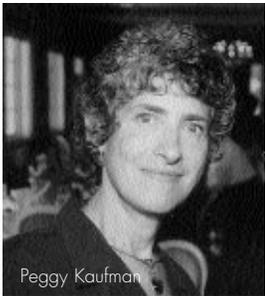


Did you know?

We are well equipped to serve people of all cultures and backgrounds.

Languages spoken at JF&CS

Russian
Spanish
Italian
Dutch
Polish
German
English
French
Somali
Yiddish
Albanian
Sudanese
Arabic
Portuguese
Bosnian
Hebrew
Romanian
Chinese
Ukrainian



Peggy Kaufman

CERS Director Gives Keynote Speech

In June, Peggy Kaufman, director of the Center for Early Relationship Support presented a keynote speech at the 18th annual conference of Postpartum Support International (PSI). PSI is an international organization whose purpose is to increase awareness among public and professional communities about the emotional changes that women may experience during pregnancy and after the birth of a baby.

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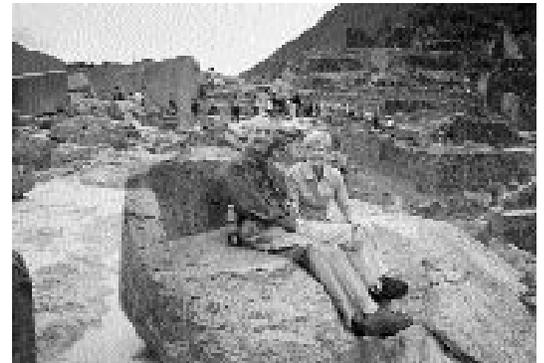
Teen Dating Violence: Early Warning Signs

In connection with Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we have prepared a helpful list of warning signs for parents of teenagers. One in five teenagers in Massachusetts experiences physical or sexual abuse in a dating relationship before graduating from high school. Often, teens don't tell parents or friends about the violence because they are ashamed, afraid and confused.

» » » 3

Willie Goldwasser: Passion and Expertise in Action

Families in Greater Boston have an unsung hero – a man who's putting his passion to work, Willie Goldwasser of Newton. Willie served on the JF&CS board for 10 years.



Willie Goldwasser with his wife Vivian at Maschu Picchu

As president of Goldwasser-Appel Insurance Advisors in

Newton, he provides corporate life insurance and estate planning. Willie has used his professional expertise to advise the Agency and to give a gift more commonly known at universities.

Seven years ago, Willie purchased a life insurance policy that leaves JF&CS as the beneficiary that will benefit the Agency. Willie pays the premiums and his gift is tax deductible. But the best part, he says, is that "when I die, my giving will go on."

Willie feels that this type of policy is a more secure way to support an organization than if it is named in a will. He says, "People provide financial support to an organization because they feel strongly about it, perhaps it helped a member of their family for example, and they write a check or include it in their will. But will the next generation carry it on?"

» » » 5

Daniel Connection Update

Dear Friends,

JF&CS is an agency that people turn to when they are seeking support for the elderly, recent immigrants, new mothers and adults with disabilities to name a few. With this issue, we will begin to share with you the expertise of our dedicated staff and highlight the contributions of our community who make our services possible.



Our knowledgeable and compassionate staff members are frequently recognized as leaders in their fields while working every day to provide the best services to the people of Greater Boston. Now more than ever, other organizations look to us as an example of how to do things right. Our Visiting Moms program has been replicated in many cities and, in the words of our featured donor Willie Goldwasser, "has done a phenomenal amount of good."

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and over the years, we have developed a particular strength in working to end this perennial problem. So we've decided to begin sharing our insights with this important issue. To help increase awareness of teen dating violence, staff member Nicole Lesser has prepared a helpful list of warning signs for concerned parents. Nicole is the program director of Kol Isha, JF&CS domestic violence program.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the ways the JF&CS staff and community continue to touch lives. If you have comments or suggestions, please email us at info@jfcsboston.org. I'd love to hear from you!

Sincerely,

Seymour J. Friedland, Ph.D.
Executive Director

The Daniel Connection provides a wide range of connections to the Jewish community for families coming to Boston seeking medical treatments. These services include support for Shabbat and holiday observance, sibling care, Kosher food, and temporary housing. The program runs at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Children's Hospital, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital and Beth Israel Hospital.

Over the summer, the Daniel Connection donated Jewish prayer books to the interfaith chapel at Brigham & Women's Hospital. The hospital serves an average of 20 to 30 Jewish families a day. The prayer books are orthodox, conservative, reform and reconstructionist denominations in recognition of the fact that the Jewish community is not homogeneous and in hopes that families will find comfort in something familiar.

The Daniel Connection staff is currently at work creating a prayer pamphlet for patients. Marjorie Sokoll, director of the program says, "Jewish patients who are at a vulnerable time are more apt to search for spiritual resources and some way to make sense of what they're going through." The pamphlet will focus on Jewish prayers and reflections on healing.

The Daniel Connection is a service of JF&CS Jewish Healing Connections, a service that exists to help people in the Jewish community feel connected when facing isolation, illness or loss.



Program Specialist Barbara Sternfield presents prayer books to Rev. Kathleen Gallivan, director of Chaplaincy Services at Brigham and Women's Hospital



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Jackie & Alan Weinstein

Teen Dating Violence *continued*



Early Warning Signs

- Sudden changes in clothes or makeup
- Bruises, scratches or other injuries
- Failing grades or dropping out of school activities
- Avoiding friends
- Difficulty making decisions
- Sudden changes in mood or personality
- Changes in eating or sleeping habits
- Constant thinking about dating partner
- Use of drugs or alcohol

Nicole Lesser, program director of Kol Isha, our domestic violence program, advises concerned parents to give their teenager a chance to talk, listen quietly to the whole story, and tell them you are there to help – not to judge. It is also important that parents let teens know that you believe them and that the abuse is not their fault.

If you notice any of the above warning signs, please call Kol Isha at 617-558-1278 for more information or help. We have programming specifically designed to empower young people in opposite or same-sex relationships to choose relationships based on mutual respect, to recognize patterns of communication that are healthy versus controlling, and to see the direct influence that the media and our culture have on their concepts of the “ideal relationship.”

Stopping Domestic Violence in Russia

In a unique summit last May, a team of experts from Massachusetts met with legal and grassroots organizations in Western Siberia to begin to address the terrible domestic violence problem in Russia. Marina Livshits, JF&CS Russian Domestic Violence Specialist, joined the team of six who attended four days of planning sessions, visits and formal presentations in the city of Tomsk.

The other members of the team were a Boston University professor, the Norfolk County assistant district attorney, the Randolph chief of police, a lower court judge from Dorchester, and a reporter.

Nicole Lesser, program director of JF&CS domestic violence program, Kol Isha, reports a dire situation in Russia. She says, “In a country with only 135 million people, there are ten times as many women killed by domestic violence than in the US. At the same time they have no laws against domestic violence.”

At the end of the meeting the attendees agreed to form a coalition and developed a statement of intent to stop domestic violence, which all present signed.

Marina says that the team left their Russian counterparts with the message that if they are to be a truly democratic society then domestic violence needs to be taken seriously as a human rights issue and public health concern. She adds, “This problem can’t be managed by one group. It needs the cooperation of the criminal justice system, health institutions and community response.”

Keynote speech *continued*

Peggy was invited to address spirituality in the work of CERS and speak about a Jewish service agency’s commitment to serving parents of newborns. The response to the comprehensiveness and uniqueness of our programs was outstanding. This was the first opportunity that we have had to share our programs with such a large national audience. People wanted to know what they could do to get their Jewish Family Service or local service agencies to respond to the clear need to begin prevention from the earliest days of an infant’s life. For more information, please call CERS at 617-558-1278.

Careers in Caring: JF&CS Internships Train the Next Generation

Each year, JF&CS internships train the next generation of social service professionals. These energetic and committed students go on to become professionals in the community and unofficial Agency ambassadors.

Ira Schor, director of Community Programs and head of the internship program, refers to this as “the friend-raising aspect.” He says, “We are making friends for the future. These students become our colleagues and our ambassadors throughout the community.”



Ira Schor

Discovering Joy at Work

Victor Nussbaum, father of three, was unsatisfied with his job running the family business and decided to pursue a professional change. Spurred by a family tragedy, he realized life is too short to spend at work that didn’t make him happy.

After being away from the college scene for seven years, Victor went back to school and got his degree in Sociology from Boston University quickly followed by his MBA from Brandeis’ Heller School of Management in 2003. He says, “The JF&CS internship turned out to be a great piece in shaping my career change.”

Victor is now executive director of Hillel at the University of Rhode Island where he serves as Jewish chaplain to 1,500 students.

Finding Professional Role Models

Working at JF&CS offers valuable preparation for interns’ future careers. Not only do they gain exposure to their chosen field, but also in working closely with JF&CS staff they are able to observe the Agency in action. Intern Shira Garber says, “The JF&CS staff are great models for how to work with others.”

The benefits to the Agency of these active and dedicated students are many. In addition to lending an extra pair of hands to some of the worthiest programs, Ira says, “In many cases they enable us to do things we wouldn’t otherwise be able to do.” For example, when intern Shira Garber ran the toy drive, he says, “She took it to the next level.”

Choosing to Help

Shira, who grew up in Brookline, graduated from Boston University with a BA in Sociology in May 2003. The following month she started a dual degree program at Brandeis University. She will graduate in August 2005 with an MBA in Mission Driven Management and an MA in Jewish Communal Service.

As an intern for Community Programs, Shira contributed to a wonderful array of Agency services. In addition to coordinating the holiday toy drive for over 300 children in need she worked with Family Table and created an Agency volunteer manual.

Her most vivid memory of the internship is a moment of panic when a huge delivery truck arrived at the Agency’s Newton office. The truck arrived with large boxes of toys that needed to get upstairs and into the small conference room, organized and distributed to kids in need.

Shira says, “I was terrified about how the office would respond to all these toys invading the office. I was also pleased that JF&CS would be able to provide toys for so many kids in need. I wondered how exactly all of this would happen, but I soon realized that with the strong support network built in among the staff at JF&CS, anything was possible.”

For more information on JF&CS Internships, contact Ira Schor, Director of Community Programs, at 617-558-6529 or via email at ischor@jfcscsboston.org.

Willie Goldwasser *continued*

He describes his gift as perpetual since the insurance policy creates an endowment. He says, “The agency will get the death benefit and it can invest that – the gift goes on forever.” He adds, “The organization that you care about now gets the benefits of that caring in the future.”

Willie has a special interest in the Visiting Moms program run by the Center for Early Relationship Support, an award-winning program started by JF&CS that has been replicated in many cities. He says, “Visiting Moms has done a phenomenal amount of good.”

Willie believes strongly that volunteering makes your life complete. He says, “Giving not just money but time, and whatever skills and expertise that you have, does even more. When you write a check you feel good and it does the agency good. And if you also give time and really work for the agency, you wind up being a part of it, and you talk to others about it that you’ll bring along

after you. Those conversations will cause you to multiply yourself ten times over.”

He and wife Vivian are proud parents of three children – Matthew, Courtney, and Erin – and three grandchildren. He is trying to teach by example, saying, “I’m trying to pass to the next generation the giving, not just of money, but of time.”

And the next generation is listening. His son, Matthew, will be joining JF&CS Leadership Development Series this fall. Erin’s husband, David Appel, is very active in the Jewish community and is on the board of the Anti-Defamation League.

Matthew says, “Willie has never once in his life asked ‘what’s in it for me?’ He is the



Willie Goldwasser with his son Matthew

most dedicated and passionate man I have ever met in my life. His balance between work, family, and philanthropy is astounding, and one has never had to compromise for the other. My dad is my hero.”

For more information about including JF&CS in your estate plans, call our development office at 617-227-6641.

CHAI Residents Prepare for B’nai Mitzvah

Mazel Tov! This fall, six residents of our CHAI (Community Housing for Adult Independence) program will celebrate their Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Becoming a B’nai Mitzvah is a special occasion at any age, but for these six adults with developmental disabilities, the day will mark the culmination of preparations that began in March 2003.

The class participants, who have a range of previous religious training, have been meeting once a week to study the Torah under the leadership of Sandy Slavet, director of Disabilities Resource Network. Sandy says, “It’s exciting to watch their enthusiasm and understanding grow and to be able to participate in this important Jewish ritual.”



CHAI residents at a study session with instructor Sandy Slavet

Ellen Sue Rosenthal, a participant in the class, had never studied the Torah before the class began. She was inspired to join after attending her nephew’s Bar Mitzvah. She is looking forward to her Bat Mitzvah. She says, “It’ll be fun and you read the Torah and afterwards you get a party and see friends and family.”

Sandy hopes that whatever future Jewish experience they participate in will be that much more meaningful. “I hope that they will consider themselves to be authentic participants in Jewish life – that they are part of this, they are not on the margins.”

The ceremony takes place on October 2 at 4:00 p.m. at Temple Beth David in Canton.

Helping children

Alla Khlyap Memorial Fund

Losing a child to cancer is a parent's worst fear. One grieving mother has turned her sorrow into action in the hope that she can keep other children from suffering as hers did.

Sophia and Emanuel Khlyap have established the Alla Khlyap Memorial Fund in memory of their daughter who passed away last year at the age of 29. Sophia described her daughter as an energetic woman who liked to help others. She added that even during her illness, "Alla was very happy with life in this moment."

An only child, Alla was born in Odessa, Ukraine. Alla and her parents came to the U.S. when she was 16. After graduating from Brookline High School, she attended New York University for one year and then transferred to UMass Boston

While attending school she also worked full time. An ambitious and energetic young woman with high goals, she began studying psychology, marketing and management at Brandeis.

When she was 25 years old Alla was in a serious car accident. Her pain continued and although she consulted with a series of physicians, none were able to provide relief. Because she was young and healthy looking, her doctors never considered recommending a brain scan. But after three years, when the pain became severe and she began having double vision, an MRI revealed a brain tumor that had metastasized to her neck.

Despite her illness, Alla remained very active and continued to drive and work. Her mother said, "Alla had a very strong personality. Even



Alla Khlyap

the JF&CS community. Her mother said, "She liked to help people. She was very kind."

Unfortunately she was only able to work a short time. After five months she became paralyzed after a surgery and passed away four months later. Her mother said, "She worked until the last minute."

Because of this terrible ordeal, Sophia Khlyap decided to help children sick with cancer.

Sophia hopes to grow the fund through the support of Alla's friends and others who have been touched by this terrible disease. "A lot of kids need help. Maybe some mother will be lucky and will find a treatment to help her child."

For more information about the Alla Khlyap Memorial Fund, please contact Marla Kannel, Chief Development Officer, at 617-227-6641 or mkannel@jfcsboston.org.

"Maybe some mother will be lucky and will find a treatment to help her child."

from which she received her bachelor's degree in Prelaw. Alla balanced her law coursework with her interests in music, dancing, literature and languages, studying Hebrew, French and Italian among others.

through all the pain she kept going." During the last year of her life, Alla and her boyfriend became engaged. She also started a new job at JF&CS.

Alla worked at the Agency in Senior Services as a case manager for the elderly. She was very happy there and enjoyed feeling part of

>>>>>> volunteer spotlight

George Rivetz: A Caring Volunteer Both Gives and Receives

George Rivetz, age 86, gives generously of his time each week to the Friendly Visitor Program. Through his volunteer work, George has made friends, revived his sense of purpose, and connected to his community. He has also found comfort and support during one of the most difficult times of his life.

The Friendly Visitor Program, part of Jewish Healing Connections, matches caring volunteers with frail and isolated elders to provide companionship and a treasured connection to the Jewish community.

A vivacious, cheerful and outgoing man, George has been recognized for his volunteer work and is known for sticking with challenging cases. After retiring from the Post Office after almost 50 years of service, George decided to volunteer "for as long as my strength and health allowed."

George, who is older than many of the people he visits, says, "I visualize how it would be if I was in their shoes needing the assistance that I am able to give. How would I feel if I were them? This thought gives me the incentive to continue helping these unfortunate elderly people for as long as the good Lord gives me the health, strength and energy to do so."

What makes George's volunteer experience unusual is that he was able to turn for help to the same organization he had helped so much.

Last spring, George's son Kenny, 49 years old and in apparently perfect health, was diagnosed with a brain tumor and passed away suddenly. Kenny lived with his brother Barry for 20 years in Stoneham and the two best friends traveled the world together.

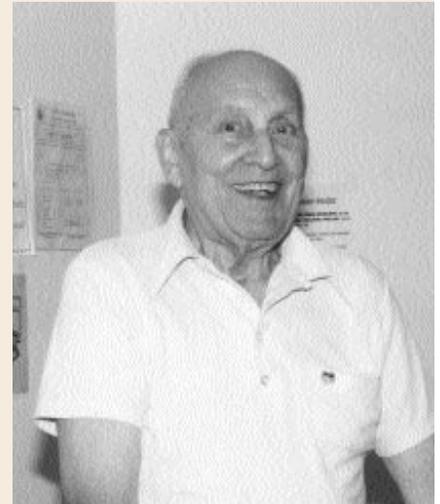
When his son was diagnosed, George turned to Sue Spielman, Coordinator of the Friendly Visitor Program, and Rabbi Karen Landy, of Jewish Healing Connections, for comfort. Sue says, "When Kenny became ill it seemed natural that George call me to tell me what was going on. He was in shock and needing to make some difficult decisions and I became a confidant that he could turn to when needed." They spoke quite often during this time, about his son, volunteering and life in general.

The Friendly Visitor Program is a program of Jewish Healing Connections. Because of this Sue works closely with Rabbi Karen, another member of JHC. Sue says, "Rabbi Karen played an instrumental role in the way the Rivetz family got through this time."

Rabbi Karen was able to guide George and his family through many of the difficult decisions they had to make at the end of Kenny's life. She went with George to visit his son, sang Jewish songs and prayers, and helped him keep talking to Kenny. When Kenny died, Rabbi Karen counseled the family and led a beautiful funeral service.

Throughout this time, George frequently called to check in with Sue and told her many times how Rabbi Karen was an angel to his family. She adds, "I met George's son and daughter at shiva and over and over they told me how magical they think Rabbi Karen is."

With undaunted spirit and continued energy, George continues to volunteer for JF&CS and the Agency continues to support him.



George Rivetz

"I visualize how it would be if I was in their shoes needing the assistance that I am able to give."

Having fun in the sun!

This summer, JF&CS Center for Family Assistance provided almost \$20,000 of scholarship funding to 60 low-income families which enabled their children to attend camp.



“I am so appreciative of the award to help with my daughter’s camp. She had experiences and saw places I never would have been able to give her.”

—Mrs. M

save the date

* **JF&CS Black Tie**
Saturday, October 30
Seaport Hotel, Boston

Our largest annual fundraiser, this event raises critical support for JF&CS programs and services.

7:00 p.m. Cocktails and Silent Auction

8:00 p.m. Dinner, Dancing and Live Auction

Seating is limited. Black-Tie attire. Dietary laws observed.

For more information, please call Michelle Bishop at JF&CS, 617-227-6641.
RSVP by October 18th.

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