

rural areas of Indiana and Mississippi. My ancestors helped found Reform synagogues in those communities in the nineteenth century. I am very proud of this – yet, at the same time, keenly aware of how much assimilation has occurred among Jews who came here in the 19th Century. I know it will take inspiration and hard work to make sure that this does not happen to the descendants of those many who came to America in the twentieth century.”

Jewish activism is a family act:

“My wife Debra is also involved in programs for youth, now serving as the Secretary of Education in Mayor John Street’s cabinet. She was formerly a member of the Philadelphia Board of Education and Executive Director of Philadelphia Futures, a foundation that helps Philadelphia schoolchildren matriculate to and complete college. My sister Caryl is quite active in Jewish communal activities in Indianapolis. I volunteer now by delivering holiday food and flowers to homebound seniors who are agency clients. My two children help with this, so they can learn the same lessons which my mother taught me.” ●

Hanukkah Fund Brings Warmth and Light to Clients in Need

JFCS’ Hanukkah Fund is named for the miracle of Hanukkah – when, in accordance with Jewish tradition and history, oil endured in the face of impossible odds. There are many in our community facing critical financial challenges. The Hanukkah Fund was developed to help our clients in need with outstanding utility bills. To help bring them warmth and light this winter, visit our website at www.jfcsphil.org or call (215) 496-9700. ●

Thank you to all who are helping us reach out to meet financial challenges

Dear Friends:

Thank you for helping us to fulfill our sacred community responsibility of serving those in need and at risk.

Today’s economic times are tough. We’ve been reaching out to you – our JFCS family – to help us remain the social safety net for those most vulnerable in our Jewish community. Funding reductions across the board and other financial challenges have inspired us to respond creatively so that the nearly 40,000 individuals and families that we serve can continue to count on us.

You have been receiving a lot of mail from us these days – because our clients’ stories must be told and their needs must be met. We need to ask you to support our important work. In whatever way you respond, please know that we are grateful to our donors – and that your generosity directly helps those who are less fortunate, saving lives and restoring dignity and hope for tens of thousands who have nowhere else to turn.

Below are just some of the ways you can make a difference!

Tribute Cards

Our beautifully designed Tribute Cards are a perfect way to make a gift to JFCS in someone’s honor or in someone’s memory. You may use the enclosed envelope, call (215) 496-9700, or order online at www.jfcsphil.org.

Mitzvah Menu

Our year-round Mitzvah Menu offers a full selection of ways to donate to an item in your specific area of interest. Check our website or call (215) 496-9700.

Heart of JFCS Membership Family

The new Heart of JFCS Membership Family has become a popular option for supporting the agency while enjoying a wide array of benefits – including dis-



counts at more than 30 business and cultural organizations, insider communications about the agency’s work, and special events. For more information, call Ellie Boyarski, Resource Development Officer, at (215) 496-9700, ext. 125, or visit our website.

Endowments

Endowments can be made to the agency via donations of cash or appreciated stock, personal property or real estate; a bequest to JFCS in your will; the designation of JFCS as the beneficiary of pension benefits, IRA or other retirement plans, or life insurance; a charitable gift annuity; or creation of a trust. Call Ellen Covner, Resource Development Officer, at (215) 496-9700, ext. 128 to learn more.

Corporate Alliance Network

This new initiative enables businesses and corporations to enhance the work of JFCS by becoming a corporate partner. We offer many creative ways for businesses and corporations to lend their names and resources to JFCS. Call Ellie Boyarski or visit our website.

If you would like to personally discuss becoming more involved, please contact me at (215) 496-9700, ext. 134 or drews@jfcsphil.org; or call one of our development officers or any member of our Board of Directors.

With your help, no one in need will ever be turned away.

Drew J. Staffenberg
President/CEO

BOWLING!

Fun to Spare!

NEW ADVOCATES BOWLING PARTY to Benefit JFCS
 Save the Date!
 Saturday Evening,
 March 13, 2004
 Info:
 215-496-9700, x125

The New Advocates is a leadership group of younger adults who have identified themselves as deeply committed to the future of JFCS. Members of the New Advocates support the agency through their passion, their resources and their time. The group raised more than \$2,000 this past fall to benefit JFCS programs and services through a pre-holiday "shopping extravaganza" event featuring the jewelry and accessories collection of Barbara Ellick.

JFCS to Sponsor Corporate Breakfast



Keynote speaker Stephen D. Steinour, chairman and CEO, Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania

JFCS is sponsoring our first Corporate Breakfast on Friday, February 6th, 8:00-9:30 a.m. for business executives. Keynote speaker is Stephen D. Steinour, chairman and CEO of Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania and vice chairman of Citizens Financial Group, Inc. He will

speak on "The Importance of Corporate Community Citizenship." Host is Pepper Hamilton LLP, 3000 Two Logan Square, 18th & Arch Streets, 30th floor. The event is free, but reservations must be made by January 30th by contacting Kelly Medlock at (215) 496-9700, ext. 153 or kellym@jfcspil.org. ●

One in four Jewish households in the Philadelphia region were served by JFCS in 2003!



Chairman of the Board
 James R. Kahn
Director of Marketing and Communications
 Robin Heller
Director of Resource Development
 Sally Friedman
Contributing Writers
 Ruth Weisberg

Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia

Address Service Requested

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 Philadelphia, PA 19103

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JFCS partners with the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, which supports its local services through the Federation Allied Jewish Appeal and the United Way.