



Jewish Family Services



כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲרֻבִים זֶה לָזֶה.

All Israel is Responsible for Each Other

By George Cronson, Jewish Family Services Friends Campaign Chair

"All Israel is Responsible for Each Other." And that is what our Charlotte Jewish Community has done. It has taken the responsibility of assisting the needy Jewish people in our community through Charlotte's Jewish Family Services ("JFS").

The JFS office, under the leadership of Executive Director Penny Wagner-Schuster, last year held 970 counseling sessions for seniors, families, couples and children. The JFS food pantry has been accessed almost 400 times supplying bare essentials: food, soap, toilet paper — items that you and I take for granted but are so vital to individuals in need. JFS provides a Jewish connection to homebound individuals and residents in senior facilities, ensuring these elderly and lonely people that they have not been forgotten and remain a part of our Jewish

community. JFS Family Life Education Workshops have been held on vital topics such as caring for aging parents, parenting adolescents and dealing with teenage violence. In addition, there have been support groups on parenting, bereavement and divorce. Emergency financial assistance has been administered by JFS for housing, burial, medical assistance and many other unfortunate crises. In all, last year over 1000 individuals and families were helped. No one has been turned away because of the inability to pay.

A major portion of Jewish Family Services operating budget is funded through the Annual Friends Campaign. In May, JFS sent over 2,800 mailings asking for donations to this year's campaign. While we have received generous donations, there are still many of you from whom we have not yet heard. Please take the time now to help us raise enough funds

to enable JFS to carry on their vital programs and services.

JFS Board members may be contacting you for a pledge to the Annual Friends Campaign. If you do not receive their call, or simply have misplaced your pledge card, please call the JFS office at 704-364-6594 with a donation pledge and we will honor your generosity at that time. A list of all donors will appear in the *Charlotte Jewish News* later this year. At JFS we depend on the kindness of Friends, so please be a Friend and add your name to the list by making a donation to the Jewish Family Services Annual Friends Campaign. Helping others is the soul of our community. Thanks for helping and thanks for caring.

The following is a letter of thanks from a JFS client.

November 20, 2000

Dear Penny,
I cannot adequately put into

words how much the JFS has meant to me these past few months.

As a practicing health care worker of many years, I never expected to become disabled. My injuries, work related, resulted in massive soft tissue injury as well as brain damage from a closed head injury. Now I am a mess.

Over the years, I received numerous state and regional awards for my services to persons with disabilities. Now, "the shoe is on the other foot." I have had such significant losses over the past several years, numerous financial, legal and emotional hardships, to the point that I have been on the verge of suicide (a loaded revolver to my head) as I feel that I am in fact already a dead man. Even though I have been hospitalized five or six times for depression and suicidal ideation, I still felt abandoned, that no one really gave a damn whether I lived or died, until now.

JFS has offered me hope, a "ray of sunshine" in an otherwise cloud of darkness. I have been in counseling on a weekly basis with Dawn Jett since last February. She is truly a fine, competent and

compassionate therapist. If it weren't for her assistance, I probably would not be here to write this letter. Our weekly sessions have meant so much to me, helped me see an alternative to death as a way out of my nightmare.

There have been times when I was so financially strained that I literally did not know where my next meal was coming from. The men's shelter in Shelby has closed and the thought of rummaging through trash bins was revolting. The JFS food pantry and food certificates have been a Godsend. I get to eat good, wholesome food. Thank you, thank you.

I also appreciated the help in obtaining some of my psychotropic medications without which I felt like the movie title "Dead Man Walking."

Thank you so very much, for all of you, Dawn and JFS, have done. It matters knowing that someone cares.

God bless,
"Walter"*

*name has been changed to protect confidentiality ☆

Mitzvah Makers Hot Meal Program for June and July

Ann Abel, Emily Chatham, Lynn Edelstein, Ann Ferrante, Resa Goldberg, Debra Goldstein, Trish Golembe, Adrienne Gossett, Gail Green, Susan Jacobs, Florence Jaffa, Helen Josephs, Barbara Katz, Sharon Katz, Sheila Kritzer, Jennifer Lahn, Allie

Lerner, Phil Levine, Sandra Levine, Lyn Lippman, Brenda Manes, Elise Menaker, Marnie Moskowitz, Paula Musler, Jill Newman, Bernice Roberts, Sandy Rosenberg, Helga Rosenberger, Marsha Scheer, Susan Sherman, Susie Weinberg, Sandy Fischer, Vivian Mallins

Jewish Family Services Thanks the Community for the Following

Donations in May and June

IN MEMORY OF:

Arthur Wolf (Brother of Eleanor Turk and Uncle of Jeff Turk) from Jan and Ron Katz, Sally and Manny Rosenfeld, Audrey Madans, Bea Gibbs, Staff and Board of JFS, Linda Ziefert, Sandy Fischer, Evelyn and Leonard Berger, Florence and Ben Jaffa, Diane and Arnold Rosenberg, Fay and Gerald Sinkoe, Selena and Abe Banner, Arlene and Ed Karp, Pat and David Somerstein, Marilyn and Milt Rosenbaum, Frances and Ronald Liss, Marilyn Shapiro, Ruth and Alan Goldberg

Mother of Bill Schwartz from Harriet and Mark Perlin
Shirley Silverstein from Florence and Ben Jaffa, Audrey Madans, Margo and Werner Moritz, Shirley and Eddie Goodman

Andy Ades from Margo and Werner Moritz
Mort Silverstein from Margo and Werner Moritz, Shirley and Eddie Goodman, Florence and Ben Jaffa

Nathan Becker from Lillian and Irving Bienstock

Ross and Judith Becker from Audrey Madans, Ruth and Julius Silverman

Janis Dresner Hayes (Sister of Francis Liss) from Eleanor and Morty Turk

Bernard Duhan (Father of Laura Duhan) from Karen and Leonard Fox

Elisa Joy Enison-Barman from Fay and Gerald Sinkoe
Minnie Birbaum from Fay and

Gerald Sinkoe
Mother of Diane Lass from Diane and Arnold Lass

SPEEDY AND COMPLETE RECOVERY

Ben Jaffa from Audrey Madans, Dorothy and Craig Madans, Maxine and Barry Klenicki, Fay and Gerald Sinkoe, Arlene and Ed Karp, Eleanor and Morty Turk, Marilyn Shapiro, Shirley and Ed Goodman, Ruth and Helmut Brandt, Ruth and Alan Goldberg, Staff and Board of JFS, Shirley and Milton Fytelson, Evelyn and Leonard Berger, Lillian and Irving Bienstock, Jacobs Family, Mickey Bayer, Ruth and Julius Silverman

Syd Gerber from Audrey Madans, Evelyn and Leonard Berger

Edna Bernanke from Marilyn Shapiro, Audrey Madans, Ruth and Alan Goldberg

Bill Ashendorf from Shirley and Eddie Goodman
Roz Greenspon from Audrey Madans

Arlene Karp from Ruth and Alan Goldberg, Audrey Madans, Florence and Ben Jaffa

Esther Frank from Margo and Werner Moritz

Jim Linderman from Diane and Arnold Rosenberg

Sam Strause from Ben and Florence Jaffa

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Irving Bienstock from Bea Gibbs

Leonard Berger from Bea Gibbs, Linda Ziefert

Sylvia Kronovet from Carolyn and Stuart Hennes

Barry Klemmons from

Florence and Ben Jaffa

GRADUATION

Maxine Klenicki from Florence and Ben Jaffa

Bea Gibbs from Evelyn and Leonard Berger, Audrey Madans, Mollie Form

Benjamin Kveskin from Mollie Form

Michal Richardson (Granddaughter of Ruth and Shai) from Evelyn and Irving Hockstat

Eric Mish from Susan and Michael Littauer

Jessica Sachs from Lillian and Irving Bienstock

Elise Moore from Audrey Madans

Daniel Moore from Audrey Madans

MISCELLANEOUS

Alan Platock (Honor of Bar Mitzvah) from Denise and Alan Sussman

Jerry Fisher (Great Party) from Evelyn and Leonard Berger

Blanche and Henry Hirschmann (50th Wedding Anniversary) from Florence and Ben Jaffa

Henry Hirschman (Thank You For the Presentation) from Andrea and Ian Mesoznik

Alice and Dan Wallace (50th Wedding Anniversary) from Sheryl and Don Effren

Jeffrey Lyons (In honor of your Achievements) from Pearl and David Fink

Raena and Sam Siegel (In Celebration Of Friendship) from Micki and Bennett Lyons

Birth of Aidan Yale Greenfield (Grandson of Berta and Sam Kaplan) from Rita and Irving Mond ☆

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Orthodox Woman Mentor

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betzins, or rabbis' wives, many of whom traditionally have offered classes and counseling for women congregants.

Today, however, more and more rebetzins have their own careers.

"I'm not married to a rabbi, so does that mean I should never get to do all these things?" she asked.

Her husband, Josh, is an accountant, and is a regular fixture at the shul, along with the couple's toddler son, Dov.

At the installation ceremony, Deborah Cooperman, a member of the shul's learning service, described Halickman as "academically rigorous, intellectually honest and open and so supportive of students."

"With Sharona, there are no unaskable questions and that gives her students untold confidence," Cooperman said.

At a recent class in the syna-

agogue's library, Halickman was poised but informal, encouraging the mostly older women students to participate and patiently answering their questions.

At the end of the one-hour session, retiree Selma Brick said she had taken several classes with Halickman because the young woman "knows her stuff."

"It's a first," Brick said of Halickman's new role. "It's what she's been doing, but now she's got a title. She's not going to be a lady rabbi, but she's a very learned person." ☆