



## The Social Media Issue

In this year's Annual Report, we've allowed our clients\* to tell their stories and highlight important issues through their social media accounts. This is, after all, the method of communication most widely used to share our joys, sorrows, achievements, losses and everything in between.

You will meet Alissa, a former client of our Woman Abuse program; Lev, a youth in the care of JF&CS; Sabrina, a loving mom receiving Supplementary Financial Assistance from us; and Gerry, a former client of our joint JVS Toronto-JF&CS Employment Program.

If their stories affect you, there are many ways to become involved at JF&CS. Volunteer opportunities abound, and donations are always needed. Visit us online at [www.jfandcs.com](http://www.jfandcs.com) and stay in touch with us at [facebook.com/jfandcs](https://facebook.com/jfandcs).

\* In this Report, details and names of clients/social media handles/screen names have been altered to ensure anonymity.

# 2015-2016

## BY THE NUMBERS



The total number of clients served by JF&CS was **12,839**



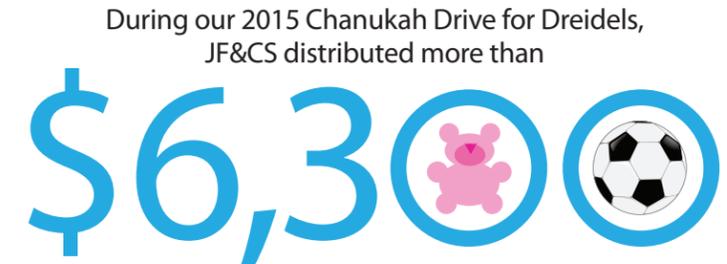
students at public schools and Jewish day schools received counselling through our School Social Work program



**366** abused women and **464** of their children received safety planning, counselling, crisis intervention, emergency financial assistance, and more



volunteer hours were dedicated to our clients and their families by **104** direct service volunteers



During our 2015 Chanukah Drive for Dreidels, JF&CS distributed more than

**\$6,300,000** in gift cards and 2000 toys to children and youth in need.



**787** people received individual, couples, and/or family counselling

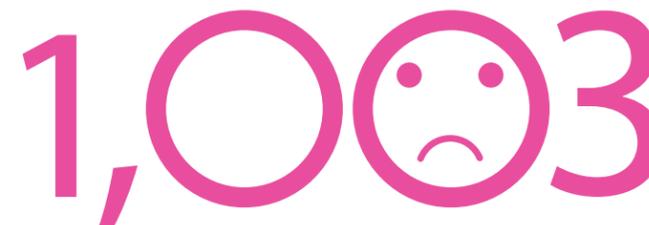


JF&CS received **9,898** calls to our Centralized Intake Department



**1287** people received monthly and/or emergency financial support through our UJA-funded Supplementary Financial Assistance Program

As the only Jewish Children's Aid Society in Ontario, we received



allegations of child abuse and/or neglect



Our Jewish Hospice Program provided **331** individuals and their families with end-of-life emotional, practical and spiritual support

## From the President, Board of Directors

It does not seem like very long ago that I was introduced at the Annual General Meeting as the incoming President of the Board of Directors. At that time I knew that it would be a year of change for the Agency as Richard Cummings would be retiring, and a new executive director would take the helm. Richard held the position for ten years and during that time he had been an exemplary leader. Among other things, Richard guided the Agency through a child welfare funding crisis and service delivery transformation as well as the relocation of its three branches. He significantly expanded its fundraising efforts, rebranded the Agency, and championed the development of a Centre of Excellence along with a structural, organizational shift. He did all of this while overseeing the daily operations; it was clear that Richard would be missed.

At the time of the AGM we were in the midst of the search process for a new executive director. Those of us who were members of the search committee had some concerns as to whether a candidate would come forward who could fill the hole that would be left by Richard's departure.

In January, Brian Prousky joined Jewish Family & Child as the new executive director. How lucky we were! It was a homecoming of sorts for Brian as he started his career as a front line social worker at JF&CS. Without exception, everyone who has interacted with Brian has commented on his intelligence, passion, quick wit, inclusiveness, sensitivity, and leadership skills. Brian is a quick study; in just a few short months he has developed a strong grasp of both the internal workings of the Agency and its multitude of external relationships with funders, regulators, donors, community partners and others. I will say it again – we



**Merle Rosenhek**

are fortunate that Brian chose to return to Jewish Family & Child at this point in his career.

And Brian's transition into his new role has been all the more challenging due to many new government-initiated child welfare-related accountability requirements. Moreover, the government has called for reconfiguration of the child welfare sector, stating that this may entail a significant reduction in the number of children's aid societies (CAS). There are some concerns that JF&CS' designation as a CAS is at risk. In addition to settling into the role of executive director, Brian has led an extensive advocacy effort on behalf of JF&CS within the child welfare sector and with government and community members. These advocacy efforts will continue until all who play a role in the future of the child welfare sector have heard the case of Jewish Family & Child.

JF&CS is the premier social service agency serving the Jewish population in the GTA, providing over 30 programs and services on a fully integrated, seamless basis to the vulnerable from cradle to grave. It operates in accordance with the preferred client-centric wraparound model of service in a very cost efficient manner. It is due to the dedicated, highly skilled and experienced staff that Jewish Family & Child achieves excellent results. Thank you!

Thank you to our funding partners - the Ontario government, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, and United Way Toronto and York Region - without whose resources we would be unable to fulfill our mission. And thank you as well to our many donors whose support is increasingly vital to our good work.

To the committee members of JF&CS' signature fundraising event, Jewish Folks Telling Jokes, I express my gratitude for your dedication which has led to raising more than \$1 million, and providing community awareness of the role JF&CS plays. I also thank our young professionals, JF&CS Emerging Leaders, whose Cringe Worthy 2.0 event was a sold-out success!

And finally I am extremely appreciative of the commitment of my fellow Board members, committee members, and volunteers. We are a team - each of whom plays an important role in the work of JF&CS. The need in the community for our programs and services is greater today than ever. As I stated in my speech at the AGM last September, it is an honour to serve as the lay leader of Jewish Family & Child; I look forward to the coming year.

## From the Executive Director



**Brian Prousky**

a range of services that span the human life cycle.

In last year's Annual Report, my wise and able predecessor, Richard Cummings, wrote about a newly formed coalition of Jewish social service agencies, led by UJA Federation, whose goal was no less lofty than to reduce poverty in the Greater Toronto Area to the point of eradication.

Since that time, utilizing a theoretical framework known as "Collective Impact", the work of our group has been progressive, significant and inspiring. Our understanding of the factors contributing to situational and generational poverty has never been clearer. Our focus on developing swift pathways to restoring our clients' dignity and self-sufficiency has never been sharper. With our partner agencies and UJA Federation, we have set a course to create a single point of access for vulnerable seniors and Holocaust survivors, and will soon broaden our focus to more effectively serve our community's most marginalized children and families.

The work of our group has complemented and strengthened our own Agency's longstanding poverty reduction programs. Increasingly, we have employed a holistic approach to helping clients whose main sources of income are various types of social assistance or who are part of the working poor - precariously employed and/or earning wages that are insufficient to

push them above the poverty line.

Not acting quickly and resolutely on behalf of the 13% of our community who live in poverty would be shameful and unforgivable.

Also featured in last year's Report was a brief update on our unique, integrative approach to the delivery of child welfare services. Since then, our approach has continued to yield unparalleled positive outcomes for children and families. The sector in which we deliver those services; however, has undergone a seismic shift, leaving us concerned about, and advocating for, our enduring presence within the reconfigured landscape of Ontario's child welfare system. In her report, our Board President, Merle Rosenhek, our most tireless and inspiring advocate, has written eloquently about this development.

In the coming year, despite the above-mentioned challenges, we will continue to fulfill the promise of our strategic plan. Our focus will remain on service excellence, reputation building, financial stability, sector leadership and organizational renewal. We will continue to ensure our values of mutual accountability, trust and collaboration, learning and renewal, and care and resilience are embedded in our work with children and families so that their expert voices of lived-experience remain at the centre of our decision making.

On a personal note, I extend my deepest gratitude to Merle and our devoted Board of Directors, to the senior team and staff throughout the Agency, and, in particular to Eileen Olmer, my primary navigator and advice-giver. You have all made my transition back to JF&CS a true pleasure. In your day-to-day commitment to bringing our values to life, you are all my heroes.



## Alissa Steiner

Look at my gorgeous, healthy girls! Could not be more grateful to Jewish Family & Child for their years of support, counselling and financial assistance and for introducing me to other women who truly understand what it means to be a domestic abuse survivor. [#itsneverokay](#) [#mamabird](#) [#lovemysocialworker](#) [#askforhelp](#)



### Wendy J. Winter

You are a force! Lucy and Emma are such amazing kids and you should be so proud!

Wednesday at 8:15 PM • Like • Reply



### David Lefko

Ladies and gentlemen, meet my sister [#WonderWoman](#)

Tuesday at 1:07 AM • Like • Reply



### Cindy Marshall-Levenstein

Your post brought tears to my eyes. I know other women who need to reach out and get help, but they're just too scared of the repercussions. So inspiring, Alissa. It makes me proud to call you my friend.

Thursday at 11:45 PM • Like • Reply



### Sophie Nguyen

I'm taking you out for lunch this week. I need to hear the full story

Wednesday at 2:34 PM • Like • Reply



### Joan Johnson

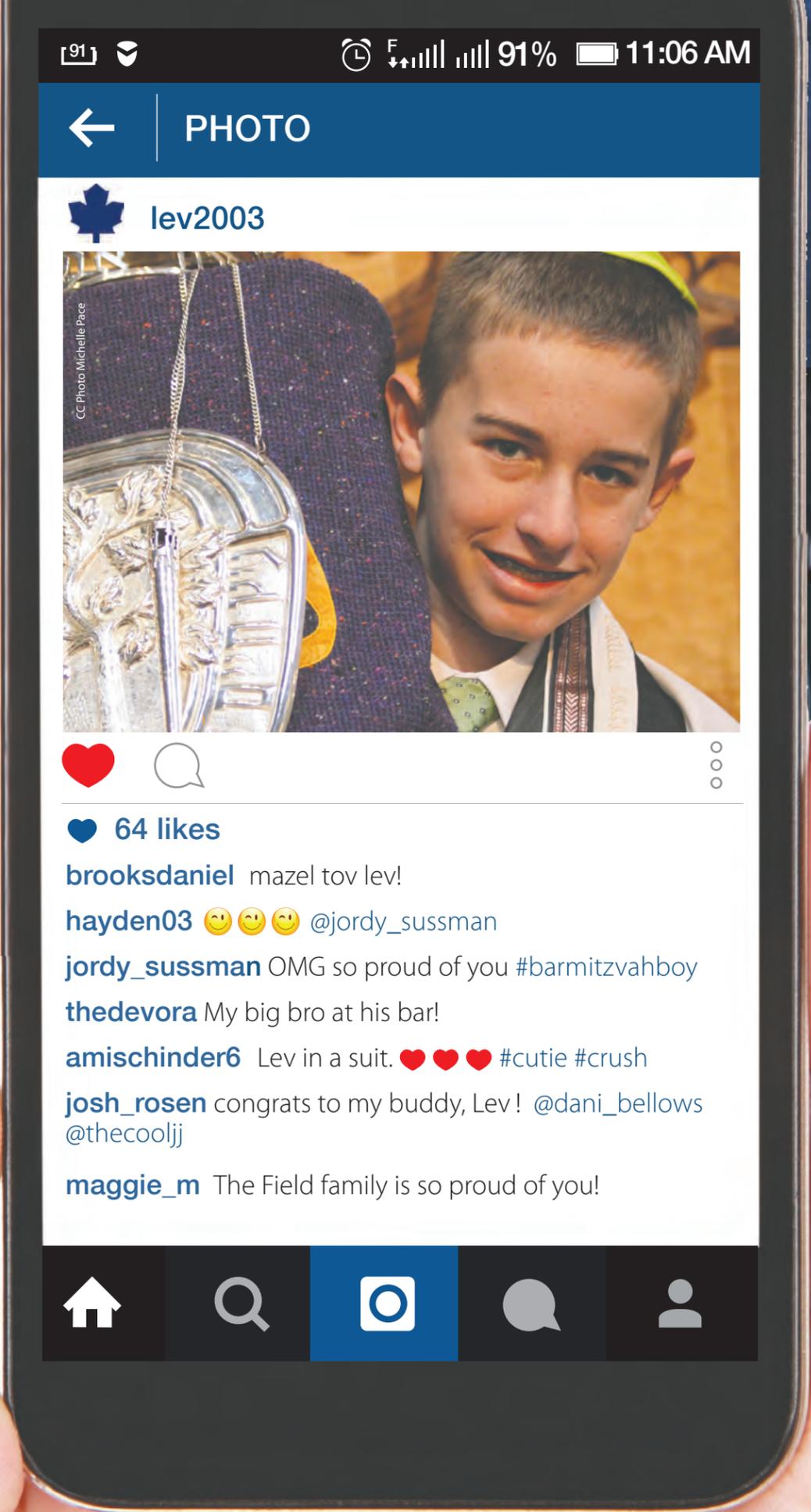
I remember the day you left like it was yesterday. So scary but so necessary! I miss watching your twins run through the sprinkler on the front lawn, but knowing they're safe and happy truly pleases me.

Wednesday at 8:15 AM • Like • Reply



**“ He promised that he would stop drinking and he even went through a month-long rehab program.**

I thought my days of being a literal and figurative punching bag were finally over. I was wrong. The final straw was six years ago when I came home from grocery shopping one Sunday morning. He was supposed to be watching our two-year-old twins, but what I came upon was horrifying. Emma was bawling her eyes out while sitting in a cold bath with a soiled diaper. Lucy was in her crib screaming because she could hear Emma. I had no idea at the time how long they had been like that but I flew into action. I dropped the groceries on the floor and grabbed the twins. Once they were clean and dry, I shoved a bunch of their clothes and mine into a garbage bag and got us all in the car. He came outside holding a thermos, which I knew was full of vodka, and he started screaming at me to get back in the house. We lived in a subdivision in Thornhill, and a few worried neighbours came out to see what was happening because he was so loud. I could barely think and I probably shouldn't have driven in that state, but I had an almost maniacal determination to escape. It was one thing to have endured this all on my own, but when it came to the kids, I had to leave to protect them. Once I was safely at my brother's house, I called JF&CS. I never looked back.”



[91] 91% 11:06 AM

← PHOTO

lev2003



64 likes

- brooksdaniel mazel tov lev!
- hayden03 😊😊😊 @jordy\_sussman
- jordy\_sussman OMG so proud of you #barmitzvahboy
- thedevara My big bro at his bar!
- amischinder6 Lev in a suit. ❤️❤️❤️ #cutie #crush
- josh\_rosen congrats to my buddy, Lev! @dani\_bellows @thecooljj
- maggie\_m The Field family is so proud of you!



“ School used to make me stressed all the time because I didn’t have the things that my friends all have.

When I was little, my mom was seriously addicted to drugs. When I was ten she died from an overdose. I miss her every day but she was so sad and sick all the time, and I think now she’s probably happy. So I’ve lived in a foster home since then and don’t get me wrong, I’m okay and my foster parents treat me so well, but they’re not rich or anything either. I’m not stressed at school anymore though ‘cause my social worker at JF&CS makes sure I have clothes in my closet, gift cards on my birthday and Chanukah, new school supplies every year, and lots of other support too. I even get to go to camp every summer with my friends! I know how lucky I am – trust me. When I turned twelve, my foster mom told me that because of the Simcha Fund at JF&CS, I was going to be able to have a Bar Mitzvah. She said it couldn’t be a big party like some of my friends, but I didn’t care. It ended up being amazing ‘cause I had two families there – my foster family and my JF&CS family.”

**Sabrina Silver @SabrinaS**  
 What a difference a smile makes! All my gratitude to JF&CS and Alpha Omega for changing my daughter's smile and her life ... for free!

8:18 AM - 17 Jul 2016

**Alex Schwarz @Asch66** - 2d  
 @SabrinaS Nicola looks so grown up and beautiful!

**David Finch @fincher** - 2d  
 @SabrinaS Wow! Wow wow wow!

**Simon Phillips @simonphillips1** - 1d  
 @SabrinaS As a dentist, I'm proud that others in my profession are doing such noble and compassionate work. Your daughter's smile is radiant.

**Valerie Roper @roperval** - 1d  
 @SabrinaS Not sure who is happier – mom or daughter? Gorgeous!

**Patricia Handler @pattyhands** - 4h  
 @SabrinaS What a difference indeed! Thrilled for Nicola!

**Nicki Silver @nicsilver99** - 1h  
 @SabrinaS Love you, mom (even tho I look totally embarrassed in that pic) and love JF&CS and Alpha Omega!



“ For years, Nicola was always so serious and it took a lot of effort to get her to smile.

In fact, if she felt a smile coming, she would cover her mouth in shame as if she was doing something wrong. She didn't want anyone to see her teeth because she thought they were ugly and crooked. I felt terrible, guilty, and helpless, but I couldn't afford the prohibitive cost of orthodontic work. I was already receiving supplementary financial assistance from JF&CS when I mentioned Nicola's dental issue to our social worker. It turns out that JF&CS works in partnership with the Toronto Chapter of the Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity. Nicola was accepted and got braces for free! It's been a few years now and Nicola just got her braces off. Everyone has been noticing and commenting on the huge difference they see in her. She's walking around not just smiling, but BEAMING and flashing sincere smiles at everyone she sees. She's also making everyone around her smile! Never could I have imagined such a huge change in someone. Thank you JF&CS for getting us help so quickly. And thank you to the gracious dentist who took care of my child's teeth without any charge. I know she's giving up thousands of dollars out of the goodness of her heart.”

Search for people, jobs, companies, and more...

**Gerald R. Levy**  
Bookkeeper at Vitality Integrated Health Services Centre



Starting Over at 60: Never Too Late to Begin a New Career  
[www.bloglife.com/post/1645830/startingover](http://www.bloglife.com/post/1645830/startingover)

**Ron Lerman** Great article and most inspiring, Gerry. Kudos! 9h  
Like • Reply

**Vitality Integrated Health Services Centre** We are fortunate to have you on board, Gerry. 8h  
Like • Reply

**Susan Marks** Just read your article, Gerald. It's heartening to know that there are such great community services out there for us at any age. Makes me feel safe and proud to live in this city. 1h  
Like • Reply

Add a comment...

“ I was skiing with my daughter and son-in-law when my life as I knew it changed.

It wasn't even that bad of a fall, but I knew the minute it happened that my knee would never be the same. Problem was, I worked as a security guard and there was no way I could continue my job; I had to resign after 25 years. That's when things got really bad for me and Shirley because I had to go on ODSP. A friend told me about JF&CS and through them I was able to get myself some much needed financial assistance, but I wanted a long-term plan and a way out of the rut I found myself in. My social worker enrolled me in the JF&CS Joint Employment Program with JVS Toronto. I worked with the JVS counsellor and went through a career exploration process only to discover that I had some pretty great math skills. She suggested I consider bookkeeping and I hardly had to think about it before agreeing! They leveraged some provincial funding to cover the cost of my training and even helped me find a co-op placement. The whole process took about two years but I got myself a bookkeeping job at 63 years old! I really enjoy the work, and it turns out I'm pretty good at it too! I'm no longer a client at JF&CS or JVS and I'm back to total independence. Now I just gotta figure out how to retire one day!"



# Thank You!



## 1868 SOCIETY

We gratefully acknowledge members of the 1868 Society – devoted donors who contribute to JF&CS each year for 5 or more years. 1868 Society members are marked with a purple diamond: ◆



## MONTHLY MITZVAH MAKERS

We gratefully acknowledge Monthly Mitzvah Makers – donors who contribute to JF&CS each month. Monthly Mitzvah Makers are marked with a green diamond: ◆

Our sincere appreciation to the many JF&CS donors who wish to remain anonymous, and to those who support our work but whose names do not appear in this list. Every effort has been made to ensure proper recognition of each donor (\$180+). We apologize for any errors/omissions.

## PLANNED GIFTS

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our donors who have included Jewish Family & Child in their estate plans.

## GIFTS-IN-KIND

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of donors who have supported Jewish Family & Child through gifts-in-kind, including simcha baskets, sports and event tickets and items for our Just-A-Second Shop.

## TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

We gratefully acknowledge the individuals and families who have considered Jewish Family & Child at their times of joy and sadness by choosing our organization as the beneficiary of their tributes and memorials.

## ECHOAGE

We gratefully acknowledge the children and their families who have chosen Jewish Family & Child as the beneficiary of their birthday celebrations.

## ENDOWMENTS

We acknowledge with gratitude the following endowments that have been established with Jewish Family & Child. Some are presently making a difference; others will make a difference in years to come:

Alfie Magerman Memorial Camp Fund  
Abraham & Marcy Fish Fund  
Banack Family Chanukah Fund  
The Barbara Pinchuk Unsung Heroes Legacy Fund  
Bert & Barbara Stitt Family Children's Fund  
Beverley Black Fund  
BrightEnd Spirits Fund  
David Baum Scholarship Fund  
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Dora Wilensky Memorial Fund  
Eva Landa Memorial Scholarship Fund  
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Gordon S. Wolfe Children & Youth Fund  
Henry Korenblum 1:1 Camp Fund  
Herzig Cuperfain Family Fund  
The Idek Geitzhals Camp Fund  
Jenne & Henry Goodman Scholarship Fund  
Jeremy & Jo-anne Cole Levelling the Playing Field Fund  
Lolly Propas Memorial Fund

M. Ison Family Bar & Bat Mitzvah Fund  
Mark Gross Fund  
Mark Janasz Memorial Fund  
Marvin & Miriam Dryer Greatest Needs Fund  
Michael Freeman Scholarship Fund  
Dr. Neil Berman Library Fund  
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The Orzy Family Fund  
Ralph List Endowment Fund  
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## VISIONARY LEADERS \$500,000+

Shirley Granovsky

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David Shaw  
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Rob Tick, Michelle Fuss & Family  
Karen & Herb Willer

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# JEWISH FAMILY & CHILD | SUMMARIZED OPERATING FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended March 31, 2016

- |                                  |                                |                                     |                                       |
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## REVENUE

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Ontario Ministries of Children and Youth Services, Community and Social Services	9,405,451	9,382,334
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto	5,513,017	5,708,285
United Way Toronto & York Region	1,936,161	1,918,717
Donations and bequests	1,493,515	1,165,823
Other income	1,014,605	1,109,423
Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany	558,307	581,933
The Regional Municipality of York	581,042	507,961
Fees from clients	290,829	268,964
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>20,792,927</b>	<b>20,643,440</b>

## EXPENDITURES

Child Welfare Services	8,080,617	8,196,656
Programs and Services (including prevention, outreach, counselling and financial assistance delivery)	8,726,704	8,659,806
Direct Financial Assistance to Clients*	3,968,494	3,686,958
<b>Total Operating Expenditures</b>	<b>20,775,815</b>	<b>20,543,420</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses before the following	17,112	100,020
Payback of disallowed prior years' HST claimed	0	255,072
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses for the year</b>	<b>17,112</b>	<b>(155,052)</b>

\*Includes camp and Passover assistance and emergency assistance to Holocaust survivors.

Audited Financial Statements including a report by Ernst & Young LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants are available at the office of JF&CS.

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## OUR MISSION

Jewish Family & Child supports the healthy development of individuals, children, families, and communities through prevention, protection, counselling, education and advocacy services, within the context of Jewish values.

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