

JAFCO

Growing With Love

2024 JOURNAL

Annual Report Enclosed



A young girl with light brown hair, wearing a yellow sleeveless top, is smiling and looking down at a potted basil plant. The background is a blurred green garden. The text is overlaid on a white semi-transparent box.

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With Growth There is Change and with Change There is Growth: Sharing an Announcement from Our Board

Dear JAFCO family,

The JAFCO Board of Trustees is very grateful to you for the support and love you've shown the over 20,000 children whose lives have been saved through our programs and services over the past 32 years. And because of that, we wanted to share some very important information regarding JAFCO.

It is a rare opportunity to get to work with the Founding Director of any charity, and many of us have not only been fortunate enough to share a meaningful relationship with our founding CEO Sarah Franco, but also to be part of JAFCO's growth. Her incredible leadership, her love for the children and families who have walked through our doors, and her gratitude for all of the thousands of donors and volunteers have helped make JAFCO the agency it is today. After 32 years of Sarah's dedication and service to JAFCO, the Board is announcing Sarah's retirement as our CEO effective December 31, 2024.

Given the importance of this first-ever CEO transition for the agency, we want to assure you, as an important member of the JAFCO family, that this has been a planned and well-thought-out process. Board Vice-Chair Richard Allen was appointed five years ago by the JAFCO Board of Trustees to chair our Succession Planning and Search Committees, and he has been working diligently with his committees, our staff, and our entire board to create a smooth, positive, and seamless transition for this important moment in the agency's growth.

The search committee will be working intensively with a professional search firm over the coming months to identify the next Chief Executive Officer who will be able to build on the strong foundation that Sarah has created and lead JAFCO into the future.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the important role you have played, and we know you will continue to play, in the lives of the children and families JAFCO serves. If you have any questions, or if there is anything you wish to share with us, you may contact Richard Allen at rla@khllaw.com or Sarah directly at sarah@jafco.org. Please rest assured that Sarah's heart will always be with JAFCO and that she intends to continue to be a supportive member of the JAFCO family in a meaningful way.

Larry Robinson, Chair
JAFCO Children's Foundation
larryrobinsonpbg1818@gmail.com

Stewart Greenberg, Chair
JAFCO Jewish Children's Village
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Amy Sylvetsky, Chair
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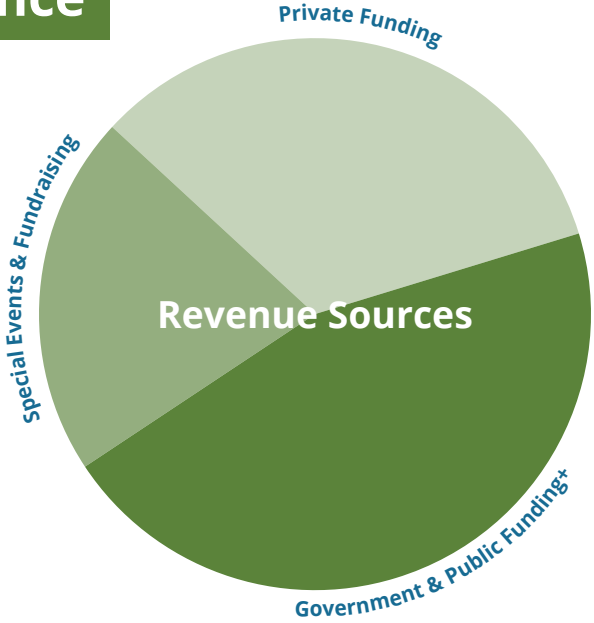
Linda Brodie, Chair
FamilyMatters
lindabrodie1003@gmail.com

JAFCO 2023 Financial Performance

87 cents of every dollar you donate goes directly to change the lives of the children and families we serve. Thank you!

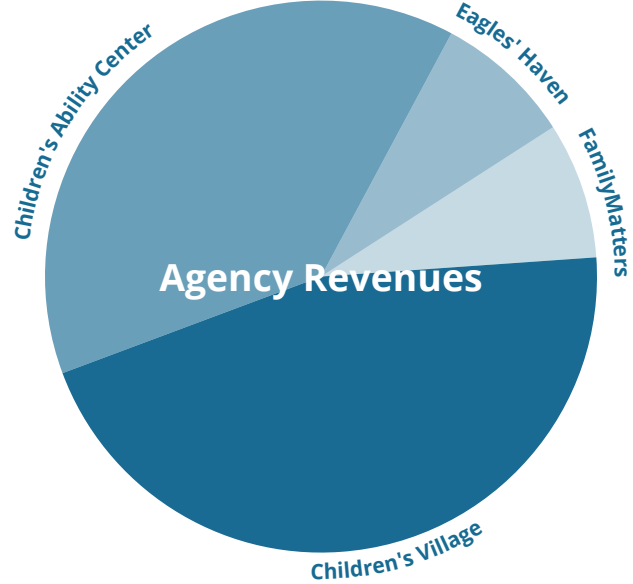
Revenue Sources

▶ Government & Public Funding.....	\$6,543,000	45%
▶ Special Events & Fundraising.....	\$3,053,000	21%
▶ Private Contributions.....	\$2,332,000	16%
▶ Private Foundations & Grants.....	\$2,405,000	17%
▶ Jewish Federations.....	\$79,000	1%
Total Revenues.....	\$14,412,000	



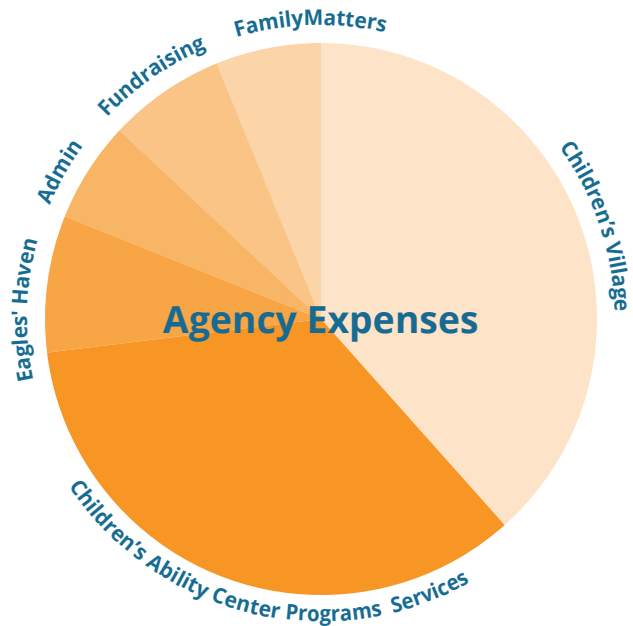
Agency Revenues

▶ JAFCO Children's Village.....	\$6,546,000	45%
▶ JAFCO Children's Ability Center.....	\$5,552,000	39%
▶ JAFCO FamilyMatters.....	\$1,152,000	8%
▶ Eagles' Haven.....	\$1,162,000	8%
Total Revenues.....	\$14,412,000	



Agency Expenses

▶ JAFCO Children's Ability Center.....	\$5,574,000	38%
▶ JAFCO Children's Village.....	\$5,027,000	35%
▶ Eagles' Haven.....	\$1,162,000	8%
▶ Agency Administration.....	\$996,000	7%
▶ Agency Fundraising Expenses.....	\$895,000	6%
▶ JAFCO FamilyMatters.....	\$857,000	6%
Total Expenses.....	\$14,511,000	
Additional Funding Needed.....	\$99,000	



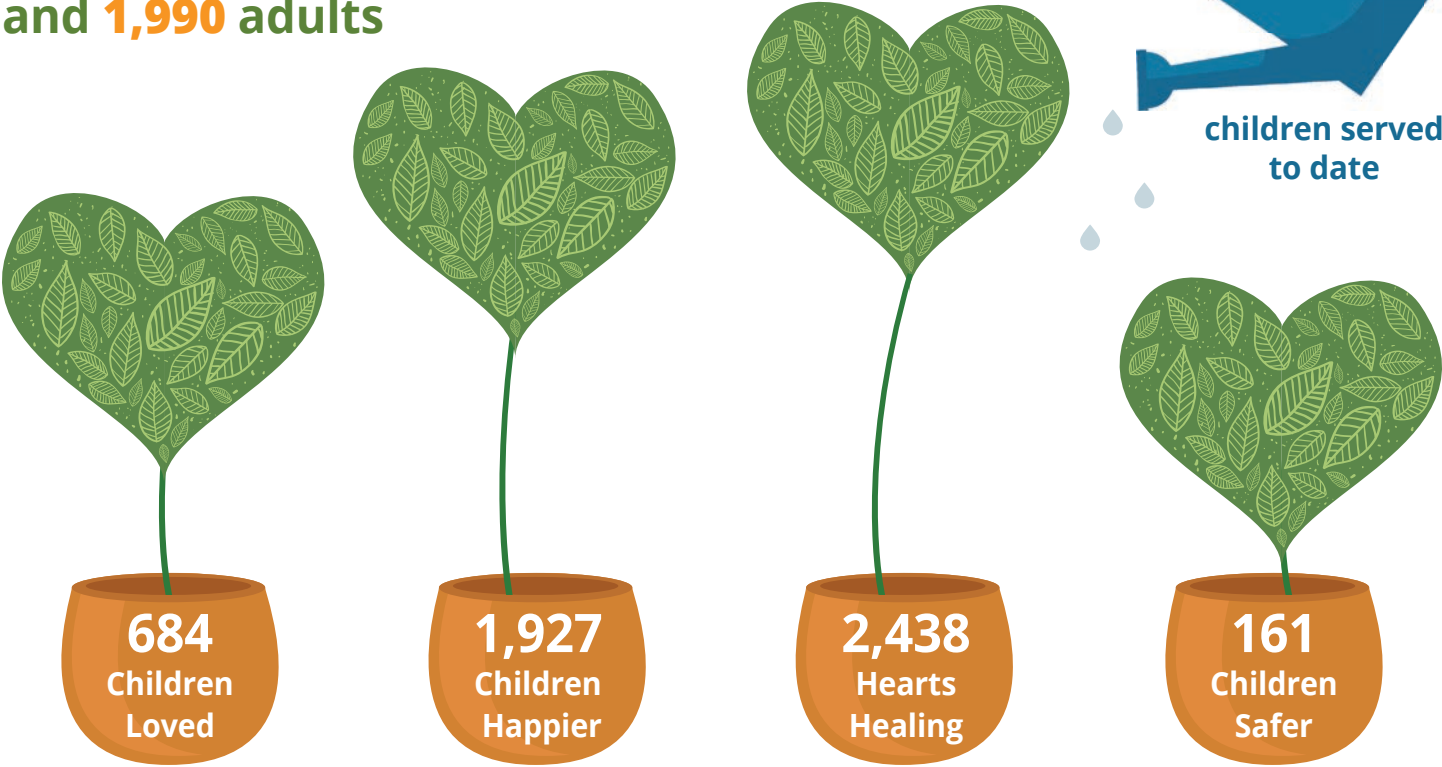
JAFCO's full consolidated financial audit and 990's are available on our website www.jafco.org/accountability



JAFCO is a highly rated charity, receiving four stars (the top rating) from Charity Navigator, America's most utilized independent charity evaluator.

Our Impact is Growing With Your Love

Thanks to your generosity, in 2023 we were able to change the lives of **3,932** children and **1,990** adults



JAFCO Children's Village

JAFCO Children's Ability Center

Eagles' Haven Wellness Center

FamilyMatters

99.4%

of children at the Children's Village graduated high school, all having access to a college education without any college debt

300

children and teens improved their life skills and made new friends to invite to their birthday party

350

members of our community received trauma support during the trials and crime scene walk throughs at MSD

20%

more children and families were served this past year by FamilyMatters while it is preparing to expand



100% of referrals at all of our 4 sites are responded to immediately and free of charge, children and families are served for as long as needed. It is as simple as a phone call!



JAFCO has responded immediately to 100% of referrals from the Israeli Ministry of Social Services as the first point of contact for Israeli child and family safety cases with ties to the U.S. We have encouraged all of our donors to support Israel at every JAFCO fundraising event, proudly doing whatever we can during this most difficult time.



The JAFCO clinical team uses only best practices to address any safety needs involving children and families, we are available 24/7/365.

Jewish Children's Village: Growing Up with Love



Safety • Love • Hope

Weicholz Family Campus

David Posnack Jewish Children's Village

Providing the only village of its kind in the Jewish community in the entire nation and ensuring that every child in the Jewish community and beyond has a safe place to live has never been more important than it is today. Our beautiful 5.6-acre campus consists of the Marsh Children's Emergency Shelter and our six Group Homes which can provide love and safety to up to 50 children at one time. Our Foster Care, Adoption and Family Preservation programs are also located on the campus in the Simon Family wing of the Kaminoff Children's Center. Annually, all of these programs provide safety and support to over 700 children who have been impacted by abuse, neglect and trauma and also to families who are in crisis.

Our Programs

Marsh Children's Emergency Shelter

This life-saving part of our village is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to offer an immediate safe and loving placement for a child who has been a victim of abuse, neglect, or abandonment. Children (ages birth to 12) are placed in the shelter by state protective investigators often in the middle of the night or by parents and family members who themselves are in crisis.

Group Homes

Our six beautiful 4,000 sq. ft. group homes are designed to provide a safe home-like environment for up to 30 children who need a safe place to live on either a temporary or permanent basis. Each child has their own bedroom and bathroom for privacy and dignity, they go to local schools and participate in sports, dance or after-school activities of their choice. Up to six children live in each home and are cared for by a loving house parent.

Independent Living

All of the children residing within the group homes are prepared for eventual independent living and if they choose, they may continue to reside at the JAFCO Village until the age of 24 while they attend college and work part or full time. For our children who are away at school, we keep their rooms intact so they can come home for college or school breaks. JAFCO is their family, and we will be there for them for as long as they need us.

To make a referral or for more information about our programs and services, please contact JAFCO Clinical Director Shea Pucci, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist at shea@jafco.org or 954-315-8683.

Foster Care & Adoption

JAFCO foster families are loving substitute families that open their homes to children in need of care for a temporary period of time, up to two years on average. JAFCO assists with adoptions through the foster care system and also works privately with birth parents who are in need of a safe placement for their child.

Family Preservation

JAFCO is committed to keeping families together whenever possible. The JAFCO Family Preservation Program provides immediate and intensive in-home support, clinical case management and referrals to families who are in crisis and are facing issues related to shelter, food and clothing, divorce situations, parent incarceration, mental health and addiction, court ordered supervised visitation and more.

Trauma Informed Therapy

JAFCO therapists are trained in best practices and use a Trauma Informed Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Approach in working with the children, helping them learn coping skills and resiliency to more effectively manage and overcome the trauma in their lives. Our children participate in individual therapy, group therapy and wellness activities including meditation, mindfulness and yoga, equine therapy, and when medically necessary, medication management provided by our JAFCO Medical Director.

Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)

In-Home Family Therapy

The MST Program is an intensive research-based 3-month in-home therapy program. It supports the entire family and teaches parents the necessary skills to manage their children's behavior (ages 10 to 18) when they are engaging in truancy, aggression in the home, and early drug experimentation. The goal of this program is to prevent out-of-home placement for the child.

Senior Caregiver -

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

This program provides much needed supportive services and guidance to seniors who have taken on the challenging and unexpected task of raising their grandchildren by providing case management support services to the senior caregiver in order to stabilize and strengthen the placement.



Growing Your Family with Love and Adoption

A proud moment in JAFCO history as the incredible mitzvah of becoming foster and (then) adoptive parents in the Roberts' family passes down to the next generation. The Honorable Judge Alberto Ribas Jr. proudly presided over this special moment as baby Chance is made an official member of the Roberts family. Proud grandparents Karen and Jim Roberts adopted twin boys through JAFCO over two decades ago and now their son Zach and his wife Jena are following in their footsteps, bringing the love of adoption to their growing family.

Judge Alberto Ribas Jr. presides over Chance's adoption. L to R: Judge Alberto Ribas Jr., Karen Roberts, Kayla Roberts (child), Jena Roberts, Taylor Roberts (child), Zachary Roberts, Chance Roberts (child), James Roberts.



A Day in the Life of an Adoption Social Worker

By Katie Ginsberg, LCSW.

Thousands of children are still waiting for loving individuals and families to adopt them. What is it like to know you have just created a new family? How does it feel the moment you know that a child, who previously was all alone in the world, now has someone, a parent, to care for them forever?

There are very few words that can describe this feeling. All the worry of whether this child is going to be OK, whether they are going to be loved, whether they will have a childhood at all - all drift into the past. It brings an incredible sense of relief. There are about 1.5 million adopted children in the United States and about 135,000 children are adopted each year.

Despite the statistics, as a social worker, I have been in Family Court a hundred times with many of the same people and on the days a child is adopted, the often somber air of the courtroom changes to a place filled with light. The faces that were cemented with concern beam with hope. Maybe the child is a toddler with little understanding of what is really happening, or maybe they are older and feel the magnitude of this moment. Either way, they are now safe, and they are loved.

"This is forever, it is like blood," the judge says emphatically to the adoptive parents, making it clear to them that their commitment to this child is forever — it is no different than a child born biologically into a family. But at that moment, it is clear to me that this child was meant for this family. This child has experienced more trauma than many of us will experience in our lifetime. Yet, this family has chosen them.

Everyone in this courtroom feels it. As I stand to the side and observe what is happening in this moment, I cannot imagine this child growing with any other parents, and I think of what the future will bring for them. I know it will not be easy, and the road will likely be filled with bumps and detours. Yet safety and love come with this commitment.

The child doesn't have to worry any longer if they will be wanted. That is proven now. The judge steps down from his bench and presents the family with a children's book about adoption. He hugs each family member with a huge smile court observers rarely see on his face. "This is the best part of my job", he says. "I've often found myself fighting back tears of joy". It's mine too. Please consider being one member of that 2%. Please consider being one of those special people who move past simply thinking about adopting and become one who will say "yes" to providing a loving, stable forever home.

Karen and Jim Roberts said yes over 20 years ago when they adopted twin boys Alex and Adam, to grow their family beyond having two sons, Zach and A.J., by birth. And now they are proud JAFCO "adoptive" grandparents as well!

**Katie Ginsberg, LCSW,
JAFCO Director of Foster
Care and Adoption**



Children's Ability Center: Surrounding Families with Love

Providing family support, child enrichment, and respite care for children with developmental disabilities and their families.

Who Do We Serve?

The JAFCO Children's Ability Center is committed to serving children from birth to age 22 who have been diagnosed with a developmental disability. We are located in the heart of South Florida in Broward County with easy access to both Palm Beach and Miami-Dade Counties. We are happy to serve families who reside anywhere in the state of Florida and even throughout the country, providing family support and strengthening, child enrichment, out-of-home day and overnight respite and community engagement programs to families raising children with a developmental disability. We are here to support the entire family.

Family Support and Strengthening

JAFCO is committed to supporting families from the moment of diagnosis throughout their journey. Our team works in partnership with families to create an individual plan. Parents and family members are offered training and education classes to better understand their child's diagnosis, to advocate for them and to assist them to reach their potential. A full array of support groups for moms, dads, couples, grandparents and siblings are offered to ensure we are supporting everyone in the family. When needed, parents are supported and empowered when advocating for their children at school with one of our Educational Advocates by their side.

Child Enrichment Services

Children with developmental disabilities don't always have the opportunity to engage in social and recreational activities with their peers. These activities are important to help children learn social skills and life skills, build self-esteem, make new friends and just have fun:

• Social Skills Activities

Social skills activities focus on specific skills, such as social language, appropriate play and interaction with peers. Birthday parties can be arranged allowing the child to invite other children they've met at the Ability Center. Social Hangout is a cool space for teens only where they can discuss things that are important to them, make friends and just hang out as teens like to do.

• Life Skills Classes

Our Life Skills Program addresses the skills needed for children to transition into independent adults and includes home management skills (cooking, cleaning, laundry, loading dishwasher), money management skills and employment readiness skills. For our older teens and young adults who successfully complete these programs, employment opportunities through our Ability@Work program are available at our beautiful Illuminate Event Venue.

• Just Having Fun

Includes art, music, dance, sports, fitness, yoga, science, playground fun, water play, foam parties and more!

Respite and Community Engagement Services

Many parents and caregivers of children with developmental disabilities report feelings of isolation so the Ability Center offers fun programs for parents too, including Parent Evening Out, Moms Retreats and Family Fun Days. This is an opportunity for parents to meet other parents who truly understand the challenges of raising a child with special needs. Individualized childcare hours are always available for date nights as well. All parents need time to relax and renew and the Ability Center offers amazing fun programming for children while parents get time alone. We offer every family up to two weeks of day and/or overnight respite per year to allow parents to take some focused time for themselves, spend time with their spouse or partner, with friends or with their typical children. Respite is offered for any days off from school, all year long. If parents have an emergency, we are also here to help.

Camp Kehilla

Camp Kehilla provides campers with a fun, safe and exciting summer while increasing their social and life skills, exposing them to new experiences and new friends. Children can also enjoy an overnight camp experience for a two week session while their parents take a vacation or just relax at home and recharge.

Emergency Shelter

Children with developmental disabilities are three times more likely to experience child abuse. Since some of them are non-verbal this can be a very traumatic time for them. Our JAFCO Respite Homes double as loving emergency homes for these children where all of their needs are met by our staff until a permanent placement is found for them either with relatives, an adoptive home or a group home placement.

**For more information call Devin Butler,
Director of Community Engagement
at 954-315-8681 or email her at devin@jafco.org.**



Built With Love: Two New Respite Homes Finally Completed



News Story by Morgan Rynor CBS News Miami. May 6, 2024

New homes expand capacity of overnight respite care program to over 1,000 children each year.

JAFCO has completed the construction of two new respite homes at the Children's Ability Center, expanding their respite capacity threefold. JAFCO's overnight respite program allows children with developmental disabilities to stay overnight, giving their parents a break and a moment to breathe while their children make friends and gain independence. The completion of the two new respites in addition to the one existing home will allow them to triple their respite capacity to over 1,000 children each year. "With these two new respite houses, we can open our hearts to more incredible families in our community," said JAFCO CEO Sarah Franco. "We may have built these houses, but it is the families and children of the JAFCO Children's Ability Center who make them homes." The respite homes provide

children with their own bedroom and bath, where they may stay overnight from 1 night to up to 2 weeks in a safe, comfortable environment that encourages them to grow and thrive.

Silvana Armentano, a mom using the Ability Center services, said during pregnancy she just knew. "I realized that he was doing some different kicks in my womb," Armentano said, "and then I realized that it was repetitive behavior, he was moving his hands back and forth." At one year old, doctors diagnosed her son, David, with autism. Everything from eating to potty training to learning how to handle his aggressive behavior required Armentano to give up her career as an artist to be her son's full-time caregiver.

The exhaustion took over. "In the moment that I collapsed on the floor, my son picked me up from the floor, I asked him, he's nonverbal, so he saw me on the floor, and he was very worried," she said. "He picked me up from the floor and gave me the phone. So he brought me my phone to call 911. So he saved my life." Her doctor recommended she seek help at the JAFCO Children's Ability Center. That weekend, for the first time in long, long years, I had one day to take a nap," she said. JAFCO Executive Director Justin Kohlhagen said the respite home gives parents that peace of mind to take care of themselves knowing their kids are in good hands.

"It's life-saving having them being here for me, having back not only my life, but also the life of my child because he has improved in so many ways," Armentano said.



Susan & Mark Auerbach named a bedroom in one of the new respite houses.



Suzanne & Sam Pollack cut the ribbon for their Guest House Patio at the new respite home.

Thank you to our new Children's Ability Center Respite Home donors

Elizabeth Lender & Ken Fisher

Ethel Pinkwasser

Brenda & Larry Robinson

Felicia Beth & Richard Philip Schwartz

Roslyn Dubin Silverman

JAFCO Extends Our Heartfelt Gratitude to the Jim Moran Foundation

The entire JAFCO family is deeply touched and grateful for the care and compassion of the Jim Moran Foundation and for their recent funding of the opening of our new respite homes. The Jim Moran Foundation has been a dedicated partner of JAFCO for over two decades and has made a transformative impact on the Children's Ability Center as well as JAFCO's ability to support families raising children with developmental disabilities.

Established in 2000 by automotive pioneer Jim Moran to ensure his philanthropy would endure beyond his life-time, the mission of The Jim Moran Foundation is to improve the quality of life for the youth and families of Florida through the support of innovative programs and opportunities that meet the ever-changing needs of the community.

The Foundation has invested more than \$250 million in education, elder care, family strengthening and youth transitional living initiatives with efforts currently focused in Broward, Palm Beach and Duval counties.



Eagles' Haven Wellness Center: Healing With Love



....Rediscovering wellness and restoring hope in the Parkland/ Coral Springs community.

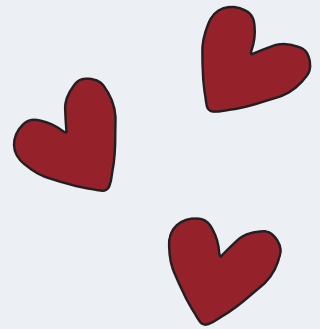
Our Mission... is to honor the lives of the victims and survivors of the tragic MSD school shooting, to rediscover wellness and to restore hope to the Parkland/Coral Springs community through family strengthening navigation services, wellness experiences, crisis support, and support groups.

Our Vision... is that Eagles' Haven Wellness Experiences will provide a safe space for children, teens and adults to participate in a variety of our health and wellness activities and create a wellness plan for healing. Our Family Strengthening services will provide comprehensive therapeutic support and referrals to community professionals in addition to crisis intervention services. Our Support Groups for teachers, students, parents and community members will allow our community to come together in small groups in a safe setting. Our Annual 2-14 Commemoration will keep every victim of this tragedy forever in our hearts.



Wellness Experiences provide a safe space for children, teens and adults to participate in a variety of our health and wellness learning sessions.

- Strength & Conditioning
- Breathing & Meditation
- Yoga & Pilates
- Creative Arts
- Drumming Circle
- Therapy Dogs
- Aromatherapy
- Healing Through Nature
- Smoothie Bike
- Qi Gong/ Tai Chi
- Acupuncture
- Friday Family Fun Night
- Drop-in Coffee Time
- Sound Healing



Family Strengthening in-home and private assessments are available free of charge to individuals and families for as long as necessary to provide ongoing care. Immediate walk-in crisis intervention, safety plans and clinical referrals are also available.

- Family and Individual Consultation
- In-Home Private Consultations
- School Advocacy
- Crisis Support
- Private and Group Walk-Ins

Workshops and Support Groups provide trauma information and education on topics such as communication, parenting, understanding trauma, loss and grief, survivors' guilt, self-care, wellness, the value of therapy, breath work, national support to communities impacted by mass violence, and more. Support groups for teachers, students, parents and community members take place throughout the year. Specialized groups for grandparents, alumni, and the families of the victims, and injured survivors and their families are also available.

- Parent Guidance Sessions
- Support Groups for Students, Family and Extended Members, and Teachers
- Wellness & Resiliency Workshops
- Community & School Outreach

If you or someone you know who was impacted by 2-14 or is in crisis and needs help you can dial 211 or 988 or simply walk into Eagles' Haven. We are open every day, no appointment necessary and services are free of charge.

For more information and to access our services contact Eagles' Haven Director Rebecca Jarquin at 954-618-0350 or rebecca@eagleshaven.org.

To see our amazing free wellness classes visit our website www.eagleshaven.org or download the MindBody app and enter Eagles' Haven.

Forever In Our Hearts: Remembering the Lives of the Parkland 17



Each year, family members and loved ones of those killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School gather to honor and remember them with a day of their favorite activities, a beautiful 17 dove release, and a candle lighting ceremony.

By Kate Payne, WLRN

There can be strength and comfort in remembering them — for how they lived, not just how they died.

Six years after the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, South Floridians continue to gather on Feb. 14 to do just that — searching for solace, meaning and connection, turning towards each other in the hopes of forging some goodness out of grief.

For Tony Montalto, whose daughter Gina was murdered that day, seeing the community come together year after year to grieve and remember is a source of strength.

“We’re thankful for the community to come out today and remember Gina, remember the other victims. Again, who they were before this tragedy took them away. They were teammates, they were on the color guard together. They played in the school band. They were classmates. Students,” Montalto said. “Just integral parts of the community. And touched so many lives here. And were touched by so many lives here.”

At Eagles’ Haven Wellness Center in Coral Springs — which was founded in the wake of the tragedy — family members, loved ones, friends, and community leaders gathered to light candles for the 17 people who were murdered six years ago.

Sarah Franco is the CEO of JAFCO, the charity behind Eagles Haven, and led the ceremony on Wednesday. She says that as long as the community gathers and says the names of those who were killed, a part of them will continue to live on.

“Each of us will die two times in our lives. The last day we breathe and the last day someone says our name,” Franco said. “At Eagles Haven, we have committed to saying the names of the 17 victims as often as we humanly and possibly can — keeping them alive in our hearts forever.”

Franco urged the community to celebrate those who were killed — remembering the fullness of the lives they lived and the people they hoped to become. “Joaquin Oliver was a music lover with a passion for all kinds of music. Carmen Schentrup’s voice was so beautiful when she shared her love



for singing. Their life stories are filled with beauty,” Franco said.

“Jaime Guttenberg had a great love and compassion for dogs big and small, while Helena Ramsey found peace in the garden, surrounded by her flowers. All beautiful ways to remember them and keep them in our hearts.”

After the candle lighting ceremony, family members came together to release 17 white doves. As soon as the doors were opened, the snowy birds burst from their cages and took to the sky, circling again and again as the crowd looked on in hushed amazement.

The birds flew together as one until they disappeared into the blue horizon.

Later, in the parking lot outside Eagles’ Haven, volunteers sat at stations dedicated to each of the victims, where family members and visitors could make art, plant seeds or share a meal in honor of each of the 17 — transforming their grief into connection and action.

For so many of those who were forever changed by the tragedy - and who have dedicated their lives to school safety — there is still so much more to do six years later. “We have to continue to fight for our kids, for everyone’s kids, so these tragedies stop,” said Ilan Alhadeff, whose daughter Alyssa was murdered that day. “While we can unite on the fact that we’re dealing with this together, it still doesn’t take away with the fact that this is a club that we’d just all rather not be a part of.”

The Eagles’ Haven team is available 7 days a week to assist anyone who is struggling from the trauma of the MSD shooting and any of the many other school shootings that continue to occur. Walk-ins are welcome and a full array of wellness activities are also available from yoga to kickboxing to Zumba to flower arranging, all free of charge. Just download the MindBody App and search for Eagles’ Haven to register for your first wellness class. Having a personalized wellness plan in addition to therapy is the best way to deal with the enormous trauma we have all experienced as a community. *The journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step.*



FamilyMatters

A JAFCO Support Network

When families find the courage to open up and ask for help, we are there. We are At Your Side.

FamilyMatters, a JAFCO Support Network, offers specialized case management and support services to assist families in times of crisis in Greater Philadelphia.

Our Programs:

Family Strengthening

FamilyMatters offers specialized, therapeutic case management and support services, at no cost, to assist families in times of crisis. We serve families who are facing the impact of trauma and challenges including: mental health and substance abuse issues, divorce and custody issues, grandparents or relatives caring for children, single parenthood, or raising children with special needs. We focus on strengthening and empowering families to address and overcome challenges that are impacting their overall level of functioning. FamilyMatters treats and supports the entire family.

Supervised Visitation

We provide a safe and structured environment and ensure that all guidelines set by the court or referring agency are followed for scheduled, monitored visits between a child and a non-custodial parent or family member. Each visit is supervised by a master's level social worker at an hourly charge with sliding scale available. Reports can be provided to the court upon request.

Children's Programs

Our child enrichment programs currently include dance therapy, music therapy, and programming for when school is closed. Activities include social skills, just having fun with art, dance, music, sports, fitness, yoga, science, and more.



FamilyMatters

A JAFCO Support Network

SibShops™: The Sibling Support Project

This group offers opportunities for siblings of children with developmental disabilities to gain support and meet new friends in a safe and fun environment. Through group activities, children are able to understand more about disabilities and learn how they can have a meaningful relationship with their sibling.

Parent & Relative Caregiver Support

This group provides a safe space for parents and relative caregivers of children with special needs to share their feelings, fears, and experiences. Topics range from self-care to sibling dynamics to preparing for your child's future.



For more information or questions, please contact
FamilyMatters Director of Clinical Services
Ellie Ettman, LPC at 610-215-3535 or
ellie@familymattersnetwork.org.

Building What Matters. Building it With Love.



Our exciting new FamilyMatters Capital Campaign!

Over the last decade, we’ve learned a lot about what this community needs, the challenges it faces, where our place within it lies, and the opportunities to do even more.

We are energized and humbled to announce that FamilyMatters is receiving a transformational donation that will allow us to create a powerful and permanent home for FamilyMatters.

This amazing gift puts us well on our way to our own FamilyMatters Center, but we still need our community’s help, no matter how big or how small, to help us power our future space with the people and programs it needs to make sure it’s everything our community wants, needs and deserves. The opportunity to strengthen more families, expand our existing programs, and create new ones, all in an effort to deepen our ties and relationships within the community and to do more of what matters. We have established a capital campaign goal of \$20m.

We have meaningful naming opportunities starting at \$25,000 with flexible payment terms and for those of you who have already included FamilyMatters in your estate plan, a naming opportunity could be partially secured with an irrevocable estate gift.



FamilyMatters Capital Naming Opportunities: Please Help Us Grow.

FamilyMatters Center Exterior (Named)	\$12,000,000	Dance & Movement Room	\$108,000
Ground Floor Naming (Named)	\$1,000,000	Serenity Elevator	\$108,000
Second Floor Naming	\$1,000,000	Speech Therapy Room	\$72,000
Children’s Activity Wing	\$540,000	Teen Hangout	\$72,000
Fun & Fitness Gym	\$540,000	Occupational Therapy Room	\$72,000
Imagination Playground	\$540,000	ABA Therapy Room	\$72,000
Welcome Lobby	\$540,000	Life Skills Kitchen	\$72,000
Celebrations... a venue with a cause	\$540,000	Executive Director’s Office	\$72,000
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Development Wing	\$360,000	Parent Café Snack Center	\$54,000
Parent Café	\$360,000	Nurse’s Station	\$54,000
Life Skills Training Lab	\$360,000	Family Consultation Room (Named)	\$54,000
Welcome Drop-Off Driveway	\$250,000	IT Headquarters	\$36,000
Entry Courtyard	\$250,000	Life Skills Laundry Training Lab	\$36,000
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Kids Activity Center	\$250,000	Parent Fitness Zone	\$36,000
Creative Arts Studio	\$250,000	Life Skills Pantry	\$36,000
General Store	\$180,000	Classroom	\$36,000
Reception & Welcome Desk	\$180,000	Staff Office (12)	\$36,000
Board & Conference Room	\$180,000	Donation Center	\$36,000
Music & Theatre Room	\$108,000	Outdoor Bench (2)	\$25,000

**To join this incredible project or for more information,
contact FamilyMatters Executive Director Jill A. Lapensohn,
at 484-385-0726 or jill@familymattersnetwork.org.**

Our JAFCO Alumni Growing (and glowing) with Love



We're Getting Married Surrounded by Love

Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Danny Mikelstein married in Lima, Peru on April 20, 2024. Danny works for the USPS and Alison works in property management. The newlyweds reside in Jacksonville, Florida.



We're Getting Promoted in a Career that we Love

Congratulations to Becky Saka on her promotion to Associate Director of the Palm Beach Chapter of FIDF. We are so proud of you Becky. To make a donation to FIDF in honor of Becky you can email becky.saka@fidf.org



We're In Love and Getting Engaged

Congratulations to JAFCO Alumni Kayla Katz on her engagement to Jordan Abramczyk. Kayla is the Director of the Domestic Violence Department at Rales JFS and Jordan is a CPA. They just bought a home in Parkland and a destination wedding in Aruba is planned for February, 2025.



We're Coming Home to a Family We Love

JAFCO welcomes JAFCO Alumni Captain Sholom Neistein home to his beautiful family after nine long months of deployment in Poland for Operation Assure, Deter, and Reinforce. Thank you Sholom for your sacrifice and your service to our country!



We're Graduating with Love (and a lot of Patience)

Congratulations to Josh Shapiro on receiving his Bachelor's Degree from CUNY having started at Yeshiva University 9 years ago! It might be the record for the longest degree ever but we are so proud of you Josh! Thank you Ayelet for encouraging Josh every step of the way.

Thank you Leslie & Kim Kaminoff for treating our beautiful JAFCO alumni to a Gala brunch at the Eau Palm Beach.



Even the Saddest Day at JAFCO is Filled with Love



2002-2024
Gabe Allnut

Junior Enlisted Officer, United States Navy and JAFCO Alumni

An email to the JAFCO staff from CEO Sarah Franco



1959-2024
Hannah Phillips
JAFCO House Parent

Dear Staff,

Sadly, this Easter weekend marked a weekend of loss for the agency of a magnitude that we have never experienced before. On Friday I shared with you that one of our most dedicated, loving and compassionate house parents Hannah Phillips, fondly referred to as Miss Hannah by all, lost her valiant battle with cancer. All of the children were devastated because of how much she meant to them. She was a mom to all of the kids and like a mom or grand mom to many of our staff as well, especially those who worked with her every day. The hospice visits from our staff and kids to Miss Hannah were so heartwarming as we wrapped her in a blanket with all of the children's names printed on it. Thank you again to Sharon, Lesley and Violet for doing that and also for sending her off with the prayers and hymns she needed to let go. And to David who cares so deeply about our staff that he visited multiple times, staying up until just minutes before Hannah passed away surrounded by her family. It wasn't totally clear why Miss Hannah had to leave us at such a young age, until we learned, that just 12 hours later, one of our group home Alumni Gabriel Allnut, who was serving as a Junior Enlisted Officer in the US Navy, also lost his life on his base in Virginia as a result of a random motorcycle accident. Gabe's two younger brothers are still living with us at the Village and the staff and children are surrounding them with the love of our JAFCO family.

Our team was all working doing crisis counselling with every single child on campus grieving Hannah's death until late into the night on Friday including the children who were off campus, including Gabriel. And then on Saturday around 2 pm, two Naval Officers slowly entered the Village lobby to share the devastating news that Gabe had died the night before, just hours after Miss Hannah.

For our shelter and group home staff who take care of the children in both the group homes and the shelter, they have lost a dear friend and colleague in Miss Hannah and also someone they considered one of their children in losing Gabe, especially our house parents.

And now in her ultimate house parent role, Miss Hannah made sure that she left this earth just a few hours before Gabriel died so she could be there to welcome him into heaven and continue to take care of him. I think we all know in our hearts that is true.

The night after both of their deaths, there was a breathtaking sunset and I encouraged Raphi, Gabe's brother, to look at it and to remember it and think of Gabe and Miss Hannah anytime he saw a sunset, knowing that's where they would be... forever.

With gratitude to each of you and all of you,

You may honor Gabe's memory by taking a moment to watch this short video from his funeral which was held with full military honors and in accordance with Jewish law.



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Susie Sheftel & Howie Lapides
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Fay & Samuel Singer
Jake Singer
Susan & Stevan Smallow
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Judith Taylor
Lila & Robert Tickman
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Phyllis Wachtel
Darlene & Steven Wagner
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Helene & Stephen Weicholz
Carla & Bruce Weiner
Lisa Sirota-Weiner & Douglas Weiner
Helen & Steve Weissman
Jodi & Steve Wigginton
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Jill Wrubel
Arlene & Gil Zitin
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\$1,800 - \$4,999
Marcy Aarons
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Judy & Howard Aberman
Deanna & Robert Adler
Judy & William Albert
Louise Jacowitz Allen
Leslie Alter
Ilene Alter
Beth & Marc Andler
Merrie & Eli Anker
Susan & Bruce Arbeiter
Jackie & Ted Arboleda
Linda Arkin
Lori & Michael Aronsky
Martha & Melvin Aronson
Terry Masel Auerbach
Rosalyn August
Merryl Auman
DeAnna Alvarez & Peter Goodman
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Cheryl & David Bacharach
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Shaindy Backer
Karen Baer & Paul Frankel
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Evelyn Ballin
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Melissa & Shawn Barnhardt
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Toby Bartosh
Joanne Bass
Cathy & Roger Bauer
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Lynn & Eric Behr
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Chloe Bergman
Jack Bergman
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Melissa & Jeffrey Bergson

Robin & Jerry Bergson
Michele & Jeffrey Berlowitz
Ilene & Larry Berman
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Arlen Gabriela Boza-Bestard
Angela & Louis Birdman
Ricki & Mitchell Birner
Leslie & Will Bishop
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Olga & Alex Blavatnik
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Susan & Jerome Block
Jill & Thomas Bloom
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Staci & Alan Bluestein
Lynn Blueweiss
Connie Bodmer
Robert Bolber
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Molly Feith

2023 Individual & Family Giving: Helping Us Grow With Love

\$1,800 - \$4,999 (Cont'd)

Eileen & Martin Feldman
Eileen & Warren Feldman
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Jeffrey Feldman
Princess Feldman
Randi & Michael Feldstein
Capt. Stephen Felsen
Anna & Harvey Felsher
Maria & Eugene Ferrara
Jackie & Marc Fine
Karen Fine
Phyllis & Gary Finkelstein
Rochelle & Robert Finvarb
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Rebecca Fischer
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Marian & Elliot Fisher
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Linda & Ivan Gefen
Barbara & Sidney Geller
Andrea Gero
Nancy & Dennis Gershenson
Hilary & David Gershman
David Gerson

Seth Gerstin & Lainie Tantleff
Melissa & Joshua Gerstin
Renee & Marvin Getlan
Sharon & Mark Gilbert
Magda & Malcolm Ginnis
Joan & Jerold Glassman
Brenda & Joel Glickman
Linda Glottmann
Phyllis Glukstad
Channing & Michael Gober
Inez & Shane Gober
Bonnie & David Gold
Sidney Gold
Cheryl & Robert Goldberg
Geri & Joel Goldberg
Leslie Goldberg
Lisa Goldberg & Stanford Blake
Rosalie & Harvey Goldberg
Georganne Goldblum & Richard Edick
Nadine & Bruce Goldenberg
Sivan Golan & Eran Reizer
Evelyn Goldfine
Linda & Neal Goldman
Judy & Ben Goldman
Mindy & David Goldman
Patricia Goldsmith
Sasha & Jason Goldsmith
Donna Goldstein
Linda & Gene Gomberg
Elise Goodfriend
Jill Goodman
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Lenore & Stanley Gordon
Lindsey & Steven Gordon
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Caren & Lon Gorman
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Mindy & Leo Gotlieb
Helene & Robert Gottlieb
Amy & Wayne Gould
Corrine & Richard Gould
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Robert Grauer
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Zoey & Scott Gray
Bonnie & Ken Green
Marlene & Barry Green
Amy & William Green
Rachel & David Greenberg
Roberta Greenberg
Marjorie & Elliot Greenberg
Leslie Greene

Renee Greene
Robin & Stephen Greene
Bonnie Gregge
Nicole & Larry Groll
Melissa & Mario Grosfeld
Kenneth Gross
Susan & Arthur Grossbard
Donna & Stephen Grossman
Lauren & David Grossman
Erica & Mark Groussman
Stephanie & Philip Growick
Andrea & Bruce Grundt
Meryl & John Guerrero
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Joyce & Mark Herman
Jill & Jeff Herman
Minette & Fred Herman
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Sue & Randy Katz
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L Jimmy & Alan Katz
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Vivian & Isaac Khabie
Renee Kiejdan
Harriet Kimball
Debra Kimmel & Ian Nestler

2023 Individual & Family Giving: Helping Us Grow With Love

\$1,800 - \$4,999 (Cont'd)

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Fern & Robert Klein
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Shelly Koffler
Fran & Larry Kohn
Jackie Kohn
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Shana Lazar
Vivian Lazoff
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Jacqueline Lederman
Nancy & Alan Leiken
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Marlene & Jeffrey Lerer
Fern & Mac Lerner
Margot & Larry Lessans
Matthew Levin
Nauma Levin
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Rhonda & Howard Levin
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Nettie & Bernard Medvedev
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Robert Pomerantz
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Eleanor Powers & Alvin Kolchins
Helene & Lawrence Price
Lisa & Alex Punsalan
Natasha Ragoonanan
Michelle & Michael Ramer
Mollie & Louis Rambler
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Eleanor & Theodore Ranzal
Janice & Leslie Raphan
Linda & Ron Rashkow
Marcia & Steven Rayman
Ann & Eric Reed
Barbara & Jeffrey Reich
Carmen & Sanford Reinhard
Bobbi & Robert Reitzes
Sheryl Rentz & George Pomerantz
Elise & Derek Repath
Marcy & Barry Resnik
Karen & Gregory Ritter
Beth & Irwin Robbins
Dena Robbins
Lynn Robbins
Beth & Steve Rockoff
Betsy & Gene Rockower
Malka & Rotem Rodrig

Sally Rogen
Brigitt Rok
Janice Rolnik & William Sydnese
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Marcelle & Andrew Rosen
Susan & Arthur Rosen
Roni Rosen
Alison & Abraham Rosenberg
Barbara & Jeffrey Rosenberg
Jamie & David Rosenberg
Judy Rosenberg
Marlene Rosenberg & Jay Siefman
Ace Rosenstein
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Remy & Steven Rosenzweig
Charlotte Rosoff & Arnie Haskel
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Lori & Bill Schacter
Bonnie & Jamie Schaefer
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2023 Individual & Family Giving: Helping Us Grow With Love

\$1,800 - \$4,999 (Cont'd)

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Rhoda & Stephen Schneider
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Roberta Schoenbrun
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Sheryl Schreiber
Terry & Michael Schuster
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Elaine & Jay Schwartz
Felicia Beth & Richard Philip Schwartz
Margo Brilliant Schwartz & Robert Schwartz
Marla & Leo Schwartz
Rachel & Andrew Schwartz
Stephanie & Matthew Scupp
Roberta Segal
Lindsay & Daniel Seigel
Alyson & Adam Seligman
Helene Selznick
Jill & Neil Senzer
Diane & Steven Shankman
David Shankman
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Olivia & Gerald Shapiro
Melanie Sharps
Frieda & Lawrence Shefter
Alan Sherman
Sheryl Sherman
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Arlene & Gilbert Silbiger
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Susan & Gerald Silver
Sandy & David Silverman
Rose & Peter Silversmith
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Fabiola & Gavriel Simon
Glenda & Walter Simon

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Gail & Bennet Singer
Joanne & David Singer
Marilyn Shore Singer
Renee Singer
Gail & Clyde Rockoff
Francine & Fred Sloan
Gail & Reed Slogoff
Marilyn Reis Small & Jack Small
Debbie & Marc Smith
Robin & Samuel Smith
Shelly & Dan Snyder
Linda & Alan Sohn
Treena Sokol
Lori & Jason Solodkin
Sandi & Leonard Solomon
Diane Sosman
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Jacqueline Spiro
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Carole & William Stamps
Geraldine & Gary Stanko
Irene & Barry Stark
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Diana & David Stein
Jeremy Stein
Loren & Eric Stein
Sarah & Arthur Stein
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Danielle & Jonathan Stief
Leslie & David Storch
Joyce & Edward Stravitz
April & Daniel Stuzin
Ari Sudwartz
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Ilana & Michael Sussman
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Daniela & Pablo Szprynger
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Michele & Mark Taplinger
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Janie & James Tate
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Shelley & Joel Tauber
Miriam & Harold Teltser
Shari & Robert Topper
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Lisa & Kenneths Trattner
Gloria & Stuart Treiber
Jackie & Joseph Trobman
Linda & Denis Trupkin
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Lynne Uiberall
Josh Vail
Melanie & Ronald vanderValk
Beverly Siegel-Victor
Andrea & Leonard Volin
Nancy & Marc Voluck
Carol & Harlan Waksal
Wendy & Steven Walin
Haley & Adam Walker
Penny & Jim Walzer
Ronit & Steve Wasserstein
Loree & Rodger Wasserman
Sharon Watson
Lynn R. Wegman
Kimberly & Todd Weicholz
Scott Weicholz
Jill & Jonathan
Lisa Sirota-Weiner & Douglas Weiner
Iris Weingarten
Barbara & Stewart Weinreb
Pamela & Robert Weinroth
Barbara & Barry Weinstein
Rita & Stan Weinstein
Ruth & William Weinstein
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Jennifer & Eric Weinstock
Marla Schaefer Weishoff & Steven Weishoff
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Barbara & Pete Weiss
Susan & Jaime Weiss
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Riki & Arthur Winston
Rotem & Maxx Winter
Nancy Wittenstein
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Jane Yudell
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Cindy & Marty Zackowitz
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Bari & Michael Zahalsky
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Ruth Zelcer
Etta & Raymond Zimmerman
Ronnie & Michael Zindorf
Craig Zinn
Martine Zinn
Beth & Jeffrey Zipper
Maria Zittle
Elsa & Peter Zoberg
Roxie & Noel Zusmer



Due to space restrictions we have not listed all of our generous donors below \$1,800, but please know that from the very bottom of our hearts, JAFCO appreciates every dollar and every diaper that is donated. It is ONLY because of the generosity of our amazing community that the children are so well cared-for and that we can provide the quality programs that we do. If you cannot find yourself on the donor honor roll, please feel free to call me directly and we will find it together. As a hint, look in a higher category, most of our donors don't realize how their annual donations add up! If we have made any errors, please let me know, we can still make changes to the electronic version of the newsletter. With gratitude and love, Sarah Franco, CEO 954-315-8680

Thank You To Our Business Circle Partners

When you partner with us, you are connecting to a vibrant community that is committed to giving every child a place to belong.



When you join the JAFCO Business Circle you are joining much more than a charity. You are joining a big, loving family of volunteers, families, staff and donors dedicated to helping improve the lives of children impacted by abuse, neglect, or developmental disabilities. JAFCO has an extensive database, 10 chapters across South Florida and the Northeast, and dozens of events annually with attendance of 200 to 850 guests.

Our Business Partnership packages can be tailored to any budget allowing you to attend and sponsor multiple events throughout the year in your area. You will also receive recognition in this printed newsletter which is posted on our website, mailed and emailed to all of our donors.

For more information about how you can join the JAFCO Business Circle and connect with this vibrant community, contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein at 954-315-8696 or janet@jafco.org.

Thank You to our Pro-Bono Professionals

for Donating Your Expertise and Time to our Children and Families

With immense gratitude to the members of our JAFCO Board of Trustees for donating your legal, medical and accounting expertise (listed on page 59)

Car Donation Program Oversight: **Mike Sterne**

Beauty Services: **Frank Marino - Salon Sora and Drew Caparoula - FAB Beauty Salon**

Life Coaching and Independent Living Training: **Chad Kastel, Max Mallinger, Babs Walter, Dennis Ratner and Bari Schanerman**

Medical Services: **Dr. Barbara Martin, Dr. Michael Schaffer and Children's Medical Association**

Legal Services: **Brett Rogers, Harry Friedman and Senator Ellyn Bogdanoff**

Children's Ability Center Mom's Retreat Wellness Professionals: **Evelyn Ballin, Matthew Hamburger, Marianne Altshul, Tracy Kahn, Babs Walter, Ann Warren and Sabrina Zhang**

We are looking for pro bono services in South Florida and Philadelphia. Services needed are: Pediatric doctors and specialists, dentists and orthodontists, optometrists, family lawyers, hair stylists and more!



Thank you to our JAFCO Godparents



To be asked to be the Godparent for a child is one of the greatest honors in life. JAFCO Godparents spiritually “adopt” our precious children who have endured abuse and neglect to ensure that they have everything they need. As a Godparent you welcome the children to experience both the beauty of the world and Judaism. The Godparent Circle has been created to ensure that each child will have a wonderful life filled with every opportunity that all children should have.

Godparents make a commitment to support the children with a gift of \$18,000 payable in one payment or \$1,800 a year for ten years. Two special 14K gold pins have been created for our Godparents featuring the JAFCO logo which symbolizes our mission - a child swinging joyously on the Tree of Life. Since it is the perfect birthday or anniversary gift to yourself or a loved one, you can become a Godparent (or make someone a Godparent) at any time of the year and it would be our honor to pin you at one of our events. Your name will be inscribed on the donor wall at the Jewish Children’s Village in South Florida or at the FamilyMatters Center in Philadelphia, depending on where you would like to direct your Godparent Donation. Our **Recommitted Godparents** commit to making a second pledge of a minimum of \$18,000 payable in one payment or over the next ten years. They receive a specially commissioned candle holder created exclusively for JAFCO by artist Yaacov Heller. Our **Godparents for Life** donors pledge to donate \$1,800 a year as long as they are able. They receive two Yaacov Heller candle holders as a gift from the children. This commitment offers the children of JAFCO even greater security for their future.

The JAFCO **Forever Godparent** Endowment is open to our JAFCO Godparents, or members of the Circle of Hope, who wish to continue watching over the children forever. Being a Forever Godparent ensures that your philanthropy makes an even greater difference throughout your lifetime and for generations to come. Your minimum cash or legacy gift of \$54,000 will be fully endowed and the dividends from this investment will pay your \$1,800 annual Godparent donation... forever.

As a small token of our gratitude for protecting the children, our Endowed Forever Godparents will receive an exclusive specially commissioned, limited edition mezuzah by world renowned artist Romero Britto, to protect your home and your family. The gift of this priceless mezuzah is made possible by the **Eileen Garlick Estate Endowment Fund**. Eileen loved all of the children of JAFCO and her memory lives on as a blessing for them.

Forever Godparents

Judi & David Dines
Eileen Garlick
Dorothy & Jim Goodman
Becky & Laurence Herrup
Lois & Stephen Kaufman
Stuart Rader
Brenda & Larry Robinson
Sandra Simon
Helene & Steve Weicholz

Elaine & Harold Friedland
Beth & David Geduld
Dorinne & Jeffrey Gerstin
Magda & Malcolm Ginnis
Mara & Mel Gober
Lori & Lewis Gold
Leslie Goldberg
Sandra & Paul Goldner
Maggie & Stewart Greenberg
Margery & Stephen Greenspan
Ellen & Gerald Greenspoon
Joan & Paul Hauser
Lisa & Gary Hertzberg
Ursula & Leonard Hess
Lois Hollander & Steven Schlosser
Sharon & Paul Kaliner
Carole & Mel Kantor
Dana & Troy Kaplan
Roberta & Steven Katz
Lois & Stephen Kaufman
Fran & David Krathen
Jacqueline & Martin Lederman
Marsha & Alan Levy
Fern Lentini-Manne & Stan Manne
Claire & Gerald Manowitz
Caryn & Darren Marsh
Miri & David Mazor
Rita Carole Messner
Andrea & James Orleans
Marjorie & Maurice D. Plough, Jr.

Suzanne & Samuel Pollack
Ellen & Robert Pomerantz
Maureen Proctor & Richard Allen
Stuart Rader
Elise & Derek Repath
Eris & Ken Sandler
Roberta Schoenbrun
Barbara Schwartz
Felicia Beth & Richard Philip Schwartz
Deni & Ronald Simon
Sandra & Charles Simon
Amy & Barry Sylvetsky
Wendy & Steven Walin
Haley & Adam Walker
Helene & Stephen Weicholz
Kimberly & Todd Weicholz
Marilyn & Jay Weinberg
Lisa Sirota-Weiner & Douglas Weiner
Dona Weinraub
Rita & Stan Weinstein
Bernice & Edward Wenger

Rana & Jordan Bell
Sherry & Michael Bell
Nancy & Franklin Benson
Barbara Berger
Alexandra & James Bergman
Rhoda Sue & Henri Bertuch
Rosalyn & Ron Binda
Angela & Louis Birdman
Nel & Jonathan Bloom
Robin & Kenneth Bresky
Karen & Randy Burks
Marcie & Mark Butters
Ruth Citrin
Marcia & Philip Cohen
Susan & Bruce Cohen
Jill & Ira Coleman
Deborah & Michael Coslov
Debbie & John Daum
Beth & Marty Deitchman
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Jennifer & Kevin Faith
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Phyllis & Arthur Wachtel
Sherrie Wagman
Penny & Jim Walzer
Gloria Wank
Loree & Rodger Wasserman
Sharon Watson
Lynn R. Wegman
Scott Weicholz
Melissa Weidhorn
Doris & Ernest Weilheimer
Bonnie Weinberger
Barbara & Jeff Weiner
Lourdes & Jeffery Weiner
Weingarden, Jellson, Kotlicky Family
Iris Weingarten
Barbara & Barry Weinstein
Dodie Weinstein & Bob Goldberg
Carol & Stanley Weinstock
Jennifer & Eric Weinstock
Robin Weiser & Peter Bodnar
Shirley & Barton Weisman
Susan Weisman
Barbara & Pete Weiss
Steven Weiss
Susan & Jaime Weiss
Helen & Steve Weissman & Family
Sheryl & Mark Weitman
Sharon & Stephen Wender
Susan & John Wendkos
Sylvia Wenger

Jodi & Steve Wigginton
Benjamin Bowling Wills III Foundation
Riki & Arthur Winston
Randi & David Winter
Melissa & Joe Wittenberg
Nancy Wittenstein
Alix & Jorge Wolf
Bonnie Koreff-Wolf & Ivan Wolf
Vicki & Joel Wolff
Isabel Sarah Wolfson
Barbara & Allan Wolk
Carol & Arnold Wolowitz
Susie Wool
Jill Wrubel
Dorine & Robert Wulwick
Jane Yudell
Gail & Harry Zafran
Bari & Michael Zahalsky
Beverly Gordon Zalonis
Tracy & Marc Zand
Francine & David Zeitz
Ruth Zelcer
Randi Zemsky
Judith & Laurence Zieper
Ronnie & Michael Zindorf
Marilyn & David Zinn
Arlene & Gil Zitin
Maria Zittle
Ula & Michael Zusman
Roxie & Noel Zusmer
Susan & Arnold Zweig



**For more information about becoming a
Godparent or Circle of Hope Member,
contact JAFCO Development Officer Elise
Dolgow at elise@jafco.org or 954-732-0353 or
JAFCO Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein at
janet@jafco.org or 954-315-8696.**

Thank You To Our Circle of Hope Donors



The **Circle of Hope** is a group of loving committed individuals who care deeply about children with developmental disabilities and want to provide compassionate support for them and for their families through a continuum of high quality services offered by JAFCO both in Florida and Philadelphia. The Circle of Hope is a pledge of \$1,800 for 10 years (\$18,000). Circle of Hope Members receive a beautiful and exclusive 14k gold pin featuring a parent pushing their child on the JAFCO tree of life surrounded by the protective roots and branches of the tree, symbolizing the love of our JAFCO family. Circle of Hope Donors who recommit for a second ten years receive a beautiful candle holder created for JAFCO in Israel and designed by world renown artist Yaacov Heller (donors who recommit for life receive two candle holders). Your name will be inscribed on the Circle of Hope Wall of Honor in either South Florida or Philadelphia, depending on where you wish to have your gift designated.

Circle of Hope for Life

Susan & Mark Auerbach
Dorinne & Jeffrey Gerstin
Lori & Lewis Gold
Maggie & Stewart Greenberg
Carole & Mel Kantor
Marsha & Alan Levy
Diane & Steven Shankman
Lisa Sirota-Weiner & Douglas Weiner

Hara & Michael Cohen
Myra & Barry Cohen
Wendy & Barry Cohn
Nancy & Stephen Dephoure
Karen & Mark Dern
Judith & David Dines
Sherry & Steve Einhorn
Jennifer & Kevin Faith
Marianne & Bennett Falk
Andrea Feirstein & Frank Schiff
Kim & Sean Fetterman
Adrienne Ruby-Fink & Herschel Fink
Rebecca Fischer
Isanne & Sandy Fisher
Marian & Elliot Fisher
Joan & Lawrence Fleischman
Siggy Flicker & Michael Campanella
Sandy & Larry Frankel
Elaine & Harold Friedland
Diane S. Friedman
Esther Frishman
Joan & Lewis Gedansky
Andrea & Thomas Gero
Melissa & Joshua Gerstin
Magda & Malcolm Ginnis
Sarah Glass Bush
Linda Glottmann
Mara & Mel Gober
Leslie Goldberg
Lisa Goldberg & Stanford Blake
Georganne Goldblum & Richard Edick
Sandra & Paul Goldner
Patricia Goldsmith
Dorothy & Jim Goodman
Jill Goodman
Helene & Robert Gottlieb
Rosalie & Robert Grass
Robin Green & Paul Edenbaum
Donna & Louis Greenberg
Rachel Greenberg
Leslie Greene
Robin & Stephen Greene
Beth & Jack Greenman
Margery & Stephen Greenspan
Ellen & Gerald Greenspoon
Melissa & Mario Grosfeld

Kenneth Gross
Andrea & Bruce Grundt
Cynthia & Harold Guttman
Ellen & Steven Haas
Sandra & Leonard Haiken
Cheryl Hassman
Cathy & Steven Haubenstock
Suzi & Joshua Herrendorf
Becky & Laurence Herrup
Maty & David Herschthal
Ursula & Leonard Hess
Fred Hirt & Joan Fletcher
Lois Hollander & Steven Schlosser
Bernice & Paul Horwitz
Tami & Perry Isenberg
Patti & Michael Jacobs
Ruth & Allyn Jacobson
Joan & Arthur Jacowitz
Amanda & Joseph Jaffe
Fran Jonas
Sylvia Kahana & Arie A. Taykan
Karolina Kanner
Harold Kaplan
Linda F. Kaplan
Dr. Linda J. Kaplan
Monica & Erik Kaplan
Susan & Peter Karger
Nancy & Fred Katzin
Heidi Alzate Kaufman & Jason Kaufman
Linda & Norman Kaufman
Susan Kobitz
Shelly Solomon Koffler
Amie & Steven Kohlhagen
Jackie Kohn
Dana & Craig Konhauzer
Kim & Mitchell Konsker
Charles & Esther Krieger Foundation
Gail & Kerry Kuhn
Jill & Michael Kuller
Barbara & Alfred Kurtz
Stefanie & Bill Kushner
Stacey & Barry Labell
Sara Lampert
Roger & Myrna Landay
Marcia & Jeffrey Langley
Beth Lebovitz

Carol B. Leeds
Elizabeth Lender & Kenneth Fisher
Fern & Mac Lerner
Nauma Levin
Rhonda & Howard Levin
Andrea Levine
Joshua Levine Memorial Foundation
Marsha & Alan Levy
Janet Levy
Mildred Lidov IMO Howard I. Lidov
Delsie Lipton & Arthur Weinstock
Heleen Loew
Ollie & Jonathan Louis
Diane & Stephen Lovell
Susan & Barry Lyman
Sandra & Arthur Mandell
Sharon Margulis
Caryn & Darren Marsh
Mandy & Justin Mauskopf
Rita Carole Messner
Laurie & Steven Miller
Lesley Miller
Sandi & Robert Morris
Ricki Moskow
Gayle Moskowit & Edward Koenig
Avis & Abraham Neiman
Michelle & Samuel Ohev-Zion
Andrea & James Orleans
Susan Pashkow
Helene & Rick Paul
Sandi & Max Paul
Lucianna & Jared Perlin
Terry & Paul Peykar
Julie Peyton & Don Tolep
Ethel & Alan Pinkwasser
Marjorie & Maurice D. Plough, Jr.
Suzanne & Samuel Pollack
Susan & Jeffrey Postal
Norlyn & Ed Poto
Janice & Leslie Raphan
Barbara & Jules Reich
Brenda & Larry Robinson
Barbara Rood
Ceci & Leo Rosen
Patricia & Barry Rosen
Jamie & David Rosenberg

Recommitted Circle of Hope

Robyn & Marc Abrams
Louise Jacowitz Allen
Andrea & James Orleans
Elaine & Bernard Roberts

Circle of Hope

Diane Abelson & Stephen Hurwitz
Robert M. Adelson
Rochelle & Arthur Adler
Judy & William Albert
Terry Masel Auerbach
Debra & Dov Bacharach
Karen Baer & Paul Frankel
Melissa & Shawn Barnhardt
Patrice & Edward Barrocas
Phyllis Becker
Lauren Beiley & David Elkins
Dara & Alan Berger, Jess, Drew, Vivi & Beau Hopkins, Donna, Jordan & India Berger
Joan Berman
Leslie Berman
Nanci & Stephen Beyer
Stephanie & Frank Bielenberg
Angela & Louis Birdman
Bruce Borger
Karen Borger
Charlene J. Brazner
Linda & Don Brodie
Vicki E. Bronfman
Carole & Walter Cameron
Judy & Arthur Canter
Vivian Cardia
Debbie & Alan Casnoff
Barbara & David Cohen

Surrounding Children and Families with Love

Circle of Hope (Cont'd)

Sandra Rosenow
Ace H. Rosenstein
Hilary & Matthew Rosenthal
Remy & Steven Rosenzweig
Diane & Richard Ross
Michelle & Bruce Ross
Marcia Ruderman
Marjorie Rudolph
Lori & Steven Sadaka
Ellen R. Sall
Rochelle Sampson
Sherri Samuels
Iris & Harold Sand
Phyllis & Harvey Sandler
Marlene & Jerome Scharr
Jessica Schmidt, ScentsAbility
Beryl & Robert Schneider
Anna & Gene Schneur
Andrea & Larry Schnurmacher
Donna & Arthur Schreier
Judi & Allan Schuman

Barbara Schwartz
Marla & Leo Schwartz
Sheila & Larry Schwartz
Stephanie & Matthew Scupp
Sue & Steve Shaffer
Madelane Shane & Family
IMO Michael Shane
Susie Sheftel & Howie Lapides
Frieda & Lawrence Shefter
Sheryl Frost Sherman
Samantha & Ryan Shrouder
Gina & Greg Shugar
Joann & Bruce Silk
Linda & Martin Silver
Marlene & Martin Silver
Deni & Ronald Simon
Sandra & Charles Simon
Fay & Samuel Singer
Gail & Bennet Singer
Myrna & Sam Skurnick
Mason Slaine
Susan & Stevan Smallow

Annette Smith
Robin & Samuel Smith
Shelly & Dan Snyder
Linda & Alan Sohn
Lori & Jason Solodkin
Bonnie & Martin Spector
Jandy & Robert Spiegelman
Cynthia & Paul Stein
Leslie & David Storch
Joyce & Edward Stravitz
Jayne & Marvin Suskin
Carol & Stanley Sussman
Velia Sweet
Amy & Barry Sylvetsky
Este & Sam Sylvetsky
Julie Sylvetsky
Lauren Sylvetsky
Liz & Alex Taub
Fayette Toren
Jennifer & Barry Toren
Lynne Uiberall
Melanie & Ronald vanderValk

Nancy & Marc Voluck
Phyllis & Arthur Wachtel
Gale Wechsler
Helene & Stephen Weicholz
Kimberly & Todd Weicholz
Dona Weinraub
Barbara & Barry Weinstein
Shirley & Barton Weisman
Sharon & Stephen Wender
Bernice & Edward Wenger
Laura & Kenneth Wernick
Jodi & Steve Wigginton
Maxx Winter
Randi & David Winter
Susan & Robert Wisan
Bari & Michael Zahalsky
Jennifer & Craig Zeuner
Craig Zinn Automotive Group
Susan & Arnold Zweig



Our Growing With Love Donors

To celebrate the 10-Year Anniversary of the JAFCO Children's Ability Center, you are invited to join a very special group known as **Growing With Love**. This beautiful and generous group of 500 families is coming together with one purpose only — to open, staff and operate our two newly completed respite homes. We are looking for 500 families to come together to each make a donation of (a minimum of) \$1,000. This will raise the \$500,000 needed to open both respite homes and provide overnight respite to over 1,000 children each year. We are so grateful to these amazing donors who have made a gift to **Growing With Love** so far.

Diane Abelson & Stephen Hurwitz
Robyn & Marc Abrams
Louise Jacowitz Allen
Jeanette & Alan Antokal
Susan & Mark Auerbach
Debra & Dov Bacharach
Melissa & Shawn Barnhardt
Anita & William Baron
Cathy & Roger Bauer
Donna & Richard Bell
Dara & Alan Berger
Heidi Berghuis
Nanci & Stephen Beyer
Lucy & Joe Borg
Linda & Don Brodie
Carole & Walter Cameron
Nancy Chanin
Gila & Allen Chelminsky
Sheila & Jerry Chermak
Ellen Silverman Cotler & Michael Cotler
Barry Cohen / Barry N. Cohen Family Foundation
Susan Cohen /
Milton & Norma Cohen Family Fnd
Jane Davis

Friends & Family of Drew Epstein
Janet & Rich Epstein
Dory Faxon
Adrienne Ruby-Fink & Herschel Fink
Sarah Franco
Gail & Stanley Friedler
Diane S. Friedman
Dale & Roger Gandall
Debby & Barry Glick
Shelli Gold
Dorothy Goodman
Jayne & Robert Goodman /
The Goodman-Lipman Family Fnd
Marlene & Michael Goss
Helene & Robert Gottlieb
Maggie & Stewart Greenberg
Donna & Louis Greenberg
Robin & Stephen Greenberg
Sandra & Leonard Haiken
Cheryl & Ronald Halpern
Cathy & Steven Haubensstock
Joan & Paul Hauser
Becky & Laurence Herrup
Lisa & Gary Hertzberg
Greg Hoffman

Joanna & Sebastien Hoffmann
Tami & Perry Isenberg
Eileen & Harvey Kamil
Alyne & Abbey Kaplan
Roberta & Steven Katz
Lois & Stephen Kaufman
Stefanie & William Kushner
Patricia & Randy Lahn
Susan & Richard Lampen
Elizabeth Lender & Kenneth Fisher
Fern & Mac Lerner
Sandra & Arthur Mandell
Marci & Isador Mitzner
Gayle Moskowitz & Edward Koenig
Janice & Michael Neider
Neubauer Family Foundation
Julie Peyton
Ethel Pinkwasser
Myrna & Steven Pressman
Brenda & Larry Robinson
Linda & Jake Rosenzweig
Michelle & Bruce Ross
Irene & Robert Russel
Rochelle Sampson
Felicia Beth & Richard Philip Schwartz

Diane & Steven Shankman
Olivia & Gerald Shapiro
Sheryl Sherman
Deni & Ron Simon /
Simon Family Charitable Foundation
Sandra Simon / Charles & Sandra Simon Charitable Fund Inc.
Gail & Bennett Singer
Rose & Stuart Singer
Susan & Stevan Smallow
Bonnie & Martin Spector
Geraldine & Gary Stanko
Linda Stewart
Joyce & Edward Stravitz
Amy & Barry Sylvetsky
Uniwel Laboratories LLC
Lynn R. Wegman
Barbara & Jeff Weiner
Iris Weingarten
Rita & Stan Weinstein
Sharon & Stephen Wender
Vicki & Joel Wolff
Michelle & Ronald Yellin

Leaving A Legacy Of Love: The Albert and Victoria Naggar Charitable Trust



Trustees Miri Levine and
Fifi Goodfellow

While planning his legacy, Albert Naggar established the Albert & Victoria Naggar Charitable Trust in 2021 and put his nieces Miri and Fifi in charge of distributing the funds upon his death. Albert and his wife Vicki did not have children of their own but they supported many Jewish charities during their lifetime. Miri and Fifi were on a mission to find a charity where their uncle's legacy of Jewish philanthropy could live on. They heard about JAFCO from another family member and when they visited the incredible JAFCO Jewish Children's Village, saw with their own eyes the love and respect that is offered to each child and then learned that the JAFCO Village is the only one of its kind in the Jewish community in the entire country, they knew that they had found the perfect spot for the Naggar family name to live on forever.

That visit inspired a \$540,000 gift to honor their uncle's legacy by rededicating the Children's Sanctuary and Chapel in Memory of Albert & Victoria Naggar, allowing the children to continue to celebrate their Jewish heritage inside this special and holy place. Realizing the importance of education in the lives of our JAFCO children, Miri and Fifi also wanted to ensure that the children started the school year off fully prepared and made an additional generous gift to the annual Back to School Fund which provides new uniforms, shoes and school supplies for hundreds of children every year. We thank them for taking their role as Trustees of their Uncle's Trust so seriously and promise that this generous gift will be a blessing for thousands of children in the years to come.

Ability@Work Program is Growing With Love

Ability@Work is a job training and readiness program at the Children's Ability Center. This one-of-a-kind program is designed to support young adults with developmental disabilities in acquiring practical job skills, social skills, and independence necessary for sustainable employment within the community. Skills are learned organically through the operation of several micro-businesses run by the program, including the CAC Snack Shack, JAFCO Custom Creations, and the Wild Flower Boutique.

The CAC Snack Shack is a vital resource at the Children's Ability Center, offering a tailored snack store for staff and parents. Ability@Work participants manage inventory, set product pricing, engage in marketing and sales, and interact with customers, gaining practical retail experience. The Snack Shack fosters independence and vocational skills development among job training participants.

JAFCO Custom Creations empowers participants to create, market, and sell unique JAFCO items and apparel. Participants engage in every aspect, from design to inventory management, gaining valuable business skills like market research and customer relations.

The Wild Flower Boutique embodies our commitment to sustainability, creativity, and community impact. Through repurposed materials, we create unique bouquets that symbolize the diverse strengths and abilities of our Ability@Work team. Each arrangement reflects individuality and resilience, showcasing our dedication to meaningful employment and inclusion for individuals with developmental disabilities. With every bloom, we're not just creating beauty; we're nurturing a culture of empowerment and sustainability, blossoming a brighter future for all.



JAFCO Capital Naming Opportunities

Helping JAFCO Grow With Love

JAFCO Capital Donors build dreams by providing funding that secures the future of our children’s lives. We offer a wide range of ways donors can pay tribute to their loved ones and make a meaningful impact. Your name will be a permanent part of JAFCO where every child has a place to belong.



The JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village Capital Rededication Opportunities

Children’s Village Security System	\$720,000
Entrance Garden.....	\$540,000
Entrance Circle	\$540,000
Village Generator Station.....	\$540,000
Meditation & Relaxation Room.....	\$252,000
Boulevard Name	\$252,000
Chief Clinical Operations Officer’s Office	\$180,000
Serenity Garden	\$180,000
Children’s Shelter Library/Computer Room.....	\$108,000
Children’s Shelter Crisis Care Office.....	\$108,000
Playground Shade Canopy	\$108,000
Clinical Offices (7)	\$108,000
Development Operations Center	\$108,000
Torah Ark	\$108,000
Torah (2).....	\$108,000
Vegetable Garden.....	\$108,000
Outdoor Fitness Circuit.....	\$108,000
Swimming Pool Shade Canopy	\$72,000
Therapy & Wellness Center Family Room	\$72,000
Children’s Shelter Family Room.....	\$72,000
Children’s Shelter Dining Room.....	\$72,000
Development Event Mission Control	\$72,000
Group Home Kitchen (3).....	\$54,000
Therapy & Wellness Center Office (4).....	\$54,000
Children’s Shelter Bedroom & Bath (6).....	\$54,000
Children’s Shelter Safe Room.....	\$54,000
Basketball Court	\$54,000
Chanukah Menorah	\$54,000
Group Home Child’s Bedroom & Bath (24).....	\$36,000
Group Home Family Room (3)	\$36,000
Group Home Dining Room (4)	\$36,000
Group Home Laundry Room (6)	\$36,000
Children’s Shelter Laundry Room.....	\$36,000
Human Resources Offices (2).....	\$36,000
Outdoor Fitness Equipment (8)	\$36,000

The JAFCO Children’s Ability Center Capital Naming Opportunities

2nd Floor Parent Wing	\$540,000
Children’s Enrichment Wing.....	\$540,000
2nd Floor Research & Clinical Training Wing	\$540,000
Illuminate Catering Kitchen.....	\$500,000
Illuminate Center Ballroom.....	\$500,000
Hurricane Generator Power Zone.....	\$360,000
Ballroom Furnishings	\$250,000
Lodge Vista Drive	\$180,000
Event Center Sound & Lighting Zone	\$180,000
Clinical Staff Think Tank.....	\$108,000
Art Studio Parent Overlook	\$108,000
Sensory Room Parent Overlook	\$108,000
Clinical Therapy Environment.....	\$72,000
Guest House Bedroom	\$36,000
Guest House Life Skills Lab	\$36,000
Guest House Dining Room (2).....	\$36,000
Ability Center IT Headquarters	\$36,000
Staff Work Stations (20)	\$36,000
Fun Center (5).....	\$36,000
Hydration Station.....	\$36,000
Snack Shack Supply Room.....	\$36,000
Illuminate Catering Kitchen Magic Oven	\$36,000
Illuminate Catering Kitchen Soda Machine	\$36,000

For more information on giving opportunities, including Capital Naming opportunities, creating a Family Fund or joining the Forever Godparent Designated Fund contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein at 954-315-8696 or janet@jafco.org.



JAFCO Legacy Circle: Your Love Will Always Be Remembered

What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal. -Albert Pike

The JAFCO Legacy Circle honors those donors who have included the Children of JAFCO in their estate plan, thereby assuring that JAFCO's life-saving work will continue forever. If you have done so and are not on this list, please be sure to let us know so that we may welcome you to our Legacy Circle.

Sondra Aaronson	Sandra & David Feldman Estate	Patricia Leffler & Bart Sklansky	Saul Schwartz Estate
Annie Adler Estate	Capt. Stephen Felsen	The H.F. Lenfest Fund	Laura & Allen M. Shapiro
Louise Jacowitz Allen	Paul Fischer Estate	Andrea Levine	Miriam & Robert Shapiro
Maureen Proctor & Richard Allen	Elizabeth Lender & Kenneth Fisher	Jo & Al Levine	Dolores & Daniel Sheehan
Stephanie & Norman Altman	Eileen Flum Estate	Richard Lieboff	Valerie Shulman
Julia Atkins Estate	Dorothy Frankel Estate	Joann & Frederick H. Lipsky	Michael Sibner
Susan & Mark Auerbach	Herbert Freund Estate	Ellen & Peter Livingston	Shirley & Arthur Siegel
Rosalyn August	Edna Fried Estate	Heleen Loew	Sandra & Charles Simon
Linda Balch	Diane S. Friedman	Arlene & Joseph Makler	Patricia Simon
Millicent & Benjamin Bauer Estate	Phyllis Fure Estate	Claire & Gerald Manowitz Estate	Dorothy & Morris Small Estate
Amy & Stanley Baumwald	Nomee Furman Estate	Harold Marcus	Susan & Stevan Smallow
Penny & Philip Baumwald Charity Trust	Eileen & Harold Garlick Estate	Kathe & Ray Mark	Annette Smith
Doris & Allen Bender	Andrea & Thomas Gero	Alan Markowitz	Sylvia & Harold Solinsky Estate
Beverly & Philip Berman Estate	Muriel & Irving Gerstein Estate	Gail & Steven Marlow	Sandi & Leonard Solomon
Joan Berman	Bernard W. Gimbel Estate	Caral Masback	Ethel & Dave Sommer Estate
Leslie Berman	Roberta & Ronald Gimpel	Douglas T. Meade & Olivier Cale	Samantha & Andrew Sossin
Nanci & Stephen Beyer	Charlotte Glassberg Estate	Rita Carole Messner	Everne Spiegel
Constance & David Blacher	Shirley & Joseph Gleich Estate	Anna Miller Estate	Elissa Spiro
Vivian & Theodore Black Estate	Mara & Mel Gober	Elizabeth Lakie Miller Estate	Edith & Martin Stein
Eugene Blond Estate	Vivian & Irving Golden Estate	Sydney Myres	William G. Stevens Estate
Charlene Blue Estate	Beatrice Goldfarb Estate	Vivian Myron	Alan Stone
Robin Bordewick	Estelle & Marvin Goldman	Marcia & Bob Neiman	Susan & Daniel Stone
Adele & Samuel Borger Estate	Dorothy Goodman	Abraham Samuel Obstbaum	Margo & Peter Strauss
Bruce Borger	Susan Green	Stephanie Owitz	Ruth Stroheim Estate
Helen & Herbert Borger Estate	Maggie & Stewart Greenberg	Sandi & Max Paul	Katie & Harry Sugarman
Karen Borger	Sylvia Greenberg Estate	Liliya & Harold Paul	Amy & Barry Sylvestsky
Selma Brenner Estate	Lee Grossman	Joan Picone	Sol Taplin Charitable Foundation
Judith Bronsteen & Orrin Neiburger	Sylvia & Maurice Gruber Estate	Jan Pitcher	Arie A. Taykan
Shirley Brown Estate	Meryl & John Guerrero	Sheldon M. Pittleman	Toleo Foundation
Walter Brown Estate	Sandra Gulden & Leon J. Goldberger	Marjorie & Maurice D. Plough, Jr.	Gale Goldstein Tucker
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Anita & Ralph Byer	Mona & Eli Habib	Myra & Neil Pompian	Elise & Ronald Udelson
Erhla & Daniel Cantor Estate	Louis, Julia & Sheldon Haffner Family	Myrna Posner Estate	Rochelle & Fred Umschweis
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Marcia & Philip Cohen	Milton Hesslein Estate	Ellen & Eric Prevost	Hanna Wagner Estate
Barry Cohen	Tina & David Hirt	Ruth K. Price Estate	Mollie Waldman Estate
Ofri & Jacob Cohen	Marci & Ronald Holzer	Jules Reich Estate	Anita & Norton Waltuch
Shirley & Lewis Cohen	Ann Jacobs Estate	Edward Rickmann Estate	Kim & Randall Waltuch
Natalie & Edward Coleman Estate	Ingrid & Robert Jaffe	Samuel & Rose Riemer Private Fnd	Helene & Stephen Weicholz
Lillian P. Dash Estate	Lori Janow	William Rosenberg Estate	Enid & Eugene Weinberg
Annie & Abraham David	Beatrice Josephson Estate	Sandra Rosenow	Iris Weingarten
Janet Davis	Carol Judelson Trust	Lenore Rothman Estate	Pamela & Robert Weinroth
Minerva & David Davis Estate	Wallace Katz Estate	Gloria & Solomon Rothstein	Laura Weinsoff Estate
Judith & David Dines	Lois & Stephen Kaufman	Lillian Rozen Estate	Rita & Stan Weinstein
Cathy & Bert Distelburger	Harriet Keir-Klein Estate	Leah & Walter Ruderfer Estate	Weinstein Mitzvah Foundation
Judy & Daniel Dobin	Lenore Kittman Estate	Sara & Martin Sager Estate	Helen & Armin Weiss Estate
Anita Drittel Estate	Susan Kobitz	D. Jerry Sall Estate	Regina Gruen Weissler
Lesley & Philip Dubs	Michelle L. Koch Estate	Simon Sapirstein Estate	Lucille Wiedman Estate
Irving Eckhardt Estate	Inga Kosterich Estate	Marjorie & George Schachter	Dr. Michael R. & Judith N. Wolov
Selma Ephross Estate	Debra & Gerald Kramer	Mildred & Sol Schaikowitz Estate	Edward Carr Yale Estate
Phyllis & Charles Epstein	Linda & Gary Krat	Eileen S. Schary	Fay & Abraham Zalcbberg Estate
Sheila R. & David G. Epstein	Judith E. Kravitz	Susan & Lester Scher	Irving Zeller Estate
Janet & Robert Fabricant	Helen & Louis Kuriansky Estate	Eugene Schneck	
Cammy Farber	Elinore Lambert Estate	Beryl & Robert Schneider	
Evelyn Federbush	Beth Lebovitz	Francine L. & John E. Schultz	

There are many simple ways for you to fulfill your charitable desires with a gift that will continue your legacy for years to come. Please contact your personal financial advisor to discuss your legacy. You may also contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein at janet@jafco.org or at 954-315-8696 to discuss leaving a gift to JAFCO in a will or a bequest with cash, real estate, life insurance policy, IRA, appreciated stock, Charitable Gift Annuity or a Charitable Remainder Trust.

JAFCO Welcomes New Capital Donors In 2023

JAFCO Children's Village

Barbara & Barry Bernsen
Judy & Daniel Dobin
Shirley Maiman
Ellyn & Jeffrey Kleinberg and
Michael Kleinberg/MKDA Architects
Marsha Levy
Albert & Victoria Naggar Charitable Trust
Sue & Bob Wisan
Richard Skor

JAFCO Children's Ability Center

Elissa & Mark Goldner
Carol & Dan Strickberger
Gail & Kerry Kuhn



Sharing Your IRA Distribution With The Children

by Stuart A. Rader | Esq. Rader & Coleman, P.L. | stuart@raderandcoleman.com

JAFCO donors with traditional and Roth Individual Retirement Accounts ("IRA"), who have attained age 70-1/2 may make qualified charitable distributions ("QCD") to JAFCO without incurring income or a corresponding charitable deduction.

General Requirements of QCD:

- Donor must have attained the age 70-1/2 years at the time of the gift.
- Donor must own IRA; no other type of qualified plan qualifies such as 401(k), 457(b), and 403(b) plans.
- IRA Custodian must distribute directly to the charity selected by Donor. If the IRA Custodian distributes the funds to the Donor, then it is income regardless of whether the Donor then re-directs that amount to the charity.
- Charity must be a qualified charity which is defined as a public charity or conduit (non-operating) foundation; donor advised funds and supporting organizations are not eligible.
- Distribution must otherwise fully qualify under charitable deduction rules. (A distribution to a charity for a fund-raising dinner will not qualify because the value of the meal is not deductible).
- The limit is \$105,000 per year.
- The QCD must clear by December 31 of the year of the transfer.
- Distributions from Simplified Employee Pension IRAs (SEP IRA) qualify as QCD only in those years when no contributions were made to the plans.

Example 1. Dennis is 76 years old and has an IRA with a balance of \$500,000. On December 1, 2024, the IRA Custodian, pursuant to instructions from Dennis, makes a \$105,000 QCD to JAFCO, a qualified charity. The distribution is not included in Dennis's income and is not used in computing his charitable deduction for 2024.

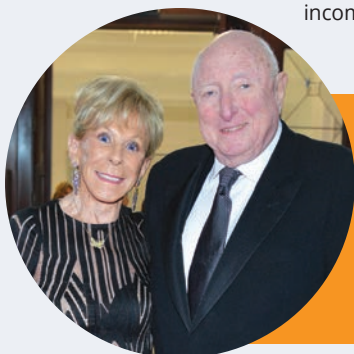
Other QCD Facts

- Deductible contributions to Traditional IRAs after attaining age 70-1/2 reduce the nontaxable portion of QCD.
- No income tax withholding is required.
- QCD can be used to satisfy a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)

Example 2. Connie is 73 years old and her RMD for 2024 is \$105,000. She does not need the RMD funds in 2024 to maintain her lifestyle and instructs the IRA Custodian to make a QCD of \$105,000 to JAFCO. Other than the QCD, no funds are withdrawn from the IRA in 2024. The QCD qualifies as Connie's RMD and is excluded from her income.

Stuart Rader is a trust and estate attorney at Rader and Coleman, PL in Boca Raton, FL who provides pro bono legal services to JAFCO. He is the Immediate Past President of the JAFCO Children's Foundation.

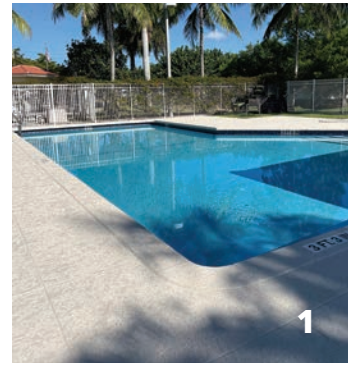
Caveat: This is a general discussion of QCD and its income tax consequences. This is not intended as tax or legal advice. Prior to making any charitable gift from an IRA, one should consult their income tax advisor for guidance on the contemplated transaction.



Thank you to Paul Goldner for creating the MENSCH College Fund with a generous gift of \$1 million. Over the past 18 years, this fund has empowered JAFCO to plan for and monitor the educational progress and success for the children, help them apply for college and then move them into their dorm in style. With outcomes that include improved attendance and grades, as well as high school and college graduation, the program also funds individual mentors and tutors for the children. We are so grateful to Paul for changing our children's lives with the opportunity to have a bright future through education.

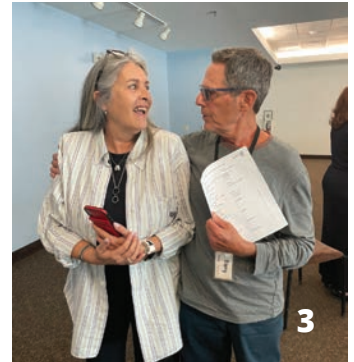
Children's Village Rededicated with Love

Exciting updates and improvements continue at the JAFCO Children's Village, keeping it looking as beautiful as it did on the day we opened in 2002. Our goal is to provide the best possible childhood experience for our children who come here to heal from the trauma of abuse, neglect and abandonment. Thanks to the generosity of big-hearted donors who contribute to the Rededication and Endowment Campaign, we've installed new roofs, hurricane-impact windows and doors and a brand new kitchen for our Emergency Shelter. We just refinished and resurfaced the swimming pool and deck, right in time for the children to splash around and keep cool during the hot Florida summer. The project continues its next phase with new floors, kitchens and baths for the kiddos in the Group Homes.



We need your help funding these exciting projects and hope you will consider a gift or pledge in your family name or perhaps in honor of your children or grandchildren or someone you love or may have lost. Your name will forever be a part of JAFCO, a sacred safe space where every child in our community has a place to belong. Naming opportunities start at \$36,000 and are listed on page 35.

1. School's out and summer's here - the children can't wait to jump in and enjoy the fresh new swimming pool!
2. The girls had the best time during the renovation walk-through and loved being able to pick personalized paint colors!
3. JAFCO celebrated the opening of the Feibelman Family Kitchen with Jaine Feibelman and her good friend, JAFCO volunteer Barry Schwartz.



For more information contact **Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein** at 954-315-8696 or janet@jafco.org.

Thank You to Our Legislators for Your Love and Advocacy!

It is with a grateful overflowing heart that JAFCO received life-changing funding for our children and families from the Florida Legislature. We extend our appreciation to Governor Ron DeSantis and our dedicated and amazing sponsors, Florida Senator Tina Polsky and State Representative Christine Hunschofsky for securing the full requested amount of \$600,000 for our Eagles' Haven Wellness Center and to Senator Polsky and State Representative Michael Gottlieb for safeguarding \$475,000 of our state appropriation this year for the Children's Ability Center. While we hoped we would receive the same \$850,000 as in previous years, we realize that appropriations are never guaranteed. We are grateful and we know that our generous donors and family foundations will help us cover this deficit and match the state's \$475,000 with personal donations to ensure that we keep all of our Ability Center programs fully operational with no waiting list.



These appropriations from the State of Florida help JAFCO make our children and families safer.

There are no words to express our gratitude to Attorney Elyn Bogdanoff for donating her life-changing lobbying efforts on behalf of our JAFCO Family over the past three decades. Elyn is a former Florida Senator, a former JAFCO Founding Board member, a current member of the JAFCO Honorary Board, and a member of the JAFCO Founders Circle (with a lifetime giving of over \$100,000). She is a former JAFCO foster parent, and also an adoptive parent times two! Fun fact, if you love our JAFCO logo (a child swinging on the Tree of Life), it was Elyn who helped create it for us!



Senator Tina Polsky



Representative Christine Hunschofsky



Representative Michael Gottlieb



Former Senator Elyn Bogdanoff

Growing with Love and also Transportation!

Dear Pamela Salabi,

I wanted to express my sincerest gratitude for donating your car to one of our JAFCO moms. I understand that this was a dream come true for you and you should know that this act of kindness has had a profound impact on the life of my client, who is a single mother of two young children, a 9-month-old and a two-year-old with special needs. Between the costs of a recent move and after being sold a faulty used car that only worked for one week, her finances were totally depleted. Without stable transportation to get to her new job, she was in jeopardy of being fired, which would also have impacted her ability to raise her children. So this is much more than just a car donation, it has been a life line. Thanks to this generosity she now has a means to commute to her workplace, ensuring a brighter future for herself and her children. When I told her the news that she would be receiving the car she broke down in tears. She explained that she now sees that there is "hope" that things can get better for her and was so touched that there are people in the world who truly do care and also that she was chosen to receive the car. This donation has made a huge difference in her life during a time of great need, and she is incredibly thankful.

Sincerely,

Tamar Gerber

Family Support Specialist
Children's Ability Center

Other cars were generously donated to our children at the Village who are attending college and a few other families as well. Our JAFCO car donation program is completely managed by a single volunteer Mike Sterne who takes care of everything and also makes sure the cars are safe before they are presented. We could not do it without you Mike, thank you for working with these generous donors to make sure our children and families ALL have transportation to make their lives complete.

**Thank you to our generous donors
for your car donations:**

**Seth Eisenberg
Marcie & Mark Butters
Nathan & Eileen Leipziger
Mel & Carole Kantor
The Estate of Ira Licht
Michael & Randi Feldstein
for donating two cars!**



Even though she left our Emergency Shelter over a year ago to move to a foster home, JAFCO has continued to provide emotional support to Genese, attended her high school graduation, gave her a surprise "college bed" party, a new MacBook and a car of her own (thank you Seth Eisenberg)! We will drive her to the University of North Florida and spend a few days setting up her dorm, attending parent orientation, and get her settled in. Genese, JAFCO will now be your home for winter and summer break!

Celebrating Love at the JAFCO Fire & Ice Gala

Our JAFCO family enjoyed an unforgettable night as we celebrated life, friendship and JAFCO's lifesaving mission. The ballroom was filled with love as we presented the Jacob's Ladder Award for Child Advocacy to Susan & Mark Auerbach and Rachel & Andrew Schwartz. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Kim & Leslie Kaminoff whose heartfelt passion for JAFCO began in 2003 and continues today. We congratulate all our honorees who are true leaders in our community and committed to making our world a safer place for children impacted by abuse, neglect, trauma or developmental disabilities. The Fire & Ice Gala touched the hearts of over 400 guests. Through the support of our gala honorees, guests and sponsors, we were able to raise much needed funds for the Children of JAFCO.

1. JAFCO Godparents and Circle of Hope members
2. Barry Cohen & Caren Weinberg
3. Douglas Meade & Olivier Cale
4. Cliff Gelfand & Susan Kobitz
5. Marci & Isador Mitzner
6. Event chairs Paul & Joan Hauser
7. CEO Sarah Franco, and Ellyn & Jeffrey Kleinberg
8. Keith & Mishelle Singer, Jake Singer, Shira Ketayi and Miri & Eric Ketayi
9. Scott Weicholz, Helene Weicholz, and Stephen Weicholz
10. Ed Wenger, daughter Lauren Wenger, and Bernice Wenger
11. Maggie & Stewart Greenberg



Presenting Our 2023 Jacob's Ladder and Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients



Susan & Mark Auerbach

Susan and Mark Auerbach began their journey twelve years ago when they toured JAFCO and were instantly hooked. As a result of their commitment, the Auerbachs are now generous Children's Ability Center Capital Donors, members of the Circle of Hope, as well as the JAFCO Founders, Godparent, and Legacy Circles.

Using their professional and volunteer experiences from the Northeast, Susan and Mark have helped put JAFCO on the map in North Palm Beach as a highly successful chapter. Susan served as Chapter President and has been a trustee of the JAFCO Children's Ability Center Board since 2019.

Growing up in her family's lighting fixture manufacturing company, Susan evolved to become a successful businesswoman in the areas of sales, design, and marketing, ultimately reaching the level of CEO. Now retired, Susan's hobbies have been centered around crafts including knitting, needlepoint, and most recently diamond art.

Mark held various leadership positions in many industries during his 65-year career. Today he is semi-retired yet an active partner in a franchise of Stretch Zone studios in New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania.

The Auerbachs, married 27 years, are proud to share their love for JAFCO with their six children Lisa, David (Kelly), Ace, Kimberlee, Stacey (Jeanine), and Michael (Michal). It is important to them to set an example of community leadership for their 12 grandchildren starting with the oldest Joshua (30), to Adam, Ashley, Andrew, Sophie, Jessie, Eliana, Misha, Arianna, Milo, Jordyn... and the youngest Ryan (5).



Rachel & Andrew Schwartz

Rachel and Andrew Schwartz were inspired by Rachel's parents, Linda and Don Brodie whose generosity and connection with JAFCO motivated them to get involved as well. The Schwartz's have been generous supporters of JAFCO for the past eight years.

Married in 1996, Rachel and Andrew have always had child advocacy as a central theme of their lives as they are both very family oriented. They are proud to demonstrate their love and support for JAFCO through their membership in the Founders Circle, Godparent Circle and Circle of Hope.

Rachel and Andrew are always working to make people healthy, through their farm-to-table agriculture supply chain business, which encompasses all aspects of growing, shipping and managing the logistics of farming, to both wholesale and retail stores. In their spare time, the family loves outdoor sports and activities including boating, fishing, golf, skiing and traveling.

It is the couple's desire to make an impact, to give back, and provide the same opportunities to the children of JAFCO, as their own three children would receive. Rachel and Andrew are proud to share their family values with their son Jack (21), daughter Ava (20), who are both studying at Tulane and their daughter, Lily, a 17-year-old senior at St. Andrews High School in Boca Raton. Through their contributions, Rachel and Andrew are living by example, showing their children how meaningful it is to make a difference and an impact in a child's life.



Kimberly & Leslie Kaminoff

Leslie and Kimberly Kaminoff have been committed and generous supporters of JAFCO for more than two decades. They began their involvement as members of the JAFCO South Palm Beach Chapter, where Kim was a dedicated and influential president. Leslie's leadership includes his ongoing position as a trustee of the JAFCO Foundation Board. Kim continues to hold the title of "Princess of All Things Chanukah" for her proficient governance of the Palm Beach County wish lists every holiday season.

The couple are members of JAFCO's Founders and Godparent Circles as well as the Silver Heart Society and are also Children's Ability Center capital donors. In 2010, Kim and Leslie were the recipients of the Jacobs Ladder Award for Child Advocacy.

Kim and Leslie are also creating their own generational legacy for JAFCO. Their daughter Alexis and her husband Thomas are proud parents of Ella, 12, and Briggs, 3. Daughter Ashley, who is married to Eric, have a 1-year-old son Ezra. Their son Justin is married to Natanya and had their first baby in January. All of the Kaminoff children are proud JAFCO Godparents!

In 2021, Kim and Leslie made a life changing gift of \$1 million to JAFCO and named the Kaminoff Children's Center to honor the memory of Leslie's parents, Esther and Leo Kaminoff, who taught them the principles of hard work and contribution. They all believe that "the blessing of abundance is meaningless unless it is used in part to help make life better for others."

All in for JAFCO Poker Tournament

The All in for JAFCO Poker Tournament returned for its 5th year as an amazing kick start to JAFCO's 23-24 fundraising season! The event took place at JAFCO's Illuminate Venue and was better than ever, with over 80 people in attendance. The night consisted of cocktails, food, silent auction, and of course our competitive Poker Tournament, with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners leaving with one of our awesome prizes! Thanks to the support of our amazing committee, sponsors and guests, Poker raised record breaking funds all to benefit the Children's Ability Center. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!



Committee members Brian Nelson, Gene Holzer, Perry Isenberg (chair), and Keith Singer



Poker Tournament winners!: Zach Geduld, Aaron Goldberg, and Kevin Murray

In My Shoes Luncheon

As our largest attended event, the In My Shoes Luncheon, attracted 700 guests to Boca West Country Club to learn more about the Children's Ability Center's mission. This year Norlyn & Ed Poto were honored for their generosity and advocacy that has improved the lives of children with developmental disabilities while also providing support to the families raising them.

1. Our beautiful In My Shoes Luncheon Committee
2. Godparent and Circle of Hope pinning ceremony
3. Welcome to Holland Honorees Ed & Norlyn Poto
4. Co-chairs Terry Menas & Debra Faren
5. JAFCO Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein presents Barbara Bernsen with a special menorah for her capital gift



Chanukah Miracles Luncheon

The motivated miracle-makers of Aventura once again created a beautiful, successful luncheon at the JW Marriott Turnberry Resort to ensure Chanukah would be bright for all the children of JAFCO! With over 500 in attendance, our guests' hearts were connected to JAFCO... and also to Israel. Our Honoree Marla Garfinkle shared that "by showing up for JAFCO and for Israel, you have not only made life better for a child, you have helped to strengthen our community and our world... we are all in this together!"

1. The lovely luncheon Committee
2. We welcome our new Godparents and Circle of Hope members
3. JAFCO Village Board Chair Stewart Greenberg and Candle of Hope honorees Anna Schneur, Diana Stein, Ula Zusman, Elise Egozi, Sophie Faith, and Priscilla Levy
4. Luncheon chair Lauren Roth with husband Yoav
5. Honoree Marla Garfinkle and family



Loop: A Pixar Event

There was no better place to view Pixar's Loop movie than at the beautiful Illuminate venue. This short film is about a non-verbal autistic girl and a young boy trying to understand her. The night started with cocktails and some light bites and was followed by a screening of the short film. The night concluded with an intimate conversation with the film's award-winning writer and director Erica Milsom, joined by CBS Miami Reporter Morgan Rynor and a panel of JAFCO Ability Center moms.

1. Erica Milsom and JAFCO Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein
2. Marjorie & Maurice Plough
3. Ability@Work members



Have a Heart Luncheon & Card Party at Admirals Cove

The North Palm Beach Chapter started their season back where it all began at Admirals Cove with their annual card party. This year, the sold-out event was chaired by Karen Fine and Beth Robbins, with Carol & Dan Strickberger as the Event Underwriters and Suzi & Josh Herrendorf as King & Queen of Hearts Sponsors. Over 350 ladies enjoyed shopping, our silent auction, a delicious lunch, a heartfelt program, and card play...not to mention candy and snacks for the rest of the afternoon!

1. Honorary Chair Dara Berger, Co-Chairs Beth Robbins, and Karen Fine
2. Admirals Cove Candle of Hope Honorees
3. Speaker Donna Winter-Fee
4. Admirals Cove Godparents
5. Committee members Jen Albert and Randy Metzger



Hollywood: The Golden Age Featuring the Iconic Life of Elizabeth Taylor

The South Palm Beach Chapter threw an event for JAFCO's "Diamonds" at St. Andrews Country Club. Over 400 Elizabeth Taylor fans came together to shop at our boutique and silent auction, enjoy the gorgeous Golden Age themed ballroom, learn more about JAFCO's mission, and listen to a titillating history of Elizabeth Taylor's glittery life presented by René Silvin.

1. Liz Taylor "Diamond" Committee
2. Co-Chairs Susan Lyman and Elise Repath
3. Linda Beermann and Francee Ford
4. Helene Weicholz with her necklace previously owned by Elizabeth Taylor
5. Gjewels raffle winner Joan Hauser
6. Liz Taylor Look alike



Have a Heart Luncheon & Card Party at Mirasol

The North Palm Beach Chapter of JAFCO threw its Have a Heart Luncheon & Card Party at The Country Club at Mirasol with over 330 people in attendance. Guests enjoyed shopping at the boutique, raffle prizes, and a beautiful lunch while learning important updates about the JAFCO sites. Former North Palm Beach Chapter President Susan Wisan received her custom menorah for generously naming a child's bedroom at the Children's Village. Afterwards, the card games began, and a mixture of Canasta, Mah Jongg and Bridge were played for the rest of the afternoon.

1. Mirasol Committee Members
2. Candle of Hope
3. Co-chairs Beth Frank and Joan Stecker
4. Card Play
5. Godparent Chair Helene Weicholz with our new Godparents



Oscar Brunch

Welcome to the Oscar Brunch at the JAFCO Village! This fun filled event was enjoyed by many moviegoers who had the chance to vote for the winners of the Oscars this year. After eating, shmoozing, and a meaningful JAFCO program, it was lights, cameras, action and time for the special Oscars presentation by Hap Erstein who gave a synopsis of each nominated movie. Hats off to everyone who attended and supported JAFCO's mission of saving the lives of children and families in our community. On behalf of our event chairs and the entire committee, we thank you for your love and support. It was fabulous to see all of you at the our Oscars!

Event Chairs: Tamara Axelman, Lesley Miller, Andi Shiroff, and Gabrielle Gerson



Aston Gardens Shopping With A Cause

JAFCO Benefactor Rita Carole Messner organized a Shopping With A Cause event at Aston Gardens to help raise over \$500 for the Children's Ability Center.

Thank you Aunt Rita Carole!

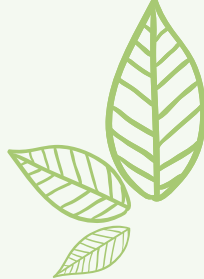


North Palm Beach

Monte Carlo Night

What happens in Monte Carlo....stays in Monte Carlo! This year, the North Palm Beach Chapter of JAFCO hosted a Monte Carlo Night at The Club at Ibis. Guests enjoyed an evening filled with delicious buffet stations, custom cocktails, the premiere JAFCO video...and the rest of the night was spent gambling away! With the help of our incredible North Palm Beach donors, this was surely a night to remember!

1. Co-chairs Nancy & Marc Voluck
2. Co-chairs Eli & Merrie Anker
3. Bob & Sue Wisan receive their menorah
4. Monte Carlo Night New Godparents Harvey and Kathy Reiser with daughter Ashlyn
5. Brenda & Chair of the JAFCO Children's Foundation Board Larry Robinson
6. Let the dices roll



Live, Love, Lunch

Our Miami Chapter returned to Jungle Island after a 5-year hiatus to host a beautiful, successful luncheon! You could hear a pin drop in the ballroom as 250 guests were captivated by JAFCO CEO Sarah Franco's intimate agency update following the Rise Up video. As members of our JAFCO family, there was a deep feeling of connection to the lifesaving services provided to children living at the Village, as well as those receiving support at the Children's Ability Center and Eagles' Haven.

1. Our wonderful Miami committee members
2. Introducing Godparent and Circle of Hope members
3. Luncheon Chairs Jenny Diemar and Stephanie Goldman
4. Honorary Board Member Sandi Simon pins her son Shawn and daughter-in-law Moriah with her husband Charlie's pin
5. Adrienne Messing, Jill Eber, Felise Eber, Ali Calinoff, and Melissa Ginsburg are honored with the Candle of Hope



Mother's Day Luncheon

This year's Mother's Day Luncheon was held at Boca West Country Club. We were back better than ever with 580 guests joining us for a very special afternoon honoring Women of the Year, Linda Beermann & Francee Ford. The day was filled with delicious mimosas, fabulous shopping at the boutique and silent auction, VIP and Grand Raffle Prize winners, and an abundant amount of new Godparents. We closed out our Florida event season with a beautiful message: Every one of our donors is an honorary mother to the Children of JAFCCO.

1. Mother's Day Committee
2. Our new and recommitted Godparents
3. Honoree Linda Beermann, SPB VP Rochelle Sampson, SPB President Joan Gedansky and Honoree Francee Ford
4. Perry Isenberg, luncheon chair Tami Isenberg, and Ronni Isenberg
5. Shirley Weisman and daughter Marci Langley



Major Donor Reception

250 of our major donors enjoyed a delicious and sumptuous Sunday brunch at Woodfield Country Club in Boca Raton on March 3rd. The event was lovingly hosted by Nanci & Steve Beyer and Amy & Barry Sylvetsky.

A new campaign was announced to celebrate the 10-Year Anniversary of the Children's Ability Center. Guests were invited to join Growing With Love, a group of generous donors coming together to raise \$500,000 urgently needed to open, staff and operate the two new respite homes at the Ability Center. These homes will provide overnight respite to over 1,000 children each year. This respite program is literally saving families and is unlike any other program in the country.

1. Lois & Stephen Kaufman
2. Becky & Laurence Herrup
3. Myrna & Steve Pressman, Alan & Dara Berger, Debra Bacharach, Steve & Gail Marlow, Dov Bacharach, and Gayle Moskowitz were honored with the Candle of Hope.
4. Our chairs Stephen & Nanci Beyer and Amy & Barry Sylvetsky
5. Rita Carole Messner



Central Palm Beach Chapter

Under the leadership of Chapter Presidents Dave Epstein and Wendy Galit, the Central Palm Beach Chapter works hard all year round to support the children of JAFCO. Through events and fundraising, the communities advocate for the children and share the amazing stories of JAFCO with their members.

A-B. As a chapter, the communities worked together to plan a successful Golf Classic at Westchester Country Club.

Valencia Bay

Community Leaders

Linda Rosenzweig and Hillary Silverstein

C. Aside from a fabulous evening Scavenger Hunt, Valencia Bay kicked off the season with a Welcome Back Brunch featuring the mind-bending entertainment of M1ND H4CK3R, Alan Chamo.

Valencia Cove

Community Leader

Melanie vanderValk

D-E. Valencia Cove hosted their annual Luncheon & Card Party with over 250 people including a silent auction and amazing raffle prizes. The Cove also organized a 5k Walk to raise funds for JAFCO.

Valencia Isles

Community Leaders

Robbie Gimpel and Janet Hardbrod

F. Valencia Isles coordinated many events this season, including a Game Night, Morikami Tour, and they represented JAFCO at a local expo.

Valencia Reserve

Community Leaders

Harriet Sandler and Caren Wisner

G. Let's tip our hats to Valencia Reserve for their Tealicious Tea Party!

Wycliffe:

Community Leader

Eileen Blau

H-I. Wycliffe created another successful Game Day and gathered one evening to bake Hamantaschen just in time for Purim.



Neiman Marcus Fashion Presentation & Brunch

April 30, 2023 - Neiman Marcus, King of Prussia, PA

Many thanks to Neiman Marcus King of Prussia for hosting the Spring into Summer pre-event brunch and fashion show. Neiman Marcus also generously donated 10% of all private shopping sales from the event to FamilyMatters.

Dara Goldstein,
Melissa Grodofsky,
Jamie Lasky, and
Dayna Benn.



Spring into Summer

May 17, 2023 - Hilton Philadelphia City Ave, PA

We are so grateful to our event chairs Dayna Benn, Dara Goldstein, and Melissa Grodofsky, along with their incredible event committee, who made Spring into Summer a tremendous success! The event honored Jamie Lasky as the 2023 Woman of Valor and welcomed Molly Feith, Jamie & Todd Lasky, and Lauren & Paul Lipowicz into the Godparent Circle. Rana & Jordan Bell recommitted to be Godparents for another 10 years.

1. The beautiful Spring into Summer Committee.
2. Honored with the Candle of Hope are Betsy Ramage, Corie Moskow, Linda Brodie, Don Brodie, Lisa Katchman, Chelsea Katz, & Remy Cahn.
3. Event Chairs Dara Goldstein, Melissa Grodofsky, & Dayna Benn.
4. Executive Director Jill Lapensohn & Honoree Jamie Lasky.



Name Your Game

June 29, 2023 – Linwood Country Club, NJ

Co-Queens Terry Auerbach, Beth Fox, and Renee Kiejdan kicked off our Jersey Shore summer event season with a must-attend card party at Linwood Country Club with over 300 women. The proceeds from this event help the children we serve have an incredible summer and experience the unmatched joy of summer camp! This annual event also benefits Golden Slipper Camp, a not-for-profit overnight camp in the Pocono Mountains that enriches the lives of children and young adults from varied backgrounds.

1. Event Chairs Renee Kiejdan, Terry Auerbach, & Beth Fox.
2. Honored with the Candle of Hope are Flora Zadoff, Sandi Paul, Amy Fisher, Terry Rubinstein, & Fran Kiejdan-Lott.
3. New Godparent Marci Blicher.
4. New Godparent Patricia Lahn.



15th Annual Golf Classic

July 18, 2023 - Union League Liberty Hill, Lafayette Hill, PA

We are so grateful to all of the golfers who joined us and supported our 15th Annual Golf Classic at the Union League Liberty Hill. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to our event chairs Jason Hersh, David Rounick, and Jared Zeisler and all of the underwriters and sponsors who helped make the event a huge success. This was an event golfers won't soon fore-get!

1. Event Chairs Jason Hersh, Jared Zeisler, & David Rounick.
2. Philadelphia Kids in Care.



Cocktails for a Cause

July 27, 2023 - Atlantic City Country Club, Northfield, NJ

Event Chairs, Donna & Lou Greenberg, Carol & Stanley Sussman, and Helene & Bob Hordes, and the amazing committee planned an incredible evening at Atlantic City Country Club honoring Fran Jonas and Linda Sohn. The evening featured cocktails, dinner, dancing, and an incredible silent auction

1. The extraordinary Cocktails for a Cause Committee.
2. Honorees Fran Jonas & Linda Sohn.
3. Event Chairs Helene Hordes, Carol Sussman, & Donna Greenberg.
4. Honored with the Candle of Hope are Cathy Backal, Penninah Brodie, Louis Greenberg, Robert Hordes, & Stanley Sussman.
5. New Circle of Hope members Rachel & Andrew Schwartz.



Fun in the Sun

August 8, 2023 - Glen Head Country Club, Glen Head, NY

We had Fun in the Sun at Glen Head Country Club on August 8th! Over 150 women spent the day shopping, dining, and playing games, all in the name of helping the children and families of FamilyMatters. A huge thank you to Pearl Halegua and her extraordinary committee, as well as all the sponsors and ladies that made the day possible. Our wonderful emcee, Becky Saka, inspired everyone in the room as she shared her JAFCO journey and success story and expressed her gratitude to her JAFCO FamilyMatters family.

1. Emcee Becky Saka with new Godparents Randi Feldstein, Diane Lovell, and Susan Tashlik.
2. Pearl Halegua and her incredible Fun in the Sun Committee.
3. Candle of Hope - CEO Sarah Franco, Susan Katz, Judith Dines, Cynthia Rubinberg, Rebecca Altman, & Beverly Lifschutz.



No Ordinary Car Barn

October 5, 2023 - Brodie Car Barn, Ardmore, PA

We can't thank Don & Linda Brodie enough for opening up their car barn for an exclusive opportunity to view their private collection of rare Aston Martins and other vintage automobiles. Don spoke passionately about the cars and his love of FamilyMatters. The event was successful thanks to Max Weiner and Rana Bell.

1. Event Chairs Max Weiner and Rana Bell, Don & Linda Brodie.
2. Mark Taplinger & Charlie.
3. Bruce Stark & Rita Caplan.



Gifting for Good

December 5, 2023 - FamilyMatters, Bala Cynwyd, PA

FamilyMatters proudly hosted its first ever, Gifting for Good Shopping Spectacular. We express our heartfelt thanks to the vendors and shoppers who participated in this special event, where a portion of proceeds were generously donated to support FamilyMatters and Israel.

1. Shoppers trying on jewelry from Milner Diamonds.
2. Marisa & Josh Cohen, winners of the Gifting for Good raffle basket.



All You Need is Love

January 31, 2024 – Rosa Mexicano, Ardmore, PA

FamilyMatters' newest event drew an incredible crowd for an evening of food, drinks, friends, and shopping. Much LOVE and many thanks to co-chairs Dayna Benn, Dara Goldstein, and Melissa Grodofsky for their hard work to make the event a huge success.

1. Event Chairs Melissa Grodofsky, Dayna Benn & Dara Goldstein.
2. Dara Abraham Gelman, Jamie Sandler, Lauren Lipowicz, Shari Brodsky, Ashley Markowich, and Jessica Levin.
3. Kirsten Baritz & Lauren Horowitz.
4. Dan Goldstein, Cory Baritz, and Scott Daniels.



Magical City Lights

March 14, 2024 – Hotel West & Main, Conshohocken, PA

Five-time event chairs Michele and Mark Taplinger, along with their amazing committee, put together a magical evening honoring dear friend of FamilyMatters, Andy Winn. Attendees enjoyed fine food and drink, an exciting silent auction, and mystifying magic by renowned magicians Marc DeSouza and Francis Menotti.

1. Committee Members Arlin Green, Event Co-Chair Mark Taplinger, Debbie Levit, Jason Mandel, FamilyMatters Board Chair Linda Brodie, Andy Winn, Michael Casey, Mindi & Phil Schwartz, Jim Kapsalis, Henri Levit, Jill Kleeman, and Don Brodie.
2. Honoree Andy Winn and FamilyMatters Board Chair Linda Brodie.
3. FamilyMatters Board Chair Linda Brodie and new Godparent Dea Reece.
4. New Godparent Donna Douglas.



Join a JAFCO or FamilyMatters Event or Help Plan One

JAFCO Chapter Presidents

Aventura/North Miami

Lauren Faith, P 954-558-7766

Central Palm Beach

Dave Epstein, P 561-302-5423
Wendy Galit, P 917-805-5660

Century Village Pembroke Pines

Debbie Kaliser, P 954-465-7330
Myra Olshansky, VP 610-772-3845

King's Point Tamarac

Ellen Bernstein, P 954-597-8772
Dolores Shampaner, VP 954-707-2919

Miami

Heather Sosler, P 305-984-2768
Elyssa Lewis, VP 954-242-5598

North Palm Beach

Susan Auerbach, 610-580-8599
Dara Berger, 215-317-3001
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2024-2025 JAFCO & FamilyMatters Events

Thursday, August 1, 2024

Comedy for a Cause
Margate Performing Arts Center, Margate, NJ

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Fun in the Sun
Glen Head Country Club, Glen Head, NY

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

In My Shoes Luncheon
Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton

Thursday, November 7, 2024

All In For JAFCO Poker
JAFCO Illuminate Ballroom, Sunrise

Thursday, November 7, 2024

City Lights
The Inn at Villanova University, Wayne, PA

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Chanukah Miracles Luncheon
The Diplomat Beach Resort, Hollywood

Saturday, December 14, 2024

Growing with Love Gala
Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton

Thursday, January 16, 2025

RoyalTea
Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton

Monday, February 3, 2025

JAFCO Golf Classic
Weston Hills Country Club, Weston

Thursday, February 13, 2025

All You Need Is Love
118 North, Wayne, PA

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Blooming Hearts Luncheon & Card Party
The Club at Admirals Cove, Jupiter

Thursday, March 13, 2025

Have a Heart Luncheon & Card Party
The Country Club at Mirasol, Palm Beach Gardens

Thursday, April 24, 2025

Live, Love, Lunch
TBA, Miami

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Mother's Day Luncheon
Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Name Your Game
Renault Winery & Resort, Egg Harbor City, NJ

2025, Date TBA

North Palm Beach Evening Event
Details to follow

2025, Date TBA

The Marvelous Mom Squad Evening Event
Details to follow

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New Jersey

Shari Smith, P 856-625-4718



For any information regarding one of our events, to make a donation, to attend or to volunteer, please visit our website or reach out to our contacts above.

JAFCO's Mitzvah Kids

This page is dedicated to the creator of the first JAFCO Journal in 1995, the late Madelyn Weil, a founding board member who believed that children are our future.



▲ Cayla Fingerman

Cheerleading is important to Cayla so for her Mitzvah project she helped raised money for dance & music classes for the children of FamilyMatters.

▼ Bianca Brejt

Bianca Brejt is a bright young philanthropist who is always ready and willing to help the community in need. She was eager to collect a large amount of school supplies to help the children of JAFCO have a successful school year.



More Mitzvah Kids

Amber & Tyla Bernstein

Lea Goldenberg

Erez Landesman

Tzippy Tyberg

▼ Nathan Goldberg

Nathan along with his mom and two younger sisters, spent time collecting school supplies for the children of JAFCO for his Mitzvah Project. He collected backpacks, lunch boxes and other important items that the children need to ensure a great school year!



▼ Elan Goldbaum

Elan was presented with an award at Donna Klein Jewish Academy for dedicating his time and efforts to connect with members of the community and school seeking holiday donations. Elan collected close to \$2,000 in gifts and over \$5,000 in cash for the JAFCO kids.



▲ Nate & Jordan Bogdany

Nate and Jordan Bogdany created Valentine's teddy bear and candy grams for their Mitzvah project. They raised almost \$1,200 and their family is so proud that they are continuing the JAFCO legacy through every generation! Their great-grandmother Dorothy Wender was the first President of the Kings Point Chapter of JAFCO and she sure set an amazing example for her grandchildren.



▲ Jordan Shapiro

Immediately after Jordan Shapiro, grandson of JAFCO Godparents Olivia and Gerald Shapiro, heard about the JAFCO Chanukah wish lists for the children, he started a collection of gifts. He was so excited about his feeling of giving back that he also made JAFCO his Bar Mitzvah project. Jordan felt honored to take a picture in front of his grandparents name on the wall and continue their legacy of giving back.

All gifts directly benefit the children of JAFCO. All "Mitzvah Kids" and their families are invited to the JAFCO Village where they are presented with a beautiful certificate honoring them for helping children impacted by abuse, neglect and developmental disabilities.

To plan your JAFCO Mitzvah project in Florida, contact JAFCO Director of Special Events, Rebecca Drescher at rdrescher@jafco.org.

In the Northeast, contact FamilyMatters Events Manager, Robin Raskin at robin@familymattersnetwork.org.

JAFCO Honors the Memory of Ingrid Jaffe



"A woman of valor, seek her out, for she is to be valued above rubies." Proverbs

Ingrid Jaffe was a true, modern-day "Woman of Valor", one who speaks and acts with compassion and is dedicated to improving the world in both small and large ways. Ingrid was a nurturer yet also a warrior. She fought not only for her personal world, family, and those she loved... but also for those less fortunate around her... especially children.

Judaism teaches us that when we lose someone we love, especially a child, the best way to honor their life and keep them alive is to perform acts of Tzedakah, or charity, in their memory... and also to love and care for other children.

Ingrid's daughter, Michelle Goldstein, was a new bride of only 7 months and had just realized her dream of moving from South Florida to New York City and finding a job in one of the Twin Towers. Sadly, her life plans and future were cut short on that tragic day we call 9/11. At that time, JAFCO was right in the middle of the construction of the Children's Village when Michelle's husband, Ed Goldstein, named one of the six JAFCO group homes in her memory. Since that day, Michelle has been the JAFCO Village resident angel whose spirit has protected over 1,700 children who have lived in the village since it opened.

As a former Vice President of the JAFCO Weston Chapter, Ingrid helped found the Michelle Goldstein Spirit of Life Luncheon to generate awareness and funds for the children of JAFCO. By channeling her energy into helping children impacted by abuse, neglect, trauma, and developmental disabilities, Ingrid discovered her purpose in life and a way to continue honoring Michelle.



When Ingrid decided to move north, she took her JAFCO heart with her and immediately began to work tirelessly in Boynton Beach as part of the JAFCO Central Palm Beach Chapter. She eagerly assumed responsibility for planning and chairing many luncheons and fundraising activities each year in her Villaggio community. Ingrid was a strong and very well-respected organizer who led from the heart and made sure that every single person in her community knew about JAFCO's mission.

There is no one in the world who exemplified the Jewish value of Tzedakah more than Ingrid. Aside from her intense love and dedication to her daughter Annette, and her grandsons Michael and Jacob, Ingrid and her husband Bob were JAFCO Godparents and members of the JAFCO Legacy Circle that ensures the future for the children of JAFCO by making a gift from their estate. Ingrid's courage and strength are a testament to the power of a mother's love and her memory will be a blessing and inspiration for all of us who were lucky enough to know her.

Meet Kings Point Chapter President, Ellen Bernstein

"I believe the children are our future, teach them well and let them lead the way, show them all the beauty they possess inside, give them a sense of pride to make it easier..." Whitney Houston

After stepping into the role of JAFCO Kings Point Chapter President seven years ago, Ellen Bernstein became a force to be reckoned with, tirelessly striving to grow the chapter while raising awareness and funds for the children of JAFCO. She oversees the tables every Tuesday at the Kings Point Clubhouse with her board members, all sharing information about JAFCO's card parties and luncheons, or their collections for camp, back-to-school, and Chanukah. Being a Chapter President is Ellen's most gratifying and meaningful experience to date.

Ellen and longtime friend Sandy Richman (of blessed memory) moved to Florida from Brooklyn at the same exact time. Sandy immediately was drawn to JAFCO and became an early Chapter President, then Ellen was her successor. Ellen's beloved and supportive husband, Norman, was so proud of her great work before he passed away and that is when Ellen realized that "JAFCO needs me as much as I need JAFCO."

Ellen worked for the NYC Board of Education for 14 years and Norman was a jeweler, watchmaker, and certified gemologist. They were married over 50 years and blessed with two beautiful daughters. Bonnie, a hairdresser, lives in Boca Raton and chose to have her Bat Mitzvah at JAFCO at the age of 45. Sharon and her husband Chuck recently moved from the Midwest to live in Naples. Ellen is very proud of her two granddaughters Ilana (25) who graduated from UF and is pursuing a career in Public Relations in NYC and Jena (23) who recently graduated from FSU and is beginning a career in Hospitality Management.

Our hard-working Ellen is a bundle of love who always has a smile on her face. Through her presidency, she has overcome her fear of public speaking and we have watched her step into greatness. The children of JAFCO are lucky to have this compassionate, and determined woman making sure that they are all safe and sound.



JAFCO Board Member Spotlight: Amy Sylvetsky, Chair



"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched — they must be felt with the heart." Helen Keller

Over 8 years ago, Amy Sylvetsky was looking at her Facebook and came across an interesting post about the JAFCO In My Shoes Luncheon. Amy sent in a donation and decided to take a tour of the Village. She was immediately impressed and knew she had found her forever passion: giving every child a place to belong.

Amy and her family were always charitable, and the lesson of philanthropy became more personal to all of them with the loss of a younger cousin. Residents of the Boston suburbs, Amy and her husband Barry have been married for 45 years and raised their two daughters Julie and Lauren in Needham, Massachusetts. While

their childhoods were slightly different, the couple grew up understanding the importance of Tzedakah. In 2007, they became snowbirds with a seasonal move to South Florida. Amy was a teacher and became a stay-at-home mother and felt extremely lucky to raise such wonderful accomplished and kind young women. Julie is an attorney for DCF in Massachusetts and Lauren is a Vice-President of Customer Success at Verity in New York City. Lauren and her husband George recently welcomed baby boy Jacob in March leading to Amy's brand-new title: Grandma.

Amy brought Barry back with her to JAFCO after her first visit and they immediately decided to become Godparents and Circle of Hope members. They have also established an endowment fund at the Children's Village, named the Parents Fitness area at the Children's Ability Center, the backstage wing at Illuminate and most recently the Village reception area. Amy has been a regular weekly volunteer at the Village, assisting in the development office, a job where she claims to be the highest paid volunteer at JAFCO. Loving the hands-on experience and the relationship she's developed with the JAFCO family, Amy feels she is rewarded in abundance with the fulfillment in her heart because of the connection she shares with JAFCO's mission.

Besides volunteering, Amy and Barry have become members of the JAFCO Board of Directors; Barry is on the Village board and Amy has been serving on the CAC board for many years, excited to take on the new leadership title as Chair of the Board. Amy has become an ambassador of the JAFCO mission, bringing her family members, friends and neighbors to tour the facility every chance she gets.

In Loving Memory of Jerry Manowitz, Founding Board Member



"Family is everything," was Jerry Manowitz's motto, and this did not exclude his JAFCO Family.

Jerry was a salt of the earth kind of man whose smile lit up a room. He was from North Jersey and came to Florida 30 years ago where he enjoyed life every day with his wife Claire, and immediate family by his side. Jerry and Claire were married for over 40 years and the proud parents of two girls, two beautiful granddaughters and three very active great grandchildren. Jerry spent most of his successful career manufacturing handbags in New York and ended his career by starting a business at the age of 95 as he was always very wise beyond his years.

Jerry was introduced to JAFCO by his wife Claire who hosted the first ever JAFCO Luncheon at her home in 1992. From then on Jerry and Claire made sure that JAFCO was a success by starting the first JAFCO Chapter, running the first JAFCO Golf Tournament with their good friends Milt and Carol Sirota and offering their home to many abused and neglected children in need as Forever Friends.

Claire and Jerry were not only generous with their hearts and their time as Founding Board Members of the JAFCO board of Trustees but also financially as Capital donors, members of the JAFCO Founder's Circle, and recommitted Godparents. That would be enough of a legacy for Jerry but actually was not his greatest legacy. His greatest legacy was his family. JAFCO is a family affair for the Manowitz Family. Their eldest daughter Randy Stein and her husband Gary are Godparents and their youngest daughter Barbara Hollinger, and her husband Richard Mackenzie are also Godparents and adoptive JAFCO parents. Claire and Jerry's granddaughter Tracy Winters, who was the assistant development director 15 years ago, is now honored to be back as the Events Manager at the JAFCO Village following in the footsteps of two JAFCO legends.

Every charity only dreams of having donors like Jerry and Claire who lived and breathed their philanthropic work every waking moment. The reason that they helped start JAFCO is because they wanted every Jewish child and every child regardless of their religion to have a home where they could experience the same unconditional love and safety that their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren have in their lives. May we all create a footprint in this world as unforgettable as theirs.

JAFCO Founding CEO Sarah Franco Announces Plans for Retirement after 32 Years

To my JAFCO family,

I want to thank everyone for your beautiful letters of congratulations and gratitude on hearing of my upcoming retirement. Be assured that you have the most dedicated and competent team in place at JAFCO and any concerns JAFCO will not be the same after my retirement are true; it won't be the same, it will be even better than ever! In addition to our current fabulous team, we will be adding an incredible bright and talented new CEO ready to lead us into the future. I know this amazing human being will be carefully selected and sent to us from G-d, assisted by a professional search firm and our own succession planning committee of board members who have been working on our first succession transition for the past five years. This is a carefully planned, executed process happening at a time when JAFCO is strong, stable, and secure. I completely intend to stay involved with JAFCO in a supportive and meaningful capacity, as my heart and my soul will be here forever.

JAFCO is so deeply rooted within my own family; my son Evan and his wife Kara (who are proud JAFCO Godparents) and my beautiful 2-year-old grandson Atlas Abraham are the main reasons I am retiring, to spend more quality time with them since they live out of town.

When I accepted the position of JAFCO's Executive Director in 1992, I didn't realize I was completing the circle of life for my family, specifically my parents, JAFCO Legacy Donors, Abraham and Fay Zalcberg, who were left orphaned by the Holocaust. With no agency in the Jewish community at the time in Europe to protect them, they immigrated to Israel where I was born and remain a proud citizen. As I retire during these unsettling times in our world and the Jewish community, I am proud to say as a community we have created a safer place for Jewish children and any child alone in this world.

So, ironically as I announce my retirement, I recognize that JAFCO's mission is more relevant in our lifetime than ever. My current role at JAFCO is extremely important to ensure our new CEO brings a connection to our roots as a faith-based organization within a loving Jewish community with deep concern about all children, both within the Jewish community and beyond.

JAFCO was not my dream, it was the wonderful dream of our founders, Ron and Deni Simon. With the most incredible Clinical Chief and Operations Director in the universe at my side, the incomparable Wendy Jenkins, we have had the honor to help make that dream a reality and could only accomplish this dream with the support of each and every person reading this newsletter.

I cannot think of a greater career in the entire world than my 32-year leadership role at JAFCO. On any given day I was a witness to some of the deepest and darkest struggles and greatest triumphs in life. Moments such as sitting in court as a mother voluntarily surrendered her parental rights because she wanted her child to have a life that she was unable to provide. Placing a child in the arms of a family who could only

dream of being parents. Hearing the Rabbi call one of our children at the Village up to the Torah for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, and then years later attending their high school and college graduations and then their weddings. Watching the tears fall from parents' eyes as their children sang at the Ability Center Summer Camp talent show and seeing our community smiling and laughing together during wellness classes with friends they made at Eagles' Haven. I am eternally grateful for all these experiences.

Working alongside Wendy Jenkins for the past three decades, with the most dedicated staff, we knew we could handle anything G-d sent our way. He sent us quite a lot, and we still feel a greater presence at JAFCO each and every day. Our motto at JAFCO is that the right thing always happens in the end so if the right thing is not happening, it is not the end.

The most caring and generous people I was able to work with; volunteers and donors, and the foster and adoptive parents, these are my ultimate heroes, people who open their home and their hearts to children who are all alone in this world. And the donors who cry when they are pinned as JAFCO Godparents and when they make a major donation to place their family name on one of our campuses, always with tears of joy as they know they are truly saving lives. Second to the honor of being a mother, my career at JAFCO has been the greatest honor of my life, trusted by the community and the incredible JAFCO board with a soul as deep as JAFCO. This is not goodbye for me; I will always be a part of the JAFCO family in some way.

My father Abe survived Auschwitz not by hardening his heart against the atrocities he witnessed but by opening his heart to every kindness he was given even within that horrific place. His name and my mom's are on plaques on the staff entrance at the Village, a door opened by our amazing JAFCO family every morning. I dedicate my entire career to my wonderful parents and thank them for teaching me to never give up, no matter what life sends our way. Our purpose on this earth is to leave the world a little better than the way we found it, and in doing so we also discover the meaning of happiness.

Thank you for your love and support of JAFCO and for keeping the amazing words of Anne Frank alive as we continue to work together as a JAFCO family to focus every day on all that is good in our world. "How wonderful it is, that one need not wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."



Sarah Franco
Chief Executive Officer



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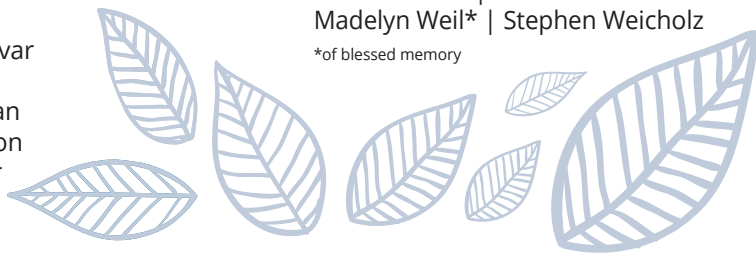
*of blessed memory

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We truly apologize for any errors or omissions. Please help us improve our communications by letting us know if any changes need to be made to your contact information. If you enjoy receiving this newsletter, please be sure to keep your JAFCO membership current with a 2024 - 2025 gift of \$54 or more. Please let us know if you are receiving duplicate mailings or none at all. If you are not receiving JAFCO emails please contact shelli@jafco.org so we may update your email address.

A copy of JAFCO's official non-profit registration and financial information may be obtained from the appropriate state agencies; in Florida contact the Division of Consumer Services (registration #CH19241 & #CH39375) at 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com; in Pennsylvania call 1-800-732-0999 (reg. #34017) or www.dos.state.pa.us; in New York call 212-416-8401 or www.charities.com (reg. #21-49-39); in New Jersey contact www.state.nj.us/lps/ca reg. #CH 3196000). Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

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Growing With Love

We have just completed construction of two brand new respite homes at the JAFCO Children's Ability Center!

You helped us to build these beautiful homes and now we need everyone's support to open and operate them. These homes will allow us to have over 1,000 children per year sleep overnight, have a fun time with their friends, and become more independent while their parents are able to take a deep breath and relax. Whether it's just for one night or for two weeks, the JAFCO Children's Ability Center overnight respite program is literally saving families and is unlike any other center in the entire country.

We invite you to join our *Growing With Love* celebration in honor of your children and grandchildren, in honor of your birthday or anniversary or because you care about JAFCO and want to help us grow with your love. By becoming a part of this exclusive group of families, you are truly showing your love and compassion for families raising children with special needs. This urgent fund will allow us to open, staff and operate our two beautiful new homes.



For more information or to make your donation to *Growing with Love* today contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Janet Epstein at janet@jafco.org or 954-315-8696.

For a list of *Growing With Love* members please see page 33