



FAMILY MATTERS

JEWISH
FAMILY &
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Spring
2007

Happy 90th Birthday JFCS

1917-2007 . . .

What has and hasn't changed in ninety years?

by Iris Young, Executive Director



As we look back at our 90-year history I am in awe. So much has changed, so little has changed.

From the early days of being simply a welfare agency, we were here to help people with food and shelter. We still offer those services today but the goal is broader. Through the ongoing vision of our leaders we have created programs that have not only helped people in crisis situations but also helped them out of crisis situations.

Counseling, support groups and life skills training have become an integral part of the agency's success stories. Partnerships with the United Way began in 1924 and with the Jacksonville Jewish Federation in 1935. Both continue today!

The community looks to us to identify needs as we move toward the future. We look to the community for support to guarantee our future. Our success in part is due to our strong partnerships and relationships. Our 90th Birthday not only celebrates us, it celebrates you!

INSIDE:

Block Family Food Challenge	4
Child Safety Adoption	2
FANN Foods of the Month	2
Interest Free College Loans	3
JFCS Programs	2
Jewish Healing Network	2
Thanks to local schools	3
Volunteers	3
What is FANN?	2
Your Donation Helps	4

JFCS Fact Sheet

- The Florida State Foster Parent Association awarded its 2006 Outstanding Service Award to the JFCS Child Safety Program.
- Seventy-nine Jewish seniors were provided with Passover baskets by the Martin J. Gottlieb Day School and JFCS.
- Winn-Dixie donated 22 pallets of non-perishable food to the Feed A Needy Neighbor (FANN) program at JFCS.

Join us for an event
90 YEARS
in the making.

★ *Live Music*
Fabulous Silent Auction
★ *Delicious food*
Fun drinks

★ JFCS Grand Decade Celebration
Saturday, April 28 • 7:30 p.m.

★ At the home of
Jeff and Debbie Parker

Honorary Chairs:
Clarence and Corkie Gooden
of CSX Transportation

To sponsor or attend call 394-5721

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-hour notice.

JFCS Programs

Bereavement Support Group • Tuesdays, March 6-April 10 - 7 p.m.
Call 394-5723 for information. Location: Jacksonville Jewish Center, 3662 Crown Point Road

Anger Management (for adults) Begins Monday, March 12 - 6-8 p.m.
This is a six week program to teach adults how to identify their unhealthy anger and to learn solutions. A second session will be offered in May.
Call 394-5749 for information. Location: JFCS Dupont Building

Passover Mini-Seder for Residents of Mt. Carmel • April 5 - 5:30 p.m.
Call 394-5723 for information. Location: Mt. Carmel Gardens

“Get Moving!” • Tuesdays, June 5 5:30 - 7:30.
We meet for eight consecutive weeks. We have a light dinner and explore empowerment and strengths-building issues with women and girls via art, conversation, and group dynamics. Call 394-5728 for information. Location: JFCS Dupont Building

TEAM (group for boys ages 12 - 17) will begin in June.
Our 10 week group teaches boys how to deal with conflicts, stress, anger, and learn to communicate more effectively. Call 394-5749 for information.
Location: JFCS Dupont Building



FANN FOODS OF THE MONTH

March

*Cans of Chicken, Mac & Cheese,
Tomato Sauce, Pasta*

April

*Cans of Beef Ravioli Baked Beans
Hearty Soup, Fruit Juice*

May

*Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta, Chili,
Condensed Milk*

June

*Beef Stew, Carrots, Beans,
Fruit Juices*

Jewish Healing Network Training Begins April 12

Come be part of our volunteer team by attending this 3-part volunteer training class, and being available to visit those in need. As a JHN volunteer you will have the opportunity to offer comfort and support to those in need, and fulfill the *mitzvah* of *Bikkur Cholim*.

Training will be held Thursday mornings from 9a.m. - 12 noon

April 12 - The ABC's of Bikkur Cholim: Intro to the Jewish Healing Movement Communication Skills: The Art of Listening

**April 19 - Visiting the Sick / End of Life Issues
The Role of the Volunteer, part 1**

**April 26 - Spiritual Issues / The Role of Prayer
The Role of the Volunteer, part 2**

Training classes will be held at the Jacksonville Jewish Center, 3662 Crown Point Drive. For additional information please call Beth at 394-5723 or Helen at 394-5737.

The Jewish Healing Network (JHN) is sponsored by JFCS and funded in part by the Jacksonville Jewish Federation.

Bikkur Cholim, visiting the sick, is a well established tradition in Judaism. It is an honor to perform the mitzvah of visiting one who is ill, hospitalized or feeling isolated.

Child Safety Adoption

When children in the Dependency System are unable to be reunified with their biological parents JFCS works to place them in appropriate adoptive homes. JFCS also works with adoptive families by linking them to available subsidies such as day care, health care and college tuition. If you are interested in obtaining additional information please call Laura Evans at 394-5747 or email levans@jfcsjax.org.



Pantry ladies, Stacia Rosenblum and Natalie Kelly

What is FANN?

Feed A Needy Neighbor

In 1987, Temple's Rabbi Matuson shared his deep concern about hunger in Jacksonville. Two congregants, Judi Greenhut and Sandy Miller, decided to do something to help. With the support of JFCS Executive Director, Iris Young, Judi and Sandy 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 many local businesses including Winn-Dixie. Each year, our Winn Dixie Emergency Food Pantry distributes nutritious, non-perishable food to over 10,000 individuals and families in Northeast Florida.

Volunteers

An important part of the JFCS family

According to Population Surveys, one in every five Americans does some volunteer work for their synagogue, church, school or local non-profit.

Here at Jewish Family and Community Services we have volunteers doing work that truly makes a difference to the community. What a wonderful way to give.

We marvel at the diversity of volunteers who walk through our doors: The Mandarin High School Football Team, The Jacksonville Teen Volunteers, students from all the area schools help out in our food pantry. Businesses do team building by serving meals to our seniors and spending time socializing and bringing smiles. Local friends come in to help with mailings and filing and even document shredding. Organizations and businesses offer services, such as food delivery, saving us countless dollars. Volunteers even help us better train and educate the public in the work we do.

These volunteers are the support team that allows JFCS to better focus its energy on providing the programs and services needed to help our clients. Our volunteers do not accept payment, except our deepest gratitude. We could not do our jobs without them. They are the heart of the JFCS family.



Employees of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) serve meals to residents at Mt. Carmel.

Interest-Free College Loans for Jewish Students

The Jewish Educational Loan Fund has been helping Jewish students in the Southeast attain their dreams of a higher education by granting them interest-free loans since 1961. These loans provide the final dollars that bridge the gap between a student's total financial resources and the cost of attending school.

There is no fee to apply for a JELF loan. In order to qualify, a loan applicant:

- Must be Jewish
- Must be a U.S. citizen or a legal resident
- Must need a JELF loan for undergraduate study, graduate school or special post-secondary training (vocational courses). Loans may also be used by those already in the workforce who need further education to update or change their career.
- Must demonstrate financial need.

The student must complete the application online by April 16. Apply at www.jelf.org/2007. Loan decisions are made by the end of July.

For more information, please contact Renie Levin, Jacksonville program administrator, at Jewish Family & Community Services at 394-5721.



Thank You!

Duval County and St. Johns County Schools are ongoing supporters of JFCS. Their fundraising and volunteer hours help us help the community. Special thanks to Bolles, Bartram Trail High, Mandarin High, Martin J. Gottlieb Day School, Nease High, St. Johns Country Day and Wolfson High.

The Many Faces of JFCS

Adoption

First Coast Adoption Professionals placed 60 infants and children into loving and nurturing homes and performed 21 domestic and international adoption home studies.



Child Safety

JFCS provided case management services to over 550 abused and neglected children, successfully closed 240 cases and held 139 Family Team Conferences. The Agency finalized 91 adoptions and provided prevention services to 90 families.

Community Kosher Nutrition Program

The Community Kosher Nutrition Program provides over 26,000 hot, healthy, kosher meals to older adults in our community.

Counseling

4,328 clients participated in 22,644 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 9,613 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 10,336 hungry individuals.

Geriatric Care Management

1,000 hours of counseling, information and referral, support groups and care management were provided to 316 older adults.

Jewish Healing Network

An average of 40 frail, ill or homebound individuals are visited monthly by trained and dedicated JHN volunteers.

Jewish Hospice Connection

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





Changing lives for better tomorrows

Iris Young
Executive Director

Susan Gendzier
Chief Financial Officer

Colleen Lloyd
Chief Programs Officer

Jimmy Fox
Director of Information Technology

Robin Knezhich
Director of Human Resources

Stephanie Majesky
Director of Operations

Robin Peters
Director of Development and Marketing

Susan Spinella
Director of Comprehensive Assessments

Beth Shorstein
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.



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

A bequest in your will to Jewish Family and 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.

Dated Material: March 23, 2007



Support FANN

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 month 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. Call 394-5721 for more information.

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

Double my Donation during the Block Family Community 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 six families

Amount \$ _____

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

How you help the community

Here are some of the ways JFCS puts your donation to work. Your dollars go a long way in meeting the needs of the people we serve.

- \$15 buys a round trip transportation voucher for a senior
- \$36 will buy a three day supply of groceries
- \$50 will buy one hour of counseling for a troubled teen
- \$100 provides a diaper bag filled with baby's needs for a new family



Changing lives for better tomorrows

6261 Dupont Station Court, E.
Jacksonville, FL 32217

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