The mission of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation is to sustain and enrich the quality of life for the Jewish people regionally, in Israel and worldwide. We are guided by the values of Tzedakah (righteousness), Klal Yisrael (the responsibility of each Jew for another), Dor l’dor (the continuity of the Jewish people), and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world).
That mission guides us in everything we do at the Federation. All of our agencies work diligently every day to serve the Jewish community and the broader community with these goals in mind. In the pages that follow, you will see the breadth and depth of what we’re doing through the remarkable work of our various agencies.

While doing this important work, we are always mindful of being good stewards of our resources. Recently, we undertook a structural reorganization that created the Youngstown Area Jewish Foundation to protect the donor and investment assets held by the Federation.

To fully execute our mission, we see the need to not only maintain our infrastructure, but to improve it. To that end, we’ve made improvements throughout the campus. We have also invested heavily in security for our community. The Security Department now ensures the safety of the entire Federation campus during all hours of operation, as well as providing support and training for area synagogues. We continue to look for improvements we can make to better serve the community.

I’d also like to thank our lay leadership who spend countless hours on boards and committees ensuring we’re able to fulfill our mission, and to our entire staff who, under the leadership of Andy Lipkin, help make the mission and vision of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and its agencies come to life.
Mark Rubin  
President

It was a busy year at Heritage Manor. In 2018, we provided 1,713 activities for residents to do throughout the year. We celebrated holidays: Passover, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur. These services were well attended. We also added activities, such as our first Car Show with a special appearance by Elvis. Some residents also enjoyed going to a Scrappers’ baseball game. Our Veterans met on a bi-monthly basis with the local chapter of DAV, a nonprofit that provides support for veterans. In 2018 we applied for, and were awarded, a $31,000 grant from the Association of Jewish Aging Services (AJAS) for the Music & Memory program, which will be instituted in 2019. This program will be beneficial for residents suffering from Alzheimer’s and Dementia. We remained a five-star rated facility and our staffing levels of nurses and STNAs remained above all other nursing homes in our area. We provided care to a total of 176 residents with 140 admissions and 132 discharges in 2018. Our reputation for providing quality care has continued to be our focus. Mostly recently, we completed the replacement of windows in each resident’s room and began plans to remodel Heritage Manor’s lobby and administration offices and the JFS offices. We are looking forward to a great year in 2019.
The tenants and staff of Levy Gardens enjoyed a busy and fun-filled year. We continue to strive to keep our senior population active and engaged with the community. Tenants participated in the annual Mitzvah Day by helping volunteers make blankets that were then donated to Making Kids Count. We held a Carnival in our parking lot with the residents of Heritage Manor and Adult Day Services, complete with a magician, clowns, and a food truck. We went on many cultural and life enriching outings to places like the DeYor Performing Arts Center, monthly visits to Bites and Bits of History at the Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center, and various programs offered at the JCC. Program Coordinator, Ronna Marlin, does a wonderful job of finding quality in-house programs, as well. She has arranged for a massage therapist to visit weekly, art classes, librarian visits, discussion groups, and musical entertainment. Levy Gardens participated in the Area Agency on Aging’s wellness program. Weekly, the tenants took part in an interactive class taught by an RN where they discussed various health-related concerns. Levy Gardens’ dining room underwent a complete transformation, enhancing the tenants’ dining experience. New custom-made cabinets were installed, and new flooring, dining furniture, window treatments, and sleek appliances have replaced the old. The tenants and their families have an elegant space to enjoy a meal.

At Levy Gardens, we are continually striving to provide the best for our tenants. We love to see them happy and engaged and enjoying their Golden Years in a safe and caring environment.
JFS | HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Mark Rubin
President

Jewish Family Services continues to serve our community as we make improvements in our current programming along with the creation of new programs in 2019. Our established services include individual counseling, in-home Passport counseling, home delivered meals through Area Agency on Aging for eligible individuals, “Our Gang” events, a service coordinator at Heritage Apartments, an adult protective services program, an outreach worker, delivering Jewish holiday gift baskets to those in need, providing quality care to residents at Heritage Manor through our social worker, financial assistance to those in need, and more.

We broadened our scope of services through new collaboration. A recent example of this is JFS partnering with the Jewish Community Center to offer a monthly support group to caregivers and individuals with Parkinson’s Disease through the Delay the Disease program. This program is sponsored by the Thomases Family Endowment Fund and Mercy Health. Also, JFS will explore new collaborations with Youngstown State University’s Gerontology Department, expanding counseling services to individuals and families who are on Medicaid through a local community mental health agency called Homes For Kids, and potentially entering into the “Network of Caring” with the Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board. Over the recent winter months JFS and Akiva Academy held our initial Winter Clothing Drive for children in need attending Youngstown City Schools. We look forward to continuing our current partnerships and the creation of new ones as we readily adapt to our community needs.

Our mission at JFS, along with our staff’s desire, is to assist both the Jewish and greater community in all aspects of their lives. As we continue to broaden services, and as our strategic planning process evolves at JFS, our staff remains compassionate and dedicated to all those we serve.
The number of participants in Adult Day Services (ADS) continued to increase in 2018. A variety of activities, including outings, were offered. In addition, an ADS director, whose sole purpose is to focus on improving our program and providing meaningful care to our clients, was hired. Our ADS accepts individuals on Passport waiver, Veterans, and private pay. This program provides socialization and medical care, and allows participants to remain independent and in the community for as long as possible. Students from Ursuline and community volunteers help make this program a success.

Combating Anti-Semitism
The horrific massacre of 11 Jews at prayer at a Shabbat service at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, an event virtually in our community’s backyard, illustrates the alarming increase in anti-Semitic activity throughout the world. Within the first 12-24 hours of the event, the JCRC responded to numerous local media inquiries, engaged in outreach to the Pittsburgh JCRC, took part in national consultations, and fielded a myriad of calls, texts, emails, and other messages from a wide range of community leaders. The JCRC also was the primary architect of a large, interfaith community vigil in memory of the victims, at which some 600 people were in attendance, representing multiple faiths, ethnicities, and political persuasions.

Israel Advocacy
The continued support for a strong U.S./Israel relationship is one of the JCRC’s primary objectives. It advocates for this relationship at the Federal and State levels, particularly when anti-Israel rhetoric rises to the level of anti-Semitism, serves as the Federation’s voice for Israel in the greater community, and provides the Jewish community with the needed tools and information to become strong Israel advocates. The JCRC sponsored numerous lectures and programs for the community, including a local visit by Ambassador Dani Dayan, Consul General at the Israeli Consulate in New York. The work between YBI, Youngstown State University, and Israeli companies continues to expand, and plans are now underway for the JCRC to assume a leadership role in a major international academic
conference co-sponsored by YSU and the Technion in Israel, to be held next year in Youngstown. And, the JCRC continues to mobilize on many fronts to fight back against the assault on Israel’s legitimacy by the anti-Israel and anti-Semitic BDS (boycott, divestment, and sanctions) movement.

Public Official Outreach
A key to successful community relations work is maintaining close relationships with community leaders that have a direct bearing on the work of all area Jewish agencies and institutions, particularly those who shape policies in Washington, Columbus, and Harrisburg. Whether we advocate for legislation that protects Medicare or Medicaid funding, for our community’s security needs, policies on behalf of Israel, or laws in favor of greater freedoms, the JCRC is always on the front lines, working diligently to develop strong, ongoing relationships with public officials at all levels of government. This year, the JCRC sponsored its first, legislative outreach breakfast, “Lox and Legislators,” a successful event which was very well received.

Holocaust Commemoration
The JCRC is the Federation’s lead agency in the planning of annual Holocaust memorial programs, and supports remembrance activities throughout the Valley and the state. Remembrance not only obligates us to memorialize those who were lost during the Shoah, but also reminds us of the fragility of democracy and the need to protect freedom, promote human dignity, and confront hate wherever it occurs. This year’s Holocaust commemoration programs attracted record attendance, with particular emphasis on elevating the engagement of second and third generations as sadly, there are no local Survivors left who are willing and able to bear personal witness to their personal stories.

Holocaust Education
The JCRC provides vital leadership in this arena, recognizing the importance of educating generations about the lessons of the Holocaust. Jesse McClain, the JCRC’s Holocaust Educational specialist, continues to visit numerous schools and community organizations, reaching thousands of students and adults, to teach about the Shoah, utilizing such tools as professionally produced films and traveling exhibits about the lives and legacies of Bill Vegh and Henry Kinast, and a film about the life of Esther Shudmak. The expanded JCC Judaica Library and Holocaust Resource Center, which houses the Saul Friedman Archive, is a hugely successful community educational tool, and, the JCRC engaged in new partnerships to sponsor and promote regional Holocaust teacher’s workshops.

Intergroup/Interfaith Relations
The JCRC is the Jewish community’s representative at numerous interfaith and intergroup organizations and coalitions that work for the betterment of the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys. The JCRC’s Social Action Committee continues to empower local Jewish community members to engage in important social action and social justice projects such as the annual community Mitzvah Day, High Holiday Food Drive, monthly hands-on work at a food pantry and a local organization supporting kids at risk, as well as other programs in the inner city schools. The JCRC, along with the Synagogue sisterhoods, continues to be a leader in the local Interfaith Women of the Valley coalition, and the new Jewish community booth at the Canfield Fair has proven to be a tremendous vehicle for positive outreach. When our friends in other faith communities experience tragedy, such as the Muslim community following the mass shootings at two New Zealand mosques, the JCRC is a leader in providing support, such as during an interfaith memorial event at the local Mosque.
It was with great pleasure that I returned to a leadership position as president of the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown Board in 2018. Over the past several years, the organization has experienced a renaissance of innovation, investment, and impact as we endeavor to meet our mission with excellence. In 2018, we were proud to receive national recognition for our achievements from the JCC Association of North America, including the Zahav Award for Aquatic Accessibility and the Kol HaKavod Award for Beyachad Initiative. The JCC was also named to the 2018 Ohio School Board Association Business Honor Roll for our partnership with Liberty Local School District.

2018 saw a number of changes to the JCC staff, as we continue to build a strong, dynamic team to serve the needs of our community. The Fitness and Aquatics Departments were combined under a new health & wellness director who oversees all daily operations and staff, an executive assistant joined the team to lend support to the Administrative Department, and the Security Department has been staffed to full capacity, now ensuring the safety of the entire Federation campus during all hours of operation.

Our Early Learning Center also welcomed a new full-time director and administrator. They are focused on making our early childhood program the best in the area. Thanks to a grant from the Thomasas Family Endowment, we are now offering enrichment programming in the arts and sciences by partnering with SMARTS, OH WOW! The Roger & Gloria Jones Children’s Center for Science & Technology, and the Youngstown State University Dana School of Music. We added one-on-one swim lessons for ages six months to three years, in addition to our preschool group lessons, all included with ELC tuition.

A number of significant improvements were made to our facility in 2018. We built a brand-new, developmentally-appropriate playground for our youngest learners ages six months to three years, in addition to our preschool group lessons, all included with ELC tuition. A number of significant improvements were made to our facility in 2018. We built a brand-new, developmentally-appropriate playground for our youngest learners ages six months to three years, in addition to our preschool group lessons, all included with ELC tuition.

We continue to develop and leverage mutually beneficial community partnerships by building upon strengths, addressing needs, and creating shared values, goals, and outcomes. In 2018, we were able to help save the last remaining public pool in Youngstown by training students from local school districts to become lifeguards; we provided 2,958 free swim lessons to 511 children through the SwimSafe 500 program and 280 free swim lessons to people with disabilities through the PALS+ program; we helped to revitalize the abandoned Liberty High School gymnasium to create LYRIC, a recreation space for youth and sports programming; we operated unique afterschool programming with a connection to Israel for hundreds of students at 13 area schools; and we developed a program to offer fitness and wrap around wellness services to patients recovering from chronic diseases.

We are proud to be such a long-standing institution that remains vibrant and relevant to our community. As we invest in a strong staff, impactful programs, and innovative partnerships, we will no doubt continue to see our organization grow and thrive. Thank you very much for your support of the JCC.
Thanks to the commitment of those who have so generously included the Federation in their financial and estate planning, today we have the resources to serve and adapt to the needs of our community. These donors’ foresight and the careful stewardship provided by the board and staff over the years have created a safety net for our community that will last for generations to come.

Recently, the Federation underwent a structural reorganization. One of the main reasons was to protect the donor and investment assets held by the Federation. This reorganization resulted in the creation of the Youngstown Area Jewish Foundation. The Foundation is a separate organization with its own governing board. The Foundation invests and manages all legacy funds listed in this section and works to ensure that the funds are being used per the donor’s stated intent. The Foundation also assists the Federation and its agencies in finding the right funds, outside of campaign allocations, grants, etc., to fulfill current and future needs as determined by the Youngstown Area Jewish Community Board. The Foundation is also tasked with considering terms and management of donations that have yet to come.

The Foundation now holds approximately 80 percent of the Federation’s financial assets. It is important to note that our donors work with the Foundation staff and board members to design and manage their gifts. The majority of our donors have made legal agreements with the Federation asking us to manage their funds for generations to come for the Federation and our community, and also the greater Youngstown community, our country and, in many cases, Israel. In fact, of the funds that the Foundation currently manages, 73 percent are donor directed. These funds are not our money to spend, but rather our money to steward and manage in a trusted partnership with our donors and their families.

Since the Federation’s creation, donors have given of their time, talent and treasure. The addition of the Youngstown Area Jewish Foundation gives these donors a new level of confidence, ensuring the assets they’ve trusted us with are protected from outside threats. The continuation and vitality of our Jewish community is so important. Those who have planned a legacy gift with the Foundation are an inspiration to community members and donors for generations to come. The Foundation is now here to make sure we do right by those donors who have entrusted us with so much.
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FOR JEWISH NEEDS

TOTAL ALLOCATIONS
We Were Able To Distribute in 2018

$1,535,359

ENDOWMENT & RESERVE ALLOCATIONS

$328,956

2017 CAMPAIGN | Together We Raised

$1,206,403

LOCAL AGENCIES & DEPARTMENTS

Jewish Community Center | $483,666
Heritage Manor / Levy Gardens | $251,178 *
Jewish Community Relations Council | $75,550
Jewish Family Services Support for the Vulnerable | $149,695

LOCAL CAUSES

$1,126,333

Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine | $13,071
Local Jewish Education | $147,196
Jewish Federation Administration & Fundraising Expenses | $508,333

TOTAL ALLOCATIONS

Local Causes $1,126,333
National Causes $102,250
Overseas Causes $306,776

* Represents Surplus from Operations For Local Allocations
ENDOWMENT FUNDS

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS
Youngstown Area Jewish Federation General Endowment

RESTRICTED FUNDS
Susan Kooperman Memorial Fund William & Dorothy Lackey Scholarship Fund Jere David & Deborah Schwartz Lustig Designated Endowment Fund Estelle Orman Endowment Fund Howard Segall Endowment Fund Mansie Sherman Youth Scholarship Fund Thomases Leadership Endowment Fund Bert Zusan Scholarships

Jewish Community Center

Jewish Family Services

Heritage Manor, Home for the Aged

CHARITABLE TRUST
Anonymous (5)
Louis & Marlene Epstein Charitable Remainder Unitrust

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

PERPETUAL ANNUAL CAMPAIGN ENDOOMENTS (PACE)
Anonymous (2) The Bernard & Bernice M. Bloch PACE Louis & Helen Bloomberg PACE Cecile "Pinky" Ehrlich PACE Evelyn Felsenthal PACE M. Murray & Selma Fibus Memorial PACE Friedl Fisher PACE Morris I. Friedman PACE Phyllis J. Friedman LOJE Vera Friedman PACE Abe Harshman Memorial Fund Benjamin Edner and Florence Edner Kaufman PACE Anita Lavine PACE Dr. David Levy PACE

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