

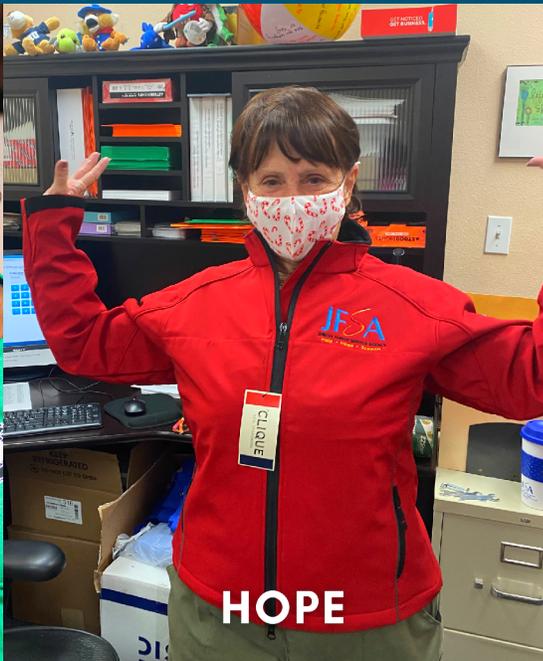
UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

THE OFFICIAL INTERACTIVE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF JFSA

{Please click on the links that are underlined below to learn more about that topic.}



HELP



HOPE



SUPPORT

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY WITH DIGNITY & RESPECT



IN THIS ISSUE

An Update From Our
CEO & Board Chair
pg. 3

Meet Renea Parr, our
Director of Emergency
Services
pg. 4

Up Close with Gail Alcalay
whose been volunteering
at JFSA for over 30 Years!
pg. 5



Jewish Family Service Agency participated in the **73rd Israel Independence day celebration** last month. This was a nationwide event produced by the IAC Las Vegas. This year there was a special in-car experience, with different stations, activities, music, and a live broadcast concert from Israel on the drive-thru screen. The event was fantastic and had 1,000 people due to being covid safe. Thank you to all who came out, supported, and visited our booth.

We not only had a great time meeting new members of our community but we also educated the public on what JFSA is all about.

CONGRATULATIONS

JFSA IS NOW A 4 STAR CHARITY!



Dear Friends & Community Members,

We have some exciting news to share! Non-profit evaluator Charity Navigator has awarded JFSA Las Vegas our first four-star out of four-star rating!

Charity Navigator bases its ratings on non-profits' financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

We now have one of the best ratings in Nevada and are among the top non-profit agencies in the nation.

We couldn't have received this top rating without you. Thank you for trusting us with your donations, your volunteer time, and your goodwill. Your trust and support mean so much to us and the individuals and families we serve.

Thank you for being a part of our mission to provide help, hope, and support to everyone in our community.



**AN UPDATE FROM:
DR. KEN MOSKOWITZ
PRESIDENT & CEO
& LAURA SUSSMAN
BOARD CHAIR**



HELP. HOPE. SUPPORT for EVERYONE.

2309 Renaissance Dr. Suite B,
Las Vegas, NV 89119
702.732.0304
JFSALV.ORG



Our Mission

The mission of JFSA is to be the place to go for people of all backgrounds during their time of need. We provide solutions and results to improve the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.

JFSA is registered with the Secretary of State and qualified by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization, and a member of Guidestar Gold Transparency. Founded in 1977, JFSA has grown to be one of the largest and most respected agencies in the region touching over 25,000 people each year. One life at a time. Your charitable contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

In April, JFSA joined local leaders across the country in an annual nationwide bipartisan initiative to highlight the impact of national service in tackling our local community challenges. This year's event was especially meaningful, as our team of AmeriCorps Seniors members supported our community and we honored them with the rest of the country on **National Service Recognition Day.**

We were also proud to participate in **Holocaust Remembrance Day, Israel Remembrance Day,** and **Israel Independence Day.** We had a great time celebrating with everyone at the **Israel Independence Day celebration** Drive-Thru in North Las Vegas.

Las Vegas has begun to turn the curve and per Governor Sisolack's order by June 1st, 2021, all counties will be reopened fully. During the Pandemic our **Emergency Services Department assisted countless people** in our community through our food pantry, feeding up to 3000 people each month. This month we recognize and honor our **Director of Emergency Services, Renea Parr. (pg 4.)** Renea is one of the most amazing people you will ever meet. Over the past 25 years, her love for service and leadership in helping others in our community is something to be admired. Not only has she been an active JFSA leader but she has also encouraged her children and countless others to also serve and help those that are in need in our community.

Our volunteers continue to be instrumental in our community's recovery. One of our special volunteers is **Gail Alcalay (pg 5.)** who has been with JFSA for over 30 years. Gail is the definition of dedication and we cannot thank her enough for all of the years and volunteer hours she has provided JFSA and has done it with a smile.

JFSA along with national service members and our over 200 local volunteers were recognized during **National Volunteer Week.** JFSA volunteers assist by taking people to get their vaccines, working at our Food Pantry, and distributing food to all that require a healthy meal.

We are excited to thank each one of our many wonderful JFSA volunteers. **We thank you** for stepping up and showing up when our community needed you most. And we continue to **thank you for never giving up** and making a difference every day in the lives you have touched. You continue to be a positive role model in our Clark County Community.

Our dedicated staff, volunteers, board, and leadership are committed to changing the world for the positive, and with your help, we are and we will.

***For your steadfast support and lifesaving generosity,
we continue to rely and give thanks to you.***

**Ken Moskowitz, PhD
President & CEO**

**Laura Sussman
Board Chair**



JFSA'S DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES RENEA PARR A CHAMPION OF SAVING LIVES

It would be impossible to count how many lives, our Director of **Emergency Services, Renea Parr** has saved during her career but we are going to give you an idea of how incredible she is to all of us at JFSA.

Renea was born and raised in Overland Park, Kansas, and learned about giving back to her community at an early age. While growing up, she and her family were regular volunteers in their community, and she found every opportunity to help others.

Renea joined JFSA on January 5th, 2013, and began as an Emergency Services Coordinator. During that time the Emergency Services Department was very small and only serving a few. The food pantry was only serving 150 households a month and it was on the verge of being closed down. Renea however insisted that they keep it open and in fact, Renea took it on herself. **"I started to get out into the community and tell people about our food pantry and financial assistance programs and reached out to other organizations that we could partner with."**

One of our early partners was Dress for Success who partnered with JFSA and placed women in the workforce. Three Square food bank is another critical partner with JFSA. JFSA is proud of our **Food Rescue Program, where we go to grocery stores and get food that has been pulled from the shelves every day to give to our community. We are proud to receive from Smiths, Alberton's, Trader Joe's, Sprouts, and Target Market.** Their generous donations allow us to provide balanced nutrition to food-insecure families and individuals in our community. Every day we provide our clients with fresh proteins, produce, baked goods, and bread. On average, we receive 12,000 pounds of food a month from Food rescue.

The mission of JFSA's Food Pantry is to serve those who are facing major challenges in acquiring sufficient food for themselves and their families. Our program has volunteers who pick up and deliver the food to our food pantry where it is distributed daily to the local community.

Our food pantry last month served 950 households which is over 1,700 people. **During the Corona Pandemic, our food pantry served over 3,000 people a month in Clark County.**

JFSA provides financial assistance when no other family or community resources are available, sufficient, or appropriate. We know that it is difficult to reach out for help and it is our intention to help each applicant in some way whether through direct services or referrals to other organizations that can assist.

"They have done more than helped me, JFSA has saved my life! They have fed me and paid for me to keep a roof over my head. Everyone is so friendly and always puts a smile on my face. I pray every day and thank G-d for JFSA, for all the wonderful help and support they have given me." Bruce Z. is a client who is 65 years old and turned to JFSA for help. "You all are 100% on top of everything as soon as I called. Lisa and Renea took care of me and made my experience dignified. **I would recommend JFSA to anyone. If you need help please contact them. That one call may save your life."**

During Covid, Renea recalls that "we were receiving **over 500 phone calls a day.** We worked tirelessly to get every person what we could. We had to add additional phone lines to ensure we could get to all the calls. My mantra is, "make someone's life today, a little better than it was yesterday."

Second step is the newest program of **JFSA's Emergency Services Department.** We offer intensive case management and support to our homeless community. Since the program began last year, we have completed 20 assessments and enrolled 14 clients. We have currently stabilized 3 clients from the street, and they are now living independently for over 6 months and have become self-sufficient. JFSA is proud to be partnering with Clark County this year to continue to allow us to serve our most vulnerable homeless population.

Renea continues, **"We don't turn anyone away.** If you need help I would say "come in, sit down, I will truly listen, and together we will find the best solutions for improving your current situation. That is what we do at JFSA every single day."

On behalf of JFSA, we thank you Renea, for all the incredible work that you do in our Clark County community, for the state of Nevada, and for the countless lives you have saved.

If you are in need of financial assistance or support please email us at **EmergencyServices@jfsalv.org** or to learn more visit **jfsalv.org/emergency-assistance**

Up Close With Our Volunteers: Gail Alcalay **Gail has been helping JFSA for over 30 YEARS!**

Gail Alcalay is the very definition of what a volunteer truly means. Gail has been helping JFSA for over 30 years and started on the board of directors as treasurer. Over the many years, she has continued to volunteer in many different aspects and has cataloged many files and put them in the computer and then boxes so they could be stored.

"Really what I like the most are the people at JFSA. Every time I come in, everyone is so friendly. To me, JFSA means a community that helps people with food, services, and gives them a voice that otherwise they would not have."

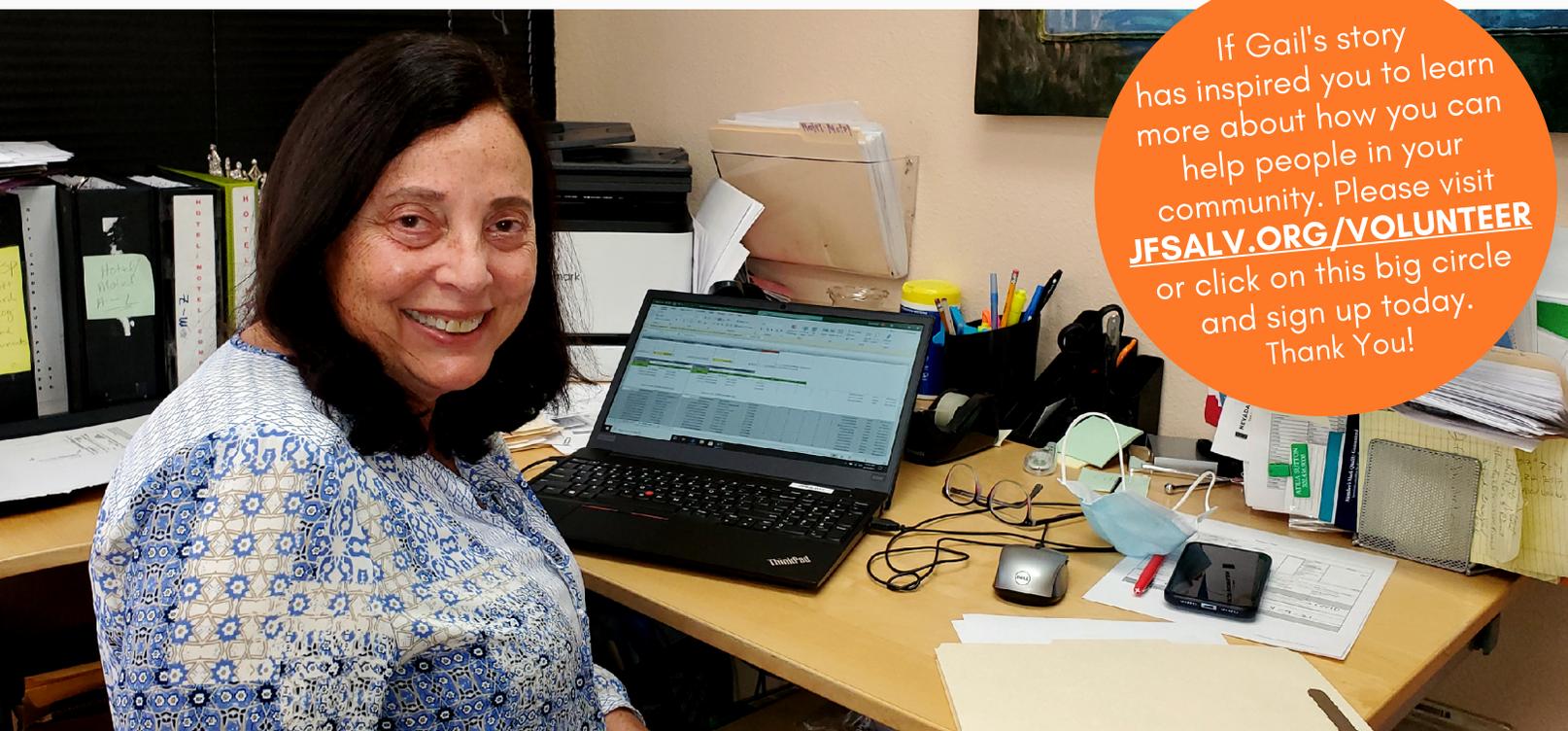
Gail has been such a valuable part of our volunteer team over the years, many consider her family at JFSA. "I feel like I am helping our community by assisting with grant paperwork, something that is needed and required. Many people dislike doing that kind of work, but I enjoy it."

So many of the departments at JFSA are so important. I cannot single out just one. All of the JFSA staff are wonderful but my favorite is Renea! I enjoy working with the entire Emergency Services team. Ken Moskowitz has built and kept a great team making JSFA a very successful organization that I am proud to be a part of.

"Yes, I do feel like I am making a difference through JFSA. In order for JFSA to continue to get funding so that they can help so many people in our community, records must be kept, and I help with that as often as I can."

GAIL ALCALAY

WE THANK YOU GAIL, for your years of consistent dedication to JFSA. WE THANK YOU, for coming in twice a week to assist us with all of our paperwork. It is because of volunteers like you, that help JFSA make a difference in the community. It is because of volunteers like you, that help us be the best that we can be. Everyone can learn from Gail of what a true volunteer is really all about. The noble act to serve others in your community and to truly make a difference in people's lives each and every day. **To learn how you can Volunteer at JFSA please contact Sherri Freedman at JFSALV.ORG or call 702.732.0304**



If Gail's story has inspired you to learn more about how you can help people in your community. Please visit **JFSALV.ORG/VOLUNTEER** or click on this big circle and sign up today. Thank You!

JFSA'S COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

You are never too old or too young to serve your community.



Thank You

JFSA VOLUNTEERS



HOW WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY



JFSA is here to serve everyone, all faiths, races, ages, and incomes. All human beings. JFSA staff and volunteer leadership are totally dedicated to helping people in our community face some of life's most difficult and pressing challenges of the day and we do it with compassion, total commitment and with love and care.

Counseling

We are here to listen and provide emotional support through our Counseling program. We offer counseling to children, adolescents, adults, and seniors. Through individual, couple, family and group counseling; services are provided in a sensitive and caring atmosphere.

Senior Services

JFSA leads the community in providing comprehensive services for seniors, offering a full spectrum of programs, resources, and opportunities. Our Senior Lifeline program uses a case management model that connects those 65+ with a network of support services to maintain independent living. Holocaust Survivor Assistance Services are based on the individual's needs and wishes and adapt over the lifespan. Services may include in-home care, advocacy, assistance with reparations, and socialization events and activities. Nevada Care Connections is a state resource center that works with older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers to explore various long-term support services, resources, and programs. Our Family Care Partnership program offers peace of mind by hiring a professional staff to coordinate and direct their loved one's care.

We offer seniors the opportunity to remain engaged and contribute to the community in our AmeriCorps Senior programs. Volunteers in the Senior Companion and veterans Choose Home programs are connected with older adults who need one-on-one connections and support. The Foster Grandparent program connects volunteers with special needs children in the Clark County School District to serve in classrooms as mentors, tutors, and role models.

Emergency Services

We provide hope, through our Emergency Services programs. JFSA provides emergency financial assistance and food for our community's most vulnerable. Our food pantry, which includes a variety of healthy meals that satisfies every taste including Kosher foods.

The Center for Assessment & Educational Services

Our Center for Assessment and Educational Services offers comprehensive psycho-educational assessments, and individualized educational recommendations to enhance academic performance at an affordable cost. Every child deserves a chance to have a bright future and we are here to make sure that goal is accomplished.

Open Arms Adoption

Open Arms Adoption Agency, which has helped birth parents and adoptive parents with the loving placement of children and support of their families. Our philosophy and purpose are to maintain and strengthen family life and relationships through the provisions of our professional counseling services and education.



**AmeriCorps
Seniors**



ועידת התביעות
Claims Conference
Conference on Jewish Material
Claims Against Germany



**NVEnergy
FOUNDATION**
The Power of Good is Always On



Powered by
JEWISHnevada
NEVADA'S JEWISH FEDERATION

If you or someone you know needs our help please contact us today.