

# JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOUISVILLE 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Jewish Community  
of Louisville

Together in Life, Learning & Leadership

# GET TO KNOW YOUR JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOUISVILLE



Jewish Community  
of Louisville

## JCL MISSION:

Build and sustain a vibrant, caring, inclusive community rooted in Jewish values.

## JCL VISION:

Fulfilling the needs of the Jewish community.

## JCL LOCAL CONSTITUENT AGENCIES (2014-15 FISCAL YEAR):

High School of Jewish Studies  
Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad (LBSY)  
The Temple Religious School  
Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning  
Jewish Family & Career Services  
Chavurat Shalom  
Hadassah  
National Council of Jewish Women

## JCL LOCAL FUNDERS (GRANTS OF \$25,000 OR MORE):

Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence  
Metro United Way

## THE JCL INCLUDES:



Jewish Federation®  
OF LOUISVILLE



Jewish Foundation  
OF LOUISVILLE



# COMMUNITY

## JCL NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Jewish Community Centers Association (JCCA)  
Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA)  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Agency (JDC)  
Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI)  
Birthright Israel  
Foundation for Jewish Camp  
Hillel  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs



# A MESSAGE FROM THE JCL LEADERSHIP

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Our Jewish Community of Louisville Annual Report provides an overview of our accomplishments and experiences from the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2015. Our agency has been serving Louisville's Jewish community for 125 years, specifically the JCC, and as we began marking this significant milestone, we realized we truly have a lot to celebrate. We are embarking on our next 125 years in a good place.

As the JCL transitioned into a new year, we both also transitioned into new roles as immediate past JCL Board chair and CEO. We are grateful for the significant steps and successes achieved last year and are excited and proud of the forward movement we see and anticipate this year. We have confidence that our new Board chair, Jay Klempner, and the JCL Board, will build on our accomplishments to ensure that the JCL will meet the needs of the Jewish community going forward.

Last year, we began to implement our strategic plan and making significant improvements to our facility, including the addition of ramps to make our building handicap-accessible, a new climbing area, comfortable chairs for CenterStage and much more. We are also taking steps to improve our financial position and doing the necessary work to determine our facility needs for the future.

With Doug Gordon's leadership, creativity and enthusiasm, our 2015 Federation Campaign raised \$2.1 million, an increase over 2014. With the implementation of the "Week of Giving" culminating in the Million Dollar Dinner that truly brought the community together, we completed the Campaign in record time, and today we are using those dollars to make a difference in lives locally, in Israel and around the world.

JCC@125 has provided many opportunities to come together as a community and celebrate. The year-long festivities began with a January Tip Off event at which 90 people enjoyed watching the University of Louisville game,

looking at old photos and reminiscing. Last March, we honored Annette Sagerman z"l at the JCC for an emotional tribute event marked by an outpouring of love for Annette who worked at the JCC for 65 years and embodied the strengths of the agency. This fall, we were saddened by her passing.

JCC@125 continued as CenterStage teamed up with the JCC's Cultural Arts Department to present a fabulous Mother's Day event featuring *Nothing Like a Dame* author Eddie Shapiro and a revue by CenterStage favorites. CenterStage also brought the JCC@125 to the Pegasus Parade with their award-winning float.

Our connection with Israel remains as strong as ever. We were fortunate to have a shlichah each summer for the last two years to work with our campers, and on July 20, 2014, 200 hundred of us rallied to stand with Israel while Hamas attacked from Gaza with rockets and through tunnels. We came together again at a solidarity rally with Jews in France on January 18, 2015 following the attacks at Charlie Hebdo and the kosher supermarket in Paris.

JCL took on a leadership role in the Partnership2Gether program, hosting the Western Galilee/Central Consortium Steering Committee meeting in January. We hosted over 50 people from around the country and Israel for updates on current projects and to make plans for the coming year. Looking ahead, planning has begun for a new Partnership mission to Israel and there are always opportunities for one-on-one connections between Louisvillians and Israelis. A Teacher's Trip is being planned for June.

We are grateful and inspired by the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers. The coming year will be filled with opportunities and challenges. It is going to be an exciting year with our federation campaign Stronger Together and the culmination of our 125th anniversary on February 20.



*Karen Abrams*

Karen Abrams  
Board Chair



*Sara K Wagner*

Sara Klein Wagner  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer



*Jay Klempner*

Jay Klempner  
Incoming Board Chair



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"...we were able to see how Israelis live and it's not very different from how we live. That's what we're trying to show the kids."  
-Bernard Pincus

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"...when you go to Israel for the first time, you breathe the air, you taste the water, you kind of become addicted to Israel. I think that if we can get these kids to be connected to their Judaism to a place where everybody is Jewish and to experience it differently, then they're more likely to stay Jewish and have that Jewish identity and that pride to be Jewish." - Amy Danino

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# JEWISH EDUCATION

## Amy Danino & Bernard Pincus

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For Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad and The Temple Hebrew School, Partnership2Gether offers students a great bonus learning opportunity. At both schools, classes are paired with classes in Israel and through the course of the school year, and sometimes over several years, the students on both sides of the ocean get to know each other - what they have in common and how they are different.

This summer, five teachers from the two schools, Amy Danino, Rachel Goldman, Karen Feder and Bernard and Marilyn Pincus, traveled to Israel to meet their Israeli counterparts and to do joint planning for the coming year.

For Bernard Pincus, who leads the twinning program with The Temple's seventh and eighth grades, the opportunity meet his Israeli counterpart, Miri Johnson, and her eighth grade class in Salom Sur School in Nahariya, Israel, was invaluable.

This was Pincus' first trip to Israel, but Johnson's students already knew him from their work this past year. "It was a very moving experience," he said. "Just being there and, on top of that, knowing people there and seeing the class and knowing what they have to live through was great."

"They're threatened by their environment a whole lot more than we are," he added. In the spring, during a Skype conversation, "we were worried about tornadoes and the weather. They must be alert for terrorist attacks."

The Pincuses visited Johnson's home and the home of another teacher. He was also hosted for several days by an Israeli family, "so we were able to see how Israelis live and it's not very different from how we live. That's what we're trying to show the kids."

As a result of this trip, not only do his seventh and eighth graders benefit from the ongoing twinning program, but Pincus is also teaching Israeli history to fifth graders.

Danino learned about the Partnership twinning project last year from her fellow teacher, Katey Brichto, and jumped at the opportunity to connect her students to Israel.

Danino's own connection to Israel is very deep as a three-week post-college visit morphed into a five-month stay and, after a brief return to Louisville to collect some belongings, a four-and-a-half-year residency, during which she met her husband.

LBSY students begin their twinning experience in the third grade, and it is Danino's plan that they will continue communicating with the same group of students throughout their LBSY careers. In fact, Danino dreams of making a trip to Israel to meet their friends, who will serve as their tour guides through the country, the culmination of every LBSY student's studies.

The connection students make through twinning "creates a connection that is different than just sitting there and just learning Hebrew and preparing for your bar or bat mitzvah," Danino said. But, "when you go to Israel for the first time,

you breathe the air, you taste the water, you kind of become addicted to Israel. I think that if we can get these kids to be connected to their Judaism to a place where everybody is Jewish and to experience it differently, then they're more likely to stay Jewish and have that Jewish identity and that pride to be Jewish.

"I think it's the same thing for the kids in Israel," she added. "In Israel, everybody around them is Jewish. It's easy to be Jewish. The commercials are for Rosh Hashanah and [Jewish products and other holidays]. They don't know what it's like to have to choose to be Jewish. Here, I was the only Jew in my high school. I had to feel proud to be Jewish in order not to assimilate into what all my friends were doing."

Both Pincus and Danino noted that students in Louisville and Israel have a lot in common. They dress the same way and enjoy the same music and activities. All of them look forward to contact with their counterparts, whether it be writing notes to be posted, sharing photos, making videos or Skyping.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The twinning program is one of many opportunities for Louisvillians to connect with and get to know Israelis in the Western Galilee through the Partnership2Gether program. There are many education, arts, medical and other opportunities for individual and group Partnership2Gether projects, and new ones can be created to match your interests.
- The Annual Federation Campaign provides \$250 toward tuition for each student enrolled in Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad, The Temple Hebrew School and the High School of Jewish Studies.
- Disbursements from specific funds administered by the Jewish Foundation of Louisville help keep special trips and programs affordable for students in all of Louisville's Jewish schools.
- The Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, which provides opportunities for people to study Judaism on an adult level, is also supported by the Campaign.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can help young people build strong Jewish identities and connections to Israel and ensure that there are a variety of formal and informal Jewish learning opportunities available to children and adults.



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"The staff is incredible...Betsy [Schwartz] and Mike [Steklof] have been on top of it. ... People were raving about camp. ... The counselors were terrific. ... Everybody had a smile on their face and the kids had fun."

- Ali Ignatow

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JCC Camp is also a critical part of Jewish life in Louisville. "Aside from PJ Library, there's not much else for children that's Jewish except for preschool camp," said Bailen, "and once they get to a certain level, you want them to be at the JCC." - Caren Bailen

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# JCC SUMMER CAMP

## Caren Bailen, Ali Ignatow and Heather Gladstein

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Caren Bailen, Ali Ignatow and Heather Gladstein are friends with a lot in common. They are mothers who want their young children to have both great Jewish and summer camp experiences.

Bailen has two children, Brody, 7, and Zoe, 4; Ignatow has three, Charley, 8, Blake, 5, and Camden, 4; and Gladstein has two, Levi, 7, and Judah, 4.

For all of them, there is only one summer program that meets their needs: the JCC Summer Camp.

Bailen and Ignatow grew up in Louisville and have great memories of summers at JCC Camp. Ignatow even worked there as a teen.

Bailen chose this camp because "it's the JCC, it's Jewish and I knew a lot of kids from AJ [Adath Jeshurun] and The Temple went there. It's a day camp that has everything ... and the big thing is swim lessons and swimming every day. That's not something every camp has. ... Brody learned to swim really early on and I think Zoe will too."

Gladstein agreed. "It's great to have a place where our children can see their Jewish friends" from their preschool days and from other synagogues.

She particularly likes that her children can go to the same camp the entire summer, stay with the same group of campers, develop real relationships with their counselors and swim every day.

"I also love that my boys are three years apart and I can send them to the same camp," she added. "As a working mom, it's great – one drop off, one pick up and two age groups."

"I like that my kids see kids of all different ages," said Ignatow. Even though her children are different ages, there are "special days where they would have popsicles and they got to see each other and each other's friends at camp." Some of the specialty camps also combine children within an age range, allowing them to build relationships with others who are a bit older or younger.

At JCC Camp, Friday is special because Shabbat is celebrated with Jewish songs. This summer, camp brought Jewish musician Mark Russo in for an entire day. Gladstein also liked that throughout the summer, "the little ones celebrated a lot of the holidays that happen throughout the year."

Another advantage is the Yachad program, which enables children with special needs to participate as fully as they are able in camp. Ignatow's middle daughter has had a girl in the Yachad program with her group for several years. "She just loves her," said Ignatow, noting that she's seen the girls in the group both taking care of the child and enjoying playing with her.

JCC Camp is also a critical part of Jewish life in Louisville. "Aside from PJ Library, there's not much else for children that's Jewish except for preschool camp," said Bailen, "and once they get to a certain level, you want them to be at the JCC."

Gladstein, who grew up in New York, said that there, "the

majority of people are Jewish, whether you're participating in a Jewish activity or not. Here, I have a goal here to try to incorporate as much Judaism as I can, so if there's a Friday night Shabbat at our synagogue, I try my best to be there. If there's a camp option that's Jewish and incorporates Judaism into it, I'm going to try to send my kids for as much of the summer as possible."

The spacious campus is also an asset. "If I go there looking for one of my children, the staff is on the walkie-talkies to find them because they could be anywhere," said Ignatow, "which is nice."

"The staff is incredible," she added. "Betsy [Schwartz] and Mike [Steklof] have been on top of it. ... People were raving about camp. ... The counselors were terrific. ... Everybody had a smile on their face and the kids had fun."

The presence of a shlichah, an emissary from Israel, Gladstein said, "clearly shows that the JCC is trying to add as many interesting things as they can to the program and that's fantastic. They're thinking outside the box."

"I'm glad they have specialty camps, too," Bailen added, "because our boys are getting to the age where they do like something off the beaten path, so they have the Mighty Titans and good athletic options, too."

"Each week brings something different," Gladstein said.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 311 campers per day, on average, 20 months to rising 9th graders attended JCC Summer Camp last summer for a total of 2,800 camper weeks.
- 35 children with identified disabilities were served by one-on-one advocates through the Yachad program at JCC Summer Camp.
- 368 campers participated in JCC Summer Camp's Lenny Krayzelburg Swim Academy, assuring they learn safety and skills when around water.
- JCC Summer Campers helped grow food in the community garden and our Young Leaders program sponsored a food drive every Wednesday, collecting cans for the JFCS Food Pantry. Camp donated 682 cans over the course of the summer.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can ensure that children whose families have limited resources can attend summer camp, learn to swim and enjoy all the benefits and opportunities camp offers.



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At International Kallah, Laina Meyerowitz also planned an exchange program with Orthodox Jewish girls from the Morasha Camp...“It was about female empowerment and how, even though we come from different places and different aspects of Judaism, we’re still girls and we still have the opportunities to be leaders and to thrive in the world today.”

- Laina Meyerowitz

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“I did Teen Connection in middle school, and as soon I got the opportunity to join BBYO, I jumped right for it.” BBYO started as an easy way to keep up with Jewish friends “that I’ve grown up with since preschool or even before. ... but it has become so much more.”

- Laina Meyerowitz

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## Laina Meyerowitz

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For Laina Meyerowitz, being Jewish is an important part of her identity, and for this junior at Ballard High School, that means being active in BBYO is a big part of her life.

Born and raised in Louisville, Laina's mother, Sandra, is from Lexington, and her Dad, Victor, is from Johannesburg, South Africa. She also has a younger brother, Zev.

"I went to Adath Jeshurun for preschool and Eliahu for kindergarten, first and second grades."

"I did Teen Connection in middle school, and as soon I got the opportunity to join BBYO, I jumped right for it." BBYO started as an easy way to keep up with Jewish friends "that I've grown up with since preschool or even before.... but it has become so much more."

Laina quickly became a leader in her chapter, Jay Levine BBG, and in the second semester of her freshman year, she was elected mazkirah, vice president of communications, a post she held for two terms.

Since then, her involvement has only increased. She served a term as morah, vice president of recruitment, and today, she is n'siah, chapter president. She is eager to get as many Jewish teens involved as possible. As morah, she helped recruit 15-20 girls from the class of 2018 for her chapter.

She describes her current position as "a lot of work and it's definitely a learning experience, but I love every minute of it and I couldn't imagine doing anything else. I used to be a competitive dancer, but I injured my hip a couple years ago and had to quit when the injury progressed and got worse, so BBYO is where I dedicate pretty much all of my time."

Along the way, she's attended many conventions and programs. Between her freshman and sophomore years, she participated in CLTC, Chapter Leadership Training Conference, a 12-day leadership development program; and last summer, she participated in both ILTC, International Leadership Training Conference, and International Kallah, both three-week programs.

At these conferences, not only did Laina acquire skills that she is using to help her chapter, but she made Jewish friends from around the world who have become like family to her.

She has also been involved with planning a number of programs. In March of her sophomore year, she was the administrative assistant for the KIO (Kentucky-Indiana-Ohio) regional Kallah Convention. The program focused on "exploring your Jewish identity and the different aspects of Judaism, anywhere from Torah study to spiritual Judaism. It has a lot of deep questions and discussions and it's also the last convention for seniors."

At International Kallah, she also planned an exchange program with Orthodox Jewish girls from the Morasha Camp where the BBGs spent a night at Morasha and later in the summer, the Morasha girls came to Camp Perlman for a night. "We had a dance party and a discussion session where we

split up into smaller groups and got to learn about the ways that we do things and to see what was different and what was similar."

"It was about female empowerment," Laina explained, "and how, even though we come from different places and different aspects of Judaism, we're still girls and we still have the opportunities to be leaders and to thrive in the world today."

When we spoke, Laina had just been selected co-coordinator of the November's regional Spirit Convention along with Harrison Lippy from Columbus, OH, and administrative assistants Charles Bessen from Louisville and Abby Frank from Indianapolis.

She was also involved in planning BBG's six-fold sleepover. This program, which happens once each term, incorporates activities for each of BBG's areas of emphasis – creativity, recreation, social action, community service, Jewish heritage and sisterhood – in one night.

While Laina has not yet decided where she wants to go to college, she knows she wants to choose a school where she can be involved in Jewish life. She is leaning toward studying art, design or communications and marketing.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 140 teens participated in at least one BBYO program and 50 middle schoolers participated in at least one Teen Connection event in the last year.
- 90 teens attended at least one regional BBYO convention and 20 attended an international BBYO convention.
- 20 teens have participated in at least one Kadima event and 20 sixth graders are participating in B'nai Mitzvah Boot Camp.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can ensure that JCC programming will continue to engage Jewish youths in programs that provide positive Jewish experiences, leadership positions and opportunities to interact with their Jewish friends who attend other schools, Jewish peers from across the region, the country and even around the world, and help them build strong Jewish identities.



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Participating in the Birthright trip solidified Justin's position as an Israel advocate and a member of the Jewish community. "It's really brought it 360 and made me more well-rounded as a member of the Jewish community."

- Justin Smith

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Justin described attendance at his first Hillel event, a kosher Jewish cookout, as huge, with participants from UofL, Bellarmine, Sullivan and others. "From that point on, I realized that Hillel is a real deal." - Justin Smith

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# HILLEL

## Justin Smith

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Louisville native Justin Smith grew up in a secular family. They did not affiliate with a congregation and he did not participate in BBYO or congregational youth group programs. When Justin began his studies at the University of Louisville, he took the initiative to reach out to the Jewish community and signed up for Hillel; but until last year, it was just another e-newsletter that he received.

Then he met Kevin Altman at the Registered Student Organization Fair last fall and got to know him. Kevin was a graduate student with a passion for Israel and Judaism. He was very active in Hillel and helped the agency with Israel advocacy. Justin's perception of Hillel went from an "intangible email list to actually being a group that has events and such."

Justin described attendance at his first Hillel event, a kosher Jewish cookout, as huge, with participants from UofL, Bellarmine, Sullivan and others. "From that point on, I realized that Hillel is a real deal," he said. "And from that point on, I made sure to participate in every single activity." He began visiting the Hillel office, got to know the director at the time, Devon Oser, and helped her fix up the office.

One thing often leads to another. As Justin became more active in Hillel, Kevin and Devon began encouraging him to participate in a Birthright Israel trip. "At first, I was reluctant to take part in that. I didn't really feel like I would have time for it; or I didn't feel like setting aside the budget for it." (Birthright Israel offers free trips to Israel for young adults, but participants still need to travel to New York on their own.)

Participating in the Birthright trip solidified Justin's position as an Israel advocate and a member of the Jewish community. "It's really brought it 360 and made me more well-rounded as a member of the Jewish community."

It also prepared him to take the next step, and when he was asked to serve as president of Hillel during the fall semester, he was ready. His goal is to "provide members with events they will like and enjoy and to maintain participation."

Hillel is a home for Jewish students on campus and its members take it in their own direction. It offers secular and religious options and Israel advocacy activities on campus. It is also a place to "just enjoy being Jewish and participating in pure fun activities." It is a place for Jews to connect with activities like speed dating and mixers and serves as a conduit between high school and adult

Jewish life.

When he graduated in December, Justin turned the reins of Hillel over to Miriam Amchin.

A political science major with concentrations in law and public policy, he hopes to continue his studies in law school, preferable in Louisville, next fall. Justin is interested in studies in Talmudic law and interning in a position in a paralegal field, perhaps within the Jewish community in Louisville, during the spring and summer semesters before starting law school.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Hillel connects Jewish students on Metroversity campuses with other Jewish students on their own campuses, and through conventions, with their peers across the country.
- Hillel encourages college students to discover their connection to Israel and the Jewish people by participating in Birthright Israel trips.
- Since 2012, 131 young adults from Louisville or who attend school here have participated in free trips to Israel from Birthright Israel.
- Hillel provides Jewish students a home away from home, where they can feel safe with their own Judaism, explore their Jewish identities and find help if they experience challenging issues on campus related to Judaism or Israel.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can ensure Hillel continues to serve young adults during their college careers, so they have an easy and convenient connection to the Jewish community and opportunities to explore their heritage.



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"I can't begin to explain how impressed I am with the folks that JFCS has provided through the Senior Concierge program," Marty said. "Mauri Malka and Jessica Kalb go out of their way in hiring people who will meet their standards, and to my knowledge, have met all of my standards with great care and a loving nature." - *Marty Margulis*

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"Most people don't realize that JFCS offers this service. It's an intelligent approach to dealing with seniors who need help. Mauri and her team will talk with you about any of your needs..."  
- *Marty Margulis*

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# JEWISH FAMILY & CAREER SERVICES

## Marty Margulis

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Marty and Judy Margulis have shared their love and their lives for 59 years.

Marty moved to Louisville in 1947 and enrolled in Male High School. Later, he attended the University of Louisville, where he earned a BS in business administration. He served in the Air Force, but when the Korean War ended, about six months after he joined the service, he returned to civilian life in Louisville and found a job as a trainee with Bacon's Department Store.

The couple met when "a friend of mine had fixed us up on a blind date in Bloomington, IN," he said. "Six months later, we got married. That was in 1956."

Marty spent his career at Bacon's, advancing from trainee to merchandise manager. Bacon's parent company, Mercantile Stores, transferred him to New York for a while to work with the vice president of operations, but for him, Louisville was home.

"Fortunately for me, the store manager of our St. Matthews store left the company," he said, "and I had the chance to return home. It couldn't have been more perfect." After three more years as store manager, he became president of Bacon's.

Over the years, Marty and Judy raised two children. Today, their daughter, Cari Immerman, lives in Cleveland. She has two children, Nathan, who is a senior at the University of Michigan, and Noa, who is a sophomore in high school. Marty and Judy's son, Paul, and his wife, Herlene, live in Louisville with their two children, Bradley, 13, and Matthew, 11.

Throughout their lives, the Margulis family has been active members in the community, and Marty currently is a member of the Jewish Family & Career Services Board.

About two and a half years ago, he explained, "Judy could no longer drive," so the couple turned to JFCS's Senior PALS transportation program. PALS drivers "picked her up about twice a week, took her to various locations and then returned her to our home.

"On other occasions," he continued, "I would drive her" or her friends would take her to play mah jongg or bridge. "That worked out just perfectly."

Then Judy became ill and underwent "an emergency operation that kept her in the hospital for six weeks," Marty explained. "After the initial 10-day stay in the ICU, she was moved to what they call intermediate care, and it was at that time that I called Mauri Malka at JFCS and asked that she provide caregivers to be with Judy on an around-the-clock basis" through the agency's Senior Concierge program.

Judy has been making gradual progress, and recently, she has moved to the Episcopal Home, Marty explained, "but I am continuing to use JFCS' Concierge service."

"I can't begin to explain how impressed I am with the folks that JFCS has provided through the Senior Concierge program," Marty said. "Mauri Malka and Jessica Kalb go out of

their way in hiring people who will meet their standards, and to my knowledge, have met all of my standards with great care and a loving nature."

"As Judy has progressed and become better, my joy in her improvement is shared with people who have been her caregivers," he continued. "They are as excited about her progress as I am. We have almost become family. It's a neat thing to feel from people who are just providing a service, but they are better than most."

JFCS ensures that, as much as possible, the same caregivers work with Judy every day. "That even creates a stronger bond between myself, Judy and folks who are taking care of her," he noted.

JFCS's Senior Concierge program offers a wide variety of services that are available to help people with their psychological and social needs and to ensure that they get appropriate medical care. The services JFCS provides are tailored to the needs of individual families.

"Most people don't realize that JFCS offers this service," Marty stated. "It's an intelligent approach to dealing with seniors who need help. Mauri and her team will talk with you about any of your needs. There's no obligation to use JFCS, but I can attest to their quality and worthiness. In addition, financial ability to pay is not the determining factor."

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The JFCS Food Pantry distributes 95,000 pounds of food to families in need.
- JFCS transportation program (PALS) annually provides 6,400 rides for 135 seniors.
- JFCS annually serves more than 9,000 people representing all races, religions and ethnic backgrounds.
- Senior Concierge HomeCare provided nearly 30,000 hours of service to 98 clients.
- JFCS services are provided using a sliding fee scale; more than 80 percent of counseling services are subsidized.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can ensure that counseling, support groups, career services, the food pantry and senior services through JFCS are available to all who need them regardless of their ability to pay.



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The JCRC discusses a wide variety of issues. "In one meeting, we may have people who are interested in what's going on in Israel. ...We may hear from people who are concerned about food bank replenishment. ... We may have people suggesting we join an interfaith supper to support our Muslim friends who had their community buildings desecrated." - *George Polur*

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Her drive for justice and to take care of the world moved her to join the JCRC. It serves a clear mission of trying to make the world a better place by addressing "very basic care issues for people – Jews and non-Jews alike."  
- *George Polur*

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

## George Polur

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Seeking justice and fairness, particularly for those whose voices are not easily heard, is critical to living a Jewish life, George Polur believes, and in Louisville, one of the best places to put words into actions is the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC).

A consensus-building organization, the JCRC discusses a wide variety of issues. "In one meeting, we may have people who are interested in what's going on in Israel," she explained. "Others may be interested in setting up a Holocaust memorial in one of the few states doesn't have one. We may hear from people who are concerned about food bank replenishment. We may have people seeking ... bodies to help with international anti-Semitism issues. We may have people suggesting we join an interfaith supper to support our Muslim friends who had their community-buildings desecrated.

"Sometimes within hours there is a response from the JCRC — a public response from the face of the Jewish community supporting Jews and non-Jews within this community," she added.

Her commitment to social justice extends to her work life and family, too. In fact, her interest in the JCRC grew out of her "involvement with the elder and special needs community."

Polur grew up primarily in Florida, earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and her law degree from Boston University School of Law. Polur practiced law both in Boston and in Washington, DC, "and I wanted to live in Washington, DC, forever," she said.

"Then, I met this wonderful man [Michael Gold] who also wanted to remain in DC forever," she continued. "We got married and then three weeks later we were moving to Louisville."

Gold worked for Yum! and interviewed in Louisville because his boss insisted that he look at the internal transfer. In considering Louisville, the couple looked at three criteria that were important to them: "an arts community, a physically active community (a place to work out), and a Jewish community," she said. "We wouldn't move to a place without a vibrant Jewish community."

Moving here was a good decision. "Louisville's just a wonderful place to live and to work," she observed.

It's also a great place to raise children. "We have a daughter, Alexandra Polur Gold, who is going to be starting high school next year," she noted, "and we have a son, Ian Polur Gold, who is in fifth grade. We have liberally used the Jewish Community Center for preschool care, for exercise and for camps. My children are both signed up for the middle school social programming."

The family belongs to Adath Jeshurun. Alexandra recently celebrated her bat mitzvah there, and Ian has begun working with Cantor David Lipp to prepare for his. "One of the things we really love is Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad," she added, "We think that's been a wonderful community-building experience

for the kids."

Professionally, Polur did consulting in banking and regulatory work in the private sector when she first came to Louisville since she didn't have a Kentucky license to practice law.

"At some point, I became acutely aware of my parents failing health issues," she explained. Since they live in Florida, she "tried to find good legal help down there and I was very disappointed in the quality of the legal services and in the lack of soul in a lot of the attorneys I contacted."

That experience motivated her to pursue her legal license in Kentucky and to open her own elder law practice. "I started practicing in this area to try to be the kind of attorney I wish I'd been able to find for my parents — one with a holistic view, taking into consideration medical, financial, social and legal concerns," she said.

The same drive for justice and to take care of the world moved her to join the JCRC. "I think it serves a clear mission of trying to make the world a better place," she added, by addressing "very basic care issues for people — Jews and non-Jews alike."

### DID YOU KNOW?

- JCRC builds relationships among the Jewish community and other faith groups — when the Islamic Mosque was defaced, the JCRC was there to support our friends, speak out against hate and help with the clean-up.
- JCRC works with public officials to ensure that Jewish perspectives are heard and the Jewish community is respected — helping lead the call for an increase in our city's minimum wage.
- JCRC works for social justice in Louisville, participating in the Community Hunger Walk and helping Project Warm insulate the homes of the poor and elderly.
- JCRC is an advocate for Israel, speaking out when Israel is unfairly targeted and providing tools for college students and others when they encounter anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic activities.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can ensure the JCRC can continue to build connections with other faith communities, engage in social action, advocate for social justice and stand up for Jews and Israel.



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"From the beginning we felt welcome and right at home. We didn't know many people here, especially young adults with small children, so we started off going to Shalom Baby and, probably two or three months later, we decided that we were going to be a Jewish family and raise our children Jewish."  
- Madelyn Cerra

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"I think there are a lot of people who are not native to Louisville who are involved in the programs and that's been nice because we're not the only ones who don't have family to celebrate the holidays with or that base here. It's been nice to find a little Jewish family of our own."  
- Madelyn Cerra

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# NEWCOMER & YAD

## Madelyn Cerra

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Madelyn and Matthew Cerra are an interfaith couple. "My husband is Jewish," Madelyn said; "I was raised Catholic, and we thought we were going to raise our daughter in both our faiths. We thought we were going to celebrate a little bit of everything."

"Maggie was born in November," she continued, "and even though she was only six weeks old, for Chanukah and Christmas that year, it became very clear to us that that was going to become very confusing very quickly for everyone and we needed to find where our family was going to fit spiritually."

"So we visited the different synagogues," she continued, and "we visited some catholic churches," but still they were undecided and continued looking.

On the Jewish Community Center website, Cerra clicked on Shalom Baby and PJ Library and connected with Jennifer Tuvlin, the director of those two programs. "I think we started coming to the Shalom Baby music classes when she was about three months old," she explained, "so at the time we still hadn't decided" which direction their family would go. "We were still exploring our different options."

"We really liked the music classes," she said. "From the beginning we felt welcome and right at home. We didn't know many people here, especially young adults with small children, so we started off going to Shalom Baby and, probably two or three months later, we decided that we were going to be a Jewish family and raise our children Jewish."

"That's when we enrolled in the PJ Library and started receiving the gifts and the books," Cerra continued, "which has been neat for me as a non-Jewish person. I'm learning right there with her, so it's been fun for me."

"We did the Sukkot singalong and that was a lot of fun," she said. "We went apple picking for Rosh Hashanah."

While she's enjoying the activities and the learning, even more importantly, she observed, "they've really made our family feel welcome. I think there are a lot of people who are not native to Louisville who are involved in the programs and that's been nice because we're not the only ones who don't have family to celebrate the holidays with or that base here. It's been nice to find a little Jewish family of our own."

There is a large group of children Maggie's age who participated in Shalom Baby, Cerra explained, and the program was set up only for babies through age one. "Jennifer saw all of our kids were starting to turn one and they still loved the class, so even though my daughter's now two, we came yesterday."

"She's made sure to keep it open to us," she continued, "and I think now they're looking at adding a toddler movement class so it's been really neat for us."

"Sometimes we'll go out to the playground afterwards with all the families that were there," she added. "Yesterday, we went down to the climbing area ... and my daughter

loved it. That was a lot of fun. I'm trying to figure out how we can build that in our basement."

Tuvlin regularly posts photos on the Shalom Baby and PJ Library Facebook pages, Cerra noted, and "that makes it a lot easier to connect with other people. When you have a toddler, it's hard to pick up the phone and have a conversation with someone. It's a lot easier to send them an email and get to know them that way."

Cerra grew up in Nashville, TN, and came to Louisville for graduate school in 2003. While her husband was an MBA student at the University of Miami, he did an internship with Humana in Florida. At the conclusion of it, the company offered him a job in Louisville. They met here in 2009 and married in 2012.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Shalom Baby offers regular music programs for babies and gives their families the opportunity to connect.
- Through PJ Library, your JCC sends one high quality Jewish book or CD every month to 300 children ages birth-6.
- The JCC is warm and welcoming, letting you decide when you want to participate and offering basic information about Jewish holidays.
- YAD sponsors a variety of events that enable young adults to meet each other while engaging in fun activities.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can ensure that newcomers to the community are always welcome and there are many opportunities for people to connect with others who have similar needs and interests.

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For many campers and their families, the cost of camp programs would have been prohibitive without the scholarship help they received from the Hannah Marks Fund at the Jewish Foundation of Louisville.

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Hannah Marks “wasn’t a wealthy person, but lived a simple, modest life, and, in the end, was able to contribute a significant amount that had real impact. You don’t have to be a millionaire to be a donor.”  
- *Stuart Goldberg*

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# JEWISH FOUNDATION OF LOUISVILLE

## Hannah Marks Fund

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Going to camp is a summer tradition, and within the Jewish community, it is an essential part of helping children develop strong Jewish identities. The JCC's Summer Camp provides Jewish Day Camp experiences for children from toddlers through middle school. There are lots of Jewish overnight camps, too.

For many campers and their families, the cost of camp programs would have been prohibitive without the scholarship help they received from the Hannah Marks Fund at the Jewish Foundation of Louisville.

Children with special needs who want to go to camp, face different challenges. For a child with diabetes, the needed help might be someone to assist in monitoring blood sugar and administering insulin at the appropriate time. Another child might have issues that make it difficult to follow a schedule and require guidance to go from one activity to the next. For a child with autism, relating to other children might be an issue and the assistance of a full-time advocate might be the only way that child could participate in the camp program.

At the JCC Summer Camp those advocates are available at no charge to the family, thanks in part to the Hannah Marks Fund.

But who was Hannah Marks? Stuart and Linda Goldberg, who make recommendations for the use of the funds available through the Hannah Marks Fund provided some insight.

The Goldberg and Marks families overlap by marriage, Goldberg explained. One of Hannah's brothers, Lester, was married to Goldberg's great aunt. When he talked about Marks, Goldberg called her Hank. "This was a southern community," he explained, "so nicknames were preferred." In fact, he claims he never knew Hank's first name was really Hannah until after he had known her for a long time.

"Hank was a very intelligent lady," Goldberg said. "She went to the University of Illinois and then came back to Louisville to finish her education." With a degree in social work, Marks worked for the city of Louisville most of her life.

Marks never married. "She led a simple life, never owned a car, lived in the Highlands and rarely traveled," he continued. "She didn't make a lot of money, but she didn't spend a lot, so she accumulated a nice nest egg."

"Basically," he added, "Hank was a working woman, which in that day and age was not the norm."

Marks became interested in the Jewish community and the work that the Jewish organizations did. She was particularly interested in helping children. So, she worked with Joe Kaplan z"l, who advised her to establish an endowment to benefit the Jewish community, and, at her death, the amount available for the endowment was sizable.

Without any close family in Louisville, prior to her death, she asked Stuart and Linda Goldberg to serve as the executors of her estate. The Goldbergs are "very cognizant of her

wishes," and have, along with the support and assistance of Hank's nephew, Jay Marks of Houston, TX, who also happens to be Stuart's cousin, ensured that the proceeds from her endowment are used to benefit children. They feel that the Yachad program is exactly what Marks had in mind.

"It is wonderful that the JCC has started this program," he said. "It was an instant success, but it is expensive." The families of Yachad Program participants have sent "numerous letters of thanks," Goldberg added, so he knows the money is being used well.

Goldberg also noted that the fund also provided a small amount of assistance for the completion of the handicap-accessible entrance to the JCC. That decision was made because "children are big consumers of what the JCC provides" and the ramp provides better access for them. Funds have also been used to allow children to attend appropriate events at the Jewish Film Festival.

"The real message here," he concluded, "is that this was a woman who was very committed to the Louisville Jewish community. Hannah Marks wasn't a wealthy person, but lived a simple, modest life, and, in the end, was able to contribute a significant amount that had real impact. You don't have to be a millionaire to be a donor."

### DID YOU KNOW?

- You can use a life insurance policy to establish an endowment.
- You can add to the principle of an existing endowment fund to increase its impact in an area you want to support.
- You can establish an endowment to ensure your gift to the Annual Federation Campaign continues in perpetuity.

### YOU CAN HELP!

By endowing your gift to the Annual Federation Campaign, by establishing your own endowment fund or by contributing to an existing fund, you can ensure that you leave a legacy that benefits programs that put your values into action.

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"The people here are wonderful. Diane [Sadle], Natalie [Kusyo] and Slava [Nelson] are amazing, they're so dedicated and so caring. They make everybody feel welcome. ... I've noticed many people who have come here who perhaps were very introverted and have come out of their shells and are just totally different people by being involved with the senior center."  
- *Sammi Brown*

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"I moved away from my Jewish religion a long time ago, but I always felt that although I didn't practice Judaism as a religion, it was part of my heritage. I've been able to revisit that" through the JCC's programs for Shabbat and holidays. "It's helped me come to terms with who I am. ...This is my heritage and I'm proud of it. This is one thing that they've given back to me." -  
*Sammi Brown*

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# SENIOR ADULT PROGRAM

## Sammi Brown

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Sammi Brown grew up in a Jewish household in Philadelphia. She remembers her grandmother reciting the blessings every Shabbat, and even though she has not practiced Judaism in many years, she still recalls the words.

She married at 19 and the couple spent their first year together in France, where her husband was stationed. When they returned to the U.S., she was pregnant, and her daughter, Michele, was born at Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City, FL. She also lived in the Chicago area and in Colorado before coming to Louisville.

Michelle met Bret Highley in Colorado, but when they married, they settled in Louisville where his daughter lived. The Highleys had a son, Jakob, and Brown visited Louisville when he was just five weeks old. When she returned, "he was nine months old and he didn't know who I was," she said.

"I cried all the way home on the airplane," and decided to move to Louisville. "It was a pretty easy decision," she said, "because I only have one child." Living here enabled her to develop a closeness to her grandchildren – Jake and granddaughters Mariah Janes (Alan) and Caitlyn Gregory (Aaron). She now has two great grandchildren, Mady and Toby.

Louisville has been home for 22 years and the community suits her well with its "vibrant arts community and amazing restaurants."

She worked until eight years ago as a computer analyst, teaching doctors and their staffs how to transition to digital medical records.

"When I retired, I did some research on senior centers," Brown said, "but at first I didn't really do much about it. Then I decided to look into the Jewish Community Center and what it offered."

Since she was dealing with arthritis, she first chose to participate in the senior water exercises. "I started going to that three times a week, and as I explored more about the Senior Center, I became more involved."

Brown enjoys eating lunch with her fellow seniors and going to plays at the Kentucky Center. "Originally, years ago, I had a season ticket," she said, "but I let it lapse because driving downtown at night was not something I was comfortable with anymore. ... This way, I can come here and get on the bus and they take us down there. This year, we've seen two amazing shows and at very reduced rates, so it fits my budget and it fits my need for feeding my intellect."

"The people here are wonderful," Brown observed. "Diane [Sadle], Natalie [Kusyo] and Slava [Nelson] are amazing, they're so dedicated and so caring. They make everybody feel welcome. ... I've noticed many people who have come here who perhaps were very introverted and have come out of their shells and are just totally different people by being involved with the Senior Center."

"It's amazing what they do," she continued. They care about the seniors and their health and are eager to do what they can for them. "You don't find that in many places."

For Brown, the Senior Adult program opened a way to re-engage with her heritage. "I moved away from my Jewish religion a long time ago," she said "but I always felt that although I didn't practice Judaism as a religion, it was part of my heritage. I've been able to revisit that" through the JCC's programs for Shabbat and holidays. "It's helped me come to terms with who I am. ... This is my heritage and I'm proud of it." It is something that "they've given back to me."

Now, Brown gives back to the JCC by coming to the Senior Adult Lounge a bit early to "help set tables up for lunches and things like that."

Over the last couple years, health issues kept Brown from the pool. "I missed it terribly and the first thing I did when the doctor released me was to come back," she said. "When I asked the doctor if I could come back to water aerobics, he said if we could put all of our patients in the water, our outcomes would be amazing."

It took some time for her to rebuild her strength, but she made it and she's planning to continue as long as she can.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 250 seniors participated in at least one Senior Adult Department program or activity, and many participated in multiple programs. Programs range from congregational meals and Bingo to exercise, enrichment classes, theater experiences, gourmet dining, travel and more.
- 170 seniors ate at least one congregational meal in the JCC's Senior Adult Lounge and 40 received home-delivered meals from the Senior Nutrition Program.
- The JCC asks seniors for donations of \$3 per person when they eat Senior Nutrition Program meals, but that does not cover the cost of the meal and no one is turned away for inability to pay.

### YOU CAN HELP!

While grants from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, KIPDA and MAZON help cover the cost of the Senior Nutrition Program and transportation for those who no longer drive, your gift to the Annual Federation Campaign helps cover the additional expenses of those programs and helps the staff continue to offer high quality, life-enriching classes.



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"The instructors are wonderful. They are a huge positive. They are caring and knowledgeable. ... They're friendly and want to hear what you have to say." They change up the routines to keep it interesting and are always willing to modify what they're doing to accommodate individuals' needs. "

- Laura Seigle

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"They provided the structure and support that I needed to get up and do the hard work. Taking that step out the door every morning or evening wasn't always an easy choice."

- Laura Seigle

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOUISVILLE

## Laura Seigle

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For Laura Seigle, the Jewish Community Center has been a life saver.

After a 21-year teaching career, the intense pain in her ankle kept her from walking down the hallway and she was forced to retire on October 31, 2013. "I felt like I was deserting the kids," Seigle said. "Teaching was my passion. It was what I did to make a difference in the world."

While she had a strong connection with her students and some of the most vulnerable needed her, she just couldn't manage. "My ankle was about double its normal size and I could barely walk," she said.

After staying off her foot much of the winter, and with the encouragement and support of her partner, Michael Dixon, she joined the Jewish Community Center and, in March, she started coming regularly.

The first classes she tried were "for older ladies who can't do rebounding or who have special needs," she said. The exercises were very basic – chair exercises and very simple moves at the barre.

She moved to water classes that are not high impact or intensity. "One thing about deep water classes," she explained, "you can get a wonderful workout at whatever level you can do. It heals you." Seigle praised Beth Mann and the other instructors, noting they are always ready to help, adapting the exercises to your level and accommodating physical issues.

She also took swimming lessons and added shallow water cardio classes to her routine.

When Seigle started coming to the JCC, "my goal was to lose 100 pounds," she said. "By October 2014, I had lost probably 45 pounds" and had become more limber.

Encouraged by her success, Seigle continued, "I ventured into the aerobics room and started doing cardio classes, both floor and step. It was unbelievably hard; it hurt; and there were lots of things I couldn't do, but I came in with the mindset to try something new, do the best that I can, not hurt my foot and not be embarrassed. I'm going there to get better." This has enabled her to avoid major foot reconstruction surgery with a 12-month recuperation that could fail and lead to an ankle fusion.

She tells the instructors, "I'm new and will do what I can, and all the instructors give suggestions how to adapt the exercises." Now Seigle also does muscle blast classes and weights to strengthen her core muscles.

"I started with little bitty weights – two and five pounds," she noted. Now she can manage 10- and 12-pound weights, and she's added pilates, yoga and stretching. When she wanted to add boxing to her routine, her instructors accommodated her. She loves it.

Now, Seigle comes to the gym every morning for two hours, and some days comes back for another hour or two in the evening. If she has to miss a few days, she says she

can really feel it, because her foot tightens up and moving becomes harder.

All that hard work is paying off. While there are still exercises she can't do, she is stronger, has not been ill for 18 months and has even been able to get off her allergy medicines. She's now lost 68 pounds, and says her goal is to lose another 30-40 pounds.

Since her retirement, Seigle has also spent time with her family. She helps take care of her grandchildren and tutors. Two of her daughters and a sister are members of the JCC, and her grandchildren go to J-Play. Her 10-year-old grandson loves pickleball. He's so serious about the game that he plays whenever he can, even if he's the only youngster participating.

Seigle has looked at other gyms, but they just don't offer the variety of classes or the structure the JCC does on a consistent basis.

"The instructors are wonderful," she added. "They are a huge positive. They are caring and knowledgeable. ... They're friendly and want to hear what you have to say." They change up the routines to keep it interesting and are always willing to modify what they're doing to accommodate individuals' needs. The customer service is wonderful.

"They provided the structure and support that I needed to get up and do the hard work," Seigle concluded. "Taking that step out the door every morning or evening wasn't always an easy choice, so I made it my job."

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The JCC offers over 90 group fitness classes every week, and instructors will help you adapt the program to your personal fitness level and physical needs.
- Personal trainers can help you develop an individual plan to aid in your recovery from injury or illness and to improve your overall fitness level.
- Water aerobics enables you to get a vigorous workout without putting undue stress on your joints.
- You are never too old to learn how to be safe in the water. Swim lessons are available to people of all ages.

### YOU CAN HELP!

While membership and participant fees cover Health and Wellness programs at the JCC, by supporting the Annual Federation Campaign, you can ensure that assistance is available to people who cannot afford the full cost of membership.



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"We want to build a positive Jewish future. We want the kids to have a positive Jewish experience. For most of the campers, Szarvas is their first Jewish experience, just like it was for me." - David Csillik

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"My favorite thing about being Jewish is the community. JDC has given me the opportunity to get proper madrich training, to see myself as a Jewish leader, a Jewish advocate, someone who is actually a representative of the community. By gaining the skills given to me by JDC, I no longer feel helpless. I feel like a leader." - David Csillik

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# BUILDING JEWISH LEADERS AT HUNGARY'S CAMP SZARVAS

## A JDC Story

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For 24-year-old David Csillik – who works as a unit head at Szarvas, JDC, The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committees and the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation's pioneering international Jewish summer camp – his purpose is clear.

"We want to build a positive Jewish future. We want the kids to have a positive Jewish experience," said Csillik, who hails from Budapest. "For most of the campers, Szarvas is their first Jewish experience, just like it was for me."

Like many Szarvas campers of his generation, Csillik was born to parents whose Jewish identity was negatively impacted by the aftermath of the Holocaust and decades of Communist rule.

"We're the first generation trying to reestablish our Jewish identity," he said.

Before World War II, more than 800,000 Jews lived in Hungary; after the war, just 200,000 remained, and that number has now dropped to an estimated 100,000. The community is vigilant against what is widely seen as a sharp increase in far-right and anti-Semitic rhetoric.

Csillik's high school was formerly a Jewish school and still attracts many Jewish students. He heard about Szarvas from a classmate and attended for the first time at 15.

Looking back, he said he wishes he'd started even younger.

"My parents were really afraid of me coming to Szarvas at first. They heard about anti-Semitism on the rise in Hungary and didn't think it was good for me to be involved with a place where something like that might occur," he said. "But now they're thankful Szarvas has provided me with so many wonderful experiences."

For the past six years, Csillik has been a madrich, or counselor. This summer, he returned to camp as a unit head for Hungarian campers, hoping to share his passion with the next generation.

In a European Jewish landscape that often leans heavily on the Holocaust as a unifying theme for community programs, Szarvas stands out because it focuses on Europe's Jewish future, he said.

"Judaism is not just about the Holocaust. It is important to talk about, but ... it's not building a vital community; it's only a chance to mourn. At Szarvas, we want to build a positive Jewish future. And we're really good at it. That's why I'm still here," Csillik said.

Szarvas dedicates one day to the Holocaust. The remainder of each 12-day session is spent building community – having honest conversations about Judaism, family, identity, relationships, individuality, and leadership.

Szarvas focuses on building the next generation of confident leaders from the inside out.

"My favorite thing about being Jewish is the community. JDC has given me the opportunity to get proper madrich training, to see myself as a Jewish leader, a Jewish advocate,

someone who is actually a representative of the community," Csillik explained. "By gaining the skills given to me by JDC, I no longer feel helpless. I feel like a leader."

He's now one of the most active local Jewish leaders, working with a team of volunteers to collect data on anti-Semitic incidents in Hungary and generate reports twice a day. The reports are sent to a few hundred partners, including the Jewish community, foundations working to stop anti-Semitism, the Hungarian government, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Csillik also serves as the president of the Jewish Youth Council in Budapest.

"Szarvas builds good Jewish leaders because it's challenging. It challenges leaders in all the ways you can imagine – education, logistics, interpersonal relationships," he said. "If you don't just stay one year, if you stay many years and work your way to a unit head, taking it to a higher level, you'll have all the knowledge and skills you need to be an actual Jewish leader for the next generation."

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The JDC operates in more than 70 countries, including Israel, providing critical social support services and helping build self-sustaining Jewish communities.
- JAFI, the Jewish Agency for Israel helps immigrants resettle in Israel, learn Hebrew and become productive Israeli citizens; sends shlichim (emissaries) to communities around the world, including Louisville; builds Jewish identity through summer camp programs in Russia, Ukraine and other countries; and more.
- Through JAFI's Partnership2Gether program, Louisville is part of a consortium of U.S. communities partnered with the Western Galilee. Together, communities on both sides of the ocean develop one-on-one connections, share cultural arts, learn from each other's expertise in education and medicine, explore tourism and business opportunities and more.

### YOU CAN HELP!

Part of your gift to the Annual Federation Campaign goes to the Jewish Federations of North America, and through JFNA to JDC and JAFI, ensuring that aid reaches vulnerable Jews around the world and our connection to Israel remains strong.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOUISVILLE

## Financial Information for the Fiscal Year 2015 (Unaudited)

### REVENUES

Jewish Federation of Louisville	
Annual Campaign.....	\$ 1,898,634
JCC Membership Dues and Fees.....	\$ 1,826,217
JCC Program Service Income.....	\$ 2,122,222
Gifts, Grants and Bequests.....	\$ 2,393,074
Interest and Dividends.....	\$ 422,962
Net Realized Gains on Sales of Investments.....	\$ 114,519
Community Newspaper Income.....	\$ 77,438
Other Income.....	\$ 243,677
<b>Total Revenues.....</b>	<b>\$ 9,098,743</b>

### EXPENSES

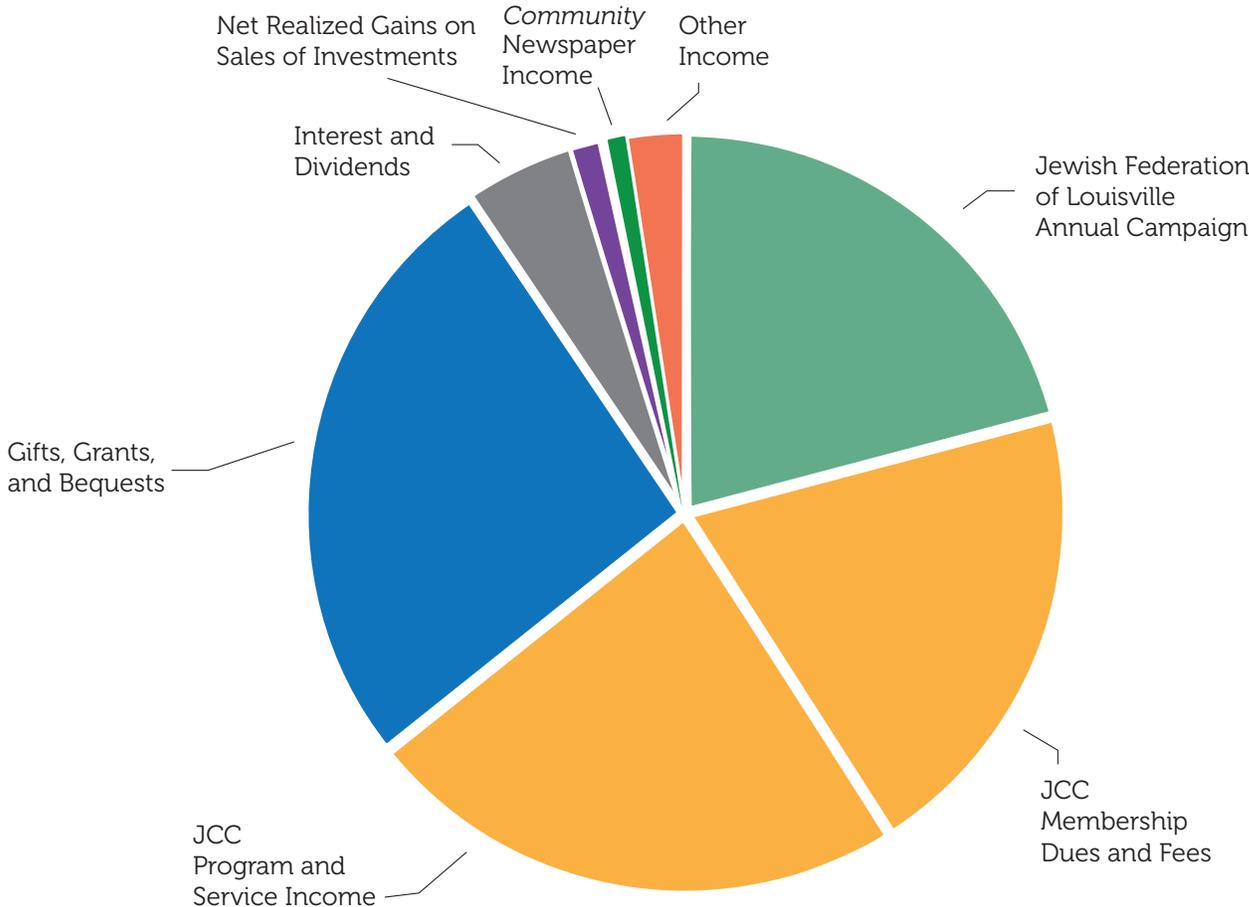
Personnel.....	\$ (3,359,217)
Employee Benefits and Taxes.....	\$ (598,253)
Allocations and Grants.....	\$ (890,722)
Programs.....	\$ (947,779)
Repairs and Maintenance.....	\$ (492,671)
Administrative Expenses.....	\$ (739,860)
Telephone/Utilities.....	\$ (342,916)
Professional Fees.....	\$ (124,100)
Depreciation.....	\$ (550,433)
Other Expenses.....	\$ (249,602)
Legacy Defined Benefit Plan Termination.....	\$ (1,800,000)

**Total Expenses.....** \$ (10,095,553)

**Unrealized Investment Losses.....** \$ (479,224)

**Net Income.....** \$ (1,476,034)

JCL Revenue Sources  
Fiscal Year 2015



The audited financial statements are available at [jewishlouisville.org/federation/about/financially-responsible/](http://jewishlouisville.org/federation/about/financially-responsible/). For additional information, contact JCL Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Ed Hickerson, [ehickerson@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:ehickerson@jewishlouisville.org) or 502-238-2785.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOUISVILLE

## Fiscal Year 2015 Campaign Allocations (Unaudited)

### OVERSEAS

Jewish Federations of North America  
and Israel and Overseas.....\$ 190,000

**Total Overseas Allocation .....\$ 190,000**

### LOCAL AGENCIES & ORGANIZATIONS

High School of Jewish Studies .....\$ 15,000  
 LBSY (Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad).....\$ 37,500  
 The Temple Religious School.....\$ 41,250  
 Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning.....\$ 5,000  
 Chavurat Shalom.....\$ 10,000  
 Jewish Family & Career Services.....\$ 309,000  
 Hadassah.....\$ 500  
 NCJW (National Council of Jewish Women).....\$ 500

**Total Local Agencies & Organizations .....\$ 418,750**

**JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOUISVILLE.....\$ 905,955**

Campaign expenses\*.....\$ 289,000

**Total Jewish Community of Louisville .....\$ 1,194,955**

The Jewish Community of Louisville allocation is used to support Jewish Community Relations Council, Hillel, *Community*, Jewish Foundation of Louisville, outreach, engagement and JCC programs and services.

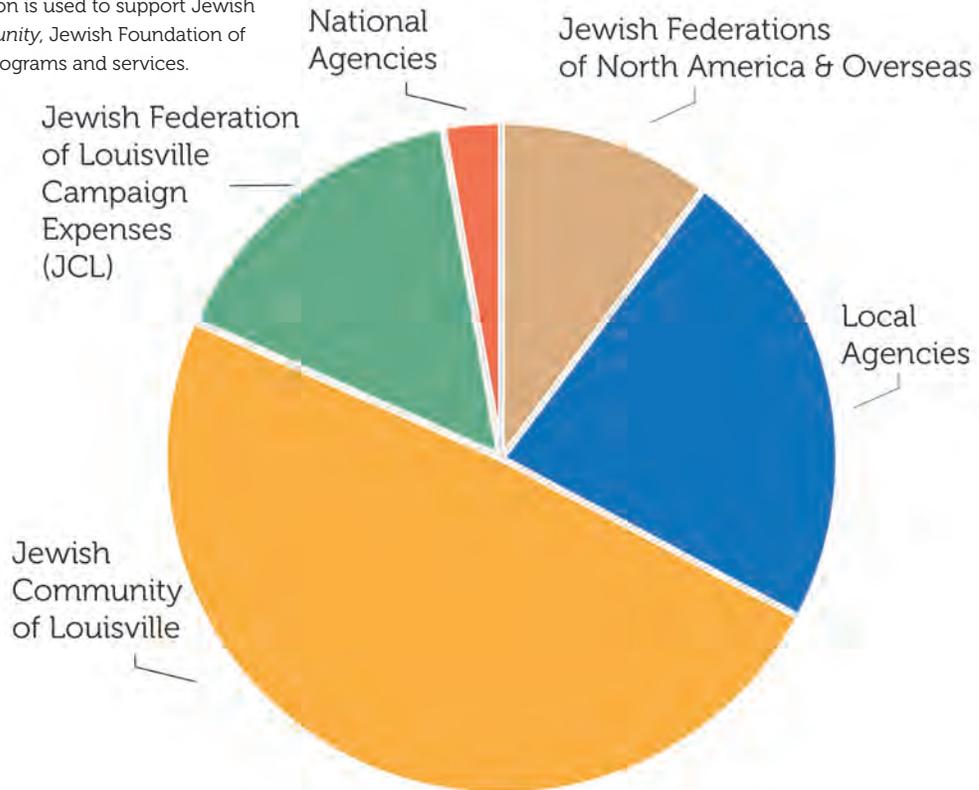
### NATIONAL AGENCIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Agency Alliance .....\$ 13,270  
 Includes allocations to: AJWS, BBYO, HIAS, Hillel,  
 JCCA, JCPA, JTA, the NCSEJ, NFJC and AJFCA\*\*)  
 Jewish Communal Service Association .....\$ 525  
 Hillel Consortium .....\$ 10,000  
 Center for Learning and Leadership (CLAL) .....\$ 500  
 Foundation for Jewish Camping .....\$ 16,500  
 Birthright Israel .....\$ 10,000  
 Israel Action Network.....\$ 500

**Total National Agencies & Organizations .....\$ 51,295**

**Total Federation Campaign Allocations .....\$ 1,855,000**

Federation Campaign Distribution  
Fiscal Year 2015



Charity Navigator awarded the JCL a 4-star rating, its highest possible rating. For more information, please visit [www.CharityNavigator.org](http://www.CharityNavigator.org).

\*Campaign operations amount to approximately 15.5% of total Campaign allocations.

\*\*American Jewish World Service, BBYO, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Hillel, Jewish Community Centers Association, Jewish Council for Public Affairs, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, National Coalition Supporting Eurasian Jewry, National Fund for Jewish Culture and Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies.

# JEWISH FOUNDATION OF LOUISVILLE

## Financials Fiscal Year 2015 (Unaudited)

Philanthropic Funds are donor advised funds held by the Foundation for a specific period of time. During that time, an approved spending formula determines the dollar amount that the donor-designated individual(s) can donate to approved 501(c)(3) organizations. At the end of the specified time period, the dollars remaining in the fund are transferred to the Unrestricted Endowment Fund.

Restricted Endowment Funds are funds held by the Foundation that have been given by donors with specific requirements as to their use. Most of the funds held are permanently restricted, meaning that the income from the fund can be used if the use meets the donors' stated restrictions; but the principal generally cannot be spent.

Unrestricted and Unrestricted Designated Funds are funds held by the Foundation that have been given with no restrictions being placed on them by the donors. These funds can be designated by the JCL Board of Directors for specific purposes. The designations can be applied or removed at the Board's discretion.

Funds held in Trust for Others are funds the JCL holds on behalf of many of our Jewish Community partners.

### ENDOWMENT FUNDS INVESTMENTS

#### RESTRICTED

Philanthropic Funds .....	\$ 4,164,960
Other Restricted Funds .....	\$ 7,064,760
Investments Held in Trust by Others .....	\$ 390,373
Investments Held for Other Organizations .....	\$ 4,224,700
<b>Total Restricted fund Investments.....</b>	<b>\$ 15,844,793</b>

#### UNRESTRICTED

Unrestricted Funds .....	\$ 1,448,138
Designated Funds .....	\$ 4,567,263
Other Investments .....	\$ 461,591
<b>Total Unrestricted Fund Investments.....</b>	<b>\$ 6,476,992</b>

**Total Endowment Funds Investments  
as of June 30, 2015 .....** **\$ 22,321,785**

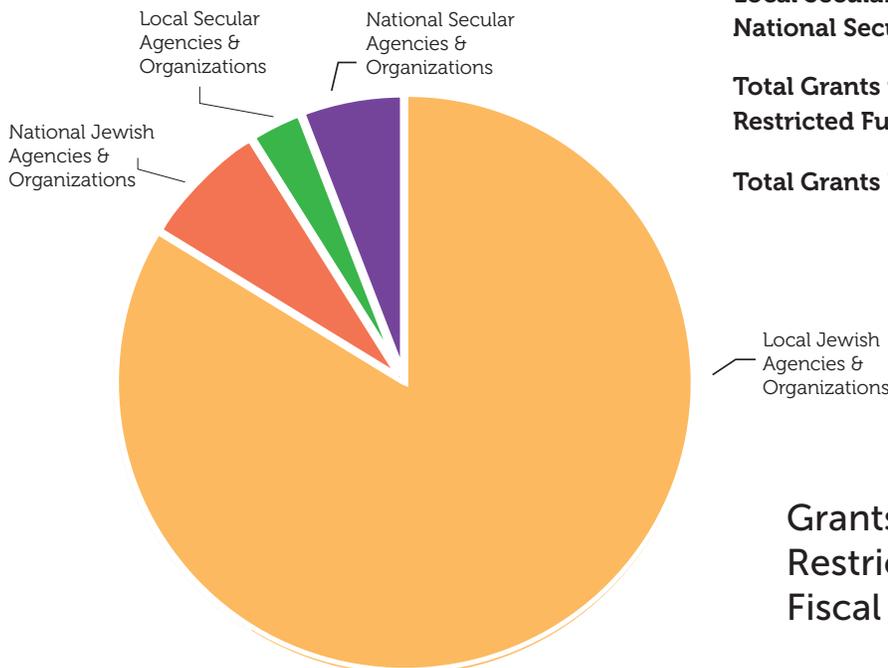
### GRANTS

Grants from Unrestricted Designated (mostly for senior programs and services) .....	\$ 112,000
Grants from Unrestricted .....	\$ 222,020
<b>Total Grants from Unrestricted .....</b>	<b>\$ 334,020</b>

#### Grants from Philanthropic and Restricted Funds Local Jewish Agencies & Organizations

Philanthropic Funds donated to:	
Annual Campaign .....	\$ 86,013
JFCS .....	\$ 6,489
Federation/JCC .....	\$ 285,327
Education .....	\$ 2,280
Synagogues .....	\$ 26,544
<b>Total Local Jewish Organizations.....</b>	<b>\$ 406,653</b>
<b>National Jewish Organizations .....</b>	<b>\$ 35,587</b>
<b>Local Secular Organizations .....</b>	<b>\$ 14,880</b>
<b>National Secular Organizations .....</b>	<b>\$ 28,507</b>

<b>Total Grants from Philanthropic/ Restricted Funds .....</b>	<b>\$ 485,627</b>
<b>Total Grants Disbursed .....</b>	<b>\$ 819,647</b>



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