



INDEPENDENCE FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

Annual Report 2023-24

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024



CLIENTS ON THE COVER (left to right)

Top: ■ **Katerina P.**, a Day Program, Athletics and Fitness (A&F) and Residential client, excels in flag football and softball.

■ **Christine M.** participates in JESPY's Day, Residential, and Engagement & Enrichment (EEP) programs. She enjoys going on client trips.

First row: ■ **Jeanine P.** participates in the Work Readiness & Employment Engagement (WREE) Program. She is employed by Walgreens and the South Orange Board of Education.

■ **Bram V.** attends JESPY's Day and EEP programs. He enjoys dancing to his favorite rock & roll songs.

■ **Passion C.** is compassionate towards others. She participates in JESPY's Day Program and loves to travel and shop.

■ **Dan J.** is an employed participant in JESPY's WREE Program who works at the JCC MetroWest.

Second row: ■ **Joshua G.** is a Day Program client who loves video games and attending JESPY trips.

■ **Dawn O.** takes part in JESPY's Day, EEP, and Residential programs. She enjoys working on crossword puzzles.

■ **Kayana S.** is a Day Program participant and A&F athlete who excels at bocce.

■ **Jordan FW** attends JESPY's Day Program and participates in fitness routines with the A&F department.

Third row: ■ **Shane L.** loves dancing and music. She attends JESPY's Day and A&F programs.

■ **Ted K.,** participates in JESPY's Day, EEP, Residential, and A&F programs.

■ **Arvin F.** participates in the Day Program. A good friend to many, his charm endears him to all his peers.

■ **Tommy F.** participates in JESPY's Day and A&F programs. He is a talented bocce player who enjoys team comradery.

Photo credits:
Elise Campbell Photography; Lori Abrams;
Sonya Kimble-Ellis; Ahadi Bugg-Levine; Djenne Clemons.

A Message to you from **Dr. Ahadi Bugg-Levine** and **Audrey Winkler**



Dear Friends,

JESPY House is proud to report on another phenomenal year of providing adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities with the supports they need to live independently. You have played a critical role by donating resources, spreading the word about JESPY, providing services and programs, volunteering, and so much more. Thank you!

This year marks a pivotal moment in our journey as we conclude the leadership phase of our Go Big for JESPY campaign. Go Big will allow us to develop two vital buildings: The JESPY Center and The Hub, which will serve our clients' diverse residential, service, and program needs. A heartfelt thank you to our extraordinary donors, including Toby and Leon Cooperman who are matching up to \$13.25 million to establish the Cooperman Family Campus which will unite our facilities and foster a deeper sense of community.

The JESPY Center will offer affordably-priced and aging-in-place housing, cutting-edge service spaces, and innovative programming. For many of our clients, this means finally being able to live in their own apartments or to stay in the community they love. The Hub will provide our young adults with much needed residential, service, training, and program space.

Our high-quality programs had incredible growth, especially in Health & Wellness. The NJ Department of Health approved our Clinical & Behavioral Health Department to establish an outpatient clinic to provide virtual and in-person counseling services for the IDD community. Our partnership with Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center offered invaluable workshops to our clients. Our Athletics & Fitness Department introduced a swimming program, an active walking club, and tailored exercise routines in our shared houses.

We hope that this annual report inspires you and shows the profound impact JESPY has on our clients and the broader community.

Thank you for being such an important part of our journey. Together, we are creating a future filled with possibility for those we serve!

Dr. Ahadi Bugg-Levine, *President*
JESPY House Board of Trustees

Audrey Winkler, *Executive Director*
JESPY House

JESPY House Executive Director

Audrey Winkler

JESPY House Board of Trustees July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Board Officers

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MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS





JESPY expanded our media presence with press releases that appeared in *PR Newswire*, *Yahoo Finance*, *Morningstar*, *WPIX*, and *NBC4i*. Advertisements and articles highlighting JESPY programs and events were featured in *NJ Jewish News*, *Tapinto*, *Village Green*, and *News Record of Maplewood and South Orange*.


Special television and virtual news segments included an in-depth feature on News 12's *Spotlight New Jersey* with Della Crews (shown above) as well as a featured discussion on Comcast Newsmakers with journalist Candace Kelly.

Podcast interviews with *The Brand Called You* and *MAPSO Podso* highlighted JESPY programs and clients. In other promotional efforts, the department created JESPY marketing materials; distributed a quarterly e-news; and developed videos for JESPY campaigns.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

 Facebook - 2615 followers
[Facebook.com/JESPYHouse](https://www.facebook.com/JESPYHouse)

 LinkedIn - 271 followers
[Linkedin.com/company/jespyhouse](https://www.linkedin.com/company/jespyhouse)

 Instagram - 1037 followers
[Instagram.com/jespyhouseinc](https://www.instagram.com/jespyhouseinc)

AWARDS SEASON

JORDAN FW - NJACP STARS AWARD



A Day Program client for six years, Jordan also actively participates in JESPY's Athletics & Fitness, Work Readiness, and Recreation programs. He was recognized for his increased independence, ability to work well with others, and maintaining his daily schedule.

KAREN MAXSON - NJACP HERO AWARD



Karen has been a Transitional Coordinator in JESPY's Work Readiness & Employment Engagement program since 2021. Responsible for providing job development and coaching, she initiated new community job sites that provide clients with opportunities to build work-related skills.

Congratulations to **Fred Blackmon, JESPY's Daily Living Skills Counselor**, who received a CARES Award for Professional Excellence at the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ's CARES Professional Development Day. Congrats as well to **Kevin Barton, JESPY Athletics & Fitness Supervisor**, who was awarded the NJACP 2024 Leadership Honoree Award. New Jersey Association of Community Providers (NJACP) assists member agencies in their support of adults with IDD.

DAY PROGRAM



Clients in JESPY's Day Program experience impactful growth and development through participating in inclusive activities. The program offers services in the areas of **Habilitation** – life skills for clients age 18 and older; **Transitions** – adult-learning support for clients age 18-35; and **Aging in Place** – life skills growth for clients age 45 and older.

The department, which experienced a 30% increase in enrollment, also focuses on community integration, advocacy, and independence. Highlights included:

- **NJACP ADVOCACY DAY:** Clients visited the State House in Trenton, NJ to advocate for accessible transportation and inclusive programs for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.



Clients participated in NJACP Advocacy Day by taking a trip to the State House in Trenton, NJ to advocate for equity for individuals with IDD.

- **VOLUNTEERISM:** Clients created flowers for The Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ's memorial garden and filled backpacks with school supplies.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Day Program Grand Opening

In September 2023, JESPY celebrated the grand opening of our first Day Program location in Maplewood, as pictured above. In attendance were the town's former Mayor Dean Dafis, several JESPY board members, clients, and staff.

Columbia Bank Visit

JESPY welcomed 12 volunteers from Columbia Bank who represented locations from across New Jersey. The volunteers worked with clients to create holiday crafts and learned about JESPY's services and programs.

A hands-on craft activity was a highlight for Day Program clients during a visit with employees from Columbia Bank.





ACTIVITIES WITH IMPACT

Interactive games designed to educate and enrich clients included: *Community Signs & Signals Jeopardy*; *Monopoly*; and *What's In Your Shopping Cart?*

Additionally, clients hosted a lemonade stand; participated in a Fall Harvest Party wearing unique costumes; used creativity during a cookie decorating activity, and craft and drawing sessions.

CLIENT SUCCESS

Joshua B. achieved several notable accomplishments. His effective communication skills helped him secure employment at Drew University. Joshua also received specialized training in ride-share applications, enabling



him to independently commute daily from the Day Habilitation program to work. Joshua took the initiative, as well, to foster meaningful relationships with his peers. He is proud of the skills he learned during his time in the Day Program's Transitions Group.

ENGAGEMENT & ENRICHMENT



Clients visiting the Museum of Emotions.

The specially-designed groups in JESPY's Engagement and Enrichment Program (EEP) provided creative and interactive outlets that enhanced clients' well-being and personal development. Clients participated in onsite activities, community outings, and overnight trips.

Recreation activities included opportunities for self-expression and the expansion of social skills. With a 20% increase in participation and attendance, the program's growth was due in part to the addition of new groups, trips and classes that piqued clients' interest.



Clients had fun while attending a S'mores event sponsored by a JESPY board member.

CLIENT SUCCESS

Client members of the **JESPY Omega Lions Club** have made an important impact within the community. The only New Jersey branch of the Lion’s Club solely comprised of individuals with IDD, the JESPY group raised money and donated items to Eyeglasses for the Needy, helped with clean up and planting in South Orange parks, and engaged in a Kentucky Derby event which raised funds for charities. The club’s motto is to promote community outreach and inclusiveness.



GROWING TOGETHER

Groups that fostered friendships and increased confidence and personal growth included EEP’s Young Adult, Happy & Mature, Walking, Technology, and Theater groups. Specialized classes for self-awareness, job readiness, and how-to projects were also popular. ‘Speed Friendship’ events were a new and exciting way to increase client engagement.

HELPING OTHERS

Giving back to those in need was of great importance to clients in the We Care and Warmth Project groups. We Care group members filled the local community fridge with grocery and personal care items, and donated pet food and supplies to pet shelters. During the colder months, Warmth Project participants distributed winter accessories throughout the community.



Above left: Led by Theater Director Elizabeth Broadhurst of Little Apple Arts, clients performed in a production of *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown*.

Above right: Clients showcased their photography talent and sold items during an exhibit at Green Door Studio in Millburn, NJ.

Left: The vast array of client trips included Liberty Science Center, Medieval Times, and Asbury Park. Clients are shown here at Essex County Mini Golf Safari.

WORK READINESS & EMPLOYMENT ENGAGEMENT (WREE)



The Work Readiness & Employment Engagement (WREE) department, which provides clients with essential tools to succeed in the workplace, supported 174 clients during FY 2023-24. Clients work in areas that include food service, retail, mailroom, marketing, guest relations, and administration.

The department also initiated a Records Management Training* program. As part of the project, clients learned aspects of document preparation and scanning for governmental, legal, and financial documents. The department worked with employment support agencies Hudson Community Enterprises (HCE) as well as ACCSES NJ, to develop opportunities in new fields, using these new skills.

The department continued to build employer connections through networking with the SOMA (South Orange/Maplewood) Chamber of Commerce, Gateway Chamber of Commerce, and others. Staff attended community events, resource fairs, and job fairs to identify additional workplace opportunities for clients.

CLIENT SUCCESSES

Heather S. and Ari G. moved into leadership roles within their companies. Their job advancement and promotions were due to their diligent work ethic and motivation to succeed. Heather became Assistant Manager at Sports Clips where she now supervises and trains other stylists and develops product incentive programs. Ari became a Shift Leader at Five Guys where he successfully developed his leadership skills and learned supervisory responsibilities.



* Grants totaling \$75,000 from the Knight Family Foundation, the Gary Aidekman Family Foundation, and the Jerome G. and Annette S. Zimmerman Foundation, allowed the WREE department to initiate the Records Management Training program.

ATHLETICS & FITNESS



SPECIAL OLYMPICS MEDAL WINS

SUMMER GAMES

TENNIS

5 Gold, 4 Silver,
4 Bronze

BOCCE

2 Gold, 2 Silver,
3 Bronze

SOFTBALL

1 Silver

TRACK & FIELD

12 Gold, 14 Silver
13 Bronze, 4 4th place,
2 5th place

WINTER GAMES

VOLLEYBALL

2 Bronze
4 4th Place,
2 5th Place

JESPY's Athletics & Fitness department grew in the areas of community partnerships, sports participation, and fitness sessions. More than 130 clients participated in the program, 10% of whom were new clients playing on sports teams or engaging in 1:1 or group fitness sessions.

During the fall 2023 season, **Special Olympics of New Jersey and NFL Play 60** provided a memorable experience for JESPY athletes (shown below) to play catch with football Hall of Famer Eli Manning at the Special Olympics Complex in Lawrenceville, NJ.



Clients were excited about their visits with **Seton Hall University's Tennis and Women's Volleyball teams** to participate in practice drills. Seton Hall's Volleyball team also attended JESPY basketball practices to work with clients on warm up drills.

Outings for clients included attending **New York Yankees** and **Somerset Patriots games**, viewing Seton Hall basketball and volleyball matches, and watching a **pre-season New York Jets game** from the Sky Box. In friendly competition, clients took part in JESPY's annual Color Wars event, where teams competed in softball, volleyball, and relay games.

The implementation of a new Yoga program for clients provided an outlet for relaxation while a fun, end-of-year “Maintain, Don’t Gain” challenge enabled clients to focus on their health during the holiday season.



Special Olympics

Several JESPY teams participated in Special Olympics NJ, competing in Seasonal Games as well as bowling, basketball, and golf sectionals. Client Greg L., who received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Special Olympics, was proud to be selected as a Summer Games torch bearer.

CLIENT SUCCESS

While competing on JESPY athletic teams, Derek M. (shown top row, third from left) demonstrated maturity, composure, and sportsmanship. He often put those attributes and his athletic skills to work during games. He also developed as a leader, helping new athletes learn JESPY sports routines. Derek is an accomplished athlete with JESPY House and Special Olympics, taking home a Gold medal in softball and Silver medals in volleyball and basketball.



CLIENT CARE/NURSING

To promote client health and wellness, JESPY’s Health Education and Support department held 15 informational workshops. Conducted in partnership with the **Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center/ RWJ Community Health & Outreach Program**, the presentations focused on Healthy Aging, Heart Health, Fall Prevention, When to Go to the ER, and Choking Prevention.

The partnership also included a successful flu and Covid-19 booster clinic where 61 clients and staff members received vaccinations and boosters. During sessions with JESPY’s onsite nurse, clients learned about diabetes, wound and rash care, nutrition, and proper hygiene.



Staff from Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center administered flu vaccinations to clients and JESPY employees.

Our staff received training in the areas of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), First Aid, Seizure Protocols and Client Care. Sixty-six staff members were certified/re-certified in CPR and the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) machine.

The department participated in a global Minority Health Forum presented by Digital Realty, an international realty group, which focused on health disparities among underserved populations including individuals with IDD.

JESPY IN THE COMMUNITY

As a proud member of the South Orange community, JESPY increased awareness about adults with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities; engaged with community partners; celebrated diversity and inclusion; and recognized the service and contributions of others.



◀ JESPY presented a **CLERGY BREAKFAST**, which was an informational event hosted by Board President Dr. Ahadi Bugg-Levine. Clerics from South Orange, Maplewood, and surrounding areas gathered to learn about JESPY programs.



▲ JESPY supporters, family, and clients had an enjoyable time at **JESPY TRIVIA NIGHT!** The 'Friend-raiser' was co-hosted by Fox & Falcon Restaurant in South Orange and generated \$3,000.



▲ Nine JESPY models wore fashions provided by Sadie's boutique in an annual fashion show sponsored by **SOUTH ORANGE DOWNTOWN**. The well-attended event was held in Spiotta Park in celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM).

▼ In honor of Crossing Guard Appreciation week, **CROSSING GUARDS FROM SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD** were invited to JESPY for a celebratory Appreciation Breakfast. The event was held in conjunction with **WALK BIKE RIDE SOUTH ORANGE** and the **SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENTS**.

▶ During the holiday season, JESPY participated in the **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY STREET FAIR** hosted by **SOUTH ORANGE DOWNTOWN**. JESPY clients and staff sold decorative buttons and holiday gift tags created specially by JESPY clients.



◀ JESPY staff took part in the **COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR** hosted by the **SOUTH ORANGE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**. The event included free health screenings, mental and physical health resources, and fitness sessions.





▶ Several clients and Executive Director Audrey Winkler enjoyed making challah at an interactive challah-making event hosted by the **JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER METROWEST NJ**.

◀ JESPY House client Jessica M. was recognized at a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast for her work at **MEND (Meeting Essential Needs with Dignity) HUNGER RELIEF NETWORK**. Jessica enjoys her work sorting and bagging items donated to benefit those in need.



Photo by Lori Abrams.

COMING TO JESPY

A large number of prospective clients and their families inquired about JESPY residential options, programs, and services. Site tours, trials, and interviews resulted in the successful acceptance of many new JESPY clients.

DURING 2023-24, JESPY:

Received **249 Inquiries** regarding programs and services.

Held **12 Trials** for Residential and Shared Housing.

Conducted **96 Interviews** for JESPY programs.

DURING 2023-24, JESPY ACCEPTED:

88 new clients

who participated in JESPY's Day Habilitation, Engagement & Enrichment, Work Readiness & Employment Engagement, Clinical, and Shared Housing programs.

GO BIG FOR JESPY



Leon and Toby Cooperman, seated center, are shown at a JESPY event recognizing their amazing matching gift pledge to JESPY's Go Big campaign.

Excitement and anticipation are in the air as we continue to gain momentum with our Go Big for JESPY campaign, an undertaking that builds upon our 46 years of success in serving our clients and our ability to adapt to meet their evolving needs.



Ken and Judy Peskin, one of JESPY's \$1MM donors.

and will also offer affordably-priced housing for clients of all ages. The JESPY Center will also include additional vocational, clinical and program spaces, community spaces, and expand health, wellness, and recreational facilities.

The Hub will create residential units for young adult clients transitioning to living independently. Also, of great importance, The Hub will include spaces for vocational and life skills training, a new library and technology center, and flexible program spaces for music and art.

The vision for Go Big for JESPY stems from the desire to support JESPY clients to remain in the community they've grown to love, and where they've created lives, and gained personal independence.



Go Big for JESPY, the most significant fundraising effort since our founding, is the culmination of years of planning for the future ensuring that the very foundation on which JESPY stands remains strong, vibrant, and responsive to our clients and their families.

A truly historic effort, Go Big for JESPY will allow us to create **The JESPY Center** and **The Hub**, state-of-the-art facilities designed specifically for our JESPY community.

The JESPY Center will significantly expand residential opportunities for adults with IDD to age in place



GO BIG FAMILY AMBASSADORS

Maria Carroll	Connie Micale
Stacy & David Ennis	George & Cookie Nirenberg
Annette Evans	Mark & Deborah Oppenheimer
Cathy Fonseca	Jane & Bob Perris
Michael & Sophia Gershman	Richard & Patricia Podell
Richard & Amy Lerner	Deborah Tiedrich

GO BIG DONORS (As of August 31, 2024)

Richard & Abbey Aborn	Johnson & Johnson Matching Gifts Program
Susie Adamson	Marc & Leslie Kallus
Anonymous (3)	Elaine & Daniel Katz
Michael & Vivian Barbiero	Palisa Kelley*
Roderick & Lisa Beittel	Sol Kempinski
Mike Benenson	The Kesselhaut Family Foundation
Ruth Berman	Lori & Steven Klinghoffer
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Susan Berman	Mindy Kodish
Hoda & Bob Blau	Sharon Levy
Brach Eichler LLC	Alison* & Ivor Lewis
Lori Breitman	Jay & Ellen Lowenthal
Jonathan & Beth Bressman	Randall Mark
Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) Foundation Matching Gifts	Suki Marsh-Shikiar
Victoria & Erik Brooks	The Maurice Family Fund
Antony & Ahadi Bugg-Levine	Leslie McCafferty
John Buschman	The McGrane Family
Stephanie Carmel	Matthew Murphy & Jane Sheehan
Hersh & Fern Cohen	The Myers Family*
The Leon & Toby Cooperman Family Foundation	Lindsey Myers & Justin Saphirstein
Kelly Cullen	Steven Myers
Diane Davis & Will Hopkins	George & Cookie Nirenberg
Stacey* & Gene Davis	Mark & Deborah Oppenheimer
Steve Detwiler	Bruce & Margery Ostrow
Disability Opportunity Fund	The Pechter Foundation
Dorothy & Robert Hamer	Patsy and Ted Perl
Sheila Drill	Nancy & Gary Perlman
Mitzi and Warren Eisenberg Family Foundation	Ken & Judy Peskin*
Hadley & Stephanie Feldman	Pfizer Matching Gifts
Cathy Fonseca	Julia Plotnick*
Linda Sipelstein Gaba	Richard & Patricia Podell
William & Lisa Galen	Erika Rains
Michael & Sophia Gershman*	Daniel Ramer
Susan & Lou Gidding	Denise & Yoav Rekem
Bill & Kathy Gilbert	Mark & Judith Reuter
Marcia Gillette	Arnold & Carol Rifkin
Stephen & Patricia Gluckman	Sandra Rosenblatt & Alisa Gershman
Susan & Ron Gold	Robert & Joan Rothberg Foundation
Michael & Terri Goldberg	Marjorie Katz
Eric & Susan Goldman	Saint Elizabeth's of Hungary Church
Google Matching Gifts	Mary Shakoor
Elaine Harris	Matt Sheedy & Alice Greenberg-Sheedy
Barbara Hasson	Michael & Carol Smith
Healthcare Foundation of NJ	Phyllis Staloff
Julie & Jonathan Hersch	Benjamin & Jesse Turner
Daniel Horowitz & Brigette Moreno	Marie Renee Thadal
Howard & Margaret Jacobs	UBS Matching Gifts
Lori Janiger	George Weinhouse
	Amnon & Judith Weinstock
	Susan Weinstock
	Melissa & David Wish
	The Zales Family

* Go Big for JESPY Committee Member

Philanthropic contributions to Go Big are integral to our success! Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Stacey Davis and Sophia Gershman, Go Big for JESPY is well underway! In July 2023, the Leon and Toby Cooperman Family Foundation made an extraordinary dollar-for-dollar \$13.25 million matching gift pledge in the hopes that other caring donors will join them by making their own personally meaningful gifts to help underwrite The JESPY Center and The Hub.

During this Leadership Phase of Go Big, incredible gifts of \$1 million each have been offered by Honorary Chair Judy Peskin and Ken Peskin, The Myers Family, The Eisenberg Family, and an Anonymous Donor.

We couldn't be more grateful to the Coopermans and to all who have so generously responded to meet this challenge! That's just the beginning! Today, the MATCH IS ON! For every dollar contributed to Go Big for JESPY, the Cooperman Family will match that gift up to \$13.25 million. There has never been a more urgent and exciting time for all JESPY supporters to be a part of JESPY history as, together, we meet The Cooperman Challenge and move our Go Big for JESPY vision to reality! We invite you to join this essential and impactful campaign.

To learn more, please visit our website:
jespyhouse.org/GoBig.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



JESPY's Residential Services encompass a range of housing options that enable clients to learn vital skills and become increasingly independent. Most clients start their residential journey at **The Residence**, a supervised apartment environment. Clients then advance to **Shared Housing**, which provides a home-like setting



or **Independent Living** in the South Orange community, which enables clients to live on their own with assistance from the Community-Based Supports department.

Several clients graduated from the Residence and either moved out into the

community or into one of JESPY's six shared houses. Each time a client graduates from the Residence, an opportunity is created for another client to join the Residential Services program.

Residential Services clients practiced social skills and self-care. They continually worked on budgeting; created menus and cooked together; and participated in group discussions on decision-making and teamwork. Clients also actively helped plan household chores and community activities.

CLIENT SUCCESS

JESPY client Ben P. (shown below far right) moved into the Michael Och House – A Center for Aging at JESPY in March of 2024. Before moving, he had never lived away from his family's home. In spite of some apprehension, he took the leap to become independent.

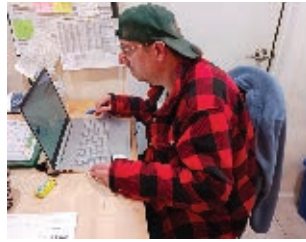
Ben's positive attitude, coupled with a love of singing, proved contagious as he became acclimated to the Och House and JESPY. He has made lots of friends and become more social. Ben was supported by staff to know that he could walk from one of JESPY's program buildings to the Och House on his own. He often called staff to relay that he didn't need transportation because, "I've got this!"



Interactive shared housing activities included recognizing Breast Cancer Awareness Month, holiday barbecues, and a 'Back to the 80s' party and game day event at the Michael Och House – A Center for Aging at JESPY, which was attended by clients from several shared houses.

COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORTS

JESPY clients residing in the South Orange community receive daily support from the Community-Based Supports department. With a focus on learning and maintaining daily living skills, the department assists clients with increasing their goals for independence.



Clients learned valuable computer skills.

Case managers helped clients gain skills in the use of technology. There was a 42% increase in clients using computers, writing and sending emails, and viewing training videos on finances and apartment-living skills.

Client contributions to a regular Family Letter bolstered their verbal and written skills. There was an increase, as well, in clients learning to use transportation services, which lead to additional clients traveling independently to medical appointments, recreation, and visiting family.

CLIENT SUCCESS

Since coming to JESPY in 2015, Ira H. diligently worked to further his independence. After initially spending two years living in The Residence, JESPY's supervised apartments, he moved to one of JESPY's Shared Homes. Ira now lives in his own apartment in the community. In May of 2024, he graduated from Seton Hall University with double Master's degrees in Public Administration and Diplomacy and International Relations.



CLINICAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

One of the biggest accomplishments for JESPY's Clinical & Behavioral Health department, which provides clients with counseling services in a multitude of areas, was the completion and procurement of NJ Department of Health (DOH) licensure. This additional level of licensure enabled the Clinical department to grow and to provide services to more people with IDD and their families.

Since JESPY's expansion into Medicare, Medicaid, and Managed Care, the Clinical department had a nearly 60% increase in the overall number of individuals served. The increase included JESPY clients as well as members of the IDD community at large.



Focused areas of counseling include increasing self-confidence and insight, developing coping skills, decreasing depression and anxiety, and developing adaptive behavior skills.

CLIENT SUCCESS

When Client P. started therapy, he expressed strong feelings of hopelessness, was not goal-oriented, and had no plans for his future. After ten months of treatment with the Clinical department utilizing Cognitive Behavioral Treatment and Rational Emotive Therapy, Client P. demonstrated improvements in mood, motivation, future planning, and anger reduction.

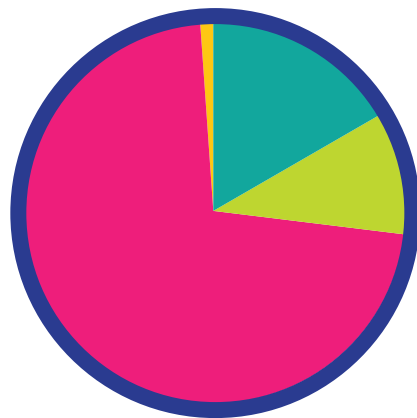
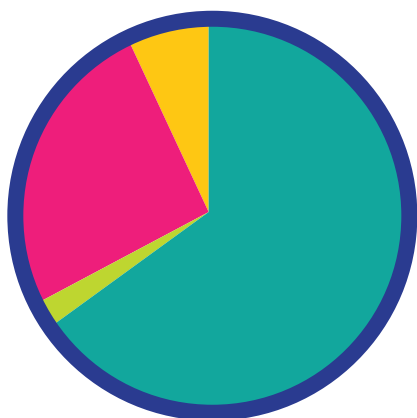
A VIEW OF 2024 Financials (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

INCOME

● Government Funding	\$6,040,270
● Foundation Funding	\$213,375
● Earned Income	\$2,410,180
● Contributions	\$624,989
Total	\$9,288,814

EXPENSES

● Administrative and Finance	\$1,505,804
● Buildings and Facilities	\$933,015
● Program	\$6,489,951
● Capital	\$93,682
Total	\$9,022,452



The above financial summary does not include Go Big for JESPY.

Annual Giving

Each year, JESPY raises funds to support our annual needs. These funds ensure high quality programs and services for our clients. Philanthropic support is raised through special events, mail and digital campaigns, grants, matching gifts, do-it-yourself fundraisers, and more.

- Grants to support client programming and services came from the Jewish Federation of MetroWest NJ, the Russell Berrie Foundation, E.J. Grassmann Trust, The Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation, and The Grotta Fund for Older Adults.
- Matching gifts from corporations and foundations generated over \$20,000 in donations.
- Gifts through Donor Advised Funds continue to be popular.

- Additional ways to give support include: matching gifts, donor advised funds, stocks, IRAs, Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD), planned gifts, Facebook fundraisers, and monthly giving.



Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ sponsored an interactive Israeli dancing session for JESPY clients.

2024 Gala

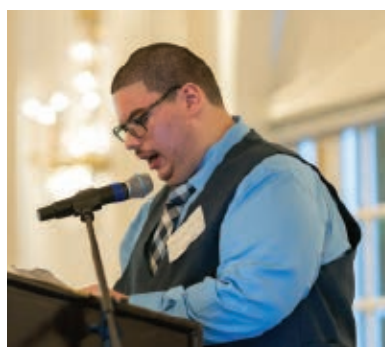


JESPY's Spring Gala: Invest in Success

was a great success! The fundraiser honored dedicated and longtime Board Member Stacey Davis, who has served on the JESPY board for 12 years. The event also paid tribute to clients Geri R., Andres G., Jeanine P., Zachary E., and Gerry J. Each client shared their impactful journey to self-confidence and independence.

Gala attendees included JESPY supporters, donors, clients, families, board members, and staff. Davis presently serves as Board Secretary, member of the Executive Committee, and Co-Chair of the Go Big for JESPY House campaign. The Gala raised over \$446,000 for annual support, more than any in-person gala in JESPY history.

Photos by Joy Yagid.



Left to right: Stacey Davis, center, is shown with Leon and Toby Cooperman; clients Andres R. and Gerry J. shared their JESPY experience.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Acting as a liaison between the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and JESPY House, the Quality Assurance (QA) Department promotes continuous improvement and implementation of best practices, as well as customer satisfaction.

QA regularly monitors and evaluates the performance of JESPY programs and services and conducts in-person internal audits and other improvement initiatives to ensure high levels of service to clients.

During this fiscal year, JESPY received a 3-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities [CARF], and it was noted that “the organization has an excellent internal quality assurance process”. JESPY is proud to be accredited in the following areas:

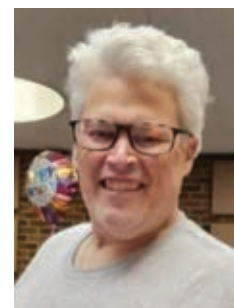
- Community Employment Services: Employment Supports and Job Development
- Employment Development Services

IN MEMORIAM

Andrew Plotnick had a wonderful sense of humor and a great passion for movies and television. Andrew possessed a strong work ethic and was training for JESPY's new records management initiative. He is survived by his mother Julia and a loving family.



Jeff Stern, who was a client for over 35 years, was actively involved on JESPY's Special Olympics softball team for many years. For a time, he was employed in the mailroom at Prudential. He is survived by his sister Betsy and his wife of 32 years, Kirbee Stern.



Thank You for Making Our Work Possible!

JESPY House is thankful to have the support of individuals, foundations, corporations, and community organizations to fulfill our mission. Every dollar makes a difference. Thank you for being a pivotal part of the JESPY community.

Below please find a list of donors who supported JESPY's general operating needs with a minimum gift of \$100 in the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. We have made every effort to ensure listing accuracy and apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions.

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“I love it here at JESPY. You get all the assistance you need. You have options and you’re well accepted here.”

— Hillary F.

“JESPY is a good place to be creative. It’s a place to learn to get along with people, to relate with others and to the world.”

— Ruth C.

“I’ve learned to make friends. I felt brave enough to do it. I’m glad that I met new people and I’m very grateful.”

— Anderson R.

“Being at JESPY helps keep my mind clear. It helps me with ways to move forward with my future.”

— Richard S.