

#### All ABOUT ADVOCACY

During a **SAVE MEDICAID POSTCARD WRITING EVENT**, community supporters, clients, family members and board members wrote to state representatives to highlight the importance of keeping Medicaid funding intact.



SENATOR CORY BOOKER invited JESPY clients to a PRESS CONFERENCE AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN NEWARK to highlight the impact of Medicaid cuts on people with disabilities.



## AWARDS SEASON NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY PROVIDERS



MATT A. –
NJACP STARS AWARD:

Matt's work ethic and positive attitude earned him this well-deserved recognition.



## EBONY GONZALEZ – HERO AWARD:

Ebony was recognized for her dedication to our clients. She currently works as House Manager

at The Michael Och House – A Center for Aging at JESPY.

Cover: sports photo by Marco Catini - Special Olympics New Jersey.

#### A Message to you from

# **Dr. Ahadi Bugg-Levine** and **Audrey Winkler**





Dear Friends.

For decades, JESPY has proudly supported adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD), offering wide-ranging services that help clients live independently and thrive. Our programs provide the tailored support each client needs—from learning daily living skills and finding meaningful work to building friendships and so much more.

This past year brought exciting milestones and growth. We expanded recreational programming, doubling the number of local and overnight trips. These shared experiences build confidence, deepen social connections, and create lasting memories.

We guided clients through life's transitions: moving into new homes, managing loss, and taking on new responsibilities. Our Transitions programs offered steady support at every step.

Advocacy took many forms. JESPY clients engaged with local, state, and federal leaders—sharing their experiences and highlighting the importance of affordable housing, access to Medicaid, and greater independence.

We launched the Integrated Care Services Initiative (ICSI) to facilitate seamless client access to the full range of JESPY supports, from mental health care to case management. We also provided extensive staff training in leadership, communication, and behavioral health. Our dedicated and skilled team is critical to JESPY's success.

The Go Big for JESPY campaign continued to build momentum. We ended the fiscal year with an energizing groundbreaking celebration for The JESPY Center—a project that will provide aging-in-place and affordable housing and more program space. In the year ahead, we'll focus on construction, securing approvals for The Hub for young adults, and inviting more supporters to join us.

Because of your belief in JESPY, clients achieved remarkable goals: living independently, maintaining long-term employment, and earning medals at the Special Olympics.

Thank you for believing in JESPY and the future we're building—together.

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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, 2024-June 30, 2025

#### **Board Officers**

Ahadi Bugg-Levine, *President*Sophia Gershman, *Vice President*Alison Lewis, *Vice President*Matthew Sheedy, *Treasurer*Stacey Davis, *Secretary* 

#### **Board Members**

Jeffrey Bier Palisa Kelley
Diane Davis E.J. Leppert
Jordan Davis Jonathan Myers
Elaine Harris Michael Och

Judy Peskin Denise Dimson Rekem Suki Marsh-Shikiar Melissa Wish

## **JESPY** in the Community

Building strong community ties by assisting those in need, honoring public servants, fostering inclusion, and building lasting relationships with local organizations.



In a show of gratitude, JESPY held its second annual CROSSING GUARD APPRECIATION BREAKFAST for South Orange and Maplewood crossing guards. The event was hosted in partnership with Walk Bike Ride South Orange and the Maplewood and South Orange Police Departments.

JESPY held a food drive to support MEND
(MEETING ESSENTIAL NEEDS WITH

**DIGNITY)**. The drive was conducted along with JESPY client and MEND volunteer Jessica M. Donated items included tuna, shelf stable milk, and cereal.



#### TRIVIA NIGHT - A COMMUNITY

FRIENDRAISER was an evening filled with trivia, fun, and food! The successful event raised \$3,359 and was attended by community members, JESPY clients, board members, and staff.

Students prepared to go back to school with a functional and colorful backpack of their choice. Members of JESPY's Omega Leos (South Orange Lions Club) joined the WEST ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT for their local backpack drive.





information, live music, and more!



Putting fashion and fun first, ten JESPY clients walked the runway as part of the SOUTH ORANGE DOWNTOWN ANNUAL FASHION SHOW! Clients wore trendy designs courtesy of Sadie's Boutique with hairstyles provided by Artistry Salon by Ampy.



## **Marketing & Communications**

**Shares and spotlights JESPY news** 

The Development, Marketing & Community Relations Department promoted JESPY in a variety of ways. The team produced and distributed several digital and printed newsletters, event postcards, and impact reports; made updates and improvements to the JESPY website; created new departmental program brochures; and produced greeting cards that feature client art.

In recognition of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, the department published articles highlighting JESPY clients, providing them with the opportunity to write about their independence journeys.

Ads and press releases were created to promote JESPY events, clients, and projects.

JESPY was featured in segments on broadcast media, digital and print media event coverage, and inclusion by News12, Matters Magazine, Montclairlocal.news, SOMA Living Magazine, News Record, Village Green, Tapinto, NJ.com, roi-nj.com, and binje.com.

#### **Social Media**

Consistent posts on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram included JESPY updates, events, and issues impacting the disability community. The department also created and shared photos and videos highlighting client accomplishments.

Facebook continued to be our most widely used form of social media, growing by 7.2% in the last fiscal year. An increase in posts on LinkedIn resulted in a 47% growth in followers while Instagram had a nearly 5% increase in followers while

maintaining consistent follower engagement and interaction.

#### Engage with us: follow and share our content



Facebook- 2692 followers Facebook.com/JESPYHouse



Instagram- 1062 followers
Instagram.com/jespyhouseinc



LinkedIn- 509 followers
Linkedin.com/company/
iespyhouse

## **Quality Assurance and Intake Summary**

**Continuous implementation of best practices** 

#### **Client Service Audits**

The Quality Assurance (QA) Department continues to do extensive medication audits at all JESPY residences to review client medications, medication records, and prescriptions. The Department continues to update JESPY's Medication Policy. The Quality Assurance team also conducted internal audit samplings of client notes for the services they receive to ensure alignment with insurance requirements.

#### **Client Intake and Go Big for JESPY**

The Intake and QA Departments are in the early planning stages for the Go Big for JESPY Campaign. The departments are developing guidelines and procedures for prospective clients interested in The JESPY Center and The Hub, two new JESPY facilities that will provide affordably-priced housing and enhanced programs and services.

## **Residential Services**

Fosters independence and skill development for all residents

While participating in the Residential Services Program, clients gain confidence in managing daily responsibilities, learn to live independently, and collaborate with others. Clients excel in all areas of life while living within one of the three options provided by the department.

The Residence is a supervised apartment setting where most clients begin their residential life at JESPY. Clients then move on to **Shared Housing**, living in a home with other clients. They also have the option to advance to **Independent** 

**Living**, where clients receive assistance from the Community-Based Supports Department while residing within the community of South Orange.

By increasing community outings to events and local businesses, the Residential Services staff helped foster client independence and community engagement. Clients also enhanced their independent living skills by using self-advocacy in decision-making, daily activities, nutritional meal planning, and chores.

Through the Jewish Services for the Developmentally Disabled (JSDD)

Life | Home | Tech initiative, clients benefitted from working with innovative

smart home devices and an induction

stove to promote safety in the kitchen.

#### **CLIENT SUCCESS**



During the summer of 2024, client Sam G. moved into The Residence and began participating in the Transition Program, which is designed to empower young adult clients to gain the skills and confidence needed to live independently.

Initially reserved, Sam's efforts allowed him to gradually form meaningful friendships. Sam also worked diligently on his cooking, cleaning, and time management skills. His commitment paid off—Sam successfully graduated from the Transition Program in less than a year, is thriving in his own apartment in the community, and receiving community-based supports.

## Community-Based Supports (CBS)

Helps clients successfully strengthen and navigate their lives

The Community-Based Supports (CBS) Department made significant progress in advancing a person-centered model that brings together the strengths of Case Management, Daily Living Skills (DLS), and families. Through this unified approach, the department was able to continue to provide quality service and advocate for clients.

A key achievement involved the successful advocacy for a client who had been incorrectly tiered under the New Jersey Comprehensive Assessment Tool (NJCAT). A reassessment was requested and approved, resulting in the client being correctly tiered. This change led to access to services which improved daily skill development.

The Department also taught strategies that enabled clients to make progress in areas such as budgeting and personal organization. The CBS Department showed that with Case Management leading the services that support the client and families working together, our clients are better equipped to achieve stability and growth.

## **Athletics & Fitness**

Increases client wellness, inclusion in sports, and overall fitness



In an impressive show of athleticism, teamwork, and comradery, JESPY clients successfully participated in an array of sporting and fitness events. They also attended athletic games that provided them with the opportunity to see sportsmanship at play. Clients attended preseason NY Jets games, Rutgers Women's Basketball and Somerset Patriots minor league baseball games.

Four clients, who participated in the South Orange Rescue Squad's "Sound the Siren" 5k run/walk, also toured the squad's headquarters and ambulances to learn about the community's Emergency Medical Services.

JESPY's onsite fitness training included the use of gym equipment and exercise routines. Clients also took part in nutrition counseling and education programs on the benefits of physical activity.

Sessions consisted of cardio, strength training routines, free weights and/or weight machines, and light stretching.



EXIT,

#### ATHLETICS & FITNESS HIGHLIGHTS

- Several JESPY clients secured various medal and First and Second Place wins in the Essex County and Spring Games Singles Tournaments and North Bowling Regionals.
  - Client Michael P. was featured as SOMA Living Magazine's Athlete of the Month.

#### **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

Clients competed during the Golf,
Bowling, Basketball, Tennis, and Track
& Field Sectionals and the Fall,
Winter, Spring, and Summer Games.
Additional sports include volleyball,
soccer, flag football, bocce, and
pickleball. JESPY athletes continue
to compete as one of the largest
groups of athletes participating in
Special Olympics New Jersey.



#### SPRING 2025 GAMES

**BASKETBALL** 

1 Bronze

**BOWLING** 

1 Gold | 2 Silver

3 Bronze

#### **SUMMER 2025 GAMES**

**TRACK** 

6 Gold | 6 Silver

8 Bronze

**TENNIS** 

3 Gold | 5 Silver

8 Bronze

**SOFTBALL** 

1 Gold

**BOCCE** 

1 Silver | 2 Bronze

#### **CLIENT SUCCESS**

A participant on JESPY Special Olympics teams since 2022, Dominique B. has excelled in bowling, volleyball, soccer, and bocce. Over time, she learned to fully engage with teammates, give her best effort during sports competition, and increase her confidence in her abilities and skills.

Dominique has won Gold medals in bowling, Silver medals in volleyball, and Bronze medals in soccer and bocce. She also earned the opportunity to recite the Athlete's Oath during the Special Olympics Summer Games Opening Ceremony.

When not training for Special Olympics, Dominque attended JESPY's Yoga classes and took part in the Walking Club. She has proven to be an all-around athlete.



## **Client Care**

Ensures quality of service for clients' medical and healthcare needs



JESPY's Health Education and Support Department monitored the quality-of-care standards in all JESPY programs. Instruction was provided to Direct Support Professional and Residential Services staff to assist clients with glucose monitoring and provide additional diabetic care and surveillance.

The department continued to train new hires and existing staff in the areas of Seizure Protocols, Personal Care, Medical Needs, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Basic Safety.

All Automated External Defibrillator machines and First Aid kits were consistently monitored throughout JESPY facilities. Weekly visits to JESPY shared houses were made to oversee the overall health and well-being of each client.

The JESPY nurse furthered an ongoing partnership with Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center's Community Health & Outreach Program which resulted in onsite health education workshops for clients presented by medical professionals. Sessions included: Choking Prevention, Healthy Eating, Falls Prevention, Heart Health, and Hydration. In addition, Planned Parenthood sessions were held in the areas of Hygiene & Self-Care, Personal Consent & Boundaries, and Personal Safety.

The Department monitored the efficacy of a new client pharmacy service and collaborated with the Quality Assurance Department to enhance JESPY's medication administration process.

# Engagement & Enrichment Program (EEP)

Encourages collaboration, critical thinking, socialization, and creativity



By focusing on clients' ever-evolving interests and needs, the Engagement & Enrichment Program (EEP) provides clients with intergenerational programming that engages their creativity, develops personal growth, and heightens their social skills with evening and weekend offerings.

From establishing 'buddy partnerships' to special events and community inclusion, EEP provided clients with fun and fulfilling schedules. Project Warmth, a group started by JESPY clients, celebrated seven years of collecting and providing winter gloves, hats and scarves to those in need. The client WE CARE group donated more than 30 pounds of cat and dog food to a local shelter and helped with a canned food drive for Our Lady of Sorrows food pantry in South Orange.

Clients enjoyed an abundance of trips provided courtesy of the Judi House Fund, which was created by Arthur Schechner in memory of his late wife and former JESPY Board President Judith. Clients visited Grounds

for Sculpture (shown left), *Hell's Kitchen* on Broadway, Seton Hackney Stables (a client favorite!), and participated in a Mad Hatter Tea Party and S'mores around the campfire outing.

The JESPY Players theater group performed scenes from the classic play *Hello, Dolly*. The show took place under the direction of Theater Director Elizabeth Broadhurst, a teaching artist at Little Apple Arts in Maplewood. In a series of musical 'programs on the go', EEP conducted programs and singalongs at several of JESPY's Shared Houses.

#### **Engagement & Enrichment Program Buddy System!**

The EEP Buddy System was launched to foster a connected and supportive community amongst clients at JESPY. Several clients who made strides in their independence have taken on the role of peer mentors, providing guidance, companionship, and support to both new and existing clients. The goal is to help others navigate daily activities, understand routines, build friendships, and feel more comfortable and confident in the JESPY community.

#### **CLIENT SUCCESS**

Clients Ben H., Elon A., Todd G., and Matt A. are several of the members of the **JESPY Traveling Choir Group** who made beautiful music and an even bigger impact across the community! This talented group of clients worked hard to prepare for their performances.

Their heartwarming performances brought joy and connection through music to local nursing homes and to St. Elizabeth's College, where they were invited to perform. During each performance, clients showcased their vocal talents and demonstrated confidence and teamwork.



Whether singing classic hit songs or spirituals, the choir developed as singers and grew in their social confidence, leadership, and self-expression. Their participation in the choir proved to be more than just performance opportunities, it highlighted the ongoing need for inclusion in all facets of life.

## Integrated Care Services Initiative (ICSI)

Uses collaboration to enhance client engagement

#### **Interdepartmental Collaboration**

JESPY's newly-developed initiative fostered interdepartmental collaboration and played an important role in enhancing client experiences. The success of client Ny-Sheer C. (shown right) demonstrates the coordination across the Day Program, Athletics & Fitness, and Engagement & Enrichment Departments to support his full participation in the basketball season. Through shared planning and communication, staff ensured that clients, including Ny-Sheer, had reliable transportation and appropriate supervision and support.



#### Case Management as the 'Hub' of Coordination

A new model of care for residential clients was introduced to train Residential House Managers to simultaneously serve as Case Managers. Staff completed a series of trainings with a focus on their role as the central "hub" of service coordination. Training emphasized cross-departmental communication, critical thinking, and leadership in care oversight.

#### **Staff Development and Leadership Growth**

Ongoing professional development of Day Program staff led to a strong pipeline of internal leadership. Through structured mentorship, targeted training, and real-time support, several staff members successfully advanced into supervisory and leadership roles. Staff growth fostered consistency, innovation, and a deeper understanding of providing services to clients.

## **WOW-WHAT A YEAR FOR THE**



The Go Big for JESPY Campaign, JESPY's historic effort to raise \$26.5 million to establish The JESPY Center and The Hub, has made tremendous progress this year.

Topping the list of exciting news was JESPY receiving planning board approval in the fall, allowing us to break ground on The JESPY Center in the spring! On June 1, 2025, we had an amazing Groundbreaking ceremony and celebration, attended by clients, family members, board members, staff, community members, and donors. Rousing speeches from board leadership, government officials, JESPY leadership, and clients, as well as from our visionary donor, Leon Cooperman, who

with his wife Toby has challenged us to match his gift of \$13.25 million, made all in attendance proud to be part of the JESPY family.

Equally exciting and as important, JESPY continued to raise funds for Go Big from individuals, foundations, and corporations, bringing us ever closer to meeting the \$13.25 million Cooperman match. We are enormously grateful for the outpouring of support we have received. At the close of the fiscal year, we were just \$3.5 million away from meeting the match, an incredible achievement in just two years.



Far left: Attendees at the Groundbreaking included JESPY clients, families, staff, board members, community supporters, and several government officials.

Left: JESPY clients celebrated The JESPY Center Groundbreaking with a cheer they created especially for the event.

## **GO BIG FOR JESPY CAMPAIGN!**

Go Big for JESPY will provide over 66 clients with essential residential opportunities. The JESPY Center will provide both affordably-priced and aging-in-place housing while The Hub will offer housing for young adults. In addition, these facilities will provide all JESPY clients with access to state-of-the-art accessible program space and the latest technology, all to support their interests, growth, and independence.

JESPY clients are enormously excited to see this initiative get underway, especially those clients who are struggling to keep up with rising rents in the community, those who are getting older and now need more supports, and those who still live at home and dream of starting their lives independently.

There has never been a more urgent and exciting time 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.

We thank our board leadership, the Campaign Committee, and our amazing donors for their heartfelt support and commitment. For more information and to learn how you can help us to meet our challenge match, go to <a href="https://jespyhouse.org/GoBig">https://jespyhouse.org/GoBig</a>.

Scan the QR code below to view our Campaign video.



Left: **The Hub** will include shared apartments for young adults, life skills programs, recreation services, and enhanced technology and learning spaces.

Bottom: **The JESPY Center** will provide affordably-priced and aging-in-place housing for clients as well as program space for health and wellness, vocational training, and more.





## DAY PROGRAM

Provides a nurturing environment where clients learn life-enhancing skills



The Day Program delivers innovative programming designed to capture the interest of each participant. The program supports every client's independence and personal development by increasing their life skills, health and wellness, and integration within the community. This is achieved through creative and specialized sessions and activities.

#### DAY PROGRAM GROUPS

Clients thrive while participating in one of three Day Program groups. Day

**Habilitation** assists with life skills for clients 18 and older. **Transitions**, which supports clients ages 18-35, helps clients transition from a school and/or home environment and gain life skills as adults. **Aging in Place**, designed for clients age 45 and older, helps with the reinforcement of life skills. The goal is to empower clients to reach their full potential through individualized support.

## PARTICIPATION AND COLLABORATION

Clients took part in a volunteer project with the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest

NJ, which involved helping at a local urban farm.

Popular Day Program sessions and activities included: learning to play chess; cooking groups, which allowed clients to learn new recipes; and relaxation techniques and the creation of lavender aromatherapy sachets.

Weekly outings, which included a trip to New York City to see the Broadway play *Hell's Kitchen*, served as valuable travel training. The experience allowed clients to practice community safety skills in a real-world setting.



helped build confidence as clients followed safety protocols, and enabled them to interact and engage within new surroundings.

As part of the Day Program's "Learning to Earn" initiative, a mock grocery store was launched that provided clients with hands-on job skills training. The store included shelves stocked with items used for clients to practice organizing, restocking, and maintaining cleanliness. A working cash register allowed clients to strengthen their math skills by conducting mock transactions. The activities gave clients a structured yet realistic introduction to retail and customer service roles while building confidence and routine in a supportive environment.

In addition to taking part in the initiative's tasks, clients participated in interpersonal skills groups that focused on workplace behaviors such as teamwork and conflict resolution. Pre-assessments were conducted to evaluate client interest, ability, and readiness for referral to JESPY's Work Readiness & Employment Engagement Department.



#### **CLIENT SUCCESS**

Zahmiah W. accomplished significant strides in her personal growth and involvement in Day Program activities. She participated in a Records Management project conducted by JESPY's Work Readiness & Employment Engagement program, where she was recognized for her professionalism, punctuality, and completing tasks reliably.

In addition to engaging in creative outlets like dancing and art, Zahmiah also took on an informal leadership role by helping new clients feel welcome and acclimated. She often took the initiative to give tours and answer questions. Her continued growth, independence, and positive attitude have made her a valued peer in the program.

### **COMING TO JESPY**

JESPY's Intake Department successfully held interviews, site visits, and orientations with prospective clients and their families. The result was the acceptance of many new clients into various JESPY programs.

#### **During 2024-25, JESPY:**

Received **313 Inquiries** for services and programs.

Conducted **134 Intake Interviews** for all programs.

Accepted **84 New Clients** who participated in JESPY's Athletics & Fitness, Engagement & Enrichment, Clinical, Work Readiness & Employment Engagement, Day Habilitation, and Residential programs.



## Work Readiness & Employment Engagement (WREE)

Supports and guides clients through every stage of the workforce

The Work Readiness & Employment Engagement Department assists clients in fulfilling their desire to find a job and be successful in the workplace. Performance plans are developed for each client to determine how to achieve their goals. Every client in the WREE program receives employment training and support in areas which include career exploration, interview and job skill development, and career advancement.

In 2024, JESPY initiated a Records Management Business which included a collaborative project with the Jewish Historical Society (JHS). Clients assisted with creating a digital archive of important documents from the Bob Max collection. As part of the collaboration, they worked on document preparation which included removing staples, unfolding papers, and ensuring that fragile antique photos and papers were handled with care.



Additionally, JESPY received funding from the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development for Pathways to Success, a program designed to address gaps in employment opportunities for adults with IDD. During the 12-week training program, which was a collaboration between the WREE Department and Landmark Hospitality's Art of Hospitality Workers Alliance, clients learned about culinary arts and food safety under the direction of a professional chef. Clients are in the process of applying for and receiving a ServSafe certification and employment in the hospitality industry.

Building staff capacity was another aspect of this project. WREE staff became Certified Employment Specialist Professionals (CESPs), which recognizes their competency in the full array of skills needed to assist individuals to succeed in employment.



#### **CLIENT SUCCESS**

Quinn F. was a participant in the Pathways to Success Program. At the start of the group's culinary training, he was somewhat reticent. But over time, Quinn's level of comfort and confidence grew. He engaged with the other participants and began answering questions during training.

He excelled when receiving 1:1 support that included counseling to build communication and engagement and thrived when receiving positive feedback. Quinn completed the culinary training program and was excited to receive his certificate at the graduation event.

Quinn shared that he is ready to move forward with employment and even suggested going on tours of local restaurants and food service businesses to give him and the other participants better knowledge of jobs, the work requirements, and the environment.

Clinical & Behavioral Health

Helps clients increase their self-confidence

JESPY's Clinical & Behavioral Health Department provides counseling services that assist clients with coping skills, behavior strategies, and building meaningful interpersonal relationships.

A grant from The Grotta Fund for Older Adults was obtained to facilitate groups to address the specific challenges faced by older clients. The project integrated critical mental health awareness and support for the aging IDD population. Group participants engaged socially, increased their community participation, and learned about the changes that can occur with aging.

As a result of interdepartmental collaborations, the Clinical Department identified additional clients who would benefit from clinical services through enhanced continuity of care, improved client outcomes, and increased internal referrals.

All JESPY clinicians were paneled with Medicaid, which allowed JESPY to make clinical services accessible to additional clients and members of the community. In addition, JESPY used directories such as NJCares, NJ211, FindHelp.com, and Psychology Today to increase awareness about our range of clinical services.

The JESPY Clinical Team also completed an intensive three-day Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) training program, further enhancing their skills in evidence-based approaches to support clients' emotional regulation, distress tolerance, mindfulness, and interpersonal effectiveness.

#### IN MEMORIAM



porothy errazuriz
joined JESPY House
in 2010 and was an
invaluable member of
our Daily Living Skills
team. Dorothy served our
clients with compassion,
professionalism, patience,
and dedication. She was
a beloved member of the
JESPY family.

Longtime team member



sherry scucci-hamilton was a wonderful clinician who counseled many clients and mentored several JESPY clinicians. Employed with JESPY for over 14 years, she began her career here as a case manager before becoming the Supervisor of Clinical & Behavioral Supports Department.



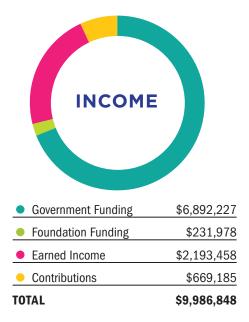
DAVID ZALES was a
JESPY client for more
than 42 years. A kind
and thoughtful person,
David was a good friend
to many. He enjoyed
participating in Special
Olympics, where he won
several medals and was
the Sergeant of Arms of
the JESPY Chapter of the
South Orange Lions Club.



Warm-hearted and kind, former JESPY client NORA HAMROUNI impacted everyone she encountered with joy. Nora enjoyed making art and participating in JESPY wellness sessions such as yoga and meditation. Her bravery and perseverance will continue to inspire all who knew her.

## A VIEW OF 2025 FINANCIALS

(July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)





## **Impact Through Philanthropy**

Reading through this Annual Report one might wonder, "how does JESPY do all of this?"

The answer, in part, is that you, our donors, help to make all our work possible! Philanthropic support is the key to our ability to provide our clients with quality programs and services, and most importantly, to fill the gap.

Our support comes from individuals, matching gifts, foundations, and businesses and corporations. DAFs and gifts of stock have become increasingly popular, and do-it-yourself fundraisers through Facebook and community efforts provide significant support. Monthly giving and planned gifts are great ways to support JESPY now and in the future.

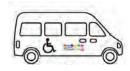
#### Highlights from this fiscal year:

- We have acquired 315 new donors this year.
- We experienced a 15% increase in the number of gifts from all campaigns vs. last fiscal year.

- Our year-end campaign had a 39% increase in gifts and a 23% increase in revenue over last year's campaign.
- Donor Impact reports sent throughout the year helped donors feel more connected to JESPY and kept them updated on notable events and achievements.
- Our Spring Fundraising Campaign, held in lieu of a Gala, was an enormous success. Generating over \$386,000 from 390 donations, the campaign allows us to purchase 2 new vans for client outings and appointments, support more client community dinners, underwrite physical fitness training, and help with overall operational expenses.







Thank You to Our Donors! We greatly appreciate having the support of individuals, community organizations, foundations, and corporations. Gifts to support our annual operating needs allow us to continue to provide JESPY clients with a vast array of services and programs that support them to thrive in all aspects of their lives.

Below please find a partial list of donors in Fiscal Year 2024-25 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025). We truly wish that space would allow us to list all donations. We have made all efforts to ensure listing accuracy and apologize for any inadvertent omissions or errors. Thank you for your support of JESPY!

David Feldman & Dana Hagendorf

#### \$100,000+

New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development

#### \$50,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous (2) Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ

#### \$25,000 - \$49,999

Jay Benenson Ruth Berman Stacey & Gene Davis Judith & Kenneth Peskin Sena & Bharathi Sumathisena

#### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Bryan & Andrea Bier Hyde & Watson Foundation Marilyn Joy & Walter Samuels Charitable Foundation Judi House Fund Merrill Family Foundation Robert & Joan Rothberg Foundation The Russell Berrie Foundation/ Sharon & Stephen Seiden

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous Joseph & Robyn Bier Myrna & Leonard Comerchero Crum & Forster Fox Rothschild LLP Sophia & Michael Gershman Jackie & Richard Hollander H. Herbert Myers Memorial Foundation RISE at Warren Richard Robbins Sanchez General Construction Eric James Sobel Memorial Scholarship Fund Marc Susskind Susan Weinstock Melissa & David Wish The Jerome G and Annette S Zimmerman Foundation

#### \$2,500 - \$4,999

Casey and Keller, Inc. Martin Geller & Lauren Schor Geller Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP Heather and Suki Real Estate Group Claudia Hirawat Ruth Hutter Inglesino/Taylor Attorneys at Law Howard & Margaret Jacobs Elaine & Daniel Katz Mariorie Katz Stephen & Sharon Kepniss Barry Knopf & Fran Myers Alan & Nancy Locker Jonathan Myers Steven Myers Lawrence Neubauer RWJ Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center Sobel Bixel: Consulting for Nonprofits **Kevin & Kristin Sterling** Triveni Amnon & Judith Weinstock

\$1,000 - \$2,499 Acrisure LLC Bruce Andersen Anonymous (3) Robert & Tracy Baron Thaddeus & Teka Bartter Michael & Elizabeth Benenson Suzanne & Saul Berkowitz Barbara & Martin Bienenstock Julia Bishop Gerald Bissell **Brach Eichler LLC** Antony & Ahadi Bugg-Levine Jonathan & Jody Caplan Cathleen Carr & William Moran Jonathan Cleveland Morton Cogen & Anne Howard William & Michele Cohen Harvey & Maxine Colchamiro Columbia Bank Dyan Dahari Elizabeth & Paul Daugherty Diane Davis & Will Hopkins

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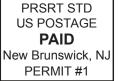
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