



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH C O N N E C T I O N S

Dear Friends,

The lesson of Chanukah – our Festival of Lights – is to hold onto faith and believe in the light of goodness and strength in ourselves and our world. As Jews, it is among our basic tenets to always care for others. At JFS, we stretch not lamp oil, but the generosity of our donors to bring compassion and caring wherever we see a need in the Jewish community and even beyond. This year, we added support groups for “Fractured Families” and “Living Well in Later Life” – formed in response to your needs and wishes. Individuals and families experience stages of anguish and hurt and are in need of JFS’ assistance all through life’s stages. We know we assist them in moving through difficult times, and so fulfill a primary tenet of Tikkun Olam.

The season of Chanukah coincides with the season of giving in the United States. Often unseen, we have Jewish neighbors who feel impoverished, not just financially, but spiritually and emotionally. JFS is here for all. Please include our community in your seasonal thoughts and give as generously as you can.

We thank you with all our hearts, and warmly wish you good cheer and good health!

Nancy Peters

Nancy Peters,
President of the Board

DID YOU KNOW?

- JFS has helped hundreds of Greenwich residents who have had *reversals of fortune* with job assistance, emergency funding, and therapeutic support.
- The free JFS *referral and consultation network* answers 400 calls annually, helping community members solve problems.
- Other than aides, *Supermarketing for Seniors* shoppers are sometimes the only people our shopping clients see weekly, bringing caring and compassion to isolated seniors.
- JFS is also here to help with everyday life. Highly experienced JFS social workers offer individual, family, and marriage *counseling at affordable rates*.
- JFS has helped more than *50 families reunite with their loved ones* or become U.S. citizens. We prepare immigrant applications and advocate for our clients during interviews with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- JFS has a *thriving support group center*, both in our office and online. It’s extremely helpful to speak with others who share the similar challenges and find valuable solutions together.
- JFS partners with the *Greenwich Hospital Spiritual Care Department*, providing weekly Shabbat services, monthly healing services, patient visits, and spiritual support groups.
- JFS offers *many enrichment and social activities*, including Book Beat, Jewish Forties and Fifties, Interfaith Conversations, Divorce Mythbusters, Spirituality and Addiction, and much more.

And did you know we can't do it without your generous support?

Thank you for helping us help our community.

Svetlana Ivanenko became a proud citizen in 2017. Here with her daughter Irina Geltzer



WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT JFS PROGRAMS?

- **Interfaith Conversations:** “I enjoy our conversations so much because everyone in the group is lovely, and the leaders are wonderful for such a tricky, emotion-filled topic.” (Female, age 43)
- **Divorce Group:** “Just wanted to send you a quick thank you for letting me participate in the divorce group. I’ve started listening to an audio book on verbal abuse that was recommended and have gotten so much out of it.” (Female, age 36)
- **Individual Counseling:** “I didn’t know where to turn and someone referred me to JFS. I am forever grateful he did. My therapist has 25 years of experience and the price is right.” (Male, age 69)
- **Jewish Forties and Fifties Group:** “Fairfield County needed a singles program like this. Thank you for initiating it. The past two events JFS has put on have been terrific. I made friends who I now go out and do things with.” (Female, age 59)
- **Bereavement Group:** “It’s been three years this month that my husband is gone. I miss him terribly, but am doing much better. I remain grateful for the TLC you provided when I needed it most!” (Female, age 72)
- **Healing Service:** “As you say, nothing happens without a reason. I needed to go to the service yesterday to feel the tranquility you provide. Having you then take me under your wing was an extra special blessing.”

... *What will you be saying about JFS?*

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Bereavement: Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am

New to Town: Fridays, 9 - 10 am

Morning Divorce Support: Tuesdays, 11:30 - 12:45 pm

ONLINE New Moms: Tuesdays, 9 - 10:00 am

Evening Divorce Support: Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:45 pm

Struggling with Difficult Family Dynamics: Tuesdays, 11 am - 12 noon

After-the-Divorce: Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:45 pm

Motherless Daughters: Every other Wednesday 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Living Well in Later Life: Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:45 am

Work- Life Balance: Is it Attainable? Wednesdays 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Reversal of Fortune: Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:45 pm

Parents of LGBTQ: Wednesdays, 12 - 1 pm

ONLINE Caring for the Caregiver: Wednesdays, 2 - 3 pm

Check www.jfsgreenwich.org for dates and times.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Grocery Shopper

Make a difference in the life of a Greenwich senior. Volunteers are needed to visit and/or grocery shop for homebound residents. Time commitment can be as little as two hours per week.

Bikur Cholim

Visit Jewish patients once you complete our annual Bikur Cholim Training Program. Time commitment can be as little as two hours semi-monthly.

Support Jewish Family Services of Greenwich, Inc.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

Go to smile.amazon.com

amazon smile

PROGRAMMING

JFS Book Beat: For Those Who Love to Read

Share thought-provoking books with Jewish themes. **Next book, January 24:** *The Family: Three Journeys into the Heart of the 20th Century*, by David Laskin; Wednesdays, 3/7, 5/2, 6/27; 7:30 pm

Interfaith Conversations

Explore the opportunities and challenges of interfaith living. Check www.jfsgreenwich.org for dates.

Jewish Forties and Fifties

These programs offer individuals the opportunity for companionship through ongoing activities that build on similar interests. It is not a dating service. Check website for details.

Bikur Cholim Holiday Programming

Held in Greenwich's five senior facilities, in partnership with all Greenwich synagogues. Check website for details.

Programs held in partnership with Greenwich Hospital Spiritual Care Department

Renewal of Body, Renewal of Spirit Healing Service, 2nd Monday of the month from 12:15-12:45 pm
Shabbat Service, broadcast live on Channel 75 in all patient rooms, Fridays, 1:00 pm



Some of the happy readers at JFS Book Beat. Come join us!

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mail@jfsgreenwich.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9:30 - 5:30

Friday 9:30 - 4:00

Evening hours by appointment

For further information about any of our programs or support groups, please contact JFS at 203-622-1881.

SAVE THE DATE – APRIL 26, 2017

Stand Up for JFS