Dear Friends,

In May, JFS celebrated the beauty of humanity at our Mosaic Gala event as we created, piece by piece, a tile mosaic, now hanging in our lobby, depicting the breadth and values of JFS in our community. The idea of mosaic is that we as individuals are united, one by one, with the rich and diverse multitudes of people in our community and across the globe. We are united in helping all humanity toward well-being. This past year, with your help JFS has played a significant role toward this goal by decreasing food insecurity, working to solve issues of aging, unemployment, mental health, providing transportation, among many other services and programs.

As we begin 5780 on the Jewish calendar, we look ahead. The new year is a time to reflect on our role in repairing our world; how do we do our work with caring and compassion? JFS moves forward, every day, with the vital and meaningful work of connecting individuals with health care, jobs, transportation, interpretation, food, therapy, education, and older adult services.

Your support of JFS reflects your own tikkun nefesh, repair of the soul/self, and tikkun olam, repair of the world. The new year ahead provides an opportunity for each of us to make meaning of our lives. Please help JFS in our efforts to improve the lives of others – be they a homebound older adult, a family struggling through tough economic times, a recent arrival facing the challenges of a different environment, or an individual seeking a qualified professional to help with personal challenges.

Donating money or other resources to JFS helps us build a solid community of productive and secure people. Please return your tax-deductible contribution with the tear-off on the reverse side. Your support offers a new sense of possibility for so many in our community. Let our unique stone, our individual life’s work, gifts, and goals, help to create a good and sweet year for all.

Warmest Regards,

Susan Sefansky
President, Board of Directors

Anya Abramzon
Executive Director

“Our lives are unique stones in the mosaic of human existence -- priceless and irreplaceable.”
- Henri Nouwen

THE MISSION OF JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES IS TO CREATE SOLUTIONS, PROMOTE DIGNITY AND INSPIRE HUMANITY.
Cynthia, a JFS case manager since 2017, assisted with the resettlement and post-resettlement of a family from Ethiopia. In the ultimate tribute, the parents named the newest addition to their family Cynthia in honor of their case manager.

JFS won both the People’s Choice and Innovation Awards in the Glacier Hills Legacy Fund’s Vital Seniors Community Innovation Competition, along with $150,000 in funding.

The JFS Specialty Food Pantry provides a dignified shopping experience and has a community-wide reputation for fulfilling distinctive food needs such as halal, kosher, gluten free, baby food and formula, low sodium, low sugar and liquid nutrition.

Thanks to support from the Legacy Fund through the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, Washenaw Integrated Senior Experience (WISE), a coordinated care management system for clients and their caregivers, was designed with plans to be fully implemented in 2023.

14,569

Number of Washtenaw County residents JFS served

212

REFUGEES FROM OVER 8 COUNTRIES WERE RESETTLING IN WASHENAW COUNTY

60

NUMBER OF ASSETS, INCLUDING HOMES, CARS, AND EDUCATIONS, PURCHASED BY PARTICIPANTS IN THE IDA PROGRAM

11

THERAPISTS PROVIDING COUNSELING IN FOUR LANGUAGES

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

10,000 +

Number of Washtenaw County residents JFS served

In partnership with financial institutions, JFS enrolled a young father in the Individual Development Account (IDA) program. After only eight months of homeownership education and healthy savings habits, the young man was able to save enough money to receive matching funds and purchase his family’s first home.

The JFS Specialty Food Pantry provides a dignified shopping experience and has a community-wide reputation for fulfilling distinctive food needs such as halal, kosher, gluten free, baby food and formula, low sodium, low sugar and liquid nutrition.

Thrive is based on the belief that people want to lead meaningful lives. When our clients pay for their therapy through insurance and/or out of pocket, they are providing for the same kind of help to a fellow community member who cannot afford to pay.

In partnership with financial institutions, JFS enrolled a young father in the Individual Development Account (IDA) program. After only eight months of homeownership education and healthy savings habits, the young man was able to save enough money to receive matching funds and purchase his family’s first home.

In partnership with financial institutions, JFS enrolled a young father in the Individual Development Account (IDA) program. After only eight months of homeownership education and healthy savings habits, the young man was able to save enough money to receive matching funds and purchase his family’s first home.

In partnership with financial institutions, JFS enrolled a young father in the Individual Development Account (IDA) program. After only eight months of homeownership education and healthy savings habits, the young man was able to save enough money to receive matching funds and purchase his family’s first home.