



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES



Jewish Family Services Friends Campaign Tzedakah in Action

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You can be sure that every time you read a story in the newspaper about the price of groceries going up 40% or gas prices rising again or jobs being slashed, people in our community are being affected. And Jewish Family Services is prepared to help.

A young woman needs new tires for her car. Without safe transportation, she has no way to get to work to support her two children. A one-time tzedakah loan gets her back on the road.

A retired man going through a bout of depression falls behind in his bills when his disability claim is denied. JFS steps in with the cash to cover his utility bills just before Piedmont Natural Gas and Duke Energy would have cut him off. With emergency monetary help coupled with therapy and perhaps a referral to a doctor for medication or to legal services to

contest the disability denial, special funding prevents a short-term emergency from becoming a long-term crisis.

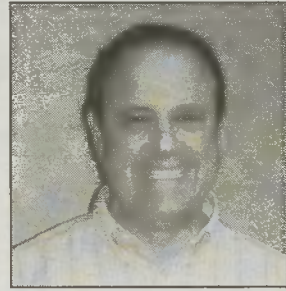
Perhaps a serious illness puts the cost of replacing a conked-out furnace out of reach. Maybe a husband loses his job just when his wife is home on maternity leave. These and any number of unanticipated scenarios can send a family who already watches their pennies and budgets carefully into a tailspin. It can happen to any one of us.

Jewish families have a place to turn when an unexpected blow to the budget threatens to turn their lives upside down. Oftentimes, it only takes a few hundred dollars to fill the gap and avert ongoing financial crises.

This is where the money raised during the JFS Friends Campaign goes – to an organization dedicated to serving as a resource for friends and neighbors who need help helping themselves, and in fact may be seeking help for the first time in their lives.

We all know that hunger tops the list of the most serious problems in a difficult economy. Earlier this spring, the students of Shalom Park, neighborhood businesses, congregations and individuals filled our pantry with Passover items so that Jewish families could properly celebrate the Passover. This fall, that same generosity will prevail again for our community with apples and honey and challahs for Rosh Hashanah. But hunger persists beyond the holiday seasons.

We are certain that you share the commitment to help our Jewish friends and neighbors be free from hunger every day of the year. We are certain that you share the commitment to ensure members of our community are able to survive a short-term emergency without losing their homes, their cars or their self-respect. We are



Jeff Turk, chair, Friends Campaign

certain that you share the commitment to provide a safe harbor and healing to those suffering loss, depression and anxiety.

The Friends Campaign has a face. Many faces, from many walks of life. The board of Jewish Family Services is asking all able members of our community to make a donation to the 2008 JFS Friends Campaign. When you become a Friend of Jewish Family Services, you join a long tradition of Jews taking care of Jews. L'Dor V'Dor. We give not as an obligation, but as a mitzvah. Your gift to one strengthens many. Thank you for participating in Jewish Family Services Friends Campaign, for being a partner in our mission and a source of strength to our community.

You can make your donation on line at www.jfscharlotte.org or mail your check to Jewish Family Services, Friends Campaign, 5007 Providence Road, Suite 105, Charlotte, NC 28226. ☆



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A Shout Out for Volunteers

Want a quick route to making a difference? Become a Mitzvah Maker for Jewish Family Services. JFS is in need of drivers to take clients to doctor's appointments, cooks to prepare tasty home-made meals once a month,

administrative help and answering phones in the office, senior outreach – friendly visits and phone calls. For more information, call Susan Proctor, Volunteer Coordinator, at 704-364-6594. ☆

Thanks for Helping

A Big Thank You to the temples, the Youth Soccer Team and the individuals who responded with such generosity to our recent shortage in the food pantry. A special word of thanks to an amazingly efficient network of young women who put the word out and brought in results in record time. As all food banks feel the pinch of this economy, we and our clients appreciate your continued generosity. ☆

Mitzvah Maker Cooks for April

Jane Vatz Abel, Linda Babich, Evelyn Berger, Ida Berman, Penny Eisenberg, Iris Friedlander, Ruth Goldberg, Katherine Goldstein, Roberta Malickson, Diggle Pesakoff, Linda Rothman, Peggy Rovman, Ginger Snitz, Marcia Stern