

# Position Statement

## Jewish Communal Strategy

Jewish Care has one clear vision: **Together, building and supporting a healthy, resilient, and inclusive Jewish community.** Our 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 foundational values define who we are and underpin everything we do. The values, **Respect** (*derech erez*), **Community** (*kehilla*), **Inclusion** (*hachlala*) and **Social Responsibility** (*achrayoot chevratit*), are about people - they provide a moral compass for the way we respond to challenges and the decisions we make.

These values pervade every aspect of Jewish Care, informing relationships between colleagues, staff and clients, and our organisation and the wider community.

The Board of Jewish Care seeks to demonstrate our commitment to these values by clearly stating Jewish Care's position on important issues that are contextual to the Jewish community's rich history, and because it frames the way we will conduct ourselves and our engagement with members of the community.

### Preface

Jewish Care is a for purpose services organisation in the Victorian Jewish community. Together with its predecessor organisations, it has been a long-standing, active member of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV) and its predecessor the Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies.

Jewish Care is professionally managed, well resourced, governed by a Board committed to principles of good corporate governance, and has a clear strategic vision and plan to ensure we can respond to the changing needs of the Victorian Jewish community.

Jewish Care recognises and appreciates that the Victorian Jewish community is a strong and engaged community. Jewish Care believes that the release of the GEN17 survey provides a timely opportunity to formulate a community wide strategy for the future.

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Jewish Care recognises that the Jewish community has been served well in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Looking forward, we need to embrace **interdependence** as a core value of communal life. **Interdependence** means mutual obligation to collaborate and a willingness to relinquish some independence. We need to do this in an environment of trust, collaboration and goodwill. Coming together to develop a community wide strategic plan will assist

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אחריות חברתית  
achrayoot chevratit  
social responsibility

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in identifying priorities and community requirements. Together we can reimagine an engaging and well-resourced community. This opportunity is particularly timely due to the availability of extensive data released in the GEN17 survey.

The pillars of a bold strategic plan for the Victorian Jewish community could be – Prosperity; Harmony; Inclusion; Sustainability; Health & Wellness and Security. These 6 key strategic pillars are relevant to everyone within the community regardless of age, background, religiosity or commitment and could provide a positive frame for discussion.

Jewish Care encourages community debate to extend beyond the binary consideration of whether to have a Jewish Communal Appeal (JCA) or not, but rather to focus on bringing the community together with a common vision under which resourcing can be considered.

Jewish Care is encouraged to learn of discussions taking place as the future of the Victorian Jewish community is critical. Jewish Care stands ready to assist in the development of ideas within a positive environment.

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