




Jewish Vocational Service Annual Report 2020

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 @jvskc





JEWISH VOCATIONAL SERVICE

OUR VISION

Thriving Communities, Strengthened by Diversity

OUR MISSION

JVS engages, encourages and empowers people to achieve social, cultural and economic integration.

OUR VALUES

JVS believes all people have intrinsic worth and dignity, and all people can flourish with support.

In 2020, our comprehensive array of services reached more than 6,391 individuals.

We helped 167 individuals obtain employment.

We helped 80 refugees make America their new home.

We helped over 1,984 individuals remove barriers to self-sufficiency.

2020

YEAR IN REVIEW

Dear Friends,

This year, obstacle after obstacle has threatened the wellbeing of our community. Our clients have been deeply impacted by job loss, the health risks to essential workers, and the transition to online school. We have weathered damaging changes to immigration policy. At JVS, we have ached along with many across the country, as we reckon with the systemic racial injustice so prevalent in our society.

JVS staff and supporters have been undaunted in mounting a response to these incredibly challenging circumstances. Our donors and volunteers have been generous and engaged as we work to adapt to changing needs. Our staff has been creative in adapting to new situations and zealous in ensuring our clients have all the support they need. We are so grateful for the community effort in ensuring we continue to pursue a thriving community, strengthened by diversity.

In addition to learning how to have meaningful virtual engagement with clients, our staff has taken on projects that benefit our entire community. Our work to promote census completion helped at least 200 families submit their surveys. We held or participated in 11 events that provided voter education and awareness. We formed a racial equity steering committee to help us consider the impact of systemic racism in our client service, in our advocacy efforts and within our own organization.

While these past months have been incredibly trying, it is immensely gratifying to see the resilience, ingenuity and compassion of our staff and community to ensure that our most vulnerable neighbors can access the resources they need with dignity.

With faith in a brighter tomorrow,



Hilary Cohen Singer
Executive Director

AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 RELIEF EFFORTS

- Provided monthly food boxes to 110 families.
- Delivered diapers monthly to 195 children.
- Expanded distribution of cleaning and hygiene supplies, including distributing over 9,000 reusable masks.
- Gave out \$78,000 in emergency assistance funds to provide support for rent, utilities, transportation and medical costs to 160 families (600 people).
- Organized a series of 12 town hall meetings to provide education on topics related to COVID-19. Town Halls were co-hosted by community partners including: Samuel Rodgers, Children's Mercy, Legal Aid, Kansas City Public Library and Kansas City Public Schools.



ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

- Formed a new Workforce Development Advisory Board with representation from diverse industries to promote access to a skilled labor force, education and training opportunities, and career advancement and retention services.
- Participated in the Chamber of Commerce-led Welcoming Kansas City initiative to unite organizations across sectors and develop a plan to secure the official Welcoming City designation for Kansas City.
- Served on the steering committee for the Project Equality Diversity and Inclusion Summit.
- JVS staff of experts participated in over 65 live and virtual opportunities to educate, advocate and fundraise, connecting more than 2800 people to our work.



DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- Staff, Board and Global Table committee members raised \$120,000 through Global Table, despite having to cancel the event due to COVID-19.
- Secured \$216,863 in emergency assistance as a response to client needs arising from COVID-19 pandemic and recession.
- Young Professionals Board engaged over 150 individuals through 3 virtual events raising over \$8,000.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

We encourage prosperity and economic stability through education, employment and entrepreneurship. JVS offers comprehensive employment services that help people assess their skills and interests, remove barriers, refine job search skills and match with the right job options. These services are tailored to apply to a diverse range of job seekers. Following job placement, we work with clients and their employers to ensure a positive, long-term employment relationship.

During the past year, JVS worked with over 100 employers to accomplish the following outcomes:



CAREER SKILLS AND CONNECTIONS

- Provided career coaching and educational workshops to 33 members of the Jewish and general community.

CAREER SERVICE SPECIALISTS

- Assisted 309 individuals with disabilities access services at the Missouri Career Centers.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (MO)

- Served 86 individuals with disabilities, helping 38 individuals obtain employment with an average wage per hour of \$10.55.

REFUGEE YOUTH MENTORING

- Served 56 young adults and cultivated 23 mentor/mentee relationships. Hosted 19 workshops on educational opportunities, vocational paths, and civics.

END DEPENDENCE KANSAS (EDK)

- Assisted 29 individuals with disabilities with job exploration. 13 individuals obtained employment with an average wage per hour of \$10.19.

REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

- Served 233 refugees, helping 114 individuals obtain employment at an average wage per hour of \$12.31.



COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

We empower all people to contribute to their community, and encourage community accessibility and inclusivity. Our services help refugees, immigrants and their families become thriving members of their new communities.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

The refugee resettlement program assists refugees with basic needs such as housing, clothing and transportation upon arrival in Kansas City. JVS provides a wide variety of social services for refugees including health care access and benefits enrollment.

- Resettled 80 refugees from 7 different countries; 45% of newly resettled refugees were under the age of 18.
- Provided case management to 320 refugees to help remove barriers to employment.



IMMIGRATION COUNSELING

Department of Justice certified staff assists individuals and families wishing to change their immigration status or that of a family member.

- Served 907 clients.
- Completed 349 applications for individuals wishing to adjust their status and petition for family reunification.
- Aided 54 individuals in the process of becoming U.S. citizens.
- Completed fingerprints for 90 family sponsors of unaccompanied alien children.

LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL SERVICES

TOP 5 LANGUAGES

1. SWAHILI
2. BURMESE
3. SPANISH
4. ARABIC
5. KAREN

Provides Bridging the Gap training for interpreters in the health care and social services arenas and provides skilled interpreters in over 35 languages to schools, social service agencies, hospitals and legal services, at a nonprofit rate. The program also offers cultural competency training for organizations employing or serving a diverse population.

- Facilitated 3,313 interpreting and translating encounters in more than 35 different languages.
- Trained 127 interpreters in Bridging the Gap 40-hour interpreter training course, Domestic Violence, Municipal Court and Interpreting Basics.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES

We engage individuals in activities that promote healthy bodies, minds and relationships. JVS helps people navigate complex physical and mental health systems and provides direct therapy services.

REFUGEE MEDICAL SERVICES

- Trained 182 refugees on topics related to health literacy and access to health care in America.
- Assisted 151 refugees to complete applications for health insurance.
- Provided 90 refugees with intensive case management services to address serious or chronic medical conditions.



REFUGEE FAMILY STRENGTHENING

- Provided case management and/or relationship enhancement classes to 230 individuals.



SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

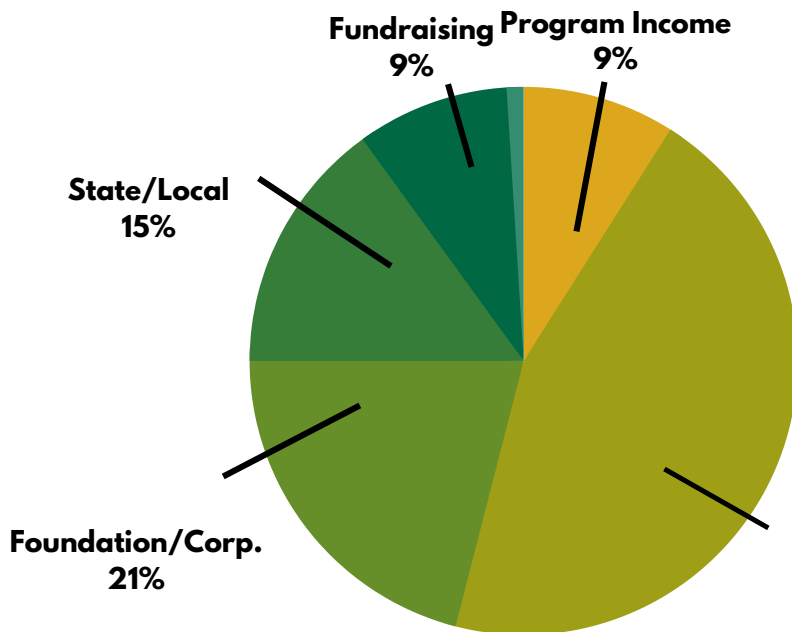
Provides at-risk adults and youth with advocacy, community resource referral, and individual and group therapy. Additionally, Social Work offers training, education and advocacy to other service providers working with refugee and limited English proficient clients.

- Served 447 individuals, from 24 different countries.
- 82% of clients screened showed improved mental health based on pre and post assessments.
- Refugee Youth Program served 77 individuals age 11-19 in therapy and case management services.
- Global Gardens served 12 growers who received 278 hours of garden training and harvested 1,395 pounds of produce.
- Choice Neighborhoods Project, in partnership with the Housing Authority, served 164 individuals with case management and relocation services.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 AGENCY FINANCIALS

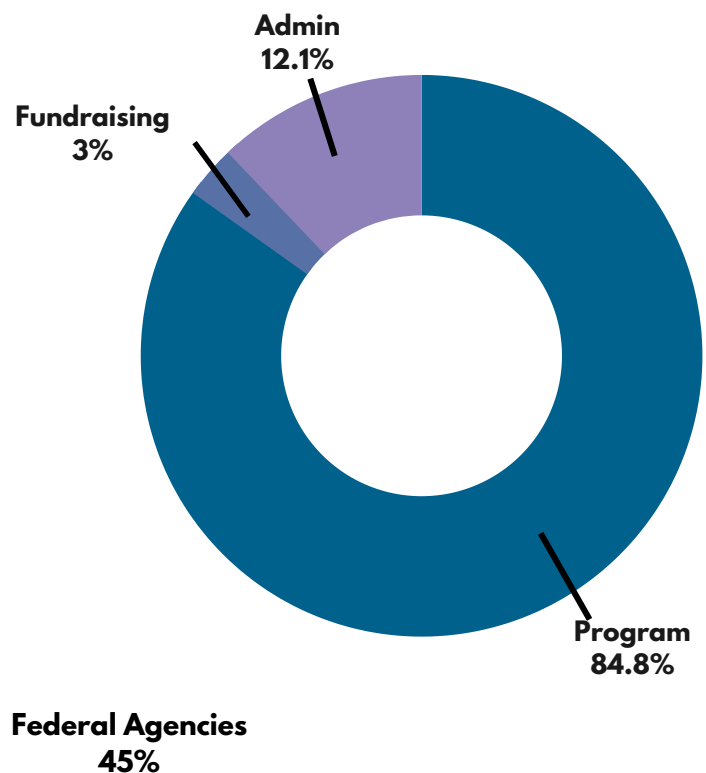
REVENUE

Program Income	\$342,813
Federal Agencies	\$1,719,745
Foundation/Corporation	\$831,778
State/Local Gov	\$590,423
Fundraising	\$319,606
Other	\$12,476
Total Revenue	\$3,816,841



EXPENSES

Administrative	\$476,148
Program	\$3,200,523
Fundraising	\$114,683
Total Expenses	\$3,791,354



JVS THANKS OUR SUPPORTERS

GOVERNMENT FUNDERS

Bi-Lingual Intl Assistance Service
Community Mental Health Fund
Full Employment Council
Jackson County Community Mental Health Fund

Jackson County Children's Service Fund
KS Department of Children and Family, Rehabilitation and Employment Services
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services
MO Department of Agriculture

MO Department of Mental Health
MO Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
MO Office of Refugee Admissions
US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

PRIVATE FUNDERS

LEADERSHIP \$25,000+

Stanley Bushman
Health Forward Foundation
Kansas City Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund
Menorah Heritage Foundation
Reach Healthcare Foundation

SUSTAINER 10,000+

Anonymous Donor
Census Equity Fund
Sam Devinki and Mary Stahl
Bob Epsten
Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City
Leonard* and Irene Bettinger Philanthropic Fund
Oppenstein Brothers Foundation
Shumaker Family Foundation
United Way of Greater Kansas City
Vivian and Hymie J. Sosland Charitable Trust
White Family Supporting Foundation
William T. Kemper Foundation

BENEFACTOR \$5,000+

Brad and Linda Finkle Foundation
Clifford and Paula Cohen
James Ellis and Shelley Collins
Saul and Irene Ellis
J-LEAD, Jewish Community Foundation
Jacob and Ella Loose Foundation
Jewish Community Foundation
Judge Cleveland F. Moulton Christmas Poor Fund
Opus Foundation
St. Luke's College of Health Sciences
Travois
Jerry White and Cyprienne Simchowitz

FELLOW \$2,500+

James and Nancy Colley
Edelman, Liesen and Myers LLP
The Flo Harris Fund
Kent and Carolyn Gillespie
Husch Blackwell
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Jacob and Frances O. Brown Family Fund
Morgan Family Foundation
Willk Family Philanthropic Fund
Gregory Woodhams and Julia Gargallo

PARTNER \$1,000+

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Assured Partners
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CBIZ Inc.
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The Sosland Foundation
Shari Stimetz
Sunday Night Fun Fund
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William Jewell College

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Donna Gould Cohen
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Congregation Beth Torah
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Bret Fischer
Dan and Kristen Fromm
Gavi Geller
Allen and Gail Gutovitz
Barnett and Shirley Helzberg
Jonathan and Allyson Hile
JJ Hjalmarson
Beth Jordan
Kansas City Public Library
Barry Kaseff
Jordan and Malinda Kimmel
David Kirsch

Scott and Susan Krigel

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The New Reform Temple
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Carl Puritz and Cynthia Ellis
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 Jack Nagel
 Marlene Nagel
 Sarah Nettels
 Annie Noonan
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 Heather Yates

FRIEND \$1+

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 Terry and Meg Sandefur
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 Brett Spangler
 Jacinta Stecklein
 Brianna Steiert
 Ronald and Catherine Sterk
 Stanley Stern
 Todd and Shirley Stettner
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 Laura Swinford
 Noah Tarjan

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 Nora Wages
 David and Mindy Wajcman
 Maureen Walsh
 Bradley and Barbara Warady
 Hayley Waynick
 Seymour Weiner
 Ellen Weitkamp
 Kaley Wells
 Jim and Carrie White
 Kathryn Wilhelm
 Seana Wilkerson
 Shena Wolf
 Dustin Wolfe
 William and Kathryn Worley
 Sherry Worth

JVS LEGACY GIVING-we are grateful to the following who provide planned giving support to JVS :

Miles Cohen*

*of blessed memory



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