

Jewish Social Services

Thoughts From Adrienne

By Adrienne Rosenberg
Jewish Social Services Drtr.

The following is a speech I presented at Temple Israel on Yom Kippur. I present it here for all of you to think about as we enter the Thanksgiving season and think of what that means to a Jewish person in the Charlotte community.

During Yom Kippur we repeat frequently the words El Chet during public confession — that is, we the community. And we see by everyone's presence on Yom Kippur that our Jewish community erupts in force to be seen and to come together. That sense of community is what makes Judaism special — the fact we are called upon to be responsible for what happens to other Jews — especially in times of need.

The idea of community means being and feeling connected. However, when we are faced with situations that leave us overwhelmed, confused, or not sure where to turn — especially if we buy into the stereotype that Jews don't have the problems of the general society — it is easy to feel forgotten or ignored by the Jewish community. With that in mind, Jewish Social Services, under the financial

sponsorship of the Charlotte Jewish Federation, is available to anyone in the Jewish community. Our brochure and stated purpose reads "We are here to help..." and so we are. We are the professional, confidential agency aimed at providing social work and counseling services for our community.

Within the last year, Jewish Social Services has had contact with 799 persons in our community. That is approximately 20% of the Charlotte Jewish population. These contacts may have been strictly for information (examples being: "Where can we go in the community for Tay-Sachs screening?"; "Do you have Jewish babies for adoption?"; "How can I get my relative into the Blumenthal Home?"; "I'm thinking of moving my parents here and want to know where you suggest they live,") to a full range of services for seniors and their families to a vocational component for the unemployed, to counseling and help in adjusting for those faced with situations producing stress, be it financial, marital, or the loss of a significant person in their lives. This past year we were able to assist nine college students with loans to attend school through Jewish Children's

Service of Atlanta. We offer ongoing groups for interfaith couples and the unemployed. We advocate connectiveness for persons within our community, for example: arranging rides to services or making certain the ten Jewish persons in non-Jewish nursing homes in our community are not forgotten; helping interfaith families feel accepted. We work closely with Jewish organizations, institutions and individuals to provide food, clothing, transportation and money to persons in need within our community.

Within the next year, we will be adding a "Friendly Visitor" program of volunteers for isolated seniors, extending our services to single parents, and bringing more money into the agency to help us more adequately serve our community in a continued professional and confidential manner.

I personally hope for all of you, that this is a healthy, happy, sweet year with no problems or stresses of any type. But, if you find that situations do arise when you're unsure where to turn or when you feel isolated from our community, Jewish Social Services is here to help. Please feel free to call us.

I wish you all a Good Yontiff!

Career Changers

If you have ever been "between jobs", you know how difficult it is to find the right job. In this ongoing group, we will discuss job search skills as well as the anxiety and frustration that are its by-products.

DATE: Wednesdays
TIME: 11:00 AM - Noon
PLACE: Armstrong House Trailer
LED BY: Elaine M. Chernotsky

To enroll, please call Jewish Social Services at 364-6594.



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OUR OFFICE IS IN NEED OF AN ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER IN GOOD CONDITION. IF YOU CAN HELP US OUT, PLEASE CALL ADRIENNE ROSENBERG, DIRECTOR OF JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICES, AT 364-6594.

Attention Bubbes!!

Do you have some free time!

Do you like to be with children?

Would you like to earn some extra money?



Jewish Social Services gets numerous calls for child care services. If you are available, please call Jewish Social Services at 364-6594 to register with us.

JCC Seeks Membership Director

The Jewish Community Center seeks a part-time Membership Director. Responsibilities will include developing and organizing a membership campaign for the new Center building, training and coordinating the activities of JCC volunteers, conducting intake interviews, etc. Good public relations and organizational skills required. Call the JCC, 366-0357, if you are interested.

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