



Jewish Family Service

# News from the HEART

2021

## Pandemic Pen Pals Help Each Other Cope by Barbara Dab

In today's screen centered world, many people consider letter writing to be merely a quaint throwback to B'nai Mitzvah and wedding and baby shower "thank you," notes. But during the past year and a half, a revival of the handwritten letter has taken place between local seniors and Jewish Family Service volunteers. Anna Sir, Helping Hands Coordinator for JFS, says the idea for the pen pal program evolved naturally during the early days of March 2020. "At the beginning of the pandemic, volunteers were galvanized to call the older adults who were on JFS' radar," she says. The idea to write letters sprung up as a way to reach more people. "This was a fun thing to do because everyone of any age could participate and people just love getting things in the mail." She says in addition to letters, some people had their children draw pictures and of course, photos were exchanged.

The pandemic meant some seniors went months without seeing their families. But connections were made, and lifelong friendships blossomed through the simple act of writing a letter or card. Gail Rivlin moved to Nashville not long before the pandemic forced everyone to stay at home, so she had little time to make new friends. Also, during that time, Rivlin's own mother was very ill and ultimately passed away. "When my mom was ill, I wrote to her every day," says Rivlin. "It was exciting for her to receive my letters, so I was excited to participate in the pen pal program here."

Rivlin ultimately had four pen pals, one of whom is Ruth Klar. Klar says she was excited by the idea of meeting someone new through letters. "I was not aware of the Pen Pal Program until I was approached via email from JFS. I was definitely open to connecting since I love to write. Not knowing who I would be connected with was exciting." The two women exchanged letters regularly and developed what each say is a lifelong friendship based on real intimacy. Rivlin says, "There's not a lot we don't know about each other. I can't think of a subject we didn't talk about." And Klar agrees, "Gail was great about writing to me all thru the pandemic..."

Pen Pals continued on page 11



Navigating Life's Transitions.  
**Together.**

## Executive Committee

Susan Zager  
*President*

Harris N. Gilbert  
*Vice-President*

Danielle Mendelson  
*Treasurer*

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Adam Hyatt  
*EC at large members*

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## Board Members

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## Staff

Pam Kelner  
*Executive Director*

Toni Jacobsen, LCSW  
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*Social Worker*

Anna Sir  
*Helping Hands Coordinator*

Janet Parr  
*Sr Administrative Coordinator*

Kevin Goughary  
*Controller*



# A Word from our President

*Susan Zager*

**Susan Zager**  
*JFS Board President*

Dear Friends,

Being President of Jewish Family Service this year is without a doubt one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in my volunteer career. I never cease to be amazed by so many things. I never cease to be amazed by the incredible programs that are helping so many people in our community and I am constantly in awe of the new programming that gets pulled together whenever there is a need to be addressed. From the Kosher Food Box Program which provides food resources, to the Hanukkah Gift Program for children who otherwise would not be able to receive gifts, to all the support we provide to the Seniors. This includes a program called Jacob's Ladder where our volunteers go to Seniors' homes to literally get on a ladder to help put in new light bulbs or put new batteries in fire and smoke detectors – tasks that are all too dangerous for these seniors. All of these programs are so important and special to those individuals being served.

The counseling done by our incredible social workers are life savers for many and I am especially proud of our new Mental Health Matters initiative due to the times we are in right now. Even when nature surprises us and there are suddenly catastrophic floods or tornadoes, we pull together to reach out to those we know are in unfortunate need. These are just a few of the many things JFS is capable of doing and hopefully with our newly updated and user-friendly website more and more people will be able to navigate and find out all the programming we have to offer.

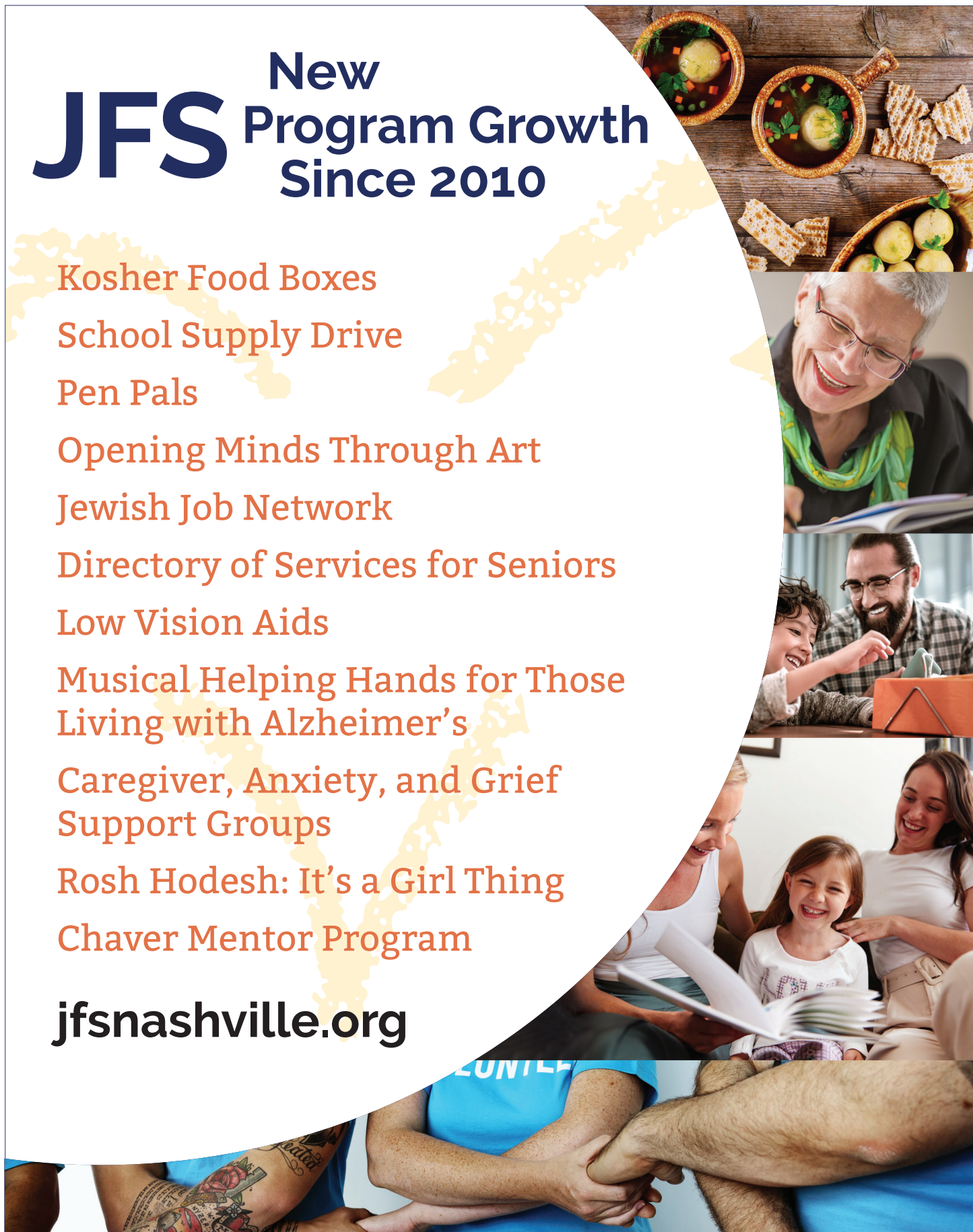
I am also grateful every day for all the members of our community who support JFS with their generosity and their time as volunteers. With all of the incredible generosity we can fund our programs and add new ones to address the ever changing needs of the community. With your time commitments you make our committees strong, so we remain a healthy and growing agency. Thank you from the bottom of my heart to the members of The Board of Trustees and to Pam, Toni, Ashley, Anna, Janet, and Kevin because without them none of this would happen. ♡



# JFS **New** Program Growth Since 2010

- Kosher Food Boxes
- School Supply Drive
- Pen Pals
- Opening Minds Through Art
- Jewish Job Network
- Directory of Services for Seniors
- Low Vision Aids
- Musical Helping Hands for Those Living with Alzheimer's
- Caregiver, Anxiety, and Grief Support Groups
- Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing
- Chaver Mentor Program

**[jfsnashville.org](http://jfsnashville.org)**



# Our 2021 Honorees



Chaver Award recipient Lauren Brisky receives the honor from Howard Safer (above) Brisky with JFS Executive Director Pam Kelner (below)



Save the Date for Chesed 2022 when we will honor Nancy Flexer and Howard Safer – May 19, 2022

# Statistics

Close to **2000** clients were served by JFS from July 2020 - June 2021

- Adoption 10 people served
- Case Management 3 people served
- Chaver Mentor program 2 people served
- Counseling 108 people served
- Emergency Financial Assistance 28 people served
- Family Life Education 37 people served
- Golden Lunch Bunch 23 seniors served
- Hanukkah Gift Program 47 individuals served
- Helping Hands Volunteer initiative 231 seniors served
- Helping Hands Music Program 4 people served
- Information and Referral 503 people served
- Jewish Job Network 33 Seekers served
- Kosher Food Boxes 39 individuals served
- Low Vision Program 4 people served
- Opening Minds Through Art 2 people served
- Senior Directory 32 people served
- Senior Seder 37 seniors served
- School Supplies 14 children served
- Support Groups 24 individuals served

## Highlights of 2020-21

*The majority of our new programming focused on addressing three main aspects of the COVID-19 crisis:*

### **Mental Health**

COVID conversations; “From Surviving to Thriving” - 4 part workshop Anxiety Support Group

### **Serving Our Treasured Older Adults**

Expanded telephone reassurance, Pen Pal program, Porch visits, delivery of essential items, Large Print Readers Digest subscriptions, Zoom hangouts

### **Financial Stability**

Kosher Food Boxes delivered via Shipt; COVID financial assistance; Passover gift cards for food purchase; Financial Succe\$\$ workshop which offered 15 attendees a practical financial framework for budgeting, investing, insurance, credit and more!

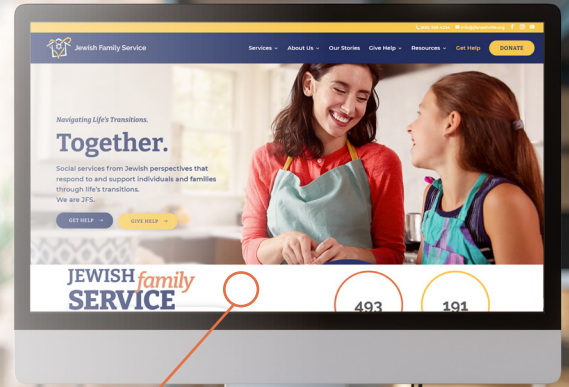


# New Website

Our brand new website is online now! We have completed the project of updating our website to provide easier access to information on programs, services, resources, and ways to receive help.

We are constantly evolving our services and programs to meet the ever-changing needs of our community and this new website will help spread the word of our mission and elevate our reach as a comprehensive social service provider. ♡

visit the new [jfsnashville.org](https://jfsnashville.org)



## Bringing Shabbat to Seniors Back After 20 Months!

Freshly baked challah. Voices rising in song welcoming Shabbat with L'cha Dodi. Gathering as a community to celebrate Shabbat is something that many older adults miss when they're no longer able to attend local synagogues for in person services and holiday observances.

Since 2004, the JFS Helping Hands Program has provided Shabbat services at area assisted living facilities. Needless to say, the Jewish residents love having the services in their own "homes."

The JFS Helping Hands Programs connects volunteers, which can include Bar/Bat Mitzvah students, college-age students, young families with children and other seniors, with the assisted living facilities. JFS provides challah, large-print prayer books, shabbat candles, and a lot of love and care.

Sadly, the program had to shut down for 16 months during the recent COVID pandemic. Even Zoom services weren't an option for seniors. JFS worked hard during that dark time to maintain connections through a pen pals program, in-person porch visits and phone calls. Fortunately, services at assisted living facilities resumed in the summer of 2021.

Cheryl Lane, a member of the Nashville community

and part of the program for the last 14 years loves creating these meaningful Shabbat moments and remarks on her love for singing and leading prayers with the residents as being a profound honor. Cheryl remarks, "many of the residents have become my dear friends in the Jewish community." ♡

**"It means a great deal for those attending the JFS Shabbat services where I live. It affords us the ability to keep Jewish traditions, follow our faith, and brings us together in friendship and prayer."**



# Tributes

Jewish Family Service is grateful to the families and individuals who participate in our ongoing Tribute program. It is a wonderful way to honor special people in your life, and at the same time, help fund the vital programs of JFS.

## IN HONOR

### Levi Barton & The Family Tzedakah Box

Sophie Rapoport & Joshua Barton

### Lynn & David Barton

Amy Barton & Ashby Parsons

### Lauren Brisky

*Congratulations on receiving the 2021 JFS Ruach Award!*  
Pam & Saul Kelner

### Lynn Fleischer

Steven Greil

### Nancy Flexer

*Congratulations on receiving the 2021 JFS Chesed Award!*

Heidi & Ron Addlestone

Denise Alper

Clare Clarke

Jill & Dan Eisenstein

Doris Fleischer

Lynn & Scott Ghertner

Pam & Saul Kelner

Amy & Greg McCoy

Marilyn Rubin

Barbara Turner

### Toni & Dick Heller

Virginia & John Aita

### JFS Staff

Zoe Engel

Barbara and Bob Woolf

### Pam Kelner

Saul Kelner

### Rabbi Joshua Kullock

*Congratulations on becoming a United States Citizen!*

Pam & Saul Kelner

Ruth & Paul Lebovitz

### Leslye Lapidus

*Congratulations on receiving the 2020 JFS Chaver Award!*

Charlotte Seloff

### Miriam Leibowitz

Kim Phillips

### Hayley Levy

Jane Snyder

### Danielle Mendelson

The Singer Family

### Howard Safer

*Congratulations on receiving the 2021 JFS Chesed Award!*

Heidi & Ron Addlestone

Jill & Dan Eisenstein

Doris Fleischer

Lynn & Scott Ghertner

Pam & Saul Kelner

Amy & Greg McCoy

Marilyn Rubin

Barbara Turner

### Maria Salas

James Mathis

### Magistrate Scott

Rosenblerg

Townley White

### Trent Rosenbloom

*Thank you for your service to our community!*

Congregation Sherith Israel

### Stan Fernandez-Schklar

Van & David Glasgow-Pond

### Laura & Phil Shmerling

Aunt Robin & Uncle Edward Hoffman

### Anna & Josh Turtel

Rachel & Mike Lippman

### Susan Zager

Sylvia & Jack Zager

## IN APPRECIATION

**3 Angels: Nancy Flexer, Goldie and Sylvia Shepard**  
Arlene and Howard Safer

### Anna Sir

Donna Johnson

### Nan Speller

Barbara S. Turner

## WEDDING

### Samantha Richter & Jonathan Price

Nan Speller

## ANNIVERSARY

### Lynn & David Barton (60th)

Lynn & Scott Ghertner

### Jill & Dan Eisenstein (50th)

Larry Averbuch

Leslye & Steve Lapidus

### Leslye & Steve Lapidus

Elaine & Michael Neumann

### Dianne & Craig Sussman (50th)

Missy & Phil Russ

## HAPPY HANUKKAH!

### Dianne Berry

*Wishing you, "Grandma Di", a Happy Hanukkah!*

Jamie, Jeremy, Anna, Cece & Richard Brook

Erin, Greg, Rena, Sari

& Tali Zagnoev

### Rae & Bruce Hirsch

*Wishing you, "Rae Rae & Poppy", a Happy Hanukkah!*

Jamie, Jeremy, Anna, Cece & Richard Brook

Erin, Greg, Rena, Sari

& Tali Zagnoev

### Irma Kaplan

The Rosenwein Family

## BAR MITZVAH

### Alex Rosen

Terri Cohen

### Micah Isaak Rosenbloom

Tina & Mark Frisse

## NEW BABY

### Carolyn & Adam Hyatt

*Congratulations on the birth of Zachary Noah Hyatt!*

The Goldberg Family

## SPEEDY RECOVERY

### Joel Gordon

Terri Cohen

### Sandra Hecklin

Leslye & Steve Lapidus

### Barrett Rosen

Nan Speller

### Goldie Shepard

Nan Speller

### Jane Sorin

Terri Cohen

### Brenda Weinstein

Leslye & Steve Lapidus

## BIRTHDAY

### Kenneth Jacobs

Nancy Flexer

### Louise Paillet

Nan Speller

### Elaine Parker

Ilyse Shechtel

**Frank Parker**  
Ilyse Shechtel

**Nan Speller**  
Louise & Ted Pailet

**Sally Wolkoff**  
Nancy Flexer

**IN MEMORY (Z “L”)\***

**Tova Ahdoot**  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Jan Liff

**Fannie Leone Barton  
& Hannah Kayser Palmer**  
Lynn & David Barton

**Robert (“Bob”) Benowitz**  
Marcia Cohen

**Irving Berk**  
Nancy Flexer

**Natalie F. Bockian**  
The Bockian Family

**Richard I. Born**  
Lorna Graff

**Dr. Eric Chazen**  
Terri Cohen  
Cynthia Goldner  
Martha Goldner  
Toni & Dick Heller  
Jan Liff  
Nan Speller  
Cathy & Howard Rosenblum

**Rabbi Eliyahu Cohen**  
Lynn & David Barton

**Robert Cook**  
Barbara Cook  
Diana Cook

**Renette Corenswet**  
Jan Liff

**Judy Cram**  
Ronald Soltman & Family

**Elayne Farinacci**  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus

**Edna Falk**  
Jan Liff

**Joyce Dubrov Fox**  
Lynn & David Barton  
Nancy Flexer  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus  
Lynne & Rodney Rosenblum  
Nan Speller  
Michelle & Steven Tishler  
Barbara S. Turner

**Harry Friedman**  
Lorna Graff  
Jan Liff  
Carol & Roy Smith

**Anne Wohl Gold**  
Nancy Flexer

**Jerome Gold**  
Nancy Flexer  
Michael Gryll  
Carol & Roy Smith  
Nan Speller

**Lillian Goldberg**  
Marcia Cohen

**Fred Goldner**  
Nancy Flexer  
Charlotte Seloff  
Nan Speller

**E.K.**  
Michael Schatel

**Diane Kassel Goodman**  
Elise & Jim Straus

**Marty Gruen**  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus

**Shabtai Harari**  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus

**Gene Heller**  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Jan Liff  
Marisa & Michael Mayhan  
Susan Pankowsky

**Helene Katz**  
Nan Speller

**Alden Kirshner**  
Lynn & David Barton

**Sharlene Krehely**  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus  
The Srebnik Family  
The Terry Family

**Lewis Lefkowitz**  
Jan Liff

**Charlotte Kamsky Lewis**  
Janet Belser

**Menachem Limor**  
Elaine & Frank Parker

**Thomas Loventhal**  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Lipman  
Nan Speller

**Jeanette Cohen Martin**  
Lynn & David Barton  
Nancy Flexer  
Jan Liff  
Barbara E. Levy Zander

**Edward Mendelson**  
Nan Speller

**Sandra McGibbon**  
Jan Liff

**Jeffrey David Morris**  
Nancy Flexer

**Phyllis Paller**  
Elaine & Frank Parker

**Elaine Parker**  
Susan & Mark Abkowitz  
Didi & Brian Biesman  
Ronnie & Jim Bogard  
The Cantor Family  
Robin & Mark Cohen  
Michael Corn  
The Ebner Family  
Linda Fermery  
& Stephen Darr  
Phyllis & Stanley Frank  
Edie & Alan Graber  
Michael Gryll  
The Halbrooks/McKool  
Family  
The Healy Family  
Irma Kaplan  
Janice Kaufman  
Pam & Saul Kelner

Meryl & Keith Kraft  
Karen & Steve Krichmar  
Pam & Bob Krinsky  
Andrea Kus George  
Terry Lapidus & Judy  
Jan Liff  
Deb & Roger Matherly  
Raymond McDaniel  
Marilyn & Phil Mullane  
Rhonda & Ron Roth  
Dianne Schwager  
Lisa & Mike Shmerling  
Ruth & Bob Tanner  
Penelope Waller & Wolf-D  
Dettbarn

**Barbara Rabin**  
Mark Pinsky

**Virginia Rapoport**  
Nancy Flexer  
Jan Liff  
Nan Speller

**Betty Lee Rosen**  
Kim & Brian Lapidus

**Jerry Rosenblum**  
Nancy Flexer  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus

**Eva Rosenfeld**  
Elaine & Frank Parker

**Sara Rosenstein**  
Nancy Flexer  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus

**Jack Salzberg**  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus

**Melvin Schlanger**  
Nancy Flexer

**Ronald Schreiber**  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus

**Mort Schulman**  
Robin & Mark Cohen  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus  
Jan Liff  
Diana & Sheldon Lutz  
Anna and Martin Sir  
Karen & Howie Weil  
Hedy Weinberg  
& Dan Cornfield  
Susan & Jeff Zager



**Sandy Schwarcz**  
Lynn & David Barton  
The Casimiro Family  
Miriam & Bobby Friedman  
Amy Gainsburgh Haspel  
Lorna Graff  
Patricia Graver  
Rae & Bruce Hirsch  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Jan Liff  
Nan Speller  
Naomi & Larry Orlansky  
Lynne & Rodney Rosenblum  
Dale & Alan Singer  
Stephanie & Joel Sklar  
& Family  
Carol & Roy Smith  
Nancy Tourk

**Faye Serkin**  
Jan Liff  
Charlotte Seloff

**Fran Shmerling**  
Lynn & David Barton  
Nancy Flexer  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus  
**Doris Silber**  
Nan Speller

**Elaine Silberman**  
Jan Liff  
Debi & Charlie Robin

**Joan Sivley**  
Elaine & Frank Parker

**Danny Spear**  
Nancy Flexer

**Eugene Murray Star**  
Michelle & Steven Tishler

**Zohar Stark**  
Pam & Saul Kelner

**Molly Stein**  
Jan Liff

**Diane Trachtman**  
Maria & Bernie Pargh

**Sy Trachtman**  
The Blank Family  
Marcia Cohen  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Jan Liff  
Candy & Keith Mirman  
Janet Parr  
Cathy & Howard Rosenblum  
Nan Speller

**Sidney Unobskey**  
Carol & Roy Smith

**Benjamin Walter**  
Elaine & Frank Parker

**Peter Weiss**  
Pam & Saul Kelner

**Sally Wolfe**  
Larry Averbuch  
Marcia Cohen & Family  
Terri Cohen

Toni & Dick Heller  
Pam & Saul Kelner  
Leslye & Steve Lapidus  
Janet Parr  
Barbara S. Turner

**Todd Zeitlin**  
Terri Cohen

**Yury Zhislin**  
Elaine & Frank Parker

**TONI JACOBSEN'S  
PSALM 102.3 GREATEST  
NEED FUND**

The Kanter Family  
Linda McBride  
Amy & Greg McCoy  
Lisa Thrall & Thanasis  
Papaioanu  
Susan Tuck  
Gayle & Bernie Tucker  
Janet & Eileen Wallach

\*\*\* Tribute donations received after November 12, 2021 will be included in the next JFS Newsletter.

## Ways to Give

### BE SOMEONE WHO GIVES HOPE.

Generous community support provides indispensable funding for all Jewish Family Service programs and services, ultimately improving the lives of the 1600+ clients we serve every year. There are so many ways to help:

**Restricted or Unrestricted Giving:** Every contribution helps make a tangible difference in the lives of the people who need it most. "Unrestricted" donations support the full range of vital programs and services – allowing us to direct funds to where the need is greatest – and to help support our operating costs. As a donor, you can also "Restrict" the gifts to specific programs or services that have special meaning to you.

**Memorial and Tribute Gifts:** When your gift is a "tribute" for a special occasion, or in honor or memory of someone special, you get the satisfaction of giving a truly meaningful gift and we take care of sending the card.

**Auto Donation Program:** JFS partners with Charitable Auto Resources to accept donations of automobiles, boats and motorcycles. The net proceeds of the sale of

your vehicle go to help support our programs and services. To donate, please call 877.537.4227.

**Life & Legacy:** Including JFS in your estate plans enables you to support those programs that are most important to you and to leave a lasting legacy while retaining control of your assets during your lifetime.

**Amazon Smile:** When you shop on Amazon Smile, .5% of your purchase is donated to JFS. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and designate Jewish Family Service of Nashville and Middle TN as your charitable organization.

**Kroger Plus Card:** Now it's easier than ever to support JFS while shopping at Kroger! Just follow these simple steps:

1. Go to [www.kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com)
2. **SIGN IN** or **CREATE AN ACCOUNT**
3. Click on Savings and Rewards near the top of the page
4. Scroll down to **Kroger Community Rewards**
5. Scroll down to find the "I'm a Customer" box and click on view details.
6. In the **Search** bar, **TYPE** in "Jewish" (or #YR766) and click **Search**.
7. Select "Jewish Family Service" (It will also show our address and account number – YR766) ♥





THURSDAY, JANUARY 6 + THURSDAY, JANUARY 13 • 6-8 pm on Zoom

## Recognizing & Responding to Mental Health Needs

Community members are invited to join us for this 2-part series (each 2 hours long) educational program. During this workshop, participants will engage in a variety of activities that strengthen their mental health knowledge, which in turn will help them understand their role in supporting others. In partnership with The Blue Dove Foundation, which works towards advancing conversations about mental illness and substance abuse, eradicating shame, and educating the community.



**CONTACT for ZOOM CREDENTIALS**

Ashley Franklin, LMSW | Social Worker  
615.354.1662 • ashleyfranklin@jfsnashville.org

TUESDAY, APRIL 5 • 6:00-7:30 pm at the Gordon JCC

## Book Talk w/ David Wyley Long

Join us as author David Wyley Long – a client of JFS – discusses his new book, “Up Against The Wind, Chasing David Wiley”. All the work we do at JFS is strictly confidential, so it is a rare opportunity when a client comes forth to share their experience. Please join us in supporting David Wyley Long as he shares his incredible story.



**CONTACT to RSVP**

Toni Jacobsen, LCSW | Clinical Director  
615.354.1672 • tonijacobsen@jfsnashville.org

His book is a powerful testament of resilience, hope, and perseverance. David will speak about his own mental health, how he weathered life’s storms, and how he accomplished his life goals. We will also be serving a light boxed dinner at the event.

**CONTACTS**

Ashley Franklin, LMSW | Social Worker  
615.354.1662 • ashleyfranklin@jfsnashville.org

Toni Jacobsen, LCSW | Clinical Director  
615.354.1672 • tonijacobsen@jfsnashville.org

Pam Kelner | Executive Director  
615.354.1644 • pgkelner@jfsnashville.org

Anna Sir | Helping Hands Coordinator  
615.354.1686 • helpinghands@jfsnashville.org

ONGOING PROGRAM

## 100 Cups of Coffee

Have a cup of coffee on us! Get to know your JFS Nashville professionals so that you know where to go when you need assistance and learn about our agency’s programs and services. Call or email our staff to schedule your meeting over coffee today!



Since launching the Life & Legacy program, the following people have signed a letter of intent indicating they will leave an after-lifetime gift to Jewish Family Service. We are so appreciative of their commitment to ensure that JFS will be around for another 167 years serving the needs of the community.

If you would like to have a conversation regarding your Legacy, please contact either Pam Kelner, JFS Executive Director, at 615.354.1644 or Sandra Hecklin, JFS Team Leader, at 615.356.3473.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <i>Theresa and Kevin Alexandroni</i>    | <i>Heidi and John Hassenfeld</i>         | <i>Elaine z'l and Frank Parker</i>                |
| <i>Felicia and Ken Anchor</i>           | <i>Rachel Hauber</i>                     | <i>Daniella Pressner and Rabbi Saul Strosberg</i> |
| <i>Larry Averbuch</i>                   | <i>Sandra and Steve Hecklin</i>          | <i>Edria and David Ragosin</i>                    |
| <i>Richard Barnett</i>                  | <i>David Heller</i>                      | <i>Marsha Raimi</i>                               |
| <i>Lynn and David Barton</i>            | <i>Reva and Gene z'l Heller</i>          | <i>Esther and Steven Remer</i>                    |
| <i>Jamie and Jeremy Brook</i>           | <i>Toni and Dick Heller</i>              | <i>Evan Rittenberg</i>                            |
| <i>Starlet Burney</i>                   | <i>Rae and Bruce Hirsch</i>              | <i>Marissa and Ben Russ</i>                       |
| <i>Robin and Mark Cohen</i>             | <i>Melanie and Doug Hirt</i>             | <i>Arlene and Howard Safer</i>                    |
| <i>Mary Cornelius and Elaine Taubin</i> | <i>Mary Loventhal Jones</i>              | <i>Stan and Marco Fernandez-Schklar</i>           |
| <i>Erin Coleman</i>                     | <i>Jackie Karr</i>                       | <i>Suzanne and Jimmy Schulman</i>                 |
| <i>Karen Dotter</i>                     | <i>Pam and Saul Kelner</i>               | <i>Lisa and Mike Shmerling</i>                    |
| <i>Jill and Dan Eisenstein</i>          | <i>Leslie and Howard Kirshner</i>        | <i>Elise Small</i>                                |
| <i>Annette Eskind</i>                   | <i>Ruth Klar</i>                         | <i>Nan Speller</i>                                |
| <i>Andrea and Kevin Falik</i>           | <i>Glenda and Lee Kraft</i>              | <i>David Steine Jr.</i>                           |
| <i>Nancy Flexer</i>                     | <i>Roslyn Landa</i>                      | <i>Cindy Stone and Mark Glazer</i>                |
| <i>Nili and Eitan Friedman</i>          | <i>Valerie and Adam Landa</i>            | <i>Laura Thompson and Yuri Livshitz</i>           |
| <i>Harris Gilbert</i>                   | <i>Leslye and Steve Lapidus</i>          | <i>Alyssa Trachtman</i>                           |
| <i>Cindee and Michael Gold</i>          | <i>Jan Liff</i>                          | <i>Katie and Adam Wayne</i>                       |
| <i>Bernie Goldstein</i>                 | <i>Diana and Shelly Lutz</i>             | <i>Erin and Greg Zagnoev</i>                      |
| <i>Bernice and Joel Gordon</i>          | <i>Patty and Jimmy Marks</i>             | <i>Anonymous (5)</i>                              |
| <i>Robert Gordon</i>                    | <i>LaQuita Martin and Richard Orland</i> |   |
| <i>Reta Guttman z'l</i>                 | <i>Suzy Perlman</i>                      |   |

\*names noted in teal have formalized their gift

## Jewish Job Network

Jewish teachings show that the highest form of charity is giving a person independence (work) so that he or she will not have to depend on charity.

This is the goal of the Jewish Job Network which was initiated in 2009 to help Jewish community members weather the economic downturn. The Network is a confidential committee of 30 compassionate

and expert business leaders, who review resumes, respond with any related opportunities, or send resumes to colleagues when appropriate.

If you are a hiring manager or have colleagues and friends who are in the position of hiring for their company, and wish to be a part of the Jewish Job Network committee, or, if you are a Jewish job-seeker and would like your resume forwarded to the network, please contact Pam Kelner at [pgkelner@jfsnashville.org](mailto:pgkelner@jfsnashville.org). ♡

# Interactive Art Project ONGOING PROGRAM

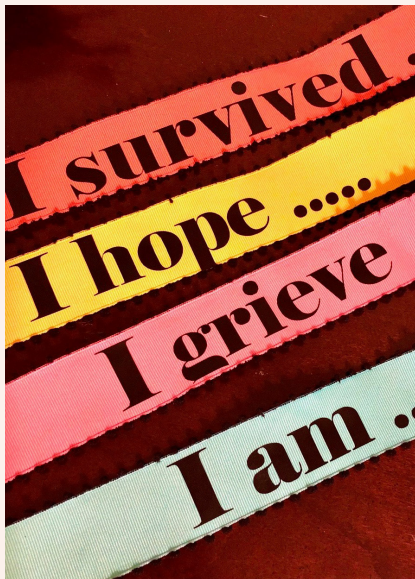
## Mental Health Matters

Stand up, speak up and share your truth with an interactive art display that features a collective group of individual journeys including emotions, grief, success and hope. Choose one or more prompts and share your own mental health experience.

This project provides a way for the community to come together and be a village for safe expression of personal life experiences.

### INFORMATION

On Display September 2021 - Oct. 2022  
GJCC, 801 Percy Warner Blvd, Nashville



## New Video!

We are excited to share our newest video showcasing the programs and services of JFS. The video highlights our updated theme:

**Navigating Life's Transitions. Together.**

To view, scan the code below or visit <https://bit.ly/328svFA>



## Pandemic Pen Pals Help Each Other... Continued from page 1

Even when she went out of town on vacation or visiting her mom in New Jersey, she always sent me postcards of the places she was. I, in turn, was able to share what I was experiencing and what I was going through. It was very uplifting.”

Of course, there was also a desire for the two letter writing pals to meet in person. As Passover approached, JFS was looking for volunteers to help deliver meals. Rivlin and her husband, Ron, immediately stepped up, with one request: to deliver meals to Gail’s pen pals. Finally, Rivlin and Klar were able to see each other in person, albeit behind masks. “We still had to be socially distant, so we met out on my patio and now the names had faces. What a joy for me,” says Klar. Rivlin also was able to meet her other pen pals, Jean Roseman and Frances and George Hahn.

Although in person events are resuming, the pen pal program is still going strong. JFS’ Anna Sir says she is pleased to offer another option for people to connect. “Helping Hands is a unique program because we live in a small community and don’t

need a ‘one size fits all,’ approach. The pen pal program allows us to expand our services to the older population and I think it will always be part of what we offer.” Gail Rivlin says she plans to keep enjoying her new found friends, both in writing and in person. In fact, once the senior lunch program returned to the Gordon JCC, Ruth Klar invited Rivlin to be her guest one Thursday afternoon. “Since Gail has only been here for about a short time, I invited her to be my guest at one of our TGIT luncheons. She was so taken with our senior group that she volunteered to help serve lunch on Thursdays.” Not only that, Klar invited Rivlin to watch her perform in the recent production of the Gordon JCC Mazel Tov Theatre and Rivlin again offered to volunteer by working the front box office. Klar says Rivlin is a great addition to the community, and she is grateful to JFS for bringing a meaningful new friendship into her life.

“A gorgeous young woman who wrote me the most beautiful letters introducing herself, and her lovely family. At first, I wondered why they didn’t connect me with my contemporary. I’m so glad they didn’t! Gail has been a joy in my life from her first letter.” ♡





## Jewish Family Service

Jewish Family Service of Nashville  
and Middle Tennessee  
801 Percy Warner Blvd., Suite 103  
Nashville, TN 37205  
615.356.4234

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# Who We Are

Serving Nashville Since 1853

Jewish Family Service of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, Inc. is an independent 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide professional social services from Jewish perspectives which respond to and support individuals and families through life's transitions.

Passionate providers of comprehensive social services, we are advocates, allies, educators, cheerleaders, and guides who create solutions to problems facing families and individuals of all ages. We are a collective of social workers, volunteers, generous supporters, compassionate hearts, spirited and spiritual human beings.

We are one of the oldest social service agencies in Nashville, but that doesn't mean we are stagnant. We are constantly evolving to meet the changing needs of the people we serve. Above all, we never cease finding new ways to enrich, enhance, and empower the lives of those in need of help.

**“One who saves a Single Soul Saves an Entire World.”**  
Sanhedrin 37a

Navigating Life's Transitions. **Together.**