

2024
Annual
Report



Mission

JFCS helps all people meet their full potential by providing expert community and behavioral health services.



Vision

We aspire to empower all people to overcome challenges, contribute to the community, and feel respected and valued.



Values

We are guided by the Jewish values of healing the world (tikkun olam) with loving kindness (chesed) as we strive to make the world a more just place for all (tzedek).



Letter from the CEO



Dear Friends,

As we embark on another chapter in JFCS's journey, I am filled with optimism about our path forward. This past year has been one of deepening impact, demonstrating how our commitment to serving the community continues to evolve and strengthen with each passing year.

Moving forward means building upon our foundational services while adapting to meet emerging needs. Our behavioral health services continue to be a cornerstone of our work, providing crucial support to individuals grappling with anxiety, depression, grief, and trauma. Yet we recognize that mental health is one piece of the larger picture.

Our expanded focus on Social Determinants of Health reflects our understanding that well-being is shaped by numerous interconnected factors. Our services address immediate housing and food insecurity while equipping individuals and families with crucial financial literacy and life skills to prevent future crises. We also work to ensure our older adult community members maintain

their dignity and independence while receiving the support they need to thrive. JFCS continues to honor our heritage by providing specialized services to the Jewish community, including dedicated support for Holocaust Survivors. Through counseling, support groups, and community engagement across all our programs, we are not just addressing immediate needs—we are helping build the foundation for lasting positive change in the lives of our community members.

The stories within our annual report illustrate the transformative power of our work—not just in the numbers served, but in the individual lives touched and futures brightened. Each success story represents a step forward, not just for one person or family, but for our entire community.

None of this would be possible without you—our dedicated staff, generous donors, and community partners. Your support enables us to move forward with confidence, knowing that together we can create positive change that will echo through generations. As we continue this journey of moving forward, we remain grounded in our mission while embracing innovation and growth. Thank you for being part of this vital work. Together, we are not just moving forward—we are moving toward a stronger, more resilient, and more supportive community for all.

With gratitude and hope for the future,

Carlos A. Hernández, DSW, LCSW, CPHQ
President & CEO

For over 80 years, JFCS has been a lifeline
for Southern Arizona, supporting families
and individuals when they are most in need.



Impact Highlights



2,000+ individuals served



62% of agency clients were low-income



26% of agency clients were older adults



36% of agency clients were Jewish



35% of agency clients were survivors of crime



20,000 hours of counseling provided

Moving Forward

A New Beginning



When **Sarah's** marriage ended, her world seemed to collapse around her. Suddenly a single mother of three young children, she found herself struggling to keep everything together. Bills were piling up, her confidence was at an all-time low, and the path forward looked impossibly steep.

"I felt completely overwhelmed," Sarah remembers. "I didn't know how I was going to support my kids or even take care of myself." The mounting financial pressure threatened to push her family towards instability, with rent payments becoming increasingly difficult to manage. It was a moment of desperation that led Sarah to JFCS. "I knew I needed help, but I was afraid to ask," she says. "I didn't want to appear weak or like I couldn't handle things on my own."

JFCS became her lifeline. The **counseling services** offered more than just professional support—they provided a space for Sarah to rediscover herself. Through **individual therapy**, she began to process the emotional trauma of her divorce and rebuild her sense of self-worth.

The **Divorce Recovery groups** proved particularly transformative. Sarah found a community of individuals who understood her journey. "For the first time, I realized I wasn't alone," she explains. The group provided practical tools to help her and her children navigate the emotional challenges of their new family dynamic.

Financial wellness workshops became another crucial area of support. JFCS helped Sarah develop practical skills to manage her finances, create a budget, and work toward housing stability. **Emergency financial assistance** bridged critical gaps, preventing potential eviction and providing breathing room as she rebuilt her life.

"These services didn't just help me survive," Sarah says. "They helped me find my strength and my voice." Week by week, month by month, she began to see a different future—one where she could provide for her children and feel confident about her path forward.

Today, Sarah stands on more stable ground. She's learning to embrace this new chapter of her life, filled with hope and a sense of independence she never thought possible. Her children are thriving, and she's creating a supportive, loving home environment.

JFCS meets individuals like Sarah exactly where they are, offering comprehensive support that addresses immediate needs while empowering people to rebuild their lives with dignity and purpose.

114
adults & children
attended Divorce
Recovery groups

\$222,000
in rent, grocery &
utility assistance
was provided

369
individuals
received emergency
financial assistance

43
individuals
received financial
wellness coaching

Moving Forward

Starting Over



At 82, **Ruth** arrived in Tucson feeling like a stranger in a strange land. After a lifetime of resilience, she found herself starting over once again, this time in a new city far from her previous home. The weight of her experiences as a Holocaust survivor sat heavily on her shoulders, and the prospect of building connections seemed daunting.

"Moving was terrifying," Ruth recalls. "I worried I would become invisible, that my stories would be forgotten, that I would be alone." The isolation threatened to overwhelm her, bringing back memories of her most challenging times.

Everything changed when she discovered JFCS's **Older Adults Services**. What began as a hesitant first step quickly became a lifeline of support and connection. **The weekly Holocaust Survivors meetings** became more than just a gathering—they became a sanctuary of understanding and shared experience.

"For the first time in years, I felt truly seen," Ruth says. At these meetings, she found a space to share her stories, to listen to others who understood the depth of her journey, and to forge meaningful connections with people who truly understood her past.

The practical support was equally transformative. Through JFCS's **Durable Medical Equipment program**, Ruth received a new walker that restored her mobility and independence. Her case manager became a crucial link to additional community resources, helping her navigate her new life in Tucson with confidence and security.

Each week, each connection, and each moment of support helped Ruth rebuild her sense of belonging. The isolation that once seemed insurmountable began to dissolve, replaced by a vibrant community of support and understanding.

At JFCS, stories like Ruth's remind us that community knows no age limit.

They reflect the enduring power of human connection—how support, compassion, and understanding can transform isolation into belonging, turning a new city into a true home.

779
individuals
received older
adult services

90,000
hours of home
care were provided to
Holocaust Survivors
throughout Arizona

\$44,310
in new durable
medical equipment
was provided



Rebuilding Lives

Services to Afghan Survivors Impacted by Combat



Since 2023, the **Services to Afghan Survivors Impacted by Combat (SASIC)** program at JFCS has provided comprehensive support to Afghan refugees rebuilding their lives in Tucson. The program serves Afghan immigrants who entered the US after July 31, 2021, and have been impacted individually or as a family by the effects of conflict.

SASIC supports Afghans who arrived through Operation Allies Refuge, Operation Allies Welcome, and Operation Enduring Welcome—the U.S. government’s emergency evacuation and resettlement efforts following the fall of Kabul in August 2021. Many SASIC clients include individuals who faced significant risk due to their association with American efforts in Afghanistan: interpreters and translators who worked alongside U.S. military forces, journalists who reported on human rights issues, medical professionals who provided care at U.S. facilities, government employees who supported democratic initiatives, and other at-risk individuals targeted for their professional backgrounds or advocacy work.

Comprehensive Support for New Beginnings

The program’s holistic approach includes:

- Trauma counseling services for individuals, families, and couples
- Weekly wellness groups for men, women, and youth
- Art and cultural programming to foster community connection
- Financial and digital literacy education
- Case management and care coordination
- Medical care through partnership with TMCOne

“I am very pleased to be introduced to the JFCS family; they have helped me tremendously,” shares **Sediqa Mohammadi**. “They enrolled my daughter in school, and every week they meet with her, providing excellent education in the children’s wellness program. One day a week, they meet with my entire family, offering us valuable wellness education. I am very grateful.”

Building Confidence, Creating Opportunity

“I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to JFCS and the dedicated staff of the SASIC program for their exceptional support in my education,” says **Najia Rahimi**, originally from Kabul. “They assisted me in joining the Health Information Technology certificate program. The Women Wellness Programs and confidence-building sessions have played a crucial role in shaping my journey to where I am today.”

242
Afghans
received services

90
counseling
sessions
were provided

522
hours of
wellness groups
were provided

295
additional Afghan
community members
were reached through
cultural events

Financial Highlights 2024

Where Our Funding Comes From



81%

of funding comes from
grants and contracts



10%

of funding comes
from donations

- Grants & Contracts \$8,329,292
- Donations \$1,051,431
- Other Revenue \$938,755

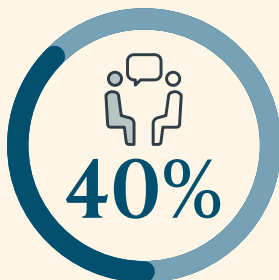
How We Use Our Resources



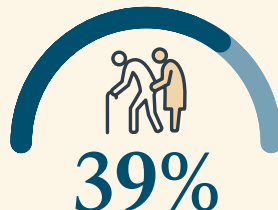
83%

of our funding goes
toward our services

- Services - \$8,534,315
- Administrative Support - \$1,431,807
- Marketing & Development - \$330,779



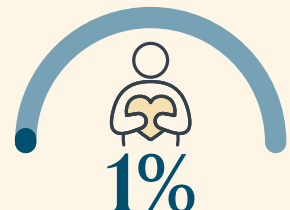
Behavioral Health
Counseling



Older Adult
Services



Refugee
Services



Community
Services



Board of Directors

BOARD OFFICERS

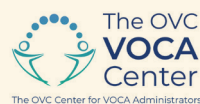
Ken Goodman, Board Chair
Susan Kasle, Chair-Elect
Dr. David Oroz, Secretary
Patrick Emerson McCormick, Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barbara Brumer	Yakov Levy
Dr. Mary Cochran	Dennisse Ley
Alma Hernández	Magdalena Verdugo
Nancy Lefkowitz	



Thank you to our partners for making our work possible.



JFCS is a proud partner of Jewish Philanthropies of Southern Arizona



(520) 795-0300

4301 E. 5th St., Tucson, Arizona 85711

jfcstucson.org