



FAMILY MATTERS

JEWISH FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Spring 2008

When clients become donors . . . When donors become clients

by Iris Young, Executive Director



I have shared many stories with you about individuals in the community that come through our doors and receive help from JFCS. Many become volunteers and even donors for the agency. It is a feel-good story and one that makes us very proud.

What I want to share with you now is a new trend that reflects the downturn in the economy. We see it all around us: homes on the market, commercial construction on hold, higher prices at the supermarket and gas prices that seem to rise hourly.

What we see at JFCS are friends of the agency who have donated for years who come from stable homes and what we thought were stable jobs. They are coming to us for help with their mortgage and utilities, and for food from the pantry. They have lost their jobs in construction or their companies have downsized due to a shrinking market place. This is a new challenge and one we know we must meet. We need to be able to help these new clients, to be the bridge between jobs, the bridge during a medical emergency and the bridge that keeps them moving forward during tough economic times.

We don't need the media to tell us things are tough; we see it everyday. More than ever we need your financial support so we have the resources to be the bridge that keeps all our clients safe, strong and hopeful.

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JFCS Fact Sheet

- Last year, 12,861 hot meals were served to seniors at Mt. Carmel and 625 meals were delivered to people in their homes.
- Since July 2007 JFCS has completed 122 state adoptions
- 91% of households given financial assistance for their utilities still have active JEA service six months later.

CALL2GO

Do you need a ride?

Call us:

224-6287

JFCS Senior Transportation Program provides door-to-door cab service for medical appointments, grocery shopping and to synagogue. Cost is \$7.50 one way; \$15 round trip within our service area. There is no cost for rides to Sabbath or holiday services. All that is required is 48-hours notice.

Matching Donations

Many companies will match donations made to 501 (c) 3 charities. You may be able to double your donation to JFCS through your workplace.

ENCHANTED FLORENCE 2008 JFCS'S SPRING FUNDRAISER

Join JFCS for a night in Italia!

Saturday Evening, May 17th

7:30-11:30 p.m.

Fogle Fine Art & Accessories
3312 Beach Boulevard

Proceeds from the event will help JFCS provide needed services to seniors, children and families throughout Northeast Florida.

Call 394-5721 for additional information



JFCS Programs & Events

SUPPORT GROUPS

Adoptive Parents Support Group • Thursdays, 7-9 p.m.

This group meets the third Thursday of each month. Open to adoptive parents and anyone considering adoption. Call 394-5763 for information.

Bereavement Support

Our Bereavement group meets for six consecutive Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. Next group begins Tuesday May 6th through Tuesday, June 10th. Call Beth Shorstein at 394-5723.

Club Sandwich: a New Twist on the Sandwich Generation

An ongoing monthly discussion group, which focuses on aging issues of young-old, middle-old, and old-old generations that include child, parent and grandparent. Meets the second Monday of the month from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Call for information 394-5722.

EVENT

Mini Seder at Mt. Carmel

The Community Kosher Nutrition Program will host a mini-Seder at Mt. Carmel on Tuesday, April 15th at 5:30 p.m. The Seder will be led by Jewish Healing Network volunteer, Rabbi Mona Decker.

NEW PROGRAM

Medical Advocate Program (MAP)

One of JFCS's newest programs, MAP provides peace of mind to the older adult who cannot go to the doctor alone, and to their family. Call 394-5777 for additional information.



FOODS OF THE MONTH

April

Beef Ravioli, Baked Beans, Peaches, Pears, Hearty Soups and Cereal

May

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta, Tomato Sauce, Chili, Fruit Juice

June

Beef Stew, Carrots, Beans, Rice, Fruit Juices

July-August

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Rice, Pasta, Tomato Sauce, Mac & Cheese, Tuna, Canned Fruits, Juices



Pantry ladies, Stacia Rosenblum and Natalie Kelly

Senior to senior program leads to MOCA exhibit

What happens when 20 high school students meet with 20 residents of River Garden and the Coves? In this case, the end result will be a photo-montage exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA). Shelley Kulchin, Older Adult Services Care Manager says, "it will also be a great opportunity for positive interaction between high school seniors and the participating senior citizen residents."

In February, the high school students began interviewing their senior partners and documenting the stories they learned through black and white photography. They work together to create the montage that will document the seniors' memories.

This moving exhibit will be on display at MOCA in April.



Krispy Kreme's for Birthday Dreams

Thanks to everyone who supported **The Jewish Family & Community Services' Student Advisory Board** doughnut sale. The money raised will provide birthday cards and gifts to over 100 children in the foster care system. Special thanks to Molly Appel who chaired the program.

What is FANN?

Feed A Needy Neighbor

In 1987, Temple's Rabbi Matuson shared his deep concern about hunger in Jacksonville. With the support of JFCS Executive Director, Iris Young, Temple congregants Judi Greenhut and Sandy Miller started the FANN (Feed A Needy Neighbor) program, collecting canned food for the JFCS Pantry. Decades later, FANN is still generously supported by a concerned community as well as local businesses including Winn-Dixie. Each year, our Winn Dixie Emergency Food Pantry distributes nutritious, non-perishable food to over 6,000 individuals and families in Northeast Florida.

What did your doctor say?

Dear Pearl:

My mother has always led an active life, but it seems she has goes to the doctor a lot lately. When I call to ask her how she is feeling or how the appointment went, she seems confused about what the doctor has told her. Do you think the time has come for me to go to the doctor with her?

Needing Information

Dear Needing:

If you think it's time, it probably is. But approach the subject with respect for her independence. Begin by getting to know the medical professionals who care for your mom and make sure you have a list of all the medications she is taking. If she is forgetting what the doctor has told her, or is misunderstanding information, ask her if you could go with her to her next appointment. Your getting involved will give her peace of mind as well. If you are not able to accompany her to every appointment, broaden your support system by asking other family members to help or find out about the Medical Advocate Program (MAP) at Jewish Family & Community Services.

Pearls of Wisdom is a regular column of the Older Adult Services Department at Jewish Family & Community Services. If you have a question, call (904) 394-5722 or write her at dearpearl@jfcjax.org.



PEARLS OF WISDOM

The Many Faces of JFCS

Adoption

First Coast Adoption Professionals placed 52 infants and children into loving and nurturing homes.



Child Safety

JFCS provided case management services to over 700 abused and neglected children, held 100 Family Team Conferences, finalized 108 adoptions and provided prevention services to 256 families.

Community Kosher Nutrition Program

The Community Kosher Nutrition Program provided over 14,000 hot, healthy, kosher meals to older adults in our community.

Counseling

3,199 clients participated in 16,755 hours of counseling. Services include pre-marital counseling, custody home studies, grief counseling and family counseling.

Emergency

Financial Assistance

JFCS distributed federal and state funds to 6,924 individuals who were having difficulty paying rent or utility bills and to individuals having difficulty paying security, rental or utility deposits.



Feed A Needy Neighbor (FANN)

The Winn Dixie Emergency Food Pantry at JFCS provided emergency groceries to 5,770 hungry individuals.

Geriatric Care Management

742 hours of counseling, information and referral, support groups and care management were provided to 409 older adults.

Jewish Healing Network

Volunteers visited 150 frail, ill or homebound Jewish individuals in home and hospital settings.

Jewish Hospice Services

53 Jewish clients and their families have been served by this program, allowing for a Jewish connection and guidance in addressing end of life issues.



Interest Free College Loan Application Deadline is Fast Approaching!

Do you Need Money for Your Education? For college or graduate school? For vocational training? To update your job skills? To make a career change? **Maybe Jewish Family & Community Services can help!**

JFCS works in partnership with The Jewish Educational Loan Fund of Atlanta who provides interest-free college loans to Jewish students to supply those last dollars that enable students to get the education they need to succeed in life.



Applications may be accessed online at www.jelf.org. To make an appointment for an interview or for more information, please call Renie Levin at JFCS at 394-5721 or email her at rlevin@jfcjax.org. **The deadline for submitting applications is April 15, 2008.**

We're Live!

www.koleinujax.org Information sharing web-site for parents of Jewish children with special needs.



Jewish Family & Community Services, with wonderful support from our committee, has created the web-site "koleinujax" to serve as a resource and referral network as well as providing a forum for parents. The goal is to help families share with each other community resources such as medical options, camps, recreation programs and school choices. In addition we hope to provide a welcoming environment for support and friendship.

Your input about this brand new site is greatly appreciated. Please contact Susan Spinella at JFCS, 394-5728 or sspinella@jfcjax.org with feedback and ideas. Koleinujax chairs are Jo-Ellen Unger and Rachel Morgenthal.



Changing lives for better tomorrows

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Director of Older Adult Services

Kathleen Stevens
Director of Adoptions

The mission of Jewish Family & Community Services is to strengthen the entire community by providing family and individual services, without prejudice, in the Jewish tradition of helping people help themselves.



Support FANN

It's not too late to join the Block Family Food Challenge

This is the time of year that JFCS looks to raise funds and food. Here is how you can help:

- Donate funds during the months of March and April; The Block family will match the donation.
- Buy one, GIVE one. Look for the "buy one get one free" promotions. Buy one, give one to the pantry!
- At meetings and events ask your participants to bring a can of food.
- Have a food drive! JFCS has all the promotional materials to help.
- Collect your spare change and donate it. It adds up fast.

With your help, we will continue to feed the community and begin to put an end to hunger in Jacksonville.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Double my Donation during the Block Family Food Challenge

\$18 buys 120 ounces of peanut butter \$25 buys 18 boxes of Cheerios
 \$36 buys 65 packages of mac & cheese \$50 buys 900 lbs. of food
 \$100 buys 135 cans of chicken soup \$200 buys groceries for five families

Amount \$ _____

Send to: JFCS • 6261 Dupont Station Ct., E. • Jacksonville, FL 32217 Attn: FANN

Did you know? Each week JFCS Prevention staff educates families at their homes in behavior modification, money management, and parenting, which allows more children to remain in the home as opposed to a foster care placement.

WHEN THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY

A bequest in your will to Jewish Family & Community Services makes it possible for you to help preserve the important programs of JFCS ... for years to come.

Contact the Jacksonville Jewish Foundation at 904-394-0720 and turn your passion into action.

JEWISH FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES
 Changing lives for better tomorrows
 6261 Dupont Station Court, E.
 Jacksonville, FL 32217

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SAVE THE DATE
 Monday, September 15, 2008
 The JFCS
 Alexandra Miller Speaker Series
 will feature:
Carol Hausman, Ph.D.

Dated Material: April 7, 2008

