

Annual Report  
2009-2010

# A Year of Change



# Supporting and enhancing the wellbeing of the Jewish community of Victoria

**חסד**

chesed  
kindness

**משפחה**

mishpacha  
family

**דרך ארץ**

derech eretz  
respect

**צדקה**

tzedakah  
charity

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*Image: Seascape by Pierra Cerra, from Point of View, the Sandra Bardas Memorial Exhibition, a photographic exhibition of works by members of Jewish Care's Creative Arts Studio, under direction of Emmanuel Santos, held at the Jewish Museum 09 December 2009 to 17 January 2010.*

# A Year of Change

Key milestones and a new leadership team herald an era of renewal and growth for Jewish Care, with fresh responses to an ever-changing world. As we press on from the past and prepare for the future, our core values endure – they are our moral compass, guiding the way we respond to challenges and the decisions we make.







## President's Report

This last financial year has seen noteworthy progress at Jewish Care, including the opening of Gary Smorgon House and Glen Eira Villas, offering the Jewish community new choices and enhanced standards of support. Additionally, with the commencement of a new President, a new Chief Executive Officer and an expanded executive team, we have undergone an important change of leadership.

These milestones herald a new era for Jewish Care; an era of renewal and growth as our organisation continues to evolve. The drafting of our Five Year Strategic Plan 2009-2014 and the commencement of its implementation will introduce significant change to enable us to respond effectively to the current and future needs of our community. Significant demographic shifts in coming years mean that maintaining the status-quo is not an option if we are to continue to provide the service our community has come to expect. We need to be more efficient, our service quality, whilst good, needs to be even better, and our facilities and infrastructure require modernisation.

The Board and Executive are committed to this process of renewal. We have improved the structure and operation of all our subcommittees – enhancing our ability to meet the demands of this period of change. Many new staff have joined Jewish Care in the last year, and they bring professionalism, dedication and empathy to tackle these challenges. At the same time, we are committed to ensuring that our essence as *Jewish Care*

permeates the culture of our organisation, infusing the way we deliver services and all that we do.

We are facing exciting developments over the months ahead: enhancement of our home care and healthy ageing programs, the formulation of a new infrastructure plan, and the opening of adult respite facilities at Glen Eira Villas, a vital service which is sorely lacking.

Looking forward, I see Jewish Care as an organisation the community has tremendous pride in, one that creates measurable value for each client and for the community as a whole – an organisation that is transparent, financially sustainable, responsive and proactive, providing leadership in its services and facilities.

We are privileged to have the support of truly committed staff, volunteers and donors, who are the mainstay of our success. I am grateful to all our stakeholders, who share our commitment and our passion. In particular, I would like to thank the following:

- Our Board Vice President Jeffrey Appel, Treasurer Michael Schoenfeld and our departing Immediate Past President and retiring Board member, Robyne Schwarz, for their support, as well as Farrel Meltzer, Joel Freeman and Professor Frank Oberklaid, who after many years of dedicated service will be stepping down from their posts.

- Our outstanding Chief Executive Officer Bill Appleby for his exemplary leadership and dedication, typified by his early morning and late evening facility walk-arounds.
- Our dedicated staff and volunteers for their daily commitment to each and every client.
- Importantly, I would like to thank our donors and supporters – our new Patron David Smorgon OAM for his outstanding guidance and leadership, our dedicated Gala Dinner organisers, Jasmine Dindas, Karen Goldenberg and Annette Smorgon, and our wonderful Family Fun Day Co-Chairs, Kylie Appel and Romy Bursztyn, who have helped engage a younger generation of supporters.
- Lastly, I want to thank our community for their enthusiastic and heartening response to our Annual Appeal, supporting people in our community in need.

Jewish Care and its philosophy of giving and caring for those less fortunate has been an integral part of my life since I was a young child. I am privileged and honoured to lead Jewish Care during this exciting period of development and look forward to our community's continued engagement and support as we build an organisation that serves the needs of our community for years to come.

Bruce Rosengarten  
President



## Chief Executive Officer's Report

It is with great enthusiasm that I stepped into the role of Chief Executive Officer of Jewish Care in February 2010. It is not often that one has the opportunity to contribute to an organisation which is so vital and integral to the community it serves.

Jewish Care's strong sense of history, our deep cultural empathy and understanding, our foundational values which on the one hand are quintessentially Jewish and on the other speak to a universal sense of justice, righteousness, inclusivity and moral responsibility – these are some of the things which differentiate us from other service providers, and reasons why so many of our clients are grateful to be able to turn to Jewish Care.

To stand at the helm of Jewish Care is a tremendous privilege; but it also carries the significant duty of steering this organisation along a course that ensures its endurance into the future.

As at the establishment of the Melbourne Jewish Philanthropic Society in 1848, and the founding of the Australian Jewish Welfare Society in 1936, the wellbeing and betterment of the Jewish community of Victoria remains our moral compass as we embark upon exciting and necessary changes to position ourselves as a relevant and viable service for the Melbourne Jewish community for today and for tomorrow.

Following on from our Five Year Strategic Plan 2009-2014, our 12 month 2009-2010 Business Plan launches our organisation on a difficult but critical journey towards long-term, long-lasting financial sustainability. Whilst this year's deficit was disappointing,

there have been many lessons learned and a renewed sense of urgency. As part of this journey, complex choices will be faced and difficult decisions will be made against a backdrop of a constantly changing internal and external environment, presenting both opportunities and threats along the way.

We have streamlined our panel of board subcommittees and expanded our executive team, introducing a flatter organisational structure to facilitate more agile decision-making. By incorporating succession planning, risk management and the building of internal capacity, we are benefitting from a reduced reliance on outside contractors. We have introduced KPI and balanced score card reporting amongst management and are embedding a cycle of continuous improvement throughout all our policy areas. We are reviewing our product and service offerings, and are introducing "user-pays" business models where appropriate, to boost financial sustainability. With these initiatives and others, we are spearheading a \$4 million turnaround for our organisation in the next financial year.

At the same time, over the past 12 months, we have celebrated many achievements. With the completion and commissioning of Gary Smorgon House and Glen Eira Villas, we have set new standards in accommodation in the heart of the Jewish community. We have also expanded our Saver Plus program, introduced a financial counsellor for the first time, and enhanced

cultural and spiritual services. We have adopted the Active Service Model as a new approach which will support and encourage our clients' healthy ageing and independence.

These changes and those yet to follow will continue to reinvigorate Jewish Care, creating an organisation that is stronger and truer and more capable than ever before – an organisation that is not only more responsive to the community's needs, but also impacts on quality of life by building strength and resilience, and creating a more inclusive, diverse and a healthier community for all.

I am grateful to the Board for their endorsement, and give due acknowledgement to the past and present executive team and our dedicated staff and volunteers for their courage, integrity and trust. Together, we will embrace the work which lies ahead as we revitalise and strengthen our organisation so that members of our community are assured of a place to turn to when needed, now and into the future.

Bill Appleby  
Chief Executive Officer

# Highlights



## Updating and Redeveloping Infrastructure to Address Community Needs

With the official launch of Gary Smorgon House on 7 July 2009, Jewish Care realised its goal of introducing a new standard of residential aged care. The development is a part of Jewish Care's broad, long range strategy to meet the evolving needs and wishes of the Jewish community of Victoria.

Located in the heart of the Jewish community, with a fully functioning shul and welcoming communal areas, Gary Smorgon House is a distinctively Jewish aged care facility which brings residents and community together.

Gary Smorgon House joins Jewish Care's existing aged care facilities – the Mark and Dina Munzer Community Homes Residence, the Smorgon Nursing Home and the Montefiore Homes Community Residence – in expanding choice for the Jewish community.

In the coming months, Jewish Care will be reviewing its Healthy Ageing program, expanding its home help services and formulating new plans for further infrastructure development.

## Promoting Advocacy for People with a Disability

At the launch of Glen Eira Villas on 23 February 2010, Premier John Brumby acknowledged the Jewish community's strong ethic of care in helping shape the state of Victoria. Glen Eira Villas has been hailed as a model of supported, independent living for people with a disability in a culturally-specific environment. Responding to new directions in government policy and industry best practice, Glen Eira Villas arose out of an expressed community need and was developed through a process of community consultation to promote people's strengths and allow a fuller expression of lifestyle choice for people with a disability.

As well as providing independent accommodation for 16 individuals, the facility's Community Hub offers a space where all people can engage in community activities and events – part of Jewish Care's broader inclusion strategy.

Over the coming months, Jewish Care will be seeking government and community support to launch its respite facility for adults at Glen Eira Villas. Respite services are already available for children with a disability at the Children's Respite House and for the elderly at our aged care residences. The introduction of respite for adults with a disability will ensure a complete range of care is available for those who need it.



## Family Fun Day Engages a Younger Generation

“Building a more resilient community for all” was the message conveyed at Jewish Care’s Family Fun Day held 21 March 2010 at Bialik College, where about 1700 people came together to celebrate and support Jewish Care’s work with young people and children.

Amidst rides, entertainment and activities, the event showcased Jewish Care’s work for all sectors of the community, and highlighted the important connection between strong and healthy families and children’s wellbeing. The event also launched Jewish Care’s new tzedakah box, which teaches young people about the importance of caring for one another.

The event’s success represented the cumulative efforts of organisers, sponsors and volunteers. Family Fun Day Co-chairs Kylie Appel and Romy Bursztyn set an inspiring model of partnership and communal engagement for a younger generation of supporters, and demonstrated the capacity of volunteers to make a difference.

## Annual Appeal Gala Dinner Strengthens Partnerships

At Jewish Care’s Gala Dinner on 23 February 2010 at Leonda on the Yarra, Patron David Smorgon OAM launched our 2010 Annual Appeal, in support of people in crisis. Attended by 400 members of the community and led by organisers Jasmine Dindas, Karen Goldenberg and Annette Smorgon, the event kick-started the highest performing Appeal to date, raising \$2.5 million and engaging 26% more donors than the previous year.

Our Annual Appeal provides funding for our social justice programs which support people facing challenges of disability or mental health issues, unemployment, financial stress, marital conflict or family violence, homelessness or other housing difficulties. We receive approximately 450 calls every month from people in our community who require immediate assistance. The services we provide – which include general and financial counselling, emergency financial aid, interest free loans, employment and housing assistance, youth mentorship and a range of mental health and social inclusion programs for people with a disability and their families – are delivered with the unique cultural needs of clients in mind. It is this particular combination of professional assistance and cultural understanding which lead so many of our clients to call on Jewish Care when seeking help.

Unfortunately, the funding we receive from government is insufficient to meet our community’s needs, and the continuance of these vital programs relies heavily on our community for funding and support.



# Services



## A Customer-Centred Approach

People are at the centre of everything we do. Jewish Care supports our clients to make positive choices about the life they wish to lead. We provide a vast array of programs and services for all ages and sectors of the Jewish community, with a distinct focus on education, skills development and active support to build confidence, capacity, resilience and self-sufficiency.

We are leading the way in implementation of the Active Service Model, to support our clients to take the lead in managing their health and maintaining independence as they age. In alignment with recent government policy directions, we intend to implement an individualised case management approach along Consumer Directed Care principles. This approach enables clients to create their own tailored plans to suit their

individual needs and situation. By orienting services around the needs of the individual, our clients can more easily identify and access the services they require.

### Jewish Care's Customer-Service Principles

- Choice
- Accessibility
- Partnership
- Independence
- Evidence-based
- Advocacy
- Diversity

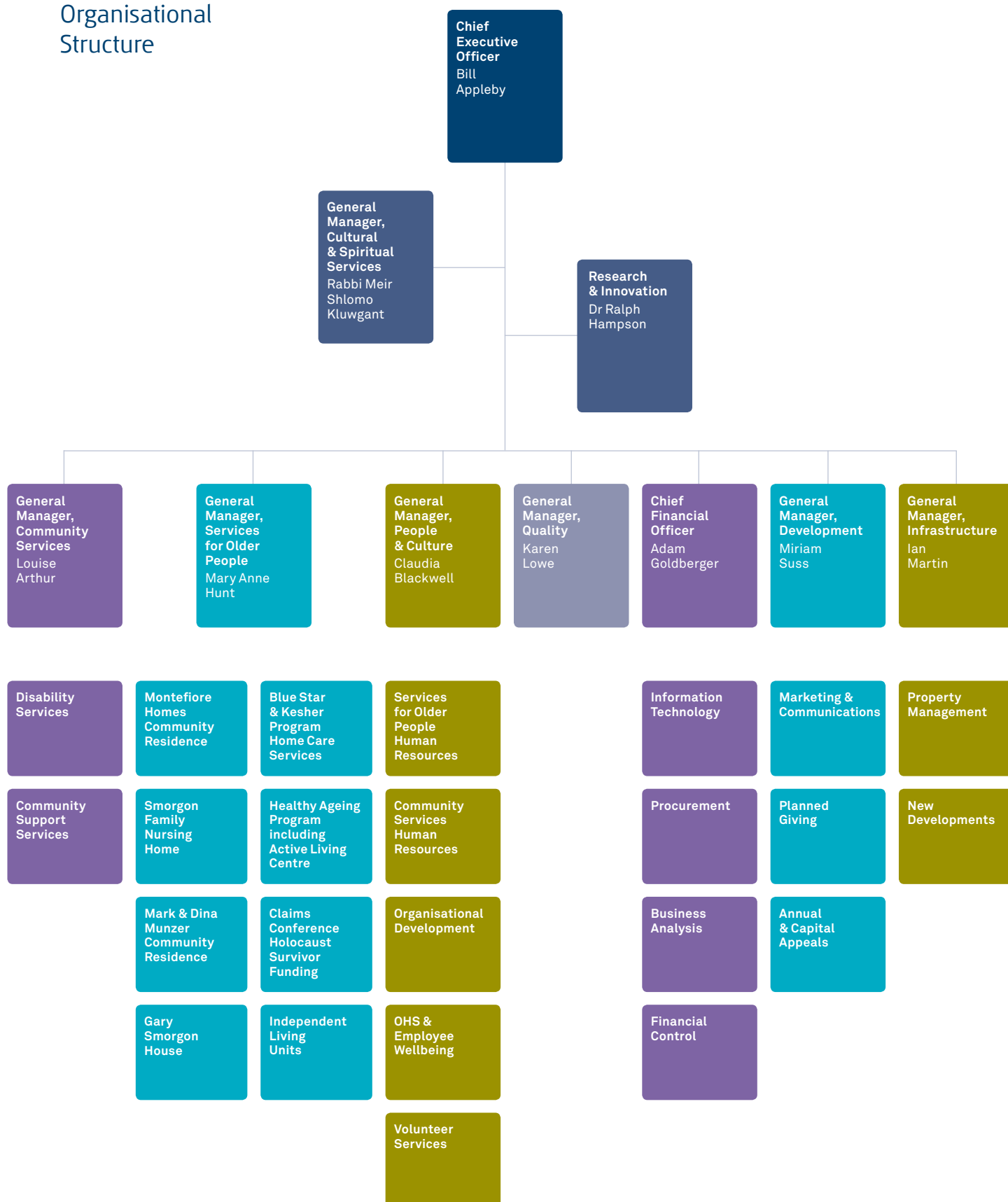
## Restructuring to Enhance Responsiveness

Jewish Care's vision for stronger, more responsive consumer driven service has led to the creation of a flatter organisational structure to facilitate a more agile, action-driven management with greater capacity for decision making and change. The creation of new executive roles will enable us to better manage and oversee new infrastructure projects, drive quality assurance, and provide improved staff and volunteer support.

The combining of community and residential aged care services reflects Jewish Care's commitment to assisting clients along their journey of ageing by providing customised support when and as required. In addition, combining community support services and disability services under a single banner leverages resources so that we can maximise service delivery across the entire community.



## Organisational Structure



# The Jewish Care Difference



## Our Community

### Cultural identification as a key to wellbeing

The community we serve is a diverse multi-ethnic group encompassing a vast spectrum of religious observance and cultural expression, united by common traditions, heritage and legacy. Understanding and sensitivity to the diverse cultural backgrounds of Jewish people are qualities which set Jewish Care apart in its capacity to meet the needs of our clients.

Cultural sensitivity permeates all our service and program offerings; it is evident at regular festival celebrations involving clients, family, volunteers, and staff. Consideration for the cultural requirements of our clients is integral to facility design, such as the Kosher kitchens at Glen Eira Road Villas.

Amongst our unique services are those which support Holocaust survivors and their carers: restitution advisory services, counselling, social and recreational groups, personal and home care, pastoral care and community education.

The opening of a third shul at Gary Smorgon House, enhancements to Kashrut delivery, and expansion of our staff education program are all part of a renewed focus to ensure a culturally appropriate environment where our clients feel respected and secure. Increased resources to Cultural and Spiritual Services this past financial year is reflective of a move to expand and enhance the Jewish experience across our full spectrum of services.

## Our Volunteers

### Creating opportunities to contribute

Jewish Care is an organisation of volunteers. Nearly all our service areas were initiated by voluntary action – from the small band who established the Melbourne Jewish Philanthropic Society in 1848, to those individuals who personally greeted post-war refugees at the Melbourne docks in the 1950's.

Jewish Care endorses volunteering as an important way to get involved with local community and as a powerful force for change. Every year more than 300 passionate and dedicated volunteers of all ages and walks of life help Jewish Care

deliver its services to the community. Volunteers engage in a full range of activities, from providing direct assistance to clients, to supporting the organisation through community engagement, and by participating in governance through membership on our Board of Management.

The importance of our volunteers has been highlighted this year with the expansion of the Volunteer Resource Team and the creation of a new executive role to oversee all volunteer activities.



## Our Academic and Research Partnerships

### Building an evidence-base for decision making

As the largest care provider in the Jewish community of Victoria, Jewish Care is relied upon to provide an informed, innovative and proactive response to significant changes in our community's demographic make-up and shifts in lifestyle and consumer expectations.

In support of our commitment to evidence-based service delivery, we are renewing our focus on development and research by advancing partnerships with leading academic institutions, both locally and overseas.

New research resulting from our partnership with Monash University's Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation is being used to plan Jewish Care's aged care services. Building on the success of Gen08, we are continuing to invest in the Australian Jewry 2030 research project to help inform our service delivery and planning by understanding the key drivers of change in the Australian Jewish community.

This partnership and those which are listed to the right underscore our commitment to intelligent communal planning.

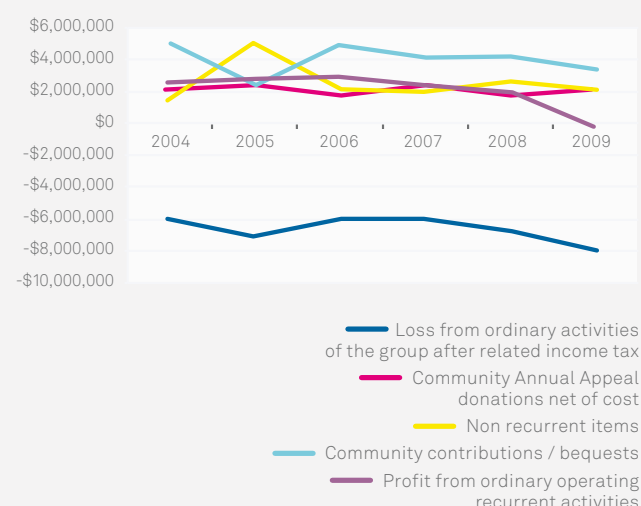
- Australian College of Applied Psychology
- Deakin University
- La Trobe University, Australian Institute for Primary Care
- La Trobe University, School of Social Work and Social Policy
- Monash University, Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation
- Monash University, Centre for Developmental Disability Health
- Monash University, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences
- University of Kent, Tizard Centre (UK)
- The University of New South Wales
- The University of Sydney, Centre for Developmental Disability Studies



# Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer and Board of Management, I am pleased to present a summary of Jewish Care's financial results for the 12-month period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010. Our financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Equivalent of International Financial Reporting Standards.

The chart below demonstrates the recurrent deficit from ordinary activities over the past six financial years:



Our 2009-2010 Business Plan supports the goals outlined in Jewish Care's Five Year Strategic Plan 2009-2014 to establish long term financial sustainability while continuing to support and enhance the wellbeing of the Jewish community of Victoria.

In line with this plan, bold improvements in service quality and operational efficiency were commenced over the past financial year in order to secure a financial turnaround for the organisation. The community's ongoing fundraising support and endorsement of these important initiatives is vital in order to build a strong, relevant and financially sustainable future for Jewish Care.

## Key Financial Highlights

- The opening of Glen Eira Villas, a model of inclusive and supported independent living for people with a disability, at a total cost of \$4.7 million, \$3.6 million of which has been raised thanks to government funding and community contributions.
- The opening and first full year of operations of Gary Smorgon House, our newest state-of-the-art residential aged care facility. Although significant costs were incurred in the ramp-up phase, the facility achieved full occupancy ahead of schedule and the outstanding loan against the facility has been fully repaid.
- The sale of the Melbourne Hebrew Memorial Nursing Home at Ashwood, with proceeds going towards capital costs associated with construction of Gary Smorgon House.
- Over 80% increase in bond holdings from \$17.9 million to \$32.3 million through new occupancy in Gary Smorgon House. Interest generated from net bond holdings after the repayment of debt supports operational costs and capital requirements at the facility.

## Summary of Key Financial Results

Jewish Care incurred a financial loss from ordinary activities of approximately \$7.9 million. The increase over the previous financial year's loss of \$6.7 million was largely due to ramp-up costs of opening Gary Smorgon House.

The operating loss was incurred before the following items:

	FY 2010	FY 2009
Community appeal & donations [net of costs]	\$2.0m	\$1.8m
Capital appeal [net of costs]	\$1.2m	\$2.7m
Combined bequests	\$3.5m	\$4.2m
Gain on sale of property	\$0.9m	

This resulted in an overall operating loss of \$270,333 as compared with a profit of \$2.0 million in the previous financial year.

## Key Expenditure Items

The following are the key expenditure items incurred in the financial year 2010:

	FY 2010	FY 2009
Salaries (530 employees)	\$26.6m	\$25.4m
Food services	\$4.6m	\$4.1m
Client-related costs	\$3.1m	\$2.2m
Maintenance	\$1.3m	\$1.5m

## Community Services Expenditure

Community services (including disability services) incurred an operating deficit of \$1.3 million before investment earnings and depreciation, due to insufficient government funding.

## Residential Aged Care Expenditure

Residential aged care incurred an operating deficit of \$6.4 million before investment earnings and depreciation largely as a result of:

	FY 2010	FY 2009
Gary Smorgon House ramp-up costs	\$2.0m	
Residential service inefficiencies	\$2.4m	\$3.2m
Cultural and spiritual	\$1.4m	\$1.2m
Supported residents*	\$0.6m	\$1.4m

\*The deficit incurred from supported residents decreased this financial year due to a) a changed resident mix which resulted from the transition of residents to Gary Smorgon House and b) a more accurate calculation of the real costs associated with supported residents.

## Land and Buildings

Jewish Care's land and buildings have been assessed by its Directors in accordance with current accounting policies, representing an increased carrying value of \$2.5 million, as compared with a decrease last financial year of \$1.6 million.

Jewish Care is undertaking discussion to renew our residential aged care building stock to vastly improve the quality of our product offering, meet certification requirements and eliminate the residential services operating deficit.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Chief Financial Officer, Adam Goldberger, and finance staff members for their ongoing commitment.

Michael Schoenfeld  
Treasurer

# Financial Statements

## Income statement for the year ended 30 June 2010

	Economic Entity		Parent Entity	
	2010 \$	2009 \$	2010 \$	2009 \$
Fees and charges	9,294,793	7,384,930	9,294,793	7,384,930
Government subsidies	23,334,248	21,932,023	23,334,248	21,932,023
Gain on sale of property plant and equipment	940,121	12,000	940,021	12,000
Other revenues	9,502,684	11,922,491	9,488,503	11,906,471
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>43,071,746</b>	<b>41,251,444</b>	<b>43,057,565</b>	<b>41,235,424</b>
Employee benefits expense	(26,554,944)	(25,435,523)	(26,554,944)	(25,435,523)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	(1,769,596)	(908,521)	(1,096,668)	(908,521)
Community development expenses	(1,514,179)	(1,467,774)	(1,514,179)	(1,467,774)
External services expenses	(1,895,407)	(1,025,255)	(1,895,407)	(1,025,255)
Food expenses	(4,619,036)	(4,064,833)	(4,619,036)	(4,064,833)
Repairs and maintenance expenses	(1,264,467)	(1,498,131)	(1,264,467)	(1,498,131)
Medical and other supplies	(725,819)	(712,385)	(725,819)	(712,385)
Consulting expenses	(766,266)	(863,561)	(766,266)	(863,561)
Energy expenses	(481,538)	(425,093)	(481,538)	(425,093)
Administration expenses	(1,316,926)	(1,181,831)	(1,316,926)	(1,181,831)
Laundry expenses	(518,892)	(419,693)	(518,892)	(419,693)
Finance costs	(501,646)	(1,277)	(5,467)	(1,277)
Impairment of loan – Jewish Care Property SPV Pty Ltd	-	-	(3,485,269)	-
Other expenses	(1,413,363)	(1,249,919)	(1,345,191)	(1,233,822)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(43,342,079)</b>	<b>(39,253,796)</b>	<b>(45,590,069)</b>	<b>(39,237,699)</b>
(Deficit)/surplus before tax	(270,333)	1,997,648	(2,532,504)	1,997,725
Income tax expense	-	-	-	-
<b>(Deficit)/surplus after tax</b>	<b>(270,333)</b>	<b>1,997,648</b>	<b>(2,532,504)</b>	<b>1,997,725</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income/(loss)</b>				
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of investment	1,236	(26,221)	1,236	(26,221)
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of property	2,457,748	(1,546,860)	2,457,748	(34,766)
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	2,458,984	(1,573,081)	2,458,984	(60,987)
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>2,188,651</b>	<b>424,567</b>	<b>(73,520)</b>	<b>1,936,738</b>



## Balance sheet as at 30 June 2010

	Economic Entity		Parent Entity	
	2010 \$	2009 \$	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	3,173,033	8,912,947	2,948,970	8,751,557
Trade and other receivables	2,695,537	1,590,596	2,695,504	1,488,972
Other financial assets	21,769,286	24,101,797	21,769,286	24,101,797
Other assets	36,049	63,054	36,049	63,054
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>27,673,905</b>	<b>34,668,394</b>	<b>27,449,809</b>	<b>34,405,380</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>				
Trade and other receivables	-	-	344,876	9,300,987
Property, plant and equipment	79,074,938	72,097,954	79,074,938	50,024,761
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>79,074,938</b>	<b>72,097,954</b>	<b>79,419,814</b>	<b>59,325,748</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>106,748,843</b>	<b>106,766,348</b>	<b>106,869,623</b>	<b>93,731,128</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
Trade and other payables	2,937,795	3,884,217	2,937,295	3,813,683
Provisions	4,354,356	4,563,298	4,354,356	4,563,297
Borrowings	16,417	15,350,986	16,417	16,850
Other liabilities	32,306,451	17,906,616	32,749,407	18,335,572
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>39,615,019</b>	<b>41,705,117</b>	<b>40,057,475</b>	<b>26,729,402</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>				
Provisions	543,360	636,701	543,360	636,701
Borrowings	59,981	76,398	59,981	76,398
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>603,341</b>	<b>713,099</b>	<b>603,341</b>	<b>713,099</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>40,218,360</b>	<b>42,418,216</b>	<b>40,660,816</b>	<b>27,442,501</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>66,530,483</b>	<b>64,348,132</b>	<b>66,208,807</b>	<b>66,288,627</b>
<b>Equity</b>				
Reserves	28,319,939	25,867,255	30,533,207	28,080,523
Accumulated funds	38,210,544	38,480,877	35,675,600	38,208,104
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>66,530,483</b>	<b>64,348,132</b>	<b>66,208,807</b>	<b>66,288,627</b>

# Board of Management

The Board of Jewish Care is committed to enhancing lives by constantly evolving our services and programs to meet the changing and diverse needs of the community we serve.

## Bruce Rosengarten

**President**

B Ec (Monash), Post Grad  
Dip Phys Distrib Mgmt  
(Chisholm Inst of Tech)

Bruce boasts a comprehensive professional background, having held senior executive roles at Crown, Coles Myer and Shell, at both regional and global level. He has held key community roles including Chairman of the Singapore Jewish Community Education Committee and membership of the Mount Scopus Memorial College Council.

## Jeffrey Appel

**Vice President**

LLB

A lawyer with Schetzer Brott & Appel since 1973, Jeffrey is a former President and Vice President of Jewish Community Services and of Montefiore Homes for the Aged. He serves on the Executive Cabinet of the United Israel Appeal and is legal advisor to the Rabbinical Council of Victoria and Caulfield Hebrew Congregation.

## Robyne Schwarz

**Immediate Past President**

MSW (Melbourne), BSW (Melbourne),  
Dip Physio (Lincoln Inst)

Robyne has been associated with Jewish Care since 1999, serving as President from 2004-2009. She is President of the Victorian Health Services Review Council, serves on the Board of the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University and is National Chair of the Federation of Jewish Aged and Community Services Organisations.

## Michael Schoenfeld

**Treasurer**

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia

Michael Schoenfeld operates his own consulting practice, providing business and management advice for family businesses and professional practices, and participates on several advisory boards including property developers, financial service providers and food manufacturers.

## Farrel Meltzer

**Assistant Treasurer**

B Com, B Acc (cum laude),  
Dip Adv Banking (cum laude), CA

Farrel is founder and Group Managing Director of the Wingate Group, a leading Melbourne-based investment and advisory group with investment and activities in Private Equity, Property and Listed Equities. He was formerly Group Managing Director of Investec Bank (Australia) Limited and Head of ANZ Private Bank. He has held several communal leadership roles in Melbourne and Sydney.

## Andrew Blode

B Com (Melbourne), Grad Dip Soc Sci  
(Philanthropy and Social Investment,  
Swinburne Uni)

Andrew is a Director of the ESCOR Group (Eric Smorgon Corporation) and CEO of the Jack & Robert Smorgon Families Foundation. With a background in accounting and a commitment to community wellbeing, he chairs the Australian Council for Children & Youth Organisations (ACCYO) and is Director of the Australian Childhood Foundation.



**Bruce Rosengarten**  
President

**Jeffrey Appel**  
Vice President

**Robyne Schwarz**  
Immediate Past President

**Michael Schoenfeld**  
Treasurer

**Farrel Meltzer**  
Assistant Treasurer

**Andrew Blode**

## Michael Debinski

BA, B SW Hons (Monash)

Michael is a senior executive in the Victorian government and has held a range of leadership roles overseeing the planning and delivery of health and community services. He is a member of a number of Jewish organisations promoting a strong and active secular Jewish community life in Australia.

## Dr Joel Freeman

MB BS FRACP

Joel runs his own private practice as a general and neonatal paediatrician. Over the last decade he has become increasingly involved in the family property development business. He has served as President and Treasurer of Kew Hebrew Congregation and has canvassed for the United Israel Appeal.

## Daniel Jenshel

As International Business and Strategic Projects Manager for Peerless Holdings, Daniel has over 20 years experience in marketing, international sales and business strategy and development. He serves on Jewish Care's Jewish Mutual Loans committee and is a founding member of the Young Achievers Program. He is also the current President of the United Jewish Education Board.

## Professor Frank Oberklaid

Retired from Board in January 2010  
OAM, MD, FRACP, DCH

A paediatrician and Foundation Director of the University of Melbourne's Centre for Community Child Health, Frank is an internationally recognised researcher, having authored two books and more than 200 scientific papers. He is Deputy Chair of the Victorian Children's Council, Board Member of the Royal Children's Hospital Foundation, and chairs several national advisory boards.

## Marcia Pinskier

B.A. (Monash)  
Dip Ed (Deakin University)

Marcia is a Commissioner with the Victorian Multicultural Commission, a member of the Victorian Mental Health Reform Council, Vice-President of NCJWA Victoria and Founder of the Jewish Inclusion Network. She works as a community consultant, specialising in NFP organisation structure and governance and is currently undertaking a Master's Degree in Jewish Communal Service and Leadership.

## Assoc Professor Leslie Reti

MB BS (Melbourne), SM (Harvard),  
FRCOG, FRANZCOG

Les is Director of Gynaecology, Cancer Services and Clinical Governance at the Royal Women's Hospital and Adjunct Associate Professor of Public Health at La Trobe University. Founder of the Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA House), Les is an executive member of the Victorian Council on Safety and Quality in Health and has been Chair of the QA Committee at RANZ College of Obs and Gynae.



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## Jewish Financial Aid Providers Network

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