

2008 Annual Report

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Responding to the needs of a community in crisis

Strengthening Jewish lives, responding to community needs.

To lead the way to a Jewish community where everyone lives with dignity, security, and hope.

Jewish Family Service unveiled these new mission and vision statements this year. They make clear both our purposeful commitment to be the comprehensive social services provider for the Jewish community as well as the importance of our meaningful presence within greater Cincinnati.

We, the staff and Board of Jewish Family Service, hold tight to this vision in our hearts. It motivates us each day as we encounter people

in our own community - our neighbors, relatives, and friends - who have fallen on hard times or struggle with basic needs. Without Jewish Family Service they would have nowhere else to turn. Nowhere.

Jewish Family Service has always been the first responder for our community during times of crisis, and today's climate is no exception. In fact, in recent history we have never experienced needs so great nor has our assistance been so relevant.

The tables below show the hard numbers that depict the influence the recession had on our community in 2008. Unfortunately, this year's records reveal an even

larger impact on the demands of our agency. Jewish Family Service Food Pantry has already served more individuals in the first 6 months of 2009 than in all of 2008.

This trend shows the importance of social services in our community.

As such, we are proud to represent an organization that aims to confront all challenges brought to the

forefront by this economic crisis. This annual report highlights the ways our community and clientele rely on the services our agency provides.

Jewish Family Service is the essential foundation of a caring and vibrant community.

Thank you for allowing us the privilege to serve and to strengthen lives.



Beth Schwartz

Beth Schwartz
Executive Director



Bruce Baker

Bruce Baker
President of the Board

Reliance on Emergency Financial Aid

Did you know? 47% of Jewish Family Service clientele have an annual household income of under \$15,000	Average Monthly Distribution of supportive funds	Average # of People served per month
July - December 2007	\$1,174	6.6
July - December 2008	\$3,531	13.1
% Increase	201%	98%

Reliance on Jewish Family Service Food Pantry

Did you know? Adults under the age of 60 make up 64% of the pantry clientele	Average # of Households served per month	Average # of People served per month
July - December 2007	46.8	77.5
July - December 2008	65.8	108
% Increase	41%	39%

Numbers tell part of the story. See inside for anecdotes that tell more.

Partners in Strength



Thank you to the following community agencies, individuals, families, corporations, and private foundations. Your generosity ensures Jewish Family Service's continued excellence in successfully providing vital programs to our community. Social Services for Nazi victims have been supported by a grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Action Reconciliation Service for Peace
Anderson-Rogers Foundation
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The Bahmann Foundation
Beth Israel Congregation
Big Brothers Big Sisters Association
Bridges For A Just Community
Cedar Village
The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education
Cephalon
Champion Window & Patio Room Co.
Cincinnati Hebrew Day School
CMC Properties
Family Bridges Home Care
Family Violence Prevention Project/YWCA
Freestore Foodbank
Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute Of Religion
HIAS (Hebrew Immigration Aid Society)
Jewish Foundation
Jewish Vocational Service
The Kroger Company
Libby Perszyk Kathman
Carl H. Lindner
The Manuel D. And Rhoda Mayerson Foundation
Mayerson Jewish Community Center
Mazon
Miller-Valentine-Walsh Fund

Moos Chitim Fund
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National Speaking Of Women's Health Foundation
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Workum Student Intern Program
Wright State University School of Social Work

We apologize for any agency or organization inadvertently omitted from this list

Mission Statement:

Strengthening Jewish lives,
responding to community needs

Vision Statement:

To lead the way to a Jewish community where
everyone lives with dignity, security, and hope

Jewish Family Service of the Cincinnati area is a not-for-profit 501(c) 3 agency and is:

- Licensed by Ohio Department of Job and Family Services as a private adoption agency, and by Ohio Department of Mental Health
- A member agency of Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, and National Council on Aging



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The Impact of the Recession on Our Community

**"I always knew about JFS,
but I never thought
I would have to call you."**

Reliance on Jewish Family Service Food Pantry

- During the summer and early fall, we noted an increase in households running out of food between days when the pantry was open. The pantry was originally intended as an emergency food source, but it is increasingly becoming a sustaining food source for some clients. We started giving out larger quantities of food. This has reduced the problem for clients, but taxes our monthly supplies.
- The increase in pantry usage includes new users and infrequent users showing up more regularly.
- Adults under the age of 60 make up 64% of the pantry clientele. Destitute adults are the most difficult to serve because there are fewer community safety net services as compared to senior adults and children.

Reliance on Emergency Financial Assistance

- Emergency funds are intended to fend off the disconnection of utilities, hunger, homelessness, loss of vital transportation, and health crises. We are seeing an increase of calls from middle class families for these funds.
- For the first time, clients are asking for help with non-emergency medical payments. There are three main reasons for this trend: they are unable to pay their insurance co-pays, they have lost their health insurance due to unemployment, or they have fallen so far behind in paying their physicians' bills that they risk being denied further necessary care.



2008 was just the beginning of the recession. Still, there was a 201% increase in the amount of emergency financial assistance funds Jewish Family Service distributed monthly and a 41% increase in Jewish Family Service Food Pantry utilization.

These are words that our Intake Specialist is now repeatedly hearing. Four client services—the Food Pantry, Chaver Emergency Financial Aid, Vital Services Case Management, and Aging Services—are experiencing greater demands as a direct result of the economic recession. These effects became noticeable in the summer of 2008, and they continue to mount. Numbers tell part of the story, which you can find on Page 1. These anecdotes tell more.

Reliance on Vital Services Case Management

- Case management is crucial to the proper delivery of food aid and other emergency financial assistance. Our staff establishes the clients' needs as well as their income qualification, which is set at 200% of federal poverty level. In most cases, clients' lives are complicated and their needs are many.
- In an ideal scenario, our case managers have adequate time to fully grasp clients' needs, educate them about steps they could take to meet their needs, and then support them in their efforts as they take these steps. This requires multiple contacts with clients and frequent consultation with other service providers. The rush of new clients is challenging our staff capacity.
- As an adjunct to case management, counseling is important for clients facing economic stress. The loss of a job or a home can be devastating. Such losses are linked to depression, suicide, and domestic violence.

Reliance on Aging Services

- Many older adults rely on their savings and investments as their primary source of income. With dramatic market losses, formerly middle-income seniors find themselves traumatized financially. Increasingly, they are relying on experienced Jewish Family Service geriatric care managers to connect them to available community resources.
- Some people who were planning to retire are now unable to; they expect to work indefinitely. At the same time, the number of people age 65 and older who are out of work and are actively seeking employment is at the highest level recorded since the federal government began computing reliable unemployment rates in 1948.

2008 JFS Supporters

Thank you to the following who have contributed money or in kind services to help Jewish Family Service strengthen lives:

From Strength To Strength

*Created to recognize,
with gratitude,
the heartfelt commitment
and support of
special Friends of JFS
June 2008 - June 2009*

Visionary \$5,400+

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We apologize for any names that may have been inadvertently omitted from this list.



To make sure our local community was ready to address the increase of Domestic Abuse incidents that may occur during tough economic times, JFS brought in Rabbi Dratch, founder of JSAFE: Jewish Institute Supporting an Abuse Free Environment. He shared strategies for prevention and intervention with rabbis from all movements, Jewish communal professionals, and community mental health professionals.

2008 Jewish Family Service Volunteers

Volunteers are a vital part of Jewish Family Service programs. Thank you to the following volunteers who help sustain our work in the community by supplementing our staff and limited resources. We appreciate your dedication, time, and enthusiasm.

Adath Israel Mitzvah Day
Jennifer Adut
Jonas Allen
Rabbi Ruth Alpers
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2008 marked the 10th anniversary of the annual delivery of Passover food, which helped low-income families enjoy the holiday. Volunteers of all ages collected, sorted, and boxed the food necessary to observe Passover. They personally delivered the boxes to over 250 households in Greater Cincinnati.

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Elliot Spieler
Judge Heather Stein-Russell
Garrett Steinbuch
Sandy Stern

Cecille Stone
Sarah Suddleson
Terry Suskind
Phyllis Tobias
Jeremy Tomaino
Paula Tompkins
Barbara Turner-Michaelson
Bonnie Ullner
Daniel Valentini
Monica Valentini
Raphael Warren
Miriam Warshauer
John Wasniewski
Sharon Wasniewski
Phil Weintraub
Paula Weiss
Sarah Weiss
Joan Wells
Bernice Winkler
Bobby Winkler
Wise Temple
Sixth Grade Class
Wise Temple
Tikkun Olamathan
Freddie Wolf
Holly Wolfson
Diane Yasgur
Howard Yasgur
Noah Yasgur
Sophia Yasgur
Joyce Yonka
Walter Yonka
John Youkilis
Barbara Younger
George Zahn
Lori Zahn
Felicia Zakem
Marcy Ziek
Zina Zmood



Jewish residents of a local senior community experienced the beauty of holiday traditions when volunteers with Jewish Visiting Initiative-The Bikur Cholim Project of Jewish Family Service helped them celebrate Chanukah.

We apologize for any names that may have been inadvertently omitted from this list.

2008-2009 Board of Directors

Thank you to our Board of Directors for providing the stewardship that helps Jewish Family Service enrich lives throughout Cincinnati.

Officers

Bruce Baker
President

Michael Schwartz
Vice-President

Susan Shorr
Vice-President

Danny Lipson
Treasurer

Mark Kanter
Secretary

Board of Directors

Jonas Allen
Marcie W. Bachrach
Gail H. Friedman
Aaron Fritzhand
Sam Knobler
Bruce Lazarus
Evan Leitner
Andrea Lerner Levenson
Sam Lobar
Liz McOsker
Leslie Miller
Mark Miller
Pam Sacherman
Lauren Scharf
Gary Smith

Ex-Officio

Shepard Englander
Beth Guttman

Former Presidents

Max Hirsch 1943-1945
Felix H. Lee 1945-1947
Eugene L. Ach 1947-1949
Fred H. Roth 1949-1951
Robert L. Mayer 1951-1953
Aaron M. Wiesen 1953-1955
M. Herbert Oettinger 1955-1957
Robert I. Westheimer 1957-1960
Sol Goodman 1960-1962
Henry H. Hersch 1962-1965
Jules I. Klein 1965-1968
Hortense Wolf 1968-1970
Barry S. Stulbarg 1970-1972
James A. Rosenthal 1972-1975
Sylvia Schwartzman 1975-1977

Jule G. Levin 1977-1979
Bruce M. Heyman 1979-1982
Carolyn F. Saeks 1982-1984
Alan R. Mack 1984-1985
Stephen Cohen 1985-1988
Jack C. Rubenstein 1988-1991
M. Samuel Sudman 1991-1993
Jay E. Price 1993-1995
Dianne M. Rosenberg 1995-1998
Henry W. Schneider 1998-2000
Barry H. Morris 2000-2003
Barbara C. Rabkin 2003-2005
John Youkilis 2005-2007
Cindy Getty 2007-2008

Jewish Family Service serves all individuals without regard to religion, race, age, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, or ability to pay

All photographs used in this annual report are actual volunteers, class participants, and clients of Jewish Family Service

Statement of Activities

For fiscal year ending December 31, 2008
100% (Audited - Unrestricted Funds)

Revenues

Grants & Contributions	\$ 654,082	38.5%
United Way Allocations	421,135	24.8%
Jewish Federation of Cincinnati	392,000	23.1%
Service Fees	187,644	11.0%
Other	28,030	1.6%
Investment Income, net	12,325	0.7%
Special Event Revenue	<u>5,879</u>	<u>0.3%</u>
Total Revenue, Gains & Other Support	\$1,701,095	100%

Expenses

Program Expenses		
Senior Adult Services	\$ 547,107	27.2%
Family Life Education	340,683	16.9%
Adoption Connection	295,283	14.6%
Volunteer & Vital Services	213,360	10.6%
Counseling	211,751	10.5%
Resettlement & Acculturation	132,112	6.5%
Supporting Services		
Management & General	183,951	9.1%
Fundraising	<u>93,841</u>	<u>4.6%</u>
Total Expenses	\$2,018,088*	100%
Ending Net Assets		\$1,371,716

* Excludes depreciation expense of \$20,657 and Investment Gain/Loss of (\$160,648)

In 2008, Jewish Family Service modified its adoption program and returned prepaid fees related to restructured services. This change, which accounts for 58% of the deficit, was a calculated loss in order to redirect efforts to innovative services that will increase revenues in future years. The remaining 42% was a result of cutbacks in grants and sponsorships related to the national economic conditions.

Program Service Areas

Adoption Connection

Jewish Family Service offers the professional support needed to build families through international and domestic adoption, including identified, relative, and step-parent adoption.

Alan R. Mack Parents Center

Professionally led parenting enrichment classes offer proven techniques to provide children with a secure and positive home environment so they grow into successful adults.

Counseling

When the challenges of a difficult relationship, changing jobs, problems with school or a parent, or grieving a loss become overwhelming, the experienced licensed clinical social workers at Jewish Family Service can help.

Emergency Financial Assistance

Jewish Family Service strengthens lives of those in need by providing kosher food, household supplies and emergency financial assistance for expenses such as rent, utilities, medical care, and prescription payments.

Family Life Education

A wide variety of preventative and educational programs raise awareness about important social and family issues, encourage acceptance of diversity, and recognize unhealthy relationships that can lead to abusive behaviors.

Resettlement Acculturation

Émigrés from the former Soviet Union receive education and case management leading to economic self-sufficiency and social integration into the community.

Senior Adult Services

Experienced professionals provide care management, service coordination, and linkage to community resources to help older adults maintain their independence and enhance their involvement with family and the community.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are welcome to work with Jewish Family Service staff and clients in many areas including delivering food to families with needs, visiting isolated individuals of all ages, assisting in senior adult activities, tutoring New Americans, or providing administrative support.

**3,518 unduplicated
lives were
strengthened in 2008**

Jewish Family Service of the Cincinnati area traces its roots to the Hebrew General Relief Society, which was founded in 1850 to primarily provide financial assistance to economically underprivileged individuals and families. In 1943, the casework department was set up as an autonomous agency: Jewish Family Service Bureau. Today, Jewish Family Service continues in the tradition of meeting social needs through direct material assistance, case management, education, and professional social work practice.

Staff

As of July 1, 2009

Leadership Team

Beth Schwartz, *Executive Director*

Dora Baehner, *Business Manager*

Ann Sutton Burke, *Director of Aging Services*

Fran Gafvert, *Director of Vital Services*

Sherry Kaplan, *Director of Marketing*

Linda Kean, *Director of Family Life Education*

Jackie Orsi, *Director of Development*

Stephanie Aronholt

Angie Bowling

Jackie Drake

Estelle Galper

Luda Gikhman

Sandee Golden

Shari Goldsmith

Natalie Hurley

Carrie Krach

Julia Linkova

Erin McNew

Margarita McNulty

Ruth Moeddel

Lilly Narusevich

Marge Reed

Pat Rosenberg

Danielle Sabarese

Samantha Tebelman

Paula Tompkins

Vicki Ventre

Sue Warm

Gail Ziegler

Thank you also to the numerous contract workers, student interns, and volunteers