

Jewish Community Center Staten Island











2016-2017

annual report











As we write, we are enveloped in the warmth of looking back at a year of accomplishment and growth at the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island. That feeling comes from fulfilling our mission to spread light in many ways, to many people.

Our JCC continues to provide a scope of services that reaches people at all stages of life and at all levels of health and economic stability. From sports and recreation for the entire family, to cultural and educational events, to special programming for the most vulnerable on Staten Island – we provide "sunshine" across Staten Island every day.

At the heart of all these services stands the Joan and Alan Bernikow Jewish Community Center. Now celebrating its 10-year anniversary, this state-of-the-art facility is not only home to some of our largest programs, but also serves as a "town hall" for Staten Island – a place for positive and rational discourse. Ten years is quite a milestone, so we hope you enjoy the special section of this report dedicated to the Bernikow JCC.

Our growth continues, as the past year saw the successful first summer of **Sunrise Day Camp,** our program for children with cancer and their siblings that is offered at no charge to the family. The outpouring of community support for this camp has been tremendous and has led to the first steps in establishing Sunrise on Wheels, a year-round program to brighten the lives of children in hospitals.

As we said earlier, our mission is to bring light to all areas of our shared community. So this year also saw us continue our aid to those impacted by Superstorm Sandy. Since the storm landed in 2012, this JCC has been at the forefront of relief efforts. In fact, we are now the last social service agency providing case management assistance to the storm's victims on Staten Island. We don't plan to stop until all those affected are brought out of the storm and into the sunlight of recovery.

Our "All Walks of Life" sustainability fundraising campaign continues, as we work to ensure this JCC can serve the present and future needs of our community. The newly-established **Dr. Esther Grushkin Seminars for Adult Jewish Education**Foundation is a shining example of the success of this campaign. This endowment will allow for a type of exceptional caliber learning that will bring enlightenment to participants for years to come, elevating our understanding of the world and those around us. Another example is a generous donation to enhance Marvin's Camp, our summer day camp for those with disabilities.

We hope this report will help shed light on all we do -- through your continued support - to serve the people of Staten Island. On behalf of them, we thank you today and always for helping us make every day a "sunny" day at the J!

Sincerely,

Had Castellan gr

Gail Castellano *Board President*

David Sorkin *Executive Director*

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community

We take the word "Community" in our name very seriously.

The JCC actively seeks out opportunities for alliances that will increase our ability to do good. This work to create community with other agencies and entities leads to a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts, increasing our collective impact on Staten Island.

Whether on our own or through partnerships with others, we address the health, wellness, and educational needs of the Staten Island community.

Health:

- Health Coverage Multi-lingual navigators assist individuals and families with issues related to public health insurance.
- Tobacco Free Staten Island –
 A NYS Department of Health
 Tobacco Control program, including community engagement and a youth component called Reality Check.
- SI PPS Patient Activation Project Linking Medicaid recipients and the uninsured to quality health care providers.

Education:

- JCC/Beacon/SONYC Programs at Tottenville High School, I.S. 49 and Eagle Academy for Young Men; COMPASS Program at P.S. 65 – These NYC-funded afterschool programs help students with academics and personal growth.
- HSE /ABE Program Classes giving students the skills needed to achieve their high school equivalency.
- ESL English as a Second Language Helping speakers of other languages learn English to obtain employment and improve their lives.
- Safety Net Middle Class Families In Crisis - Through collaboration with UJA-Federation of New York, NYLAG, MET Council and Jewish Board, we assist middle class families in crisis.

Wellness:

- Caregivers Services Who takes care
 of the caregiver? We do. Providing
 respite services, a support group,
 supplemental supplies, and specific
 programs geared toward these
 important people.
- Social Adult Day Program & Seniors
 with Cognitive Disabilities Older
 adults with Alzheimer's, dementia,
 traumatic brain injury, or cognitive
 disabilities receive the benefit of
 mainstream programs and services.
- Cornerstone Program Offering recreation, academics and mentoring for all ages, these programs at Todt Hill Houses, Richmond Terrace Housing and Gerard Carter Community Center are funded by the NYC Department for Youth & Community Development.
- Kosher Food Pantry Supported by funds from UJA-Federation of New York, United Way Emergency Food & Shelter Program, Food Bank NYC, Richmond County Bank Foundation, and Shop Rite and with food donated by local residents.
- Sunrise Day Camp Staten Island –
 First summer of a free day camp
 for children with cancer and their
 siblings coming from Staten Island,
 Brooklyn and nearby New Jersey.
- Disabilities Services providing developmental opportunities through recreation and social activities for a wide spectrum of individuals with special needs.

disabilities initiatives

Special services for special people.

Taking good care of our neighbors with special needs is a priority at the JCC. Year after year, as we learn of gaps in coverage of their unique needs, we increase our services to "plug the holes" that are not being filled elsewhere. Throughout our programs, the JCC offers inclusion opportunities wherever possible for individuals with special needs so they can engage with their peers. We support the families of these individuals, too.

But we are not alone in this endeavor. We have over 20 Community Partners who offer support for our work, including UJA-Federation of New York, Butler Foundation, Autism Speaks and the Staten Island Borough President's Office. Autism Speaks, Staten Island Borough President's Office, NYC Council members and OPWDD (Office of People with Developmental Disabilities).

This program offers our son a rich and diverse set of opportunities to develop job skills, employment interests, recreational choices and friendships. It lightens our heart when we walk inside the JCC with him, where everyone smiles and says good morning to him by name. Many times while out... people come over to say hello and how they know Michael from the JCC.

Kathy and Tom Novak

- Marvin's Camp A summer camp program for children and teens offering swimming, sports, arts and crafts, special event days, and trips, with a small camper to counselor ratio.
- Inclusion Program Henry Kaufmann
 Campgrounds enables individuals with special needs to join with their typical peers in camp programs.
- Afterschool Programs Teens, juniors and Kidz Klub Inclusion educational and recreational afterschool programs for those with autism or related disorders.
- Day Habilitation Program Vocational and employment skills training for young adults, including job site training with the JCC and community partners like Meals on Wheels and TGI Fridays, plus recreational activities.
- **Super Special Sundays** Respite program providing recreational and social activities for ages 6-12.
- Scouting Inclusive Girl Scout and Boy Scout programs for children with special needs.
- First Foot Forward A preschool, supported by the NYC Dept. of Education and Dept. of Mental Health and Hygiene, with speech, occupational and physical therapy services available.





children & families

Investing in the *future*.

Our greatest asset is the next generation. Providing the youth of Staten Island with wholesome, healthy outlets to express themselves sets them on a path to a bright future. And opportunities for families to enjoy time together help create the strong bonds that make for happy communities.

That's why we make sure there is something for everyone at the JCC.

- Early Childhood Education Daycare, pre-school and Pre-K for children aged 3 months through 5 years.
- Early Childhood Family Literacy program –
 Supports holistic childhood development with
 literacy support for both children and parents in
 afterschool, parent workshops and parent and
 child together activities. Funded by SI Foundation.
- STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Math)

 Programs to help develop problem solving and team work skills and critical thinking via engineering workshops, computer training, web design, music and math.
- Kidz Klub Afterschool programs for elementary and junior high school students located at the Avis/South Shore and Bernikow buildings, with homework assistance, socialization and recreational activities.
- The Dorothy Delson Kuhn Music Institute –
 This Staten Island "tradition" has served individuals aged 3-70 for over 40 years, providing families and children with scholarships to pursue their musical ambitions and talents.
- The Lillian Schwartz Day Camp at the Henry Kaufmann campgrounds – Providing swimming, music, boating, Jewish culture, camp shows, trips and more, this camp is open to all children, including campers with special needs.

 Scouts – A program of activities to develop confidence and leadership skills in young people.

There is nothing like JCC Camp... It's like no other place.

- Bryn Biren, describing the lasting friendships she made during 20 summers at Staten Island JCC Camp.
- Sunrise Day Camp A new camp experience allowing children undergoing cancer treatment, and their siblings, to participate in some of the simple joys of childhood.
- Sports and Recreation Department Activities for all ages, including sports like gymnastics, soccer, basketball, tennis, and volleyball. There are leagues, camps and clinics available, as well as private and group lessons.
- Aquatics The JCC is the home of one of the few indoor pool facilities on Staten Island, offering private and group lessons, and competitive swim teams for youth.
- Fitness Sitercise, yoga, aqua zumba, treadmills and more, for adults of all ages and abilities, put the focus on the health and wellness of our community.

I see people from Camp now, and they're sending their kids to JCC Camp too. I still remember the awesome trips. The Challah on Fridays. The ice cream ...

Brooke Lopez

OVER 1,800 children attend summer day camp



Addressing a population "boom."

adults & sr. adults

As the "baby boomer" generation ages, the number of Staten Island senior citizens continues to grow. The JCC is helping adults enter this new phase of life with programs and services geared toward keeping them happy, healthy and engaged.

6,000 senior adults improve their lives through the JCC's many options

- Neighborhood Senior Centers Two locations Avis/ South Shore and Stapleton – offer a wide variety of services to benefit body and mind including nutritious meals, education, health screening, arts & crafts, and assistance with social services.
- Center for Life Long Development For active senior adults and housed at our Bernikow facility, the CLLD offers intellectual stimulation, health and wellness education and activities, cultural and inter-generational opportunities, and arts and entertainment, along with healthy meals 5 times weekly.
- Caregivers Helping older adults as they care for impaired loved ones or grandchildren under the age of 18 through counseling, support groups, respite and concrete services. Funded through DFTA.
- SeniorNet Keeping seniors connected, with computer classes exclusively for seniors taught by senior volunteers.
- Senior Olympics A friendly annual competition in sports and mental challenges produced in collaboration with other local non-profit organizations.

- Safety Net Helps manage the physical and emotional well-being of economically vulnerable adults through food packages, referrals for handyman services, and assistance with benefits, entitlements, and housing stability. Funded by UJA-Federation of NY and linked with the New York Legal Assistance Group.
- Pink Program The only breast cancer recovery program on Staten Island approved by the American Council on Exercise allows breast cancer survivors to exercise safely while enhancing their overall health.
- Partners in Caring Addresses isolation among seniors by providing one-on-one and group counseling and workshops. Built on existing relationships with local synagogues, which identify individuals in need of support.
- Virtual Senior Center The program provides online classes for isolated seniors in a variety of subjects.
 They also have unlimited internet access.
- Social Adult Day Care The program (SADS) is tailored for seniors with Alzheimer's disease, related dementia or traumatic brain injury. Participants socialize and participate in mentally and physically stimulating activities.

Photo credit: Bill Higgins

Photo credit: Bill Higgins

health & wellness

Healthy bodies, healthy minds – **healthy community.**

Communities are social organisms. When any part of the community is not well, it affects all the others. Understanding this, the JCC works to promote health and wellness throughout all programming including our fitness Centers at both the Bernikow and Avis sites and the Aquatics Center at the Bernikow JCC.

We now incorporate healthy options into all areas where food and drink are offered. So when snacks are served at a youth department meeting or in our early childhood programs, or when you stop for a bite at our café, you will find choices like fruit and water as an alternative to other, less nutritious treats.

It's not just our bodies, though, that determine our well-being. Our mental health and state of mind are equally important. Healthy bodies and minds are a result of what we consume, as well as the choices we make every day of our lives.

"My daughter is 24 years old and on the autism spectrum. She's always loved the water, so my concern is her safety while swimming. Jessie's come far in her swimming abilities. She's worked so hard, and her coach is amazing and so patient. Jessie looks forward to her Saturday mornings at the JCC."

- Sheila Arroyo

Services for Adults & Senior Adults – This comprehensive suite of services looks holistically at the individuals it serves, taking into account both physical and mental needs.

Services for Children & Families – Keeping both the body and mind sharp, whether through rigorous exercise or educational pursuits, is the thread running through this set of programs.

Social Services – Making sure that those in crisis are safe and secure, both physically and mentally, underpins all the aid we provide.

Special Needs Services – Helping those with special needs to thrive is our mission. And making sure those who care for them receive the mental and physical support they require is a priority.

Services for our Community – Everything from proper nutrition through our food pantry, to obtaining and using health insurance, to helping young people make informed choices through "Tobacco-Free Staten Island" – these programs give people the tools they need to increase their own well-being.

Environmental Services – Through energy reduction, greening efforts, use of non-toxic cleaning products, and more, we demonstrate our commitment to the health and wellness of our planet and of the people we serve.



When crisis strikes, the JCC is here to help.

People facing adversity are often overwhelmed. They are generally in the throes of great emotion. They might have no idea what services are available or even what services they require. They need help to navigate the road they are traveling.

That's where the JCC steps in.

By partnering with other agencies, we provide a lifeline of support, guiding people toward the services they need, and walking with them every step of the way.

This year alone, over 6.000 people and families in crisis were aided.



Disaster Case Management – When Superstorm Sandy descended on Staten Island in 2012, it left behind massive destruction of property and lives. In the days immediately following, the JCC stepped in to work as a community partner to aid those in need. And the work continues today.

Social Adult Day Program & Seniors with Cognitive Disabilities – Older adults with Alzheimer's, dementia, traumatic brain injury, or cognitive disabilities receive the benefit of mainstream programs and services

Kosher Food Pantry – Individuals schedule appointments to ensure personal, confidential one-on-one services. Donations are received from UJA Federation of NY, Food Bank of NYC, plus individuals and businesses.

Safety Net – Whether it be through loss of a job, living on a fixed income, or for some other reason, there are many people and families in our neighborhoods who face financial insecurity and food insecurity. Safety Net case management connects them to an array of services to help them get back on their feet.

Aging in Place – As our bodies age, the way we interact with our physical environment changes. The Aging In Place program provides a free home safety assessment that includes a free bathtub grab bar installation to those in need, allowing them to live in safety and dignity.

UJA-Federation's Partners in Caring – Oftentimes the physical challenges experienced by the aging are compounded by social isolation and special mental health concerns. By collaborating with UJA-Federation, the JCC provides counseling and socialization activities, along with other services, to senior citizens in need, to maintain and improve their quality of life.

Navigator NYS Department of Health – Assisting individuals and families in enrolling in public health insurance programs through the NYS of Health Marketplace. Multi-lingual staff is located at several sites around the borough.

HSE/ABE Preparatory Classes – Free day and evening classes providing skills needed to obtain a high school equivalency diploma.



Sunrise Day Camp – Staten Island



Imagine...

- You're a 10 year old boy with cancer and can't play basketball with your friends
- You're 3 years old, have cancer and have never met other children outside the hospital
- Your sibling has cancer and you can't bring friends home for fear of infection
- Your child has cancer











Sunrise Day Camps and its Year-Round Programs are part of the Sunrise Association, whose mission is to bring back the joys of childhood to children with cancer and their siblings world-wide, through the creation of Sunrise Day Camps, Year-Round Programs and In-hospital Recreational Activities, all offered free of charge.

Recognizing the extraordinary financial demands that a child's chronic illness can have on a family, Sunrise Day Camps and its Year-Round Programs are offered completely free of charge to all children being treated for cancer and their siblings, on a non-sectarian basis. Imagine the joy and healing power that these programs offer. They make a tremendous difference in the children's lives and have a positive impact on the entire family.

The JCC of Staten Island is proud to be operating this one of kind camp right here on Staten Island, which serves families from Staten Island, Brooklyn and New Jersey. Since 2006, Sunrise Day Camps continue to be the only day camps in the WORLD for children with cancer, ages 3 ½ -16, and their siblings.

sustainability & dedication

Sustainability Campaign ... help JCC support all walks of life

Investing in the *future*.

Throughout our history, the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island has grown significantly and responded to the needs of the community during good times and bad. The Center has faced challenges of a constantly transforming social landscape and empowered the community and its members to create positive change. The JCC has become known as a leader in community building and engagement, a legacy to be proud of today and for future generations to come.

For nearly 90 years we've been supported in these efforts by our generous and giving community. We've responded by providing services and programs to all. In order to maintain our preeminent position as a multi-dimensional social services agency on Staten Island, we must maintain our current level of financial resources while seeking to grow and develop new sources of financial support.

Through a successful Sustainability Campaign, the JCC has embarked on a plan to preserve, enrich and provide continuity for the thousands who attend our programs and rely on us. The Campaign will allow us to meet the physical, social and educational needs of those we serve. In addition we will continue to strengthen our existing partnerships, enhance programming and maintain quality services for individuals and families in the Staten Island community.

The Sustainability Campaign supports these key areas/programs:

• Renovating and Improving Facilities

Tens of thousands benefit from JCC programs but heavy usage takes a toll on our Joan and Alan Bernikow and Nancy and Ron Avis buildings. To protect their current and future viability, we must be able to repair or replace mechanical, electrical and other systems as needed.

Building Endowment

We must continue to build our financial strength and increase the size of our endowment for new and future programs. Current endowments include: The Berman Family Fund, supporting summer camp scholarships, The Joan and Alan Bernikow Fund, supporting services for individuals with special needs; The Lucille and Jay Chazanoff Fund, to support Sunrise Day Camp for children with cancer and their siblings; the Marvin Weissglass Family

- Trust, providing support for Marvin's Camp for children with various disabilities; and the Dr. Esther Grushkin Fund, supporting Adult Jewish Education Programs (SAJE).
- Sunrise Day Camp

Sunrise provides a complete summer day camp experience, free of charge, for children combating cancer. Along with their siblings, these children enjoy the summer like others their age, and benefit from year round recreation programs as part of the Sunrise Experience.









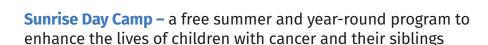


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a decade of growth

Since opening its doors ten years ago, the Joan & Alan Bernikow JCC has been at the heart of our work for the community. Look beyond the impressive facilities and you'll see the incredible amount of activity going on, serving all facets of our community. Here's just a glimpse of some of the dynamic new programming we've been able to provide because of the Bernikow JCC.

— Gail Castellano, JCC President



Jewish Music Festival – a month-long multi-site Jewish Music Festival bringing the joy of Jewish music to Staten Island

Dr. Esther Grushkin Seminars for Adult Jewish Education (SAJE) – an endowment supporting an extraordinary level of intellectual thought and discussion

Disabilities Department – an entire department providing an array of programs for those with special needs at all stages of life

Murray Berman Art Gallery – a beautiful gallery space presenting the works of professional and amateur artists

Kosher Food Pantry – offering families and individuals kosher food items to meet their needs in a dignified manner

SuperStorm Sandy – a coalition of Jewish organizations, governmental agencies and other non-profits ensuring a comprehensive response to the needs of those whose lives were devastated by the storm

Center for Life Long Development (CLLD) – a year round program for those 60+ offering opportunities for growth through intellectual, social, sports and wellness, computer technology, arts and entertainment, and intergenerational activities

Town Center – a community hub presenting resource fairs for the elderly, those with disabilities, job seekers, and others, as well as press conferences and forums with elected officials, the NYPD and more

Off-Site Youth and Senior Adult Centers – professional oversite for afterschool centers in schools and housing complexes, as well as neighborhood senior adult centers









environmental stewardship

Saving the planet... and money, too.

There's a mindset at the JCC of forward thinking. So back in 2009, we committed to embracing innovative ways to keep our environment healthy. The added bonus was that some of these initiatives would also result in cost savings, leaving more funds to support programming.

From major construction projects, like installation of solar panels, to day-to-day practices like using non-toxic cleaning products, each year we increase our positive impact.

But we don't stop there. We take our message of sustainability and environmental stewardship out to the entire Staten Island community, inviting others to join us, through partnerships and events including:

- SIEDC Green & Clean Expo Sponsor
- Green Zone Task Force
- Solar Empowerment Zone Steering Committee
- Energy Wise Task Force
- NYS Public Service Commission Community Outreach
- SIBOC Green Business Initiative
- SI Green Umbrella
- UJA Federation of NY



SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEM • \$4,000 annual savings



REDUCED PAPER USAGE & MAILINGS



\$45,000 annual savings

ROOFTOP SOLAR PANELS

\$25,000-\$30,000 annual savings





E-WASTE & TEXTILE RECYCLING EVENTS • 5 since 2011

1,200



TREES PLANTED

200

The Staten Island JCC has partnered with Hazon to receive the Hazon Seal of Sustainability, which recognizes Jewish organizations' commitment to becoming more sustainable: improving food and environmental practices, treatment of animals, and impact on climate change



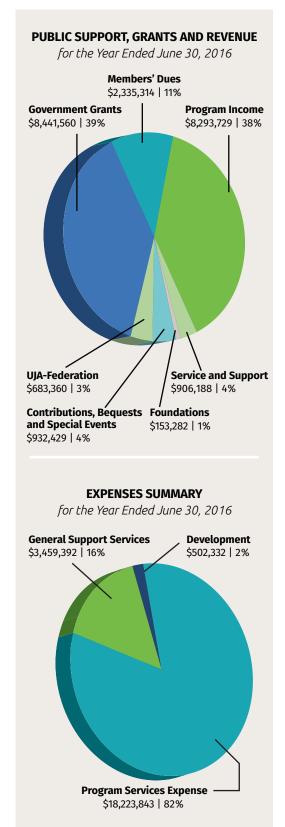
financials

Summary Statement of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2016

PUBLIC SUPPORT, GRANTS AND REVENUE	
MEMBERS' DUES	2,335,314
PROGRAM INCOME	8,293,729
SERVICE AND SUPPORT	196,569
TRANSPORTATION INCOME	26,429
CONTRIBUTIONS, BEQUESTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS	932,429
FOUNDATIONS	153,282
UJA-FEDERATION	683,360
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	8,441,560
INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME	683,190
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT, GRANTS AND REVENUE	\$21,745,862

EXPENSES	
PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSE	18,223,843
GENERAL SUPPORT SERVICES	3,459,392
DEVELOPMENT	502,332
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$22,185,567

NET SURPLUS / (LOSS) BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEM	439,705
ADD (SUBTRACT) NON-OPERATING EXPENSE (INCOME):	
BUILDING DEPRECIATION	1,323,611
INTEREST EXPENSE	370,269
BAD DEBT EXPENSE	59,280
SUSTAINABILITY CAMPAIGN EXPENSE	87,358
DEBT RESTRUCTURE EXPENSE	16,951
RESTRICTED CONTIBUATIONS	552,396
NET OPERATING SURPLUS / (LOSS)	865,368



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JCC contributors

It is with sincere gratitude that we acknowledge the individuals, businesses and foundations as well as federal, state, city and local elected officials whose significant contributions enable the JCC to provide the excellent caliber of programs and services we offer to all.

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