman
Seth Katzman
Roberta & Robert Kritzer
Ferne Kushner z"l
Daniel Leisawitz &
Daniela Viale
Pam Lott
Jane & William Markson

Linda Miller z"l
Michael Miller
James Mueth
Taffi Ney
Audrey Alexander Nolte
Michael Notis z"l
Ruth Notis
Dorothy Parmet z"l
Morton Parmet z"l
Roberta & Alan Penn
Abby Pozefsky
Robert Rockmaker
Judith Rodwin
Robin & Alexander
Rosenau
Lorrie Scherline
Deena & Mark
Scoblionko
Lynne Shampain
Howard Sherer
Sam Shikiar
Rabbi Michael & Alexis
Singer
Susan Sosnow



Peggy Stettner
Ron Ticho
Beverly & Stephen Volk
Barbara & Arthur
Weinrach
Carol & Bob Wilson
Linda & James Wimmer
Norman Wruble
Sandra Wruble
Rachel Zane
Debbie Zoller
Leon Zoller
Anonymous



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