MOVING FORWARD — CLIENTS. COMMUNITY. CONNECTIONS.

We have a lot to be grateful for as an organization. We have a committed Board, devoted volunteers, generous donors and an extremely loyal and caring staff. All serve the organization with passion and zeal.

We have accomplished much over the past year, focusing on our core strengths of professional programs and responsive services for the Jewish and larger community. We are maintaining our commitment to our clients by providing excellent services and continuing to address emerging needs. We are building community connections with professionals, community leaders and constituents throughout Metro Vancouver to better serve our community.

Throughout this past year, we have focused our expertise on sustaining the emotional health of our community. We continue to act as a lifeline connecting those who are isolated or facing difficult times with JFSA and other community resources. We ensure that seniors live with the quality of life they deserve and that newcomers receive a warm welcome.

During the past year each department has been successful in laying the foundation for exciting new programs and services moving forward. An innovative volunteer program, new grants, a new self-employment program, and the Jewish Young Families program position JFSA for an inspired 2011/2012.

We are proud to serve our Jewish Community and this year we are celebrating our 75th Anniversary. Although many things have changed over the past 75 years our commitment to Jewish values and family remain the same.

Thank you

Diane E. Friedman
President

Charlotte Katzen
Interim Executive Director

About JFSA
For 75 years, Jewish Family Service Agency (JFSA) has been providing opportunities to enhance the quality of life for individuals and families. We are a social service organization that offers a continuum of services for individuals and families at all ages and stages of life in the Jewish and wider community.

Mission
JFSA delivers client-centered social services with compassion and integrity to the Jewish and general community.

Vision
Our vision is to strengthen and enhance the quality of life of individuals and families in the Jewish and wider community.

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SENIORS SERVICES

Ensuring that our older community members live with the quality of life they deserve, the Seniors Department works with seniors and their families to navigate the aging journey. The JFSA Seniors Department is a team of experienced and dedicated professionals. Our geriatric social workers have expertise in the full spectrum of the aging journey including: housing options and costs; linking seniors with appropriate community resources; providing assessment and case management; consulting with seniors, their health providers, and their families to develop care plans; and providing counselling and advocacy to ensure that seniors age with the dignity and respect they deserve. Over the past year, the Seniors Department has offered a broad repertoire of services including: congregate meal programs to increase socialization, visits in the home or hospital, accompaniment to important medical appointments, individual counselling around grief and loss, and help to those in need with the cost of a hearing aid or other emergency expense. The program also assists family caregivers and gives those who live outside the Lower Mainland peace of mind, knowing that their parents or relatives are cared for with respect and integrity.

HIGHLIGHT

The JFSA Home Support program, which is now in its 8th year, achieved its target of 30% growth generating
The roots of the Jewish Family Service date back to 1910 when the Hebrew Aid & Immigrant Society was formed. This early institution assisted immigrants with money, food, shelter and clothing. It also provided services to orphans, prison inmates, hospital patients, and unwed mothers.

By 1932 over 200 people were assisted each month and the first Social Worker, Miss Vera Peters, was hired.

In 1936, on October 9th, The Jewish Welfare Bureau of Vancouver was incorporated as a society. Current economic conditions had already influenced the range of services to include counselling, employment, immigrant orientation and services for seniors and children.

Committee is formed to discuss how seniors housing could be established resulting in The Jewish Welfare Bureau played an integral role in the admissions procedures to the first Jewish Home for the Aged.

MOVING FORWARD

In July 2011, the Seniors Department successfully received funding from the United Way of the Lower Mainland for a one-year project called Neighbourhood Connections that will match seniors with volunteers in 7 neighbourhoods throughout Vancouver. Teams of 5-7 volunteers will respond to one-off requests from seniors. JFSA sees this as an important addition to the continuum of services offered by the Seniors Department.

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Elaine Perzow and Joanne Haramia attended the Aging In America Conference in April 2011 in San Francisco, California where they gathered with 3,000 aging specialists and learned of innovative volunteer programs, care management best practices, and outreach initiatives from all over the USA. Donna Cantor continues to act as a resource to Maplecrest Housing as does Jacqui Sankoff at B’nai B’rith Manor. Zanna Linskala organized a successful Rosh Hashanah lunch and program at Glen Pines community centre in Coquitlam.

FROM THE HEART

“I don’t know what I would do without you. You provide such good care to my parents, they enjoy and appreciate the home support worker every day, and you keep my informed every week. Living in Montana is difficult, but I trust your judgment and professional guidance, thank you.”

— Adult Daughter of JFSA Client

JFSA BY THE NUMBERS

- This past year the Seniors Department worked with an average of 300 seniors per month
- An average of 70 clients attended one of 3 congregate meal programs
- 78 clients received a variety of home care hours each month
- We distributed $4,000 of financial aid to low income seniors
- Appreciated 12 volunteers who provide weekly support to our Tuesday therapeutic lunch
- Matched 4 scooters donated to the Department with 4 appreciative seniors
- Care managed 90 seniors
- Met on average 12 new seniors each month needing information, advocacy, Kosher Meals, or Home Support
WEST COAST WELLNESS GROUP

The clinical counselling division of JFSA, West Coast Wellness Group, sustains the emotional health of our community throughout the year. Responding to the needs of our clients, therapists work to alleviate symptoms of depression and anxiety, decrease isolation, help recover from loss and nurture a desire for personal growth. The counselling services include individual, couple, family and specific youth-at-risk therapy services. Referrals come from a wide variety of sources including clinics, hospitals, and schools, the general community as well as our new website. The website is an excellent source of information, health and wellness articles, and community events. It provides access to JFSA counselling services and the intake process. The site also features a blog written by Department Director Alan Stamp that has received over a thousand comments from readers across Canada and around the world.

Throughout the 2010 year we offered professional therapy services to the Jewish and broader community on an affordable sliding fee scale at both the JFSA office and the Richmond Satellite office. We value our enduring relationships with our clients and over the course of their sessions; client’s goals are not only reached but sustained over time.

HIGHLIGHT

We are proud to offer subsidies for 95% of our clients resulting in greater access to high quality professional services regardless of income.

1947
The end of World War II brings an influx of survivors of the Holocaust seeking refuge and support from the agency.

1949
A temporary allowance of $20 per month is granted to a client to cover rent, Rosh Hashanah expenditures amount to $50.28 and expenditures for the month of November are $264.

1952
Over 80 Newcomers helped by Jewish Family Welfare Bureau, an active case load of 75 with six new cases each month.

1956
Hungarian Revolution and the brief lifting of the Iron Curtain sends a wave of Hungarian Immigrants to Vancouver. Jewish Welfare Bureau of Vancouver turns toward helping individuals and families to become more independent and self-sufficient.
MOVING FORWARD
A study that was completed this year found that there was a great interest for supportive and other services in the outlying areas of Vancouver such as the North Shore and the Burquest area. Based on those findings, JFSA is continuing the process of service delivery in areas that have traditionally had less community programming. Some programs that may be offered will focus on supporting youth, family life education and enhancing and/or developing the resources of the Jewish Community.

JFSA BY THE NUMBERS
In 2010-11, WCWG Counselling and Therapy programs provided:

- Over 1800 hours of direct clinical service for individuals & families
- 1000 hours of direct Mental Health Outreach services
- 350 hours of Youth & Family at Risk services
- A total of 264 clinical counselling clients and/or client families were served; 93% were new clients
- 63% of clinical referrals identified as Jewish
- 45% of clinical referrals presented with Family/Relationship issues
- 26% of clinical referrals presented with Mental Health issues
- 95% of our clients receive some kind of subsidy

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS
Beth Daley completed her training in Existential Analysis and has been doing extensive work in trauma therapy.

Nava Rozen completed all clinical requirements for her MA in Counselling Psychology and RCC status and now has joined the clinical team.

Rebecca Denham and Alan Stamp attending the 3 day National Conference on Suicide in Vancouver.

Ellen Bick and Daphne Gelbart have both completed training in DBT — Dialectical Behaviour Therapy.

FROM THE HEART
“We are an elderly couple referred from the hospital to Alan Stamp. My wife was really ill and after completing an Intake with Alan, we were referred to WCWG’s Ellen Bick for therapy. Both Ellen and Alan understood how hard it was to deal with the my wife’s sickness. We were disconnected from our adult kids and anxious about what would happen. Ellen helped us more than I can describe; she listened clearly to our problem and encouraged us to re-connect with our children during this precious time. It has been a difficult time in our lives, but with all the support from Ellen and Alan, we have begun to accept what may lie ahead, and are facing or future together with our family rather than alone and isolated.”

1957
Agency operated on a $10,000 budget and successfully forwarded a request to the Community Chest for an additional $10,000.

1958
On March 15th the Jewish Welfare Bureau of Vancouver becomes the Jewish Family Service Agency. This name change reflects the shift toward helping clients gain independence and become more self-sufficient. JFSA moves to a new modern office 109A at 2205 Fir Street “two blocks north of Broadway and two blocks west of Granville.”

1959
May 26th JFSA is reported to have 63 active cases.

1965
JFSA moves into the new offices at The Jewish Community Centre.
**1969**  
JFSA is given a strong mandate to provide assistance for alienated youth during the 1960 hippy movement resulting in the creation of the Youth Project Drop-in Centre that worked with 100 youth in 1969.

**1971**  
JFSA continues mandate to help “Jewish Youth Transients” by providing accommodation in the community, employment opportunities and with the creation of a Youth Action Service Project.

**1974**  
100 Russian Jewish families arrive in Vancouver. After years of uncertainty, JFSA brought hope to these newcomers by helping them navigate the red tape and providing orientation, employment workshops and activities to reduce isolation.

**1979**  
JFSA reestablishes the Hebrew Free Loan Society. Also in response to the increasing number of separations and divorces on December 9th 1979 the Jewish Single Parent Group has their first meeting.

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**Basic Resources**  
A “One-Stop-Shop” for coordination of referrals to community benefits, the Basic Resources Department serves as a lifeline connecting isolated Jewish Community members with JFSA programs as well as services in the wider community. Our case managers provided support, crisis intervention and advocacy to over 200 low-income individuals and families each month who had an increased need for food, shelter, transportation, clothing and health services. Within the Basic Resources Department our Mental Health Outreach Program has successfully completed its first year. The Jewish Food Bank is now serving fresh eggs thanks to our wonderful donor, and a new Special Needs Program offered support to adults and families of children with disabilities. The World In A Garden has thrived with the addition of a native edible garden, several film screenings and a kids’ permaculture summer camp. Another important service is housing coordination that aimed at both individual and systemic advocacy for all people in need of affordable housing. Our program specialists have expertise at leveraging resources, building community connections, problem-solving and providing poverty relief. They work with individuals and families to set goals that are meaningful and respect personal choices.

**HIGHLIGHT**  
Rebecca Denham began The JFSA Mental Health Outreach Program this past year. She has been instrumental in building a cadre of services in response to the needs of clients with chronic mental health needs. Clients participate in one-to-one supports that include case management and therapy, or in group activities. The most popular of the group activities have been the coffee groups and Shabbat outings. In addition, Rebecca works closely with Cantor Zoosman to transition former inmates with mental health issues back into the Jewish Community.

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**Basic Resources Funders**  
- Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver
- BC Gaming Commission
- United Way of Lower Mainland
- Vancity Foundation
- Heifer Foundation
- Mazon Canada
- Snider Foundation
- City of Vancouver
- Home Depot Foundation
In partnership with B’nai B’rith, JFSA announces new prison visiting program.

To celebrate JFSA’s 50th Anniversary a Golden Jubilee Dinner was held November 16th at Congregation Schara Tzedeck. As an agency we dispensed $20,000.

Paula Lange Award for Outstanding Volunteerism was established.

Volunteers first recognized at AGM, dispensed $24,000.

Basic Resources Community Partners

- Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver
- Vancity — Landed Learning Project Life on Purpose Network
- United Way of Lower Mainland
- City of Vancouver
- Rocky Mountain Flatbread Linea Nurseries Ltd
- Vij’s
- Kitsilano Neighbourhood House
- Choices
- Organic Gardening
- Whole Foods PINC giving
- Project Somos Gaming
- SOLE food
- JWI
- BC Senova
- Shalom BC
- Starbucks
- Vancouver Talmud Torah
- Richmond Jewish Day School
- King David High School

- Synagogues
- Terra Breads
- 3 Vets
- Terra Nova Schoolyard Society
- Bulldog Bags
- West Coast Seeds
- Kerrisdale Lumber
- Seeds of Plenty
- Farm Folk/City Folk
- Turning Point Recovery
- Benjamin Moore Paints
- Vancouver Community Agriculture Network
- Brian Harris Photography
- Mazon Canada
- PM Volunteers
- VanDusen Botanical Garden
- BSI Biodegradable Solutions
- Tikva Housing Society
- Environmental Youth Alliance
- Downs Syndrome Association

- Fresh Roots Urban Farm
- Gardens of Destiny
- Greens Organic + Natural Market
- Growing Chefs
- Growing City
- The Haebler Group
- Hain Celestial Canada
- Heifer Foundation
- Houston Landscapes
- Snider Foundation
- mygardenbag.com
- Citywide Housing Coalition
- Yaffa Housing Society
- Coast Mental Health Foundation
- Lion’s Gate B’nai B’rith Building Society
- Shalom Branch #178 Building Society
- Alternative Short Term Emergency Housing (ASTEH)
- BC Poverty Reduction Coalition
Basic Resources • jfsa.ca/basicresources

MOVING FORWARD
A successful grant from the Vancity Foundation provided JFSA with funding for a self-employment pilot program. Blueprint: Building Business Basics and will work with participants to coach them through the stages of business planning toward self-employment. At the end of the 10-session workshop, participants will have developed a business plan and have the tools necessary to work their way towards self-sufficiency.

JFSA BY THE NUMBERS
- The Jewish Food Bank served over 300 people every month
- Approximately 200 low-income individuals and families received subsidy to meet basic needs
- Mental Health Outreach Program delivered services to 35 active clients
- Had 30 active food bank volunteers

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS
Laura Stannard, our Housing Coordinator built many partnerships this past year and works closely with multiple Jewish Housing partners including Tikva, Yaffa, B’nai B’rith Manor and Shalom Branch #178 to increase Jewish access to affordable housing. She recently established a new partnership with Coast Mental Health Foundation and secured five apartments for members of the Jewish Community who live with severe and persistent mental illness.

Isabelle St-Jean joined JFSA as our new Special Needs Coordinator, working with all people with disabilities; Isabelle has a passion to assisting parents with special needs children.

Guy Askadsky who speaks Russian and Hebrew has joined our Basic Resources team and lends his case management expertise and Social Work experience and education in serving the Jewish Community.

Jody Max, our full-time case manager, has taken several courses this past year in addictions, as well as attended an excellent conference entitled, “Healing and Treating Trauma, Addictions and Related Disorders”.

FROM THE HEART
“We had a really good experience at the food bank and want to thank you for taking such good care of us. All the volunteers were so polite, and treated us so nicely!”
— Disabled Single Mom

“JFSA has restored my faith in humanity at a time in my life when I truly thought that there was no such help or kindness out there.”
— Single Mom of 3 Young Kids

Did you know?
With a $36 donation, you provide an individual with food for 2 days.
RESETTLEMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION
Serving as the first familial Jewish presence to a newcomer, the Resettlement, Employment and Immigration Department has been using a client-centered and holistic approach to assisting newcomers for over 20 years. Resettlement services continued to deliver settlement and adaptation support to newcomers as well as to former immigrants, who due to economic hardships and/or family related challenges return to JFSA for assistance. We continued the delivery of our most successful Speaker’s Bureau Series Program. The monthly series presents timely and relevant resettlement topics in Russian and Hebrew languages. Each session is facilitated by volunteers who are professionals representing various Canadian industries.

In addition to Resettlement Services, JFSA has an immigrant financial aid program formerly funded by National Jewish Immigrant Aid Services and in the last 3 years the program was taken over by the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver. The Federation Immigrant Aid Program provided financial assistance to Jewish Immigrants who did not have adequate means of financial support available to them. The Department assisted families with up to 5 years of residency who are living at, or below poverty levels to live with dignity by helping them to prepare a realistic plan of action. The goal of the program is to reduce the stress levels and emotional impact on families so that individuals are able to pursue their employment goals.

The Departments employment program falls under the category of community based and ethnically sensitive services, serving Jewish Immigrants and local job seekers in a unique and time sensitive manner. In addition to providing education through the employment workshop series, the program offers short-term weekly support groups for multi barriered clients who are not yet ready for the labour market. New to the program is a Coach/Client agreement and a LinkedIn workshop. The exceptional work that the counsellors deliver has been complemented by many volunteers who have offered their time and expertise contributing to most aspects of the department including one-on-one employment testing and counselling, group facilitation, integration programming and lest we forget the daunting tasks of administrative support. The heartwarming community spirit has been evident through our alumni initiative where former recipients of the services who successfully found employment in their professions have reached out and made it possible for other job seekers to find employment in the company they now represent. For many newcomers, due to age or language barriers, that was the only way to enter the Vancouver job market. The group workshops have been a great networking resource for many participants. Our Canadian job seekers who take advantage of the employment services, have much to offer in terms of connections to the various industries in Vancouver.

HIGHLIGHTS
This year the employment program was enhanced by adding a series of life skills and employment workshops. This past Spring the Resettlement and Employment Department developed a web-based targeted resources

1994  
First Russian Bus Tours take place introducing newcomers to Vancouver’s historical, public, cultural and educational sites.

1995  
Friend Campaign begins.

1997  
Kosher Congregate Meal Program is established.
for employment and resettlement referrals — a much needed resource for the department.

JFSA Star Candidates program was successfully launched this year connecting job seekers with employers that have suitable job opportunities. The employers received recruitment services free of charge that included: pre-screening of potential candidates providing regular follow up to ensure referrals are on target on the job support during the probation period.

MOVING FORWARD
The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver and JFSA combined data have shown that there are a growing number of young families who no longer live close to Jewish Community Institutions and as a result have become disconnected from Jewish life. In the 2010-2011 year we laid the groundwork for a new program that will connect Jewish Young families and other Jewish people who live in the outlining cities with each other and to the Jewish Community.

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS
Charlotte Katzen attended Vancity’s Financial Fitness Course designed for non-profit leaders.

Alexandra Gerson and Miri Tal attended the National Metropolis Conference in Vancouver discussing the role of immigration in connecting Canada with the rest of the world.

Mary Irvine and Ken Johnson attended the BC Human Resources Management Association “Mingles” where JFSA Employment Coaches networked with other Human Resources professionals about their job opportunities and matching their needs with the skills of our clients.

JFSA BY THE NUMBERS
- During the past financial year the resettlement case load totalled 213 clients, 48 of which were new arrivals
- Last year 3 of our clients have found employment through the efforts of former clients
- The Russian Bus tours routinely sold out resulting in additional tours added to the calendar
- The employment program has over 200 employers on the mailing and all of the Jewish institutions in Vancouver

FROM THE HEART
“JFSA is the best organization I have ever dealt with in regards to employment. In my own case I have struggled to find a focus for so long. I went from one organization to another and one case manager to the next, until I came to JFSA. When I met with an employment counsellor, I felt listened to, and didn’t feel like a failure. The workshops that I attended were very helpful in that they helped me develop a plan for the future. The employment support group is a must to keep, as it is a way to develop contacts as well as getting feedback from others, in a comforting environment. Without the support I have gotten from JFSA, I would not be launching my own business. Words alone don’t begin to say how much I appreciate your continued support. I feel like a renewed woman. I am still in awe of how I am feeling these days. It’s great. I just wanted to say thank you!”

— Yifat Smordin
DEVELOPMENT

We gratefully acknowledge the support of every individual, group, foundation, and organization that generously responded to our various fundraising campaigns between September 1, 2010 and August 31, 2011 namely, the Friends — Give with a Jewish Heart campaign, the RAV-endorsed Maot Chittim (Passover Meals) campaign, the 7th Annual Innovators Lunch, the Al Polsky Memorial Invitational Golf Tournament.

A special thank you to all our donors who also generously gave to JFSA, monetary and in-kind, outside of our annual fundraising campaigns with special one-time gifts, monthly gifts, and tribute card donations.

JFSA would not be here today, 75 years after its establishment, without our donors’ dedicated commitment to help countless number of vulnerable members of our Jewish and general community in Vancouver and the Lower Mainland.

Our deep appreciation for your continued support of our work, day in and day out, to help save a life — one client at a time.

The following donor recognition list is based on donor giving to JFSA between the period of September 1, 2010 and August 31, 2011.

Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.
**FOUNDER ($25,000 AND ABOVE)**

- Mrs. Geraldine Biely
- Estate of Katherine (Kitty) J. Heller
- Charles Shnier
- The Phylliss and Irving Snider Foundation
- Yosef Wosk

**BENEFACTOR ($24,999-$10,800)**

- Gary and Diane Averbach
- Gurval and Cecile Caer

**LEADER ($10,799-$7,200)**

- Gordon and Leslie Diamond
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Did you know?

$5000 supports a family of 4 with basic shelter, food, utilities and transportation for 1 month.
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$1800 provides weekly home support to assist a senior to maintain independence for 1 year.
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$720 provides a rental damage deposit for 1 couple to secure their housing needs.
Did you know?

$1800 provides 1.5 hours of weekly home support for 1 senior for 1 year.
JFSA Innovators Lunch 2011

JFSA hosted the 7th Annual Innovators Lunch on March 16th, 2011 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. The keynote speaker was internationally renowned Ben Cohen, co-founder of Ben & Jerry’s Homemade Ice Cream.

Save the Date!
JFSA Innovators Lunch 2012

JFSA is pleased to announce that Jeff Swartz, former President and CEO of Timberland, is our keynote speaker at the 8th Annual Innovators Lunch.

Wednesday May 23, 2012
Vancouver Hyatt Regency Hotel
655 Burrard St, Vancouver, BC

Registration: 11:00am
Lunch: 12:00pm-1:30pm

To purchase tickets, become a sponsor or for more information, please contact:

Kelly Nichol at
604.637.3312 or
knichol@jfsa.ca

JFSA Innovators Lunch 2011

JFSA extends sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make the 2011 Innovators Lunch a great success. Thank you to our sponsors, table captains, committees, volunteers and all the guests who attended.

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The following volunteer recognition list is based on active volunteers between the period of September 1, 2010 and August 31, 2011.

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Did you know?
$100 provides 1 mother access to counselling.
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