









Our thriving community

The Jewish Community Project Annual Report 2022-2023



Dear Friends,

Throughout this past year, even in these difficult weeks and months, JCP has been the bright light that brings us together and gives us hope for the future. I feel honored to have witnessed the continued growth and transformation of our community over the past year. We have increased our membership, grown our schools, and offered even more programs and events. Even in this challenging time for the Jewish people, JCP is on the rise, and we have much to celebrate.

It is a true blessing to live meaningful Jewish lives alongside one another. People of all ages—children in our Early Childhood Center and Hebrew School Project, as well as adults and grandparents in our community—study our sacred wisdom and traditions and experience the joy and beauty of Jewish culture. We sing together at Friday Evening Services, Tot Shabbat, and holiday celebrations, and witness the excitement of kids and adults alike as they share the beautiful words of our prayers. We comfort each other through difficult times, and we celebrate together at baby namings, B'nai Mitzvah ceremonies, and weddings. Each and every day, I am so proud to serve JCP and be part of the magic. We are truly lucky to have this special Jewish community, a welcoming environment where we can learn, grow, and flourish together.

I hope to see you soon at our many services, classes and events: Tot Shabbat, Babies & Blessings, Friday Evening Services, the upcoming Purim Carnival, and so many more. And I hope you find joy, belonging, and community every time you come to JCP.

Sincerely,



Deena Silverstone Rabbi and Director of Jewish Life

Our Growing Community

Community members drive JCP's vibrancy.

137	family units and individuals who are members of JCP, voicing their commitment to our community and our success in downtown Manhattan.
200 +	students enrolled in the Hebrew School Project to explore Judaism through art, music, storytelling, and history, to hone their Hebrew skills, and to be- come b'nai mitzvah.
81	learners in our Early Childhood Center preschool and Bridge program, giving our youngest community members a robust Jewish education in a warm and nurturing environment.
56	people enrolled in adult educational opportunities with Rabbi Deena and Rabbi Sam, including our Foundations of Judaism class and Grandparent Reading Group.
440 +	people attended JCP's High Holy Days 2023/5784 season, joining the community for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services, Youth Experiences, the Family Picnic & Tashlich, Tot Services, Adult Learning, and more.
100 +	events, spiritual services, holiday celebrations, and community gatherings including Shabbat in the Hamptons, the Purim Carnival, the Women's Seder, the Welcome Back Cocktail Party, monthly Tot Shabbats, Sing with Suzi concerts, and more.



Creating an Impact

The success of JCP's programs and services comes from your support of:

The Annual Campaign

As a nonprofit organization, JCP relies on your generous contributions to offer enriching experiences, excellent clergy and educators, a robust and talented professional staff, and innovative programming for all ages. Your donations to the community enable all that JCP offers.

The Annual Benefit

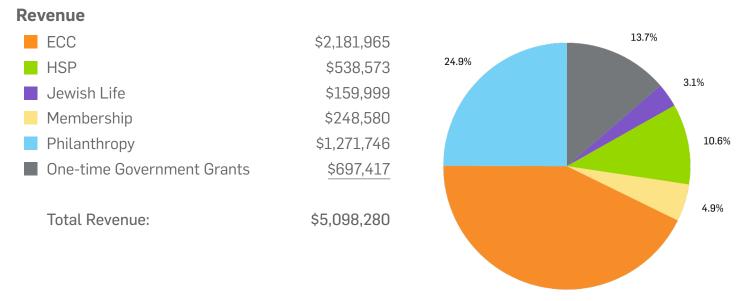
Every spring, JCP's Annual Benefit celebrates JCP and our incredible community. The benefit is our single largest fundraiser of the year, providing vital support for our programming and general infrastructure.

JCP's Giving Tree

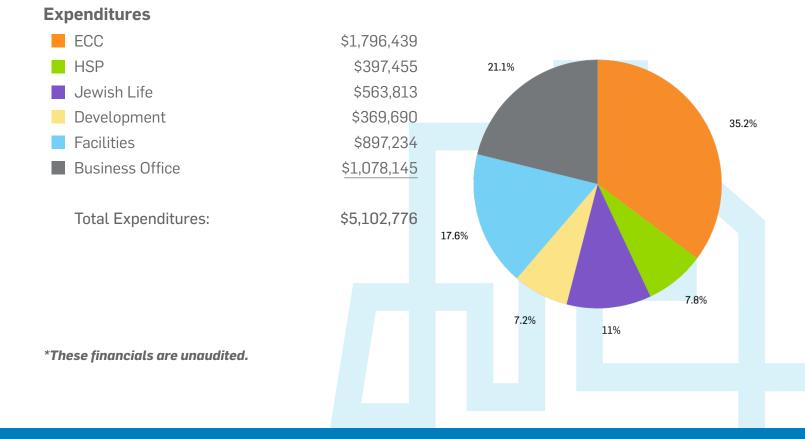
Launched this past year at our Annual Benefit, the Giving Tree supports JCP's preschool, Hebrew school, and community with underwriting opportunities for specific events and initiatives. Community members are able to visualize where their donations are going, and support events and educational services that make JCP so special.

A Year of Giving

JCP's Financial Summary* from the 2022-2023 fiscal year:



42.8%





Community Testimonials

Community members make the difference at JCP with their dedication and support.

JCP is very special to our family because it provides its members and us a unique way to connect spiritually. JCP is not a one-size-fits-all model as it cherishes each individual within the community. JCP is where our kids have been educated about Judaism and is the place where our family has made life-long friends. We love JCP!

— Rachel & Drew Katz

One of the great joys in our lives has been joining the Jewish Community Project. JCP has an energy and a focus which we find invigorating. JCP instills in us a desire to learn more about our faith. Its emphasis on educating young people about the richness and traditions of Judaism is inspiring and enervating. As seniors, we are gladened with the knowledge that the tenets and beliefs of Judaism are being shared with the younger generations and passed on through the ages. We are also heartened by the time and dedication given by individuals who have taken up leadership roles within JCP. The commitment we have seen is genuine and heartwarming. JCP has been an inspiration to us as senior citizen Jews, and we look forward to many years of enjoying this wonderful congregation.

— Terry & Matthew Breitenbach

We were immediately drawn to JCP's welcoming community and exceptional leadership during preschool evaluations. It would've been difficult to envision then how central JCP would become to many of our family's most joyous moments over the next five years of ECC, HSP, and countless cultural events. Our ongoing support reflects the immense gratitude we feel for what JCP has provided our family and the desire to see it thrive as a destination for anyone looking to experience a similar sense of connection.

– Pamela & Shams Orr-Hruska



Dear Friends,

This has been a year of incredible growth at JCP. We are as strong and connected a community as at any time in our twenty year history. Membership is at a record high. Our classrooms at every level are bustling and still expanding. Our beautiful and moving High Holy Day services filled the very large event space on Wall Street. And our annual benefit was again a tremendous success.

But the big story is told by more than the numbers. JCP is the center of an increasingly vibrant Jewish presence in downtown Manhattan. Our community service activities, social events, and intensified relationship with Israel following the horrendous October 7 terrorist attack by Hamas all demonstrate that JCP provides what our community seeks: connectivity and commitment to Jewish continuity and culture. We, the Jewish people, need a strong Israel, and Israel needs a strong American Jewish community. JCP is a pillar of that strong community in Lower Manhattan.

We have begun a process to provide a renewed vision for JCP's future and to develop the resources necessary to ensure both our financial stability and expanded presence for the years and decades ahead. The Annual Report shows the steps we've already taken to strengthen and sustain our own local Jewish community. Join us now as we launch our Bridge to the Future and ensure Jewish continuity for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Joel Levy Executive Director



Stacy Pollack Board President

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President

Stacy Pollack

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Shari Coats Jared Friedberg Kerry Golden Shara Levy Jeffrey Ross Rachel Ziff**

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> The Jewish Community Project (JCP) Downtown is a vibrant center for Jewish Life in Lower Manhattan. JCP is open to all who seek a welcoming, pluralistic community rooted in the Jewish values of learning, spirituality, and loving-kindness. JCP is *Jewish community reimagined*.

*Past President

- **ECC Parents' Association Co-President
- ***ECC Parents' Association Vice President
- ****Hebrew School Parent Organization President

Our community is strengthened by every gift to JCP. These donors made it possible for JCP to raise approximately \$1.5 million through philanthropy and membership in the 2022-2023 fiscal year*.

Visionaries \$50,000+

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Guardians \$25,000-49,999

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*The 2022-2023 fiscal year ran from July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

<u>Thank You</u>

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A special thank you to the below families for contributing specifically to JCP's Safety, Security, and Maintenance fund*.

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Thank you for your generosity and support!

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> *These gifts were made during the 2022-2023 fiscal year, which ran from July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.























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