



# FAMILY MATTERS

JEWISH FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Spring 2005

## The Power of Partnerships

**Long after the game, a lesson from the Super Bowl Champions**

*by Iris Young, Executive Director*



Throughout Super Bowl week I was struck by the fact that the New England Patriots were always called just that: The New England Patriots. When the media attempted to highlight a person or group of players for a story, their efforts were consistently frustrated. This partnership of talent and commitment was strengthened because the New England Patriots played all aspects of the game, on and off the field, as a team.

A powerful lesson with proven success.

Partnerships in the non-profit community have been a benefit to JFCS since it became part of the United Way back in 1924. Jewish Family & Community Services rely on partnerships for smooth transitions and processes as we work together to identify needs and offer solutions in Northeast Florida.

Like many successful teams, our partners are extended family. The issues we face may be very different and difficult. But like family we call on one another for support and advice and collaboration. This unique relationship strengthens the community we serve by avoiding duplication of services to our clients and benefits donors as their dollars work best when a broad approach to clients and agency needs is available.

Look at the back of this newsletter and you will see many small logos of community organizations that support our work through funding as well as being valuable resources for information and referrals for the people we serve. We thank our partners for allowing us to be a valuable community resource to so many. Yeah Team!

## INSIDE:

An Adoption Story . . . . .	3
Block Family Food Challenge . . . .	3
Accreditation (COA) . . . . .	2
Diaper Bags & Birth Mom Baskets	3
Jewish Education Loan Fund . . . . .	4
How your donation helps . . . . .	4
More than Food . . . . .	2
What is Cradle Care? . . . . .	3

## JFCS Fact Sheet

- The Winn-Dixie Emergency Food Pantry is the number one direct feeding pantry in Duval County
- State Law requires that all prospective adoptive parents have a state child abuse as well as a criminal clearance. First Coast Adoption Professionals also completes a national fingerprint check for further documentation of safe environments.
- JFCS received recognition for participating in the United Way Community Care Challenge and was given the Bronze Circle of Honor Award. The success of the United Way campaign will benefit JFCS programs and services.



*A wonderful heartwarming event at Leonard and Debra Setzer's home gave Jewish Family & Community Services the opportunity to honor its past presidents. For the past 88 years, men and women of vision have guided the agency. The work and reputation of JFCS today is reflected in their extraordinary leadership.*

*Past President, Don Cohn, Iris & Chuck Young,  
Past President Debbie Gottlieb*

# CALL2GO

**Do you need a ride?**

**Call us:**

# 224-6287

JFCS Senior Transportation Program

Feed A Needy Neighbor—JFCS challenges you to help fight hunger in Jacksonville

# BLOCK Family Foundation Community Food Challenge

As we prepare for the spring holidays of Passover and Easter we are reminded that many people in our community are unable to prepare a festive meal. Some do not know how they will feed their family.

Through donations of cash and nonperishable food items the Feed A Needy Neighbor (FANN) program at JFCS provides groceries to individuals and families experiencing hunger.

## What is the Block Challenge?

During the months of March and April the Block Family Foundation will match monetary contributions to the Feed A Needy Neighbor (FANN) program at JFCS. 100% of these funds will go to the pantry.

## Is it better to donate food?

JFCS appreciates all donations and nonperishable food items are gratefully accepted.

JFCS is able to make large-quantity food purchases at dramatic price reductions through the Second Harvest Food Bank. Your dollars go further with our purchasing power.

## Is this the only time to donate?

No. The FANN program is ongoing and needs your support throughout the year. The Block Family will generously match your donations only during March and April.

The challenge is on to raise awareness and increase funds!

*You can learn more about FANN and other JFCS programs and services! Contact Robin Peters, Director of Development at 394-5727 to have a member of the JFCS staff make a presentation at your location.*

## YES! I want to help fight hunger in Jacksonville

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Double my Donation during the Block Family Community Food Challenge

\$18 buys 120 ounces of peanut butter  \$25 buys 18 boxes of Cheerios

\$36 buys 65 packages of mac & cheese  \$50 buys 900 lbs. of food

\$100 buys 135 cans of chicken soup  \$200 buys groceries for six families

CREDIT CARD  VISA  MasterCard Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to: JFCS • 6261 Dupont Station Ct., E. • Jacksonville, FL 32217**

**ATTN: Robin Peters/Block Family Food Challenge**

## It's more than just a bag of food . . . What else can we do?

Feed A Needy Neighbor is only one of a broad range of proven programs under the umbrella of Jewish Family & Community Services. Many individuals who come to our food pantry will access other critical services such as counseling and life management skills. This diverse range of programs allows JFCS to address issues beyond hunger, enabling clients to get back on their feet so they are no longer dependent on the pantry. Many will return as volunteers helping to stock, bag and support the service.



Winn-Dixie Emergency Food Pantry at JFCS

## What's happening?

In late February, the agency was proud to welcome the Council on Accreditation (COA), for our accreditation site visit. COA settled into the JFCS offices for four days, touring the facilities, reviewing documentation and interviewing staff, board members and clients. JFCS has been preparing for national accreditation for the past several years. This site visit from COA peer reviewers brings us that much closer to the final few steps in the process. We look forward to announcing national accreditation in the coming months.





## “DROP and GO”

### An Adoption Story

*This is a picture of a “Drop and Go” infant. “Drop and Go” is a common occurrence at First Coast Adoption Professionals (FCAP). The timeline is simple and fast: the birth mother calls the agency after the delivery requesting to place this infant for adoption.*

*In cases like this, FCAP professionals, Kathleen Stevens or Jill LeCompte, “drop” everything and begin making an adoption plan with the birth mother.*

A birth mother called the day she delivered and First Coast Adoption Professionals immediately went into action. Kathleen Stevens met with the birth mother at the hospital, completed the paperwork, reviewed profiles of prospective adoptive parents, and talked to the adoptive mother that the birth mother picked.

In the meantime, Michael Shorstein, the agency attorney and valuable business partner, arranged for the legal paperwork to be completed.

The infant was discharged at forty-eight hours of age. Kathleen then transported the baby to a Cradle Care home until the adoptive family would arrive. Employees at State Farm Insurance provided the agency with diaper bags packed with outfits, receiving blankets and other necessities for the infant. The adoptive family was thrilled when they received the baby dressed and ready for her new family.

When the adoptive family arrived they were able to spend a few days bonding with the infant in Cradle Care. They also met the birth mother and her family. Through many ranges of emotions FCAP was there to help facilitate a smooth transition. Everyone is thriving. Kathleen and Jill are ready to exhale . . . until another “Drop and Go!”

## JFCS Does What?



### Adoption

Through our adoption process, adoptive parents and birthparents are matched to create a loving placement that fits the best interest of the child.

### Children’s Programs

The children programs at JFCS, include school-based programs, counseling, suicide prevention and play therapy and personal counseling.

### Counseling

JFCS is best known for its quality mental health services. A staff of qualified professionals works with individuals, couples, families and children.

### Child Safety Programs

JFCS is a provider of safe and nurturing homes for children in the State of Florida’s custody.

### Emergency Financial Assistance

JFCS distributes funds to individuals who are having difficulty paying rent, utility bills or security deposits.

### Feed A Needy Neighbor (FANN)

JFCS provides groceries to families and individuals experiencing hunger through the Winn-Dixie Emergency Food Pantry.

### Life Skills Training

Helps people lead productive, self-sufficient lives by teaching skills such as budgeting, tenant/landlord rights, job search techniques and more.

### Older Adult Services

Geriatric Care Management  
The Kosher Nutrition Program  
Transportation

### Jewish Healing Network

Trained volunteers serve the needs of homebound and frail Jewish individuals through friendly visits, meals, phone calls.

### Jewish Hospice Connection

Trained professionals offer compassionate end of life care to individuals with Jewish needs.

### Ryan White Title II

JFCS is the lead agency for the distribution of Ryan White Title II funds. These funds are used to assist people living with HIV/AIDS.

### Support Groups

JFCS offers a variety of support groups including grief, life transitions, aging issues, intermarriage and more.

**Call us at: 448-1933**



### What is Cradle Care?

*Cradle Care homes are utilized during the adoption process to care for an infant for a period of a day, a week, or a month while the placement is arranged.*

*Only licensed foster parents are eligible for the Cradle Care program. For more information contact First Coast Adoption Professionals at 394-5763.*

### Diaper Bags for Adoptive Parents

Twelve diaper bags were recently donated to FCAP for babies and their caregivers during the adoption process. The diaper bags contained two to three onesies, socks, receiving blanket, diapers, wipes, baby lotion, pacifier and one or two newborn outfits. The bags were given to Cradle Care parents and eventually the adoptive parents.

### Birth Mother Baskets

A small gift bag or basket to give to the birth mother before she leaves the hospital is a wonderful way of showing care and support. Some items to put in the basket would be a throw away camera, journal, photo album, travel size shampoo, conditioner, comb and brush, lotion, and other hygienic items.



**JEWISH  
FAMILY &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

Changing lives for better tomorrows

Iris Young  
Executive Director

Goldie Lansky  
Assistant Director/Chief Operating Officer

Brenda Shephard  
Controller

Robin Knezich  
Human Resource Specialist

Colleen Lloyd  
Director of Clinical Services  
and Child Safety

Stephanie McDonald  
Director of Quality Improvement

Robin Peters  
Director of Development

Karen Phillips  
Director of Comprehensive Assessments

Mark Rubens  
Ryan White Program Director

Beth Shorstein  
Director of Older Adult Services

Candi Stanley  
Director of Community  
Kosher Nutrition Food Services

Kathleen Stevens  
Director of Adoptions

*The mission of Jewish Family & Community Services is to strengthen the entire community by providing family and individual services, without prejudice, in the Jewish tradition of helping people help themselves.*



**Call us at: 448-1933**

### AGE SPOT

Age Spot is a caregiver support group that meets the first Monday of each month at 12:30 p.m.

The group discusses caregiver issues and provides information and support. Respite care is available upon request.

**To register call 394-5723**

**Dated Material: March 7, 2005**

## JELF—Another Funding Source To Help With your Education



Jewish Family & Community Services works in conjunction with The Jewish Educational Loan Fund (JELF) of Atlanta which grants interest-free college loans to supply those last dollars that enable students to get the education they need to succeed in life.

The following are some of the guidelines that determine eligibility:

- Applicant and family must be members of the Jacksonville Jewish community or surrounding areas.
- Applicant and family must have resided in the area for at least one year.
- Educational loans are to be used primarily for college or post-secondary training.
- All loans are granted on an annual basis only.
- The principal determinant is financial need.
- Students must have a good academic record and be goal oriented.

The deadline for submitting an application is April 15, 2005.

For additional information, please contact Renie Levin at 394-5721.

- **Do you need money for college or graduate school?**
- **For vocational training?**
- **To update your job skills?**
- **To make a career change?**

### How your donation helps the community

Here are some of the ways JFCS puts your donation to work. Your dollars go a long way in meeting the needs of the people we serve.

- \$10 buys 19 jars of jelly for the Winn-Dixie Emergency Food Pantry.
- \$18 buys 3 kosher meals for a low-income senior citizen.
- \$25 buys a pair of shoes.
- \$36 buys 150 diapers for a newborn.
- \$50 buys a child a week at day camp.
- \$100 buys a CD player and CD's to soothe a hospitalized foster child.

*Thanks!*



Changing lives for better tomorrows

6261 Dupont Station Court, E.  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Non-Profit Organization  
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