

# Help & Happenings



### **50 Years of Service**

From Woodstock to a man on the moon, 1969 was an eventful year with many historic and memorable moments. In Highland Park, NJ, a small committee started Jewish Family Services of Northern Middlesex County to offer services to members of the Jewish community in need or in crisis, serving 100 clients in its first year.

As needs grew in the area, a small group formed Jewish Family Services of Southern Middlesex County. Incorporated in 1980, the agency was later renamed Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County (JFVS). In 2006, the two agencies merged to create a county-wide agency to provide services to all members of the community regardless of race, ethnic origin or religion.

In the 1980s, the JFS office, now open for 56 hours/week, expanded to a growing staff of five to handle the newly received Kosher Meals on Wheels grant and resettlement program for families from the former Soviet Union.

In the 1990s, services expanded to include career services, special assistance for Holocaust survivors and adult day programs. JFS expanded the resettlement program for Russian refugees and began the Friendly Visitor program, a volunteer effort to bring companionship to the homebound elderly.

With the start of the new century, JFS launched CAMEO, a twice a week socialization and nutrition program for seniors. The Holocaust Program expanded to help survivors file claims with the German Government. JFS held a grand opening for the new Edison office and the Senior Medicare Patrol program for New Jersey was awarded to JFS for the first time. After 9/11, calls to JFS more than doubled for help and the agency was granted a full license for outpatient services for counseling.

JFS services and programs continue to grow. Last year, JFS provided 28,158 home delivered meals, 89,329 home care hours to Holocaust survivors, 4,199 emergency food bags, 3,499 counseling hours, 4,126 hours of assistance and training by the Women's/Career Centers and 1,331 clients served by Immigration and Refugee Services.

In June, JFS celebrated 50 years of service with a Gala attended by more than 225 people. We want to thank everyone who attended, contributed, and helped in honor of Jewish Family Services' 50 years of service to the community. The 50th Anniversary One Community Gala was a spectacular night. We thank all of you for your continued support of JFS as we begin our next decade of service.

Looking forward to seeing you at next year's gala!







Monroe Luncheon 2006









Call our admissions team today to schedule a tour!

thegardensatmonroe.com 609,448,7036

# ardens



### at Monro

Healthcare and Rehabilitation

- Post-Hospital Nursing and Therapy
- · Long-Term Care
- Respite Care

Post-Hospitalization Rehabilitation

Personalized, Goal-Oriented Treatment

Physical Therapy • Occupational Therapy

Speech Therapy • 24-Hour Nursing Staff

Certified Dietitian • Long-Term Care

Respite Care • Hospice & Palliative Care

Religious Services • Kosher Kitchen

Medicare, Medicaid and most insurances accepted

THE GARDENS AT MONROE 189 Applegarth Road • Monroe, NJ 08831

Jeffrey Einbond

Jack Goldberg

Murray Katz Past President

Sara Levine

**TRUSTEES** 



**Fay Ross** 

## Holocaust Services

ay Ross, Coordinator of Holocaust Survivor Services for JFS since 2015, knows the importance of the services JFS provides to survivors as they age. The child of survivors herself, Fay treats all of the JFS survivors as if they were her own parents, assessing their needs and helping in any way she can.

The goal of the JFS Holocaust program is to keep survivors comfortable and safe at home by providing home care and other services to help make this possible. Funding from the Claims Conference, The Jewish Federation in the Heart of NJ and other grants and donations, does not cover the growing costs of serving this aging population, which needs dental work, eyeglasses, hearing aids and transportation to medical appointments.

These critical services can only be provided with help from the community and people like you. To donate, 732-777-1940 or office@jfsmiddlesex.org.

These are educated people over 70 years of age. The population is dying but the atrocities are not. Similar things that happened to these seniors are happening today in Syria and other places. History repeats itself if we don't work to change it. We must take action by telling their story, volunteering being the voice for the people suffering"

- Fay

# Counseling Services

une Stern, JFS Director of Clinical Services, is always learning and moving ahead after nearly 20 years with JFS. She recently attended a 3-day training offered by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and is now certified in training social workers pursuing their clinical license. June heads a department of experienced, professional therapists who offer coping mechanisms to family members in crisis, provide hope to people struggling with addiction and co-dependency, support couples working out conflicts, help children with self-esteem, and encourage seniors battling loneliness and depression.

The JFS Family Counseling Center is a licensed, top-rated resource for anyone looking for help with anxiety, depression, bereavement, addiction, workplace or family conflict, parenting, relationships, problematic behavior, domestic violence, aging, gender identities and more; groups available. Seasoned clinicians work with adults, couples, parents, families, children and adolescents, veterans, seniors and others.



June Stern



Most insurance plans accepted; appointments available. Call 732-777-1940 or email office@jfsmiddlesex.org for more information.

# The Orchid



455 Main Street Metuchen, NJ 08840

Tel: 732-321-9829 Fax: 732-321-1181



## **Eclectic Gourmet Glatt Kosher** Restaurant & Caterer

Featuring Daily Fish, Chicken, Meat & Vegetarian Specialties Eat In/Take Out

Gourmet Catering for all occasions Under strict supervision of the Star-K



Sara Ullman

Sara's role is to give families peace of mind," Salkin said. "The delivery of the meals may be the only person's contact every day. The drivers establish relationships and social interactions. They are the eyes and ears if something is wrong."

# Kosher Meals On Wheels

#### JFS' KMOW SERVES SENIORS WHO WANT TO AGE IN PLACE

ara Ullman is at The Orchid kosher restaurant in Metuchen every morning Monday through Friday. She and her dedicated volunteers are taking frozen Glatt kosher meals outside of crates and organizing the meals into coolers for midday deliveries throughout Middlesex County. At the same time Sara Ullman makes sure a truck is loaded and ready to go to our Monroe office for KMOW deliveries to recipients in the Monroe Township area.

Sara is the Coordinator for JFS' KMOW program, part of JFS Senior Services, which assists seniors (age 60 and over) of all religions and faiths. KMOW's mission is to provide support to seniors who choose to remain in their homes – age in place – rather than move to a facility. JFS' role is to provide a connection in the community for the people who do not want to leave their homes. KMOW is one of JFS' longest running programs and the only kosher meals on wheels service in Middlesex County, currently delivering approximately 550 meals each week to 85 clients. A dedicated pool of 100 drivers delivers the hot and/or cold kosher meals along 15 routes from 11 am to 12:30 pm Monday through Friday, except holidays. Many of the JFS volunteers are seniors themselves, some of whom have served in leadership roles on JFS boards, committees and even includes past JFS board presidents; all have found this to be an incredibly rewarding experience.

Eighty percent of the seniors in the KMOW program have been referred by their children. Often the KMOW program is the way that seniors learn about other services offered by JFS and community providers.

A delivery to a senior's home of a hot or cold kosher meal may be the most significant and anticipated event of the day. The food is important, but of equal importance is the chance to share a few words with the JFS volunteer.



JFS relies on community support to sustain this critical program, please donate and consider volunteering with JFS. For more information: 732-777-1940 or office@jfsmiddlesex.org.





## Volunteers

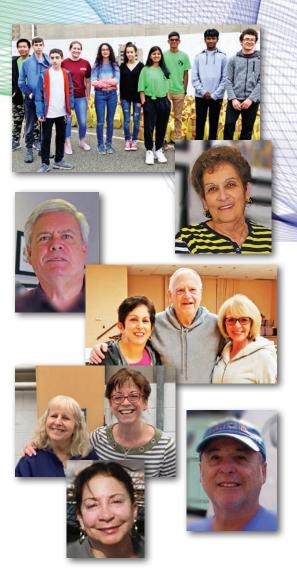
ust ask Michelle Beley-Bianco, JFS Director of Volunteer Services, how much volunteers mean to the JFS family. "Volunteers are the heart of the Jewish Family Services team. We couldn't do what we do without the help of these incredibly dedicated people who contribute their unique talents, skills, and knowledge, not to mention heart and soul, to make an impact in our community."

Volunteers like ours make a huge impact in the communities they serve, and they see a significant difference in their own morale and health. Studies show that service and the connections built through volunteering improves the physical and mental health of program volunteers and the clients they serve. Michelle emphasizes that, "Our goal is to place volunteers in a position that enriches their lives and where they know they are making a valuable contribution both to JFS and the people we serve."

Michelle continues, "At JFS, our goal is to ensure volunteers play a vital role in the agency or for the greater Middlesex County area via the RSVP program which is a positive and enriching experience for volunteers and clients alike."

If you want a rewarding experience that truly makes a difference in our community, Michelle at JFS would love to talk to you. JFS needs volunteers in senior programs, meal delivery, career services, and more.

To learn about JFS volunteer opportunities or for more information contact Michelle Beley-Bianco at 732-777-1940 or michelleb@jfsmiddlesex.org.





#### **HOURS:**

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY: 11AM - 9PM

THURSDAY: 11am - 9:30pm

FRIDAY: 11AM - 2PM (Winter) /3PM (Summer)

SATURDAY: 90 minutes after nightfall - 12 AM (Winter)

SUNDAY: 11am - 8:30pm





RESTAURANT/ TAKE-OUT DELIVERY(CALL FOR AREAS) CATERING FOR ALL OCCASIONS:
Office Parties • Bar/Bat Mitzvahs • Shiva • Bris • Kiddush
Corporate Events • Simchat Bat • Engagement Parties

חלב ישראל

UNDER THE STRICT SUPERVISION
OF THE VA'AD HAKASHRUT
OF RARITAN VALLEY







233 ROUTE 18 SOUTH, EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ • GIDDYSPIZZERIA.COM P: 732.659.6898 • F: 732.875.3815 • GIDDYSPIZZERIA@GMAIL.COM

# Women's Center & the Community Helps the Family in Need

#### YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW



We Need Your Help

#### JFS IS HERE TO HELP - Please Help Us Help a Family in Need

A mother, gravely ill, came to JFS yesterday in desperation – she does not know how she will support her children. Her husband, the father of the children and sole provider, abandoned them suddenly, moving out of state and leaving them with nothing. They have no money to live, nothing for food, bills or the bare necessities. They are destitute, with no family support.

This mom has 3 children with her, ages 4 to 11, two girls and a son with special needs for whom she receives a small stipend. Because she is unable to work JFS helped her to apply for disability, which is pending.

JFS made sure she had food from our pantry and has started the process of getting her additional help but we are asking for donations of gift cards from Wal-Mart, Target, Stop & Shop or gas stations to immediately help the family. The children will receive school supplies from our JFS school supply drive next month and the JFS Women's Center is working with the mom to help her find the additional support she needs.

Please help today – call 732-777-1940 email womenscenter@jfsmiddlesex.org or send gift cards to:

JFS Women's Center 32 Ford Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Milltown, NJ 08850 Thank you for your help. n July, JFS' Women's Center shared this family's story on social media. With the incredible support of the community, Lisa Balewitz, JFS Women's Center Coordinator together with JFS staff and volunteers, has been able to help with:

- Health insurance
- Disability applications

Gas cards

- Food and ongoing nutrition benefits
- Energy assistance
   Utility and insurance bills
- Grocery store vouchers
   Tutoring for the family
  - School supplies
     Clothing
     Counseling
    - Financial education
       Family
- Family support

JFS knows first-hand that helping one family may not change the world, but it certainly changes the world for that one family. These are the families who come to JFS every week looking for help and support — a person to listen, food for the household, help finding resources in the community. At JFS, this is who we are, what we do, how we help, and how you can support families in need like this one and the many others who need help.

For more information on the JFS Women's Center, call 732-777-1940 or email womenscenter@jfsmiddlesex.org.

Please donate to help JFS help those in need in our community: 732-777-1940 or office@jfsmiddlesex.org.



To us, it's personal.

#### Liz Ficarra

Home Care Consultant

609.448.7555

Singh Family Ventures LLC 153 S. Main Street Hightstown, NJ 08520 elizabeth.ficarra@homeinstead.com HomeInstead.com/357



#### **GERRI BURNS**

Independent Associate Employee Benefits, Small Business, CDLP and Broker Division Specialist









## BCB is ready to serve you!

We have the **products and services** to suit all your banking needs along with the **hometown service and caring** that lets you know **you're important to us!** 

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS & CHECKING ACCOUNTS & CDs & BUSINESS LOANS RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGES & SMALL BUSINESS LENDING LINES OF CREDIT & AND MORE!

BCB has locations throughout **New Jersey and New York**. *Visit our website or call us for a full list of hours and locations.* 

www.BCB.Bank I 1.800.680.6872





### JFS Director of Senior Medicare Patrol NJ Recognized at National Conference





Jewish Family Services of Middlesex County is the designated agency for New Jersey's Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP). This national program educates Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries about preventing, detecting and reporting health care fraud. The project Director, our Medicare Maven, Charles Clarkson, Esq. is the person to contact if you have any questions or you feel that in some way you have not been charged fairly for services.



U.S. Administration Community Living (ACL) held the 2019 SMP/SHIP National Conference in San Diego, CA, on July 22-25, 2019. The purpose of the conference is to assist, support, and inform Senior Medicare Patrol Programs (SMPs) and State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) nationwide.

Charles Clarkson, Esq., was awarded the Barbara McGinity Leadership Award. This award recognizes an SMP

Project Director whose contributions to the SMP program exert strong influence within the SMP project and community. This leadership award recognizes an individual who inspires others and serves as "a champion for all" by being an active advocate for beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers in the fight against health care fraud, error, and abuse.

This honor is awarded to an SMP project leader for strong leadership and significant contributions to the SMP network. The recognition is especially significant because it was voted upon by Charles' SMP peers across the country.

Congratulations to Charles on this well-deserved honor.

### SMP at JFS Led Investigators To Scammers

here is a reason JFS' Charles Clarkson is recognized across the country as an expert on Medicare fraud and abuse. Several years ago, a genetic testing scam used ice cream and fear to scam seniors. JFS' SMP led investigators to the person who organized ice cream socials at senior housing facilities under the guise of discussing health issues. The person then used scare tactics to convince seniors to participate in unnecessary genetic testing to identify those susceptible to heart

attack, stroke, cancer and suicide. Medicare paid more than \$1M to two labs that paid the scammer tens of thousands, as alleged by federal prosecutors. The scammer was charged with defrauding Medicare.

Recently, the Star Ledger featured an article about this DNA testing scam and interviewed Charles Clarkson, JFS' Director of Senior Medicare Patrol NJ. Genetic testing is a Medicare-covered service but only in a very limited number of cases, Charles explained. Charles oversees a group of volunteers who are trained by the federal government to spot Medicare fraud.

"With so much interest in genetic tests as early warning systems for cancer, it makes sense that beneficiaries would wonder if Medicare covers genetic/DNA testing as a screening and prevention benefit," he said. "The answer, with one exception, is no."



But the key? "The coverage is only available when the patient has one of a small list of diagnoses and the testing must be ordered by a physician who is treating the patient for one of these problems," he said. "Unfortunately, many of these services may be billed as being ordered by a physician who has never seen the patient and has no knowledge of the patient's history," Clarkson said. "Therefore, Medicare has been paying for these tests."

It's downright fraud, costing all of us money, lining the pockets of scammers and draining funds that could be used for legitimate Medicare bills.

Say no to that cheek swab: DNA testing scam targets seniors on Medicare

By Karin Price Mueller | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com



Maybe you've seen it on television or heard it on the radio. Maybe you've received a card in the mail, had a flyer dropped at your door or tucked under the windshield wipers of your car.

DNA testing. Not the kind that helps you find your long lost cousins and We're talking the kind of genetic testing that can help diagnose illnesses

so you can get ahead of your health risks.



### Immigration & Citizenship

Look at the smiling faces on some of the students from JFS' citizenship classes in Somerville, one of several locations of JFS civics-focused citizenship classes, which include citizenship information workshops for lawful permanent residents.

JFS has provided instructions to immigrants and refugees since 1988 and was first awarded a USCIS grant in 2010. Every week, Debby Alter, certified DOJ-representative, and her team

in JFS' Immigration and Citizenship Department serve dozens of individuals from various countries, speaking many different languages, with all kinds of backgrounds, customs and beliefs.



From: MM@mail.com To: Jennifer Goodin Re: Citizenship info

Hello Jenn,

I just want to thank you for helping me throughout the application process. I had my interview on Monday and it was great. I finished everything and I'm a citizen now.

Thanks a lot. MM



### IN MEMORY OF

DOROTHY (BLASHKA) DEMEO, one of our dedicated and longtime volunteers tragically passed away in a motor vehicle accident on July 17, 2019. She was 79.

In memory for all you did

and passed on to future

generations

Dorothy helped at several programs in the JFS Monroe office and was a "JFS Volunteer of the Year" in 2014. She will be missed by the JFS staff and Holocaust survivors who stood up for a moment of silence in her memory at the July Café Europa luncheon where she volunteered each month.

SANDRA LEVINE, former JFS Board member and Monroe Council

Member, passed away on June 26, 2019. She was 87. Prior to retiring, she was a social worker for JFS, where she devoted herself

to the resettlement of Russian

emigres.

Sandra (Wistreich) Levine was born in Brooklyn and resided in Edison before relocating to Monroe.

Sandra graduated from Rutgers University in 1952. Earlier in her career, she worked for the NJ Department of Child Protection and Permanency. As an integral part of the JFS team for many years, she will be sorely missed.

> To send a tribute in honor of Dorothy or Sandra, call 732-777-1940 or email office@jfsmiddlesex.org.



Proudly serving Monmouth County, Middlesex County and surrounding areas

P 732.866.4488 | F 732.866.4489 | seniorhelpers.com

Senior Helpers locations are independently owned and operated. @2019 SH Franchising, LLC.

### Your trusted partner

in caring for your family.

Serving Somerset & surrounding area 764 Easton Avenue Ste #8 Somerset, NJ 08873 (732) 993-6991



Senior Helpers is dedicated to serving your family by helping your elderly loved one remain independent. Our caregivers offer a range of in-home services such as general housework, meal planning medication reminders, and much more. So when you are unable to be there, you know they are safe and happy. And when you can be there, your time together is even more special. For us, it is about ensuring a better quality of life for your loved one and peace of mind for your family, all at a moment's notice.

Peace of mind begins with your free in-home care initial assessment. Call today to learn more.

732-993-6991 or 732-866-4488

If Visit us on Facebook (keyword: Seeior Helpers) or at www.youtube.com/GetAnswers123



# **\*\*\*\*Preferred**®

Home Health Care & Nursing Services, Inc.

"Home Health Care with Feeling"

- Care for Infants, Children, Adults, and Seniors
- Skilled Nursing (RNs, LPNs)
- Pediatric/Adult Ventilator Care
- Home Health Aides
- 24-Hour Live-In Aides
- Private Pay and Most Insurances Accepted





**LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED** 

800.603.CARE (2273)

PreferredCares.com







