BY RUTH HAMPTON OLKON, MSW, MPH, JFS CEO

At a time when everything we know seems to have changed, you can depend on the professional, caring staff at JFS to steady the lives of vulnerable clients and community members.

When I try to remember what I thought was so important a lifetime ago in January, it’s hard to believe I was worried about how many inches of snow we’d get during the impending storm or how to best launch new software within the agency. My, how things have changed. Now I am constantly concerned about the health and safety of my family, my colleagues, all JFS clients and the entire community. How are they holding up? Do they have enough food? If they are sick, are they getting the medical attention they need?

I take great comfort and pride in telling you that JFS has done a tremendous job responding to an overnight change in its service model. We have cancelled all in-person activities and closed our building to the public; however, our services continue remotely using phone and video technology. Although this is our annual report issue, and I encourage you to review our 2019 successes and generous supporters inside, I want to take this opportunity to tell you how COVID-19 has impacted the agency, its clients and the community we serve.

As you know, we offer Passover programs each year. Just as those programs had been fully developed, we had to adapt. JFS Community Chaplain Rabbi Lynn Liberman was not able to share a Seder with isolated people in congregate living settings. She has, however, provided spiritual care to many over the phone and has delivered our Passover for All supplies to several assisted living facilities. She received a call of thanks from one recipient. “As a tumble of words and emotions poured from him, I could tell that he was so disoriented by what is happening” said Rabbi Liberman. “He was choking back tears of gratitude for receiving something so kind and so normal. What a difference it can make to be able to reach out to another and connect.”

We also cancelled our event to gather volunteers to fill Passover for All bags with Seder supplies. Instead, our staff safely packed the bags in our office and delivered them to many homes and the management staff of multi-unit housing complexes and care facilities for safe delivery to our clients in those buildings.

Although this is our annual report issue, and I encourage you to review our 2019 successes and generous supporters inside, I want to take this opportunity to tell you how COVID-19 has impacted the agency, its clients and the community we serve.

We have proactively increased contact by calling clients and caregivers to check on their health and safety. While our case managers are not going into client homes, we’ve found other ways to ensure they are receiving the help they need, whether it’s food, medicine, transportation and homemaking or personal care services. I am so impressed by these dedicated employees. Not only have they located hard-to-find resources, but they share those resources with one another. For example, Metro Mobility is providing free grocery delivery to its customers. Minnesota Serving Our Seniors (SOS) is providing kits containing paper towels, toilet paper, and non-perishable items like canned soup, fruit and vegetables. And for the many clients who are feeling secluded and lonely, we are enlisting the help of volunteers to call them in order to reduce isolation and ensure they’re healthy and safe.

Our counseling and mental health services continue as well. We quickly researched and adopted a fully compliant telehealth service model to allow our therapists, Mitchell Wittenberg, Ph.D., LP and Beth Johnson, LMFT, to continue to meet with patients. The critical assistance we provide for our clients and the community will continue. Call us at (651) 698-0767 or email at info@jfssp.org for support or to find out more about how you can help.

JFS Annual Report April 2020 #4 FINAL.indd 1
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WE HELP PEOPLE REGAIN STABILITY IN THEIR LIVES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE.

Aging & Disability Services
Ensures clients and their caregivers have the support, information and services they need to remain living safely and successfully in their own homes.

Community Engagement
From welcoming new babies to engaging volunteers to provide spiritual guidance, these services cover the life span.

Financial Assistance
Covers emergency expenses related to housing, utilities, transportation and some health expenses.

Counseling & Mental Health
Assess and treat a wide range of mental health issues for children, adolescents, adults, couples and families.

Employment Assistance
Helps people with resume writing, interview skills and job search.

Helpful Resources
Helps people identify and access the community resources they need to ease their burden.

IN 2019

More than 3,500 lives were impacted.
2,101 were clients, 1,487 were participants in programs and events, spiritual care, support groups and information and referral contacts.
81% of our clients live below poverty.

81 clients identify as Holocaust survivors.

55% of our clients speak a language other than English.

24% of Employment Assistance clients also received Emergency Financial Assistance.
Creative Thinking and Innovative Solutions Help JFS Reach Clients

JFS Community Chaplain Rabbi Lynn Liberman, BCC, is responsible for addressing the spiritual needs of those who seek her help. Each year, she leads Seders just before Passover and celebrations to prepare for the High Holy days before Rosh Hashanah to congregate living centers throughout the Twin Cities, attended largely by seniors, many who live alone.

This year, Rabbi Liberman and Volunteer Engagement Specialist Margie Solomon were not able to deliver Passover for All bags directly to their clients. Instead, they worked with the management of living centers to ensure bags were delivered safely. Rabbi Lynn followed up with phone calls, and received many calls of thanks, giving her the opportunity to visit, encourage, support and share favorite Passover traditions and memories. “While I was on the phone with one gentleman who now has to stay in his room, even for meals,” said Rabbi Liberman, “he told me he is optimistic. When I asked why, he explained that he grew up during the polio epidemic, watching many of his friends suffer, and believed that we would get through this as well.”

“But there are those who don’t have access to a phone,” explained Rabbi Liberman. “I can’t check in on them and share Passover wishes. I hope the Passover for All bags are something they can take heart in.”

JFS Care Manager Role Becomes More Critical During COVID-19

All (nearly 30) of the JFS social workers who provide care coordination are contractually required to assess their clients initially, followed by a minimum of one annual follow up. Many clients require more contact, while others require only the minimum contact.

During these assessments, many factors are reviewed including physical appearance, cognitive ability, emotional state and the overall health and wellbeing of the client in the home and community. Is the client eating? Are they taking their medication? Can they get up and down from a sitting or lying position? Can they ambulate safely? Many clients are blessed with family and friends who either live with them or visit regularly. However, some have no one. In these cases, the care coordinators assessments and visits become even more important.

With the spread of COVID-19, it has become necessary to eliminate in-person contact. Care coordinators continue to assess the needs of their clients via telephone. One of our clients, an elderly Somali gentleman who has been with us for several years, lives alone but has a daughter nearby who visits with him frequently. It was time for his annual assessment.

We have services set up for him that include home delivered meals, homemaking help, personal care assistance and adult day care. He has several health issues that include memory deficits related to a bad accident he suffered in Somalia, making oversight and support crucial for his wellbeing.

His daughter was with him during the phone assessment. As the assessment began, it quickly became clear to the care coordinator that they did not realize the seriousness of COVID-19. The coordinator reviewed the need to avoid crowds and stay home, keep food on hand, watch for symptoms and what to do should any appear. They had no idea. The client does not speak English. Although his daughter does, she doesn't watch the news or participate with any social media. They were grateful for the information about the virus and how to best manage their lives during this crisis.

Many clients are blessed with family and friends who either live with them or visit regularly. However, some have no one.
New Vital Elders Program Improves Quality of Survivors’ Lives

JFS was awarded a grant from Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) in the spring of 2019. One of the unique goals of the grant was to develop programs for Former Soviet Union (FSU) Holocaust survivors to reduce isolation, successfully engage in community life and live more comfortably in their homes and communities. Working directly with a group of survivors who volunteered to serve on a planning committee, JFS Coordinator Rena Fedorova helped them design activities in the new Vital Elders program to promote meaningful engagement in community life.

The Vital Elders have enjoyed several activities. Last July, they visited the Como Zoo and conservatory, and in August, they took a boat tour on the St. Croix River in Stillwater. In September, the group enjoyed a Russian movie at the JCC Jewish Film Festival, and a planetarium show at the Bell Museum in October. “The Barber of Seville” at the Orpheum Theater was the November activity.

In December, the Russian-American Jews in Minnesota (RAJMN) agency put on an inter-generational Hanukkah celebration at the St. Paul JCC. It was a spectacular program with home-made latkes, singing, dancing, music and an interactive retelling of the story of Hanukkah, all in Russian. The program included students playing piano, violin and bassoon. Some students performed ballet, cha-cha and other dances in full costume.

The party ended with a large group dance to Hava Nagila. Thanks to RAJMN’s superb planning, beautiful decorations and delightful program, everyone had a great time.

Rena continues to lead the Vital Elders program to develop inclusive community activities throughout the spring including attending the ballet, MN Orchestra’s “The Russian Century,” and attending a Russian comedy group show touring from Moscow.

Are you receiving our monthly e-newsletter?

If not, you’re missing lots of JFS news and features, including “Making an Impact,” monthly tribute gifts and staff introductions and accomplishments. Subscribe today on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/jfssp or on our website at www.jfssp.org.

WE ARE LEADERS AND TRUSTED ADVISERS

Right: RAJMN students dance the tango. Below: Russian Holocaust survivors enjoy the Hanukkah celebration at St. Paul JCC.
We are grateful to the following individuals who have made legacy gifts to JFS.

Adam Bahr
Gary J. Benedict
Sharon Benmaman & John Allen
Herman J. Birnberg (z’l)
Dr. Arnold Brier
Judith Brier
David & Sheila H. Brod
Elnor Brodie (z’l)
Marjorie R. Dana-Levine
Stacy & Michael Dockman
Joan & Elliott (z’l) Farber
Jon & Holly Brod Farber
Shel Finver & Dee Albert
Ted & Jackie Flaum
Charles Fodor (z’l)
Victoria Fodor
Friends of JFS (6)
Tom Frishberg
Barry and Rena Glaser
Karen & Fred Gordon
Sheila Gothmann
Tim Gothmann
Mitzi Gramling
Ira G. Kipp
Peggy S. Kipp
Sternie Kissin-Rosen (z’l)
Irving & Gwen Lerner
Susan & Daniel Levey
Stephen & Rita Levin
Charles Levine
Flora Levine (z’l)
Jimmy & Stephanie Levine

Rick Linsk
Don & Rhoda Mains
Ann Matza
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Ruth & David Olkon
Jon & Robin Parritz
Eric & JoAnn Pasternack
Ossie Perlman (z’l)
Sharon E. Pesses
Paul (z’l) & Connie Ross
Lily Rothschild (z’l)
Charles Sansby (z’l)
Marvin Scherzer (z’l)
Brian Serle
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Allen D. Shores (z’l)
Marjorie Shores-Freeman (z’l)
Daniel & Myndal Silver
Charley Smith & Shaked Danai
David & Dede Smith
Dr. Richard & Diane Smookler
Cantor Rachel and Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker
Elaine Steinman
Lee G. Straus (z’l)
Alex Treitler
Debbie Vertelney
Jennifer Wall
Michael Wall
Deborah D. Weiss

Recognized for excellence by Charities Review Council and GuideStar

Designated and Endowed Funds

The following designated and endowed funds have been established to support the mission of Jewish Family Service of St. Paul:

- Irma & Adolf Adler Kosher Meals on Wheels Fund
- Bass Mental Health Fund
- Bear/Schoenkin Leadership Development Fund
- Bebe Endowment Fund
- The Calvin Youth Services Fund
- Capital Building Repair
- Stanley Cohn Special Needs Fund
- Community Senior Services
- Eighth Degree Fund
- Maxwell Fassler Discretionary Fund
- Harry & D’Vera Finkelstein Memorial Fund
- Dena Frishberg Fund for People with Advanced Cancer
- Glaser Senior Service Fund
- Rose Godes Community Senior Services Endowment Fund
- Celia Goldstein Memorial Fund
- Ted & Floanne Hanson Senior Services Fund
- Brian & Judith R. Krasnow Fund for Senior Services
- Life Membership Fund
- Rose Smith Mirsky Endowment Fund
- Newman Emergency Assistance Fund
- Office Improvement Restricted Fund
- Shel & Sandy Olkon Endowment Fund
- Sylvia Peilen Endowment Fund
- Resettlement Emergency Aid
- Maurice & Ruth Rischall Endowment Fund
- Dr. Freeman Rosenblum Children’s Health Fund
- Victor Rosenblum Unmet Needs Fund
- Paul J. Schwartz Educational Fund for New Americans
- Bertha H. Shapiro Memorial Fund
- Marjorie Sigel Endowment Fund for Wellness and Creative Arts Programming
- Arnold & Kaethe Simon Endowment Fund
- Milton & Evelyn Smith Endowment Fund
- Dr. Richard & Diane Smookler Fund for Addiction and Community Support
- Esther & Samuel Strauss Endowment Fund
- Vocational Services Restricted Fund
Thank you to our generous donors and funders. With their help, JFS continues to give hope and make a critical difference in peoples’ lives.

A complete list of all JFS donors can be found on our website at jfssp.org/support-jfs.

$50,000+
Jewish Federations of North America
Minnesota Department of Human Services
Otto Bremer Trust
St. Paul Jewish Federation
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

$10,000–$49,999
Harvey Braufman
Dr. Jimmy & Stephanie Levine
Lockridge Grindal Nauen
Saint Paul and Minnesota Foundation

$5,000–$9,999
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Mary Dinerstein
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Anonymous
Sharon Benmaman & John Allen
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Fidelity Charitable
Dr. Irving & Gwen Lerner
Steve & Rita Levin
Dr. Irving & Gwen Lerner

$1,000–$2,500
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Ameriprise Financial Inc.
Anonymous
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Beth & Todd Johnson
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Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians
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Jerry Helfand & Joan Cleary
Ira & Peggy Kipp
Dr. Jeffrey & Debra Kohen
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Rabbi Lynn C. Liberman & Elizabeth Barnard
Steven Lowenthal
Mendota Heights Volunteer Firemen’s Relief Association
Esti Koen & Andrew Meltzer
Jeremy R. & Gabrielle H. Minkus
Minneapolis Jewish Federation
Bruce Noyes
Ruth Rischall Endowment Fund
Robert Steinman
Charitable Foundation
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Michael & Jennifer Wall

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Mark & Elaine Adelman
Rabbi Esther Adler & Rob Lebowitz
Linda Alter
Stuart Appelbaum & Jean King
Steve & Wendy Baldinger
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Beth Jacob Congregation
Troy Beugen
Bremer Bank
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Alan & Elisa Bernick
Tom & Janine Braman
Avrom Brendzel & Ida Dreyfus

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Church of St. Timothy
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Chamber of Commerce
Louis & Janice Leichter
Allen & Nancy Levine
Joanie Levy
Lee Litman
Bob & Sandy Loewenstein
Kyle & Nathan Luebke
Anita Lurye-Silver
Morgan MacBain
Unaudited Financial Statement

December 31, 2019

REVENUES

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<td>Investment Gains/Losses</td>
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EXPENSES

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<td>Administration &amp; Fundraising</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,161,293</strong></td>
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Thank You 2019 Volunteers

The following 140 volunteers generously gave 1,155 hours of their time in support of JFS and its clients. Thank you for making a difference. Please excuse any omissions or inaccuracies. For corrections, please contact Volunteer Services at (651) 690-8907.

Elaine Alper
Linda Alper
Semyon Axelrod
Alex Bagdade
Jennifer Bagdade
Sharon Benmaman
David Brod
Sheila Brod
Joan Cleary
Lisa Cohen
Jackson Collins
Carole Davidson
Maureen Davidson
Stacy Dockman
Lisa Dorn
Fred Dullies
Emma Dunn
Christine Epstein
Faye Feinstein
Gabriel Flum
Andrea Freidberg
Ellie Friar
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Renée Gainsley
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Sam Isenberg
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Linda Morgan
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Bart Schneider
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Daniel Shapiro
Marjorie Sigel
Dan Silver
Myndal Davis Silver
Lee Silverstein
Dede Smith
Diane Smookler
Rick Smookler
Erika Solomon
Michael Solomon
Linda Stein
Jerry Swarsensky
Alex Treitler
Jennifer Wall
Marilyn Weisberg
Deb Weiss
Lori Winchell
Dede Wolfson
David Wolkowicz
Sandy Wolkowicz
Tim Woloszyn
Dina Yushkevich
Michael Yushkevich
Marsha Zimmerman
Debbie Zuckerman

Groups from the following organizations also volunteered:

- RAJMN Teens
- Newman School Students and Staff
- Sholom Residents and Staff

Please excuse any omissions or inaccuracies. For corrections, please contact Development at (651) 690-8938.
WE CAN HELP YOU

JFS offers the following services you or someone you love may find helpful during this challenging time.

Community Chaplaincy
Rabbi Liberman will offer support and connection, listen, provide insights from the Jewish tradition and acknowledge the challenges we face. Contact Rabbi Liberman (651) 434-4112, lliberman@jfssp.org. There is no fee for this service. Donations are appreciated.

Community Support Program
Includes three 20-minute phone conversations with one of our mental health professionals to help people feel more grounded and emotionally secure. Contact Sara Wellington (651) 239-4756, swellington@jfssp.org. There is no fee for this service. Donations are appreciated.

Connection to Community Resources
There are numerous community resources available to ease your burden, both within JFS and elsewhere. We will help you find and access them. Contact Nancy Cohen (651) 329-1092, ncohen@jfssp.org. There is no fee for this service. Donations are appreciated.

Counseling & Mental Health Services
Treating a wide range of mental health issues. Contact our main number (651) 698-0767, info@jfssp.org to schedule an appointment. This is a fee-based service; however, we offer a sliding fee scale for those who qualify.

Emergency Financial Assistance
We offer emergency financial assistance to those who qualify. Contact Nancy Cohen (651) 329-1092, ncohen@jfssp.org. There is no fee for this service. Donations are appreciated.

Kosher Meals on Wheels
Could you or someone you love benefit from a nutritious kosher/halal meal delivered to their home? Cost is based on income. Contact Jill Grover (651) 315-9167, jgrover@jfssp.org.

PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active & Rewarding Lives) & PEARLS for Caregivers
Eight FREE video streamed support sessions for older adults and those who provide care. Contact Avi Zadaka (651) 410-7822, azadaka@jfssp.org.

Senior Care Services
Include Care Planning, Care Coordination, Caregiver Coaching and Advanced Care Planning. Contact Bonnie Jaffe (651) 497-8248, bjaffe@jfssp.org.

YOU CAN HELP US

Volunteer
Friendly Remote Visitor (FRV) program connects your desire to help with JFS clients. Contact Margie Solomon (651) 690-8907, msolomon@jfssp.org.

Donate
Please give generously to help us meet unprecedented need at jfssp.org/donate.

Share this with someone who may benefit from the services we offer.