



# *On a roll*

WITH JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023





PRESIDENT

Leon Lichter

BOARD 2022-2023

Yaacov Brisman  
Aaron Foxbruner  
Sara Ginsberg  
Dovid Goder  
Joan Gottlieb  
Alan Gutmann  
Yael Kroll  
Francesca Liechenstein  
Moshe Luchins  
Tova Nechamkin  
Daniel Peikes  
Ari Trainer

RABBINIC ADVISORS

Rabbi Aaron Cohen  
Rabbi Yaakov Glasser



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The past year has been another year of growth and accomplishment in the ongoing mission of Jewish Family Service to provide critical support to the Passaic-Clifton community. These are complicated times, and there are many diverse needs impacting individuals and families within our community. JFS does a remarkable job of addressing those needs through its many programs; this in turn enables the community to thrive in a way that would be unthinkable without the crucial services that JFS provides.

This, of course, would not be possible without the contributions of many people: Members of the JFS Board should be recognized for their selfless commitment on behalf of JFS and the community at large. They give from their precious time to support the work of JFS and to expand its reach to benefit our community. The many other supporters of JFS, who support the agency in many ways – both financially and in other ways.

Finally, and most importantly, our gratitude goes to the staff and volunteers of JFS under the leadership of our Executive Director, Ozer Herzog. They work tirelessly and with great purpose to support our community. I have been privileged to work closely with Ozer and can attest to the dedication and *mesiras nefesh* that he consistently displays to ensure that JFS is run efficiently and wisely to maximize its positive impact on our community. I have also been able to observe the work of the staff and am overwhelmed by the strong sense of mission that guides them.

We are coming out of the COVID era but must recognize that each period brings its own challenges. I am certain that the dedicated leadership, staff and volunteers of JFS will ensure that we are up to the task in the coming year.

Leon Lichter



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JFS has seen improvements and developments from every program and from all corners of the agency. The theme of this annual report, “On a Roll,” captures our sense of accomplishment over this past year’s achievements, as well as excitement for the year ahead. Here, a selection of highlights:

- We launched the **Psychology Department** this past year with three externs. We are currently expanding the program to add another psychologist, and more externs/interns.
- Our case management program, **Somaich Achim**, had an active year with the Resource Center and community partnerships. We hired an additional case manager and will be bringing on another fulltime case manager this summer with the plan to provide interventions and support focused on specific populations.
- **Project SARAH** rebranded to promote its three areas of focus: mental health treatment, education & outreach, and legal assistance. The program introduced clinical care coordination, brining on two new staff members to provide comprehensive support to survivors. Additionally, education and outreach will expand with two dedicated staff including, the new Rabbinic Liaison beginning at the end of the fiscal year.
- The **Holocaust Survivor Program** has tripled in size with over \$2 million requested from the Claims Conference for next year.
- The **Senior Services Department** will be adding additional services and has a new assistant director to help address the growing needs of our senior population.
- The **Adult Mental Health Team** is expanding with more staff, allowing us to accommodate even more clients and families seeking services during those popular after-work/after-school hours.
- We just launched the **BAMH (Bilingual Adult Mental Health) Program**, which dedicates resources to the broader community including the recent hiring of more Spanish speaking therapists.
- The **Youth Mental Health Team** hired three new therapists this past year and is set to bring on more over the coming months.
- We celebrated six clinicians who earned their higher level licensure.
- Our **internal operations** and organization under the new Director of Operations and IT Coordinator are running like a well-oiled machine. Our new Human Resources Information System (HRIS) has streamlined the process of bringing on new staff, as well as bringing critical trainings to existing employees.
- The **Grants Team** continues to raise the bar, accessing opportunities for the agency to expand its services and securing 20% more funding over last year.
- The **Board** meets quarterly and the **Finance Committee** meets biweekly to help steer our growing revenues, expenses and responsibilities along a path that continues to align with our agency’s mission.

Lastly, the cover shows the wheel of our food truck, **Impact Café**, which is emblematic of our innovative forward progress to address the needs in our community. We have revamped vocational services and are now focusing on **Neurodiversity Career Development**. This will show case the good business sense in neurodivergent hiring practices.

We are on a roll going into the next fiscal year with tremendous excitement and fuel for further growth. Full speed ahead for a great year to come.

Alexander “Ozer” Herzog

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

*collaborating to meet the needs of individuals and families.*



“Addressing the needs of the community has greatly improved due to the collaboration of JFS.”



“Through working together with JFS, I now see just how much they do for the community.”



NEW HIRES

Yael Baldinger, LSW  
Project SARAH Therapist  
Benji Dessau, MSW  
Impact Café Program Manager  
Sibel Doko, BSW  
Case Manager  
Chani Gold  
Administrative Assistant  
Penina Goldman  
Events Coordinator  
Naomi Goldman, RN, LAMFT  
Family Clinician  
Dawn Lax, LSW  
Youth Clinician  
Michelle Lepak, LCSW  
Project SARAH Consultant  
Esther Pesah, LSW  
Youth Clinician  
Jessica Remache, LSW  
BAMH Clinician  
Naftoli Sobel, LSW  
Youth Team Clinician  
Dr. David Steinman, PhD  
Psychology Consultant  
Hannah Toran, LSW  
Project SARAH Clinical Care Coordinator  
Rivky Volovik, LSW  
Project SARAH Clinical Care Coordinator

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

Family and Individual Therapy  
Play Therapy  
Psychological and Psychiatric Evaluations  
Parenting Training and Groups  
School Liaison  
Family Therapy  
Coping Skills Development

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH

Group Therapy  
Evidence Based Treatment  
Grief Counseling  
Individual Psychotherapy  
Couples Therapy  
Post Divorce Counseling  
Pre-Marital Counseling  
Psychiatric Assessment and Medication Management

SOMAICH ACHIM COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Benefits Advocacy  
Camp Assistance  
1-to-1 Case Management  
Crisis Intervention  
Emergency Assistance  
Financial Counseling and Debt Management  
Co-op/Food Pantry  
School Advocacy

SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES

Parent Resource Center and Rutie Peikes Library  
Special Needs Parent Support  
Neurodiversity Career Development

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

providing children, teens and adults with mental health services.



“My therapist has done absolute wonders for my mental health. I still have my struggles, but I feel healthier than ever. I am forever grateful for the help I've received and continue to receive here.”



SOMAICH ACHIM FAMILY SUPPORT

supporting high need families within our community.

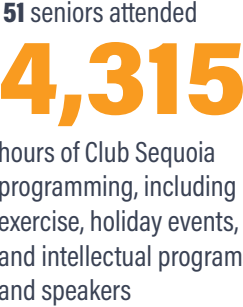


“The Co-op saves us so much money every week and it's done in such a dignified way.”



SENIOR SERVICES

engaging our seniors to improve social and mental health.



“Club Sequoia has been a lifeline for me.”

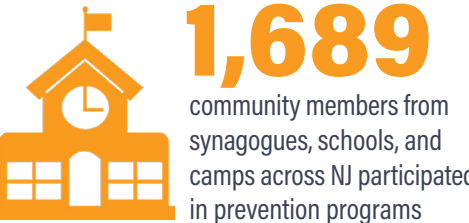


Services to Holocaust survivors are supported by The Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany. Caring People Inc. continues to provide the matching requirement for Holocaust survivors. Thank you to the foundations and government agencies who support our work with seniors: The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation, Passaic County Department of Senior Services, Disability and Veterans Affairs, New Jersey Office of Faith Based Initiatives, The Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council, and The New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

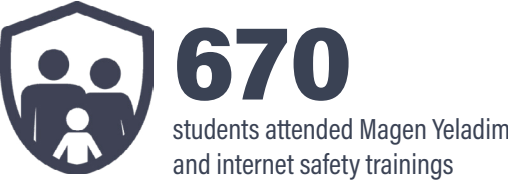


PROJECT SARAH AND PALS

- supporting survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse.
- educating community members and students.
- protecting survivors through legal services.



“Project SARAH helped me get through the hardest time of my life.”



SENIOR SERVICES

Café Europa  
Case Management  
Holocaust Survivors  
Support Services  
In-Home Family Assessments  
Psychiatric Evaluations and Treatment  
In-Home Counseling

CLUB SEQUOIA

Current Events Group  
Jewish history  
Creative Arts Programming  
Exercise Programs  
Holiday Events  
Complimentary Refreshments  
Health and Wellness Services  
Recreational Activities  
Silver Sneakers  
Monthly Documentary Films  
Book Club

PROJECT SARAH

Community Education  
Individual Therapy  
Clinical Care Coordination  
Art Therapy  
Community Support Line  
Domestic Violence Victims Support Group  
Survivors of Sexual Abuse Support Group  
Magen Yeladim International (Parent and School-Based Programs on Safety)  
Legal Consultation and Representation  
Relationship Videos  
Training for Rabbis and Professionals

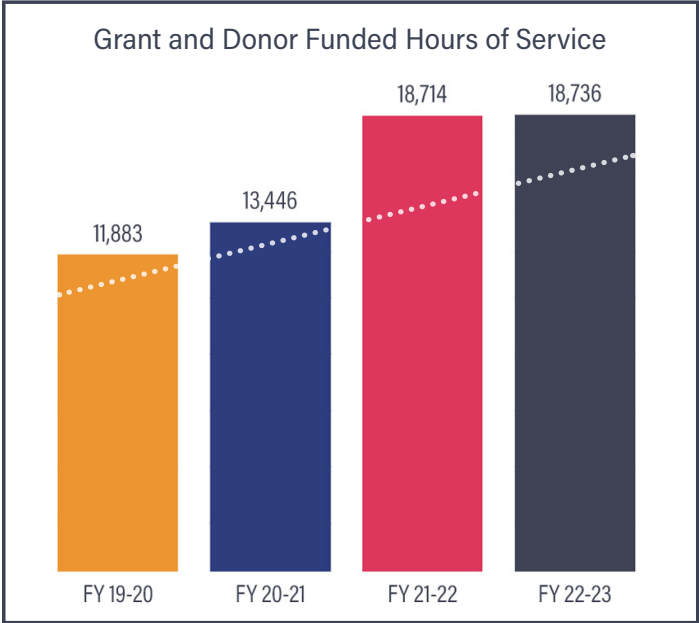
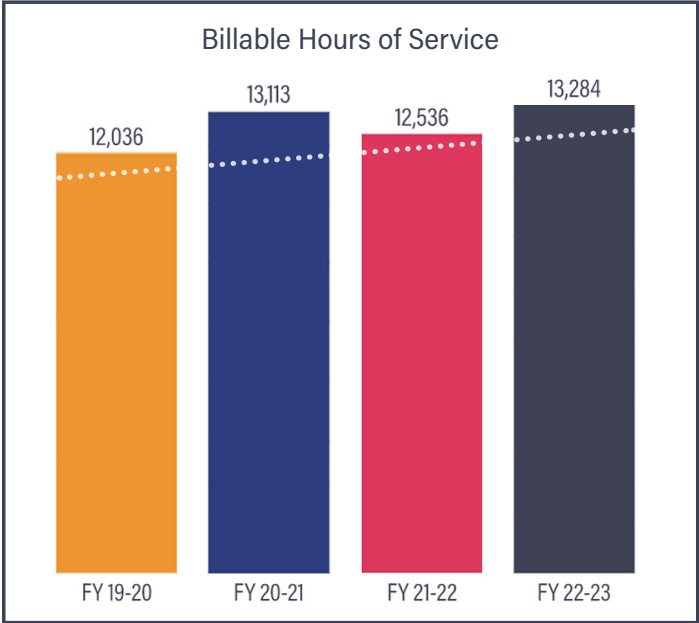
PALS (PEACE: A LEARNED SOLUTION)

Art and Movement Therapy  
Case Management

# GROWTH

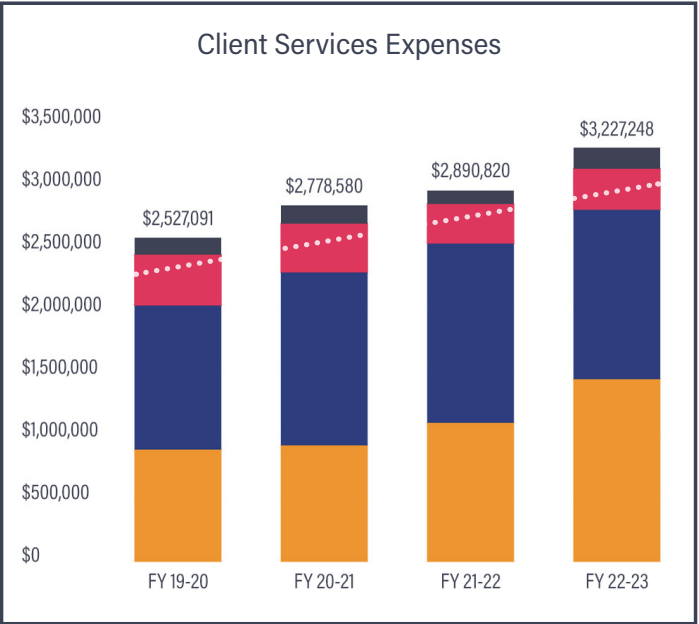
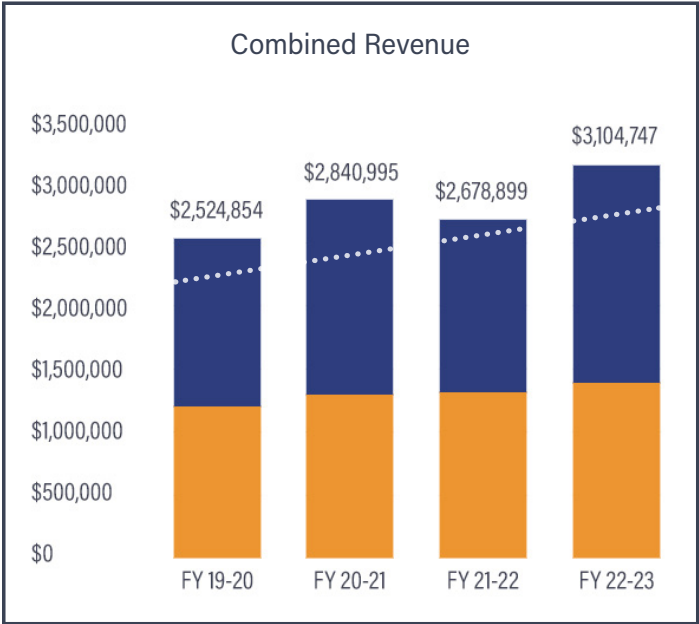
over the past four years

“I don’t know how to thank you for your incredible care. You have been instrumental. I couldn’t have done it without you.”



**9.39%**  
percent increase over 4 years

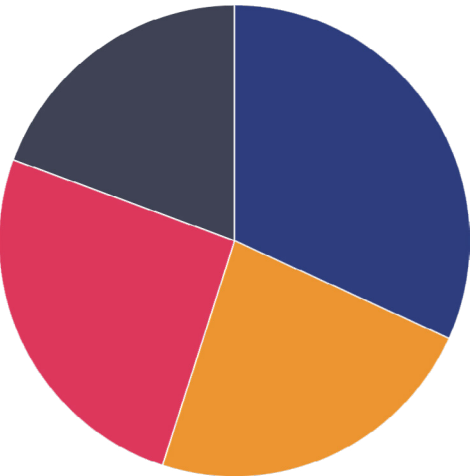
**36.57%**  
percent increase over 4 years



**18.68%**  
percent increase over 4 years

**21.7%**  
percent increase over 4 years

# FINANCIALS



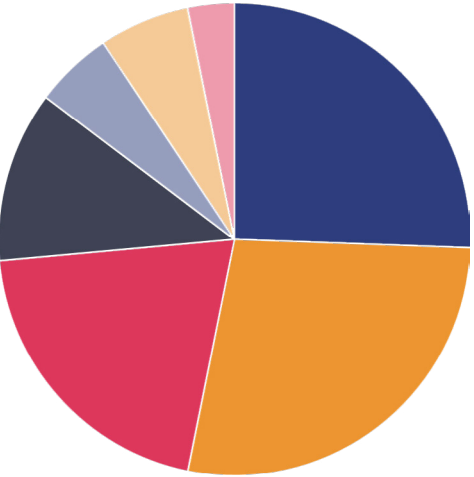
Grants.....	\$1,719,206
Clients.....	\$1,385,541
Donations .....	\$1,252,343
Holocaust Survivor Services ..	\$1,050,640
<b>Total Revenue.....</b>	<b>\$5,407,730</b>

**DONATE**  
**241**  
new donors

“Where else can I get such great care that’s affordable?”

**1,622**  
total donations this year

# PROGRAM EXPENSES



Trauma Related Services.....	\$1,424,218
Mental Health and Psychiatric Services .....	\$1,318,892
Holocaust Survivor Services..	\$1,050,640
Administration.....	\$604,686
Case Management Services...	\$319,536
Fundraising.....	\$275,852
Senior Services.....	\$164,602
<b>Total Expenses.....</b>	<b>\$5,158,426</b>

“I am forever grateful for the help I’ve received and continue to receive here.”

**Platinum Transparency 2023**  
**Candid.**

The Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency indicates that JFS has been independently vetted as sharing clear and important information with the public about its goals, financials, strategies, capabilities, achievements and progress indicators that highlight the positive difference JFS makes in our community.



# STRESS MANAGEMENT

skills and support

ZOOM GROUP FOR WOMEN

**TUESDAYS at 8:00 PM**

STARTS FEBRUARY 7

Facilitated by Ozer Hedeig, LCSW and Naomi Goldman, RN, LAMFT

To register, please call 973-777-7638 x101 or email info@jfsclifton.org

INSURANCE IS ACCEPTED



# need more diapers?

**JFS CAN HELP!**

The JFS Co-op has diapers available free of charge to residents of Passaic/Clifton.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: co-op@jfsclifton.org or 973-777-7638 x194



# THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE home

Would you benefit from mental health services, but can't leave home?

Jewish Family Service clinicians are available to provide therapy to address mental health, emotional, and relationship issues for individuals 60+ in the comfort of their home.

There is no cost for this program. This service is funded by a grant from the Passaic County Department of Senior Services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 973-777-7638 x205 or s.katz@jfsclifton.org

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SENIOR SERVICES, INCLUDING SERVICES FOR CO-OP/STAY SERVICES: 973-777-7638 x140 or p.pickles@jfsclifton.org




# JFSRESOURCECENTER

We're here to help you address any financial hardship through government and community assistance programs.

The JFS Resource Center provides clear guidance and information as well as hands-on assistance. One does not need to receive services at JFS to benefit from the Resource Center.

[JFSCLIFTON.ORG/RESOURCE-CENTER](http://JFSCLIFTON.ORG/RESOURCE-CENTER)

For more information, please contact us at [resourcecenter@jfsclifton.org](mailto:resourcecenter@jfsclifton.org) or 973-777-7638 x104.




# INFLATION got you down?

**JFS CAN HELP!**

The JFS Co-op provides non-perishable food items, produce, diapers and wipes free of charge to people in need in Passaic/Clifton.

- Any state of NJ resident is eligible
- Choose any item that you want
- Daytime and evening appointments available

For more information, email [co-op@jfsclifton.org](mailto:co-op@jfsclifton.org) or 973-777-7638 x104



# TRAUMA-INFORMED yoga

New healing group for women 18+

**Mondays at 8:00 PM**


STARTS JUNE 5

Kim Stevens-Redstone, E-RYT 500 is a certified yoga therapist and meditation instructor who has been sharing her love of yoga with adults and children for over 10 years. Her classes are trauma informed, tailored to the needs and requests of the students, and accessible to all levels. Her focus is on therapeutic yoga and breath centered practices, which ground us in the present moment, allowing for improvement of overall health and well-being.

Yoga blocks will be provided. Participants must bring their mats.

Zoom option available. \$20 per session.

To register, please call 973-777-7638 x101 or email [yoga@jfsclifton.org](mailto:yoga@jfsclifton.org)



# Living Creatively

USING OUR SENSES TO ENHANCE OUR LIFE EXPERIENCES

A UNIQUE CREATIVE WRITING COURSE

This workshop is for seniors 60+ and will focus on "How I See It: Saying it through creative thinking." Participants will follow sensory experiences using sound, color, taste, smell, touch and movement to produce creative writing and art.


**Tuesdays at 11 AM**

6 week session: June 14 and 16, August 6, 16, 23 and 30

INSTRUCTED BY: **Chris Parker**  
Creative Aging Educator, Post Playwright

Free for Club Sequoia members. \$25 for the entire 6 week session for non-members. To register, please contact Shaina at 862-400-2074 or [s.bodenheim@jfsclifton.org](mailto:s.bodenheim@jfsclifton.org).

MADE POSSIBLE BY A GRANT FROM THE WALLERSTEIN FOUNDATION.



# anyone can sing

CLUB SEQUOIA GERIATRIC WELLNESS CENTER IS PROUD TO PRESENT A NEW GROUP FOR SENIORS:

Instructed by Mara Adler O'Kelly, "Anyone Can Sing" will build a community through song and appreciation for music, while learning basic, healthy and safe vocal techniques. Culminating in a public performance, the real goal is for participants to gain joy and confidence in using one's own voice to make music.

**SEVEN WEEK SESSION WILL TAKE PLACE ON ZOOM BEGINNING ON**

**june 14, 10 a.m.**

PROGRAM DATES: JUNE 14, 21, JULY 19, 26, AUGUST 2, 9, 16

Zoom ID: 382.180.890

For more information and to register, contact Shaina at 862-400-2074 or [s.bodenheim@jfsclifton.org](mailto:s.bodenheim@jfsclifton.org)



# THE Healing Circle

A VIRTUAL GROUP FOR ADULT FEMALE SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Bringing Your Next Circle Set to Relationships of All Kinds

This 10-week series offers a supportive and compassionate space to explore:


- Why relationships matter - starting with your relationship to yourself
- How sexual trauma impacts emotions, relationships and intimacy
- Tools for forging safe and healing connections with others

**MONDAY EVENINGS**  
8:00 - 9:15 PM  
STARTING JUNE 5

Participants of this virtual support group will be invited to attend in-person.

Group co-facilitated by Project SARAH therapists: Cara Harmon, LCSW and Yael Baddinger, LSW

This group is free of charge for NJ residents. For more information and to register, please call 973-777-7638 x103 or email [healer@project-sarah.org](mailto:healer@project-sarah.org)



PROJECT SARAH | 110 MAIN AVENUE | PASSAIC, NJ 07055 | [PROJECTSARAH.ORG](http://PROJECTSARAH.ORG) | 973-777-7638

# JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF CLIFTON-PASSAIC

## YOM HASHOAH

BILOGICALLY REMEMBRANCE DAY

**TUESDAY, APRIL 18 | 12 - 2 PM**

YOUNG ISRAEL OF PASSAIC-CLIFTON

200 BRUNNEN AVENUE, PASSAIC, NJ 07055

**CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY**  
If people will commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Survivors, and Genocide and Education.

**RABBI IRA KRONENBERG**  
Rabbi and Senior Rabbi of the Conservative Synagogue of the US Army shows his personal story.

**JOEL GLAZER**  
Educator, Public High School History teacher and former British High School History and Holocaust Studies teacher.


**GERDA LESHIN**  
Holocaust survivor and Passaic resident shares her personal story.

**KAVOD**  
KAVOD offers emergency aid to Holocaust Survivors in the US and worldwide. We're here to help you get a necessary response. When and Army Israel Program, Co-Founders. KAVOD will share about their work along with some photos of Holocaust survivors that John has taken from around the world.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

For more information, contact Sarah Katz, JFS Senior Center Coordinator and Holocaust Educator at [sarah@jfsclifton.org](mailto:sarah@jfsclifton.org)

Help fund services for Holocaust Survivors and ensure at [JFSCLIFTON.ORG/DONATE](http://JFSCLIFTON.ORG/DONATE)



# Passaic-Clifton Mental Health Professionals Networking Event

**SUNDAY MORNING**  
10:30 - 12

Join us for a special event.

Network for collegial support, referrals and for your opportunities. For MH Professionals who live and/or work in Passaic-Clifton.

[CLICK HERE to Register.](#)



# holding your hand

A VIRTUAL WORKSHOP FOR KALLAH TEACHERS AND MIKVAH ATTENDANTS

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**  
10 AM - 1 PM EST


**Aliza Bulow**  
Kallah Mikvah Teacher

**Shavi Samet**  
Supporting Kallahs

Aliza Bulow is an author, educator and mentor. She teaches, mentors, and supports Kallahs in their journey. Shavi Samet is a Kallah Mikvah Teacher, Torah teacher, and coordinator of the Kallah Mikvah Program at the Jewish Family Service of Passaic-Clifton. She provides educational opportunities to Kallah teachers and students.

Followed by Q&A

For more information, email [alrander@jfsclifton.org](mailto:alrander@jfsclifton.org)



PROJECT SARAH.ORG | 973-777-7638

# CLUB SEQUOIA GERIATRIC WELLNESS CENTER IS PROUD TO PRESENT A

## MOVING DANCE COMPOSITION workshop

Join us for this series that will stimulate you both mentally and physically, as you tell your story through movement.




No dance skills or experience needed. This course is for seniors 60+.

**TUESDAYS AT 11 AM**  
MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 18, 25, MAY 2, 9, 16

INSTRUCTED BY: **DARIO J. MOORE**

Dario is a professional dancer and choreographer. With over 20 years of senior-level dance education and arts management experience, he uses his creativity as a teaching artist to inspire those he works with, as well as building an inclusive community with his students.

Free for Club Sequoia members. \$25 for the entire 6-week session for non-members. To register, please contact Shaina at 973-777-7638 x101 or [s.bodenheim@jfsclifton.org](mailto:s.bodenheim@jfsclifton.org)

# Making more money yet still struggling to make ends meet?

**Financial Empowerment Seminar**

Controlling your wallet without the kids leeching

HOSTED BY RABBI AND JFS

**Featuring Rabbi Elyahu Prero, Certified Mesila Coach**

**Sunday, March 19, 10:00 AM**

Light refreshments will be served

**YBIF** **MESILA** **JFS**

SPONSORED BY: **Barry Stein** Tax & Accounting Services

Members of the **YBIF** Finance Assistance Committee

# JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE'S CLUB SEQUOIA INVITES YOU TO OUR

## Shavuot Holiday Program

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24**  
12 - 2 PM

Enjoy cheesecake and fruit with Debra Kapnick, and join us for the Chorale's Concert sing-along with Emily Katz, Rhoda Rosenfeld, Ruth Schapiro, and Aliza Dubin!

Transportation available

RSVP by May 17 to Sarah at 973-777-7638 or [s.katz@jfsclifton.org](mailto:s.katz@jfsclifton.org)

*Looking forward to seeing you!*



# PROJECT SARAH PRESENTS

## A Conference for New Jersey Rabbanim

CREATING A WELCOMING SPACE FOR DISCLOSURES

**Dr. Akiva Perlman, PhD**

Dr. Perlman is a professor, lecturer on issues of abuse, and a member of the Rabbanim Council. He is also the Clinical Advisor and Director of the Rabbanim Council of the Jewish Family Service of Passaic-Clifton. He is the author of the book "The Rabbanim Council: A Guide to the Rabbanim Council of the Jewish Family Service of Passaic-Clifton." He is also the author of the book "The Rabbanim Council: A Guide to the Rabbanim Council of the Jewish Family Service of Passaic-Clifton."

**Dr. Yitzchak Schechter, PhD**

Dr. Schechter is a leader in Holocaust studies and is the author of the book "The Holocaust: A Guide to the Holocaust." He is also the author of the book "The Holocaust: A Guide to the Holocaust."

**Sunday, October 23, 3 - 6 PM**  
Congregation Pivnei Yisrael  
100 W. BRUNNEN AVENUE, PASSAIC, NJ

# WELCOME



PROJECT SARAH  
Supporting Survivors and Families