



TIMES ARE TOUGH.

NOW IS THE TIME TO GIVE.

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

2009 ANNUAL APPEAL



Robyne Schwarz, President, Jewish Care

The current economic crisis is impacting on the Jewish community as never before, and pushing many families who would never have sought assistance, to call on Jewish Care for help.

As you know, this year's Annual Appeal must raise \$2 million dollars to fund essential services to the Jewish community.

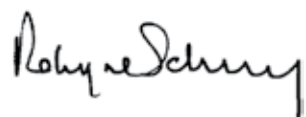
Our Community Support Services provides counselling, emergency financial aid, housing and accommodation, recruitment and training assistance; vital services which ensure that struggling families sustain themselves through these troubled times.

We are all feeling the effects of the global economic crisis, and experts tell us it will get worse before it gets better. But however difficult our own situation gets, we must remember those in our community worst off.

We need to band together to ensure that Jewish Care can continue to support those families in our community hardest hit. Those who can, need to help those who can't.

I am heartened by the support shown so far for our Annual Appeal, and I wish to thank all those who have given so generously. But we are not there yet.

Our Annual Appeal slogan is more than mere rhetoric. We all know times are tough. Please don't wait any longer. Now is the time to give.



Robyne Schwarz
President, Jewish Care

JEWISH CARE: HELPING THE COMMUNITY CONFRONT THE ECONOMIC CRISIS

An Interview with Lorraine Raskin, Manager of Community Support Services

We are all being affected by the economic downturn. We asked Lorraine Raskin, Jewish Care's Manager of Community Support Services to tell us what this really means for families in need in our community.

Q: What can you tell us about the statistics which show that 35% of families in the Jewish community earn less than \$1000 a week?

A: These figures come from the most recent Census which was undertaken in 2006 and they really are dramatic. It means that over a third of families in our community are struggling to meet basic expenses such as food, housing, utilities, clothing and education.

Q: Isn't \$1000 a week a lot of money?

A: You might think so, but you'd be wrong. A study released by the University of Melbourne placed the poverty line for a family of five at around \$850 a week. That was six months

ago, and it doesn't take into account the additional factors such as higher rental charges to be geographically located within the community, Jewish day school fees and costs of religious and cultural commitments. From the calls we receive, it is clear that many families in our community are barely making ends meet.

Q: Given the economic crisis, are you receiving more demand for services?

A: Yes, we are already seeing a significant increase. In fact, in the first three months of this year we have already had a 12% increase in the number of requests for help. And it's not just an increase in the number of calls,



Over a third of families in the Jewish community are struggling to make ends meet.

but we are seeing an additional demographic. Traditionally, many of our clientele were dealing with identifiable disadvantages of culture, age or disability. But now we are also being inundated with calls from "battlers" – stable, single-income families who were just barely getting by, but who now find they are being pushed over the edge.

Q: Approximately how many people call Jewish Care each year?

A: Last year we responded to 3500 new calls for assistance. Judging from the increase, we are expecting to receive 4000 this year. That first call from a new client marks the beginning of an ongoing relationship, it is really the first call out of many. Typically, four or five other family members are impacted as well, which means that we are effectively touching the lives of around 15,000 people in our community.

Q: Can you tell us more about the type of people who call Jewish Care?

A: As I said before, so many of our clients are "battlers". Many of these people keep trying to make it on their own, cutting back on food, cutting back on essentials, until the situation gets even worse, turning to us only at the last minute. It takes tremendous courage to knock on our door and say, "I don't know what else to do. Please help me!"

Q: How does Jewish Care help?

A: We can help in many ways. Our emergency financial aid program provides short-term immediate assistance such as Coles vouchers, rental assistance and funds to cover household bills for that critical week or month. In 2008, we provided 140 families in crisis with emergency funding, and our Housing and Accommodation program assisted 31 clients into transitional accommodation and a further 23 into public housing.

In the first three months of this year, we have already distributed 22% more financial aid to clients, compared to the same period last year, which once again reflects the current difficult circumstances.

We also run a program which provides longer term assistance in the form of interest-free loans, and together with ANZ we've just launched Saver Plus, which matches family savings dollar for dollar to help low-income families meet the cost of their children's education.

Q: Does this help families get back on their feet again?

A: Financial pressures are typically just one aspect which leads a family already under stress to call Jewish Care. More often than not, there are also deeper underlying issues, intensified by the financial crisis such as physical or mental abuse at home, exhaustion and financial troubles when caring for a sick or elderly relative, job loss or severe marital and parenting strain.

In the past financial year, our professional team of counsellors provided support for 165 families. We also partnered with counsellors in the orthodox community to provide subsidies for low-income clients. It is easy to underestimate the integral role counselling plays in helping families and individuals to get back on their feet.

Q: So are you focussed on longer term support?

A: Absolutely, although some clients just need a boost, others need longer emotional support before they can turn themselves around and become self-sufficient again.

It's important to understand that Jewish Care is about providing a helping hand and not a hand out. Our services are there to help families through the extremely tough times, and to support them to get back on their feet.

Always Moving Forward (AMF), our recruitment and training service, plays a vital role in this. We have placed 99 job seekers since January 2008, and the demand for this service is increasing, with a record 55 new jobseekers registered in the first two months of 2009. We also provide 25 business and computer courses each year, which go a long way to helping job seekers build confidence and skills.

Q: And the funding for these services? Is that from government?

A: The community support services we are talking about receive only around 1% of the total government funding received by Jewish Care. That is why funding for our programs relies heavily on community support-- so much so, that without communal funding, these essential programs would be impossible to sustain.

Q: Any final comments you would like to make, Lorraine?

A: I think one of our strengths is the breadth of services we provide. We are non-judgemental, respectful of our clients and sensitive to their specific needs. It is really so vital, especially in these very challenging times, that we continue to be able to meet the needs of members of our community when they call on us.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported Jewish Care over the last few years. I hope the community will continue to support these vital services.

2009 ANNUAL APPEAL

DONATION TARGET

\$2,000,000

\$1,750,000

\$1,500,000

\$1,250,000

\$1,000,000

\$750,000

\$500,000

\$250,000



2009 ANNUAL APPEAL

JEWISH CARE LAUNCHES ANNUAL APPEAL FOR TOUGH TIMES

Jewish Care's 2009 Annual Appeal, "Times are tough. Now is the time to give" was launched on 24 February at its St Kilda Road Headquarters.

Nearly 150 people attended in support of this year's Annual Appeal, which aims to raise \$2 million to fund essential services to the Jewish community.

President Robyne Schwarz pointed out that the current economic crisis is pushing many families who would never have sought assistance before to call on Jewish Care for help.

According to the most recent statistics, at least 35% of Jewish families earn a combined income of less than \$1,000 per week. This means that over a third of families

in the community are struggling to cover basic expenses such as food, housing, utilities, clothing and education.

Jewish Care clients gave moving testimonies, describing the significant impact of Jewish Care services in helping them get back on their feet. Although speaking in such a public forum was admittedly difficult, all three speakers hoped that they had helped to impress upon supporters the real impact their donations make.



Jewish Care President Robyne Schwarz, Annette & Graeme Smorgon



Barry & Marilyn Braun, Sam Smorgon AO & Minnie Smorgon



Sandy Benjamin & Board Member Andrew Blode

THANK YOU



Thank you to the following real estate agents, who so generously donated community boards, and to all those private individuals and organisations who graciously permitted the use of their home frontage to publicise our 2009 Annual Appeal.

Gary Peer & Associates
Geoff Nixon Real Estate
Hocking Stuart
LJ Hooker
Noel Jones
Run Property
TBM Commercial



Robert Gottlieb



David Smorgon & David Thurin

DAVID SMORGON OAM OPENS HIS HOME TO JEWISH CARE

An invitation-only event in support of Jewish Care and its 2009 Annual Appeal was held at the home of David Smorgon OAM on 24 March. Award-winning journalist Robert Gottlieb was the keynote speaker.

Speaking in apocalyptic terms, Mr Gottlieb discussed the unprecedented impact the global economic downturn was having upon the Australian community, as well as the unparalleled cooperation being shown by global leaders in their efforts to face the crisis head on.

Jewish Care President Robyne Schwarz also addressed the guests, explaining that demand

on Jewish Care services was increasing markedly, with many stable families in the community being pushed "over the edge".

The evening was concluded by David Smorgon with a call to unite in support of those in the community who were worst off: "Those who can, need to help those who can't."



Eve & Frank Mahlab, Bella Shannon & Robyne Schwarz

NEW GENERATION FOR ANNUAL APPEAL

A new generation is joining the ranks.



Kylie and Dion Appel and Laura Davis

150 years ago, visionaries in our community, themselves the victims of displacement and marginalisation, established the foundations of Jewish Care.

Today, a new generation, nurtured and inspired by the examples set by their parents and mentors, is joining the ranks of the Jewish Care organisation.

Laura Davis, the youngest co-opted member of the Jewish Care Board, is helping to spearhead this drive. The "Next Generation

Event" at her home on 19 February, brought together fifty of her peers.

The group was addressed by Board Member Bruce Rosengarten, who challenged typical misconceptions which underestimate the hardships faced by so many members of the Jewish community. Jewish Care's Director of Development Alyson Miller delivered an impassioned and honest appeal, highlighting the essential role of Jewish Care services in helping vulnerable members of our community meet the challenges they face.

WHAT CAN A DONATION DO?

Times are tough. Now is the time to give.

Your donation helps to provide tangible services that benefit families in need:

\$180 One week's grocery vouchers for a family of five	\$2,000 One month's rent for a family of five
\$540 Back to school package for a family of five	\$2,700 Opening the Children's Respite House for a weekend
\$720 One week of emergency financial aid to cover food and utility bills	\$3,600 Family crisis support and counselling
\$900 Replacement fridge / washing machine	\$4,500 One month of emergency accommodation for a family at risk

HOW TO DONATE TO THE 2009 ANNUAL APPEAL



BY PHONE
1800 JEWISH (1800 539 474)



BY FAX
03 8517 5705



ONLINE
WWW.JCAPPEAL.ORG.AU



BY MAIL
**619 ST KILDA ROAD
MELBOURNE VIC 3004**

GLEN EIRA ROAD

GLEN EIRA ROAD FOUNDATION LAYING

The foundation laying of Jewish Care's Glen Eira Road complex for people with disabilities was held on 11 February.

The Hon Tony Lupton MP was guest of honour, reiterating the state government's pledge of \$400,000 towards the project.

Around 150 people attended the event including Jennifer Huppert MP, Helen Shardey MP, Helen Whiteside, Mayor of Glen Eira, as well as other government ministers and dignitaries, people with disabilities, their families, key supporters and community leaders.

A plaque was unveiled by Glen Eira Road Patron, Naomi Milgrom, CEO and Executive Chair of the Sussan Group.

The Glen Eira Road complex will immediately double Jewish Care's supported accommodation spaces, with a vision to create an infrastructure of support for more than 100 people with disabilities living in the area.

Due to be completed in late 2009, the capital project is seeking to raise \$4.5 million, with many donor opportunities and naming rights currently available.



GLEN EIRA ROAD FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Complex Naming Rights	\$1,500,000
SE House	\$800,000
NE House	\$720,000
NW House	\$720,000
SE Lower Floor, Respite Services Floor	\$500,000
Sukkah	\$180,000
Respite Courtyard	\$150,000
NW Communal Lounge	\$150,000
SW Communal Lounge Upper Floor	\$150,000

If you would like to donate to Jewish Care's Glen Eira Road complex, please contact Alyson Miller, Director of Development, on 8517 5715.



Tony Lupton MP and Jennifer Huppert MP at the Glen Eira Road Foundation Laying



Jewish Care currently provides supported accommodation for **18** people with disabilities

Glen Eira Road increases that number to **34**

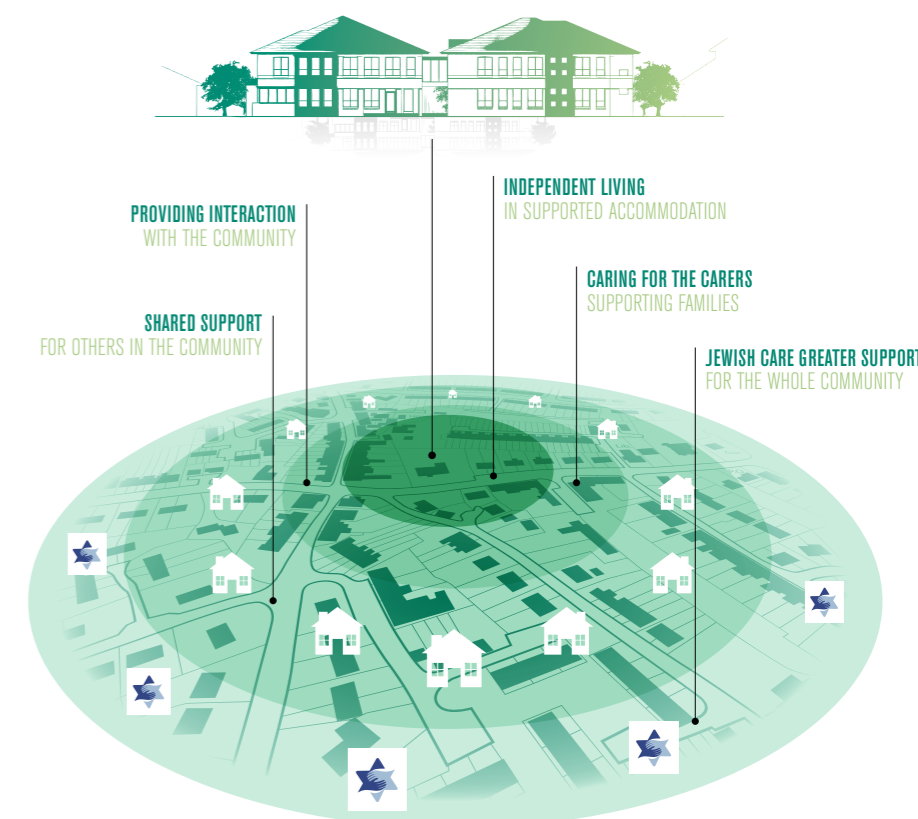
Our neighbourhood network vision provides for **100+**

A VISION OF A BROADER COMMUNAL SUPPORT NETWORK FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Glen Eira Road complex represents a new era in supported accommodation, with a vision to dramatically enhance the quality of life for its residents and, at the same time, make a positive impact on the wider Jewish community.

Blending supported accommodation, community inclusion and independent living, the Glen Eira Road project is Jewish Care's innovative response to the urgent need for additional supported accommodation for people with disabilities in the Jewish community.

Due for completion in 2009, Glen Eira Road will consist of 4 clusters of accommodation, providing a full time home for 16 adults, as well as an additional 4 apartments designed to offer respite relief for those looking after family members. The complex will offer progressive levels of privacy with a variety of private and communal spaces. Clients will be able to take part in social activities and get involved in community events, while also enjoying their independence and freedom of choice in a safe, structured environment.



SIMCHAS



Double Bar Mitzvah boys Samuel & Zac Brygel, double Bat Mitzvah girls Naomi Rubinstein & Hannah Eichenbaum

MIXED DOUBLES: BAR AND BAT MITZVAH DUOS RAISE OVER \$10,000

Jewish Care recently received donations from two double Bnei Mitzvot.

After spending several weeks in Israel with their family in January, Mount Scopus College students Samuel and Zac Brygel, who together with their sister Maddie are triplets, were inspired to direct their Bar Mitzvah donations to a Jewish charitable organisation, nominating Jewish Care as “the ideal choice”.

“We think that Jewish Care is a great organisation that helps so many people in our local community,” Zac says. “We felt that doing this gave our Bar Mitzvah celebration even more meaning. Sam and I were really pleased that we raised so much money for Jewish Care, which will help people who really need it.”

Naomi Rubinstein and Hannah Eichenbaum, classmates at King David School, also decided that they wanted their Bat Mitzvah to represent a way of giving back to the community. In lieu of gifts, they asked the 110 friends and family who attended their joint Bat Mitzvah ice skating party to donate to Jewish Care. They are proud their special day provided an opportunity for so many young people to “give something to someone in need”.

To find out how you can share your simcha with someone in need, please contact Donna Nuttal, Youth Projects Coordinator, on 8517 5933

A tremendous thank you to all those who have made their celebrations an opportunity to donate to Jewish Care.

BIRTHDAYS

Rabbi Philip Heilbrunn
Andrew Sharp
Nicole Stein
Peter Zeeng

1ST BIRTHDAY

Saul Kupshik
Tal Schachna

5TH BIRTHDAY

Aiden King

BAR MITZVAH

Samuel Brygel
Zachary Brygel
Jeremy Kaye
Ari Mushin
Simon Nankin
Josh Steiner

BAT MITZVAH

Hannah Eicherbaum
Naomi Rubenstein
Lauren Winn

40TH BIRTHDAY

Gideon Gunn
Kerri Gunn

50TH BIRTHDAY

Sam Alter
Philip Burns
Ashley Bush
Diane Opat
Kevin Slomoi
Colin Winter

60TH BIRTHDAY

Greg Blashki
Basil Krawitz
Helen Kutner
Prof Leslie Reti
Louise Zygiar

70TH BIRTHDAY

Rachelle Blakey
Myra Katz
Tony Roseman
Sylvia Spigelman

80TH BIRTHDAY

Kurt Hartfield
Eve Goodman
Fleur Treadman

85TH BIRTHDAY

Tess Green
Sam Smorgon AO

100TH BIRTHDAY

Joanna Heyman

PRE-WEDDINGS

Melissa Singer &
Jarrod Hack

WEDDINGS

Kane & Tammy Edelsten
Barry Novy &
Sue Selwyn

40TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Bori & Helen Liberman
Dr Max & Robyne Schwarz

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Diana & Carl Davis
Nathan & Janice Frydman
Gaby & Leon Cohen
Clive & Roselle Peltz
Barry & Pamela Sacks

PROFESSORSHIP

Prof Max Schwarz

IN MEMORIAM

Andor Friebert



CELEBRATING NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

Jewish Care wishes to thank all of our volunteers for making a genuine difference to the lives of our residents and clients every day.

Remember to
RSVP for
Applause for a Cause,
Wed 27 May



ISABELLE'S STORY

Isabelle is a young woman who decided to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah by choosing to donate to Jewish Care's Children's Respite House, instead of receiving gifts. Her generosity did not stop there. Isabelle wanted to do more. She now volunteers at the Respite House. “I am really glad to be involved. I really enjoy playing with the kids”.



MICHAEL'S STORY

Michael works full time. On weekends, he volunteers for Jewish Care, coaching football to a group of adults with a disability. Michael says he looks forward to the time he spends volunteering. “It's such a great feeling when I arrive, and the guys are just so pleased to see me”.



HOWARD, MICHELLE, BILL & KEITH'S STORY

Long time friends Howard, Michelle, Bill and Keith have taken advantage of their retirement as an opportunity to volunteer. “We really are lucky. We have family and friends, but there are lots of people who have no one. Visiting someone or helping with activities makes such a difference to a person's life. And it is in giving that we receive”.



DOREEN'S STORY

Doreen has volunteered for many years. “I am supporting people in the community and I also get to participate in really great activities. A sense of belonging is important throughout life but never more than when we are older”.

If you would like to make a difference in someone's life, call us today on 8517 8700 and learn how you too can become a volunteer at Jewish Care.

VOLUNTEERS

YOUNG ACHIEVERS



Jewish Care Young Achievers at this year's Winter Camp in April.

UPCOMING YOUNG ACHIEVERS WORKSHOPS

Jewish Care's Young Achievers program is running a series of workshops for young people that are open to the public.

➤ **SUNDAY 17 MAY**
Go Karting

➤ **WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE**
Public Relations

➤ **SUNDAY 19 JULY**
Circus Skills

➤ **MONDAY 24 AUGUST**
Budgeting

➤ **SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER**
Nutrition, Diet & Menu Planning

➤ **SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER**
Debating & Current Affairs

To find out more about Young Achievers, please contact Donna Nuttal, Youth Projects coordinator, on 8517 59 33.



GARY SMORGON HOUSE

JUSTINE ELLIOT MP TO ATTEND GRAND OPENING

The Grand Opening of Jewish Care's latest development, Gary Smorgon House, will be held on 7 July, with the Hon Justine Elliot MP, Minister for Ageing, guest of honour.

Situated on Freeman Street in the heart of Caulfield, this state-of-the-art aged care facility represents an exciting development for Victoria's Jewish community. With an established reputation for care of the elderly, Jewish Care's Gary Smorgon House is our first development to offer the 'Ageing in Place' model of care. This approach ensures that we are able to accommodate the residents changing needs, with dedicated and experienced staff available full time to provide individually tailored care.

As well as the magnificent gardens and shared spaces, the residents at Gary Smorgon House will also enjoy their own fully furnished bedroom and ensuite, fitted with many quality features, where they will feel secure and content.



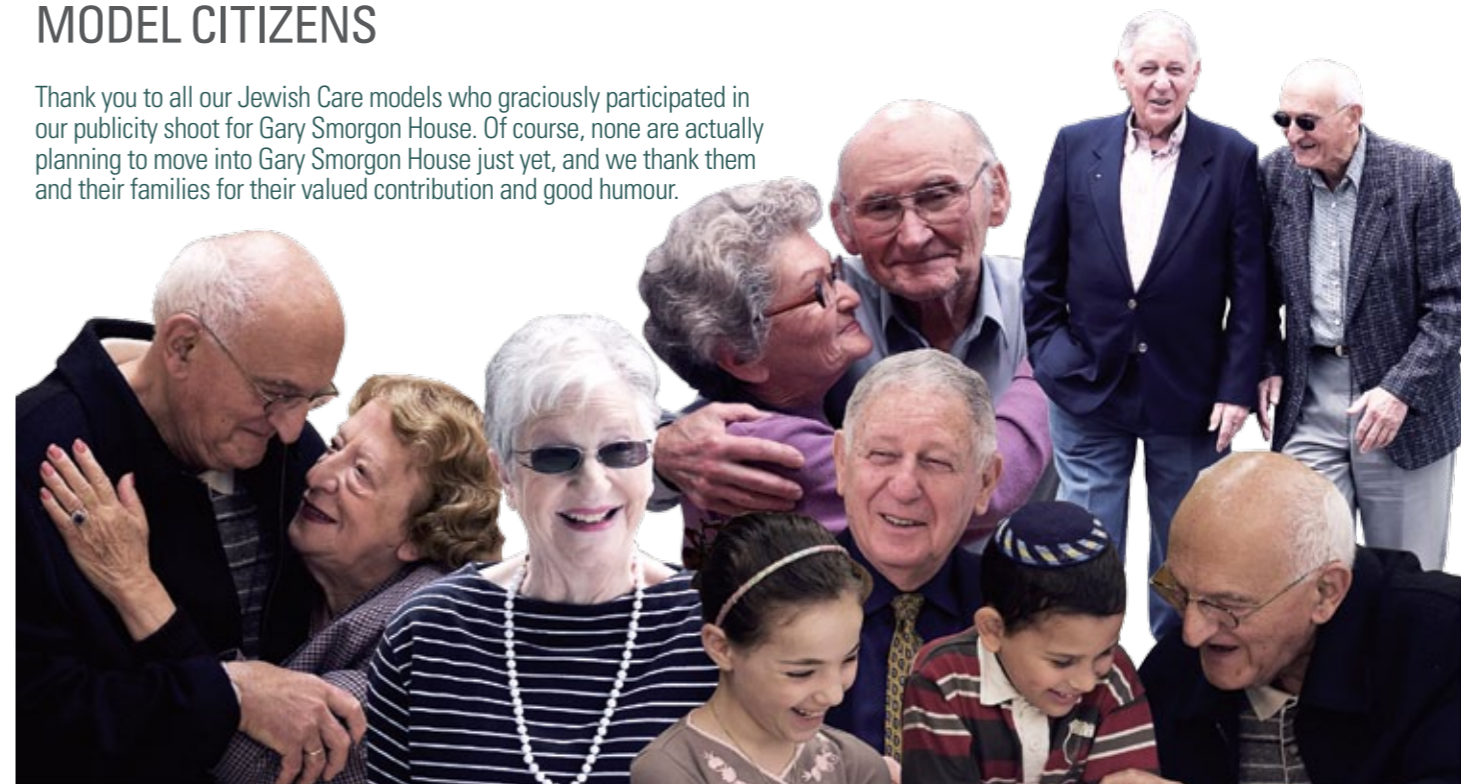
For more information about becoming a resident at Gary Smorgon House, please call 8517 5757 or visit www.garysmorgonhouse.com.au



GARY SMORGON HOUSE

MODEL CITIZENS

Thank you to all our Jewish Care models who graciously participated in our publicity shoot for Gary Smorgon House. Of course, none are actually planning to move into Gary Smorgon House just yet, and we thank them and their families for their valued contribution and good humour.



GARY SMORGON HOUSE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

To support this magnificent project, we have a range of donation and sponsorship options available for your consideration:



Synagogue	\$720,000	Level 2 Courtyard (Sukkah)	\$100,000
Therapy Centre	\$600,000	Level 1 Sensory Garden	\$80,000
Environmental Systems (energy & water)	\$500,000	Level 1 Garden	\$80,000
Reception / Main Entrance	\$400,000	Level 1 Snoezel Sensory Room	\$50,000
Entrance Garden	\$400,000	Level 3 Dayroom	\$50,000
Level 3: Family Lounge	\$360,000	Media - TVs, DVDs, Computers	\$30,000
Level 1: Family Lounge	\$300,000	Chai Board (each)	\$18,000
Theatrette	\$300,000		

If you would like to donate to Jewish Care's Gary Smorgon House, please contact Alyson Miller, Director of Development, on 8517 5715.

MONTEFIORE, MUNZER & ASHWOOD

TOP MARKS FOR RESIDENTIAL – AGAIN!

Montefiore Homes Community Residence scored a perfect 44 out of 44 in its two day Accreditation Site Audit. These scheduled site audits are conducted by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency every three years.

Meanwhile, the team at the Mark and Dina Munzer Community Residence achieved a successful report following an unannounced visit from assessors in February.

MAKING A MOVE FOR THE BETTER

The imminent completion of Gary Smorgon House marks a turning point in Jewish Care's residential services, with processes now set in place for the decommissioning of the Melbourne Hebrew Memorial Nursing Home in Ashwood, one of Jewish Care's oldest residential facilities.

Many of the residents at Ashwood will be in the process of moving to Gary Smorgon House in late June through early July.



Melbourne Hebrew Memorial Nursing Home

For more information, contact the Gary Smorgon House enquiry line on 8517 5757 or visit www.garysmorgonhouse.com.au

MONTE PLAYERS PRODUCE A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN

This year's annual drama production at the Montefiore Homes Community Residence on 15 March had residents, family and staff in stitches. "The Monte Wedding" tells the classic Jewish tale of two mothers' efforts to marry off their children, replete with a fair dose of Yiddish humour ...and a pink tutu.

Both staff and residents participated in the production, the culmination of a year's efforts both on and off stage. Recreational Services Co-ordinator Carmen Trimboli managed the stellar event, which was produced under the inspired direction of Recreational Assistants Cynthia Cohen and Gordana Givjic.



The cast of "The Monte Wedding", this year's theatrical production, in full costume.

YOM HASHOAH AT JEWISH CARE



Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, was commemorated by staff and residents with moving ceremonies at Montefiore Homes Community Residence and the Mark and Dina Munzer Community Residence on 21st April.

Mr Andrew Schwartz, Vice President Jewish Care, a second generation Holocaust survivor, spoke at the Montefiore commemoration. Resident survivors Ida Mehr and Dina

Feldman also addressed the gathering and social worker Judith Yarrow reflected on her experiences as a child of Holocaust survivors as well.

The Munzer service was attended by dignitaries from both the Jewish and wider community, including guest speakers Helen Whiteside, Mayor of Glen Eira, Tesema Endshaw, representative of the Council Federation of African Communities and Bruce Colcott, representative of the Multicultural Police of Victoria.

Kaddish was recited at Montefiore by Pinchas Carter and at Munzer by Efraim Blecher. In remembrance of the 6 million Jews who perished, six candles were lit by residents at both ceremonies, which concluded with the traditional singing of the Partisan Song and Hatikvah.

ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE, KESHER & NRCP

ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE EXPORTS ITS EXPERTISE

Focusing on people's abilities rather than their limitations.

Focusing on people's abilities rather than their limitations, innovative exercise leaders Saraya Lubarsky and Anna Raytsin at the Healthy Ageing Program's Active Living Centre (ALC) have been finding ways for people with limited mobility to reap the benefits of physical exercise. They have developed a unique form of dance exercise, called Chair Based Israeli Dancing. From the security of their chair or wheelchair, the frail, the unstable, and even those recovering from a stroke are encouraged to sway and stretch through a series of coordinated moves, strengthening muscles and gaining flexibility in rhythm to music.

They have now taken their expertise on the road. Inner South Community Health Services has contracted ALC to run a pilot Chair Based World Dance Class for their multicultural clientele at the Horace Petty Housing Commission flats in Prahran.



Moving with the music at Active Living Centre's Chair Based Israeli Dance Class.

For more information about Jewish Care's Healthy Ageing Active Living Centre, please contact Maureen Shulsinger on 8508 6326.

KESHER RANKED SECOND TO NONE

Jewish Care's Keshet Program received a Rating 1, the highest award possible, following a recent audit of its documentation and processes by the Department of Health and Ageing.

Impressed with Keshet's commitment to equity of service provision, auditors strongly encouraged the team to continue to share their high quality documentation with other Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) providers as well as large mainstream organisations.

KESHER: ENABLING INDEPENDENCE WITH DIGNITY

For Chaim Goldenberg (not his real name), an active participant in his locale Shule, "dignity of independence" meant the ability to ascend just one step to the "bimah" (podium) in order to perform the honour of reading from the Torah. But several complex medical conditions over the past two years had diminished his functional ability, including being able to climb that one meaningful step to the Torah.

Keshet Program's Case Management team developed a plan together with Mr Goldenberg and his wife. An assessment was undertaken by Healthy Ageing's physio team to develop an in-home exercise program, supervised weekly by a specially trained Blue Star carer. Week after week, the steady increase in Mr Goldenberg's strength and the gradual improvement in his balance was monitored closely.

The next time he was called to the Torah, just three months later, Chaim Goldenberg stepped up unaided, with pride and with dignity.

STEPPING OUT FOR OLDER PEOPLE

As Victoria's Jewish population continues to age, more and more people are finding themselves caring for either an elderly spouse or parent living at home.

Jewish Care's Stepping Out Program provides much needed respite for these vital caregivers.

Operating Tuesdays and Thursdays on the 7th floor of the Montefiore Homes Community Residence, Jewish Care's Stepping Out Program is one of only 30 programs of its type nationwide and the only ethno-specific service in Victoria to have successfully secured funding from the Federal Government's National Respite for Carers Program (NRCP).

ALAN RABINOV DVD PRAISED

Staff at the Healthy Ageing Program's Alan Rabinov Unit have created a warm and reflective DVD entitled "A Day in the Life of the Alan Rabinov Program".

First screened at the November Annual Carer's Meeting, carers were moved by the DVD, commenting that it highlighted the quality of support and care provided to their loved ones, who attend the Alan Rabinov Program for respite care.

As many of the clients are Holocaust survivors with cognitive and behavioural challenges, the "heimish" (homely) atmosphere of the Alan Rabinov Program was particularly heartening to carers, who were pleased to see so many clients communicating in their mother tongue of Yiddish. As one carer stated, "It feels like a home away from home".



Carers viewing the staff-produced DVD, "A Day in the Life of the Alan Rabinov Program".

COMMUNITY INCLUSION

JEWISH CARE FOUNDING PARTNER OF JIN

Jewish Care has recently become a founding partner of Jewish Inclusion Network (JIN), to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities within the broader community.

Founded by Marcia Pinskier, a Commissioner at the Victorian Multicultural Commission, JIN aims to bring together and support mainstream organisations in the community who wish to promote the shared goal of inclusion. The Network intends to raise a pool of funds that will provide expertise and support initiatives by member organisations to include people with disabilities in their regular activities and operations.

Bill Shorten, Parliamentary Secretary for Disability and Children's Services, addressed the forum, which was attended by leaders from many of Melbourne's Jewish community organisations.

The Jewish Inclusion Network is the first of its kind in Australia and draws upon the proven success of similar programs in place in other countries.



Jewish Care President Robyne Schwarz and JIN founder Marcia Pinskier celebrate their new partnership to support people with disabilities.

RESPITE



Bill Shorten MP affixes a mezuzah (encased scripture parchment) at the official launch of Jewish Care's Children's Respite House

BILL SHORTEN MP LAUNCHES JEWISH CARE'S CHILDREN'S RESPITE HOUSE

Jewish Care's Children's Respite House was launched at its new location on Kooyong Road on 18th February. Bill Shorten, Parliamentary Secretary for Disability and Children's Services, together with Debbie Dadon, Executive Officer of the Besen Family Foundation, were guests of honour and spoke at the event.

The event was also attended by several community dignitaries including Councillor Margaret Esakoff.

The Respite House is the only children's disability respite house in Melbourne's inner city area and the only kosher facility of its kind in Victoria, providing much needed respite for 25 families with children with a disability.

Zalman Feiglin, one of the Respite House children, assisted in the housewarming

tradition of affixing a *mezuzah* (encased scripture parchment) on the building's front doorpost, while Daniel Goodman, Isabelle Rich and Thomas Rogers, who donated proceeds from their recent Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Funding from the Department of Human Services and the Besen Family Foundation enables the house to operate every weekend and on all school holidays. Additional funding is currently being sought by Jewish Care to enable the service to operate 365 days a year.

If you would like to donate to Jewish Care's Children's Respite House, please contact Alyson Miller, Director of Development, on 8517 5715.

RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

AMF AWARDED VICTORIAN PARTNERSHIP GRANT

In March this year, Always Moving Forward (AMF), Jewish Care's recruitment and training service, was awarded a Victorian New Workforce Partnership grant of just over \$100,000. AMF was one of only 29 Victorian organisations to receive this grant which targets disadvantaged job seekers in areas of high unemployment.

Although originally established to address the specific cultural requirements of disadvantaged job seekers in the orthodox community, AMF now services the full breadth of the Jewish

community, and is cultivating relationships with corporate organisations as a mainstream recruitment and job placement service

With more and more redundancies as a result of the current economic crisis, the number of highly experienced unemployed candidates turning to AMF is increasing.

Since January 2008, AMF provided job placement for nearly 100 job seekers, and boasts an active database of nearly 150 jobseekers with a variety of vocational

and professional qualifications. With unemployment on the rise, a record 55 new jobseekers registered with AMF in the first two months of 2009.

Every year, AMF runs 25 computer and business training courses in their fully-equipped facilities. Term 2 courses commence the week of 4 May 2009.

For upcoming training courses and the latest job offerings, please contact AMF on 9528 4466.

SAVER PLUS

JEWISH CARE AND ANZ HELPING FAMILIES SAVE FOR EDUCATION

For every dollar saved, the ANZ bank will match it.

Saver Plus is an exciting, proven program which assists low-income families to build their financial skills and save for education expenses. First developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Lawrence in 2002, the program has been highly effective in actually breaking the cycle of disadvantage and getting families back on track.

Saver Plus matches dollar for dollar money saved by parents over a 10-18 month period up to a maximum of \$1,000. While savings may be used for any purpose, the matched funds must be allocated towards educational expenses such as school uniforms, textbooks, excursions or computers. Participants attend a series of budgeting workshops as part of the program.

Jewish Care's Saver Plus steering committee is chaired by Ralph Goldenberg and Reuben Zelwer. Reuben's parents, Abe and Marlene Zelwer, together with the Slome-Topol Family Charitable Trust and Gary and Susan Hearst from Tempo Holidays, were primary seed funders of Jewish Care's program.

To be eligible for this program you must:

- Have a health care card
- Have a regular income (at least one member of the family must be working)
- Have school aged children in 2009 and/or 2010
- Agree to attend 4 educational workshops conducted by Jewish Care on financial management and budgeting.



The launch of Jewish Care's Saver Plus will be hosted on 21 May 2009 by ANZ at their Head Office, Queen St Melbourne.

For further information on Saver Plus, please contact Anna Barbakh at Jewish Care on 8517 5653.

MESSAGE FROM OUR RABBI

TIME TO GIVE

As King Solomon states, "Everything has its season, and there is a time for everything under heaven...". To you, dear friends and supporters of Jewish Care, I suggest that this season is the "time to give".

As we emerge from two most significant festivals in the Jewish calendar, Purim and Pesach, the message could not be clearer.

Both of these festivals mark the deliverance of the Jewish nation from difficult times and

both are flagged by calls for charity. On Purim, we give "Matanot Laevyonim," charity for the poor and on Pesach, we give "Maot Chittin," charity for the purchase of matzah.

Interesting how both these festivals occur at the end of winter in our holy land, when the outcome of the year's agricultural plantings are not yet confirmed.

This is the time when our sages implemented official faith-wide appeals to donate to those in

need, instituting this as the time of year to give.

In the merit of our ongoing commitment to support those who are less fortunate than ourselves, may we all look forward towards the bountiful harvest which will surely come.



Rabbi Meir Shomo Kluwgant
Rabbi, Jewish Care

FESTIVE TIMES

TIME TO CELEBRATE

Purim and Pesach are festive times in the Jewish calendar when the uniquely *heimish* (homely) atmosphere at Jewish Care residences and programs comes to the fore:

- 2,400 Purim mishloach *manot* food packages distributed to clients, residents, volunteers and staff
- 4 public readings of the Purim *megillah* (Scroll of Esther)
- 12,000 Kosher I'Pesach meals and 16 Pesach *sedarim* (communal festive meals).



Top: Jewish Care Rabbis Kluwgant & Nerenberg & a cast of characters celebrate Purim in style.

Right: Herman Stern, Rita Fekete RN & Leah Cohen at Jewish Care's Model Pesach Seder for residents.



UPCOMING EVENTS

For further information, please contact Frances Carter on 8517 5901.

MAY 2009

- **TUESDAY 12 MAY**
An Audience with Miriam Margolyes
- **THURSDAY 21 MAY**
Saver Plus Launch
- **WEDNESDAY 27 MAY**
Applause for a Cause

JULY 2009

- **TUESDAY 7 JULY**
Gary Smorgon House Grand Opening

OCTOBER 2009

- **TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER**
Generations of Women Annual Brunch