## CONTENTS

4  Leaders’ Report

6  Integrity Counselling

7  Edmonton Healing Centre for Grief & Loss

8  Community Links

9  Holocaust Survivors Support

10  Seniors Making Age-Related Transitions

11  Thank You to Our Volunteers

13  Thank You to Our Donors

17  Thank You to Our Funders

18  Financial Overview
Growth and Resilience

Jewish Family Services has served the Edmonton area now for over 63 years and has grown with the community in order to respond to the increasing needs that have developed. Hardships have been weathered and the agency is stronger every passing year. A core theme for our programs is that of resilience – in embodying it within the work using strength based strategies and identifying clients’ specific resiliencies that allow them to progress.

All of our programs at Jewish Family Services offer restorative supports, unique and client-specific, that tap into client’s strengths and resiliencies enabling them to grow and flourish within their communities, their families, and themselves.

We envision a world of economic and social justice; a world where individuals, families and communities care for and support themselves and one another.

To this end, we provide strength & support to individuals & families in need, in a manner sensitive to Jewish values.
The old saying “what doesn’t kill you makes you stronger” is only partly true – sometimes the things that almost kill you leave damages that pose a lifelong challenge to regaining a sense of normal, of health and wholeness, of personal power.

But it can be done, particularly when expertise, love and community combine to give support on the journey to overall wellness. This is our mandate; and it is a profound honour to witness the resilience that people carry with them through our doors, and a privilege to assist in a variety of ways on their journeys. Behind the snippets of client quotes on the following pages are powerful stories of Growth and Resilience that often go untold.

Nothing in life remains static, so resilience is necessary for growth. This is true in organizations also. At the end of May, Larry announced his intention to retire early in 2018, shifting the Board’s attention to reviewing JFS’s current and future priorities and planning for and beginning a recruitment process. There has been dramatic change in the size and scope of the agency during the 17 years since he began, and the task of determining leadership needs for the future has been invigorating.

We were shocked and saddened by the sudden passing of our new Co-President, Barry Greenspan at the end of July. He had brought much wisdom and kindness into his role, and the loss of his leadership created a deeply-felt gap, particularly at a time of anticipated transition.

We said farewell to three Board members who have brought much to the Board table, Craig Roskin, Abe Silverman and Jacquelyn Skeffington, and welcomed a fresh and enthusiastic new member, Linda Hartum. In the office, we welcomed the creativity and energy that a new Office Administrator and several new counselling interns and field placement students brought into our work with clients.

We are deeply grateful for the commitment our key funders have made to maintain their support, particularly those who must raise funds in this challenging economy, including the United Way and the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, or allocating tight public dollars, including Family & Community Support Services. We appreciated a meaningful increase from the Claims...
Conference for our work with Holocaust survivors and a new large grant from the Azrieli Foundation.

In addition to funding organizations, our gratitude is great for the steadfast support of our donors and volunteers, including several service organizations, all who share our vision of a world of economic and social justice, where individuals, families and communities care for and support themselves and one another, and provide resources to make this work possible. The names of all those who invest time and resources, as partners trusting us to make a difference, are listed following the program reports, beginning on page 11.

Judi Card, President       Larry Derkach, Executive Director

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<tr>
<th>Elected Directors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Judi Card, President</td>
<td>Craig Roskin*</td>
<td>Ernie Schlesinger</td>
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<td>Michael Alpern, Past Co-President</td>
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<td>Tulane Rollingher, Past Co-President</td>
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<td>Lewis Wasel* Past Past President</td>
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<td>Larry Derkach, Executive Director</td>
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<td>Megan Kompf, Manager of Programs &amp; Services</td>
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<td>Alyona Lanyme, Office Administrator</td>
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<td>Linda Robinson, Finance Administrator</td>
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<td>Sylvia Rios, Custodian</td>
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<td>Juan Teran, Custodian</td>
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<td>Uliana Kolosovska*</td>
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*Completed terms or left during year
Integrity Counselling

Our trained Clinical Counsellors help people to address deep-seated emotional and psychological issues, as well as more temporary obstacles and challenges that ordinary people encounter in this fast-paced, stressful society. Clients are referred from other community agencies, health or other professionals, or are self-referred.

We provide counselling for as long as the client needs it and is being helped; with a sliding fee scale that makes the service available regardless of means. Clients gain better understanding of their problems, and learn how to choose new behaviours which help them make healthy choices and form healthy relationships.

- 2,757 hours of therapy provided to 533 unique clients, including 252 new clients
- 293 additional clients referred to other community resources after a thorough telephone assessment

I am always excited and amazed by what I learn about my own mind in these sessions, and how what I take from them helps to build my resilience—thank you!

I really enjoy the fact that I'm not being told how to fix things but to acknowledge and identify what I can do to help myself.

Counsellors
Joni Fisher-Canham*
Tina Kafka
Courtney Meidinger*
David Rolston
Arthur Totman
Michael Yankowsk

Interns
Elizabeth Eaton
Anna Jongeleen
Jennifer Summerfeldt
Tina Van Der Worp

Every session results in more progress and deeper self-understanding. Thank you!
Our Healing Centre’s primary focus is to build skills that enable people to find meaning in their loss, improve their level of personal functioning, and become resilient to future loss.

We offer small group sessions, presentations, workshops and courses, and supportive counselling for bereaved individuals and those who serve and support them.

**156 unique clients attended “Roads to Healing” introductory groups**

**78 individuals went on to attend one of the 10, seven-week “Navigating the Rivers of Grief” groups**

**198 clients, including 84 new, received a total of 804 hours of counselling for loss**

---

**Grief Specialists**

Courtney Meidinger*

David Rolston

Michael Yankowski

*Left during the year

---

**Safe place to talk & express my feelings as the grief I am feeling is such a lonely journey**

---

This was my first visit in many years. I am left feeling like I have the tools to move forward in my grief journey and will keep in touch to ensure the obstacles don’t seem insurmountable.

---

We worked through so many difficult things gracefully today that I feel as though I stood out in a rainstorm until I was clean. Thank you!
Community Links

Community Links is geared to empowerment for people who are not sure where in the community to find the help they need, or who need help accessing other helping resources that are confusing or complicated. We welcome newcomers to Canada, newcomers to Edmonton from other parts of Canada, and people who have been here for some time and simply do not know how to find and access the help they need.

We help with navigating government systems and community networks, and offer help with employment and tenant issues. Our Community Support and Intercultural Facilitation staff helps find the right programs and services, advocating on clients' behalf.

137 individuals were helped with advocacy, settlement, and relief services
56% of clients served were Jewish
101 of our 137 clients were foreign born

Intercultural Facilitator and Community Resource Specialist
Jeni Adler

Thank you so very much for all of your help, support, and listening ear yesterday. I'm overwhelmed with gratitude. I feel speechless. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Someday I will pay these acts of kindness forward.

From brainstorming about my difficulties to help with the necessary, JFS offered me what I needed when I needed it.

Jeni and Ray were very good in helping me at the exact point I needed.

Thank you so very much for all of your help, support, and listening ear yesterday. I'm overwhelmed with gratitude. I feel speechless. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Someday I will pay these acts of kindness forward.
Holocaust Survivor Support is an important part of our seniors programming. We offer light housekeeping, home care, food assistance and emergency assistance on an income tested basis specifically for surviving Jewish victims of Nazi aggression during World War II. Assistance is provided with funds from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (commonly referred to as the “Claims Conference”) as well as the Azrieli Foundation.

- 129 clients were helped to live independently with dignity
- 26,780 hours of in-home care were delivered
- $77,600 was provided for health and medical needs
- $204,000 was provided in financial assistance

Holocaust Survivor Support Team
Rhonda Eidelman – Case Manager
Alberto Genis – Home Support Supervisor
Tatiana Kastner – Gerontological Social Worker
Megan Kompf – Case Supervisor
Alena Sasnouskaya & Sylvia Rios – Program Assistants

Plus 35 in-home workers

It’s been the first time in many years when I could leave the house without worrying because I knew my mom was in good hands.

Thank you very much for warmth, care and respect.
Ageing affects each person differently, creating new challenges with mobility, housing, changing family and community relationships, and health.

Our Outreach Worker assists Jewish seniors with issues such as a

- transition to a new home, staying active, staying connected with the community, understanding and managing health and medication concerns, communicating with care professionals, and mediating the involvement of concerned family members – not to mention home-made, volunteer-delivered kosher meals a few times a year.

| Seniors Outreach Worker | Rhonda Eidelman |

- 142 Jewish senior citizens were helped improve their quality of life
- 288 Kosher dinners were prepared and delivered to clients by volunteers
- 1564 support sessions were given by telephone
- 14 Private in-home workers were placed for seniors needing assistance
We gratefully acknowledge the time given by these individuals in 2017 – more than 3,108 hours! Others were involved who did not let their names be known. We offer heartfelt thanks to all.

Jeni Adler
Michael Alpern
Sylvia Alpern
Naomi Amato
Victor Amato
Damaris Barrera
Jorge Barrientos
Marcia Bercov
Marilyn Bercovich
Susan Binnington
Mendy Blachman
Darlene Bushewsky
Judi Card
Gulshat Cherniyazova
Edmundo Coba
Rachel Cohen-Eidelman
Ruth Coppens
Erzhen Danzanova
Howard Davidow
Danielle Drisdall
Catherine Du Bourt
John Du Bourt
Elizabeth Eaton
Alyson Eidelman
Benji Eidelman
Jason Eidelman
Rhonda Eidelman
Ehud Ellman
Ella Elster
Maya Feldman
Alberto Genis
Judy Gleiberman
Barry Goldberg
Linda Goody
Barry Greenspan z”l
Nellen Gutierrez
Roberta Hanson
Emily Hartum
Linda Hartum
Peter Hartum
Abe Hering
Karen Hering
Ganaya Howell
Gavin Howell
Melissa Howell
Melodie Howell
Anna Jongeleen
Tania Kalitsky
Tatiana Kastner
Michal Kaye-Adler
Uliana Kolosovska
Megan Kompf
Samuel Koplowicz
Liebe Lagnado
Ethan Lavine
Lucy Lavine
Victor Linetsky
Dmitriy Loukin
Elena Loukin
Michelle
Marcushamer
Risa Margolis
Alejandra Marino
Yuliya Massarsky
Sandra Maygard
Marla Miller
Ben Nobleman
Francie Nobleman
Judy Nobleman
Phyllis Nurgitz
Raisa Ostravskaya
Celeste Parandon
Nestor Prado
Roman Rachkovetski
Francie Rattner - Dolgoy
Sharon Rasula
Tulane Rollingher
Florence Romero
Craig Roskin
Alena Sasnouskaya
Marilyn Scheckter
Liron Shteynpress
Rebecca Sklawsky
Esther Sklofsky
Anita Sky
Jennifer Summerfeldt
Lauren Tankel
Sharon Tankel
Michaela Thamwong
Pauline Uretsksy
Tina Van Der Worp
Asher Wasel
Hila Wasel
Leanne Wasel
Norman Wasel
Zev Wasel
Rhonda Winston
Abby Wright
Stacey Wright
Zoey Wright
Mel Wyne
In addition to money and volunteer time, people offer many other gifts to help the people we serve, such as grocery cards and home goods, employment opportunities, referrals, medical and professional assistance, discounts, and words of encouragement. Thank you for all of this kindness!

We ask your forgiveness for any errors or omissions. If your name has been missed, we offer sincere thanks.

Many thanks to Marcia Bercov for her gift of photography at so many of our events!
We gratefully acknowledge the financial and in-kind support of these individuals, companies and organizations since January 1, 2017:

Gloria Aaron  
Sharon Abbott  
Bernie & Miriam Adler  
Doreen Albert  
Grant Vogel & Lemore  
Alima  
Michael & Sylvia  
Alpern  
Victor & Naomi Amato  
Florence Axler  
Rhea Balascak  
Len & Polina Broitman  
Stan & Sheila  
Bronson  
Anne Broomfield  
Earl & Roberta Bubis  
Sam Budman  
Frieda Bugis  
Isadore Burstyn  
Jason Cairns  
Cathy Campbell  
Judi Card  
Sydney Deitch  
Larry Derkach  
Miriam Devins  
Patricia Diduck  
Hilton & Michelle  
Dinner  
Filomena Dipietro  
Len Dolgoy &  
Catherine Dolgoy-Miller  
Marvin & Rhonda  
Eidelberg  
Lynn Einstein  
Harvey & Minnie  
Emas  
Joanna Erbach  
Robin & Melanie  
Fainsinger  
Raina & Chaim Feig

Susan Baram  
Christina Barker  
Christopher Batdorf  
Naomi Beck  
Marcia Bercov  
Marvin & Marilyn  
Bercovich  
Nicole Berg  
Brian & Joyce Besney  
Colleen Biagi  
Kenneth Bilodeau  
Glen & Susan  
Binnington  
Lana Black  
Susan Bleviss  
Moise & Donna Bonan  
David Bookhalter  
Bernard Brasen  
Yelena Braslavsky  
J. Spencer Brawner  
Robert & Krista Brick  
Anthony Brierley  
Carolyn Renee Cass  
Jack Chetner  
Michael & Bonnie  
Chetner  
Patricia Condrotte  
Christine Cooper  
Ben & Ruth Coppens  
Bibiana Cujec  
Howard Davidow  
Jeff & Linda Davis  
Ann Davis Sector  
Shannah Davison  
Dwayne DeGraves  
Rocky Feldman  
Darlene Ferguson  
Cecilia Ferreyra  
Saisawan Finkel  
Karen Firth  
Judy Foster  
Richard Fraser  
Rhoda Friedman  
Rabbi Daniel &  
Rabbanit Batya  
Friedman  
Sylvia Frohlich  
Alberto Genis
Myrna Ghitter  
Shirley Ghitter  
Sandra & David  
Ghitter-Mannes  
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Gleberman  
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Patricia Juniper  
Abie & Myra Kacew  
Tina Kafka  
Clara Kagan  
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Erica Karabus  
Esther Karrel  
Maury Katzin  
Cyril & Faye Kay  

Christina Larsen  
Sylvia LePki  
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Sharon Marcus  
Marjorie Margolies  
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Linda Goody  
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Lilian Green  
Stanley & Faith  
Greenspan  
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Evelyn Hutchinson  
Charles Hyman  
Lesley Jacobson  

Kendal  
Cathleen Kerr  
Abram & Irina  
Khanazovich  
Fay Kifer  
Iris Kirschner  
Lewis & Irene Klar  
Morris Klimove  
Helen Kolodenko  
Uliana Kolosovska  
Samuel Koplowicz  
Keray Henke &  
Murray Krantz  
Martha Kushner  
Stephen & Kaysi  
Kushner  
Robert Lackner  

Olga Mattis  
Barry Greenspan z”l &  
Sandra Maygard  
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Gary & Shari McNeil  
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Sara Willner
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Gary Woodrow
Howard & Esther Starkman
Hazel Stewart
Keith & Lauren Tankel
Errol Tarnow
Richard & Reva Theuman
Hazel Thompson
Lana Thompson
Gwen Tomkins
Arthur Totman
Stan Tubinshlak
Mel Wyne
Edward & Susanna Yedgarova
Caroline Young
Michael & Jodi Zabludowski
Simonette Zadkovich
Hal Zalmanowitz
Anonymous Donors

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964309 Alberta Ltd.
Alberta Health Services
Association for Safe Alternatives
ATCO Electric
Beth Tzedek Congregation

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Catholic Social Services
Delcon Capital
E. Mirth Professional Corp.
Edmonton Granite Memorials Ltd.
Edmonton Hadassah-WIZO Council
General Realty Group Ltd.
General Recycling Industries Ltd.
Grimco Canada Ltd.
Impact Office Services Ltd.
Jonathan Tankel Professional Corp.
Lauring Limited Partnership
Marilyn Sheckter Professional Corp.
Melcor Developments Ltd.
North Central Auto Repair Ltd.
Notables Stationers
Francis F.D.Cyngiser Professional Corp.
Romanovsky and Associates LLP
Stanley Kitay Professional Corp.
Strategic Policy Branch
Telus Communications Inc.
The Main Event

We ask your forgiveness for any errors or omissions. If your name has been missed, we offer sincere thanks.
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Association for Safe Alternatives in Childbirth
Azrieli Foundation
Beth Israel Benevolent Fund
City of Edmonton
Civil Service Union 52
Community Initiatives Program
Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany
Edmonton Community Foundation
Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation
Family & Community Support Services
Jewish Federation of Edmonton UJA
Na’amat Canada Edmonton
National Council of Jewish Women
ORT
The Stollery Charitable Foundation
United Way Alberta Capital Region
United Way of Fort McMurray
Financial Overview

Expenditures 2016-2017

Survivor Support 1,413,219
Integrity Counselling 279,636
Edmonton Healing Centre 148,416
Community Links 114,844
SMART 59,359
Administration 37,760
Governance 33,980
TOTAL 2,087,214

Revenues 2016-2017

Claims Conference 1,312,191
United Way 205,101
Fees & Misc 151,288
FCSS 83,292
Jewish Federation 71,667
Fund Raising 71,256
Foundations & Grants 67,874
Donations 52,289
Other Government 17,000
TOTAL 2,031,958
Help, With Heart

Jewish Family Services

100 – 8702 Meadowlark Road
Edmonton AB T5R 5W5
Phone 780.454.1194
Fax 780.482.4784

TikunOlam@jfse.org
www.jfse.org

This booklet has been produced in-house at a very low cost, so we can use more of your donations to provide Help, With Heart.