# Annual Report



Legacy & Growth

# Joint Message from Our Board Chair & Our CEO



David Kohn **Board Chair** 



Dr. David Finke Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on 2024 at JFCS, we are deeply moved by the extraordinary resilience and compassion that define our agency and community. In the past year, JFCS was able to continue to grow the programing and services offered, the number of individuals and families we serve, and our incredible staff, while remaining steadfast in our dedication to our mission.

Our commitment to serving Jewish Louisville, and all of Greater Louisville, has never been stronger, and our growth allows us to carry the legacy of JFCS for generations to come. Over the past three years, JFCS has seen an increase of 65% in our annual budget, an increase of clients served by 32%, and a 50% increase in full time staff.

JFCS has expanded each pillar of our service including: our impact in mental health and wellness, career counseling and economic opportunities, support for older adults and those who care and love them, and family stability and case management services. Through innovative programs and our commitment to a trauma-informed approach, we continue to empower individuals and families to achieve stability and thrive.

Our achievements this year were made possible by you - our donors, volunteers, clients, community partners, board, and advocates. Your unwavering support enables us to continue our legacy of service to the community and to sustain the growth needed to meet urgent needs when they arise.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to expanding possibilities so that all in Louisville live with dignity and purpose, a legacy that we have carried since 1908. Together, we will continue to create lasting change in the lives of those we serve.

With heartfelt gratitude,



David Kohn **Board Chair Jewish Family & Career Services** 

Dr. David Finke Chief Executive Officer **Jewish Family & Career Services** 

## **Staff & Professional Highlights**



**NAOMI CARRICO** LCSW, PMH-C, THERAPIST

In February, JFCS Therapist
Dr. Naomi Carrico received
certification in Perinatal Mental
Health (PMH-C) allowing her to
work with women and birthing
partners experiencing struggles
with infertility, birth trauma,
neonatal loss, and perinatal mood
disorders. depression, and trauma
related issues.



LYNDY ALEXANDER

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER** 

In June, JFCS CFO Lyndy Alexander was recognized with Louisville Business First's Best in Finance Award. Lyndy was nominated for the transformational work she has done in making JFCS finances transparent to support the growth JFCS has experienced in the last three years. This award recognizes outstanding professionals working in a finance position at a Louisville-area company or nonprofit organization.



CINDY KEY

CAREER COUNSELOR

In February, JFCS Career Counselor, Cindy Key, was quoted in the Washington Post in a story the newspaper published about Project EM. This program at JFCS through the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies addresses unemployment among underserved populations such as veterans, people with disabilities, women, and older workers.



#### **VALECIA QUINN**

DIRECTOR OF NAVIGATE, DEI+/TIC CHAIR

In August, Valecia Quinn, JFCS
Director of Navigate, was appointed
to chair JFCS' new DEI+/TIC care
initiative. JFCS began the DEI+/
TIC initiative last year following a
comprehensive analysis regarding
the needs of clients, and stakeholders
through the lens of diversity, equity,
inclusion, and trauma-informed care.
The DEI Committee is comprised of
staff and board members.

# **Client Story of Success**

JFCS has been amazing. I don't think they know how much I appreciate all they've done for me.



# RECLAIMING A DREAM

When Luis Ernesto Heredia Sanchez arrived in the United States in 2022, he brought with him a passion for medicine and a dream to continue practicing as a doctor ...



In Cuba, Luis was a year out of medical school and working in geriatric medicine, a field close to his heart.

"I really like working with seniors and the elderly," he says. "They have so much knowledge and history to share; we should learn from them."

Luis knew the road from being a respected doctor in Cuba to being a respected doctor in the United States was anything but simple, but he knew little of the process beyond that.

"Leaving Cuba was so complicated, but I couldn't practice medicine there," Luis explains. "There was so much about the government and the healthcare system there that I disagreed with. I couldn't continue being a doctor in Cuba. But I knew I wanted a better future for myself and my family, and I knew that meant coming to the United States."

After settling in Louisville, Luis tried to find meaningful work in healthcare. With language barriers and the administrative hoops in getting recredentialed in America from another country, Luis soon found he had to take any job that was available to him.

"I had to take a job in a restaurant, and I was really frustrated," he said. "I want to help people. I'm a doctor."

Luis heard about JFCS through friends who spoke highly of the organization and its dedicated staff. He began working with Career Counselor for Refugees & Immigrants Kristina Mielke, and JFCS Career & Employment Specialist Bertin Maroy, and was immediately met with support and guidance.

"Kristina explained everything about the process to me," Luis recalls. "But JFCS helped me find a job as a patient care assistant at Jewish Hospital. They coached me for the interview because my English isn't perfect yet. They encouraged me every step of the way."

JFCS helped Luis focus on his goals, prepare for the interview, and has helped him navigate the steps needed to recredential as a doctor in the United States—a rigorous process he will start next year.

Now, Luis is thriving in his new role and feels hopeful about the future. He has also reunited with his parents and sister, who have joined him in the United States.

"I feel so much better now that they're here. I don't feel so alone anymore," he says.

For Luis, the impact of JFCS goes far beyond career assistance. He said he feels like he's "grown so much" personally since starting to work with Kristina, Bertin and JFCS.

"They didn't just treat me like someone they were helping—they talked to me like a friend. Finding JFCS has been one of the most important things since coming to the U.S. They've helped me focus on my goals and dreams."

Luis is already paying it forward by recommending JFCS to others. Shortly after taking the job at the hospital, he met another Cuban refugee and told him about JFCS.

"I think he's going to come and get help too," he says.

Reflecting on his journey, Luis expresses a deep gratitude for the support he's received.

"JFCS has been amazing. I don't think they know how much I appreciate all they've done for me. They help so many people—they've truly made a difference in my life."

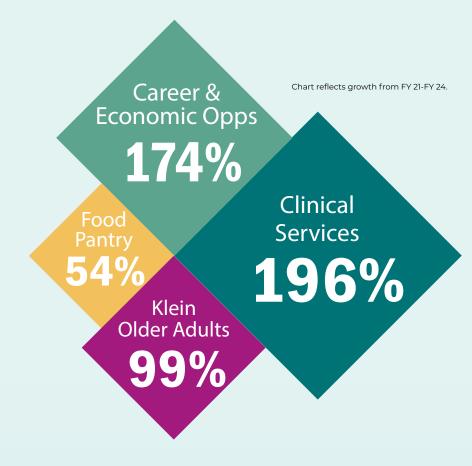
For Luis, the future is bright, and his dream of practicing medicine in America is within reach, thanks to his resilience and the unwavering support of JFCS.

# **Program Highlights**



# 2,337 Individuals Served

JFCS saw a significant increase in requests for services over the last three years. The graphic to the right shows the impact JFCS had last year in our four main pillars of service. JFCS also added more **career laddering and recredentialing** staff, and established several new programs including **a new Match Savings Program**, which empowers new refugees to save for essential goals like housing, education, and small businesses. Through multi-year funding from **The Humana Foundation**, JFCS was able to launch **a new program for older adults in West Louisville**. The growth of our programs is a testament to JFCS' flexibility to meet community needs.











Annual Report 2024 JEWISH FAMILY & CAREER SERVICES

## **Statement of Activities**

Fiscal Year 2024 Audited

#### Who We Served

#### Race

Am. Indian/Alaska Native	0.73%
Asian	3.80%
Black or African American	23.03%
Multi-Racial	5.82%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.12%
White	65.64%
Prefer not to answer	0.86%

#### **Ethnicity**

Latinx/Hispanic	26.57%
Middle Eastern/North African	4.47%
None	57.35%
Other	8.86%
Prefer not to answer	2.75%

#### Religion

Kengion	
Catholic	11.54%
Christian	33.50%
Hindu	0.25%
Jehovah's Witness	0.34%
Jewish	17.39%
Mormon	0.17%
Muslim	6.79%
None	18.66%
Other Religion	2.54%
Unaffiliated	3.82%
Prefer not to answer	5.00%





#### **CHANGE IN NET ASSETS** Net assets at beginning of year Net assets at end of year

123,383 \$ 9,286,305 9,409,688

## **Jewish Life & Volunteerism**

91 Volunteers • 1,706 Service Hours

# FAMILY BONDS FORGED THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM

Meet Sam Stein and his grandson Leo Hasselbacher. They make volunteering at JFCS a family affair.

Sam, 78, started volunteering after retirement a year ago as a way to keep busy and is now a regular presence in the food pantry every Friday, where he says he finds fulfillment helping those in need.

"I needed something to fill my time, someone told me I ought to get in touch with JFCS," he said. "The people I'm helping at the food pantry are just super people," he says with a smile. "If I can bring a little bit of happiness to them – that's fulfilling to me."



Leo, a 15-year-old sophomore, began volunteering four years ago as he prepared for his bar mitzvah through the Marjorie & Robert Kohn Pledge 13 Program. He has stayed committed to giving back. Whenever his school schedule allows, Leo can often be found helping in JFCS' Friendship Corner, the food pantry, or wherever help is needed.

"This community has brought me up, and I feel it's my duty to give back," Leo said.

Sam and Leo embody the spirit of giving, and JFCS has been the lucky recipient of their generosity for many years. They truly help inspire others, proving that acts of kindness can bridge generations.

Their dedication not only strengthens JFCS and the community, but they prove that volunteering together deepens their family bond.



## GIVING BACK IN FACE OF TRAGEDY

#### **2023 High Holidays Food Drive**

On October 8th, 2023, JFCS held our annual High Holiday Food Drive. The event was scheduled months out, and we could not have foreseen that it would be the day after the largest attack on Israel in recent memory.



Volunteers and staff members were able to gather and be there for one another through service. They reminded each other that we are stronger together and we can lean on each other as a community.

#### **New Named Fund Created**

#### Arthur Kasdan Memorial Fund

In 2023, JFCS, in partnership with Frank and Meryl Kasdan, created the Arthur Kasdan Memorial Fund to provide ongoing support for individuals experiencing substance misuse.

# **Fundraising & Community Events**









AND PROTESTED IN THE PR

JFCS saw an increase in event attendance and community collaboration last year that highlights our strong foundation of support. Our JFCS MOSAIC Awards attendance increased by 34%. Through our JFCS Community Chats, we were able to focus on important topics like refugees and immigrants in the workforce, caregiver support, online safety for youth, and violence prevention to the community. Our Republic Bank Players Challenge was sold out again this year, at the beautiful Standard Club. The attacks on Israel on October 7, 2023, caused us to postpone the Lillian O. Seligman Series event, featuring comedian Ariel Elias, to the following year. JFCS honors our history, legacy, and impact through fundraising and community events. Thank you to all our committee members, supporters, attendees, advocates, and staff for making these events possible.







## **Our Vision for the Future**



## Community Events

## JFCS MOSAIC Awards May 15, 2025

Since 2006, the JFCS MOSAIC Awards have recognized refugee and immigrants in Greater Louisville who have made an impact in their community. Save the date for May 15, as we celebrate the diversity and accomplishments of these individuals as they help build the City of Louisville and Commonwealth of Kentucky into a brighter, more inclusive place.

In 2024, a new award was created called the Corporate Changemaker Award. This MOSAIC Award recognizes a local business or company that has made a tangible impact in supporting immigrants and refugees and is creating positive change within our community.

## **JFCS Community Chats**

#### Quarterly Throughout the Year

JFCS Community Chats Series are quarterly events that bring together a panel of experts and activists who discuss pressing needs and topics affecting the greater Louisville community. Past topics include violence prevention, combating food insecurity, supporting transgender youth, and starting a small business.

Community Chats are a great way the community can come together to discuss crucial topics facing Louisvillians, and to find out how to utilize resources available and become advocates for equality! Community Chats are free and open to the public.

## **New Programs**

#### **Oral History Project**

JFCS is relaunching the Oral History Project, an initiative that originally started in 2001, to record and archive the stories of Louisville's Jewish community so that the community's legacies will be preserved for future generations.

With the assistance of students from the University of Louisville, JFCS plans to continue this project in 2025.

#### New Service Pillar for Immigrants & Refugees

JFCS plans to expand our current "pillars of service" (Clinical Services, Family Stability, Career & Economic Opportunities, Klein Older Adults) to add a new pillar, "Immigrant and Refugee Services". This pillar will provide services to immigrants and refugees through career laddering and recredentialing, targeted services for new refugees, and collaborating with community organizations to analylze youth needs for this population.

#### **JFCS 1908 Legacy Society**

JFCS 1908 Legacy Society Members who have committed to leave a bequest, or those of blessed memory, who have already left their gift.

Anonymous (7)
Billy Altman
Arlene & Bruce Belman
Lisa S Sobel-Berlow
& Benjamin M. Berlow
Leigh & Dr. Russell Bird
Sarah & Christopher Brice
Beverly Bromley
Shannon & Marc B. Charnas

Paula & Michael Cohn Amy & Matthew Doctrow

James L. Ensign Courtney Evans

Mary Cleary

Judy Freundlich Tiell & Robert Tiell

Debbie & Alan Friedman
Deborah Frockt & Steve Alter

Bruce S. Gale Amy & Lance Gilbert Jane Goldstein

Nicole & Dr. David Goldstein

Scott & Kristal Goodman

Frankye Gordon

Karen & Douglas S. Gordon

Max Pearson Green

Dr. Muriel B. Handmaker Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner

& Lee Chottiner

Martha & Dr. Lowell D. Katz Sherry L. & Jay F Kaufman

Lauren Kehr

Lauren Kelty

Dr. Lisa & Robert Klein

Julie Kling

Karen & Jay Klempner

David Kohn

Marjorie & Robert Kohn Jennifer Leibson

Phyllis & David Leibson
Judith (z") & Martin Margulis

Rabbi Laura Metzger & Cantor David A. Lipp

Janet & Jack M. Meyer Stephanie & Ian Mutchnick

Julie Namkin & Greg Singlust

Nancy Klempner Patton in memory of Bobbye Robinson and Irving Klempner

Lillian Pinhas

Suzanne K. Post (z''l) Betsv & Mark Prussian

Stephanie Reese & Mark Silver

Lisa & Peter Resnik

Abigale Rhodes & Jordan Scott Green

Susan Rudy

Dafna Schurr & Edwin H. Cohen

Linda T. Shapiro & Robert L. Taylor

Karen & Keith Sherman Carole M. Snyder

Robin & Stephen Stratton

Elaine & Ron Weisberg

Leonard Wexler (z"l)

Carol Baker Wishnia & Jacob Wishnia

Amy T. Wisotsky & Henry M. Burt

Sara Yamin



This listing reflects Legacy commitments and previously realized Legacy gifts through June 30, 2024.

#### **Lifeline Community**

The Lifeline Community is our newest giving society recognizing our most dedicated supporters and advocates.



Defenders - \$10,000 and above

Tammy & Mark Switow

Builders - \$5,000 - \$9,999

Sandra Frazier
Marilyn D Schorin
Helene & Andrew Trager-Kusman
Theresa Marie Keeley & Michael N Fine
Dr. Helene & Dr. David Finke
Robin K & Stephen C Stratton
Dafna Schurr & Edwin H Cohen
Avi Hahn & Renee Frith

Champions - \$3,600 - \$4,999

Janet & Dr. Jonathan Hodes Rae Shepherd-Shlechter & Ted Shlechter

Advocates - \$1.800-\$3.600

Dr. Lisa & Robert Klein Phyllis & David Leibson Judith F Shapira
David Kohn
Carol & Dr. Daniel B Penner
Susan & Dr. Jeffrey Callen
Nancy Klempner Patton
Corey & Adam Buckman
Carlyn & Bill Altman
George Polur & Michael Gold
Marjorie & Robert Kohn
Madeline & Jerry Abramson
Shannon & Marc B Charnas
Jan & William Altman

Volunteers - Over 65 Hours

Iman Shulti Julie & Rick Hutchings Tami Penner Ann Farmer Cynthia Ingle Zina Dubrovensky

#### **JFCS Endowment & Named Funds**

The Arthur Kasdan Memorial Fund Al Erlen Fund for Board Leadership Bob Tiell/Dave Dobson Program Innovation Fund

The Bonnie L. Bizer Emergency Services Fund for Jewish Individuals & Families The Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry Fund

The Doris L. & Theodore B. Meyers JFCS Shabbos Friends Program

The Marjorie & Robert Kohn Pledge 13 Program

The Carole & Larry Goldberg Family Mitzvah Program

The Marilyn & Alan Bornstein Fund for Family Therapy

The Marjorie & Melvin Nadler Senior Homecare Fund

The Lillian O. Seligman Seminar Series
Fund: Contemporary Thought Forum
The Judy Freundlich Tiell Community
Outreach Fund
Frank and Barbara Weisberg Family
Strenathening Fund

#### **Our Mission**

We expand possibilities for each person and every family to meet life's challenges with confidence.

#### **Our Vision**

All in Greater Louisville live with dignity and purpose.

### **Our Values**

Guided by our Jewish values, we serve people of all backgrounds with:

#### Kavod (Respect):

Respect for the undeniable humanity of each person.

#### Chesed (Compassion):

Actions rooted in compassion and empathy.

#### Kehilah (Community):

Connections that strengthen individuals and build community.

#### Tzedek (Justice):

Advocacy that fosters fairness and equity.

#### Avodah (Service):

Service to others that has the power to repair our world.

### **JFCS Board of Directors**

Michael Fine
President

Mark Roth
Vice President

Helene Trager-Kusman Vice President

**Linda Shapiro**Vice President

Josh Abecassis, MD Corey Buckman Betsy Chandler Jose Donis Jim Ensign Jordan Green Grace Greenwell Avi Hahn, MD **David Kohn**Treasurer

**Robin Stratton** Immediate Past President

**Michael Gold**At-Large Member

**Micah Jorrisch**At-Large Member

Melanie House- Mansfield Jeff Jasnoff Dr. V. Faye Jones Chan Kemper Carly Mason Corey Shapiro Derwin Webb

We want to thank these partners for their generous support



Louis and Lee Roth Family Center 2821 Klempner Way, Louisville, KY 40205 502.452.6341 · www.jfcslouisville.org ACF/DHHS Office of Refugee Resettlement

C.E. and S. Foundation, Inc.

THE GHEENS FOUNDATION







## Jewish Heritage Fund













Old National Bank Foundation • PNC Foundation • US Bank Foundation • Truist Foundation • GE Appliances • Community Foundation of Louisville • Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program • Genentech • Department of Homeland Security • The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels