ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24



Vision and Values

Vision

Together, building and supporting a healthy, resilient and inclusive Jewish community.

Purpose

Delivering excellent care and support, underpinned by Jewish values for the community we serve.

Our Focus

Jewish Care Victoria belongs to the community – each of us owners and stakeholders. With ownership comes responsibility. We each play a role in ensuring the care of those most in need. The strength of our community is in our diversity and in our togetherness – young and old, rich and poor, healthy and sick, religious and unaffiliated. Together we are one.

Values

Jewish Care's values are universal and enduring in nature but are also particular to the Jewish approach to creating a meaningful life and a strong, cohesive community.

Our values define who we are and underpin everything we do. They pervade every aspect of our organisation, informing relationships amongst colleagues, between staff and clients and between our organisation and the wider community. Our values are about people – they provide a moral compass for the way we respond to challenges and the decisions we make.



דרך ארץ derech eretz

Respect

Through client services and program excellence, we treat everyone with consideration and decency and will always act for the good of society.



הבללה hachlala **Inclusion**

We embrace diversity and work together for a just and equitable society.



קהילה

kehilla Community

Working together to strengthen our community, to build and support the capacity and resilience of individuals and families.



אחריות חברתית achrayoot chevratit

Social Responsibility

Behaving ethically, with sensitivity and acting in the best interests of all.

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Cover Ambelle Adalia, Direct Care attendant with Home Care client Abram Goldberg.

Acknowledgement of Land and Traditional Owners

Jewish Care acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work. Our services and supports are provided on the lands of the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung people and we deeply respect and honour their ongoing cultural and spiritual connection to land, waters and community.

President's and Chief Executive's Report

As we reflect on the past 12 months at Jewish Care, we must first acknowledge the war in Israel and the horrors of October 7. Our thoughts and prayers are with the hostages, the IDF and the people of Israel. We mourn the loss of innocent lives and pray for the safe return of those still in captivity. Our support for Israel stands strong.

The impact of the conflict on Melbourne's Jewish community has been far-reaching, compounded by the challenges of rising living costs. We continue to address our community's needs, adapting our services to meet them, as we have for over 175 years.

New and enhanced services and supports

In response to increased requests for support, particularly in financial security, housing and mental health, we swiftly adapted to provide essential aid. Following October 7, we focused on a wraparound crisis response to meet immediate psychological and material needs. This included approximately \$10,000 of financial aid to support repatriated families with school uniforms, whitegoods and vouchers for food and household items.

A Housing Support Worker was employed two days per week for eight weeks, and our Employment Centre helped find employment for repatriated individuals and those feeling unsafe in their current jobs due to antisemitism. We provided mental health first aid training to a range of organisations including AZYC, Habonim Dror, and CSG, and we continue to expand our Mental Health services and Psychology Hub.

Our Aged Care and Disability services continue to respond to changing preferences. We increased supports to help people stay in their own homes for longer and grew our residential services to meet our community's diverse needs.

Community partnerships

This year, we strengthened our partnerships with the Jewish community both locally and nationally. In partnership with the Australia Israel & Jewish Affairs Council (AIJAC), we hosted a 7 October Commemorative Service at the Schwartz Family Synagogue at the Hannah & Daryl Cohen Family Building in Windsor. Over 170 community members joined the event which was live streamed to countless others.

None of this would be possible without the ongoing generosity of our partners and supporters. We raised an incredible \$3.887M through our Annual Appeal and your generosity, especially amidst other donation requests, is truly appreciated. These vital funds allow us to provide much-needed care, support and services where they matter most. You have our sincerest thanks.

External accreditation

Accreditation is a tangible signal of our stringent service quality and safety standards, and we proudly hold accreditation across five schemes. We are thrilled to share that all our services maintain 100% accreditation, reflecting our unwavering commitment to excellence and your trust in us.

In the past year, we secured accreditation for the Child Safe Standards, The Rainbow Tick standards and NDIS Practice Standards. Our Residential Home Carnegie excelled in meeting Aged Care Quality Standards, and we eagerly anticipate similar outcomes for Residential Home Windsor and Gary Smorgon House. Preparation is underway for Community Aged Care Services' accreditation in 2025.

Workforce

We could not support our community without our wonderful Jewish Care workforce. We have recruited 388 new team members over the past year, and, at the time of this report, we are enjoying our highest rates of staff retention and lowest use of external agency staff. Ensuring our workforce is consistent and committed continues to be our highest priority.

Our future

We will continue to adapt and deliver new services in response to our community's changing needs. Whilst we pray for peace and the safe return of the hostages, we will continue to support our local community and those of new immigrants (L-R) Lisa Kennett OAM, President and Adjunct Associate Professor Gayle Smith, Interim Chief Executive Officer

with services they can access virtually, face-to-face or by phone. In Aged Care, Disability and Social Services, our focus remains on empowering individuals to age with dignity and receive the care they deserve in their own homes.

Wrapping up and thank you

The last 12 months have been challenging, and we want to thank you for your ongoing support. Our staff have gone above and beyond, and we are a richer organisation for their individual and collective endeavours. We thank every one of them, as well as our highly committed Senior and Executive Leadership Team members for their resilience during challenging times.

In closing, we would like to also acknowledge the individual and collective efforts of our volunteers, and our Board and Committee members, who freely give their time and share their wisdom to make Jewish Care a better place. In particular, we acknowledge the incredible commitment of former President, Susie Ivany OAM, Reuben Zelwer and John Zelcer who are concluding their final terms on the Board. We thank them for their outstanding service.

It is with enormous pride that we commend this report to you.

Ana Kennet

Lisa Kennett OAM President

Adjunct Associate Professor Gayle Smith Interim Chief Executive Officer



Coordination

housed

Services

Jewish Care is the first choice for aged care, in-home care, disability and community services for the Victorian Jewish community.

Residential Aged Care

Accommodation

- Gary Smorgon House (incorporating Melbourne Hebrew Memorial Nursing Home)
- Residential Home Windsor located in the Hannah & Daryl Cohen Family Building within the Holckner Family Senior Living & Community Precinct
- Residential Home Carnegie located in the Smorgon Family Building within the Thomas Ganz Senior Living & Community Precinct

Specialties

- Memory Support
- Palliative Care
- Respite Care

Disability Services

NDIS specific services:

- NDIS Support Coordination
- NDIS Plan Management
- NDIS Supports for Daily Living (Inhome and community access)
- NDIS Short Term accommodation
- NDIS Supported Independent Living
- NDIS Specialist Disability Accommodation
- Hawthorn Road House, Caulfield
- Jacobs House, Carnegie
- Prahran Grove House,
- Elsternwick

Daily Living Supports

- Community Access
- In-home Support

Respite at the Coppel & Piekarski Family Disability Respite Centre

- Skill based groups & activities for children & adults
- Carer Information, Planning and Support
- Assistance with NDIS applications

Social Services

Social Work Services

- Advocacy/Navigation Support
- Child Welfare and Wellbeing Issues
- Family Violence
- Financial Stress
- Housing/Homelessness
- Mental Health
- Relationship Issues/Parenting Support
- Supports for youth

Clinical Psychology Hub

The Employment Centre

- Job Seeking skill development and support
- Assistance to find and secure employment
- Pre-Accredited Training

Financial Services

- Empower Interest-Free Loans
- Financial Aid
- Financial Counselling
- Scholarships

Front Door

- Information and referral
- Navigation to Jewish Care services and programs

Housing Support

- Assistance and Advocacy
- Access to Jewish Care owned accommodation:
- Independent rooming house for people with disability – Richard and Marietta Manders Villas
- Community housing units at Bontschek Court and Leo Fink Court
- Community houses across Caulfield and St Kilda East
- Specialist disability accommodation
- Access to accommodation with partner agencies including Housing First and Launch Housing

Healthy Communities

- Community education, training and capacity building, including:
- Mental Health Promotion (including Mental Health First Aid training, customised workshops for schools and youth leaders)
- Family Violence Prevention and Early intervention (gender equity, respectful relationships, recognising and responding to family violence)
- Positive Parenting (Raising Healthy Families forums, Tuning In To Kids and Tuning In To Teens parenting program)

Youth Mentoring programs

- Young Achievers Program
- Youth Aspire Program

Community Aged Care

- Allied Health Services and Social Support Groups provided at Anne & Eric Smorgon Active Living Centre in Caulfield and Gita Smorgon Active Living Centre in Windsor
- BlueStar Home Care Services
- Holocaust Survivor Support Services

Shared Services

Donor & Community Relations

- Fundraising
- Marketing and Communications
- Events
- Volunteer Program

Jewish Life

- Cultural and Spiritual Programs
- Kosher Supervision
- Pastoral Care
- Rabbinical Services

Residential Aged Care

At Jewish Care we are committed to providing high-quality, holistic care across our three homes. Creating a supportive environment aligned with Jewish values fosters a true sense of belonging for our residents. As part of this commitment, we sought feedback from our community to refine our workforce strategy and ensure our residents receive the very best care.

Cultivating a dedicated team

This year, we have focussed on cultivating a stable, dedicated team while reducing our reliance on agency staff. A familiar team fosters comfort and trust, enabling caregivers to grow deeper relationships with residents and support their emotional and physical health in alignment with our person-centred care philosophy.

In FY24, we achieved a 41.4% decrease in agency labour costs (from 9.9% in June 2023 to 5.8% in June 2024) and reduced agency hours worked by 33.4% (from 3,038 hours in June 2023 to 2,024 hours in June 2024).

These achievements reflect our dedication to building a robust workforce through successful recruitment, retention, and staff development initiatives. By reducing agency reliance, we have streamlined operations and enhanced continuity of care.

Nourishing connections through food

Dining is a celebrated aspect of our care services and Jewish Care Victoria has been recognised among Jewish service providers across Australia for delivering Kosher food with the highest satisfaction scores.

Food plays a vital role in physical health and emotional connection, and our meal service is thoughtfully designed with tradition, cultural sensitivity, and individual preferences in mind.

Embracing innovation

This year, we transitioned to a digital medication management system across our three aged care homes. Accuracy and efficiency in medication administration is vital and a streamlined process gives staff more time for resident care. Staff now have instant access to medication information with a system that provides real-time updates and automatic alerts. By replacing paperbased methods we reduce the risk of human error and elevate care delivery for our residents while supporting our staff.

Enhancing resident connection and support

Our focus is to ensure our residents feel connected and supported. By prioritising their needs and integrating feedback into our care strategies, we cultivate an environment that reflects the essence of community according to Jewish values.

We are proud of our progress and look forward to serving our residents with compassion, respect, and an unwavering commitment to quality care in the year ahead.

GSH resident, Ester Braitberg with her grand-daughter and great granddaughters

Community Aged Care

Our in-home care services and our two Active Living Centres enabled our clients to maintain social connections with the community and support them as they continue to live independently in their own homes.

A partnership for independence at home

Jewish Care Victoria works closely with clients to understand their needs and empower them to feel safe and well-supported in their homes. This year, we strengthened our commitment to collaborative care, ensuring that each client's requirements are regularly assessed and incorporated into their personalised care plans.

In FY24, we empowered over 1,000 clients to live independently by delivering 325,626 hours of in-home care and support—an increase of 17,719 hours from the previous year. Through our Home Care Packages (HCP) program, we supported 613 clients and assisted 548 clients through our Holocaust Survivor Support Program.

This growth in service hours not only reflects our expansion but also highlights the success of our partnership approach, ensuring that more individuals can thrive in the comfort of their own homes with the necessary care and support.

Empowering our team

Recognising that a well-trained team is key to successful partnerships with clients, Jewish Care invested in staff development, with 80% attending face-to-face training in manual handling, dementia care, and falls prevention.

"The training this year fostered a sense of collaboration. It wasn't just about learning new skills; it was about understanding how we, as staff, can better partner with clients to support their wellbeing."

Strengthening client relationships

Continuity of care is essential for building trust and delivering personalised services. This year, we reduced our reliance on agency staff by 12%, strengthening relationships between clients and the dedicated team members who work with them. Abram Goldberg (Home Care client) with wife Cesia Goldberg (GSH resident) at the Melbourne Holocaust Museum Survivors' morning tea

Working together for the best outcomes

Safety is at the core of our services, and we strive to ensure clients receive the highest quality of care from a skilled and compassionate team. We continue to evolve our services to meet clients' changing needs with support that is responsive and respectful of their circumstances.

Social Services

Social Services is a group of programs, projects and services that aim to address disadvantage in the community and equip people with essential tools to create a better life for themselves and their families.

Cost of living

As the cost of living escalates, we have seen an increasing number of clients seeking help for financial concerns including housing-related costs, groceries, utilities, medical bills and debts. Existing clients continue to need assistance, and we have a new cohort of first-time help seekers: middle-income earners who find themselves unable to make ends meet.

In FY24, our financial counsellors provided 6,282 support hours during which they helped 349 community members (147 first-time help seekers and 202 re-presenting clients), achieved debt waivers totalling \$257,000, and secured 18 moratoriums, keeping a roof over 18 family's heads.

Antisemitism

Our community has endured a range of impacts due to rising antisemitism including lost income, unsafe workplaces, relationship conflict and psychological distress. Accessing culturally safe social services free from the fear of antisemitism is not a 'nice-to-have' but a must.

We continue to address these impacts through employment support for those seeking culturally safe workplaces, case management supports for those facing material impacts, psychology services, and community education to help those navigating relationship and parenting challenges.

Housing

The impact of Melbourne's housing crisis has been farreaching. With rising rental prices and a diminishing pool of affordable homes, our Housing Program plays a vital role in filling the gap.

Currently, we house 132 individuals, including 29 children. 25% of occupants live with a disability. We maintain 60 one-bedroom units, 9 houses across



Cassie Barrett, Manager – Community Education and Participation and Rabbi Hammer

St Kilda East and Caulfield, and 15 properties through provider partnerships.

In FY24, we prevented 74 families from becoming homeless and facilitated interest-free loans on first home purchases for 6 households. We supported 101 households with financial counselling, advocacy for housing-related debt and housing registry applications. We collaborated with the housing and homelessness sector to support shared bond contributions, top-up crisis accommodation funds and priority pathways to Victoria's Big Build.

Our Housing Program faces unprecedented demand with 148 new referrals and a waitlist of 55 households. While homelessness or pending homelessness is a priority, we also work with single parents, people on a low or fixed income, those with disability and/ or mental health issues, and first-time help seekers affected by rising living costs.

Mental health

The Middle East conflict and rise in antisemitism have deeply affected the mental health of our community. Sadly, accessible and affordable psychologists in the private sector are in short supply.

To support the community, we launched a Psychology Program engaging provisional psychologists under supervision. Improving clinician availability and timely access to treatment, the program has provided over a hundred client sessions at no cost. Ensuring access to culturally sensitive psychology services continues to be a priority as the program expands.







Disability Services

Jewish Care Victoria's Disability Service aims to support clients to live their life, their way. We are committed to supporting clients to make choices that are right for them, achieve their goals and lead a rewarding life which is meaningful to them.

Disability Advocacy Services

Most people with disability simply wish to live an 'ordinary' life. When gaps in NDIS supports arise, we step in to advocate for them. Whether it's guiding them through review requests or appeals, we ease the stressful and lengthy process with guidance and negotiation support.

In FY24, we helped a man in his 60s to remain an active member of the community, avoiding going into aged care. We rallied for crucial funding, enabling a family to continue to care for their two children with severe disabilities. We supported a man in his 40s with intellectual disability with life skills development, and our advocacy for overnight support ensured an individual's safety while granting their carer much needed respite.

Caring for the carers

Unpaid carers selflessly attend to their loved ones and our Support for Carers program helps them to safely maintain their role and to take a break for themselves. In FY24, we assisted 98 carers, providing 2,000 hours of support. One such story involves a young wife and mother, battling with end-stage cancer. Her discharge from hospital was

delayed due to the challenges her family faced in providing the necessary care at home. Our Support for Carers program stepped in to offer essential personal care and transportation to medical appointments when her request of NDIS funding was turned down. With our support, she was able to reunite with her young son and family, spending precious time at home before she passed away.

Living the dream

Angena on

Just like everyone else, people with a disability have an array of dreams and goals. Helping them achieve their bucket list desires can be a challenge, but it's one that our staff take on with gusto.

In FY24, several residents in our Specialist Disability Accommodation saw their dreams come true, including Denise who dreamt of celebrating her 50th birthday on the Gold Coast. After weeks of careful planning, her wish became a reality, and she said it was the best holiday she'd ever had.

> Increasing her community engagement and a visit to Philip Island were two of Hera's long-term goals. A trip packed with activities was developed, including the Koala and Wildlife Sanctuary, Penguin Parade and The Chocolate Factory. Hera's smile and giggles upon return encapsulated her delight.

> > This vital work is our commitment to helping individuals achieve the 'ordinary' life they deserve.

Above: Denise on holiday in Queensland

Left: Hera on holiday in Philip Island

People & Development



In our drive to provide exceptional care and services, the People & Development team has been key in elevating our workforce practices.

Elevating our workforce for a high-performing culture

At Jewish Care, the People & Development team is committed to elevating our work practices to ensure a deeply engaged workforce that drives a high-performing culture. With 1,553 dedicated staff and volunteers, we are proud of our ongoing growth and our collective dedication to delivering exceptional, client-centric care and support.

Talent acquisition and staff engagement

Staff engagement is a crucial indicator of how satisfied and connected our team feels within Jewish Care. This year, we are pleased to report an increase in our engagement score compared to the previous year, reflecting the commitment of our staff to the values of Jewish Care and the quality services we provide to our clients, residents, and the broader community. Our Talent Acquisition team remains dedicated to recruiting high-calibre professionals who align with our mission and values, ensuring we maintain the highest standards of care.

Strategic university partnerships

We have cultivated strong partnerships with leading tertiary institutions, providing students with immersive and exemplary placement experiences. These partnerships not only help us foster a pipeline of toptier talent but also position Jewish Care as an employer of choice for future generations of professionals.

Learning and development

A key aspect of retaining staff is providing robust opportunities for growth. We offer a wide range of learning and development programs designed to enhance critical skills, broaden knowledge, and support both clinical and non-clinical professional development. By investing in our people, we ensure that our staff is equipped to meet evolving industry demands and continue delivering the best care.

Diversity and inclusion

This year, Jewish Care proudly achieved Rainbow Tick Accreditation, signalling our commitment to creating an LGBTQI+ inclusive environment. We continue to roll out a variety of diversity and inclusion initiatives aimed at fostering a workplace where everyone feels they belong. These initiatives are integral to enhancing our employees' experience and promoting a culture of inclusion, respect and belonging.

Commitment to mandatory training

Compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements is central to our operations, particularly when it comes to mandatory training. Our commitment to this ensures that all staff are equipped with the essential knowledge and skills required to meet both industry standards and the high expectations of the community we serve.

Clinical Governance Risk & Experience

Our Clinical Governance Framework is critical to Jewish Care achieving its mission of providing excellent care and support underpinned by Jewish values.

Last year, we introduced our Clinical Governance Framework which focuses on building and enhancing our systems and processes to support the provision of safe, effective, personal and coordinated care.

Consumer experience and engagement

Our Consumer Advisory Committee strengthens partnership with residents, clients and their representatives. It enables the Executive and Board to better understand the lived experience of our care and services as well as gain insights on opportunities for improvement to integrate into organisational decision-making. Co-designing services ensures alignment with community needs, legislative and regulatory developments, research findings, Royal Commission recommendations and associated funding criteria.

Accreditation

Ensuring our practices are consistent with industry standards and requirements for every person, every time, resulted in successful accreditation outcomes against the following standards:

- NDIS Practice Standards in our Disability Services and Residential Aged Care
- Rainbow Tick Standards
- Safe Guarding Children Standards
- Human Services Standards
- Aged Care Quality Standards at Residential Home Carnegie.
- Residential Home Windsor and Gary Smorgon House will be assessed in the next six months.

Clinical education

Our Clinical Governance Framework highlights the importance of clinical education in nurturing an effective workforce. Since welcoming our Clinical Educator in March, we have intensified efforts to boost clinical capability across our services. Our Clinical Education Framework ensures that ongoing education is planned, coordinated and meets the needs of staff as well as meeting priority needs for clinical education. In-house and external clinical trainings have included sessions on dysphagia, continence management, wound care, skin care, dementia care and palliative care.



Clinical risk management

We are continuously improving care by identifying areas where we can enhance delivery to our residents and clients. Strategic implementation of measures that reduce risks and potential harm, such as falls, medication and wound management, bring better outcomes and a positive customer experience.

Quality and Safety improvement initiatives – Improvement Training

This year, 23 Jewish Care staff graduated from the inaugural Jewish Care Improvement Training Program. This interactive program builds leader capability in problem solving and improvements using the methodology of A3 Thinking and Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA). Learnings have already brought about a significant reduction of agency use in Residential Aged Care and Community Aged Care.

Quality and Safety improvement initiatives – Medication Management Project

This year, we transitioned from paper-based medication charts to electronic charting and prescribing across our residential aged care homes. The aim of the project is to reduce medication errors, increase efficiency and improve GP and Pharmacist experience. An evaluation has commenced.

Donor & Community Relations

To support a healthy, resilient and inclusive Jewish Community, we focus on engaging and promoting Jewish Care to external stakeholders, including donors, partners, media, volunteers and community organisations.

Fundraising

This year, your generosity to our community shone through with a remarkable \$3.85M raised in our 2024 Annual Appeal. Your kindness sustains our Social Services and Jewish Life Programs and makes a significant impact on the lives of those who need our support.

Over the past 12 months, we have received over 10,000 calls for assistance and provided 186 families with the support they need. Your contributions help us provide essential services for those who are grappling with mental health challenges, impacted by family violence, facing housing insecurity, seeking employment and in need of financial aid.

We are deeply grateful to every donor, whether individuals, families, estates, philanthropic trusts and foundations, businesses or fundraising support groups. We wholeheartedly thank you for **Supporting us to support OUR community.**

Generations of Women (GOW)

We were delighted to welcome over 350 women to Jewish Care's 26th Annual Generations of Women Brunch earlier in the year. Guests heard keynote speaker Gemma Tognini, commentator and broadcaster, speak passionately about her career in journalism, her love of Israel and her affection for our local Jewish community.

Through the generosity of our guests and sponsors, the event raised vital funds in support of

Supporting our community

Jewish Care's Housing Program, ensuring that individuals and families at risk of homelessness receive the assistance they urgently need.

New Friends of Monte Lunch

At this year's New Friends of Monte (NFOM) lunch over 400 attendees were captivated by keynote speaker Nova Peris OAM OLY. In a heartfelt conversation led by Professor Melissa Castan, Nova shared stories of her background and the connection she feels with Judaism.

This year's event marked a new chapter with a refreshed committee. Debra Kiven, daughter of Delysia Payoff OAM who chaired the event for three decades, took on the role of the Master of Ceremonies. Alongside Debra, the committee comprised the daughters of past members, now embracing their philanthropic roles and giving back to our community.

Annual Dinner

Jewish Care's 10th Annual Dinner was held in May, with nearly 300 donors and supporters in attendance. The evening featured an important and timely address by Israel's Ambassador to Australia, H.E. Amir Mamon, and performances by celebrated singersongwriter Kate Ceberano, as well as an opportunity to dance along with Jon Stevens.

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many stating that this was the best Annual Dinner yet.

(L-R) New Friends of Monte committee, Natalie Hershan, Emma Carp, Vicki Gordon OAM, Prof. Melissa Castan, Nova Peris OAM OLY, Debra Kiven (Chair), Helen Landau & Rochelle Mendel



Maria Gelvan, Volunteer Manager with a group of volunteers and their family members at the Melbourne Holocaust Museum

Volunteer Program Operation

Our dedicated volunteers, spanning 14 to 89 years old and from all corners of the globe, bring vibrancy and invaluable skills to our community. Amongst many roles, they support our receptions, energise our lifestyle programs, deliver food parcels and assist at fundraising events. Through volunteer boards and committees, they also provide leadership, emotional support, and mentoring for our youth. Led by our Volunteer Program Manager, the Program operates at full capacity, fortifying all areas of our organisation and wider community.

Reshaping the Volunteer Program

The Volunteer Program introduced new software to streamline compliance and speed up the onboarding process. We updated the Jewish Care Volunteer Handbook to align volunteer knowledge with key policies and procedures, ensuring that every volunteer upholds our high standards.

National Volunteer Week

We honoured the dedication of our volunteers at an event held at the Melbourne Holocaust Museum. Sixty volunteers and their guests came together for a special kosher lunch after touring the exhibition 'Everybody Had a Name'. They shared heartfelt reflections on the emotional significance of the exhibit, which was particularly meaningful in the context of their contributions to Jewish Care and the past year's events. **5,401** volunteer hours



new volunteers recruited



Jewish Life

Judaism is more than a religion – it's a cultural, spiritual, ancestral and historical connection to others.

Jewish Life Services is at the soul of Jewish Care. It is the department that strengthens our pride and commitment to Jewish tradition, ensuring that residents, clients and staff at our three residential aged care homes enjoy pastoral visits, Shabbat and High Holy Day services, festival celebrations and solemn day commemorations. Jewish Life Services also provides kosher supervision and advice, staff education sessions, and end of life and bereavement support.

This year, highlights included a High Holidays celebration at Residential Home Windsor, and a special Friday night family dinner at one of our disability support accommodations. A multiculturalism grant enabled us to arrange a special High Holidays event at our Active Living Centre, and over 250 residents and guests attended a Chanukah party at Gary Smorgon House.

Residents from our Windsor and Carnegie homes boarded vans to take part in the communal Lag B'Omer Parade, and residents of Carnegie, Gary Smorgon and our Individual Living Units participated in a range of Mitzvah Day activities.

More than 1,800 Mishloach Manot were packed before Purim and distributed to residents, clients and staff. Four Purim parties were held and five Megillah readings took place over 24 hours. Eleven kitchens were deep cleaned and koshered for Pesach, and Pesach Sederim were held at eight Jewish Care locations. Happily, our Shavuot visit from the children of Blake Street Shul was reinstated following COVID-19, and residents of Gary Smorgon House were treated to fruit baskets and a Bikkurim Parade.

We invited diverse and interesting guest speakers from the community to present at staff learning



Rabbi Ralph Genende OAM with Rabbi Nerenberg, Acting Director of Jewish Life at GSH

lunches held prior to the High Holidays, Chanukah, Purim, Pesach and Shavuot. Rabbi Nerenberg, our representative at last year's International March of the Living, spoke about his emotional journey. We also held a special learning lunch about the State of Israel.

The events on and following October 7, 2023, deeply affected our community. Jewish Life Services responded by holding in-person and online solidarity gatherings for Windsor staff and residents with prayers, guest speakers, updates and comforting words. Special prayers were also added to Shabbat services in all three of our Shuls, and ad hoc gatherings were held at Carnegie and Gary Smorgon House.

Moving forward, Jewish Life Services looks forward to providing continued support and inspiration to our residents, clients, staff, family members, volunteers and community next year, and for many years to come.

205 main Synagogue services for Shabbat and Yomim Tovim **302** events arranged by Jewish Life Services Israel solidarity events held since October 7th 2023

450 staff & volunteers attended seven learning lunches

148 events for holidays & festivals

Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Chief Executive and the Committee of Management, I am pleased to present a summary of Jewish Care (Victoria) Inc. financial results for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Our financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Group as at 30 June 2024, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures Framework, Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2021 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Trading performance

The past year has posed significant challenges, yet our resilient culture, effective leadership, and commitment to clinical governance, care and support for our residents and clients have enabled us to meet multifaceted demands throughout the organisation. Despite the difficulties faced, Jewish Care has reported an Operating Loss of \$5.4 million for the year ending 30 June 2024, which was a decrease of \$7.2 million compared to last year's \$12.6 million deficit.

Profit and Loss – Key Items	FY 2024	FY 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue	110,354	92,804
Operating Net Surplus / (Deficit)	-5,379	-12,649

Annual Appeal	3,887	3,803
Other General Donations	1,002	614
Capital Appeal	996	1,096
Bequests	1,939	894
Total Donations	7,824	6,407

We continue to witness an unprecedented demand for our services within the community. Our strategic foundation and future success revolve around placing our residents and clients at the core of all our actions. This endeavour is made possible through the dedication of our 1,000+ employees and volunteers who tirelessly collaborate with residents, clients and their families to fulfil our mission of respect, community, inclusion and social responsibility.

Our financial and operational results for FY24 were favourably impacted by an increase in revenue from fees, charges and government subsidies, while managing increases in expenses, in particular salaries and wages, but reducing the organisation's operating loss.

With the generous support of the community, Jewish Care has been able to provide much needed services to those in need in the community. A summary of the key fundraising and donations over the past six years is set out in the table on the next page.

Amid these conditions, we have remained focussed on ensuring our residents, clients and employees are safe as we continue to advocate for a sustainable aged care and disability sector that will meet the expectations of current and future generations.

Treasurer's Report (cont.)



FUNDRAISING REVENUES

Key highlights of the year

The key highlights for the year were as follows:

- Reduction in debt owing to our bankers, to \$28.5M as at 30 June 2024 (a reduction of \$8.2M in the year).
- Continued robust growth in our Home Care business.
- Significant increase in occupancy for residential aged care sites.
- Increase in the number of permanent employees offset by a reduction in the use of agency staff.
- Increase in care staff's remuneration by 15% in accordance with the Fair Work Commission.
- Continued support of the community.
- The reduction in Total Assets has been largely driven by a reduction in cash holdings and depreciation of buildings and equipment.
- The decrease in Total Liabilities has resulted from the increase in refundable deposits liability offset by the continued paying down of external debt owing to our bankers from refundable accommodation deposits received at Windsor and Carnegie residential Aged Care Homes.

Statement of Financial Position – Key Items	As at 30 June 2024 \$'000	As at 30 June 2023 \$'000
Total Assets	292,980	303,240
Total Liabilities	111,134	118,440
Net Assets	181,846	184,800
Reserves	105,267	103,139
Accumulated Funds	76,579	81,661
Total Equity	181,846	184,800

In closing, I am pleased to report that despite all the challenges we have faced over the past year, I believe we are in a strong position heading into the new FY25 year with a very capable Interim CEO, Executive Team and committed team of employees and volunteers.

I am grateful for the extraordinary dedication, passion and care shown by all our employees and volunteers at Jewish Care. Their support and dedication are the key to our ongoing success.

Sharon Gdanski Treasurer

Financial Statements

Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Fees and charges	41,108,782	34,021,857
Government subsidies	56,620,418	48,163,935
Other revenues	12,624,926	10,618,117
Total revenues	110,354,126	92,803,909
Employee benefits expense	-67,321,366	-57,261,867
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	-7,492,892	-7,959,625
	-7,492,892 -511,407	-643,301
Community development expenses External services expenses		-19,472,830
Food expenses	-18,153,186 -2,533,932	-3,831,710
	-4,266,787	-3,850,385
Repairs and maintenance expenses		
Medical and other supplies	-1,125,875	-1,265,891
Consulting expenses	-1,182,780	-829,452
Energy expenses	-1,067,140	-822,078
Administration expenses	-4,532,870	-2,967,314
Laundry expenses	-573,091	-512,627
Impairment expense	-	-261,077
Other expenses	-1,717,911	-1,681,299
Total operating expenses	-110,479,237	-101,359,456
Operating profit (loss)	-125,111	-8,555,547
Finance income	657,025	742,887
Finance costs	-5,910,522	-4,835,988
Net finance costs	-5,253,497	-4,093,101
Profit (loss) before tax	-5,378,608	-12,648,648
Income tax expense	-	-
Profit (loss) from continuing operations	-5,378,608	-12,648,648
Other comprehensive income		
Item that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Revaluation of land and buildings	2,425,215	-2,988,889
Other comprehensive income for the year	2,425,215	-2,988,889
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year	-2,953,393	-15,637,537

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
0	\$	\$
Current assets	(000 070	0 / / 0 0 07
Cash and cash equivalents	4,832,678	8,440,927
Trade and other receivables	6,346,656	6,506,584
Financial assets	5,649,534	7,455,498
Other assets	862,570	879,819
Total current assets	17,691,438	23,282,828
Non-current assets		
Trade and other receivables	989,653	659,109
Other assets	588,930	654,072
Property, plant and equipment	273,379,105	278,419,477
Intangible assets	330,416	224,070
Total non-current assets	275,288,104	279,956,728
Total assets	292,979,542	303,239,556
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	4,462,649	5,818,828
Contract liabilities (deferred income)	5,511,969	7,384,722
Provisions	6,760,733	6,321,206
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	2,034,898	19,433,694
Refundable accommodation deposits	63,112,911	59,546,643
Total current liabilities	81,883,160	98,505,093
Non-current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	890,023	890,023
Provisions	1,813,766	1,689,814
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	26,546,569	17,355,209
Total non-current liabilities	29,250,358	19,935,046
Total liabilities	111,133,518	118,440,139
Net assets	181,846,024	184,799,417
Equity		
Reserves	105,267,194	103,138,861
Accumulated funds	76,578,830	81,660,556
Total equity	181,846,024	184,799,417

Board of Governance



LISA KENNETT OAM President

Lisa is a specialist consultant in conflict resolution and has worked across a variety of commercial areas.



ADAM JOEL Co-Vice President & Secretary Adam is the Executive Director of Geomax Capital.



SIMONE SZALMUK-SINGER Co-Vice President Simone is the Chief Executive Officer and a Director of the



SHARON GDANSKI Treasurer

Sharon is a certified practising accountant. (Australian & New Zealand)



REUBEN ZELWER Assistant Treasurer Reuben is the Principal and Founder of Adapt Wealth Management.

Erdi Foundation.



MICHAEL DEBINSKI OAM Co-opted Board Director from Nov 22

Mike retired from the Victorian Government after a long career as a Senior Executive.



PROFESSOR SHARON GOLDFELD AM Board Director

Sharon is a Developmental Paediatrician and Public Health Physician.



SUSIE IVANY OAM Board Director

Susie was elected to the Jewish Care Board in 2011 and held the role of Co-Vice President 2015-2019.



STEVEN KLEIN Board Director Steven is a commercial lawyer,

specialising in mergers and acquisitions.



MICHAEL SCHOENFELD Board Director

Michael is a Chartered Accountant specialising in advising high net worth families and groups.



ANDREW SCHWARTZ Board Director

Andrew is the Co-Founder and Group Managing Director of ASX listed, Qualitas Limited.



DAVID SLADE Board Director

David is a registered pharmacist and the proprietor of a large network of pharmacies across Australia.



ADJUNCT PROFESSOR JOHN ZELCER Board Director

John is a healthcare strategy consultant, clinician and informatician.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to our donors

On behalf of the thousands of people whose lives have been forever changed, we extend our warmest thanks and deepest gratitude to all our donors and benefactors for their contributions to Jewish Care.

Thank you to our community partners

Jewish Care appreciates the support of the community organisations, companies and individuals for collaborating with us and strengthening the work we do for our community.

Life Governors

Jewish Care Life Governors are recognised for their outstanding service and assistance to the organisation.

Jeffrey Appel OAM Rodney Benjamin OAM z'l Andrew Blode AM Philip Brass AO Debbie Dadon AM Melissa Davis Mike Debinski OAM Michael Dubs Jacob Fajgenbaum Nathan Fink z'l Assoc. Prof David Fonda Barry Fradkin OAM Arthur Goldsmith z'l Geoffrey Green OAM Paula Hansky OAM Susie Ivany OAM Bronka Kaplan z'l Louis Klein z'l Deanna Levin Marion Lippman z'l David Mandie AM OBE z'l Philip Mayers AM Max New Liz Nissen Delysia Pahoff OAM Assoc.Prof Leslie Reti AM Bruce Rosengarten Robert Salter z'l Shirley Samuel z'l Alan Schwartz AO Robyne Schwarz AM Dr John Serry

Phillip Shulman OAM z'l Rosalie Silverstein OAM Graham Slade AO Meryl Slutzkin z'l Rachel Smith z'l Jack Smorgon AO Robert Smorgon AM z'l Val Smorgon OBE David Southwick z'l Roy Tashi OAM Lilly Weiss z'l Joseph West z'l Dora Wittner z'l Avram Zelezniknow OAM z'l Masha Zeleznikow OAM z'l Heinz Ziffer z'l

Estates

We are grateful to the following benefactors, whose dreams and wishes live on through their legacy gift to Jewish Care over the past year.

The Minnie Ackman Trust Estate of Catherine (Kitty) Anderson Joseph M Augen Charitable Trust Louis Berner Charitable Trust Estate of David Burstin Estate of Genia Chrakowski Estate of Genia Chrakowski Estate of Vera & Abe Dorevitch Estate of Erik Eriksen Estate of Bronislawa Feuer Jakob Frenkiel Charitable Trust

Estate of Maurice Goldstein Abraham Harris Trust Estate of Riva Hines Estate of Deborah Joselson The Dr David & Jennifer Komesaroff Endowment Joseph Kronheimer Charitable Fund Estate of Louis Lesser Joseph & Kate Levi Charitable Trust Estate of Florence Sophia Matthews Estate of Hannah Max Estate of Edith Preston Estate of Simon Rothberg Estate of Martin Rubinstein Albert Spatt Charitable Trust Estate of Margaret Toet Harold Allan Webster Charitable Trust Henry Herbert Yoffa Charitable Bequest Estate of Samuel Younkman

Major Donors

Jewish Care would like to thank our major donors for their generous contributions over the past year.

Besen Family Foundation Erdi Foundation Gandel Foundation Pratt Foundation Jack & Robert Smorgon Families Foundation Loti & Victor Smorgon Family Foundation

Acknowledgments (cont.)

Spotlight Foundation Michael & Helen Abeles Roseanne Amarant Joel & Rachel Arber Peter Bancroft OAM & Marlyn Bancroft Bardas Foundation Paul & Sharon Bassat Andrew & Natalie Bassat Robert Bassat & Nina Bassat AM Norma Beaconsfield Phillip Beniamin & Sandy Benjamin OAM Samuel Berkovic AC & Helen Berkovic Keith & Deirdre Beville Greg Blashki OAM & Julie Blashki Barry & Lorraine Bloom Norman & Pauline Bloom Paul Brand Tony & Kathryn Brand Brass Family Foundation Barry & Marilyn Braun Lori Braun The Jack and Hedy Brent Foundation Joseph & Pamela Bursztyn Leon & Marlen Carp Barry Carp & Suzi Carp AO Brandon & Nicky Carp Hannah Cohen Matthew & Lieba Cohen Boyd & Naomi Cohen Trevor Cohen AM & Heather Cohen Corvule Foundation Adrian & Renee Dabscheck Debbie Dadon AM Tom Danos OAM & Evelyn Danos Sidney & Elaine Davidoff Anthony & Rochelle Davis Mark & Laura Davis Gavin & Melissa Davis Simon & Lisa de Winter Ron & Judith Dodge DS Capital Michael & Lilli Dubs

Jack Ekstein Dov & Miriam Farkas Simon & Amy Feiglin Tony & Zandy Fell Rohan & Monique Filer Barry & Kaye Fink Leo and Mina Fink Fund Finkel Foundation Stephen Fisher and Karen Goldenberg Gabi & Janina Fleiszig Kathy Franks Mark & Karen Franks Betty Frid Vivienne Fried Mark & Judy Gandur Leigh & Yvonne Goldbloom Graham Goldsmith AO & Deborah Goldsmith Roger & Janette Goldsmith Colin Golvan AM KC & Deborah Golvan Leon Gorr Jack Gringlas OAM & Dianne Gringlas Louis & Marilyn Gross Handelsman Charitable Trust Paula Hansky OAM David & Lilly Harris David & Amit Holckner Mark Holckner Hupert Family Foundation Silviu & Nicole Itescu Paul Ivany & Susie Ivany OAM James Richardson Corporation Toni Joel OAM & Craig Joel Adam Joel & Shelley Kline Morris & Leonie Joel Kausman Mann Family Foundation Julie Kessel Steven & Sharon Klein George Klempfner & Yolanda Klempfner AO Gideon Kline David & Bindy Koadlow Geoffrey & Michelle Kohn

Harry & Dorothy Kovacs Alan & Roxanne Kozica Alan & Debbie Kras Tom & Lorelle Krulis Raphael & Aliza Lamm Barry & Barbara Landau The Landman Foundation The Landau Group John & Anita Lange Michael & Miriam Lasky Silvana Layton Ronald Lazarovits & Sharon Woolf Robert & Dusha Lefkovits Leg-Up Foundation Robert Lehrer & Melissa Castan Grahame Leonard AM & Ruth Leonard Russell & Roslyn Levy Rosie Lew AM Solomon Lew Lowe Lippmann Chartered Accountants Paul Lustig Macquarie Group Foundation Joel & Neda Mahemoff Colin & Gillian Mandel Mard Foundation Alan & Rochelle Mendel Stephen & Tanya Mendel Monark Property Partners Morris Mrocki Philip Munz AM & Sylvia Munz Nabe Charitable Pty Ltd Michael Naphtali AM & Atida Naphtali Dennis & Fairlie Nassau Leonie Nossbaum Eli & Tammy Nossbaum Robert & Debbie Nossbaum Dorothea Nossbaum Nicholas & Sarah Orloff Stephen & Nicci Pianko Henry & Marcia Pinskier Nathan & Susan Pinskier Peter & Ruth Pojer Daniel & Eva Presser

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In Memoriam Gifts

Yetta Krinsky Gary Ciddor Althea Oliver Carmel Benjamin Annie Zeleznikow Illona Bennett Sandi Gabriel Arthur Shisman

Grants

Jewish Care gratefully acknowledges the following grants which have provided funding for programs and services benefitting our community.

Social services for Jewish Nazi victims have been supported by a grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.



The Successor Organisation (SO) toward the continuation of the Holocaust Survivor Emergency Assistance Program (HSEAP), administered by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Austrian Government toward the continuation of the Austrian Holocaust Survivor Emergency Assistance Program (AHSEAP), administered by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

The Alfred Landecker Foundation Inc (Landecker Fund) toward the continuation of the Holocaust Survivors Emergency Assistance Program (HSEAP), administered by the Conference on Jewish Material.



Donations In-Kind

Thank you to our partners and to our community for your assistance and support.

In addition, we thank Gary Peer Associates, Besser & Co, Kay & Burton and Hocking Stuart Belle for their wonderful support of advertising boards for our Annual Appeal.

Academic, Health and Research Partnerships

Jewish Care continues to work alongside leading academic institutions, government bodies and private organisations. We recognise their enormous contributions in helping to drive ongoing improvements to service delivery.

Monash University RMIT Australian Catholic University Holmesglen Altura St. Johns Ambulance

Ausmed

Dementia Australia

Pride in Health

These partnerships not only enrich the skills of our workforce but also allow us to stay current with the latest healthcare advancements and best practices.

Acknowledgments (cont.)

BOARD COMMITTEES

Jewish Care extends sincere thanks for the dedication and hard work given by the following individuals.

Finance & Audit Committee

Sharon Gdanski (Chair) Frank Ajzensztat Danny Benjamin Andy Calwell Adam Joel Jeremy Kestenberg Steven Klein Marylin Kraner Adjunct Prof Alan Lilly Stephen Machet Dione O'Donnell Shey Papanikolaou Michael Schoenfeld Ben Simon David Slade Reuben Zelwer

Consumer Advisory Committee

Simeon Berson Jessica Feldman Deena Goldbloom Susie Ivany OAM Alex Katz Lisa Kennett OAM Pamela Sacks John Searle Debbie Shapp Prof. John Zeleznikow

Corporate Governance & Risk Committee

Adam Joel (Chair) Jeffrey Appel OAM Craig Goldberg Lisa Kennett OAM Steven Klein Adjunct Prof Alan Lilly Associate Adjunct Prof Gayle Smith

Quality & Service Review Committee

Prof Sharon Goldfeld AM (Chair) Valeria Camara Mike Debinski OAM Dr David Fonda Alana Goldman Dr Simon Grof Elvse Hilton Susie Ivany OAM Marilyn Kraner Adjunct Prof Alan Lilly Shey Papanikolaou Justin Perelberg Jan Rice Associate Adjunct Prof Gayle Smith Simone Szalmuk-Singer Adjunct Prof John Zelcer (Chair) Prof John Zeleznikow

Remuneration & Nominations Committee

Lisa Kennett OAM (Chair) Mike Debinski OAM Sharon Gdanski Susie Ivany OAM Adam Joel Adjunct Prof Alan Lilly Simone Szalmuk-Singer

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEES

Jewish Care's fundraising efforts are supported by dedicated teams of volunteers to whom we are indebted for their continued commitment and hard work.

Major Donor Dinner Committee

Karen Goldenberg Roxanne Kozica Lorelle Krulis

Annual Dinner Committee

Georgia Danos (Chair) Tahli Koch Melanie Smorgon

Generations of Women Committee

Melissa Davis (Co-Chair) Miriam Farkas (Co-Chair) Rachel Arber Hilary Cohen Lauren Hunter Karen Zelwer

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUPS

Jewish Care acknowledges the following individuals for their time, invaluable guidance and expertise.

Claims Conference Holocaust Survivors Advisory Committee

Hanna Muzhanova (Chair) Marcel Alter Viv Parry Jacob Revzin Rae Silverstein Les Zimmerman

Loan Advisory Committee

Reuben Zelwer (Chair) Avi Bendetsky Jack Cyngler Sean Herman Doron Paluch Chaya Rapp Ben Tuszynski Richard Zimmerman

PRO BONO ASSISTANCE

Jewish Care receives support from a range of community professionals including psychologists and lawyers who offer their guidance and direct service provision on a pro-bono basis.

We wish to thank these individuals for their time, compassion and generosity in supporting staff and clients of Jewish Care.

How you can help



DONATIONS

Make a real difference to people in need in our community with a one off or regular monthly donation. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Donate at www.jewishcare.org.au/donate



GIFT IN WILLS

Leaving a gift in your Will has the power to change lives and can help build a better tomorrow for our community.

Find out more at www.jewishcare.org.au/gifts-in-wills



VOLUNTEER

Help make a positive difference to the lives of others through volunteering.

Learn new skills and make new friends. Find out more at www.jewishcare.org.au/get-involved/volunteer



ANNUAL APPEAL

Every year we raise funds to provide essential social services. Our social services support vulnerable members of our community experiencing housing insecurity, unemployment, financial issues, family violence, mental health issues and parenting concerns. We also provide a range of educational and advocacy programs designed to strengthen community wellbeing.



Jewish Care (Victoria) Inc 619 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Victoria 3004 ABN: 78 345 431 247 ARN: A0040705X

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