

JFS GREENWICH

Impact Report 2025

Jewish Family Services of Greenwich


Greenwich to Norwich
19 locations
across Connecticut

Our Mission

Jewish Family Services of Greenwich (JFS) strengthens individuals and families across Fairfield and New London counties by delivering expert, accessible social services. Guided by the Jewish principles of Tikkun Olam, repairing the world, and Hachnassat Orchim, welcoming the stranger, we promote self-sufficiency, resilience, and well-being for people of all backgrounds and at every stage of life.

Through our pillar programs including the Bennett Center for Behavioral Health, Food Security, Immigration Legal Services, Immigration Support Services, Jewish Health and Healing, and Older Adult Services, we provide compassionate care and critical support to the most vulnerable in our community.





Our History

JFS was founded in 1983 when the Greenwich Jewish Federation (now UJA-JCC), identified a need for social services in the areas of counseling and caring for the elderly. In 1989, with seed-funding support from Federation, JFS began providing resettlement and social services to assist families from the former Soviet Union immigrating to our community.

In recent years, JFS has greatly expanded its service area and programming. Statewide services including Immigration Support and Immigration Legal Services and the inception of the Bennett Center for Behavioral Health. The expanded support to older adults and those managing food security has propelled JFS to a be leader in the non-profit sector in Connecticut, and national model for building quality accessible services to people of all backgrounds.

Letter from the CEO and Board President

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with pride at the transformational growth of our organization and the powerful impact of our work across Connecticut.

In 2025 alone, our team made more than 65,726 life-altering connections. From behavioral health care to food access, older adult services to Jewish Health and Healing, and immigration, legal, and wraparound support, each encounter was a moment of progress, expertise, and hope.

With cuts to critical food and health benefits, more vulnerable children, families, and older adults are finding themselves at risk. In this evolving landscape, the work of JFS is more urgent and more essential, than ever.



Every day, we strive to say “yes.” Yes, to remove barriers to care. Yes, to fill service gaps. Yes, to outcomes that strengthen lives and communities.

None of this would be possible without the generosity, commitment, and shared vision of our board, staff, volunteers, and supporters like you. Your partnership allows us to transform challenges into opportunities and uncertainty into lasting hope.



As we look ahead, we remain energized by a singular belief, that our work moves lives forward toward healing, security, and possibility. With immense gratitude and determination.

Rachel Kornfeld
Chief Executive Officer

Barbara Epstein
Board President

2025 brought powerful milestones

- Opened a full satellite site in Norwich, expanding access to professional care in an underserved region of Connecticut.
- Expanded behavioral health services into 14 public schools, community centers, and religious institutions.
- Deepened partnerships to support youth and families navigating systemic challenges, embedding our services in two local YMCA affiliates.
- Sustained trauma-informed care and legal services for immigrants and marginalized communities seeking safety and belonging.
- Advanced older adult services, emphasizing prevention, dignity, and reducing isolation.
- Filled gaps in food supports providing rescued meals into 4 public schools, religious institutions and more, ensuring access for the most vulnerable.

The executive team



Rachel Kornfeld
Chief Executive Officer



Melissa Knee
Chief Operating Officer



Geoffrey Anderson
Chief Program Officer



Beth Jabick
Chief Community Engagement Officer

Agency Leadership
JFS Board of Directors

Barbara Epstein- President
Dan Wichman -Treasurer
Meredith Curreri- Secretary
Pam Liflander- Chair

Board Members

Erica Buchsbaum
Beth Cutler
Lauren Popper Ellis
Josh Fields
Peter Furth
Zeena Hine
Sheila Kantor
Lisa Levine
Rob Marmor
Lisa Levine
Rob Marmor
Cheryl Probst
Debbie Rosmarin
Barbara Salop
Sandy Soule
Lauren Gilbert Wels

Incoming Board Members

Robin Berlin
Abby Meiselman
JoAnn Messina

JFS through the Years

1983

Founding Vision

A devoted group of community members from the Greenwich Jewish Federation (now UJA-JCC) launches JFS Greenwich to fill urgent gaps in community counseling, and family support.

1989

First Resettlement Wave

Community funding enables JFS to welcome and integrate families from the former Soviet Union fleeing persecution, laying the foundation for decades of immigration and resettlement work.

2000s

Older Adult Support

The Adoption Network allows JFS to make a meaningful impact providing compassion and care, while building families and changing lives. The agency continued to expand its specialized care for older adults. A cornerstone of this effort was the Supermarketing for Seniors program (active since 1986), which provided grocery shopping and companionship for homebound residents over age 60.



2010s

Expanding Wellness

The creation of the Jewish Health and Healing Center brings Bikur Cholim volunteers to Greenwich Hospital and area elder care facilities, minimizing the suffering of the sick. JFS innovates online support groups to address barriers to care and bring clients together for meaningful collaborative work. The decade exploded with a rapid expansion providing insurance-based behavioral health care.

2021

Humanitarian Response

During this period, the organization was building the foundation for its expanded role in refugee resettlement. Becoming an affiliate of HIAS and one of the 3 state funded agencies in Connecticut, JFS grew into a major program for refugees from Afghanistan, Ukraine, and other nations.

2024 > Present

Statewide Impact

The Bennett Center for Behavioral Health transforms mental health services at JFS into a trusted state-wide center for excellence. A new satellite office in Norwich expands services to Eastern Connecticut. JFS school-based, mental health model grows into Stamford, Norwalk, and surrounding districts. The Friendly Fridge Network provides nutritious, free take-home meals in 3 schools and a total of 5 locations. Legal immigration clinics support asylum seekers and families from more than 40 countries.

JFS Today

JFS of Greenwich is a statewide leader in integrated social services, combining clinical excellence, trauma-informed care, and deep community partnerships. Every day, JFS works to ensure that every neighbor, regardless of faith, income, or country of origin, has the support, stability, and opportunity needed to thrive.



JFS GREENWICH | BENNETT CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Addressing Mental Health for All Ages, Stages, and Backgrounds

The Bennett Center for Behavioral Health provides high-quality, accessible mental health care for individuals and families across Connecticut. Rooted in compassion and clinical excellence, our team delivers culturally responsive, evidence-based therapy to all clients, offered both in person and via Telehealth.

This depth of expertise allows us to offer individual counseling, family therapy, support groups, psychiatric evaluations, therapeutic medication management, and school-based interventions that brings clinical care directly into learning communities.

We are proud to be recognized as a premier training site for top universities in Connecticut and New York, helping shape the next generation of mental health professionals, while expanding access to compassionate, research-informed person-centered care.

- 35 licensed clinicians
- 3 psychiatric nurse practitioners
- 1 psychiatrist
- 5 graduate level clinical interns

- 15,000+ therapy sessions conducted
- 600 active student clients
- 14 public schools receiving behavioral-health services
- 20 total satellite locations

Expanding Mental Health Care in Public Schools and Community Centers

Amid the growing youth mental-health crisis, where an estimated 38% of students nationwide lack access to needed services, JFS is closing the gap by meeting young people where help is most accessible: at school through partnerships with Greenwich, Stamford, and Norwalk Public Schools.

JFS is now embedded in the Greenwich YMCA, New Canaan YMCA, Building One Community, and Boys and Girls Club of Stamford offering community members with a range of support services to help families live better.



Access to Nutritious Food

We believe that access to nutritious food is a fundamental building block of well-being. Through a network of innovative partnerships and targeted outreach, our food security programs provide essential support to hundreds of families across Fairfield County.

From weekly food deliveries to school-based meal distribution, we work to ensure that children and families facing economic hardship have reliable access to healthy, sustainable meals throughout the year.

The weekly Mobile Pantry, operated by Meals on Main St. in collaboration with JFS, delivers supplemental groceries, including fresh produce, dairy, and nutritious prepared meals to community members. In conjunction with Food Rescue, the Friendly Fridge Network, Meals on Main St., and the Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County, we distribute surplus flash-frozen, ready-to-eat meals in schools throughout Fairfield County for over 450 students to have access to healthy food outside school hours.

Our Impact This Year

- 28,000+ meals provided through the mobile pantry
- 4,000+ meals distributed at Stamford Public Schools and local churches

Immigration Support Services. Building Strong, Resilient Families.

JFS provides comprehensive, wraparound support to refugees and immigrants from around the world, helping individuals and families build safe, self-sufficient lives in the United States. Our nationally recognized, trauma-informed approach ensures that every newcomer receives holistic, person-centered care, case management, housing support, education access, community integration, and ongoing advocacy. JFS also offers specialized programs for children and youth, including mentorship, extracurricular activities, academic support, and summer enrichment. These programs help young people adjust to life in their new communities, develop confidence, and create meaningful connections that foster long-term success.

- 13,000+ immigration support services
- 1,100+ legal consultations held

Immigration Legal Services. Navigating Legal Pathways to Stability.

JFS provides trusted, high-quality Immigration Legal Services to low-income individuals and families across Fairfield and New London counties. Our experienced team offers compassionate and reliable legal support at little or no cost, ensuring that financial hardship never prevents access to critical immigration assistance. From document preparation to case advocacy, our legal team supports every step of the journey, empowering clients to navigate complex systems with confidence.

For those pursuing U.S. citizenship, we offer comprehensive naturalization support, including eligibility assessments, application assistance, fee-waiver requests, and individualized interview preparation.



Supporting Older Adults with Dignity

JFS is committed to helping older adults and individuals with disabilities to live independently, safely, and with dignity. Our longest-running initiative, Supermarketing for Seniors, pairs homebound seniors with dedicated volunteers who deliver groceries and provide vital social interaction and informal wellness check-ins. For many clients, these visits serve as a lifeline that enables them to remain in their homes longer.

In 2024, we launched Compassionate Companions, matching older adults and individuals with disabilities with trained volunteers to accompany them to non-emergency medical appointments with transportation by Uber. Volunteers offer emotional support, conversation, and a reassuring presence throughout the visit.

1,600+ shopping trips and chaperoned non-emergency medical appointment visits with trained JFS volunteers





Voices of Impact

When we fled the war in Ukraine, I thought we were finally safe, but the reality was harsh. We were living in crowded conditions, our benefits were withheld, and Mark*, my 8-year-old son, became so traumatized he stopped speaking. I was terrified. Then JFS stepped in. They found us stable housing, connected Mark with a therapist, helped me find a job, and even made sure we had fresh food every week. Today, he is laughing, drawing cartoons, and talking again. We finally feel like we belong.

— Olena (Immigration Support Services)

After my son's lengthy illness, the sudden loss of my brother, and my father's heart attack, I had nowhere else to turn. The JFS therapist helped me heal, supported my marriage, and gave my family the strength to move forward. JFS did not just help me survive, they helped me find joy again.

—Fiona, Behavioral Health client

Voices of Impact

After my husband passed, I felt invisible. At 87, with limited mobility and no family nearby, the days were long and lonely. The JFS volunteers brought groceries, stayed to chat, and my therapist helped me work through my grief.

— Sarah, Older Adult Services client
*Name changed to protect client privacy

I was overwhelmed and heartbroken—my 90-year-old mother is battling dementia. We had to bring her here from Israel, where she had been living since, she was 6 years old. We turned to JFS Immigration Legal Services for help, and they stepped in and truly became family. They handled everything her citizenship application, legal filings, transportation, all at no cost to us. Their compassion, expertise, and dedication made it possible for my mother to stay here safely, with the people who love her. Because of JFS, we're together.

—Dalia, daughter of Simcha





Jewish Health and Healing Center

- 2,600+ hospital visits provided
- 700 participants in Jewish Health & Healing programs

Comforting the Sick

The Jewish Health and Healing Center (JHHC) supports spiritual, cultural, and emotional wellness in the Jewish community through educational and support programs. Our Bikur Cholim initiative provides bedside visits and spiritual care to Jewish patients at Greenwich Hospital by trained volunteers, offering comfort, connection, and compassionate presence. Patients have access to live-streamed Shabbat services from the hospital chapel extending this sense of community beyond the hospital walls.

Rabbi MJ Newman, our Scholar in Residence, offers thought-provoking programs exploring Jewish values, spiritual well-being, and intergenerational connection in addition to interfaith educational workshops on mental and physical health.






Volunteer Program

5,900+ volunteer hours

200+ volunteers over the past year

Our volunteers are vital to our mission. Their time, energy, and hearts strengthen everything we do. Through their skills, mentorship, compassion, and community connections, they help us extend our reach and deepen our impact across all program areas.

> "A standout moment for me was when one of my students was able to secure a job with her new and improved English skills. Seeing her confidence grow over time was incredibly rewarding, it reminded me why this work matters."
>
> —Immigration Support Services Volunteer

> "One of the patients I visited was virtually immobile, so I tried to time my visits around lunch to assist her with eating. It was heartbreaking, but I was grateful to be there for her. It's those small meaningful moments that stay with you"
>
> —Bikur Cholim Volunteer

> "Over five years of shopping for Otto, we've become like family. He trusts me, and I love knowing that something as simple as groceries and the occasional barbecue burger brightens his day. JFS volunteers truly help make life better."
>
> —Older Adult Services Volunteer

Community Partners

JFS collaborates with a wide network of partners across sectors to support individuals and families in need. These relationships strengthen our ability to respond with compassion, expertise, and care. Together, we maximize our resources for a greater impact on those we serve.

- Academy for Human Services Training Program
- All Our Kin
- Always Home
- American Job Center
- American Property Group
- Archangels Greek Orthodox Church
- Assured Quality Homecare
- At Home of Greenwich
- Bob's Furniture
- Boys & Girls Club of New Canaan
- Boys & Girls Club of Stamford
- Brunswick School
- Building One Community
- Burroughs Center
- Castle Church
- Catholic Charities
- Catholic Charities | Diocese of Norwich
- Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT
- Chelsea Piers
- Church of Jesus Christ of the Last Season
- Church of the Latter-Day Saints
- City of Norwalk Community Hub
- City of Norwich
- Community Foundation of Eastern CT
- Community Health Centers
- Connecticut Worker Center
- CT Dental Health Partnership / Husky
- CT Department of Labor
- CIRI
- CT LEAD
- CT Pardon Team
- CT Small Business Development Center
- CT State College Norwalk
- CT State Comm College Three Rivers
- CT Students for a Dream
- CT Voices for Children
- Cradle to Career
- DAE Tech Program
- Domus Kids
- Economic Development, City of Stamford
- Edgewood Assisted Living
- Engage Staffing
- Family Centers
- Fairfield University Egan School
- Feed the Sheep Food Pantry at Eglise Evangelique Psaumes 23 Church
- Ferguson Library
- Filling in the Blanks
- First County Bank
- First Haitian Baptist Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- FirstLight Home Care
- Food Rescue
- French Speaking Bethany Free Methodist Church
- Friendly Fridge Network
- Generations Family Health Center
- Global City Norwich
- Goodwill Industries, Inc.
- Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce
- Greeneville Neighborhood Committee
- Greenwich Academy
- Greenwich Audubon Center
- Greenwich Country Day School
- Greenwich Department of Human Services
- Greenwich Public Schools
- Greenwich Reform Synagogue
- Greenwich United Way
- Haitian Community Center of Greater Norwich
- Hartford Healthcare Free Bed Funds
- HIAS
- Hill House
- Horizons at Brunswick
- Husky for Immigrants
- ICON International Inc.
- Intempo
- Israel Cancer Research Fund
- Jewish Federation of Eastern CT
- Junior League of Greenwich
- King School
- King Street Rehab

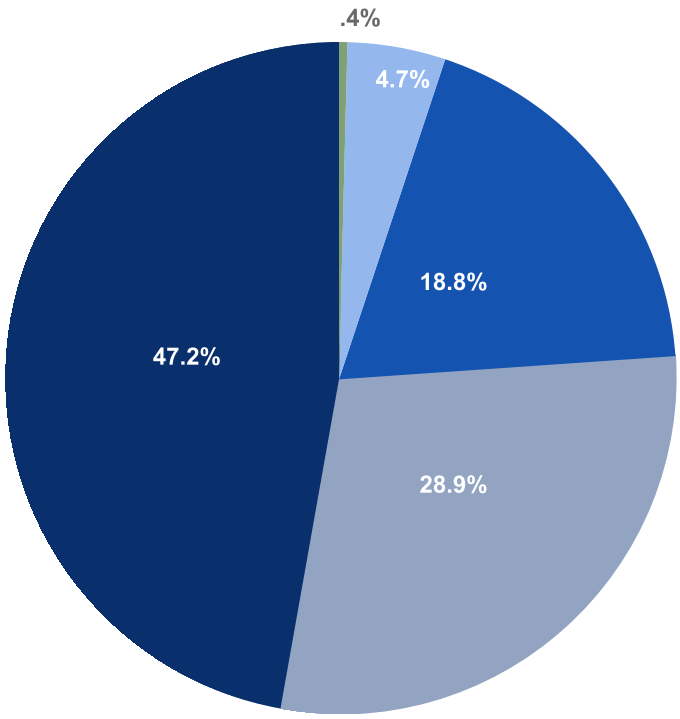
- Literacy Volunteers
- M&T Bank
- Madonna Place
- Maria's Treasures
- Marriott Hotel and Spa Stamford
- Meals on Main St.
- Meals on Wheels
- Mohegan Commons
- Mothers for Others
- Near & Far Aid
- Neighbor to Neighbor
- Network for Jewish Human Service Agencies
- North Greenwich Congregational Church
- Northwell Health
- Norwalk Inn
- Norwalk Public Schools
- Norwich Community Development Corp.
- Norwich Public Schools
- Norwich Public Utilities
- Otis Library
- Pathways to Employment Growth (PEG)
- Person to Person
- Reliance Health
- River House
- Rose City Learning Center
- Rose City Senior Center
- Round Hill Community Church
- Safe Futures
- Senior Resources on Aging
- Shiloh’s Food Pantry
- Silver Source
- Southeastern Regional Action Council
- St Vincent DePaul Place
- St. Basil's Ukrainian Catholic Seminary
- St. Catherine of Siena Church
- St. Joseph's Parenting Center
- St. Luke's School
- Stamford Police Dept. Behavioral Health Unit
- Stamford Public Schools
- Stamford Senior Center
- Stanwich Church
- State of Connecticut
- Temple Israel
- Temple Sholom
- Temple Sinai
- Thames River Family Program
- The Day
- The Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County
- The Wallace Center
- Town of Greenwich
- TVCCA
- UJA-JCC Greenwich
- Uncas Health District
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Norwich
- United Community & Family Services (UCFS)
- United Way Coastal & Western Connecticut
- United Way Mobile Food Pantry & Health Hubs
- United Way of Southeastern Connecticut
- VITA Network
- WIC Norwich Office
- Women's Mentoring Network
- YMCA of Greenwich
- YWCA of Greenwich
- YMCA of New Canaan

Our apologies to anyone who was inadvertently left off the list.

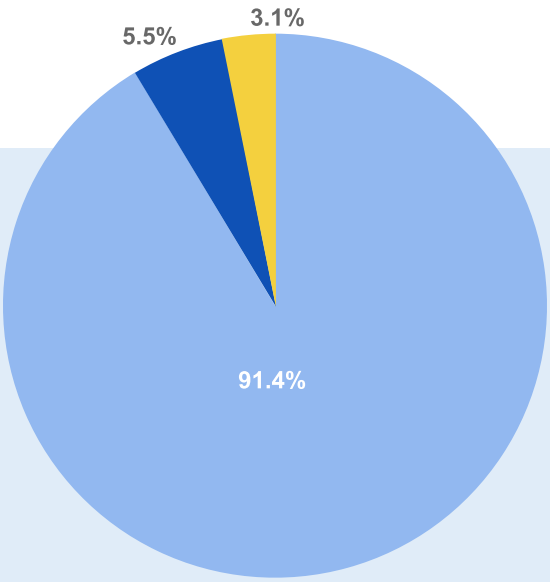
Financials

Revenue and other support

Revenue Source	Amount
Federal Grants	$3,222,330
Contributions & Special Events	$1,286,349
Counseling Fees	$1,282,390
State Grants	$1,001,801
Investment Income	$28,009
Total Revenue	**$6,820,879**



Federal Grants	47.2%
Contributions & Special Events	28.9%
Counseling Fees	18.8%
State Grants	4.7%
Investment Income	.4%



Program Services	91.4%
Management & General	5.5%
Fundraising & Development	3.1%

Expenses

Expense Catagory	2025 Amount
Program Services	$5,593,057
Management & General	$334,035
Fundraising & Development	$190,248
Total Expenses	**$6,117,340**


ACRYLIC
MIKE

Greenwich
67 Holly Hill Lane
Greenwich, CT 06830

203-622-1881

Norwich
257 Main Street
Norwich, CT 06380

@jfs_greenwich

Please visit our website:
jfsgreenwich.org