

JFCS Offers Employment Help to Jewish Community

Funding for New Career Services Program Provided by Jewish Community Foundation

Members of the local Jewish community who recently lost their jobs due to the economic downturn now have a new resource – Jewish Career Services at JFCS. The program, which is being funded with a \$100,000 grant from the Jewish Community Foundation, provides eligible individuals with career counseling to assist them in enhancing their employability through guidance, strategies, resources and personal attention.

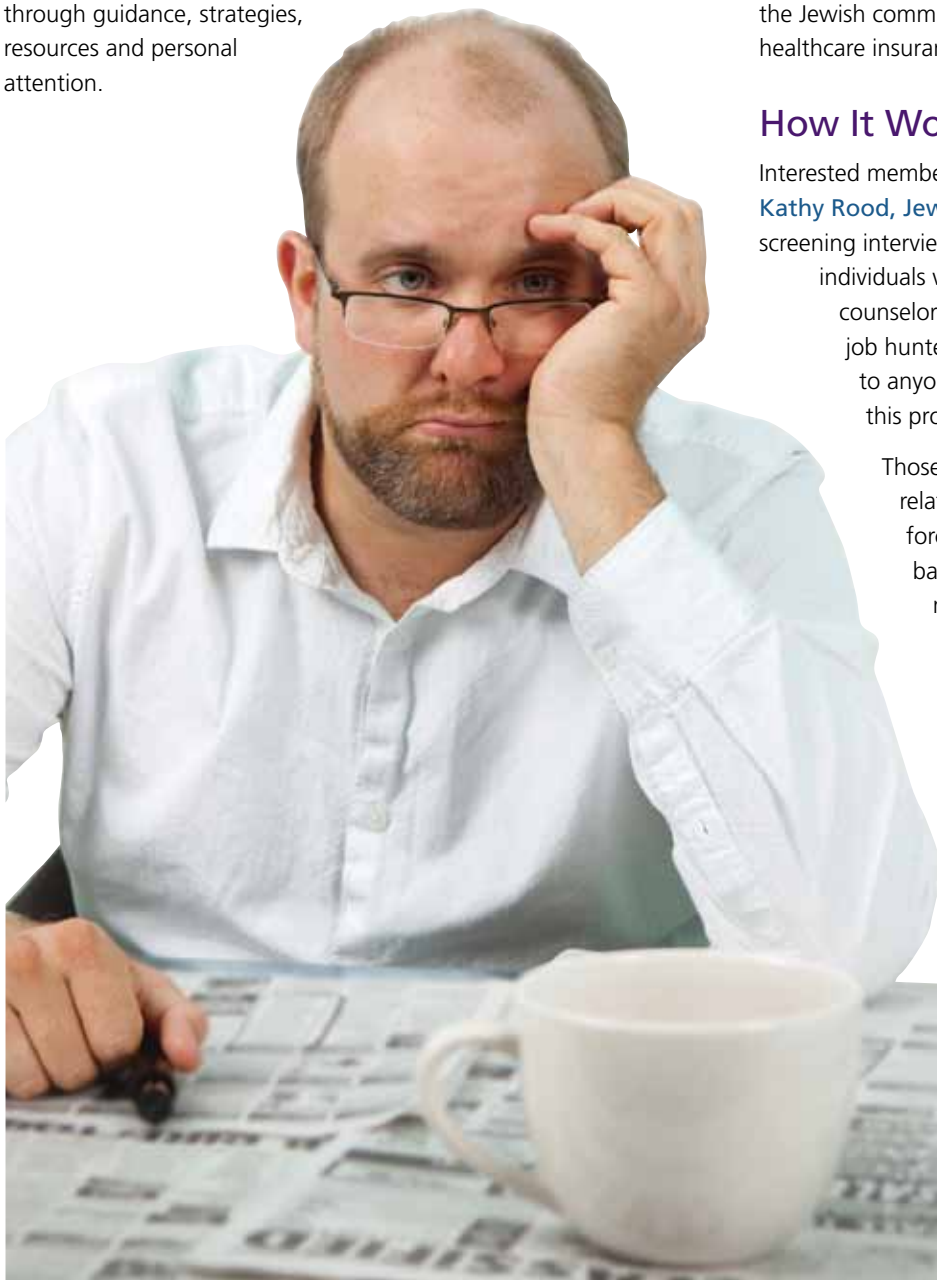
“We recognized a real need within our community to assist the newly unemployed – those who have been without work for a period of up to two years – and we are eager to provide funding to JFCS for this new Career Services program,” said Stuart Turgel, president of the Jewish Community Foundation. “This complements our funding of the JFCS Helping Hands program, which provides support to members of the Jewish community who might need temporary assistance with a healthcare insurance payment or utility bill.”

How It Works

Interested members of the Jewish community should first **contact Kathy Rood, Jewish Programs Manager at JFCS**, to set up a screening interview. After an in-person consultation, eligible individuals will be referred to either a career coach or a career counselor for services, which are provided at no charge to the job hunters. Referrals to alternative resources are provided to anyone whose needs exceed the services provided through this program.

Those referred to the career counselor will receive services related to career development, career transition, work-force re-entry, re-careering and/or identifying emotional barriers to successful employment. Specific activities may include: self-assessment exercises, occupational research and exploration, decision-making strategies, goal setting and job-search techniques.

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Constituent Agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix



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JFCS Remains Steadfast Despite Difficult Times



Someone once said that hard times bring out the best in individuals and organizations. As we all know, the economic downturn at both the state and national levels has had a tremendous impact on individuals and families, especially those we serve. Not only has it increased the strain but it has curtailed the resources available to help people.

As is the case with most nonprofit community agencies, JFCS has struggled to serve those in need while facing continued reductions in funding. The Board of Directors and staff have been creative and worked hard to manage the agency so needed services can be provided and the agency can maintain its operations.

Additionally, healthcare reform and the budget crisis at the state level have resulted in cutbacks in the number of people eligible under AHCCCS, the state's Medicaid program. JFCS has had to make changes to adjust, but I am happy to report that the agency performed well in spite of a problematic environment and scarce resources. Our dedicated and skilled staff made this possible. We have also received great support from our Board and from our donors.

As we look to the next fiscal year, we know that resources will diminish even further and the need for services will continue to increase. We also know that despite unfavorable conditions, we were able to initiate new programs and expand services to further assist vulnerable children and adults. We look forward to the challenges of the coming year and bringing our experience, knowledge and skills together to better serve this community.

Thank you for your support and interest in JFCS. We remain steadfast in our efforts to provide care, help and healing to those in need.

Michael R. Zent, Ph.D., President & CEO

JFCS Welcomes Dr. Paul Stander to Board



Dr. Paul Stander, Chief Medical Officer at Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center, joined the JFCS Governance Board in July. He specializes in Internal Medicine and has been with Banner Health for more than 20 years.

Dr. Stander also currently serves on the Phoenix Board of Directors of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), as well as the Scottsdale-based nonprofit Blood Systems Inc. His previous board involvement includes Kivel Campus of Care and the Arizona Anti-Defamation League. He earned his MBA from the University of Phoenix.

He and his wife, Susan, have two daughters, ages 25 and 22. He is an avid Philly sports fan and also enjoys playing golf, squash and traveling.

JFCS Program Updates

Real World Job Development

Several youth in the Real World Job Development program, which emphasizes raising literacy skills and providing specialized job training services to at-risk youth ages 14 to 21, recently completed summer internships with the following organizations:

- Arizona Department of Economic Security
- St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance
- The Family Daycare
- YMCA Glendale
- YMCA Maryvale
- Arizona Recreation Center for the Handicapped
- John C. Lincoln Desert Mission Food Bank
- REHOBOTH
- Hansen Mortuary



In addition to summer internships, nearly a dozen Real World participants also recently earned First Aid/CPR certifications.

Shelter Without Walls



Linda Scott, Vice President of JFCS Child & Family Solutions, recently chaired a planning committee that created the "Connecting the Dots: Domestic Violence – Child Welfare: One State, One System" conference. The event was held in early September at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University and the former Supreme Court Justice offered an inspirational call to action at the end of the event.

Sandra Day O'Connor "Our goal was to involve the right people from the right systems in hopes of sparking a commitment to changing the way Arizona deals with the intersection of domestic violence and child welfare," Scott said. "Service organizations like JFCS need support within the community to help our clients effectively navigate through these difficult situations without causing additional harm to their families."

More than 400 members of the domestic violence and child welfare service community came together to learn about proven practice responses, successes and challenges from national and local experts.

Center for Senior Enrichment

Earlier this year, the JFCS Center for Senior Enrichment moved to the Chris Ridge Senior Living Community from its location at Beth El Congregation in order to decrease operating expenses. Along with the move in March, the program was reduced to a three-day operating schedule. In August, the program resumed Friday hours, returning to a four-day schedule. At noon Fridays, participants welcome the Sabbath with Shabbat candle lighting, challah and wine. The Center for Senior Enrichment has also added 65 participants, primarily residents at Chris Ridge. [For more information on this program, call 602-943-2198.](#)



JFCS Victim Advocate Shares Best Practices at Mexican Conference

Due to her great work and partnership efforts to better serve immigrant women who are survivors of domestic violence, **Blanca Cornejo**, a Victim Advocate with JFCS Shelter Without Walls, was invited to attend Conference "Jornada de Genero" (Day of Gender) in Mexico City in late August. Hosted by the Consulates of Mexico, the Institute for Mexicans Abroad and the National Women's Institute, the purpose of the conference was for Mexican officials to learn more about how women immigrants who become victims of crime and/or domestic violence are receiving help from the U.S. and Canada.



Blanca Cornejo, Victims Advocate with JFCS Shelter Without Walls.

As one of only two people invited from Arizona, Cornejo represented JFCS and provided a presentation on our unique Shelter Without Walls domestic violence program. Many other representatives of various social service agencies across the United States, Mexico and Canada also attended. We are very proud of Blanca and this wonderful opportunity.

Follow our blog for more photos and details on Blanca's trip to Mexico City.

JFCS Volunteers, Donors Make a Difference

Volunteers Launch 'Food for Life'

The generosity and creative talent of our volunteers continue to grow. As a result of our spring event, "April Showers," Janie Kuznitsky, Beth Reisman and Iris Wigal were inspired to create a new program for the youth at Real World Job Development called Food for Life. The cooking classes, designed to promote nutritious choices, meet once a month with youth participants. After surveying the youth, Italian and Mexican comfort foods topped the preference list. These classes help the youth work toward achieving healthy, independent lifestyles.

Be A Volunteer!

For a list of current volunteer opportunities at JFCS, visit www.jfcsaz.org/volunteer



'Just 3 Things' Campaign Stocks Pantry

Just 3 Things are just what you can provide to help stock the JFCS Friends Pantry, which is open to all clients of JFCS. Volunteer Holly Packer is overseeing this program and collecting nonperishable food items each month from book clubs, social groups, friends and colleagues for distribution at the Pantry.

As the Just 3 Things request changes each month, be sure to check www.jfcsaz.org or email Holly Packer at hpacker@cox.net to be added to the Just 3 Things distribution list.

3 things for September: 2 cans of Spaghetti O's and Peanut Butter Crackers (or Cheese Crackers) 3 things for October: 2 cans of tuna fish and 1 jar of mayonnaise

Youths in Transition Benefit from Generous Donations

This August, approximately 80 JFCS teen participants who will be "aging out" of the state foster system soon (when they turn 18) participated in an overnight "lock-in" convention called Foster Care Youth Convening, which is hosted in conjunction with Child Protective Services (CPS). JFCS set out to raise enough money to provide each teen with a filled backpack, sleeping bag and other prizes.



Because of friends like you, JFCS was able to collect more than 100 sleeping bags and backpacks filled with school supplies. Additional donated funds enabled each youth to receive a USB memory stick (for saving resumes and school work), calculator, new socks and much more!



Special thanks to the following donors for their contributions to the Backpack Drive:

Arthur Kern
David Lorsch and Cindy Lubin
Holly and Jeffrey Packer
American Studio (David and Ilene Engel)
Rana Schwartz
Carol and Scott Snyder
Temple Emanuel of Tempe & Judy Stock

A Friend in Need

Jewish Family Home Care of Arizona steps in to help Scottsdale woman remain in her home

Scottsdale resident Selma Orens, 83, has lived in the same home for more than two decades and she feels comfortable there. So when she started having falls and ended up in the emergency room a few times, her daughter thought it was time to move Selma closer to her in Colorado.

"My mom's identical twin sister passed away last fall and it was very traumatic for her," says Amy Bolton, Selma's daughter. "With mom's health in decline, I wanted her to be closer to me, but she didn't want to leave the safety and familiarity of her own home in Arizona, and I can understand that."

Selma reached out to a local senior center for help and that's how she found out about Jewish Family Home Care of Arizona, a private-pay program launched by JFCS late last year to provide personalized in-home care services to older adults and the physically challenged. The program's goal is to help clients maintain quality of life and independence.

"Jewish Family Home Care has been a godsend," Amy says. "For the first time in a number of years, I finally feel like we have communication with the people caring for my mom. These people truly have mom's best interest in mind. Jewish Family Home Care was the missing link we needed."

Selma has been receiving in-home care services from Jewish Family Home Care for a few months now. She started out getting help a couple of hours a day for three or four days a week, but recently transitioned to seven days a week. After an initial consultation, staff made recommendations to safety-proof her house and suggested that she transition from using a cane to a walker. On a daily basis, her caregiver helps her get up in the morning and makes her bed, prepares meals, assists with bathing, does the grocery shopping and more.

"Jana (a Jewish Family Home Care caregiver) helps me get around with my new walker," Selma says. "She's also a phenomenal cook and does a million other little things to help me out."

In addition to in-home care services, Jewish Family Home Care also provides Care Management for Selma, coordinating with her physicians and long-term care policy, setting her up with mobility devices and bringing in an outside agency to help organize and pay her bills.

For Selma and her daughter, Amy, it's all about peace of mind. Selma adds, "It's important to be in a situation where you are comfortable. I want to stay in my home as long as possible and Jewish Family Home Care is helping me do that."



Jewish Family Home Care of Arizona

For more information about Jewish Family Home Care of Arizona, visit www.jewishfamilyhomecareaz.org or call 602.452.4680.

Jewish Family Home Care caregiver Jana (left) helps Scottsdale resident Selma Orens with daily tasks like meal preparation, light housework and more.

Special Thanks *Family Friends of Distinction*

A Society of Special Friends of Jewish Family & Children's Service

We thank and recognize our most generous group of donors, our *Family Friends of Distinction*, who have made significant commitments to JFCS. Lifetime Membership is extended to individuals, corporations and foundations whose generosity over time reaches or exceeds \$25,000 while Annual Membership is extended to those who make a commitment of \$1,000 or more annually.

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Cover Story • JFCS Offers Employment Help

“The services we provide are tailored to each person’s unique job situation,” said Ellie Schwartzberg, Vice President of Older Adult and Jewish Community Services at JFCS. “There’s no one-size-fits-all approach when it comes to gaining meaningful employment in today’s job market.”



JFCS will also provide services from a career coach, including resume development and refinement, networking skills and interview coaching.

Martha Rockwell, CPRW, owner of A+ Résumés & Career Coaching LLC, offers the career coaching services as part of this program, while Betty Cohen, MS, NCC, MCC, sole practitioner at Career Destinations, provides the career counseling services (see Seasoned Veterans below for more information on Rockwell and Cohen).

Learn More

To set up a screening interview or to learn more, contact Kathy Rood, JFCS Jewish Programs Manager, at 602.452.4627.

Seasoned Veterans



Martha Rockwell
CPRW
Licensed Career Coach

Martha Rockwell, owner of A+ Résumés & Career Coaching LLC, is a Certified Professional Resume Writer (CPRW) and is licensed as a career coach by the State of Arizona Labor Department. She has more than 15 years of industry experience and has volunteered for many local organizations as a resume reviewer and presenter.

Rockwell is a member of the Resume Writer’s Council of Arizona, the National Resume Writer’s Association, Career Directors International and the American Business Women’s Association. She also serves on the labor department’s Arizona Employment Advisory Council. The council meets quarterly to review and grant licenses to employment agency applicants.



Betty Cohen
MS, NCC, MCC
Certified Career Counselor

Betty Cohen, sole practitioner at Career Destinations, is a dedicated career counselor who has personally experienced firsthand the frustration of not being in a good career match, and also the joy of finding her true career passion in counseling. Cohen has a master’s degree in counseling and is also a National Certified Counselor, Master Career Counselor and is licensed by the Industrial Commission of Arizona.

She has completed additional training that qualifies her to administer the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, Strong Interest Inventory and Self-Directed Search in her practice; these are just several of many instruments and exercises that she uses when doing self-assessment work with clients.

Cohen is a member of the Arizona Counselors Association, National Career Development Association and the Association for Psychological Type.



Jewish Family & Children's Service

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As an Arizona taxpayer, you have the unique opportunity to redirect a portion of your state tax dollars to organizations like JFCS that provide help to the working poor at no additional expense to you! This tax code allows for a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on your state income tax liability. The maximum amount of this credit is \$200 for single taxpayers or heads of household and \$400 for married taxpayers.

Of the more than 28,000 individuals served by JFCS last year, more than 80 percent are considered working poor. Contribute by Dec. 31, 2011, and see your tax liability reduced by up to \$400 when you file your 2011 taxes.

Don't Delay, Donate Today!

Tax credit donations may be made at www.jfcsaz.org/donate/taxcredit, by calling 602.279.7655, or use the enclosed envelope to mail your check.

Spread Joy, Hope This Holiday Season

Become a Sponsor for Families, Foster Teens in Need

Looking for a way to serve those in need this holiday season? The JFCS Holiday Program is the only program in the Valley that sponsors families and foster teens for both Chanukah and Christmas. Please consider sponsoring a family or youth for the holidays.

Register as a sponsor at www.jfcsaz.org/sponsor. If you are not able to sponsor this year, please consider supporting the program by making a tax-deductible contribution. Contact Kathy Rood at 602.452.4627 for more information.

Thank you on behalf of the entire JFCS agency, and best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season!

