

Report of the Nominating Committee

President Diane Gutmann
 President-elect Kris Rasmussen
 Vice President Mel Morgenbesser
 Secretary Cynthia Hirsch
 Treasurer Mark Frankel
 Immediate Past President . Maria Cancian

2008-2009

Norma Sober

2008-2011

Dorothy Edwards, Diane Gutmann,
 Thomas Kaplan, and Helen Sternberg

Continuing through 2009

Genrikh Babich, Mark Frankel,
 Anita Parks, Kris Rasmussen, and
 Nancy Youngerman

Continuing through 2010

Cynthia Hirsch, Meryl Kupferberg,
 Mel Morgenbesser, Jeanne Silverberg,
 and Dean Ziemke

Ex-officio

Joshua Ben-Gideon, Jonathan Biatch,
 Yona Matusof, Steven Morrison,
 Greg Steinberger, and Laurie Zimmerman

Past Presidents

Lawrence Bensky, Liesl Blockstein z"l,
 Howard Goldman, Les Goldsmith,
 Roberta Lazarz, Joan Lerman,
 Daniel Levin, Harvey Malofsky,
 Kenneth Robbins, Stefanie Rose,
 Judy Sidran, Cheryl Rosen Weston, and
 James Youngerman

Statement of Financial Position February 29, 2008

ASSETS

Current Assets:	
Cash	\$69,800
Pledges receivable	2,600
Prepaid expenses	<u>2,616</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	75,016
Fixed Assets:	
Property and equipment	35,489
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(18,056)</u>
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	17,433
Other Assets	
Investments	<u>1,786,077</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$1,878,526</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	<u>\$6,729</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,729
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted:	
General	50,000
Board designated	<u>1,747,886</u>
Total unrestricted	1,797,886
Temporarily restricted	<u>73,911</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>1,871,797</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
	<u>\$1,878,526</u>

Board of Directors 2007 – 2008

President Diane Gutmann
 Vice President Mel Morgenbesser
 Secretary Norma Sober
 Treasurer Mark Frankel
 Immediate Past President . Maria Cancian

Genrikh Babich, Dorothy Edwards,
 Cynthia Hirsch, Thomas Kaplan,
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 and Dean Ziemke

Staff

Janice Beers
 Director of Immigrant
 & Refugee Services

Beau Martin
 Office Assistant

Nancy Dodge
 Geriatric Social
 Worker

Sherry Minkus
 Administrative Assistant

Louise Goldstein
 Director of Volunteer
 Services & Senior
 Group Programs

Steven H. Morrison
 Executive Director

Svetlana
 Govorukha
 Finance Director

Barbara Spierer
 Associate Executive Director

Francie Smith Saposnik
 Director of Senior Services

Jewish Social Services of Madison

Annual Report

Presented at the
 30th Annual Meeting
 October 27, 2008
 Madison, Wisconsin

The 2007 form 990 and FY 2008 audit are readily available for inspection at the JSS offices.



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“Don’t trust anyone over 30”

What seems like a lifetime ago, a student at the University of California at Berkeley named Jack Weinberg coined the immortal phrase, “Don’t trust anyone over 30.” When he invoked that sentiment in 1964, the 24-year-old did not have a social service agency in mind – he was a civil rights activist frustrated by government and society.

Today, Jack would be 65 and could, if he lived in Madison, be a client of Jewish Social Services which is, indeed, celebrating its 30th anniversary. And, without question, Mr. Weinberg – like nearly 1,000 others – would, indeed, trust the “over 30” JSS.

JSS was established (on February 9, 1978 to be precise) because the Jewish world and our own Jewish community were changing rapidly and in need of more social services than was being provided. The Madison Jewish community needed to become innovative in that changing world. We began with one full-time professional staff member and three-score volunteers – and a budget of \$37,995. We served 40 “counselees” and 152 individuals in group programs in 1978.

Thirty years later, Jewish Social Services served 998 individuals and agencies: 968 different individuals and 30 agencies. That represents a growth rate, during those three decades, of 420%. The JSS professional staff today consists of five highly-trained and experienced professional staff. Like the caseload, the professional staff has grown in the triple digits, 400% since our founding.

While many people remember JSS being founded mostly to serve seniors, today two-thirds of the clients served are under age 65. Similarly, many think of JSS in terms of its hallmark group program, the Harry J. and Belle Goodman, parents of Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman *Lechayim Luncheon Plus*, the weekly nutrition site. While that program continues to flourish with the largest attendance of any weekly program in Dane County, the largest category of service provided was casework with 35% of the 968 individuals having received that service. *Lechayim*, indeed, ties for second at 24%. Another 24% benefitted from our innovative unique Immigration Services program. I wrote at length about those efforts in last year’s Annual Report. The following bulleted “stats” provide a fuller picture of what JSS is all about as it begins its fourth decade.

Served 998 different clients; 968 individuals and 30 agencies in 2007

- 353 clients received casework services
- 240 clients received social/recreation services
- 237 received immigration services
- 126 clients received emergency financial grants
- 114 clients received information and referral
- 110 clients received “other” services

Our clients reflected a broad cross section of our community in 2007

- 198 clients were age 34 or younger
- 417 clients were age 35-64
- 359 clients were age 65 or older
- 37% of our clients had incomes under \$18,000
- 23% of our clients were disabled
- 67% of our clients were female
- 16% of our clients were unemployed
- 6% of our clients worked in the public sector or UW
- 40% of our clients worked in the private sector
- 36% of our clients were retired

Much has changed throughout these three decades and much will change as Jewish Social Services continues in the decades to come. As the 2000-2001 *National Jewish Population Study* continues to be analyzed and applied to the tests of everyday reality, we are seeing a fairly clear picture of where we are headed. The implications for a social service agency are many. Due to the space limitation of this report, I will focus on two of those headings which have particular relevance to JSS:

The median age of the Jewish population is older than it was ten years ago and older than the median age of the total U.S. population now

Between 1990 and 2000-01, the median age of the American Jewish population rose from 37 to 42, while that of the general American population increased from 33 to 35 years of age. In that same period of time, the proportion of elderly Jews increased from 17% to 19% of the Jewish population, in contrast to a decrease in the proportion of the elderly in the total U.S. population from 13% to 12%.

These basic demographic facts demonstrate that the Jewish population as a whole is growing older and that American Jews are older than Americans generally. In addition, the ranks of the Jewish elderly will swell even more in 2010, when the first members of the baby boom generation reach age 65.

The aging of the Jewish population over the past nearly twenty years, and the projected increase in both the proportion and number of Jewish elderly in the near future, will create new opportunities and challenges for Jewish Social Services, as well as for many Jewish families. This challenge takes on even more import given that Jewish fertility rates are below population replacement levels. That means, among other things, the average age in the Jewish community will continue to be significantly greater than the rest of the country and there will be fewer young Jewish family members to care for the rapidly aging population.

Economic vulnerability remains a significant cause for concern in the American Jewish community

In 2000, about 7% of American Jewish households had incomes that fell below the federal government’s official poverty line, and double that proportion, 14%, had incomes that placed them in a category that is considered “low income.” That translates to about 700 people who are part of the Madison Jewish community who are “low income.” As the Jewish population ages and America’s economy struggles, it’s likely those numbers have increased during the past eight years.

Economic vulnerability, as measured by low household income, is not distributed evenly across the American Jewish population. Poverty is more common among the Jewish elderly, immigrants, single mothers, those with a high school education or below, and those who are not currently employed. Adults living in households under the poverty line report poorer health and more health conditions that limit daily activities. Economic vulnerability also has important social service consequences since people who live in households with low income report poorer health and more social service needs.

As we begin our fourth decade

Diane Gutmann has served as President this past year. JSS has been privileged to have many very fine and dedicated Presidents and Diane continues that tradition. Diane, indeed, epitomizes the critical role played by our volunteers which helps make JSS so successful. Our volunteers together with a superb and talented staff go the profound thanks and appreciation they are all due.

There is little question that Jewish Social Services is meeting the mission laid out for it thirty years ago. It has succeeded in being innovative to meet the changes which have occurred. To do so has meant increasing its resources and professional staff. Many of the trends found earlier in this report will require new approaches, new tools, and new dollars.

Unlike most JSS executive directors around the country, I am also the director of this community’s Jewish Federation, the Madison Jewish Community Council. The same *National Jewish Population Study* which provided the basis for my earlier analysis speaks, too, to that role. It tells us that the annual campaign is not likely to grow significantly year to year, that the younger generation increasingly will give to secular causes. The Holocaust and the State of Israel are not likely to be the key philanthropic factors as they have been for the last sixty years. The issues outlined earlier and others will lead to keener competition among local Jewish agencies for tighter dollars. Innovation in generating the needed funds to meet all of the needs of the Jewish community will be the way we meet these changes.

These, among other reasons, are why Jewish Social Services has made the innovative decision to seek its own full-time executive director. While plans are still emerging, JSS hopes to have that individual in place in 2010. This is not only the right decision for Jewish Social Services and, for that matter, MJCC as well; it’s exciting and proof-positive that we can indeed trust those over thirty!

Steven H. Morrison
Executive Director