A Year of Gratitude
To my JAFCO family,

As we complete the first quarter of a century of JAFCO’s existence in our community, it is a special time to look back and reflect and also a time to look forward to the future, and what the next 25 years will bring to the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village, the Children’s Ability Center and our NE Communities Office. The child welfare programs at the Children’s Village continue to provide an immediate safety net to children in our community from the moment of birth all the way through adulthood. This past year we have witnessed many miracles and milestones including Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, high school and college graduations, graduate school, marriages and births of children into the next generation of our JAFCO family. Our Ability Center has experienced phenomenal growth this past year, offering JAFCO’s love and support to every member of the hundreds of families raising a child with a developmental disability. And our NE Communities office continues to grow as our board and staff work together to determine which parts of the JAFCO model are most needed to help children and families in Philadelphia.

“We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.”
John F. Kennedy

I want to take this moment to share my immense gratitude to all the incredible people who make JAFCO a beautiful and important part of our community. We dedicate this Annual Report to you — our wonderful board of trustees, our generous donors, our dedicated staff, our amazing volunteers, and the families and children we are honored to serve. We also remember those members of the JAFCO family we have lost this past year. You will never be forgotten as your legacy continues to inspire us to work hard every day to provide love and safety to our precious children.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Sarah Franco
Executive Director

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”
~ Anne Frank

ON THE COVER:
Silver Heart Society Commemorative Artwork
Created Exclusively for JAFCO by Loren Stein

Loren Stein is a local multi-media artist specializing in precious metals and paper-cut works. Her inspiration to create thematic art and one of a kind pieces is faith based and personal. Loren has a BA in Architecture from The University of Florida and a Masters of Architecture from MIT. She strongly believes that her training in Architecture has enabled her to create pieces with depth and space. For more information on the Silver Heart Society see page 32.
A Journey of Gratitude

On March 21, noon on the dot, my dream of going to Harvard did not come true. While I without a doubt presented the absolute best version of myself, it just didn’t happen. I couldn’t have done any part of that process any better and I take comfort in that. They say that success is often right around the corner from some of life’s biggest setbacks or failures, and today I couldn’t believe that to be more true. A few weeks ago my phone rang. It was a Philadelphia area code and thankfully it was not JAFCO’s Northeast office calling me, not just anyone was on the other line, but in fact it was the director of admissions congratulating me that I have been accepted into the Wharton business school. It was one of the best moments of my life. For me Harvard and Wharton were one in the same.

So, I’m heading to Philadelphia and go figure, it’s the only other place that JAFCO exists. That cannot be a coincidence. If you’re up in Philly please call me and we’ll go to lunch. I’ll be starving and freezing up there I’m sure. I think there are very few points in life where you ever feel like you are exactly where you’re supposed to be, and today it sure feels that way – while it was a hell of a process I know that this is just the beginning for me and I can’t wait for the future and the next chapter.

Now to say at 4 years old when JAFCO came into my life that we would have expected this to happen wouldn’t give the justice deserved for this life-changing organization. There wasn’t much opportunity for a child growing up without a family, without a support system, without constant guidance. I met Sarah and Wendy (JAFCO’s Executive Director and Clinical Director) when JAFCO was just beginning. Little did I know how extreme a blessing this would be for me. These are the most incredible people, the people most of us don’t cross paths with in life but we may read about — selfless unconditional individuals completing their life’s work and making an impact on the world. I’m so fortunate to have had them and still have them as my support system, caregivers, and a true sounding board. No matter how busy, no matter what’s going on they are a phone call away — they’re here for me as they are for the more than 5,000 other children in the organization, and yes, they know each and every single one — how crazy and amazing is that? But that’s what JAFCO is. Their mission is undeterred and it’s relentless.

Growing up in a stable family household, as most people are familiar with, you always hear parents tell their children that they can be anything they want to be, often preparing to assist them to follow their dreams, either giving them the same assistance they had been provided or maybe even what they were in fact never given. That’s not common in the foster care system. Often children are abandoned and neglected and it’s a tremendously sad story but it’s a scary and true reality.

But not here, not at JAFCO. I write this as a success story, proud that against all odds I was able to make it. Resilience had been instilled in me early on and at points it’s the only thing I knew. It’s enabled me to break ceilings and strive to reach my upmost potential. I know my purpose and my goal is to inspire the thousands of others growing up with an unfair start, to show them that it’s possible. While I didn’t have a role model to follow as a child I will make sure that I am here for someone else, to help change their life the way mine was changed.

So, with that I just want to send a few special thank yous.

To Sarah, Wendy, and the entire JAFCO organization for helping me to reach this moment in my life and enabling me to be whoever I’ve wanted to be. I am forever grateful and while I know there is no way to truly repay you, I hope that I can continue to make half as big an impact as you’ve had on me. To Steve and Helene Weicholz, whose family has been so special to me. And lastly, to every single donor and member of the JAFCO family, for reading my story and the countless other stories of children that JAFCO has served — you’re making a difference by being here for the children and it means so much to all of us.

With gratitude,

Steven

Gratitude is a powerful process for shifting your energy and bringing more of what you want into your life.
JAFCO is grateful that we were able to serve 1219 (unduplicated) children in our community in one or more of our twenty programs resulting in increased safety, ability to remain home with their family, increased independence and overall functioning.
**Children’s Emergency Shelter**

In 2017, safety and love were provided to children ages birth to 12 at the JAFCO Children’s Emergency Shelter, which is a critical part of the JAFCO Children’s Village, open 24 hours a day to receive children at any hour of the day or night, 7 days a week. Since it opened in 2003, over 1,200 children have been lovingly provided a clean and warm bed to sleep in, nutritious food, clean clothing, new shoes, medical care, transportation to and from school, help with homework, outings to the movies, the park and the beach, fun in the pool, birthday parties, holiday celebrations and so much more. The Emergency Shelter can provide a home for up to 16 children at one time. When child protective investigators receive an abuse report to the hotline, they go out to the home and if they determine that a child is at risk of abuse or neglect, they will bring the child to JAFCO for one night or up to a few months, until a foster family or safe relative is identified to care for them. JAFCO is also unique in that we accept children privately from the parents if they are in crisis and are asking for help to keep their children safe from harm. Volunteers assist in the shelter with childcare, homework, cooking, organizing and out in the community. Our donors are always providing diapers, clothing and other supplies for the children. The shelter ensures that there is always a safe place for a child in our community in the event of an emergency and when a foster family is not available. Over 20 newborns were placed at the shelter this past year alone, coming to JAFCO right from the hospital, completely alone in the world. Our achieved outcomes for the children are for 100% safety, complete medical care and improvement in school performance.

**Family Preservation Program**

JAFCO is committed to strengthening families and keeping them together whenever possible. The Family Preservation Program serves families in crisis (free of charge) where there is at least one parent or family member who is able to care for the child and keep them safe with the following wrap-around services being provided by JAFCO social workers in the home: food, clothing, shelter, parent training, day care, after-school care, summer camp, supervised visitation, therapy, case management and referral services, safety planning, co-parenting support and assistance with any legal proceedings. 98% of the families served remained intact, parenting skills were strengthened, and the family members felt more connected to one another.

**Group Home Program**

The JAFCO Group Home Program at the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village provides a home for up to 36 children in a beautiful gated residential setting in one of the six group homes, each child having their own bedroom and bathroom for privacy and dignity and to increase safety. The Village is the only one of its kind in the Jewish community in the entire country. Our 2017 outcomes for the children who were part of this program: 95% improved functioning at home and school, making honor roll, having their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, celebrating Shabbat and all the holidays, enjoying delicious homemade kosher food, playing on the local community sports team, performing in dance class recitals, attending senior prom, getting a driver’s license, the excitement of a first birthday party, getting their first job, first girlfriend, going to overnight summer camp, going on the March of the Living, having wishes come true for eight nights of Chanukah, learning to cope and to trust again, expressing feelings in therapy, learning independent living skills, choosing a career — all while coming to understand and accept their challenging family situation to the best of their ability. Unlike the 30% graduation rate for children in foster care nation-wide, at JAFCO we are so proud that 100% of our high school seniors graduate high school and are heading for college, vocational school or a gap year program. Many of our alumni are now seeking post-graduate degrees and are successful professionals in the fields of business, social work, finance, hospitality and in the medical field. Our first alum has been elected to the JAFCO Board of Trustees and another one has joined our JAFCO Godparent Circle. We are so proud of them!

**Outpatient Therapy Program**

In 2017, JAFCO provided individual therapy to 40 children who were also part of one of our other programs. JAFCO therapists are trained in best practices and use a Trauma Informed Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Approach in working with the children, helping them learn coping skills and resiliency to more effectively manage and overcome the trauma in their lives.

**Forever Friends Mentoring Program**

The Forever Friends program matches children residing in the JAFCO Group Home program with an adult mentor for a long-term meaningful relationship that provides love and support to the child as a result of fun bi-weekly outings. 100% of children in this program experienced an increase in self-esteem, improvement in school and in their relationships with other adults.
Foster Care & Adoption Program
JAFCO foster families make a selfless commitment to bring a child into their home and help a family during a time of crisis, the ultimate mitzvah. Children are referred by family members and friends, judges, community members and professionals, teachers and clergy. With the support of the JAFCO clinical team and the foster parents, about 50% of the children in foster care are reunited with their birth families, which is always the first goal of foster care as we move towards permanency for each and every child. About half of the reunifications are successful long term. The children who sadly re-enter the system are either placed with their previous JAFCO foster parents, placed at the Children’s Village, placed with a relative or in a more intensive treatment program if needed. To date, over 250 precious children have been part of the JAFCO Adoption Program which matches children ages birth through 18 with incredible families willing to make a life-long commitment to raise a child in need of a loving “forever family”. We are always in need of additional loving foster and/or adoptive families and have a monthly information meeting for prospective parents the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. JAFCO provides case management and 24-hour on-call support to our foster and adoptive families for the entire duration of the placement or until the child turns 18. The desired outcomes for this program are safety, improved school performance, improved emotional functioning and permanency. They were all met at 100% in 2017.

Independent Living Program
The JAFCO Independent Living program teaches our children all of the skills needed for independent living using life coaching to teach them how to budget, take care of their bodies, apply for a job, go on an interview, organize their home and their lives, shop for food, manage relationships and more. 100% of the 22 children served in this program in 2017 demonstrated improved independent living skills and increased confidence in their ability to take care of themselves. This past year the children learned how to utilize public transportation by traveling to Miami using the Tri-Rail and Metrorail; the children learned how to navigate routes, purchase their own transit tickets, and practice personal safety. Our children continue to prepare for their futures by going on college tours and attending career panels organized by the Jewish Federation Young Leaders Division, during which they are exposed to a variety of exciting career choices. Planned Parenthood came to the Village to teach the children, emphasizing healthy body image and characteristics of healthy versus unhealthy relationships. A training on LGBTQ sensitivity and awareness was offered to help our children build cultural competency, as was a presentation on The March of the Living where one child spoke of her experience of traveling to Poland and Israel and strengthening connections to her Jewish heritage. The children continue to participate in various groups focused on mental health, including anger management, stress management, and building resiliency from a trauma-informed perspective.

MST Program
The JAFCO Multi-Systemic Therapy Program is an intensive four-month in-home research-based therapy program (funded by the Children’s Services Council of Broward) which aims to prevent out-of-home placement for at-risk children ages 10-18 who are struggling with negative pre-teen and teenage challenges such as truancy at school, aggression in the home, and early drug experimentation. JAFCO’s award winning team of therapists has received national recognition by providing intensive family support and teaching parents the skills they need to manage these difficult behaviors within the family setting, avoiding residential or court-ordered juvenile justice placements. 95% of the 104 children served in 2017 were able to remain safely in the home with improved personal functioning and increased family harmony.

Senior Caregiver Program
100% of the 30 children being raised by their grandparents were able to remain at home with their grandparents, which is the goal of this program. Florida is ranked fourth in the nation for the number of children being raised by their grandparents. This program (funded by the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Broward County) provides much needed supportive services to seniors who have taken on the difficult task of raising their grandchildren and keeping them from going into foster care. Services include weekly caregiver support groups, home visits, supervised visitation for the grandchildren and their parents, parenting training and support for the grandparents to understand addiction, mental health and co-dependency, 24-hour on-call crisis support, respite through after school and summer camp programs, assistance with custody and visitation issues, case management and referral for the entire family including the parents.
What does JAFCO stand for? JAFCO stands for Jewish Adoption and Family Care Options.

How does JAFCO hear about the children at the Village? JAFCO can help a family in one of two ways: either voluntarily with the request of the parent or guardian, or if ordered by the court; referrals are made by the state, judges, schools, grandparents, rabbis, therapists, teachers, neighbors, family members and often by parents who are seeking help. Please contact our Director of Operations and Clinical Services, Wendy Jenkins by calling 954.749.7230 or email wendy@jafco.org.

I know someone who is interested in adopting a child. Can you help them? Yes. There are always children in need of loving adoptive homes and JAFCO is a licensed adoption agency. A family who wishes to adopt or needs an adoption related service or support should email Katie Ginsberg, our Adoption Specialist in Florida at katie@jafco.org or Rebecca Salus in Pennsylvania at rebecca@jafco.org. To get the process started you will be invited to attend one of our free monthly adoption orientations in South Florida or Philadelphia.

If I am pregnant and want to learn more about my options including adoption who should I contact? A birth parent wishing to learn more about adoption or other services available to them should contact Rebecca Salus at rebecca@jafco.org or 610.525.1040 in the NE, or Katie Ginsberg at katie@jafco.org or 954.315.8676 in FL.

Does JAFCO serve only Jewish children? What are the ages of the children you serve? JAFCO was created to fulfill an unmet need in the Jewish community and as a Jewish agency it is also our privilege and our pleasure to help any child and any family in need. The children we serve range from birth to 18 at the Children’s Village and birth to 22 at the Children’s Ability Center.

How do you screen your foster parents? Do you supervise them after they receive a placement? Do they get paid? Our foster parents are loving and caring families who are trained and screened according to state guidelines plus additional JAFCO requirements, which include FBI background checks, employer and personal reference checks, medical and psychological evaluations, blood work including drug screens and more. The process takes about 4 months. Once a child is placed with a foster family, a JAFCO social worker visits the child and the home at least once per week and offers 24-hour on-call support to the foster parents. Foster parents receive a small monthly reimbursement for food and clothing and childcare expenses. Foster parents must show ample income and financial stability prior to being approved. JAFCO foster parents very often use their own funds to supplement the needs of the child and do this from their heart.

How many children live at the JAFCO Children’s Village? Where do they go to school? The JAFCO Village can provide a home for up to 52 children at one time: 16 in the Emergency Shelter and 36 in the 6 group homes. The children attend either local area public or private schools or they are transported by the JAFCO staff to their schools, sometimes in Boca Raton or Miami Beach. Over 1,000 children have found safety at the Weicholz Family Campus of the David Posnack Jewish Children’s Village since it opened in 2003.

What happens when the children who live at the Children’s Village turn 18? A child who turns 18 can live at the Children’s Village until the age of 21. JAFCO will help them with college and support them until the age of 24 if they are in college, drug free and leading a healthy lifestyle and we will help them move into an apartment or college dorm and prepare for independent living.

Do the children at the Children’s Village get to visit with their parents? Yes. We strongly encourage visitation with parents and family members and will supervise the visits if so ordered by the court.

Are there facilities like the JAFCO Children’s Village or Children’s Ability Center anywhere else in the country? Currently the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village and the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center are the only centers of their kind in the Jewish community in the United States.

Do you provide foster care and adoption services in the Northeast Communities Office? Yes, we are an official foster care and adoption agency within the state of Pennsylvania and are currently recruiting and licensing foster and adoptive families. Our clinical social worker is also providing services to families in need including family strengthening and clinical case management. To contact our Philadelphia office to refer a family or become a foster parent, please call 610.525.1040.

I just found out my child may have autism. Can JAFCO help me? Yes we can. You do not have to go through this alone. Please call us right away and we will invite you to visit our facility and attend the next parent tour. If you need to speak to someone right away please call the center at 954.315.7033 or email Samantha Sehter our Family Services Coordinator at samantha@jafco.org.

What programs do you have at the Children’s Ability Center for children with autism? The JAFCO Children’s Ability Center provides family enrichment, support and respite for children with all developmental disabilities including autism, intellectual disabilities, spina bifida, cerebral palsy and Prader-Willi. We support families who are raising a child with a disability ages birth through 22 with support groups, case management, parent education and training, social and life skills training, day and overnight summer camp, music therapy, drama, gardening, lego, social play and other clubs for the children after school and on weekends during the day and even overnight for up to two weeks a year per child, allowing the children to have fun and make friends while the parents take a vacation and take care of themselves and their other children or family members. The Ability Center is a research institute and parents can choose to participate or not in our research initiative to ensure that our programs are of the highest quality. We also offer speech and ABA therapies at this time. For more information email Samantha Sehter our Family Services Coordinator at samantha@jafco.org.

Are there hands-on volunteer opportunities? Yes. There are volunteer opportunities to work with the children at the Children’s Village and at the Children’s Ability Center. For more information visit our website and attend one of our tours to get started in the volunteer process. You will meet our Volunteer Coordinator Linda Sachs on the tour and learn about volunteer opportunities. On a separate day you will attend a volunteer training. Our JAFCO Chapters are located in Florida in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties as well as Philadelphia, Southern New Jersey and Long Island, New York. They consist of volunteers who work tirelessly to create events to raise awareness and funds for JAFCO and are always in need of more volunteers. See our website to contact the Chapter President in your area and to help us plan an event and also meet new friends in your area.

Do you have a Village in Philadelphia? We do not have a Village in Philadelphia but we do offer family preservation and support services to children and families in the greater Philadelphia and South Jersey area (see page 11). Planning meetings are underway to determine which other parts of the JAFCO model are most needed in the NE community.
Starting on the day of diagnosis and continuing throughout childhood until age 22, parents no longer have to face the challenges of navigating the often stormy sea of needs and services alone as they raise a child with a developmental disability. A phone call will connect them with either a JAFCO 211 Connections Program social worker (funded by the Children’s Services Council of Broward County) or a JAFCO Family Preservation Program social worker who will meet with them and be available to them 24 hours a day/7 days a week for whatever support or referrals they might need for JAFCO programs or in the community. There is no charge for the 284 families who used the program in 2017 thanks to the love and support of our amazing community. The media is filled with tragic stories of parents who were driven to desperate measures because they felt overwhelmed and helpless and had nowhere to turn, sometimes even ashamed or afraid to reach out to their own family and friends for support because things at home had gotten so out of control. That does not have to happen in our community because of the Children’s Ability Center. There is no situation that JAFCO will turn away. Every family is welcome and working together we know there is hope.

After an initial intake, 488 children in 2017 were exposed to an entire array of child enrichment services including weekend respite, after-school clubs, summer camp, day, overnight and gap camps, music therapy, social skills and life skills training programs as well as speech therapy, which is brand new to JAFCO this year thanks to a partnership with Bend Your Brain. But there are more services for the 121 parents attending our support groups for moms, dads, single moms and parents considering group home placement that meet both day and night allowing parents and 33 grandparents to laugh and cry together this past year in a place that was safe and where everyone understood exactly how they felt. Our Parent Behavior Training gave 51 parents many of the same tools that an ABA therapist uses, helping unveil the mystery behind behavior management and allowing parents to truly become behavior experts in a small intimate setting. Our Parent Education Series allowed 84 parents to learn more about their child’s diagnosis, introducing them to experts on topics from sexuality in teens to school advocacy to MedWaiver applications and everything in between. Parent’s Nights Out were fun nights for 18 parents at the CAC or local restaurants where parents could make new friends while their children are having fun at the CAC babysitting program. Childcare is usually provided for most of our parent programs that occur outside of school time. And last but not least, Family Fun Days occurred 4 times this year allowing 774 participants to spend time at the Ability Center and enjoy meeting other families while engaging in fun social and sensory activities for an afternoon — without worrying about meltdowns or behavior.

### Services For Parents & Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>211 Connections Program</td>
<td>Offers support for families and children with special needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Preservation Program</td>
<td>Provides support and resources to families of children with developmental disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moms Support Group</td>
<td>Supports mothers of children with special needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dads Support Group</td>
<td>Supports fathers of children with special needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single Moms Support Group</td>
<td>Provides support for single mothers of children with special needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandparents Support Group</td>
<td>Offers support and resources for grandparents raising grandchildren with special needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>SibShop Sibling Support Group</td>
<td>Supports siblings of children with special needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents Considering Group Home Placement Support Group</td>
<td>Supports families considering group home placement for their children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Educational Training</td>
<td>Provides educational training for parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Behavioral Training</td>
<td>Offers behavioral training for parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent’s Night Out</td>
<td>Provides a night out for parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Fun Day</td>
<td>Offers a fun day out for families</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moms Wellness Retreats</td>
<td>Offers wellness retreats for mothers</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Advocacy Support</td>
<td>Provides support for school advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-Hour On-Call Crisis Support</td>
<td>Offers 24-hour support for emergencies</td>
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</tbody>
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### After-School & Weekend Activities for Children Ages Birth To 22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Hangout</td>
<td>Offers a social hangout for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Skills and Games</td>
<td>Provides social skills and games activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Therapy</td>
<td>Offers music therapy sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Talk</td>
<td>Provides a teen talk program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.T.E.M. Club</td>
<td>Offers a science, technology, engineering, and math club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lil’ Iron Chefs &amp; Future Top Chefs</td>
<td>Provides cooking classes for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Club</td>
<td>Offers a science club for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Skills and Life Skills, Jr.</td>
<td>Provides life skills classes for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picasso at Heart</td>
<td>Offers art programs for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fun with Fitness</td>
<td>Provides fitness programs for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadway Here We Come</td>
<td>Offers a musical production for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Play</td>
<td>Provides social play activities for children</td>
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</tbody>
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### Respite, Therapies & Skills Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speech Therapy</td>
<td>Offers speech therapy sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Skills Classes</td>
<td>Provides life skills classes for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Skills Classes</td>
<td>Offers social skills classes for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekend Respite</td>
<td>Provides weekend respite for children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overnight Respite</td>
<td>Offers overnight respite for children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended Respite</td>
<td>Provides extended respite for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Camp</td>
<td>Offers a summer camp for children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gap Camp</td>
<td>Provides gap camps for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overnight Camp</td>
<td>Offers overnight camps for children</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Music Therapy

Music is a very basic human response spanning all degrees of ability. Music therapists meet children at their own levels and allow them to grow from there. Music is motivating and enjoyable and promotes relatedness, relaxation, learning, and self-expression. This therapy addresses multiple developmental issues simultaneously and can provide success-oriented opportunities for achievement and mastery. The JAFCO Music Therapy Program, presented in collaboration with Palm Beach Music Therapy Institute, is a dynamic and fun eight-week program designed to create an environment of musical improvisation where children develop a sense of autonomy, identity, and confidence. In 2017, 106 children ages 4-18 attended the program and 100% showed improvements in the areas of language skills, social skills and positive behaviors.

Life Skills

The JAFCO Life Skills Program is for children ages 14-22 years old, teaching them skills to promote independent living and employability, social and functional communication and to collaborate with others. Principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) are used with visual supports, job coaching using technology and fading prompt dependency, working with youth who are able to work in a three-to-one, child-to-staff ratio. Home support from our ABA team is available to parents to help reinforce and generalize newly learned skills into the home environment. In 2017, 100% of the 26 youth in this program increased their skill levels in the areas of culinary, office, and laundry skills as well as leisure skills, communication skills and social skills with their peers both at the center and at home.

SibShops

SibShops is an interactive workshop for the typical siblings of children with developmental disabilities. In these groups, siblings ages 6-13 years old have opportunities for peer support within a safe, fun-filled, recreational context. In the 2017 SibShops program, 31 children felt supported and validated by other typical sibs who truly “get” the good and not-so-good parts of having a brother or sister who has a developmental disability. The children especially enjoyed the amazing overnight sleepover at the Ability Center and had a great time.

Speech Therapy with Bend Your Brain

Speech Therapy has finally arrived at the Ability Center and there is no better speech therapist than Alana Fichtelberg who uses innovative and effective approaches with our children. Therapy is available both evenings and weekends and children can even be brought by our staff from their other Ability Center activities to their therapy session, saving mom and dad another trip in the car for another therapy appointment. Private pay only but we can help you with your private insurance submittal if needed. Space is limited so set up your appointment today.

Camp Kehilla Day, Overnight & Gap Camp

In 2017, Camp Kehilla provided campers with a fun, safe and exciting summer, while increasing their social and life skills, exposing them to new experiences and allowing them to make friends. Camp groups operate on a 1:1 camper to adult counselor ratio, enhanced by teen mentors. Activities include Life Skills and Safety, Social Skills, Music Therapy, Sports, Sensory Carnival, Petting Zoo, Water Play, Fun with Food, a Talent Show and so much more. Parents wanting their child to experience the fun of a sleep-away camp without sending them too far away just yet can enroll their child in a twelve-day session of Kehilla overnight camp. The camp fun continues into the night in our beautiful 4,000 square foot air conditioned “camp cabin” for the six lucky overnight campers who will each enjoy a two-week overnight stay in their own private room and bathroom, with a minimum of two 24-hour awake adult staff to ensure their safety while parents take time alone, their very first trip away together as a couple or to spend time with their typical children, friends or family members. Kehilla means “community” and JAFCO Camp Kehilla and Gap Camp served 156 children in 2017. We are open every day that school is open including teacher planning day, winter and spring breaks and the week between summer camp and school, when programming is very limited. Just call us and we will accommodate your child’s school schedule.
Children's Ability Center

488 Children Served In 2017

Surrounding Our Families with Love and Support

284 Family Preservation/211 Connections
274 Parent Support Programs
249 Incredible Social Experience/Respite
334 After School Clubs, Skill Training, Therapy
154 Summer Camp and Gap Camp
33 Grandparent Support Group
31 SibShops (support for typical siblings)
774 “Levitetz Family Fun Day” Participants
2 Emergency Shelter

Social Skills Program

The Social Skills Program at the Children’s Ability Center utilizes research-based methods of teaching social skills, play skills, conversation skills, and perspective-taking skills to increase children’s independence in social settings. In 2017, 28 children increased their ability to initiate and maintain conversations, play games while demonstrating appropriate sportsmanship, and cooperate to be part of a group activity. The group follows a schedule of activities based on an ABA curriculum of opening circle, gross motor play, board games, art activities, and video modeling/role playing. All families receive materials to encourage their child to generalize the skills learned in the program to further their child’s progress at home, school and in the community.

Incredible Social Experience/Respite Program

The Children’s Ability Center is a beautiful facility offering children a gated, clean, state-of-the-art center where they can have fun, make friends, learn social and life skills, enjoy art, music, computers, outdoor play, organic gardening and other activities. While they are enjoying themselves, parents can enjoy a much-needed break by spending time with friends and family or maybe even relaxing at home...alone. This program is 100% accessible based on family need. Parents can schedule for an evening to go on a date, a half or full day, a Saturday or Sunday, overnight or an entire weekend, or even for one or two weeks at a time. JAFCO will adjust our schedule to your needs. If a parent is attending a wedding or other event that ends at midnight, we will stay until midnight to allow them to enjoy their evening and will even keep the child overnight if they are ready for that big step. Our Boys Night Out and Girls Sleepover Parties in our beautiful six-bedroom, six-bath guest house are so much fun for the children. While staying overnight, every child has his or her own private bedroom and bathroom and we have a minimum of two staff awake during the night, including a nurse or behavior specialist if needed. This extended respite program is the only one of its kind in the country. In 2017, 249 children participated in this program and 100% of them demonstrated improvement in their activities of daily living, communication, behavior and social skills.

Support Group For Grandparents

This group is for grandparents who have a grandchild with a developmental disability. Grandparents are deeply affected by the challenges faced by their children and grandchildren and this group provides a place to discuss feelings and concerns about the future and how to be supportive. In 2017, 33 grandparents received support from other grandparents and the JAFCO professional staff and 100% reported feeling less isolated and more connected to their children and grandchildren, with a deeper understanding of their grandchild’s disability and the challenges that their children are experiencing.

After-School & Weekend Affinity & Creative Arts Clubs

Over 300 children attended one or more of our after-school social clubs, all focusing on making friends while enhancing communication and social skills. Every child has something that opens their heart, their creativity, or their mind. JAFCO is committed to creating as many clubs as necessary to make that connection with the children, whether in Social Play, S.T.E.M., Organic Gardening Club, Picasso at Heart, or Broadway Here We Come. Other affinity-based clubs can be created based on parent requests and interest.
**Family Strengthening & Support Program**

The JAFCO Family Strengthening Program provides free, intensive in-home case management services to at-risk children and their families in Philadelphia (including Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks, Philadelphia, and Chester counties) and Southern New Jersey. The goal of this program is to strengthen and empower the family while preventing out-of-home placement for the child. Services include but are not limited to: supportive counseling; family safety planning; parenting support; support for families raising a child with special needs; support for grandparents or other relatives raising their grandchild/relative; information and referral (education, day care, after care, camp, employment/vocational needs, mental health or addiction treatment); support with legal and custody issues; and homelessness prevention. JAFCO’s social worker is available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week to assist in any emergencies.

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**STAR Sibling Support Groups**

The STAR Sibling Support Group provides typical siblings of children with developmental disabilities a safe space to talk about their feelings with other children who share their experience. This group offers opportunities to gain support within a safe and fun environment where they can meet new friends who can understand what they are feeling. The group provides activities that help to identify both the positive and challenging aspects of having a brother or sister with special needs, understand more about disabilities and learn how they can have a more meaningful relationship with their sibling.

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**Foster & Adoptive Family Recruitment Program**

JAFCO is currently recruiting foster and adoptive families in the greater Philadelphia community to provide a safety net for Jewish children who require placement outside of their home. Foster families are licensed, substitute families that open their hearts and homes to children in need of care on a temporary basis upon being removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect or abandonment. JAFCO also offers the ability for families to voluntarily place their children in the event of a family crisis that may place the children at risk of abuse, neglect or abandonment. JAFCO also offers private adoption services when a pregnant birth mother makes the decision to voluntarily place her baby for adoption without involvement from the state. JAFCO serves as the mediator between birth parents and adoptive parents to ensure that all legal guidelines are followed and that the process runs smoothly and safely. JAFCO will provide ongoing support, supervision and training to our foster and adoptive parents and all needed support services to the children, birth parents and family members throughout the entire process.

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39 Children Served In 2017

**Surrounding Our Families with Love and Support**

**STAR Sibling Support Groups**

The STAR Sibling Support Group provides typical siblings of children with developmental disabilities a safe space to talk about their feelings with other children who share their experience. This group offers opportunities to gain support within a safe and fun environment where they can meet new friends who can understand what they are feeling. The group provides activities that help to identify both the positive and challenging aspects of having a brother or sister with special needs, understand more about disabilities and learn how they can have a more meaningful relationship with their sibling.

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**Improvs-Based Social Skills Groups For Children With Special Needs**

This provides specialized social skills training to meet the unique needs of children with developmental disabilities. A unique component of this program is the use of techniques used in improvisational theatre. Through exercises, role-play and games, children will learn life and social skills while laughing, having fun and making friends. Research has demonstrated that improv promotes active listening, effective verbal and non-verbal communication, using imagination, collaborating with others, and effectively expressing and interpreting emotions.

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**Supervised Visitation Program**

JAFCO’s Supervised Visitation Program provides scheduled, monitored visits between a child and a non-custodial parent or family member, supervised by a qualified professional. JAFCO provides a safe and structured environment for the visit while working with the family to ensure that all guidelines set by the court or referring agency are followed. JAFCO documents each visit and submits progress reports to the court with recommendations about the visits.
To my JAFCO family,

When I was born, G-d gave me something that I didn’t ask for, nor do I understand why he gave it to me. My sister, Sari, who is 16-years-old was supposed to be my big sister. She was supposed to have been the person closest to me who would teach me about life, share experiences with me, and help me to deal with the typical things that kids and teenagers go through.

Instead, my sister Sari has several developmental disabilities, including a rare genetic disorder known as floating-harbor syndrome combined with epilepsy, cognitive impairment, apraxia, and ataxia.

To be honest, I don’t really even know what each of those medical terms means. What I do know is that my sister is more like a 6-year-old. She can’t speak clearly, she has frequent seizures which really scare me, she can be aggressive, she has temper-tantrums, and she impacts my life in so many other ways that most of my friends will never be able to understand and relate to.

So as a result, my life is never just normal. Well, that’s not really true. To say it more accurately, I have a very different definition of normal in my life. I have a normal that’s not fair. It’s a normal that is exhausting. It’s a normal that just feels abnormal. It’s a normal that makes me angry, stressed, nervous, and sad. It’s a normal that only those of us who are parents, grandparents or siblings of a child with a developmental disability could really understand. I have been told that parents of children with disabilities are sometimes afraid or even ashamed to open up about the reality of their lives, so they pretend everything is ok. But as teenager, I am in a very unique position to have amazing parents who have encouraged me to openly share with you the truth about just how hard life can be for families like ours.

It may not be easy to hear but I think it’s important that you know what it’s like to live in our shoes.

For example, in my family if we want to go to the beach, we don’t just think about if the weather is good or which beach would be best to go to. Instead, we need to think about what we are going to do with Sari since she can’t be in the sun for too long or else she will have seizures from overheating, and how we will deal with her wanting to go home 10 minutes after we get there.

If we want to go to the movies or out to dinner, we don’t just think about what movie would be fun to see, or what food we are all in the mood for, like most people do. Instead, we need to plan for what we will all do if Sari gets upset and has a temper tantrum in the middle of the movie or in a restaurant. I would love to be able to invite my friends over to my house to hang out without feeling nervous about them seeing Sari and what they will think about me.

And since I’m being totally honest, I think the hardest part of having a sibling with special needs is that she steals so much of my parents’ attention and energy. Either they are so stressed out about her seizures or school-related problems, or they are just too tired to do anything with me.

It is not easy to share this but I am actually jealous of Sari because she manages to get so much of my parents’ attention that there is often very little of them left over for me. When my friends play on sports teams and they score a touchdown, their mom and dad are both there to cheer for them. But both of my parents were never able to come together and watch me play at the same time since one of them had to stay home or sit in the car with Sari. As much as I do understand why they couldn’t both be there, it still hurt me and sometimes made me angry.

I do not know why my sister was dealt this difficult hand in life. I don’t understand why my parents’ and I were given this huge challenge in our lives. However, as I become more mature, and after many, many discussions with my very wise and wonderful parents, I’ve come to understand how Sari is also a blessing to me and my family and that she has some beautiful lessons to teach all of us. I’d like to share those with you as well.
My sister Sari has never, nor will she ever be, angry at someone or hold a grudge. She will never judge somebody because of their sexual orientation, the color of their skin, their size, or their age. She cannot knowingly commit a sin and in Judaism, that raises her to the highest level of humanity known as a Tzadik, someone who is holy. And without taking yoga or studying mindfulness, my sister Sari always lives in the moment. Even during the days leading up to Hurricane Irma, while my family and I and all of us were freaking out, Sari was calm as can be, not worried about a thing. At that moment, I envied her. As I learn to look beyond my own 13-year-old needs and feelings, I am starting to understand that as difficult as it can be to care for her, I also feel blessed to have Sari as my sister.

I am so grateful to the people who created and built the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center and who help families like mine. I will share with you that the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center is one of the best things that ever happened to me and my family. For us, it’s been a safe place that Sari can spend time, ranging from a few hours to two weeks at a time with trained loving staff that know exactly how to care for her medical and behavioral needs, while we take that break that we really need. Sari refers to JAFCO as “camp” or she calls it her “hotel”. And because she has so much fun at the Ability Center, we don’t have to feel guilty when she is there. It’s her special place. And it’s my special place too — because the Ability Center is not just for Sari — it is for the entire family including me. They even have support groups for siblings — those are called SibShops.

I have attended those and got to share my feelings with other siblings who shockingly truly understand my life...because their life is exactly the same. When my family recently went to New York for my cousin’s wedding and then later on vacation, Sari spent those weeks at the Ability Center and I got to spend some important private time with my parents for the first time in my life. I know I’m at the age where I’m not supposed to want to be with my parents or should be embarrassed by them. But for me, having both of my parents beside me, relaxed and smiling is my dream come true, and that could not have happened without each and every one of you in this room and without JAFCO and the Ability Center. I’m really not sure how I can ever thank you for that.

There are probably hundreds of families in our community who are not as lucky as me and are on the waiting list to use the Ability Center. Your continued support will offer strength and hope to other families and other kids like me. Thank you for caring about my family and for reading my story.

With gratitude,
Gil Epstein, age 13

The Ability Center Is There For My Whole Family

Florida Senator Lauren Book was honored by the JAFCO Legislative Committee in gratitude for her second year securing $500,000 in funding for the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center totaling $1 million. The committee also presented Lauren with a limited-edition Britto Mezuzah exclusively created for JAFCO by artist Romero Britto, who happens to be one of Senator Book’s favorite artists.

(L-R) Ability Center Site Director Robin Ullman, Ability Center Parent Kecia Michel, Chairman of the Board Fred Katzin, Senator Lauren Book, Executive Director Sarah Franco and Board Trustee Lori Konsker.

Fred Katzin, Chairman of the Board of the Children’s Ability Center and Sarah Franco, Executive Director present the Jacob’s Ladder Award for Child Advocacy to Florida State Representative Katie Edwards in appreciation for her support of children with developmental disabilities and her role in securing the $500,000 appropriation for the Ability Center.
A JAFCO Foster Parent Experience

We started our journey with JAFCO approximately five years ago. When my wife, Cara, approached me about becoming foster parents, I wasn’t very receptive to the idea. We were lucky enough to have one biological child of our own and that was more than enough for me. However, after realizing how much it meant to Cara and after much persistence on her part, I agreed to entertain the idea. I had heard about JAFCO, but didn’t know much about them besides that they were a Jewish organization and I was aware of their Children’s Village.

We called, we attended one of the monthly orientations, we eventually completed the MAPP class that all foster and adoptive parents must complete and went through the other licensing requirements. The JAFCO staff (Rebecca Salus) were very helpful and guided us through the entire process. I never thought in a million years that I would be a foster parent. The only thing left to do was to wait for a placement. Well, a few months later we did receive our first placement. A ten day old baby boy. We were excited, nervous and surprised all at the same time. We were not really prepared for a newborn, but as we learned, you never know what the call is going to be for and JAFCO provided us with both the items and emotional support we needed. Initially, we were only supposed to have him for the weekend and we said our sad goodbyes to him as he was dropped off at the JAFCO shelter the following Tuesday morning only to find out that he was coming back to us that night. Well, fast forward three and a half years later and with many trials and tribulations, he is still with us today as we await the court’s final approval for the adoption of our son.

Our experience with JAFCO through this whole process, thus far, has been nothing but positive. They have given us all more support and guidance than anyone could ask for. Their generosity has been overwhelming and our social worker Katie Ginsberg has been there with us and for us from the beginning and for every step of the way. At JAFCO you are never alone. We really feel like we are part of one big family and we will always be forever grateful for that.

For anyone reading this and considering becoming a foster parent, you should do it. And if there is one thing you can be sure of, without question, you would be making the right choice to be associated with the JAFCO family.

Keith and Cara

5 Steps To Become a Foster Or Adoptive Parent

1. Contact us
2. Attend an Orientation
3. Attend a Training Program
4. Complete a Home Study
5. Open Your Heart & Home to a Child

Adoptive families make a lifetime, legal commitment to a child. JAFCO participates in both state and private adoption. State adoption implies that the child is in the custody of the state of Florida, typically involving older children. Private adoption implies that the birth parents are voluntarily making the choice to place their child (usually newborns) for adoption.

We provide complete support and case management services to our foster and adoptive families, including monthly support group meetings and 24-hour on-call availability.

If you or someone you know might be interested in becoming a foster or adoptive parent, please contact us! Informational orientations are held once a month at the JAFCO Children’s Village in Sunrise and in our Northeast Communities Office.

For more information in South Florida, contact JAFCO Foster and Adoption Specialist Katie Ginsberg at katie@jafco.org or in Pennsylvania, contact JAFCO Program Director Rebecca Salus at rebecca@jafco.org.
Thank You To Our Founders For A Lifetime Giving Of Over $100,000

$2,000,000 +
The David Posnack Foundation
Helene & Stephen Weicholz
$1,000,000 - $1,999,999
Joan & Leslie Berman
Adele & Samuel Borger
Sandra & Paul Goldner
Estelle Lubliner
Sandi & Robert Morris
Sandi & Lenny Solomon
Shirley & Barton Weisman

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Gordon Family Foundation
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Susan & Barry Tatelman
Jill & Jonathan Weiner/
Helping Hand Foundation
Gary Zimmerman
Martine & Craig Zinn
Rebeca & Sergio Zyman/Zyman Foundation

As of June 1, 2018
<table>
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<th>Amount Range</th>
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<td>$100,000 - $249,999</td>
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2017 Foundation, Corporate & Community Partners

NM Morris Family Foundation
Norman Rapaport Foundation
Nyman Properties
Ocean Harbor Casualty Insurance Company
Olenberg Family Foundation
Paradise Bank
Pearlgreen Corporation
Philip & Florence Mahler Foundation
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Vist Bank
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Welco Realty, Inc.
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Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign
Weston TC, LLC
WonderfulGiving
YourCause, LLC
Zarinum, Baum, Devito, Kaplan, Schaer & Todd PC
Zemsky Family Foundation
Arch Capital Services
Argent Wealth Management, LLC
Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center Sisterhood
Bank of America Corp.
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Clawson & Company Insurance
Daniel D. Solomon Foundation
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Discovering Destinies, Inc.
Donald & Cecelia Platnick Charitable Gift Fund
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General Hotel & Restaurant Supply Corp
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Kaplin, Stewart, Meloff, Reiter & Stein, P.C.
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Liberty Equities (USA), L.C.
Lichter Realty, Inc.
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Newman Insurance Agency, Inc.
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The Millman Family Charitable Giving Fund
The S & K Fund
Trupkin, Babylak & Wilenz D.D.S.
U.S. Trust
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Woodmere Charitable Foundation
Yablons Family Foundation
Young Israel of Bal Harbour
Young Israel of Hollywood-Fl. Lauderdale

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Amoriprise Financial Annual Giving Campaign
Coral Springs Nissan
ESA Park, Inc.
Esquire Apartment
Gables Insurance Agency
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$100,000 - $249,999
Linda & Don Brodie
Sandi Morris
Rabbi Amy Rader & Senator Kevin Rader
Marcia Ruderman
Shirley & Barton Weissman

$50,000 - $99,999
Dale & Roger Gandall
Bernice & Edward Wempen

$25,000 - $49,999
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Anita & Ralph Byer
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Leslie & Marc Goldberg
Sandra & Paul Goldner
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Suzanne & Samuel Pollack
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Due to space restrictions it is impossible to list all of the hundreds of generous donors below $360, but please know that from the very bottom of our hearts, JAFCO appreciates every dollar and every diaper that is donated.

It is ONLY because of the generosity of our amazing community that the children are so well cared-for and that we can provide the quality programs that we do.

Please note that our donor lists are for 2017 only and also the effective values of your gifts are used when printing this list, which means if you attended an event only the tax-deductible portion of your gift is included in our honor roll listing.

If you cannot find yourself on the donor honor roll, please feel free to call me directly and we will find it together. As a hint, look in a higher category, most of our donors don’t realize how their annual donations add up! If we have made any errors, please let me know personally, we can still make changes to the electronic version of the newsletter. I hope you enjoy it.

Warmly, Sarah Franco, Executive Director 954.315.8680

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The lights shined bright in Jupiter for the 350 guests who gathered at Broadway Comes to Admirals Cove. The cabaret dinner theater show raised over $270,000, and it was standing room only as 17 new families joined the Godparent Circle, four joined JAFCO’s Circle of Hope, and one family made the commitment to become Godparents for Life. The North Palm Beach Chapter has expanded immensely, and as a result we are able to bring more smiles to the faces of JAFCO children.

Weston Captures The Spirit Of Life

It’s been 15 years since the Weston/West Broward Chapter hosted its first Michelle Goldstein Spirit of Life Luncheon. This year, more than 250 guests gathered to support the children, raising over $50,000. Co-chairs Nancy Bauer and Ruth Molina worked with Chapter President Beth Salamone and a dedicated committee to ensure a heartwarming event from start to finish.
The Claire Manowitz Golf Classic was named this year in loving memory of a true JAFCO pioneer and founder of the first golf tournament over two decades ago. Claire’s husband Jerry along with sons-in-law Gary Stein and Yogi MacKenzie played in the tournament to provide their continued support to JAFCO and to honor Claire’s memory. Claire’s love for the children of JAFCO inspired her granddaughter Tracy Winters to co-chair this event for the second year. Her mom Barbara Hollinger, husband Rob Winters and Hijinks Sports Grill partner Tim Schenden were the Exclusive Tournament Sponsors. The collective energy and enthusiasm of the community made this event a huge success for the children of JAFCO! Co-chair Kari Pallotto and the outstanding golf committee...all stylishly decked out in pink...created a fun-filled day that generated over $55,000 for the children.

Our children felt the love all the way from Jupiter to Sunrise, as the North Palm Beach Chapter hosted its Luncheon & Card Party, All JAFCO Children Grow with Love. Over the past 9 years, this luncheon has evolved from a gathering of 30 people in a private home to a fabulous day for 420 guests! This year’s event sold out weeks beforehand, so the committee is already planning 2 card parties for next year allowing everyone to be accommodated with ease. The luncheon, held at Admirals Cove, raised a record $116,000 to provide love and safety to all of the children JAFCO serves, and 8 new families joined the Godparent Circle and Circle of Hope.
More than 250 guests attended this year’s South Palm Beach/North Broward Chapter Meet the Author Luncheon at the Polo Club of Boca Raton, raising more than $69,000 for abused and neglected children. Seven new godparents were pinned during the program, three new members joined the Circle of Hope and one Godparent recommitted to JAFCO for another 10 years. The luncheon featured Amy Weiss, author of Crescendo — a powerful story of tragedy, loss and adventure through one woman’s soul.

The members of the Kings Point Chapter work tirelessly to raise awareness and funds for the children of JAFCO all year long. There are theater outings, overnight trips, luncheons, card parties and the infamous Tuesday table at the clubhouse with chapter representation every single week! (L-R) Vice President Marilyn Shreiar, Legacy Circle Liaison and benefactor Rita Cole Messner, and President Ellen Bernstein celebrate the 25th Anniversary of JAFCO at their Membership Luncheon.

THANK YOU HAIR CUTTERY

The children of JAFCO hold a very special place in the heart for Hair Cuttery CEO and Founder Dennis Ratner. Every year he donates hundreds of haircuts to the children in the JAFCO Emergency Shelter, Group Home, Family Preservation & Foster Care Programs. Thank you for making this world more beautiful for our children.
This season the JAFCO Club at Valencia Isles organized a brand new event, the Valencia Isles Golf Outing and Dinner. This two-part event was the first event of this magnitude that Valencia Isles has undertaken — and they rocked it! With over 100 golfers and 130 people who came for dinner, the event raised over $26,000. And that’s on top of all the other events Valencia Isles held this season, including their annual 5k Walk, a night at the Silverball Museum, and even a tour of Morikami!

Valencia Reserve had several wonderful events this season to raise funds and awareness for JAFCO, including a music trivia bingo night, bowling night, card party, and believe it or not, a trip to Israel! With their collection drives for Chanukah and summer camp, the Valencia Reserve JAFCO Club focuses on the children first, but saves room for fun too! This season their events alone raised a total of $15,000, and the club raised over $54,000 for the children from all the donations given by Valencia Reserve residents throughout the whole season.

Longtime JAFCO supporter Ingrid Jaffe started the Signature Luncheon and Fashion Show 10 years ago in the Villaggio clubhouse in Lake Worth, and the event was so popular it grew too large for Villaggio alone! The move to the Kravis Center was a hit, as almost 600 women attended from each of the Central Palm Beach communities as well as Boca Raton, Delray Beach, and even Palm Beach Gardens. Thanks to the hard work, love, and generosity of the ladies of Central Palm Beach, the event raised over $78,000 for the children of JAFCO!
The Palm Beach Fall Luncheon committee created an hysterical day of laughter for the nearly 200 guests who enjoyed the comedy of Jessica Kirson. The event was held at Hunters Run and raised over $21,000 for the children!

Mona Kahn, Sylvia Kahana, Randy Caplan, Sandi Zomick and Marcy Braun are honored with the lighting of the Candle of Hope, a 5-wick candle, each wick representing the 5 children who die in our country every day at the hands of abuse and neglect.

(Front L-R) Co-chairs Roz Carmiris and Joan Gedansky. (Standing L-R) Committee members Millie Wolff, Judy Pope, Debbie Levine, Eve Langer, Debbie Schaffer, Marcy Braun, Suzanne Ehrlich, Judy Saferstein, Joan Haus

Meet The Mom Squad!

More than 150 people from all over South Florida attended the Mom Squad Chic Boutique at the Hawks Landing Club on Thursday, May 10, raising over $5,000. The 20-vendor boutique was created to give Mom-trepreneurs local exposure during the week prior to Mother’s Day, while ultimately benefitting JAFCO. The Chic Boutique is the second event since the inception of the group earlier this year. The Mom Squad held a Superhero Evening in February to raise awareness of JAFCO with a group of young parents, generating over $15,000...a fabulous first event season for the Mom Squad and we are very grateful!

Gratitude unlocks our happiness — it makes sense of our past, creates peace for today, and produces clarity for the future.

Michelle Bernstein and Diana Lange

Natalie Apel, Diana Lange, Jackie Arboleda, Haley Walker, Kim Faro, Jodie Bernstein, Stacie Fisher, Michelle Bernstein and Eugenia Fien

Diana Lange, Jackie Arboleda, Jodie Bernstein, Michelle Bernstein, Haley Walker, Kim Faro, Stacie Fisher and Eugenia Fien

Two Generations of Philanthropy: Adam Walker & Haley Gober Walker with Mara & Dr. Mel Gober
Creating Chanukah Miracles For Our Children

The Aventura/North Miami Dade Chapter continues to create their signature Chanukah Miracles Luncheon to help fulfill holiday wishes for the children of JAFCO. This year’s honoree was Barbara Amoils, the current Chapter President and an active member of the community who advocates for all children. The combination of two amazing co-chairs Dara Clarke and Hilary Kates, an inspirational advisor Alexandra Bergman, a fabulous committee and 475 guests ultimately produced a record-breaking event raising over $200,000!

A record-breaking 17 new members of the Godparent’s Circle and Circle of Hope: David Clarke, Jimmy and Janie Tate, Beth Greenman, Pablo and Daniela Szprynger, Pam Bernstein, Marla Garfinkle, Lauren Geduld, Jessica Linkewer, Becky Saka, Sher Klein, Ali Rosenfeld, James Bergman and Brian Gale

Chanukah Miracles Committee

Honored with the Candle of Hope are Dr. Linda Kaplan, Caryn Ellman, Sandra Simon, Ann Deshe, Rochelle Weinstein and Brooke Soffer. The JAFCO Family mourns the loss of Sandra’s husband, Charles Simon. May his memory be a blessing.

Founding Chapter President Miri Mazor, Chapter President Barbara Amoils, Former Chapter Vice President Elise Udelson. The JAFCO Family mourns the loss of Miri’s husband, David Mazor. May his memory be a blessing.

The Lovely Ladies Of Century Village

Century Village Board of Directors. Left to right, Marilyn Singer, Frieda Meltzer, Carol Mack Ceil Katz, Phyllis Festinger, Phyllis Weisbrot, President Lois Marmelstein and Vice President Myra Olshansky.
The love and compassion from our community was deeply felt in the room at our Live, Laugh, Lunch Annual Luncheon as 330 guests experienced the inspirational stories of Rivkah, Justin and Steven. These young adults, who spent part of their lives in JAFCO’s care, opened their hearts and shared their childhood trauma, their incredible successes and their appreciation for each and every guest.

The Miami luncheon celebrated the 25th Anniversary of JAFCO, while also honoring all the Chapter Presidents. Under the leadership of co-chairs Heather Katzen Sosler and Elyssa Lewis and their wonderful committee, the event generated $100,000 for the children of JAFCO! The luncheon also welcomed 8 new members into the distinguished Godparent Circle as well as receiving 2 new Godparent for Life commitments.

Wycliffe Country Club

The ladies of Wycliffe Country Club in Wellington have been attending Ingrid Jaffe’s events at Villaggio for some time, but this season they have taken steps to engage more people at Wycliffe. Eileen Blau and Fayette Toren brought several tables of women to the Signature Luncheon and Fashion Show, held an information happy hour for their friends, and brought a whole tour down south to the Village on a bus! The Central Palm Beach Chapter is thrilled to have their support as they plan more events at Wycliffe for next season.

Valencia Cove

In addition to naming the playground shades at the Ability Center and joining the Silver Heart Society, Valencia Cove found time to hold 8 events during the 2017-2018 season which raised over $11,000 combined! Pictured: The donors of Valencia Cove’s 2017 “Help JAC” campaign to name the tetherball court at the Ability Center, for a total of over $100,000!
More than 550 guests gathered at the Mother’s Day Luncheon to honor Shirley Weisman, who was presented with the JAFCO Woman of the Year award for her endless dedication to children in need and her tireless work to raise funds for JAFCO and other Jewish organizations in our community. Robin Bresky served as this year’s luncheon chair, and Shirley’s daughter Marcia Langley along with Chris Miller were recognized as honorary chairs for their many years of hard work chairing the Mother’s Day Luncheon. The team put together a fabulous day that finished off with a fashion show by Renee Ruiz and Ike Behar. The efforts of our honoree, chairs, and committee certainly proved successful, as the luncheon raised nearly a quarter of a million dollars for the children of JAFCO!

Committee: (Seated L-R) Sylvia Kahana, Chris Miller, Marcia Langley, Shirley Weisman, Robin Bresky, Dorinne Gerstin; (Standing) Linda Beermann, Marla Schaefer, Gayle Lichtman, Debi Weisman, Elyssa Kupferberg, Leslie Greene, Jody Sternfield, Meryl Friedman-Parr, Francee Ford. The JAFCO Family mourns the loss of Dorinne’s husband, Jeffrey Gerstin. May his memory be a blessing.

Candle of Hope: Jayne Suskin, Elaine Friedland, Leslie Greene, Marcia Ruderman, Alice Newman, Marny Dixon, Caryn Marsh and Stuart Rader. The JAFCO Family mourns the loss of Stuart’s wife, Gayle Coleman Rader. May her memory be a blessing.

Committee: (Seated L-R) Amy Ross, Phyllis Sandler

Candle of Hope: Amy Sylvetsky, Dorothy Goodman

(L-R) Chris Miller, Marcia Langley, Shirley Weisman & Robin Bresky

(L-R) Board Trustee Sharon Wender & Fridell Feibus

(L-R) Doug and Gay Lane, Shirley & Bart Weisman

(L-R) Gloria Wank, Pam Weinroth

(L-R) Amy Ross, Phyllis Sandler
JAFCO has just celebrated its 25th Anniversary — one quarter of a century saving the lives of over 6,000 precious children and helping families in our very own community. None of this would have been possible without the incredible vision of JAFCO founders Dr. Ron and Deni Simon with the assistance of our founding Executive Director Sarah Franco and Wendy Jenkins, our Director of Operations and Clinical Services, who have all dedicated themselves to the creation and growth of JAFCO. We owe so much to Ron and Deni for their vision, guidance and financial support and to Sarah and Wendy for dedicating a quarter century of their lives to our children.

In honor of our 25th Anniversary, we have created the Silver Heart Society, an exclusive group of only 100 families each donating a minimum of $25,000 to a special endowment fund. The $2.5 million dollars raised for this fund will be used to support the next 25 years of JAFCO’s lifesaving work, giving all of us the peace of mind to know that JAFCO will go on. You can ensure that the next 25 years at JAFCO are covered by joining the Silver Heart Society and helping to create a special endowment fund to pay for a child’s medical emergency, a new roof for one of our group homes, a new van for the children, an additional social worker or a new therapist for the children. Please join the 51 families who have already joined us and be a part of JAFCO’s continued growth, knowing you are changing the lives of children every single day... giving every child a place to belong.

Members of the Silver Heart Society will enjoy recognition on the JAFCO Wall of Honor and on the JAFCO website. They will also receive a private invitation to an exclusive Silver Heart Celebration Reception and a specially commissioned beautiful framed work of art by Artist Loren Stein (see front cover). Please join us for this once in a lifetime opportunity to change the world for our children. For more information about joining the Silver Heart Society, contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Randi Winter at Randi@jafco.org or 954-552-2519.

Silver Heart Society Members

Anonymous
Rochelle & Arthur Adler
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Dara & Alan Berger
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Barbara Schwartz
Deni & Ron Simon
Sandi Simon
Adele Stone & Jesse Diner
Amy & Barry Sylvestsky
Elise & Ronny Udelson
Valencia Cove Community
Helene & Stephen Weicholz
Marilyn & Jay Weinberg
Bernice & Edward Wengler
Carol & Steve Winig
Arlene & Fred Zilker

Promise me that you will be there....

Some of our Silver Heart Society Members celebrating at the Gala.
To be asked to be the Godparent for a child is one of the greatest honors in life. The children of JAFCO are asking you to become their Godparent and spiritually “adopt” all of the children of JAFCO. As a Godparent you welcome the children to experience both the beauty of the world and of Judaism. The Godparent Circle has been created to ensure that each child will have a wonderful life filled with every opportunity that all children should have.

Godparents make a commitment to support the children for ten years with a gift of $18,000 - $1,800 a year, less than $5 a day. Two special 14k gold pins have been created for our Godparents featuring the JAFCO logo which symbolizes our mission — a child swinging joyously on the tree of life. Becoming a Godparent is about saving the lives of an entire generation of children who need your protection. Since it is the perfect birthday or anniversary gift, you can become a Godparent at any time of the year and it would be our honor to pin you at one of our events. Your name will join our Wall of Honor at the Jewish Children’s Village.

We Love Our Godparents

Godparents For Life

JAFCO Godparents for Life have pledged to the children of JAFCO that they will be their Godparents for as long as they are alive and as long as they are able. This commitment offers the children of JAFCO even greater security for their future. The following Godparents have committed to be JAFCO Godparents for Life. They receive two specially commissioned candle holders created exclusively for JAFCO by artist Yaacov Heller as a gift from the children.

Recommitted Godparents

In addition to their first ten-year godparent pledge, these loving and compassionate donors have recommitted to become Godparents to raise another generation of children at the JAFCO Children’s Village by making a second pledge of a minimum of $18,000 payable in one payment or over the next ten years. They receive a specially commissioned candle holder created exclusively for JAFCO by artist Yaacov Heller as a token of our appreciation.
G-d Could Not Be Everywhere...
...So She Created Godparents

Audrey & Marcus Friedman
Holly & Daniel Friedman
Linda & Nate Friedman
Madeline Friedman
Pearl & Donald Friedman
Anne & Lawrence Frisman
Alexis & Tom Fritz
Nomee Furman
Yudith & Juan Furman
Rabin & Brian Gale
Jill & Yori Galel
Wendy & Zigmund Galit
Meryl & Ron Gallatin
Dale & Roger Gandall
Renee & Stephen Gans
Marilyn Gardner
Marla & David Garfinkle
Terri & Benjamin Garfinkle
Eileen & Harold Garlick
Patricia & Brian Garson
Deborah & Lawrence Gaslow
Joan & Lewis Geduld
Beth & David Geduld
Steven & Lauren Geduld
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Alina Gerlovic Spaulding
Charlotte Gershaw
Nancy & Dennis Gershenson
Donnine & Jeffrey Gerstein
Sharon & Mark Gilbert
Stephanie & Larry Gelderman
Magda & Malcolm Ginnis
Nancy & Richard Gillin
Wendy & Ronald Glantz
Barbara & Barry Glaser
Susan & Charles Glaser
Lisa Glassner
Shelly & Marc Glazer
Shirley & Joseph Gleich
Brenda & Joel Glickman
Phyllis Glukstad
Ira Gober
Mara & Mel Gober
Dr. Shane Gober
Binnie & David Gold
Lori & Lewis Gold
Mallory Gold
Shelley & Jeffrey Gold
Sidney Gold
Tiffany & Stewart Gold
Annette Goldberg
Cheryl & Robert Goldberg
Leslie & Marc Goldberg
Judy & Ben Goldman
Mindy & David Goldman
Madelyn & Robert Goldner
Sandra & Paul Goldner
Sasha & Jason Goldsmith
Rivka & Bruce Goldstein
Gale Goldstein Tucker
Marion & Ken Golien
Elise Goodfriend
Betty & Andrew Goodman
Dorothy & Jim Goodman
Barbara & David Gordon
Sylvia G. Gordon
Beverly Gordon Zalnois
Caren & Lon Gorman
Marlene & Michael Goss
Mindy & Leo Gotlieb
Amy & Wayne Gould
Phyllis & Leonard Grand
Amy & William Green
Bonnie & Ken Green
Donna & Louis Greenberg
Maggie & Stewart Greenberg
Robert Greenberg
Robert & Arnold Greenberg
Sheryl & Lawrence Greenberg
Wendy Greenberg
Leslie & Kenneth Greene
Marlene & Stewart Greenebaum
Beth & Jack Greenman
Margery & Stephen Greenspan
Ellen & Gerald Greenspoon
Carly & Ari Greis
Samantha & Michael Grimaldi
Nicole & Larry Groll
Melissa & Maria Grosfeld
Beth & Alan Gross
Brooke Gross
Geoffrey Gross
Kristine Gross
Linda & Irwin Gross
Susan & Artie Grossbard
Debbie & Alan Grossman
Lauren & David Grossman
Stephanie & Philip Growick
Sheila & Richard Gruber
Sylvia & Maurice Gruber
Sharon & Joel Gumpel
Inna Gutierrez
Ira & Irwin Haber
Sandra & Leonard Haiken
Ino Halegua
Marla & Steve Halegua
Pearl & Nathan Halegua
Rhea & Charlie Hallinan
Rivkah & Eric Halpern
Brenda & Robert Hamby
Marzenia & Josh Hamby
Cindy Naid Hannah & Steve Mutchnick
Fanny Hanono
Ruth & Lawrence Harrison
Debra & Mitch Harvey
Cathy & Steven Haubenstock
Joan & Paul Hauser
Laura & Michael Hebel
Joanna Herschthal Heber & Nathan Heber
Eric Hecht
Flora & Jerome Heilweil
Austine & Gary Heldman
Lisa & Scott Henry
Barbara & Neil Henschel
Jeff Herman
Minette & Frederick Herman
Rachel & David Herman
Maty & David Herschthal
Irene & Steven Hersh
Liguoy & Barry Hershman
Linda & Lee Hertz
Susan & Jeffrey Herzelfeld
Ursula & Leonard Hess
Jeri & Howard Hessan
Lois Hildebrandt
Lory Hines
Ellen & Stuart Hirsch
Leona Hirschhorn & Marvin Silverman
Cheryl & Neal Hochberg
Bernard Hoffman
Joanna & Sebastien Hoffmann
Faye Holand
Lois Hollander & Steven Schlosser
Marissa Hollander
The Family of Stephanie Hollander
Bettina & Jerome Hollo
Marci & Ronald Holzer
Charlotte Horowitz
Iris & Steven Horowitz
Gilda & Mitchell Howell
Barbara & Scot Hunter
Janice Indeck
Tami & Perry Isenberg
Celia Jacobs
Jane & Douglas Jacobs
Anne & Norman Jacobson
Jessica & Harvey Jacobson
Suzanne Jacobson
Louise Jacowitz Allen
Amanda & Joseph Jaife
Ingrid & Robert Jaife
Helen Jaffe
David Jay
Elaine & Robert Joseph
Sylvia Kahana & Arie A. Tayan
Eileen & Stewart Kahn
Mona Kahn
Rose & Burton Kahn
Sharon & Paul Kaliner
Kimberly & Leslie Kaminoff
Jody Kaminsky
Carole & Mel Kantor
Alyne & Abbey Kaplan
Carol & Edward Kaplan
Edwin Kaplan
Linda F. Kaplan
Dr. Linda J. Kaplan
Cathy & Geoffrey Karp
Hilary & Steven Kates
Bunnie & Arnie Katz
Emil & Harmon Katz
Natalie & Loeb Katz
Peggy & Richard Katz
Dr. Roberta S. Katz
Susan & Robert Katz
Ann Katz Offit & Saul Offit
Judith & Barry Katzen
Nancy & Fred Katzin
Dana & Michael Kaufman
Gloria & Alan Kaufman
Joan & Myron Kaufman
Lois & Stephen Kaufman
Nancy & Jerry Kaufman
Diana & Steve Kauppinen
Jennifer & Matthew Kay
Paula Kazerman
Randee & Stuart Kessler
Cheryl & Steve Kessner
Harriet & Rick Kimball
Debbie Kimmel & Ian Nestler
Julie & David Kirshner
Janice Klein
Larissa & Kenny Kline
Sue & Jerry Kline
Sisel Klurman
Jean Knobel
Jacqueline Kahn
Myrna & Robert Kapf
Helene & Marc Kevens
Kandy & Jeff Kramer
Stephanie & Howard Krass
Linda & Gary Krat
Fran & David Krafthen
Vanessa Krelstein
Kristine & Michael Tadich
Allison & Bert Kroner
Glenda & Ronald Krongold
Amelia & Richard Kronrad
Carol & Eugene Kruish
Gail & Kerry Kuhn
Helen Kuriansky
Judith & Harold Kutner
Stacey & Barry Labell
Elinore Lambert & Jerome Kelter
Eileen & Bruce Lamich
Marcia & Jeffrey Langley
Mildred Langsam & Barnet Wallitzer
Michele & Stewart Lapayowker
Jill & Howard Lapensohn
Joan & Roni Laskin
Marsha & Henry Laufer
Marilyn Lazar
Vivian Lazzof
Adele & Herman Lebersfeld
Elisa Leboeuch
Beth Lebovitz
Lisa Leder
Sonya Lederer
Jacqueline & Martin Lederman
Carol Leeda
Patricia Lefler & Bart Sklansky
Arlene Lefowitz & Nina Mann
Nancy & Alan Leiken
Patti & Richard Leiner
Bets & El Leizerman
Fern Lentin Manne & Stan Manne
Bonita & Lewis Lepene
Fern & Mac Lerner
Lauren & Brian Lerner
G-d Could Not Be Everywhere...

Lauren & Gregg Leslie
Denise Lettau & Saul Chatnick
Ellyn & George Levine
Danielle & Matthew Levin
Nauna Levin
Rhonda & Howard Levin
Andrea Levine
Jo & Al Levine
Lisa & Richard Levine
Judith Lewis Markhoff
Deborah & Henri Levit
Holly & Jordan Levit
Marsha & Alan Levy
Sandra & Sid Levy
Vicky & Alan Levy
Carol & Ira Licht
Gayle & Charles Lichtman
Arlene & Floyd Lieberman
Marcy & Steven Lippman
Lisa & Alan Lips
Joann & Frederick Lipsky
Cindy Lipton
Delsie Lipton & Arthur Weinstock
Felice Lipton
Corinne & Michael London
Diane & Stephen Lovell
Arlene & Marvin Lubin
Estelle Lubliner
Judy & Leonard Lundy
Karyn & Michael Lutz
Susan & Barry Lyman
Barbara & Richard MacKenzie
Robin & Bradford Magaro
Madeline & Bill Maglio
Ilona & Matthew Mandel
Marilyn & Marvin Mandel
Sandra & Arthur Mandell
Ellen & Bernard Mandler
Natalia & Leonard Mandor
Michelle & Jason Mankoff
Sharon Manne
Claire & Gerald Manowitz
Lisa Marco
Rennie & Buzz Marcus
Cynthia & George Marks
Lisa & Gordon Marrin
Caryn & Darren Marsh
Nikki Marsh
Nicole & Harry Marten
Betsy & Michael Masarek
Susan & William Matz
Rhona Maulano
Dawn Mazzer
Lee Mazor
Miri & David Mazor
Marla & Michael Melamud
Nancy & Steve Mendelow
Michelle Merson
Rita Carole Messner
Pam & Charles Meyers
Brenda & Martin Michelstein
Charlotte & Eugene Milgram
Carol & Paul Miller
Dana & Scott Miller
Elayne & Sam Millman
Marilyn & Neil Ramo
Carol Randman
Ellen & Herbert Rasnick
Marcia & Steven Rayman
Ann & Eric Reed
Barbara & Jules Reich
Carmen & Sanford Reinhard
Vikki & Mitchell Reinitz
Bobbi & Robert Reitzes
Elise & Derek Repath
Senator Nan & David Rich
Karen & Gregory Ritter
Julie Riven Jaye & Barry Jaye
Barbara Robbins
Beth & Irwin Robbins
Dena Robbins
Brenda & Larry Robinson
Charlotte & Morris Robinson
Joyce & Gerald Robinson
Beth & Steve Rockoff
Sandy & David Rogol
Brigitte Rok
Karen & Martin Romm
Celeste & Burt Rose
Jodie & Matthew Roseberg
Judith Roseberg
Marcelle & Andrew Rosen
Muriel & Arnold Rosen
Roni & Don Rosen
Susan & Arthur Rosen
Alison & Abraham Rosenberg
Caroline & Todd Rosenberg
Jamie & David Rosenberg
Judy & Ira Rosenberg
Susan Rosenberg Goldstein
Allison & Jason Rosenthal
Phyllis Rosenstock
Charlotte Rosoff & Arnold Haskel
Amy & David Ross
Michelle & Bruce Ross
Lyon Roth
Judith & Harvey Rothenberg
Frani & Al Rothman
Risa & Ronald Rubin
Rabin & Gary Rubin
Rose Rubin
Ruthanne Rubin
Susan & Mark Rubin
Helen Rubinstein
Leslie Rudes
Marjorie & Allan Rudolph
Judith Ruttenberg
Robert & Fred Sachs
Deborah Saka & Mitchell Morgenstein
Beth & Thomas Salamone
Beth Saltzer & John Harris
Linda & Michael Salzberg
Sheri Samuelson
Victoria Sanchez & Pablo Laham
Lisa & Alex Sandel
Eris & Kenneth Sandler
Phyllis & Harvey Sandler
Leslie & Franklin Sands
Lynn Joy & Meyer Sapoff
Alyssa & Isaac Sapoznik
Rachel Sapoznik
Cyma & Edward Satell
Mary Ann & Alan Saul
Jan Savarick
Rishona & Scott Savin
Lori & Bill Schacter
Bonnie & Jamie Schaefer
Marla Schaefer Weisfisch
& Steven Weisfisch
Terry Schantz
Fannie & Benjamin Schatz
Doris & Ralph Schelin
Suzanne & Bertram Schild
Hollis & Edward Schlam
Flora Schnall
Kerstin & Neil Schneider
Lauren & Jeremy Schneider
Susan & Gregg Schneider
Susan & Robert Schneider
Roberta Schoenbrun
Dana & Josh Schrager
Francine & John Schultz
Barbara & Samuel Schwartz
Carla & Stephen Schwartz
Doraine Schwartz
Elaine & Jay Schwartz
Fran & Mel Schwartz
Iris & Jeff Schwartz
Marla & Leo Schwartz
Rachel & Andrew Schwartz
Carol & Marvin Schwartzbard
Debra & Gil Schwartzberg
Liza & Michael Schwartzberg
Stephanie & Matthew Scupp
Joanna & Scott Segal
Jill & Neil Senzer
Helene & Edmund Shamsi
Olivia & Gerald Shapiro
Pat & Bob Shapiro
Randy & Nathan Shapiro
Patti & Larry Share
Robert Shelley
Suzanne Shneider
Marilyn & Marvin Shreier
Samantha & Ryan Shrouder
Shirley Siegel
Joann & Bruce Silk
Sherry & Robert Silk
Deborah & Larry Silver
Farryl & Joshua Silver
Marlene & Martin Silver
Susan & Gerald Silver
Amy Silverman
Gail Silverman
Sandy & David Silverman
Elissa & Bruce Simberg
Deni & Ron Simon
Michelle & Michael Simon
Sally Simon
Sandra & Charles Simon
Beverly Singer
Fay & Samuel Singer
Joanne & David Singer
Marilyn Shore Singer
Michelle & Keith Singer
...So He Created Godparents

Nancy & Stanley Singer
Renée Singer
Bonnie & Allen Sirkin
Carol & Mill Sirotta
Lisa Sirotta-Weiner & Douglas Weiner
Yvonne Skovron
Myrna & Sam Skurnick
Graziella & Mason Slaine
Gail & Reed Sloughoff
Dorothy & Morris Small
Lorraine & Allan Smargon
Annette & Michael Smith
Debbie & Marc Smith
Zoraida & Barry Snyder
Debbie Sobel
Allison & Jerry Sokol
Sylvia & Harold Solinsky
Sandi & Leonard Solomon
Ethel & Dave Sommer
Marilyn Sorkin
Diane & Herbert Sosman
Yaly & Franchesco Soto
Sara & Gadi Soued
Irene & Joel Spalter
Bonnie & Martin Spector
Jean Spencer & Mark Stern
Adrienne Spiegel & Howard Bloom
Simone & Sam Spiegel
Jane & Gary Spindel
Elissa Spiro
Bonnie Squires & Sam Ouhada
Jessica Stadler
Carole & William Stamps
Irene & Barry Stark
Lisa Stark
Edith & Martin Stein
Julie & Jeffrey Stein
Randi & Gary Stein
Beth & Raymond Sterling
Wendy & Ed Sternlieb
Linda B. Stewart
Roger H. Stewart
Helen & Nathan Stolberg
Jennifer Stolberg
Samatha Stolberg
Vicki & Steven Stolberg
Susan & Daniel Stone
Joyce & Edward Stravitz
Debra Strochak
Toby Strogatz & Stephen Klein
Katie & Harry Sugarman
Anne Sullivan
Jayne & Marvin Suskin
Elaine & Martin Sussman
Ilana & Michael Sussman
Velia Sweet
Amy & Barry Sylvestry
Sam & Este Sylvestry
Daniela & Pablo Szpyrnyer
Marcia & Lonnie Tabatchnick
Kristine & Michael Tadich
Julie & Howard Talenfeld
Arlene & Martin Tash
Janie & James Tate
Susan & Barry Tatelman
Robyn Tauber
Fabio Tavio & Donald Weidenfeld
Judith Taylor
Irene Tessler & Geoffrey Weisbaum
Amy & Jack Tobin
Shari & Robert Tupper
Fayette & Mel Toren
Gloria & Rolf Tragbar
Jackie & Joseph Trobman
Linda & Denis Trupkin
Elise & Ronny Udelson
Rochelle & Fred Umschweis
Jessica & Carlos Ushdi
Phyllis & Herbert Victor
Andrea & Leonard Volin
Phyllis & Arthur Wachtel
Darlene & Steven Wagner
Carol & Harlan Waksal
Ana Maria & Andrew Waldman
Wendy & Steven Walin
Haley & Adam Walker
Gloria Wank
Patrick Wayman
Helene & Stephen Weicholz
Kimberly & Todd Weicholz
Scott Weicholz
Melissa Weidhorn
Doris & Ernst Weilheimer
Marilyn & Jay Weinberg
Barbara & Jeff Weiner
Carla & Bruce Weiner
Jill & Jonathan Weiner
Lourdes & Jeffrey Weiner
Weingarden, Jillson, Kolicky Family
Donna Weinraub
Pamela & Robert Weinroth
Barbara & Barry Weinstein
Dodie Weinstein & Bob Goldberg
Rita & Stan Weinstein
Carol & Stanley Weinstock
Jennifer & Eric Weinstock
Liz & Irwin Weiser
Dana & Nicole Weisfeld
Shirley & Barton Weisman
Susan Weisman
Barbara & Pete Weiss
Susan & Jaime Weiss
Regina & Robert Weisler
Sheryl & Mark Weitman
Sharon & Stephen Wender
Susan & John Wendkos
Bernice & Edward Wenger
Deanna & Lawrence Werrick
Marilyn Wiener
Cheryl Willner
Carol & Stephen Winig
Randi & David Winter
Susan & Robert Wisan
Nancy Wittenstein
Alix & Jorgde Wolf
Barbara & Allan Walk
Carol & Arnold Wolowitz
Susie Wool
Jill Wrubel
Michelle & Ronald Yellin
Annette Youngentob
Cindy & Martin Zackowitz
Flora & Michael Zadoff
Gail & Harry Zafra
Bari & Michael Zahalsky
Francine & David Zeltz
Ruth Zelker
Randi Zemsky
Judith & Laurence Zieper
Arleene & Fred Zilkier
Barbara & Paul Zimmerman
Gary Zimmerman
Marlynn & David Zinn
Martine & Craig Zinn
Arlene & Gil Zitlin
Maria Zittel
Elsa & Peter Zobert
Barbara & Stephen Zohlmann
Roxie & Noel Zusmer
Sally & Robert Zweibil
Susan & Arnold Zweig
Rebecca & Sergio Zyman

As of June 1, 2018

9 Ways To Get More Involved!

• Volunteer your time with the children by tutoring, mentoring or donating your professional medical, legal or dental services.
• Sponsor a JAFCO event including our Gala, a luncheon, a golf tournament, a child’s Bar/Bat Mitzvah or birthday party, a Shabbat dinner or a trip to Disney World.
• Become a Godparent by making a financial commitment of $1,800 per year for ten years and join the exclusive JAFCO Godparent Circle. Godparents are pinned at any of our events with a beautiful custom made gold pin.
• Support the Children’s Ability Center with a capital gift/naming opportunity or support the programs at the center by joining the Circle of Hope by making a financial commitment of $1,800 a year for ten years. Circle of Hope members are pinned at the annual In My Shoes Luncheon and at other events as well.
• Make an annual gift to support the children’s needs including food, clothing, therapy, medical care, education, recreation and any other needs they may have.
• Create an endowment or special purpose fund in your family name to ensure that JAFCO will be here to save the lives of generations of children and families yet to come.
• Make a planned gift — remember the JAFCO children when you are planning your legacy and leave a gift to JAFCO in your will with a gift of cash, stocks or real estate.
• Earn a competitive percentage of your charitable donation with a JAFCO Gift Annuity.
• Host a parlor meeting, dorm shower, baby shower or Ability Center shower in your home to make your friends aware of the work that JAFCO does in the community. You provide the guest list and the refreshments and JAFCO will take care of the rest. Have your guests become members with a $36 gift and fill our wish list.
This year’s In My Shoes Luncheon, co-chaired by Kim Fetterman and Lori Solodkin, raised over $187,000 for the Children’s Ability Center. All of the money raised went directly towards families using services at the Ability Center to fund respite, social skills and after school enrichment programming which includes art, music therapy, gardening club, science club and more. In My Shoes honored Rochelle and Gary Katz for their dedication and commitment to JAFCO and the families we serve. In addition to being capital donors of the Ability Center, Rochelle and Gary also help chair our Grandparents Committee, for grandparents whose grandchildren have developmental disabilities. The event also featured local singer/songwriter Brett Koolik who entertained the 800+ guests as he played the piano and sang Dear Evan Hansen’s “You Will Be Found”. It was an incredible afternoon that took guests on a journey to see what it’s like to walk in the shoes of a family who has a child with a developmental disability. Our keynote speaker, 13-year-old Gil Epstein, shared his journey and captivated the hearts of our guests. (see page 12)
Laughter Is The Best Medicine

JAFCO’s inaugural Comedy Night, co-chaired by Gayle Lichtman and Sharon Wender, had a sold-out crowd and raised over $11,000 for the Children’s Ability Center. Comedians Jessica Kirson and Sarge had attendees laughing the whole night. The event also featured an open bar, and a candy bar run by Bree and Lena Berkowitz who were raising money for JAFCO for their B’nai Mitzvah project because both of their lives started at the JAFCO Emergency Shelter.

The Men Are All In For JAFCO

JAFCO’s first men’s event, a high stakes poker tournament, raised over $20,000 for the Children’s Ability Center in its inaugural year. A night of fun was had by all with poker, black jack, an open bar and great prizes for the winners. The poker tournament winner took home a seven-day cruise from Royal Caribbean. Money raised from the event chaired by Perry Isenberg and Jim Orleans went directly towards children and families using services at the Children’s Ability Center.
Thank You To Our Capital Campaign Donors

Our Capital Campaign currently stands at $17 million including cash, land and bequests. Another $13 million in pledges is needed to complete the campaign. We are asking for everyone’s support. If you know of any foundations who support children with developmental disabilities, please tell them about this exciting project, which is truly a first in our nation. We need the support of the entire community to give every child and family a place to belong.

$1,000,000 +
Samuel & Adele Borger Campus
Stephen & Helene Weicholz Children’s Lodge
David Posnack Jewish Children’s Center
Leslie & Joan Berman
Shirley & Barton Weisman Conference Center
Estelle Lubliner Guest Home
Sandi & Bob Morris Guest House
Jewish Federation of Broward County &
The Daniel Cantor Senior Center
Sandi & Leonard Solomon Grand Ballroom
State of Florida

$150,000 - $999,999
Irving & Cherna Moskowitz Holy Ark
The Luis DE Torres Bahamas Synagogue/
Anthony Chaim Gee/Nat Bernstein
Hahn Family Foundation Computer Wiz Lab
AI & Jo Levine Lodge Reception Zone
Jerry Lindzon
Margie & Maurice D. Plough Jr. Main Gate Entry Circle
Rachel A. Sapoznik & Family Lodge General Store
Edward & Bernice Wenger Professional Zone
Ron & Deni Simon Marketing & Development Zone
Shirley & Barton Weisman Rock Climbing Wall

$54,000 - $149,999
Lilyan Berkowitz Lodge Care Office
Irving Eckhardt Parent Resource Library
The Rutner Family Picnic & BBQ Area
Barry & Myra Cohen Parent Cafe Kitchen
Jerry Lindzon
Claire & Gerald Manowitz Ceramic Arts Studio
Rita Carole Messner Serenity Elevator
Dave & Ethel Sommer Intergenerational Bridge
Gary Zimmerman Play & Party Room
Ralph & Anita Byer Music & Drama Studio
Richard Ross/Trances Davis Classroom
Daniel & Judy Dobin Doctor’s Office
Faye Holan Bronze Sculpture Garden
Perry & Tami Isenberg Play Therapy Room
Lenore Kittman Estate
Al & Jo Levine Vegetable Garden Gazebo
Judt Levish Markoff ABA Therapy Room
James & Andrea Orleans Speech Therapy Environment
Jules Reich Children’s Village Organic Vegetable Garden
D. Jerry Sall Estate Clinical Director’s Intake Office
Helen & Saul Schwartz
Marlene & Martin Silver Bronze Children’s Sculpture
Ed & Wendy Sternlieb Basketball Court
Betsy & Sidney Saveln Bronze Children’s Sculpture
Amy & Barry Sylvetsky Parent Fitness Area
Marilyn & Jay Weinberg Bronze Children’s Sculpture
Martine & Craig Zinn Britto Transformation Sculpture

$36,000 - $53,999
Richard Allen & Louise Jacowitz Allen Guest House Kitchen
Martha & Melvin Aronson Guest House Bedroom

M. Blume Staff Office
Ellen & Donald Bronstein Britto Blue Dog Sculpture
Sam & Phyllis Butters Vegetable Garden
Sara Chait Memorial Foundation Guest House Bedroom
Abe & Annie David Program Director’s Office
Yetta Ellman & Dr. Arnold & Susan Zweig Guest House Screened Patio
Richard & Susan Finkelstein Pet Therapy Room
Ken Fisher Life Skills Pantry
Florida’s Voice on Developmental Disabilities Butterfly Garden
Diane S. Friedman Britto Garden Butterfly Sculpture
Mazie Golin Ford Butterfly Garden
Dorinne & Jeffrey Gerstn Staff Office
Mary & Dr. Gerry Glass Guest House Bedroom
Mara & Dr. Mel Gober Clinical Director’s Office
Lori & Dr. Lewis Gold Sensory & Relaxation Programming
Dotty & Jim Goodman Life Skills Teaching Laundry Room
Margery & Stephen Greenspan/Dorothy
& Lester Lichtenstein Guest House Bedroom
Linda & Lee Hertz Butterfly Garden
Ursula & Leonard Hess Guest House Living Room
Hirsch/Wosoloff Family Foundations Britto Squeakik Cat Sculpture
Leslie & Kimberly Kaminoff Butterfly Garden
Carol & Edward Kaplan, The Kaplan Foundation Fund
Guest House Bedroom
Edwin Kaplan Guest House Living Room
Linda F. Kaplan Butterfly Garden
Rochelle & Gary Katz Guest House Bedroom
Nancy & Alfred J. Katzin Hummingbird Garden
Stephen & Lois Kaufman Guest House Bedroom
Diana & Steven Kauppinnen Britto For You Too! Heart Sculpture
Kessner, Greenfield, Field & Kessner Staff/Office Nurses Station
Lori & Dr. Kenneth Konser Guest House Bedroom
The Krass & Ellenbogen Guest House Kitchen
Julius & Helen Lipitz Butterfly Garden
Judy Levis Markhoff Wheelchair Swing
Rita Carole Messner Britto Boonfish Sculpture
Rita Carole Messner Guest House Screened Patio
Tamar & Rich Morgenstern Guest House Bedroom
Matthew & Hilary Rosenthal Life Skills Teaching Office Area
The Ross Family Guest House Bedroom
Hummingbird Garden in Honor of Irving Ross
Lenore Rothman Hummingbird Garden
Joseph & Frances Russo Guest House Kitchen
Stuart & Shelly Sherman Guest House Bedroom
Arthur & Shirley Siegel Guest House Bedroom
Charles & Sandi Simon Hummingbird Garden
Nancy & Stanley Singer Playground Oval Swing
David & Ethel Sommer Guest House Laundry Room
David & Ethel Sommer Hummingbird Garden
Jayne & Marvin Suskin Guest House Staff Office/Nurses Station
Fayette Toren Guest Home Screened Patio
Valencia Cove Community “Help JAC” Tetherball Court
Valencia Cove Community “Help JAC 2” Playground Shade Structures
Wolf & Rywka Taykan Staff Relaxation Room
Naomi & Sheldon Zimbler Life Skills Teaching Kitchen
Rachel & Dr. Paul Zimmerman Guest House Bedroom

as of June 1, 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location/Name</th>
<th>Gift Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bubbie’s Kosher Katering Kitchen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Reception Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Floor Parent Wing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Therapy Wing</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Hurricane Generator Power Zone</td>
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<td>Fitness &amp; Fun Gym</td>
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<td>Multi-Sensory Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cool ‘n Comfy Indoor Playground</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ability Center IT Headquarters</td>
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<td>Staff Work Stations (6)</td>
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<td>Playground Chin-Up Bar</td>
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<td>Playground Whirl &amp; Twirl Spinning Bowls</td>
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<td>Playground Arch Swing</td>
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To discuss Capital Opportunities, contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Randi Winter at 954.552.2519 or Randi@jafco.org.

Thank You Capital Donors

Ari Rosenthal kisses his Britto Mezuzah that his parents Matthew and Hilary purchased in support of the Britto Open Your Heart to Art event benefitting the Children’s Ability Center. The Rosenthals have named the lifeskills teaching office area in honor of their four children.

Valencia Cove Community Help JAC 2 campaign helped raise much needed funds to name the playground shade structure at the Children’s Ability Center, bringing their capital gift total to $100,000.

Subaru of Pembroke Pines Check Presentation Ceremony Benefiting JAFCO. On Friday, May 4th, Craig Zinn, Founder, and CEO and Martine Zinn, Corporate Relations Executive at the CZAG, presented a check for over $120,000 to Sarah Franco, Executive Director of JAFCO from funds raised through the Subaru of Pembroke Pines Share the Love Event.
The Circle Of Hope, A Blessing For Our Families

To ensure the financial security and future of the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center, a special and very meaningful giving circle has been created — the Circle of Hope. This group of special individuals will receive a beautiful specially commissioned 14k gold pin featuring the branches of the JAFCO Tree of Life lovingly encircling a parent joyfully pushing her child on a swing. Members of the Circle of Hope make a ten year pledge of $1,800 per year. When paid automatically on a credit card at $150 per month, it is like a Saturday night dinner out for two, something we rarely think twice about doing. But these critical funds will allow us to operate this vital center and provide respite care, child enrichment activities and therapy for the children as well as support services including parent support groups, counseling, case management and referral, sibling workshops, parent training, and 24-hour crisis support to hundreds of families in the tri-county area who are raising a child with a developmental disability.

Anonymous
Susan & Mark Auerbach
Jodi & Larry Bank
Melissa & Shawn Barnhardt
Dara & Alan Berger
Jessica & Drew Hopkins & Jordan Berger
Joan & Leslie Berman
Nanci & Stephen Beyer
Adele & Samuel Borger
Linda & Don Brodie
Judy & Arthur Canter
Debbie & Alan Casnoff
Barbara & David Cohen
Myra & Barry Cohen
Wendy & Barry Cohn
Eileen & Robert Cooper
Karen & Mark Dern
Judith & David Dines
Jennifer & Kevin Faith
Kim & Sean Fetterman
Rebecca Fischer
Isanne & Sandy Fisher
Joan & Larry Fleischman
Joan Fletcher & Fred Hirt
Elaine & Harold Friedland
Diane S. Friedman
Andrea & Thomas Gerro
Dorinne & Jeffrey Gerstine
Melissa & Joshua Gerstine
Magda & Malcolm Ginniss
Linda Glottman
Mara & Mel Gober
Lori & Lewis Gold
Lisa Goldberg & Stanford Blake
Sandra & Paul Goldner
Dorothy & Jim Goodman
Jill Goodman
Donna & Louis Greenberg
Maggie & Stewart Greenberg
Robin & Stephen Greene
Beth & Jack Greenman
 Ellen & Gerald Greenspoon
Kenneth Gross
Cynthia & Harold Guttmann
Cheryl Hassman
Maty & David Herschthal
Ursula & Leonard Hess
Dr. Elaine K. Holland & Charles Feingersh
Lois Hollander & Steven Schlosser

Bernice & Paul Horwitz
Patti & Michael Jacobs
Ruth & Allyn Jacobson
Joan & Arthur Jacobowitz
Louise Jacobowitz Allen
Amanda & Joseph Jaffe
Fran Jonas
Sylvia Kahana & Arie A. Taykan
Karolena Kanner
Carole & Mel Kantor
Harold Kaplan
Linda F. Kaplan
Dr. Linda Kaplan
Nancy & Fred Katzin
Shelly Kofler
Amie & Steven Kohlhaagen
Jacqueline Kohn
Dana & Craig Konhauzer
Kim & Mitchell Konsker
Steven Konsker
Stacey & Barry Labell
Myrna & Roger Landay
Marcia & Jeffrey Langley
Beth Lebovitz
Andrea Levine
Joshua Levine Memorial Foundation
Marsha & Alan Levy
Delise Lipton & Arthur Weinstock
Heleen Loew
Ollie & Jonathan Louis
Sandra & Arthur Mandell
Sharon Margulis
Caryn & Darren Marsh
Sandi & Robert Morris
Avis Lee & Abraham Neiman
Michelle & Samuel Ohev-Zion
Andrea & James Orleans
Susan Pashkow
Helene & Rick Paul
Luciana & Jared Perlin
Marjorie & Maurice D. Plough, Jr.
Suzanne & Samuel Pollack
Norman & Ed Poto
Barbara & Jules Reich
Elaine & Bernard Roberts
Brenda & Larry Robinson
Ceci & Leo Rosen
Jamie & David Rosenberg
Sandra Rosenow

Hilary & Matthew Rosenthal
Lori & Steven Sadaka
Sherri Samuels
Iris & Harold Sand
Phyllis & Harvey Sandler
Marlene & Jerome Scharr
Jessica Schmidt, ScentsAbility
Beryl & Robert Schneider
Andrea & Larry Schmurcher
Judith & Allan Schuman
Barbara Schwartz
Marla & Leo Schwartz
Sheila & Lawrence Schwartz
Suzanne & Richard Schwartz
Diane & Steven Shankman
Freida & Lawrence Shefter
Samantha & Ryan Shrouder
Joann & Bruce Silk
Marlene & Martin Silver
Deni & Ron Simon
Sandra & Charles Simon
Fay & Samuel Singer
Myrna & Sam Skurnick
Grazia & Mason Slaine
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Julie Sylvestsky
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Barbara & Barry Weinstein
Claudia Welsh
Sharon & Steve Wender
Bernice & Edward Wengen
Randi & David Winter
Martine & Craig Zinn
Susan & Arnold Zweig

As of June 1, 2018

To join the Circle of Hope, contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Randi Winter at 954.552.2519 or Randi@jafco.org
Nearly 300 ladies and a few brave men joined on May 18, 2017 for the annual Northeast Spring into Summer Luncheon at the Bluestone Country Club. They enjoyed a morning of shopping, raffles, and silent auction before an emotional JAFCO presentation. Thanks to the hard work of the co-chairs, Julie Nagorsky and Jen Toren, their mother’s Women of Valor Honorees Donna Greenberg and Carol Sussman, and the amazing committee, over $75,000 was raised for the children of JAFCO.

2017 Spring into Summer Committee Members

Erica Semanoff opened her heart and her home gym to raise awareness about the children of JAFCO and included a fun workout class: Kettlebell Kundalini Yoga which was generously donated by Rachel Rubin.
City Lights To Make A Child’s Future Bright

150 people gathered on November 4th for City Lights to Make a Child’s Future Bright at the Asian Arts Initiative. Co-chairs Debbie & Alan Casnoff worked tirelessly to make this evening a night to remember for all their guests complete with a silent auction, photo booth, and moving JAFCO program. A JAFCO guest speaker joined to share her story with the Philadelphia JAFCO family.

Snow Day - Game Day - Cherry Hill

Despite the snowy weather outside, it was a beautiful day inside at the Cherry Hill Game Day at Woodcrest Country Club with over 100 women enjoying a day of shopping, lunch, and games that raised over $9,000. Our Northeast Program Director, Rebecca Salus, shared details about the services that are being provided in the local South Jersey Community. A special thank you to our co-chairs Caryn Weiss and Carol Hirsch who have helped to make this annual event possible.

A Classic Day Of Golf

The Northeast Golf Classic brought together over 100 men (and a few women) for a full day of golf, food, and fun at the White Manor Country Club on Monday, July 10, raising over $60,000, led by co-chairs Andy Winn and Steve Collis. A great day was had by all as the golfers participated in 5 different on-course competitions and ended the day with a buffet dinner and silent auction and raffle. A special thank you to Steve Collis for becoming a Godparent.
Great Gatsby Glamour

Closing out the summer on the NJ shore, JAFCO took us back to the roaring '20s with the Great Gatsby Soiree, at the Claridge Hotel in Atlantic City. Over 150 people enjoyed a fabulous evening including dinner, dancing and surprise entertainment from the Atlantic City Ballet. A special thank you to our sponsors and new Godparents and Circle of Hope Members. Thank you to NBC 10’s Ted Greenberg for serving as the emcee for the evening which raised $60,000!

Kris Gross and Michelle Simon served as our cigarette girls handing out props and costume pieces to use in the photo booth.

Honored with the lighting of the Candle of Hope joining Director of NE Development Rana Bell: Michael & Nina Dubroff, Marvin & Jayne Suskin, Bonnie & Marty Spector, JAFCO Development Assistant Sarah Fleischman, Michelle Simon, Barbara & Pete Weiss, and Bobbie & Fred Caine

A Fashion Show & Holiday Boutique brought together 75 women to Congregation Beth El in Voorhees for pre-holiday shopping to support JAFCO. This year our guests also got a look at the Fall’s hottest fashions with a fashion show put on by local boutique Finally the Perfect Gift, who dressed all of our committee members for the evening!

Committee members Cathy Backal, Nancy Lubars, Shari Smith, Sharon Sackstein, Sherri Bellino, Mindy Beder, and Development Assistant Sarah Fleischman

Northeast Fashion Show & Pre-Holiday Boutique

A Fashion Show & Holiday Boutique brought together 75 women to Congregation Beth El in Voorhees for pre-holiday shopping to support JAFCO. This year our guests also got a look at the Fall’s hottest fashions with a fashion show put on by local boutique Finally the Perfect Gift, who dressed all of our committee members for the evening!

Candle of Hope lighters Fern Pogust of Finally the Perfect Gift, Audrey Schneiderman, Mindy Beder, Nancy Lubars, Sharon Sackstein and Sherri Bellino
Fun In The Sun

The summer season wouldn’t be complete without the Fun in the Sun Luncheon. Over 250 women gathered for a day of shopping and games at Glen Head Country Club in Long Island, raising $50,000! A huge JAFCO thank you to everyone who made this day possible. Our very own JAFCO alum Becky Saka shared her story and birthday with her “JAFCO moms” who sang “Happy Birthday” to her.

Honored with the lighting of the Candle of Hope: Mickey Greenblatt, Bernice Wenger, Holly Blank, Susan Katz and Jean Goldman

Committee saying Motzi: (not in order) Kim Floam, Joan Grant, Alexis Kaminoff Fritz, Lisa Levine, Amy Levy, Linda Moskowitz, Rose Schecter, Stacey Spitalnick, Susan Tashlik, Dorine Wulwick and Pearl Halegua

JAFCO alumni Rivkah and Becky pin new Godparents Carol Wolowitz, Alicia Meunves, Susan Katz & Corinne Peddy

Golden Slipper & JAFCO Name Your Game

Over 275 women came together at the Name Your Game Luncheon to enjoy a day of shopping, lunch, and games at the Golden Nugget Casino in Atlantic City. This joint fundraising partnership with Golden Slipper Camp raised nearly $30,000 which allowed the Camp to provide scholarships for the children of JAFCO and to provide all the necessities to get the children ready for camp and transport them back and forth over the summer. A highlight of the day was guest speaker Wendy Berkowitz, a JAFCO adoptive mom who expressed her gratitude to Golden Slipper Camp for the scholarships she receives to send her two daughters to camp.

Rana Bell, Barbara Berger, Ellen Brounstein, Fran Kiejdan Lott, Jody Ludwig, Renee Kiejdan, Sharon Sackstein

Girls Night Out

Jessica Ender, Jaime Hersh and Lana Greene joined with Rana Bell and planned this fun Girls Night Out which was generously sponsored by Neiman Marcus.
JAFCO Business Partnership Circle Saves Children's Lives

JAFCO Business Partners not only save children's lives, they also connect with the 100,000 friends of JAFCO from all over South Florida, Philadelphia, New York, New Jersey and around the country. Our Business Partnership packages can be tailored to any budget to meet your individual needs allowing you to attend and sponsor multiple events throughout the year in your area and receive recognition in this printed newsletter which is also posted on our website and emailed to all of our donors. To set up a private business partnership plan, please contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Randi Winter at 954.552.2519 or via email at randi@jafco.org.
I’m grateful to have people in my life who care about my growth as if it’s part of their own.
One of the Greatest Gifts You Can Give is Your Time

In 2017 our JAFCO Volunteers donated 5,040 hours to help make JAFCO stronger and more productive. They cooked, they cleaned, they counted, they copied, they checked and double checked, they organized, they tutored and they made children smile.

We love our volunteers
Our Silver Paradise 25th Anniversary Gala, held under the holiday lights of the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa, raised more than $1 million for abused and neglected children and those with developmental disabilities.

Chaired by Anita and Ralph Byer, JAFCO presented the prestigious Jacob’s Ladder Award for Child Advocacy to Myra and Barry Cohen, Margery and Stephen Greenspan, and Lori and Dr. Kenneth Konkser for their commitment and dedication to protect abused and neglected children in our community. Four very special Lifetime Achievement Awards were also presented to JAFCO’s founders, Deni and Dr. Ron Simon, and JAFCO Directors Sarah Franco and Wendy Jenkins for their 25 years of love and dedication to the children of JAFCO.

Sarah literally started JAFCO at her kitchen table and has grown the agency to what it is today, and before we had our emergency shelter, Wendy’s personal home was back-up whenever a child in our community did not have a safe place to live. Inspired by founder Ron Simon’s vision and leadership, JAFCO has been able to save the lives of more than 6,000 children. Their combined efforts have turned this incredible vision into an amazing reality to ensure there is always a safe place for children in need in our community.

The Gala welcomed seven new families who joined the JAFCO Godparent Circle and the Circle of Hope, and a special thank you was also given to the 36 inaugural members of the Silver Heart Society – an exclusive group of 100 families each donating a one-time gift of $25,000 to create a $2.5 million endowment that will support the children of JAFCO for the next 25 years. Thanks to the love and generosity of all who joined us on this beautiful evening, children’s lives were saved. They send you a tremendous hug filled with love and gratitude.

Begin each day with a grateful heart.
Raising $1,000,000 For The Children Of JAFCO

Gala Sponsors Benefactors & Underwriters

Exclusive Corporate Presenting Sponsor $25,000
Mishelle & Keith Singer/Singer Wealth Management

25 Years of Love Sponsors $25,000
Anita & Ralph Byer
Myra & Barry Cohen
Kimberly & Leslie Kaminoff
Helene & Stephen Weicholz

FantaSea Evening Sponsors $18,000
Anonymous
Dr. Karen Mashkin/Mashkin Family Foundation

Silver Sands Sponsors $10,000
Lois & Stephen Kaufman
Julie & David Kirschner
The Lee & Lauren Fixel Foundation

Silver Moon Sponsors $5,000
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Lori & Rob Cohen
Sandra & Paul Goldner
Becky & Laurence Herrup
Lucianna & Jared Perlin
Senator Nan & David Rich

Eau de JAFCO Sponsors $2,500
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Nanci & Stephen Beyer

Give-Away Underwriter $5,000
Linda F. Kaplan

Honoree Awards Underwriter $5,000
Arie A. Taykan & Company Certified Public Accountants

▲ Helene & Stephen Weicholz

▲ Randi Winter, Amie Cole, Shari Pollack, Marcia Langley & Shari Cohen

▲ Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients, JAFCO Founders Deni & Dr. Ron Simon

▲ Don & Linda Brodie and Stephanie & Frank Bielenberg
“Our lives are rich and full and we are truly blessed.”

Margie and Stephen Greenspan both fell in love with JAFCO seventeen years ago. Margie’s parents Dorothy and Lester Lichtenstein were part of the very first B’nai B’rith group that ever endorsed JAFCO when it first began in 1992. They lived in Florida and wanted to introduce her to someone and someplace special. That someone was Sarah Franco and the place was JAFCO. “It was love at first sight! I am so lucky to have been brought up in a home with parents that were always involved in charity work,” Margie recalls, “and now it’s simply part of our DNA.”

Margie and Steve both grew up in New York and met during their college days. The couple were married in 1965 and soon after they welcomed their first daughter Hillary. They moved to Atlanta the following year and their daughter Tracey was born three years later to complete the Greenspan family. Both Margie and Steve were involved in the family retail business for men’s and ladies’ clothing.

“Our grandchildren and children are our most prized treasures,” Margie explained. “Each of them is unique and gifted in their own way”. Their daughter Hillary and her beloved late husband Scott Saban have three children: Jacob, a soon-to-be Georgia Tech engineer graduate; Benny, a junior at FSU; and Hannah, a senior at Weber School. Tracey is married to Kenny Solomon and they have two daughters: Chloe, a freshman at Marymount College in New York City and Daisy, a freshman at the Paideia School in Atlanta. Margie was so touched when her grandson Benny gave a portion of his Bar Mitzvah gifts to the children of JAFCO, following in her love for the organization.

Margie remembers attending a beautiful Bat Mitzvah planned by Janis Lax after they first became involved with JAFCO and the centerpieces were infant supplies that were later donated to JAFCO. Margie and Janis decided to team together with Sandra Goldner to bring a JAFCO chapter to Admirals Cove. They sponsored a baby shower and had over 50 enthusiastic guests in attendance at their first event! Sarah Franco was the speaker and as usual Sarah brought the guests to tears describing the life-saving work of JAFCO. Before the year was over, Sandra and Paul Goldner hosted a cocktail party in their home, and the North Palm Beach County Chapter was born and is now the second largest chapter in the agency.

“Working as the co-president of the JAFCO chapter with Janis has been one of the most wonderful and meaningful experiences of my life,” Margie said. “There are no words to describe the feeling of knowing in your heart that you are part of something so life changing and special. We share something that is priceless and larger than both of us.”

While Margie and Steve feel blessed and grateful to be a part of the JAFCO family, JAFCO is even more grateful to have the Greenspan family as an integral part of the agency as Godparents, capital donors to both the Village and the Ability Center, and now members of the Silver Heart Society.

“Without Margie and Steve and their successful efforts in bringing JAFCO to the attention of our North Palm Beach donors, JAFCO would not be the agency it is today,” Sarah Franco, Executive Director of JAFCO explained. “Thanks to the Greenspans, our dreams of making life better for children and their families are becoming a reality.”

JAFCO is honored to present the 2017 Jacob’s Ladder Award for Child Advocacy to Margie and Stephen Greenspan.
“A purposeful act or extension of kindness to another is never wasted, for it always resides in the hearts of all involved, in a chain of love.”

Myra and Barry Cohen feel that those who have been as lucky in life as they have should give back to their community and to the world. “We feel so fortunate to have a rich and blessed life. We feel we should share that and pay it forward.”

Myra was born and raised in Miami, where she worked in office administration for over 20 years. Barry lived in the Boston area, Newton, Massachusetts, before starting his career with Gimbel Brothers in New York City. In 1979 he moved his family to Broward County and started his own company, Commonwealth Distributors a consumer electronics wholesale distributorship, servicing the U.S. as well as South America, and Latin America where he worked until retiring in 2004.

Myra and Barry have been married for 18 years. They have three sons, Andrew and his wife Amelia, Daniel and his wife Lauren, and Jonathan, of blessed memory, who they lost last year as well as four grandchildren, Jordan, Alexa, Sam and Jared, and their golden retriever, Lexie.

The Cohens first heard about JAFCO ten years ago, when they were looking for a meaningful charity to connect with. They took a tour of the Children’s Village, which moved them tremendously. “To actually see what our donations mean to the children — how every dollar goes directly to them, the amazing staff and facility — we were blown away.”

They felt such a desire to see the children of JAFCO succeed in life that they immediately became members of JAFCO’s Godparent Circle. They created a Cultural Arts Endowment to allow the children to experience the joy of the arts, they made a capital gift for the Ability Center naming the Parent Café, they joined the Circle of Hope and eventually became part of the JAFCO Founders Circle, with life-time giving of over $250,000. In 2014, the Cohens generously hosted the JAFCO Major Donor Thank You Reception at their beautiful home in Boca Raton. Myra and Barry are also proud members of the JAFCO Legacy Circle, which honors those donors who have included the children of JAFCO in their estate, allowing them to live on forever in the hearts of our children.

Recently and unexpectedly, the Cohens have also used their connection to JAFCO and to philanthropy as part of their healing process for the tragic loss of their son Jonathan. They established a special fund in memory of Jonathan, who they lost to the devastating illness of addiction. The Jonathan E. Cohen Therapy and Wellness Fund provides prevention, therapy and wellness programs at both the JAFCO Children’s Village and the Children’s Ability Center. And this fund provides a way to help the Cohens pay tribute to their son’s life, as his memory is now a blessing for the children as well.

“When Myra and Barry give, they give from their hearts and with true joy”, said Sarah Franco, JAFCO Executive Director. “We share their sadness for the loss of their son Jonathan but we promise that the endowment that bears his name will save the lives of countless children, giving meaning to his life and to his memory.”

It is with great pride that we present the 2017 Jacob’s Ladder Award for Child Advocacy to Myra and Barry Cohen.

Gala Honorees Myra & Barry Cohen
“I am convinced of this; good done anywhere is good done everywhere. As long as you are breathing, it’s never too late to do something good.” Lori and Kenny Konsker aspire to live by these words, as they strive each and every day to bring positivity and change to our world by connecting with every person they meet.

Lori was invited to a small house gathering, a “baby shower” to benefit the children of JAFCO about 20 years ago. Each guest was asked to bring a gift for the babies who were under JAFCO’s care in their Emergency Shelter or Foster Care Program. “That day, my heart was opened to the life-saving work and critical need for JAFCO in our community,” Lori stated.

When the vision of the Ability Center was just a dream, Lori was recruited by her friend Randi Winter who was a board member and donor (now JAFCO’s Philanthropy Director) to organize a grass-roots event, and to begin to educate our community about the challenges that families face while raising a child with a developmental disability. Together they created the annual JAFCO In My Shoes Luncheon. When this luncheon first started 7 years ago, it was attended by 200 of Lori and Randi’s closest friends; this past year, the event was a sell-out at 800 guests, with Lori as our honorary chair.

Lori and Kenny have been involved in the Children’s Ability Center from the very beginning. They have had the good fortune of watching the Ability Center start off as a dream, be sketched into an architectural plan, and eventually come to life. “This is a rare opportunity—seeing something built from the ground up. It’s one I am extremely proud to be a part of.”

Lori has served on the Board of Trustees of the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center for two years. The couple are capital donors and were also instrumental in turning the Ability Center into a Research Institute with their financial support of a research study being conducted at this moment by Nova Southeastern University to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the services at the Ability Center on the families we serve. In addition to JAFCO, Lori and Kenny support a variety of other causes including providing scholarships at UC Santa Barbara and USC, supporting Brain Trust Cedars Sinai, and working tirelessly to improve conditions in Africa where, in partnership with Babson College, they have completed drilling water and are now in the process of building an indoor gas kitchen for a middle school in Tanzania.

Kenny is an ObGyn and has been practicing for 21 years. Lori, who graduated from UC Santa Barbara, was working at Mt. Sinai providing art therapy in the pediatric ward when she first met Kenny. The rest is history—they have been married for 23 wonderful years and are the proud parents to three beautiful children, Briella, Eliana and Harrison.

“Watching the dream of the Children’s Ability Center become a reality has truly been a remarkable experience in our lives, and knowing that we have played even a small role in that is truly an honor. We are personally blessed with three healthy children, so JAFCO is the absolute perfect charity for us to support. It is right here in our backyard so we can see exactly where our money goes. There is no doubt.” says Lori.

“Lori and Kenny Konsker are pillars of our community, respected by all who know them. To have them as part of our JAFCO family is truly a blessing,” says Sarah Franco, JAFCO Executive Director. “Lori brings such passion to our board at the Ability Center.”

JAFCO is honored to present the 2017 Jacob’s Ladder Award for Child Advocacy to Lori and Kenny Konsker.
As proud philanthropists and fierce advocates for any human being in need, Shirley and Bart Weisman are powerful role models and giants in our community. They are generous and kind and keenly focused on achieving their philanthropic goals during their lifetime. The Weismans are compassionate to all who are in need, through their unending support of JAFCO and many other nonprofit organizations that serve our most vulnerable and fragile populations — children with disabilities and the elderly.

Bart is the Chairman of NuVision Management. Originally founded in 1969, the company owns and operates healthcare facilities throughout New Jersey and Florida. Bart was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He then moved with his parents to Hudson, New York, and later to Atlantic City, New Jersey. After graduating from Lehigh University he enlisted in the army where he commanded an ambulance platoon in Korea. Upon returning from Korea, Bart began his career bottling wine and working in commercial real estate before developing healthcare facilities. In 1993, Bart founded the New Jersey Pediatric Patient’s Charitable Trust Fund, a non-profit which helps children by providing funding for recreational, educational, or adaptive equipment, home modifications, and funding for an annual summer camp for ventilator-dependent children. He also helped develop the Voorhees Pediatric Facility, one of the nation’s first long-term pediatric ventilator and fragile care units in addition to creating countless other medical daycare and therapy centers for children with severe disabilities, truly a phenomenal and meaningful career.

Shirley and Bart are also advocates for the elderly. Four years ago, the Weismans created an endowment to sustain the JFS Shirley and Barton Weisman Delray Community Center. The couple has also held various leadership roles in the Jewish community, taking hands-on roles in order to personally help those in need through the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, Jewish Family Services and the Jewish Community Foundation of Broward County, Women in Distress, and various synagogues in Fort Lauderdale and Boca Raton.

In 1971, Shirley became one of only five women to graduate from the Villanova University School of Law. She exemplifies the power and strength of a working mother. Shirley and her family lived in Pennsylvania until 1977 when they moved to Florida, where Shirley opened her own practice in Palm Aire. Currently, Shirley is of counsel with Moskowitz, Mandell, Salim and Simowitz in Ft. Lauderdale. In the law firm she specializes in wills, estates, and trusts but Shirley has proven over and over that her real specialty in life is caring for others.

Married for 59 wonderful years, Shirley and Bart have two incredible children: Marci and her husband Jeffrey who have two daughters, Robyn and Alyson; and Andrew and his wife Debi whose three children are Jessica, Alex and Danielle. Shirley’s life and work have proven inspirational to her whole family. Following in her mother’s philanthropic footsteps, her daughter Marci became a lawyer as well, and currently serves as Vice President on the Board of the JAFCO Children’s Foundation.

Shirley and Bart are members of the JAFCO Founder’s Circle and have been JAFCO supporters for well over a decade as Godparents to the children, and always generously sponsoring events, especially the annual Mother’s Day Luncheon where Shirley was just honored as Woman of the Year. Shirley and Bart had already been capital donors to the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center but this spring we were overwhelmed to receive a life-changing $1.2 million gift to name the Shirley and Bart Weisman Conference Center which will transform the Children’s Ability Center into a nationally acclaimed model center serving families raising children with developmental disabilities. William Shakespeare described the Weismans perfectly when he said that the purpose of life is to find your gift... but the meaning of life is to give it away. There are no words to adequately express our gratitude to this beautiful couple who have enormous hearts and the very deepest and most caring souls.

There are only two ways to live your life. 
One is as though nothing is a miracle. 
The other is as though everything is a miracle.
JAFCO Major Benefactors Celebrate JAFCO’S 25th Anniversary

JAFCO Major Benefactors enjoyed wining and dining on the Intracoastal celebrating JAFCO’S 25th Anniversary. Generously hosting and sponsoring this fantastic reception was Silver Heart Society member (creating an endowment for the future of JAFCO for the next 25 years) and Circle of Hope donor (for the Children’s Ability Center) Barbara Schwartz.

▲Development Officer Janet Epstein presents Arlene & Fred Zilker with the Silver Heart Society Award
We Are So Grateful For Your Love Of The Children

JAFCO alum Becky Saka expressed her gratitude to the members of our Founders Circle, Godparent Circle, Circle of Hope, Legacy Circle and Silver Heart Society for their love and support and for saving her life and the lives of her siblings. Becky is in college, working full time at the Children’s Ability Center with the children and is investigating the possibility of going to Israel to join the IDF as a Lone Soldier this December. To become a part of our JAFCO family please contact Philanthropy Director Randi Winter at randi@jafco.org or 954.552.2519.
We Are Grateful For Our Community

▲ Alli Lazarus and Carly Pador hosted a dorm shower to get our JAFCO kids ready for college in the Fall.

▲ We are so grateful to Brett & Jake Friedman who have made Chanukah wishes come true for the last 4 years.

▲ A special shoutout to the Men’s Clubs from Congregation Kol Chaverim and Bnai Aviv The Conservative Synagogue of Southwest Broward who built our sukkah so the children could celebrate Sukkot. Richard Edelman and Jonathan Blatter have been putting up our sukkah since we’ve been here - 15 years!

▲ Ethel Sommer celebrated her 97th birthday at the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center complete with our children singing to her during spring break gap camp. The JAFCO family mourns the loss of Ethel’s husband, Dave Sommer. May his memory be a blessing.

▲ Debra Faren’s daughter Amanda and 3rd graders at Pine Crest School collected Chanukah toys for JAFCO.

▲ The Sunrise Chamber of Commerce is proud to support JAFCO and give back to our kids.

▲ Barry Cohen delivered toys and electronic items from his son Andrew with the assistance of Dr. Trahern.

▲ The holidays aren’t over thanks to JWRP - Jewish Women Inspired who decorated the Village group homes for Chanukah.

▲ Zale Pre-K shared their $810 Tzedakah Collection with the children of JAFCO!

▲ We love our volunteers from the Levis JCC Betty and Marvin Zale Early Childhood Learning Center who came to JAFCO to wrap gifts for Chanukah.

▲ The Children of JAFCO are so happy to know that they can always count on the Beth Am Pre-School in Pinecrest to help with toy collections!

▲ What a sweet treat! Lisa and Kenny Trattner and their family surprised the JAFCO children with an afternoon at Jaxson’s Ice Cream Parlor!
Be Thankful For Small Things, Big Things, And Everything In Between

The Miami-South Dade Chapter embarked on their annual pilgrimage to Sunrise to deliver car loads of Chanukah gifts and help wrap hundreds of presents.

Thank you to the NAIFA-Broward organization for raising funds for JAFCO at their last get together in Fort Lauderdale. NAIFA leaders came by the JAFCO office to present a very nice “big” check! (L-R) Shea Pucci, JAFCO social worker, NAIFA members Shir Keidan and Gary Haft and Katie Ginsberg, JAFCO’s Foster Care and Adoption Specialist.

JAFCO staff member Janice Sawyer won the City of Sunrise Hero Award for her 14 years of service as our Emergency Shelter Team Leader, having personally cared for over 1200 children. Congratulations Janice with love from your JAFCO family.

Thank you to our pro bono doctors who keep us healthy

Dr. Lisa Sirota Weiner & Children’s Medical Association
Dr. Barbara Martin
Dr. Tania Saint Amand & Parkland Orthodontics
Dr. Jonathon Gordon & Gordon Eyecare

Kings Point Chapter President Ellen Bernstein received a special gift while delivering donations from their baby shower to Shelter Volunteer Vikki Reinitz.

Thank you Soly Vidal and Pita Pan Bakery in Sunrise for the beautiful Shalach Manot for the JAFCO children. Pita Pan provides JAFCO with our weekly Shabbat challahs and many other yummy treats year round, for many years!

NCJW Valencia Shores helps fulfill wishes for the children of JAFCO by providing Chanukah gifts and gift cards every single year! (L-R) Ellen Cristol, Marcia Scheckman, Libby Stern, JAFCO Liaison Susan Lyman, Sandy Platzman, Ann Albersheim, Linda Shaller.

NE Program Director Rebecca Salus spoke at a Social Action Shabbat service at Temple Brith Achim in King of Prussia, Philadelphia.

We could never have set up our Annual Reunion Picnic for Foster and Adoptive families without the awesome assistance from Ultimate Software!

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Rabbi Amy Rader and State Senator Kevin Rader and three of their four beautiful children visited JAFCO for a special tour of the Children’s Village.

Northeast Communities staff moved into their new offices on a snowy day.
Aidan Hutzler
After 6 years of participating in his sister’s piano recital to help send our children to summer camp, Aidan decided to create a Go Fund Me page as his Mitzvah project. He collected $1,900 plus sports equipment to continue his family’s ongoing support.

Joshua Kaminsky
Joshua interviewed our Shelter Manager to determine our greatest needs and was able to provide gift cards, scooters, electronic items, suitcases, LEGO’s and much more for his Bar Mitzvah project.

Caroline Sosler
Caroline Sosler designed and manufactured a series of bracelets wrapped on decorative cards with inspirational text that generated over $2,700!

Michael Kertesz
While Michael felt privileged to become a Bar Mitzvah, and knew it was a joyous moment in his life, he recognized that there are many Jewish children who are not afforded the same opportunity. He chose to raise money for two organizations and donated $2,000 to JAFCO stating “it makes me feel better about the world knowing a place like JAFCO is there to help.”

Riley Barnhardt
As a competitive swimmer, Rylie Barnhardt decided to collect a large assortment of children’s bathing suits as her Mitzvah project. Additionally, she and her family chose to rent the JAFCO sanctuary for her Bat Mitzvah service and luncheon in order to provide additional funds for the children.

Alexis Skye Ellman
Alexis dedicated her mitzvah project to the Children of JAFCO by collecting art supplies for the Children’s Ability Center. Alexis and her family came with a whole SUV filled with the most amazing supplies for our kids to enjoy.

Matthew Lewis
Matthew Lewis created a basketball tournament called Matthew’s Mitzvah Madness with 29 teams participating, earning over $3,000 for JAFCO!

Michelle Ross & Zoe Weissman
For their B’nai Mitzvah project Michelle and Zoe held a fundraiser at a painting studio and donated all the proceeds to the Children’s Ability Center.
Children Helping Children

Lena & Bree Berkowitz
For their B’ni Mitzvah projects, Lena and Bree are raising money for the JAFCO Children’s Emergency Shelter! They were once little babies in the shelter themselves, and now they’re giving back to the same place that cared for them when they needed it the most.

Sophie Goldman
For her Bat Mitzvah project, Sophie hosted a series of parlor meetings at her home on the Mainline in PA for friends and family to introduce them to the work we are doing in the Northeast and raise funds for our local Northeast families. Through her efforts, Sophie raised over $1,500 in donations and gift cards for our families.

More Mitzvah Kids
Chloe Bergman
Cameron Channing
Leah Ellison
Emily Gottlieb
Ryan Grandis
Breya Gutterman
Mussie Hertzel
Logan Jellson
Madeleine Klitsberg
Abby Koppel
Max Lawrence
Jake Malis
Samantha and Benjamin Mirer
Jacqueline Presser
Jordan Brooke Riesel
Jayden Reese Rosenbaum
Parker Rosenthal
Emily Schmidt
Joshua Shalom Segal
Devin Sherman
Ian Steiner
Marc Evan Wendrow
Andrew Zelitt
Carl Zimmerman
Rebekah Zuckerman

All gifts directly benefit the children of JAFCO. All “Mitzvah Kids” and their families are invited for a private meeting at the JAFCO Village where they are presented with a beautiful certificate honoring them for helping abused and neglected children and those with developmental disabilities.

To plan your JAFCO Mitzvah project in Florida contact Director of Development Operations Shelli Gold at shelli@jafco.org, or in the Northeast contact Interim Director of Development Jill Lapensohn at jill@jafco.org

www.altruisticradio.com
1515 Federal Highway, Suite 211 / Boca Raton, FL 33432 / (561) 998-9985

www.singerwealth.com
Singer Wealth Management
is proud to support JAFCO
“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.” The words of Maya Angelou perfectly describe legacy donor Rita Carole Messner. Rita was born in Brooklyn, NY on April 16, 1933 to Rose Rappaport Messner and William Messner who were married in 1929. Rose worked for a group of accountants and her father William worked in the Brooklyn Navy Yard in the architectural department for 40 years and as a hobby he was great at making things out of wood.

Rita grew up in Brooklyn and graduated from James Madison High alongside her classmate Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Rita was the Valedictorian of her class, for, as she says, “they liked the sound of her voice.” After high school, Rita worked as a statistical typist for accounting firms. Unknown to most people, Rita was a phenomenal knitter and some of her knitting work was published in knitting magazines. She was able to pursue this hobby full-time when she retired at the age of 50. Rita moved to Florida in 1988 and bought a condo in North Miami Beach and later moved to King’s Point in Tamarac in 1995 where she currently resides and is an integral part of the King’s Point JAFCO Chapter leadership.

Rita, who was an only child, always maintained a sibling-like connection with her cousin Lewis. Lewis himself lived with his sister in an orphanage for several years, an experience both he and Rita would not easily forget. Although Rita’s parents were very kind and generous to Lewis and his sister, they were not able to take them in. Clearly, this experience led her to connect with JAFCO’s mission.

Rana Bell was the Director of Development when Rita was first introduced to JAFCO. “From the moment I met Rita, I felt there was something very special about her,” says Rana. Rita became a JAFCO Godparent and then sponsored an entire Bar Mitzvah for one of our children, who had lost his birth mother due to a drug addiction and then had lost his adoptive mother due to cancer. Rita’s compassion is boundless, and she soon allowed the 100 children who live at the JAFCO Children’s Emergency Shelter each year to enter her heart as a volunteer on a weekly basis. Initially, Rita was somewhat intimidated by our tiny five-pound preemies but today she is a pro at handling any size baby and loves to feed and cuddle them and watch them grow and develop (diapering not included!). Once the babies are down for a nap, Rita does not rest. She can be found helping the development team prepare for events and takes great pride in inspecting all the pledge cards that come back from our events, often left on the table with money inside! When it’s time for Passover, Thanksgiving or Rosh Hashanah dinner, it’s Rita to the Rescue to set the holiday dinner tables for 50 guests! At our Annual Picnic she oversees the school supply room and at the Chanukah party she’s our pizza girl! Every year at the Volunteer Recognition brunch, we await a witty speech or sentimental poem written and delivered by our Aunt Rita Carole, as she is lovingly referred to by the JAFCO staff.

But all that is still not enough for this amazing woman. Upon hearing JAFCO was building a new Children’s Ability Center for children with developmental disabilities, Rita fondly recalled the time she spent with a close friend whose daughter had cerebral palsy. She would babysit and help her friend because she realized how stressful life was for her, and she also had a strong connection with the child even though she didn’t speak. Her first Ability Center capital gift was aptly named the Serenity Elevator which leads parents to the peaceful Parent Café located on the 2nd floor. She later named the Guest House Patio in honor of JAFCO Executive Director Sarah Franco and donated a Romero Britto Sculpture in honor of a special friend’s 90th birthday. Rita continues to make gifts during her lifetime in addition to having set aside a generous endowment in her estate to benefit both the Emergency Shelter and the Children’s Ability Center as a member of our Legacy Circle. There truly are no words to adequately sum up the compassionate heart of our beloved friend Rita, as we love and appreciate her more than words can say.
Endowment Opportunities

Please help JAFCO secure the future of our children – saving the life of a child is the best investment you can make. You may place your family name on one of the following endowments needed to secure the future of JAFCO. All endowments are restricted to the purpose for which they were created and only the earned interest is used, allowing the endowment and your family name to continue saving the lives of children in perpetuity. A minimum gift of $25,000 will establish a restricted or unrestricted (endowed or unendowed) family fund for any of the services offered at the Children’s Village, the Children’s Ability Center or the Northeast Communities Office. To discuss creating a family fund or any of the endowed gifts listed below contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Randi Winter at Randi@jafco.org or 954.552.2519.

$25,000,000 will allow the agency to be named in honor of the donor.
$10,000,000 will establish an endowment to support the operations of either the Children’s Ability Center OR the Jewish Children’s Village.
$5,000,000 will establish an endowment to support the Children’s Emergency Shelter and provide a safe haven for abused infants and children.
$1,000,000 will establish an endowment to provide excellent medical and dental care to the children of JAFCO.
$1,000,000 will establish an endowment to allow the children of JAFCO to experience the joy of summer camp.
$1,000,000 will establish an endowment to provide lifesaving therapy to children who have experienced abuse.
$1,000,000 will establish an endowment to allow children at the Children’s Village to attend college.
$1,000,000 will establish an endowment to support foster families who open their hearts and their homes to abused and neglected children.
$1,000,000 will establish an Adoption Endowment to assist families and children with the adoption process.
$1,000,000 will establish a Family Preservation Endowment to support families in crisis and keep families together.
$1,000,000 will establish a Relative Caregiver Endowment to support caregivers who have stepped up to care for their grandchildren or other relatives.
$1,000,000 will establish an endowment for the JAFCO CEO, COO or Development Director position.
$1,000,000 will establish an Independent Living Endowment to help children transition from foster care.
$1,000,000 will establish a Transportation Endowment to provide for vehicles, gas and maintenance of vehicles to transport the children to school and other activities.
$500,000 will establish a Bar/Bat Mitzvah Endowment to provide for a memorable celebration on the occasion of a child’s Bar or Bat Mitzvah at the Children’s Village.
$500,000 will establish a Hebrew School and Holiday Endowment to provide Hebrew School, Shabbat Dinner and all holiday meals to the children at the Children’s Village.
$360,000 will establish a Technology Endowment to provide for computers for all of the children at the Village.
$360,000 will establish a Summer Vacation Fund to allow the children at the Village to experience what it is like to go on an annual “family” vacation.
$250,000 will establish a Birthday Party Endowment to give every JAFCO child an amazing birthday party.
$100,000 will establish a Forever Friends/Mentoring Endowment to give every child their own mentor or “forever friend”.
$72,000 will allow you to endow your Godparent or Circle of Hope commitment and support the children forever.

JAFCO’s mission is to care for abused and neglected children and those with developmental disabilities in the Jewish community while working in partnership with families in the entire community. JAFCO provides a full continuum of high quality services including foster care, adoption, family preservation, mentoring, independent living and developmental disability programs. The JAFCO Children’s Village, consisting of an Emergency Shelter and Six Group Homes, is one of the most unique and innovative programs in the nation. The JAFCO Children’s Ability Center supports families raising children with developmental disabilities by providing family enrichment, resources, and respite care all within one state-of-the-art center. JAFCO recently became officially licensed as a Foster Care and Adoption Agency in PA and our Philadelphia office is providing family preservation services to families in the Northeast Communities...giving every child a place to belong.
Existing Named JAFCO Endowments

The Paul & Sandra Goldner MENSCH Endowment  $1,000,000 - Created to ensure that every JAFCO child has the same opportunity as their children and grandchildren to receive an excellent education and mentoring that will help them become a “Mensch”.

The Vicki & Steven Stolberg College Scholarship Award  $125,000 - Created to provide college or vocational school experiences to the children of JAFCO who are working hard to succeed in life, beginning in their senior year of high school and following them to college graduation.

The Barry & Myra Cohen Cultural Arts & Music Endowment - Created to enhance the cultural and musical experiences of the children of JAFCO who might not otherwise have the opportunities to experience these life enriching opportunities.

The Lois & Stephen Kaufman College Endowment - Created by Lois and Stephen Kaufman in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary to provide college or vocational school experiences to the children of JAFCO who are working hard to succeed in life, beginning in their senior high school year and following them to college graduation.

Dara & Alan Berger Ability Center Scholarship Fund - Created to provide scholarships for programs and support services for the children at the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center.

The Estelle Berliner Children’s Discretionary Endowment Fund - Created by her son Richard Lieboff in loving memory of his mother Estelle, recognizing her volunteer commitment and support of the needs of the children of JAFCO.

Jonathan E. Cohen Therapy and Wellness Fund - Created by Barry and Myra Cohen in loving memory of their son Jonathan Eric Cohen to provide substance abuse prevention, therapy and wellness programs at both the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village and the Children’s Ability Center.

The Gayle Coleman Rader Scholarship Fund - Created by the loving family of Gayle Coleman Rader in her memory to be used for the payment of summer camp expenses for children living in the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village.

The JAAM Emergency Fund - Created by Rolf and Gloria Tragbar in honor of their grandchildren to assure the betterment of children and families and to support children who are in need of immediate and emergency assistance to ensure their safety and stability.

The Clare & Richard Lesser Children of JAFCO Endowment - Created to provide for the ongoing needs of the children of JAFCO.

Amy & Barry Sylvetsky Village Discretionary Fund - Created to provide much needed support for the programs and services benefiting the children at the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village.

The Brenda Wallach Forever Friends Endowment - Created by Arthur Adler in loving memory of his sister Brenda who was a dedicated mentor in the Forever Friends Program for many years, sharing her generous heart and warm smile with the children of JAFCO.

Rona Roth Adoption Fund - Created by Mel Roth in loving memory of his wife Rona to provide funds for adoption services at JAFCO.

The Tami & Perry Isenberg Bar/Bat Mitzvah Endowment - Created to ensure that every JAFCO child has the opportunity to have a beautiful Bar/Bat Mitzvah by being called to the Torah for the most special and holy ritual of our Jewish heritage followed by a wonderful celebration.

Norman & Stephanie Altman Cultural Arts Fund - Created to provide cultural arts experiences for the children of JAFCO that will lift their spirits and touch their souls in a meaningful way by providing music lessons, concert and theater experiences and performing arts camps and training.

Alan & Noni Aufzien College Graduation Gift Fund - Created to recognize each JAFCO child for the enormous accomplishment of completing their college degree with a gift of $1,000 to help them begin their journey as adults.
& Special Purpose Funds

**Sam & Adele Borger Birthday Fund** - Created by their children in honor of Sam and Adele Borger to provide the children of JAFCO a memorable birthday party, often their first.

**Chelminsky Family Hebrew School Fund** - Created to enrich the lives of the children of JAFCO by exposing them to the beauty of Judaism by providing holiday celebrations, Hebrew school and Bar and Bat Mitzvahs for the children of JAFCO.

**Congregation Yemei Teshuva of Boca West CC Bar and Bat Mitzvah Fund** - Created with love to provide Bar and Bat Mitzvah and holiday celebrations strengthening Jewish identity for the children living at the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village.

**The Marge Flanz Alumni Circle Endowment** - Created in loving memory of JAFCO Trustee Marge Flanz to support the activities and ongoing development of the JAFCO Alumni Circle and to provide assistance to deserving JAFCO alumni as they make the difficult transition from foster care to young adulthood.

**Michelle Herman Goldstein Emergency Fund** - Created by her family in loving memory of Michelle who was senselessly killed on 9-11 to provide emergency funds for our JAFCO Shelter: food, clothing, medical attention, and therapy for the most vulnerable infants and children who come to us in the middle of the night.

**Jeffrey Gruber Recreational Fund** - Created by Sheila and Richard Gruber in loving memory of their son Jeffrey. This fund provides fun filled experiences for the children in keeping with Jeffrey’s beautiful smile and spirit.

**Cindy & Harold Guttman Ability Center Program Fund** - Created to provide much needed support for programming at the JAFCO Children’s Ability Center.

**Lederman-Wolfe March of the Living & Birthright Fund** - Created by Jacquie and Marty Lederman in order to create a living bridge from the past to the present so we will never forget. This fund will provide the opportunity for JAFCO children to participate in Birthright and in the March of the Living where they will first gain an understanding of the darkness of the Holocaust followed by our bright future in Israel.

**Eric & Debbie Nemiroff Music Education Fund** - Created to spread the love that they share as a family, with their son Sam, for music and the arts by providing the children of JAFCO with drama and music experiences.

**Lawrence S. & Helene Price Family Fund** - Created by their children in their honor to provide ongoing support throughout the years for all of the children of JAFCO.

**The Sam and Rose Riemer Endowment Fund** - Created to provide for the daily needs of the children of JAFCO.

**Dr. Abraham & Dorothy Shapiro Family Fund** - Created to provide emergency medical care for the children at the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village through an annual Yom Kippur Book of Remembrance created by the Boca Lago Congregation.

**Jesse Diner & Adele Stone New Beginnings Educational Fund** - Created in honor of Ellyn & Steve Bogdanoff and Anita & Ralph Byer who have both opened their homes as JAFCO foster parents, this fund will enhance the lives of JAFCO’s college age children by providing them with higher educational opportunities in order to break the cycle of abuse and neglect.

**The Stefanie Watkins Memorial Fund for Children with Developmental Disabilities** - Created by Lori and Lewis Gold and family in loving memory of their daughter-in-law Tiffany Gold’s sister Stefanie Watkins to provide much needed support for families raising a child with a developmental disability.

**Two Ziegler Boys Camp Scholarship Fund** - Created by Joan Baxt (of blessed memory) in honor of her two grandsons so that the children of JAFCO will have the same joyful summer camp experience as any other children.

Gratitude is the music of the heart, when its chords are swept by the breeze of kindness.
Honoring The JAFCO Legacy Circle

Gratitude is the memory of the heart

The JAFCO Legacy Circle is dedicated to honor those donors who have included the children of JAFCO in their estate. We will never stop saying their name and so they will live in the hearts of the children and their JAFCO family......forever.

Sandra & David Feldman
Janet & Robert Fabricant
Sheila R. & David G. Epstein
Phyllis & Charles Epstein
Selma Ephross Estate
Irving Eckhardt Estate
Phyllis & Charles Epstein
Sheila R. & David G. Epstein
Janet & Robert Fabricant
Sandra & David Feldman

Dorothy Frankel Estate
Edna Fried Estate
Diane S. Friedman
Phyllis Pure Estate
Nomee Furman Estate
Eileen & Harold Garlick
Enid & Mortimer Geisler
Andrea & Thomas Gero
Muriel & Irving Gerstein Estate
Roberta & Ronald Gimpel
Charlotte Glassberg Estate
Shirley & Joseph Gleich Estate
Ruth & Harold Goldberg Estate
Vivian & Irving Golden Estate
Beatrice Goldfarb Estate
Gale Goldstein Tucker
Maggie & Stewart Greenberg
Sylvia Greenberg Estate
Marlene & Stewart Greenbaum
Sylvia & Maurice Gruber Estate
Guldien Private Foundation
Mona & Eli Habib
Louis, Julia & Sheldon Haffner
Tillie Hamelstein Estate
Milton Hesslein Estate
Helen & Samuel Holzer Estate
Marcia & Ronald Holzer
Ann Jacobs Estate
Louise Jacowitz Allen
Alexander Janow Estate
Lori Janow
Beatrice Josephson Estate
Wallace Katz Estate
Lois & Stephen Kaufman
Lenore Kittman Estate
Iris Klein Estate
Debra & Gerald Kramer
Linda & Gary Krat
Judith E. Kravitz
Helen Kuriansky Estate
Louis J. Kuriansky Foundation
Elinore Lambert & Jerome Kelter
Beth Lebovitz
Patricia Leffler & Bart Sklansky
Frank Levine Estate
Jo & Al Levine
Joann & Frederick H. Lipsky
Heleen Lowe
Arlene & Joseph Makler
Claire & Gerald Manowitz
Kathe & Ray Mark
Alan Markowitz
Gail & Steven Marlow
Rita Carole Messner
Anna Miller Estate
Elizabeth Lakie Miller Estate
Elayne & Sam Millman Estate
Roslyn Minoster Estate
Marica & Bob Neiman
Sylvia & Arnold Nestel Estate
Abraham Samuel Obstbaum
Stephanie Oritz
Lilya & Harold Paul
Jan Pitcher
Sheldon M. Pittleman
David Polen Estate
Marjorie & Maurice D. Plough, Jr.
Ruth K. Price Estate
Jules Reich
Edward Rickmann Estate
Rose & Samuel Riemer
William Rosenberg Estate
Sandra Rosenow
Lenore Rothman Estate
Gloria & Solomon Rothstein
Lillian Rozen Estate
Evelin & Harold Rubin Estate
Sara & Martin Sager Estate
D. Jerry Sall Estate
Simon Sapirstein Estate
Marjorie & George Schachter
Mildred & Sol Schakowitz
Eileen S. Schary
Fannie & Benjamin Schatz
Susan & Lester Scher
Eugene Schnack
Beryl & Robert Schneider
Francine L. & John E. Schultz
Saul Schwartz Estate
Laura & Allen M. Shapiro
Miriam & Robert Shapiro
Phyllis Sherman
Shirley & Arthur Siegel
Patricia Simon
Sandra & Charles Simon
Selma & Nathan Singer Estate
Sylvia & Harold Solinsky
Sandi & Leonard Solomon
Ethel & Dave Sommer
Samantha & Andrew Sassin

If you have named JAFCO in your estate, we would like to welcome you to the JAFCO Legacy Circle. Please contact JAFCO Philanthropy Director Randi Winter at Randi@jafco.org or 954.552.2519

as of June 1, 2018
In Loving Memory

JAFCO respectfully and sadly acknowledges the loss of the following members of the JAFCO family we lost in the past year. They will not be forgotten. May their memories serve as a blessing to JAFCO.

Meet JAFCO North Palm Beach Chapter President Susan Auerbach

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

Susan Auerbach first learned about JAFCO through her friends Donna Rubin and JAFCO Board Trustee Dara Berger, who was serving as the North Palm Beach Chapter President at the time. “Just hearing about JAFCO’s mission is certainly moving, but an actual visit to the JAFCO campus really seals the deal and touches the deepest parts of your heart”, says Susan. The mission of the Children’s Ability Center especially resonated with Susan, as she personally knows so many families with children and grandchildren with autism, who could all benefit from the programs and services offered at the center.

Now serving in her second year as Chapter President and having served as Vice President for two years prior, Susan has been to the Village and Ability Center more times than she can count, and each time she learns something new about the amazing services that JAFCO provides. She has also volunteered her time with JAFCO in the Northeast as a committee member for Name Your Game, an annual card party held in New Jersey in partnership with Golden Slipper Charities who provide overnight camp scholarships to the children of JAFCO every summer, as well as Art & Cocktails for a Cause in Atlantic City.

Soft of heart, Susan has always dedicated her free time towards helping others. In the early 1970s, Susan spent time as Vice President of the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She has also chaired numerous luncheons for the Institute of Awareness of the Jewish Y of Philadelphia, some with over 500 attendees. “Hard work” might as well be Susan’s middle name. She spent most of her life, even throughout high school and college, working for her family business, a lighting manufacturing company in Philadelphia which was founded in 1919. After taking some time off to raise her children, Susan returned full time in sales and marketing, then served as Executive VP until 2010. She consulted for various companies within the industry for 3 more years until her retirement in 2013. During her career, Susan was active in the American Lighting Association, and at the time she was actually the only woman to hold leadership positions in that organization, eventually becoming President in 1996. Unsurprisingly, Susan was consequently inducted into the Lighting Hall of Fame in Dallas, Texas for her breakthrough efforts in the industry.

Susan and her husband Mark have been married for 21 years and have 6 children between them: Susan’s son Ace Rosenstein is a successful entrepreneur and her daughter Stacey Rosenstein works at the new conglomerate of their old family business, where she is the Executive Vice President. Mark has four children, Michael, Lisa, David and Kimberlee. Combined they have 12 beautiful grandchildren who are the joy and pride of their lives. Throughout her many years as a JAFCO member, Susan’s most meaningful experience has been watching the North Palm Beach Chapter grow exponentially. She is so thrilled at this time in her life to be able to dedicate so much of her time to her philanthropic efforts at JAFCO, knowing she is helping the children. Susan is able to use her business and leadership experience to help the chapter expand. “I am very passionate about JAFCO,” Susan said, “and it’s very fulfilling for me to be able to dedicate so much of her time to her philanthropic efforts at JAFCO, knowing she is helping the children. Susan is able to use her business and leadership experience to help the chapter expand. “I am very passionate about JAFCO,” Susan said, “and it’s very fulfilling for me to be able to help increase awareness and support of JAFCO. The Ability Center is especially meaningful to me, and we are so fortunate to have JAFCO in our community. I believe that every major US city needs a center like this to provide any needed service to assist parents raising a child with a developmental disability.”

“With Susan’s dedication we are one step closer to making that dream a reality.” says Sarah Franco, JAFCO Executive Director. “There are no words to express our gratitude to Susan Auerbach for her dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of the children of JAFCO. She is a beautiful and amazing human being.”
**Chapter Leadership & Upcoming Events: Join us!**

### Upcoming 2018/2019 Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Monday, July 16, 2018</td>
<td>Northeast Golf Classic &amp; Tennis Tournament</td>
<td>White Manor Country Club, Malvern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 2, 2018</td>
<td>Fun in the Sun</td>
<td>Glen Head Country Club, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, August 11, 2018</td>
<td>Art &amp; Cocktails for a Cause</td>
<td>The Noyes Art Garage, Atlantic City</td>
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<td>Thursday, September 27, 2018</td>
<td>Taste of the Town</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 3, 2018</td>
<td>Spirit of Life Luncheon</td>
<td>Dor Dorim, Weston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 18, 2018</td>
<td>In My Shoes Luncheon</td>
<td>Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 1, 2018</td>
<td>South Palm Beach Luncheon &amp; Card Party</td>
<td>The Polo Club of Boca Raton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 8, 2018</td>
<td>Chanukah Miracles Luncheon</td>
<td>Turnberry Isle Miami, Aventura</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 15, 2018</td>
<td>All In for JAFCO Men’s Poker Night</td>
<td>JAFCO Children’s Ability Center, Sunrise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 1, 2018</td>
<td>City Lights</td>
<td>Center for Architecture &amp; Design, Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 8, 2018</td>
<td>Jacob’s Ladder Award Gala</td>
<td>The Polo Club of Boca Raton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 12, 2018</td>
<td>Ladies Night Out</td>
<td>Congregation Beth El, Voorhees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 10, 2019</td>
<td>Broadway Comes to Ibis</td>
<td>The Club at Ibis, West Palm Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 23, 2019</td>
<td>Signature Luncheon &amp; Fashion Show</td>
<td>The Kravis Center, West Palm Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, February 10, 2019</td>
<td>Comedy and Cocktails</td>
<td>Boca Raton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 20, 2019</td>
<td>North Palm Beach Luncheon &amp; Card Party</td>
<td>The Country Club at Mirasol, Palm Beach Gardens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, March 11, 2019</td>
<td>JAFCO Golf Classic</td>
<td>Broward County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, March 31, 2019</td>
<td>Valencia Isles Golf Outing and Dinner</td>
<td>Indian Springs Country Club, Boynton Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 11, 2019</td>
<td>Live, Laugh, Lunch</td>
<td>Miami</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 2, 2019</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Luncheon</td>
<td>Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 16, 2019</td>
<td>Spring into Summer</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>Name Your Game with Golden Slipper</td>
<td>Atlantic City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Have a great idea for an event that you would like to create?**

Please contact the JAFCO Chapter President in your area or our JAFCO Development Staff

**Palm Beach County**  
**Development Officer**  
Janet Epstein  
954.315.8696 | Janet@jafco.org

**Broward & Miami Dade Counties**  
**Director of Development Operations**  
Shelli Gold  
954.315.8671 | Shelli@jafco.org

**Northeast Chapters**  
**Interim Director of NE Development**  
Jill Lapensohn  
484.385.0726 | Jill@jafco.org

Everyone is invited to all JAFCO events. To RSVP please visit [www.jafco.org/events](http://www.jafco.org/events)
Meet Our Incredible JAFCO Board Chairs

Maurice D. Plough, Jr., Chairman of the Board, JAFCO Children’s Village

Maurice D. Plough, Jr. has been involved with JAFCO for nearly two decades and we are honored to have him as our new Chairman of the Board of the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village which serves abused and neglected children. Having retired from his senior health care business and his previous role in law enforcement, Maurice is now able to dedicate much of his time to his love for JAFCO by serving on our Safety and Security Committee as well as By-Laws and Succession Planning and the JAFCO Finance and Audit Committee. Maurice is known to call JAFCO on a regular basis to simulate a bomb threat drill or to randomly offer to pay for something we need. He is happily married to his beautiful wife Margie of 22 years and proud of their 3 children and their 4 adorable grandsons. The Ploughs are Capital Donors to the Village and Ability Center and are generous members of the JAFCO Founders Circle, Godparent Circle, Circle of Hope, Legacy Circle and Silver Heart Society. Margie is a trustee of the Ability Center Board and her family also supports JAFCO through grants from the Zale Foundation.

Fred Katzin, Chairman of the Board, JAFCO Children’s Ability Center

Fred Katzin is not only the Chairman of the Board of the Children’s Ability Center, he is a member of all 4 JAFCO Boards, involved in every aspect of the agency. A highly respected CPA with Levenson, Katzin and Ballotta, PA for the past 57 years, Fred is now semi-retired. He uses much of his spare time lending his expertise in the field of accounting to oversee the JAFCO Finance and Audit Committee and keeps a close eye on our budget and financial reports. Fred and his wife Nancy of 36 years have been involved with JAFCO for over 18 years as JAFCO Godparents, members of the Circle of Hope, Legacy Circle and Silver Heart Society, Capital Donors to the Ability Center, sponsors of many of our events and so much more. Fred and Nancy are the proud combined parents of 4 children and 7 wonderful grandchildren who make them very proud.

Linda Brodie, Chairwoman of the Board, JAFCO NE Communities

Linda Brodie has been involved with JAFCO for the past 14 years both in Philadelphia and Boca Raton. Along with Don, her wonderful husband of 40 years, she has financially secured JAFCO’s start-up expansion efforts in the NE with their generosity and leadership. The Brodies are generous benefactors of the JAFCO Founder’s Circle, the Godparent Circle, the Circle of Hope and the Silver Heart Society, providing unrestricted operational funding to every part of JAFCO on an annual basis. They have 3 children and 5 adorable grandchildren. Linda’s incredible generosity and leadership of the JAFCO NE Board of Trustees in Philadelphia is invaluable as she sets the future direction for not only our first expansion office outside of Florida but also a model for our JAFCO expansion efforts in the future.

Stuart Rader, Chairman of the Board, JAFCO Children’s Foundation

As owner of Rader and Coleman, PA, Stuart’s Boca Raton law firm, he provides individualized and professional estate planning, probate and trust administration, closely-held business succession and charitable planning services to high net-worth clients. Stuart’s beautiful wife Gayle Coleman Rader, of blessed memory, was his business and life partner for 21 years before the world recently lost this amazing woman to her fearless battle with leukemia. Stuart and Gayle have one incredible daughter who is a new college graduate. They are JAFCO Godparents and Stuart was the Chair of the JAFCO Planned Giving and Professional Council for nearly twenty years. Gayle’s family has generously set up a summer camp endowment for the children of JAFCO. Stuart provides countless hours of pro-bono legal counsel to JAFCO related to our bequests and estate gifts in addition to his position of Chairman of the foundation Board whose role it is to ensure JAFCO’s financial stability both today and for generations to come.
We truly apologize for any errors or omissions. Please help us improve our communications by letting us know if any changes need to be made to your contact information. Please contact PSlack@jafco.org to correct any errors in our next issue. If you enjoy receiving this newsletter, please be sure to keep your JAFCO membership current with a 2018 gift of $36 or more. Please let us know if you are receiving duplicate mailings or none at all. If you are not receiving JAFCO emails please contact us so we may update your email address.

A copy of JAFCO’s official non-profit registration and financial information may be obtained from the following state agencies; in Florida contact the Division of Consumer Services (registration #CH19241 & #CH39375) at 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com; in New York contact the State Department of Law Charities Bureau (registration #21-49-39) at 212-416 8401 or www.charities.com; in Pennsylvania contact the Department of State (registration #34017) at 1-800-732-0999 or www.dos.state.pa.us; in New Jersey contact the Office of the Attorney General (registration # CH 3196000) at www.state.nj.us/lps/ca.
A new car is a lot more than a set of wheels. It is something with which you will associate beautiful memories. Upon turning 13, children who reside at the JAFCO Children’s Village begin to acquire the independent living skills they need to become healthy and productive adults. The last phase towards independence involves the transition to college. At this point, transportation becomes a critical factor, as our young adults must now figure out a way to get themselves to school, work, doctors appointments and to enjoy time with their friends. As part of our Independent Living training, the children do learn to take the bus, but unlike most major cities, the South Florida public transportation system is extremely limited and is not always safe—especially late at night. Since the annual JAFCO operational budget does not include the purchase of cars for the children, it is nothing short of a miracle when a car is donated! Cars that are donated for use by the children are tax deductible to the extent allowed by IRS guidelines, so the next time your car dealer offers you a minimal trade-in value on your car, or if you want to significantly impact the life of a child, please consider donating your car to one of our children because... you may be the final missing piece in a child’s world on his or her journey to independence. Please call Executive Director Sarah Franco to donate your car at 954-315-8680.

Thank you Carole & Mel Kantor!