



**JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE  
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

As I start my first term as Board President at JFS, I am honored to be serving at a time of important transitions in the life of the agency. Our most significant transition is the retirement of Barry Stein and the welcoming of Steven Schauder as our new Executive Director.

The Board of JFS wants to thank Barry Stein for his service to the agency and wish him and Susie well in his retirement. While Barry had intended to retire at the end of the year, he chose to retire earlier after contracting coronavirus. We know how grateful the whole community is to be see Barry healthy and whole after recovering from his illness and we are equally glad to know that Barry and Susie will remain part of our Harrisburg Jewish community. We pay tribute to Barry on the following page.

After Barry fell ill, our past-president, Marty Rogoff, stepped in to assume the Interim Executive Director role. We want to thank Marty for the countless hours he gave towards steering JFS during this transitional period and leading the search committee for our new Executive Director. The search committee determined that the Steven Schauder would be the best choice to continue and amplify the important work of JFS.

Steven has spent his 31-year career in nonprofits, with 26 years in Jewish communal service and 15 years as an Executive Director. He previously led a JFS, when he served as the CEO of the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel-Hill, and has also worked in agencies providing a full range of mental health, children/youth, family, senior services, and Jewish family programming. The search committee felt his strong commitment to Jewish values and diversity and inclusion made him the ideal candidate to lead JFS in the future.

Other important highlights include:

- Rachel Kuhr recently celebrated her 17th year with the agency with 15 years as one of our directors. Rachel serves as the Director of AdoptionLinks and Foster Care has helped move the agency forward in so many ways—even during the coronavirus crisis, three private families and two new foster families were recently approved for service and three placements made during quarantine.
- A sold-out audience of 366 community members participated in our Annual Fundraising Event at Beth El Temple which featured Mitch Albom sharing his story of adopting a young Haitian refuge, Chika, and how he and his wife nursed her during her terminal illness.
- Under the able leadership of Wendy Halperin, JFS has been growing its Family-Based Mental Health Services (FBMHS) program. FBMHS is an incredibly important program, providing intensive team-based counseling that is offered to families with



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children or adolescents who are at risk for removal from the home due to severe emotional or behavioral problems.

- Myndworks continues to provide the highest quality mental health counseling to members of our community. JFS thanks our former Myndworks Director, Malinda Myers, for successfully growing the program.
- We are grateful to Chudney Lewis, our very talented Business Office Manager, for streamlining numerous administrative and billing functions to create much greater efficiencies and increase productivity at JFS.
- Over 50 community members have received financial assistance and financial case management through Project Lift and the Back on Track Initiative.
- JFS is proud to report that even during the Covid crisis, it did not have any gaps in service for the Finkelstein – Cohen Kosher Meals on Wheels (KMOW) Program. KMOW is committed to providing fresh home delivered meals to provide well balanced nutrition for those who have Kosher, Halal or other dietary needs such as vegetarian or gluten-free and meet county requirements. We want to express our deepest appreciation to the steadfast volunteers who have served as packers before and during the Covid crisis.

Fiscal year 2021 will be unlike any we have known before, but JFS is fully prepared to meet our mission to help individuals and families meet life's challenges. We remain committed to being a forward-thinking mental health and social service agency dedicated to helping people achieve their fullest potential while honoring choice, diversity, and Jewish values through every stage of life.

We thank our loyal staff, our devoted volunteers and our generous donors who continue to propel us forward to better the lives of those in Greater Harrisburg who come to us seeking help and support.

Bob Wolff  
President

THANK YOU to our Finkelstein – Cohen Kosher Meals on Wheels (KMOW) Program  
Volunteers

PACKERS – Thank you for helping us pack meals prior to and during the Covid Crisis

Randy Bronstein  
Jill Carre  
Robyn Chotiner  
Nancy Herman  
Gloria Kaplan  
Marina Kogan  
Julie Sherman



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DRIVERS- – Thank you for helping us deliver meals prior to and during the Covid Crisis

Larry Freedman  
Mike Shapiro  
David Sherman  
Enid Wassner  
Maggie Grotzinger

DRIVERS - Thank you for helping us deliver meals during the Covid Crisis

Alexandra Hirsh  
Christine Titih  
Jill Henig  
Malcolm Cohen  
David Gottlieb  
Rachel Weinstock  
Sally Jo Bronner  
Phil Bloom  
Ellis and Annie Rosenberg  
Adam Yodfat

ON CALL – Thank you for being on-call to help when called upon

Ed Beck  
Larkin Berkley  
Lanny Schoor  
Heather Ashkenes  
Matt Pinkster  
Beth Barrow -Williams  
Amy Arker  
Rachel Miller  
Karen Schneider

### **JFS Board**

Below are members of the 2020 – 2021 Board of Directors:

#### **Officers**

Bob Wolff, President  
Ruth Moore, Vice President  
Oren Yagil, Vice President  
Frank Fleishman, Treasurer

#### **Directors**

Dara Bourassa  
Robyn Chotiner  
Jill Henig



Yasminah Huberman  
Dr. Jordan Klein  
Sandy Krevsky  
Rosette Roth  
Beth Shuman  
Kathi Spiegelman  
Stephen Tambolas  
Auren Weinberg

## **A TRIBUTE TO BARRY STEIN**

The Board of JFS wants to thank Barry Stein for his service to the agency and wish him and Susie well in his retirement. While Barry had intended to retire at the end of the year, he chose to retire earlier after contracting coronavirus. We know how grateful the whole community is to be see Barry healthy and whole after recovering from his illness and we are equally glad to know that Barry and Susie will remain part of our Harrisburg Jewish community. We pay tribute to Barry on the following page.

We pay tribute to Barry Stein—for his vision, his leadership, and his strong commitment to the Jewish and Greater Harrisburg community. Under Barry’s leadership, JFS saw significant growth in the following areas:

Barry was acknowledged as a strategic thinker who could always focus on “the big picture”—during his tenure, Barry developed new services and raised the profile of JFS to the broader community. Barry had a keen eye for hiring talented staff and a caring heart that was always focused on helping the most vulnerable members of our community. Barry had the vision to create the Back on Track Fund, which was made possible through the generosity of the Geduldig Family. The Fund provides emergency financial support for community members teetering on the edge. The Back on Track Fund is complemented by another initiative Barry launched, “Project Lift.” Project Lift provides case management to help those who might “fall between the cracks” of the social services network. It is designed to people find therapists for mental health needs, caregivers for child or elder care, entitlements for ongoing financial support, and everything from housing to food for basic needs. While launched by generous support from Alyce and Morton (z”l) Spector and Connie and Gail Siegel, it has subsequently been supported through a grant awarded by the Martin M. Sacks Memorial Fund of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC), and other donors including Michael Brenner, Bennett and Inez Chotiner, Michael (z”l) and Ellen Geduldig, Peggy Grove, Bill Lehr, Harold Rabin, Daniel and Patty Schwab, and The Dorothy B. and S. Lawrence Koplovitz Foundation, as well as supporters Erick and Robyn Chotiner, Jay and Nancy Krevsky, and program facilitator Elaine along with her husband, Elliot Strokoff.

Barry also had a deft hand at creating successful and creative programming events that both educated and inspired the community. We are indebted to Barry for creating fundraising events featuring Patrick Kennedy, Ron Susskind and Mitch Albom. The most recent event with Mitch



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Albom saw a sold out audience of 366 community members raptly listening to Albom's story of adopting a young Haitian refugee, Chika, and how he and his wife nursed her during her terminal illness. It was deeply inspiring to hear a presenter speaking about the importance of foster care and adoption—two of the core services provided by JFS.