



JFS **175**
YEARS
A LEGACY OF CARE • COUNSELING • ADOPTION

Annual Report
2023 - 2024



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Dear Friends,

In 2024, JFS celebrates the 175th Anniversary of its founding in 1849. We are proud to say JFS is STRONGER THAN EVER and is still informed by the lessons of our history and responding to the needs of our community. In our fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, JFS Services impacted over 4000 Richmond area residents. We provided over 119,777 hours of care this year with the help of our partners, volunteers, and friends like you. Thank you!

A key challenge we face today and for the next 15 years is preparing for the care needs of the soaring number of older adults in the Greater Richmond region; 50,000 additional seniors in Richmond by 2040. Through our partnership with Richmond Memorial Health Foundation and the Bob and Anna Lou Schaberg Foundation, we are investing in our amazing care aides and recognizing the incredible value of their work.

JFS Care Aides received a 24% increase in their minimum wage, free emergency/backup transportation, and special opportunities for skill and career building to enhance their futures. Over 40 JFS Care Aides became Certified Dementia Specialists. We had a 30% increase in the number of Care Aides employed by JFS this year and were able to serve 31% more clients, showing us a path to caring for the growing number of seniors in our area today and in the future.



Dr. Michael Mandel, President

Michael Mandel

We celebrate innovation for our 175th anniversary as well. Since its inception the Richmond Jewish Care Line, with our partners at JCFR, has helped 394 Jewish Richmonders with personalized services to help them recover from crisis.

In partnership with Beth Sholom, Kirva Hospice became fully credentialed and Medicare approved this year. Kirva offers high quality, patient and family centered, thoughtful care.

JFS has grown our clinical staff and added specialty programs to increase our mental health capacity. Our Counseling staff has grown to 11 clinicians, specializing in clients of all ages; they saw 621 clients this year. With support from Jewish Federations of North America, our Neuropsychologists, met with 485 patients who were referred for Memory Assessment. And we launched the FAMILIES program to support the family caregivers of those who suffer from dementia.

We continue to welcome new arrivals from Ukraine, a total of 139 adults and children, 75 families. This is our 7th resettlement effort.

If members of the 1849 Ladies Hebrew Benevolent Society read this report, we believe they would be proud to see their mission to strengthen the community was still thriving, decades later. They would also agree that all the work was only possible through the generosity and support of leaders, donors, and volunteers. What was true in 1849 is still true today! THANK YOU! We are grateful for all that your support has allowed us to do!



Wendy Kreuter, CEO

Wendy Kreuter

JFS Transforming Lives

485

Clients Received
Memory Assessments



1,295

Older Adults Supported



7,710

Counseling
sessions held



45

Care Aides became Certified
Dementia Care Specialists



139

Welcomed New
Arrivals from Ukraine



123,745

Hours of Service



1,594

Clients Served



25

Families in crisis
aided by Jewish Care Line



51.4%

Clients are
Low-Income



Thank You



VOLUNTEERS **COMMUNITY**

APPRECIATE

CHERISH

KINDNESS

JFS BOARD

GROWTH

AWARENESS

FOUNDERS SOCIETY

DEDICATED

ADOPTION

THANK YOU

TIKKUN OLAM

PARTNERS

CONNECTING HEARTS

RESPECT

CARE

GIFT-GIVING

COUNSELING

VALUE

HOME CARE

DONORS

KINSHIP

DIGNITY

GRATITUDE

FRIENDS

TRUST

ETHICAL

RESPECT

ADORATION

JFS TRUSTEES

SUPPORT

RELIABLE

REGARD

LIFE & LEGACY



JFS AT 175 1849-2024



JFS Chairman Richard Birnbaum and Trustee Mike Eisenman



Sara Rosenbaum, Neil Kessler, Wendy Kreuter, Orly Lewis



Mark Goodstein, John Schwartz, Rick Gary, Josh Goldberg, Danny Jackson, Neil Kessler



"The Gift of History" Interview with Elizabeth Smartt

JFS 175 YEARS

Annual Meeting, June 10, 2024

We were honored to hold our 175th Annual meeting at Congregation Beth Ahabah, the site of the founding of the Ladies Hebrew Benevolent Society in 1849. The themes of the meeting were the Gift of History and Responding to Community Needs.

JFS President, Mike Mandel, opened the meeting and we were blessed with an invocation by Cantor Sara Beck-Berman. A video on the gift of history featuring Elizabeth Smartt set the stage for former JFS Presidents to highlight key moments in JFS history. Then Wendy Kreuter, JFS CEO, reported that "at age 175, JFS IS STRONGER THAN EVER!" She reported on the outstanding results of the pilot program to value JFS In-Home Care Aides, growth in JFS Counseling, 2 new contracts for JFS Connecting Hearts, and a new partnership with Beth Sholom.

Wendy also recognized staff and volunteers who have been a part of serving the community and the JFS mission for many years. Richard Birnbaum celebrated Mike Eisenman, who has served in a leadership role with JFS for 24 years and is retiring from the JFS Supporting Foundation after 16 years as a Trustee. We are grateful for all the leaders, volunteers, and staff who work tirelessly to Transform Lives and Strengthen our Community! You are the JFS mission in action every day!

Our meeting Closed with a Benediction by JFS Board Member, Rabbi Dovid Asher.



Standing Tall, Caring for All: Like A Giant Oak 175th Anniversary Reprint

- Like a Giant Oak, JFS Executive Director, Peter Opper's 1999 comprehensive history of JFS references Isaiah 61:3 which urges Jews to be like giant oaks of righteousness, caring for all regardless of background.

With the support of Peter's wife, Roberta, we have reprinted this amazing book for our 175th anniversary with some updates in design. Roberta assures us Peter would have been very pleased to celebrate the 175th anniversary special edition reprint. For Peter, writing the book was his labor of love. For JFS and Richmond, it tells the stories of the people who made and sustained the work of JFS for 175 years—Standing tall and caring for all!



Jerry and Ann Samford, Mike Camp, and Mary Ellen Stumpf



Neely Markel, Andy Cohen, Christina Wallace

A YEAR OF CELEBRATION



An anniversary as significant as 175 years of continuous service to the Richmond community warrants an extraordinary evening of celebration!

On September 21st, JFS Richmond was honored to welcome award-winning TV host, producer, media and radio personality, Andy Cohen, to Richmond for a conversation, some games, and fun, moderated by Virginia Public Media CEO, Jayme Swain, at the Dominion Energy Center's Carpenter Theater.

When Andy left CBS News and moved to Bravo be Executive VP of Development and Talent, his job was to respond to opportunity, to innovate and to build. At JFS, we were struck by how Andy's qualities of innovator, builder, and responder to opportunity were shared by many JFS leaders, donors and volunteers, now and through 175 years.

In the historic Carpenter Theater, with a crowd of about 450 attendees, the show opened with a video chronicling 175 years of JFS history, people and impact. Then Wendy Kreuter brought Jayme and Andy onstage.

The first 45 minutes was moderated questions from Jayme and answers from Andy covering a myriad of topics: Andy's Jewish ancestors, how he prepares for the Passover seder which he hosts every year, how he moved from traditional news at CBS to Bravo and how the Real Housewives are the Soap Operas of our era. Andy's frank answers were delightful.

After Intermission, the audience got to play a game with Andy and Jayme about his best hairstyle and who would replace Anderson Cooper if he were unavailable on New Years Eve. The audience chose Andy's current hairstyle and SJP, of course. Then, Andy answered questions JFS had received from our guests.

Thank you to all of our sponsors, honored guests, and friends for joining us in celebrating not just our past, but the bright future that lies ahead!



Samantha Sisisky, Kara Frank, Sarah Garrison, Faith Kallman, Melanie Fine, Spencer Blanton, and Andy Cohen



Abby Moore, Joanne Moore, Melissa Brownstein, and Andy Cohen



Benita and Ron Felmus with Andy Cohen



Ric & Rona Arenstein and Susan & Art Davis



Andy Cohen and Jayme Swain



JFS Board President Mike Mandel and JFS CEO Wendy Kreuter

Care

Louise Shanaberger was a loving mom, churchgoer, and was quick to volunteer when needed. She took pride in taking care of her four children, being a hotel banquet manager, and being an active member at her church.

Louise's daughter, Susan, started to notice alarming changes in her Mom's behavior- she was showing signs of dementia.

Susan called JFS after seeing the wide variety of services offered. After an initial meeting with JFS RN Penny to understand Louise's wants and needs, JFS Care Aide Eva became a daily caregiver for Louise.



Susan Jackson and her mother,
Louise Shanaberger

With the help of JFS, Louise was able to remain in her home much longer than predicted. After almost 2 years, Louise's dementia symptoms progressed and she was moved to an assisted living facility in Fredericksburg, VA where she receives comprehensive care and is closer to her daughter, Sharon.

In a note after her Mom moved to Fredericksburg, Susan closed by saying "Thank you for getting us through some of the hardest days in our lives. We truly could not have survived without Dana, Penny (Mom loved your visits), Eva, Grace, and many more at JFS!"

Counseling

LouAnn was active in her church and community until 2014 when her husband Dallas' health started declining. LouAnn became her husband's primary caregiver. Over time LouAnn's health was also starting to be a concern and she made the decision to move the two of them to The Barrington.

LouAnn felt a mixture of emotions of sadness, strain, and isolation. It was another resident who was receiving services from JFS who suggested that a group be started for other residents dealing with loss or coping with stress of being a caregiver.

Director of Clinical Services, Sydney Fleischer, came to the facility and began to hold grief group sessions for the residents in 2018. This was very helpful for LouAnn, because she didn't have family. Two years after moving into the assisted living facility, Dallas passed away and LouAnn had the group to lean on.

"Even though I am not in an acute state of emotional distress, just having Sydney there is a good thing!"

They have bi-weekly check-ins to this day. LouAnn loves the chats and the occasional visits from Sydney and her adorable furry pup.



LouAnn Frederick

Adoption



Blake McDonald, Chad Stewart, Baby Flora

When Blake and Chad decided to expand their family, they knew they needed a strong home study agency to help facilitate the tedious process of adoption.

"JFS was supportive right from the start. They cleared up any reservations we brought to the conversation almost instantaneously."

Blake and Chad worked closely with JFS posting their profile on the potential adoptee site and after patiently waiting and carefully going over potential candidates, Blake and Chad found their perfect match!

JFS' Connecting Hearts Program Director, Denise Wise-David and her team were very helpful holding a comforting safe space for the couple when first meeting their new baby, Flora.

"Seeing Flora for the first time..."we were just in awe...words could never describe that first moment holding her."

"The way that the JFS staff, Mariah and Denise, were able to let us have the space to feel all of the things. They were so calm and efficient and very communitive. We never felt like we didn't know what was going on."

Blake and Chad are grateful to JFS for helping them create the family they so longed for.

Resettlement

Rustam Nadirov used to be a successful farmer and a businessman in Zaporizhzhia Region of Ukraine. After the beginning of the full-scale war. Russia occupied many territories in the south of Ukraine.

The Town of Energodar, where Rustam was living was among those territories. Rustam did not want to stay and decided to go west to the free world. That was a long and very complicated trip full of dangers and humiliations.

JFS welcomed Rustam and other Ukrainians with open arms, eager to help. Furnished apartments and transportation were provided by JFS. The language barrier is the hardest adjustment they face, JFS has staff in place who also speak their native language to help with translation.

JFS provides English speaking classes to all new comers. These classes ranging from beginner to advanced level, meet the client where they are and work from there. JFS conducts regular visits and hosts focus groups to better understand the growing needs of our new community members.

Rustam Nadirov has enormous gratitude to JFS for all kinds of help: housing, vehicle, benefits... But the most important, for the sense of family and community he has received in Richmond.

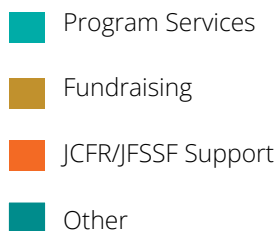
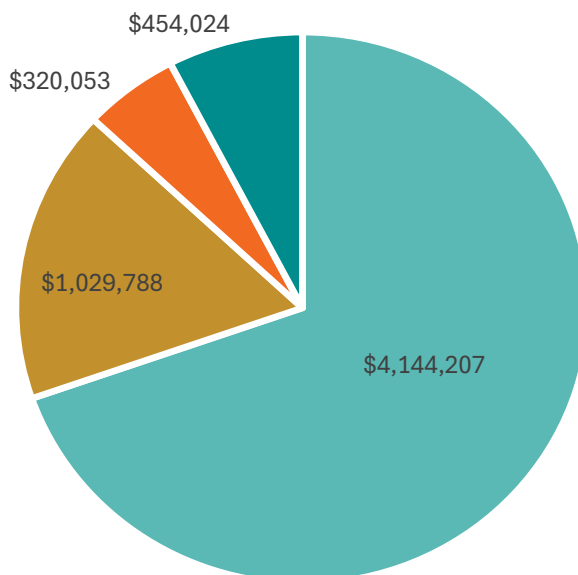


Rustam Nadirov

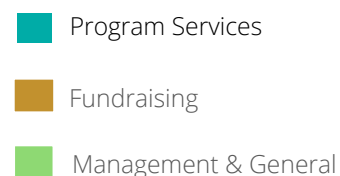
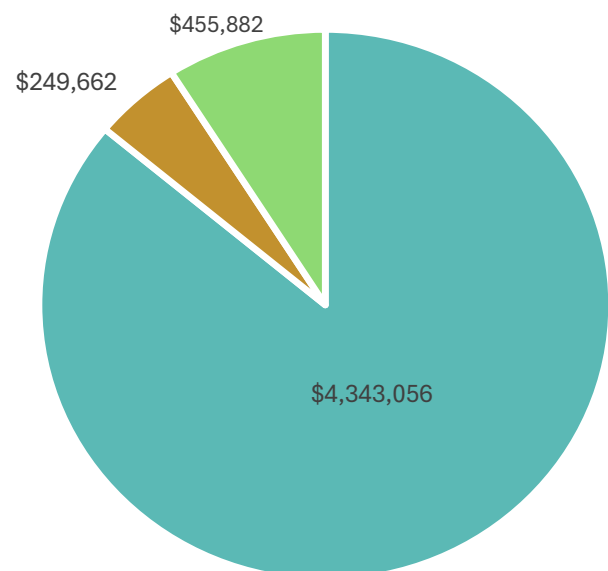
Revenue & Expenses

Fiscal Year 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023

Revenue



Expenses





For 175 years - through pandemics, wars, and recessions - Jewish Family Services has served Richmond-area families and individuals of all ages, faiths, and incomes with exceptional care, guidance, and support.

Thank you for helping make it all possible.

JFS IS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH: _____



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Transforming Lives. Strengthening our Community.