



# 2017 Annual Report

## A Center Of Communities

### Where All Are Welcome



# Dear Members,

The fiscal year ending March 31, 2017 ended with a bang, not a whimper. While there will be many positive events that are worthy of remembering, the events of February and March involving bomb threats will dominate the year's history. The admirable level of professionalism exhibited by our staff and the patience demonstrated by our members stand out as positive experiences in dealing with the difficult situation that started on President's Day, 2017. Training sessions that were held prior to the receiving of the malicious phone calls provided guidance that allowed us to empty our buildings in less than four minutes. Cooperation received from the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, New York State Police, Buffalo Police Department and the Town of Amherst Police enabled us to quickly secure shelter for our members, search both buildings and re-open about an hour later. Subsequent weeks witnessed hundreds of community members from many faiths who expressed solidarity with the JCC Community and the Jewish Community in the forms of rallies, letters, contributions and well-wishes. Gratitude, a "middah" or attribute taught in Jewish sources became the norm for everyone associated with the JCC. Debriefing sessions followed the initial weeks and we strove to adopt the measures suggested at a New York City based meeting with the governor, JCC Association teleconferences and an Executive Leadership session, meetings with local and state police and the departments of the FBI and Homeland Security. While the calls turned out to be sad hoaxes, our strengths and weaknesses related to security were brought to light and strengthened.

On a more positive note, membership enrollment increased over the previous year by 2.5%, enrollment in our early childhood programs increased dramatically in the suburbs while staying at a maximum level downtown. Enrollment at Camp Centerland increased slightly while our financial results remained relatively unchanged at near break-even on an operating basis.

Over the next five to ten years we expect to face a variety of challenges to our business model. As the Jewish community in Western New York continues to age and shrink we expect our traditional donor base to shrink. Minimum wage increases, which put pressure on all income levels and every department, will continue at a rate approaching 8% per year for the next few years. In 2017 alone this will amount to more than \$140,000. This will require us to continue reaching out to the entire JCC community, regardless of religious affiliation, for assistance in keeping our buildings and programs in state-of-the-art condition. We will need to convey the message that fitness, aquatics, camping, senior programming, recreation, cultural arts and more are programs that serve all our members and deserve all of our support. As the most reasonably-priced JCC in North America, support of our members who are able to do so will become increasingly important. Our biggest benefactors rightfully expect partners of all means in their generous endeavors. Contributions can be made online to our "All-for-One Campaign" throughout the year. Endowments and bequests can be arranged through the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies or directly with the JCC by calling Rick Zakalik, Executive Director at 204-2071. Peter Fleischmann, at the Foundation, can assist with plans that

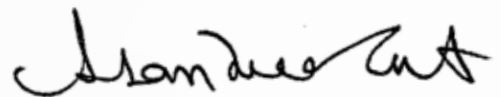
provide tax benefits and current income to donors as well as planned giving.

As always, we do not take anyone's decision to maintain membership at the JCC for granted. Our mission is served by providing our best levels of service to all of our members every single day. We are grateful for positive feedback as well as constructive criticism that is accompanied by appropriate and achievable suggestions for solutions. Please feel free to contact us at any time at the numbers or emails below.

Respectfully,



**Richard Zakalik**  
**Executive Director**



**Susan Freed-Oestreicher**  
**President**  
[sfreed-oestreicher@mtb.com](mailto:sfreed-oestreicher@mtb.com)







# Vision & Mission

The vision of your JCC, as enunciated decades ago by our then empowered Board of Trustees, is that we engage in "building communities and enriching lives". Our mission is stated as: "The mission of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc. ("JCC") is to build and strengthen the Jewish and Western New York communities by providing recreational, educational, cultural and social programs and services that are consistent with Jewish values". This vision and mission continues to be fulfilled on a daily basis at two buildings and a camp through the exemplary work performed by more than 300 regular staff members, more than 50 camp staff and dozens of volunteers every month of the year.

The fulfillment of our mission takes place through the good work of every department within the JCC. We fulfill the "mitzvah" or commanded good work that is prescribed for us when we teach children with Autism to swim. It is present when we teach very young children skills that help them succeed in school. Jewish knowledge is supplemented by exposure to Shabbat, Jewish holidays, traditions and cultural arts in our own theater. Mitzvot happen when seniors socialize, campers learn about nature, sports and Judaism, families are enriched through recreation and culture. Kosher meals are provided at the only source for strict dietary rule observance in Western New York outside the home. Café Europa provides the opportunity for Holocaust survivors to meet monthly in the Nathan Benderson Community Boardroom

and enjoy a nutritious and delicious lunch and presentation speaker or entertainer. This mission-based program, co-sponsored with the Holocaust Research Center, is made possible through a generous grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc. Many of our members receive needs-based assistance for every aspect of our agency.

Our scholarship committee meets weekly and carefully examines documents which verify ability to pay for membership, childcare and camp. While our ability to provide scholarships is limited, there are many additional families who could be served if we earned more from a larger endowment. In an effort to increase our mission-driven efforts we will be seeking additional endowments this coming year.

## Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

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 Ronald Benderson, Vice President  
 Dale Kadish, Vice President  
 Richard Steinberg, Vice President  
 Rion Kweller, Secretary  
 Joseph Lipsitz, Treasurer

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Brett Benderson	Irwin Gelman
David Bunis	Leslie Greenbaum
Mark Criden	Alon Kupferman
Janet Desmon	Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein
Eric Feldstein	Amy Marks-Shaevel

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Richard Ament, M.D.*	Harold Kirschenbaum*
Barry Appelbaum	Dr. Kevin Kulick
Robert Berghash	Risé Kulick
Jerome Brock*	Stuart G. Lerman
Debra Chernoff	Joel N. Lippman*
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Raymond Fink	Ethel Roblin Melzer
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Leonard Katz, M.D	Bruce Wisbaum
William Kaufman*	

*\*Deceased*



# *Progress Related to our Strategic Plan*

As discussed in last year's Annual Report, a great deal of progress has been made in the implementation of our Strategic Plan. The remaining items, for which work began last year, include the development of out-of-season rentals for most of our facilities and fundraising. Our Irving M. Shuman Campgrounds hold the most potential for revenue development. Work done by Jason Palevsky has secured a significant number of bookings for our ropes and climbing facilities, our amphitheater, playing fields and pavilions. These facilities, along with our pools, gym, theatre and community spaces are available for rental for birthday parties, showers, small parties and more. We encourage our members to recommend our

facilities to friends and family who will find us easy to work with and anxious to please. A significant challenge continues to be our poor performance relative to all other JCCs in the area of fundraising and development. As mentioned elsewhere, plans are in place for a ramping-up of our efforts in coordination with the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies and the Jewish Federation. We will be sharing the message that just as you don't need to be Jewish to belong to the JCC, you don't need to be Jewish to be an appreciated donor.

While we thought we would be under construction at this time at the Holland Family Building, plans were modified to expand the project. We will be adding

heightened security infrastructure in the form of a second elevator which will separate the public from the early childhood area, moving the indoor playground to a new addition on the back terrace, enlarging the lobby and renovating all areas on the lower level that weren't addressed in recent renovations. The wait will have been worth it as the building takes on a new and improved look and layout. Work is scheduled to commence in early July.

## *Marketing and Membership*

Improving on what the Membership and Marketing Task Force suggested last year, we have put more financial resources towards SEO by purchasing ads through Google and continued with our successes by boosting more ads on Facebook. We are working towards a new, more robust website that can better handle the analytics we need to make the most cost-effective decisions towards social media and get a better feel for how our members use our website. With our limited budget, we continue to find new ways to stretch our dollars. One of them is by working closely with other non-profits to share resources by bartering for ads and services. We are always looking to find new and innovative ideas for how to share the JCC with the world.

Our membership numbers have remained steady over the past year. Two exciting changes have occurred in this fiscal year. The first change is that we no longer require an annual commitment. These month to month memberships have been well received. Another exciting change in the Membership Department has been the addition of being able to become a member on-line through our website. Once people join, they can set up payments just by following a few simple steps. Upon completion, the new member comes in to either location to receive an access card and can begin using our facilities immediately. This has been well received and we have gained over 70+ memberships on-line so far!







## Fitness & Aquatics

The Aquatics department continues to successfully serve the community with a variety of programs including swim lessons, swim team, group fitness, birthday parties, American Red Cross Lifeguard and CPR/AED training, open swim, and lap swim. Children from across Western New York look forward to diving in the pool each season in Au-Some Swimmers, a swim program for children diagnosed with autism. This year, Au-Some Swimmers is supported financially by the Erie County Youth Bureau (\$7,500) and Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism (\$4,000). During the summer, at the Holland Family Building, we provide space for children from the City Mission to swim. Eric Poniatowski gave a well-received presentation at the JCCA Conference in Orlando to encourage other JCC professionals to offer services for individuals with disabilities.

A true feeling of community exists in this rapidly growing environment with its loyal membership.

More than 130 fitness classes were offered every week to people aged 3 to 103. New programs, introduced by our dedicated leaders, included Tabata (a high intensity workout) and expanded offerings of the existing fitness services. Members of all ages, levels and competencies are encouraged to participate in these classes. Our highly trained professionals are available for individual, small-group and large-group instruction.

Your health and wellness are central to our mission and we look forward to your enjoyment of these programs. The Jewish Community Center has always been a front-runner in innovative health and wellness initiatives. It is important to address the changing needs of the community while identifying collaborative projects. This coming year we will be expanding our diabetes prevention and management programs. In addition, specialized programs and services for our veterans will be a priority. These programs will require outside

funding sources to assist in development and implementation. We will be looking for organizations and donors to help support these endeavors.

In early calendar year 2017 we began to replace fitness equipment at both buildings with the purchase of 22 new, state-of-the-art treadmills. Over the next few years most of our motorized equipment will have been replaced at a cost exceeding \$500,000.



## Beyond Exercise

Your JCC experienced more than 400,000 individual visits over the last twelve months. Members and guests came to our facilities for cultural arts events such as concerts, plays, lectures, holiday celebrations and more. Aches and pains, poor balance, difficult range-of-motion and stress were dealt with by trained practitioners including a physical therapist, massage therapist, personal trainers, class instructors and others. Senior adults and children alike came for instruction in art and music. Our choir provided concerts both in and outside of

our facilities. Hundreds of parents entered our buildings every day to pick up children from both our early childhood education programs and our Kids' Place after-school programs. Dozens of community members dined at our outstanding café and enjoyed V'ad-supervised kosher food. In the summer roughly 400 children attended Western New York's premier day camp – Camp Centerland.



JCC Buffalo



# Early Childhood Education

The Early Childhood Center at the Holland Family Building has 187 children in 11 classrooms. Waiting lists exist for all age groups for September 2017. In January 2016, we were the first program in the county to open a continuity-of-care classroom in which the families have agreed to keep the children and teachers together until the children are old enough to attend preschool fall of 2018.

We are excited about the planned expansion and renovations starting soon at the Holland Family Building. Our new indoor playground will be full of natural light. Three additional classrooms for infants and toddlers will offer some relief for young families moving into the city. The addition of another elevator will improve security for our children. Until renovations are complete and new classrooms open, our enrollment downtown will remain stable.

What makes us stand out in our community? Below is a list of some of our partnerships and collaborations in the early childhood department:

- Aspire of Western New York provides a fully integrated program for children with special needs in our preschool classes at both buildings. Aspire has been our partner at the Holland Family Building for 24 years and is completing the 2nd year at the Benderson Family Building.



- The Foster Grandparents Association has provided volunteers downtown for 17 years. Some of our JCC members volunteer too.

- We have been a community based site for Universal Pre-K through the Buffalo Public Schools since 2009.

- This will be our 14th year as a workplace participating in the SEE program, a place for young adults with visual disabilities through the Olmsted Center for Sight join us for a summer activity.

- Each spring graduating seniors from City Honors School volunteer in our classrooms after they have completed their AP or IB exams.

- Children and senior adults share activities throughout the year at the Olmsted Center for Sight downtown, and Weinberg Campus in Getzville.

- We are in the second year of participating in the PEERS Project with Dr. Jamie Ostrov at UB. The PEERS Project is conducting research on social-emotional development in pre-school children.

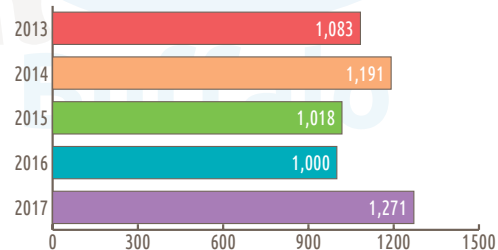
- The children participate in our community through many field trips and hosting special visitors.

At the Benderson Family Building we are in a period of growth in the Early Childhood Center, with current enrollment at 111 children in 7 classrooms. There are 104 children coming this summer compared to 87 last year, and 66 in 2015. Enrollment has been steadily rising since January 2016 and we are looking at almost full classes already registered for September 2017. NAEYC accreditation was achieved just over a year ago, and our Benderson program is now participating in Quality Stars NY as well. This year, we introduced optional new enrichment classes such as Karate, yoga, cooking, and art.

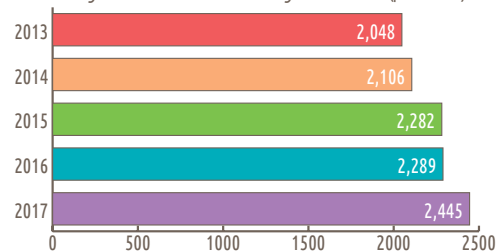
At the Benderson Family Building, we are adding a classroom in the fall to accommodate the needs of our families. We are increasing capacity for infants, doubling the number of babies we can care for. There is an observable trend of those who require care for the full day. Going forward, it will be necessary to dedicate space in other parts of the building for Kids Place as Early Childhood will require more classroom space in the afternoon.

Revenue from the Early Childhood programs at both buildings provided roughly one-third of the agency's revenue in the past fiscal year. Increasing wage demands driven by the rapid rise in the minimum wage which began last year will place stress on our ability to continue to maintain pricing at current levels.

Early Childhood Child Days Benderson (per month)



Early Childhood Child Days Holland (per month)







# Camp Centerland

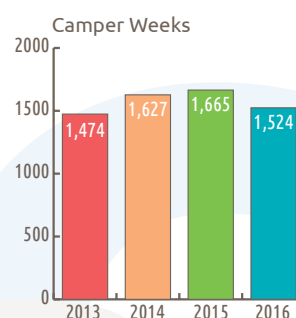
Camp Centerland held its fourth season of summer programming at its Getzville location this year. Two Israeli *shlichim* (emissaries) joined roughly 50 American counselors and shared cultural, musical and artistic material with more than 400 campers. During the school year, vacation camps run by camp staff were attended by dozens of children who increased their connection to summer camp. Enrollment decreased slightly during the summer last year, and is still below optimal levels. Many other JCC camps generally reported lower enrollment numbers.

A large obstacle that faces many families is the affordability of camp. At roughly

\$300 per week and nine weeks of camp, affordability becomes an issue, especially for multiple-child families. Requests for camp scholarships continue to grow while our ability to provide these scholarships is static, at-best. It will become increasingly imperative for us to develop an endowment for the provision of these scholarships if camp is to generate a responsible surplus and avoid deficits. We will continue to work with the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies towards that goal.

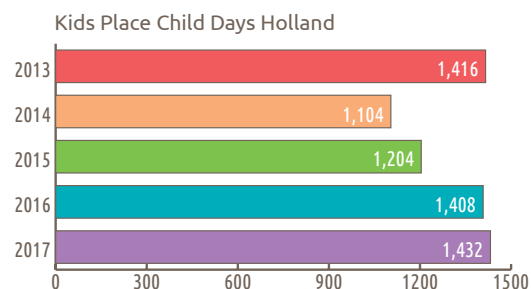
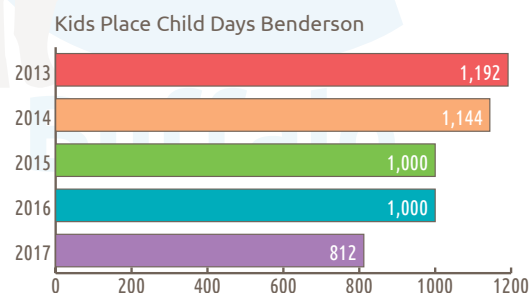
On a positive note, we have successfully completed the required match for funds that have paid for the infrastructure created that totaled more than \$3 million.

Assuming growth of camper weeks and the affordability of new structures for camp, we will embark upon additional plans to ensure that we remain the premier choice for families who desire the best possible summer experience for their children.



## Kids Place After School

Christine Dusher, Kid's Place After-School Director and Camp Centerland Assistant Director reports that: "The Kids Place Afterschool program at the Holland Building has experienced another year of increased enrollment, with 10 children on a waiting list at the end of the fiscal year hoping for additional space." As we move forward with the plans for new classroom space, we are reimagining our programming in order to fill the new space to its highest capacity and continue to serve our participants with outstanding enrichment activities. While program numbers at the Benderson Building Kids Place have dropped this year, we are confident that we will see growth under the new leadership of Program Director Shea Akers. With a renewed focus on dynamic and engaging programs, Kids Place is poised to welcome new and returning JCC families.







## Cultural Arts

The vision of the JCC's Cultural Arts Department is to provide high quality programming as seen through the Jewish lens to a variety of audiences. We strive to be recognized for high quality theatre, film festivals, and author and artist events. We are a resource for development of professional and emerging playwrights, actors, directors, designers, authors, musicians, filmmakers and artists.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of M&T Bank, the Louis S. and Molly B. Wolk Foundation (acquired with the help of Michael Berger), the Cullen Foundation, the County of Erie, the Town of Amherst, the New York State of Opportunity Council on the Arts, the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, the Jewish Federation and hundreds of individual community donors and sponsors, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo has provided the community with a range of cultural arts programs that provide life enrichment, socialization, education and entertainment. In its 14th bar/bat mitzvah season, the Jewish Repertory Theatre attracted much media and audience attention by uniquely presenting a trio of plays by Pulitzer-prize nominated Amy Herzog, who visited Buffalo for a playwright-in-residence day which included leading a script analysis class at Buffalo State College, meeting with the

Dramatists Guild of WNY, and attending the opening night of 4000 Miles, including joining artistic director Saul Elkin and actors on stage for an audience talkback.

Community collaborations including the Buffalo premiere of The Mitzvah Project, an original one-man drama that revealed the shocking true story of German soldiers known as "mischlinge" – Jews who were descended from one or two Jewish grandparents, which the JCC presented with the Holocaust Resource Center. Also on stage at the Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre, were Fiddler on the Roof – performed by members of the Our Lady of Hope Youth Choir, including former refugee youth from Karenni, Burma, Burundi, Togo, and Rwanda and Buffalo Buck, Boogie, Bop, and Beyond: The Black and Brown of Broadway Musicals, an homage to the contributions of artists from the African diaspora, presented by students from the Buffalo State Theater department.

The Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival celebrated 32 years of bringing the Jewish experience through film to the WNY community, May 6-12, 2016 and March 17-23, at the Amherst Dipson Theatre in Buffalo, NY. Hosting the festival two times during the year increased attendance significantly. The festival showed 23 award-winning and

critically acclaimed films from around the world including Canada, France, Germany, Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States. The BIJFF also included for the first time, four films from The Ma'aleh School of Film and Television.

Community collaborations with Talking Leaves....Books and Larkin Square Author Series highlighted the JCC Book and Art Fair, which included National Jewish Book Award Winner Lauren Belfer (And After the Fire), and local brewmaster Ethan Cox. Photographer Milton Ehrenberg brought a retrospective exhibit to the Bunis Family Gallery, which led to acquisition of The Butterfly sculpture, by Youngstown artist Susan Geissler, which was dedicated at a special ceremony on the anniversary of Kristallnacht.



## Israel Programming

At the beginning of the fiscal year we celebrated Israel's 68th birthday with a community-wide celebration at the Benderson Family Building. Music, food and an Israeli-type bazaar were provided to hundreds of guests. At camp we celebrated

Israel with two *shlichim* or emissaries who led our campers in Israeli music and culture throughout the summer. Children's programming contained elements of Israeli culture and holidays. Our café continued to offer Israeli food choices including falafel,

bourekas, humus and more. Israeli films were shown at our Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival and at our Book and Arts Fair. Israeli influence was present in our speakers' topics. Israeli music continued to play in our lobbies.





## Governance

Similar to the changes taking place in the volunteer world, our governance structure is continuing to evolve as one that employs shorter-term task forces rather than long-term committees in a number of needed areas. We are acutely aware of the challenges presented by the Millennial Generation. Unlike many of their parents they have different commitments and requirements. The desire for religious and ethnic continuity is very different for this

generation. Programs need to be accessible, convenient, low-cost and welcoming of diversity. It isn't sufficient to be Jewish or meaningful. A challenge we face as a multi-faith agency with a Jewish core is how to preserve our core values in a modern setting. A consultant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation provided our board with multiple session training in fundraising techniques.



## Volunteerism

Classes for older adults, at both buildings, were staffed by volunteers who provided forums for discussion of topics related to current events, literature, art, politics and more. Our cultural arts programs benefit from volunteer committees, with help in ushering, ticket sales movie selection, theatre business and fundraising. Parents and others helped us with camp, governance, leadership development, membership recruitment and a variety of other needs. We continued to host volunteer grandmothers

in our early childhood department. Cultural events including Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day) were ably staffed with engaged volunteers.

While the work of volunteers is highly valued and recognized with our "Volunteer-of-the-Year" at our annual meeting, the nature of volunteer engagement has changed in recent years. In past decades, women volunteered as envelope -stuffers and helpers to staff in many departments. Required belt-tightening

for all agency budgets has left us without a volunteer coordinator or other staff necessary to coordinate volunteer activities. Young volunteers today demand interesting engagement with very limited time requirement. Many of our committees have been replaced by task forces with limited expected lifespans.

## Facility Rentals

Various facilities at the JCC are available for private parties, corporate events, birthday celebrations and more. Our Irving M. Shuman Campground facility is available for sports, recreation, team-building and other activities. Climbing facilities, zip-lines, playing fields and shelters are available for

rental. Inside of both facilities is available for Birthday parties, Theatre or room rentals and areas for events. For information concerning rental opportunities please contact Jason Palevsky or go to our website.



# Security



In February of 2017 our JCC was among more than 100 others that were the recipient of a phoned-in bomb threat. Preceding that threat we had engaged in staff training that served to help us clear our buildings in less than four minutes. Advice had been received from the U.S. Department

of Homeland Security, the FBI, the NYS Police, The City of Buffalo Police, The Town of Amherst Police and the JCC Association. Information flowed through secure channels and was shared with other JCCs. We were able to record the call and share it with law authorities due to a quickly implemented change in our high-tech phone system.

While we were relieved that the call turned out to be a hoax, we were subjected to a period of very high stress. The professionalism of our staff and the cooperation of our members mitigated what might have been a very ugly chapter in our history. The outflowing of support from the Moslem community and our neighbors in the city culminated in rallies of solidarity

at both buildings. We were the subject of lead stories in the Buffalo News, all local television stations and radio stations. We were quoted in local radio and national news sources including CNN and NPR. Genuine expressions of support arrived from local and state elected officials and we were invited to a special meeting in New York City with Governor Cuomo.

We will be applying for special funding for enhanced security as it becomes available from New York State. Offers of assistance have been received from our local representatives including Senator Chuck Schumer's office, NYS Senator's Tim Kennedy and NYS Assemblyman Sean Ryan's offices. Continuous training will take place with assistance from various law enforcement offices.

## Staff Development

Enabled by an endowment established by our friend, the late Dr. Richard Ament, staff training and development took place throughout the year. Every department took part in training programs offered internally and through trainers brought into Buffalo. A course on accountability, utilizing modern smartphone and computer technology, was well-received. Several individuals took part in training offered by the JCC Association at a Professional Development conference. Other conferences attended include one at which best practices in camping was taught. Monthly staff meetings included training videos provided by the JCC Association.

The rapid rise of minimum wages affected more than 110 of our staff. Although not at minimum wage, this rise impacted those at rates slightly above the new wages. Last year this change impacted us to the tune of \$140,000 and the same is expected in the next few years. Additionally, increased costs of benefits and competition for staff will drive our staff costs up precipitously. Expansion of program, increased program fees and improved fundraising will all be needed to address this and other issues.







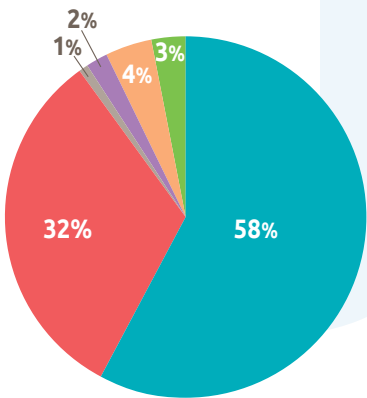
# Financial Results

For the year ending March 31, 2017 the JCC incurred a small operating deficit of less than .33% of revenue, after an allowance for a 401(k) contribution, an unplanned charge resulting from an audit from the State of New York for a very small program involving children with disabilities, and unplanned increases in insurance expense. While the agency has a net cumulative operating surplus for the past five years, pressure

will continue to be placed on the agency by competition for every program offered, planned increases in the minimum wage and rising costs for insurance.

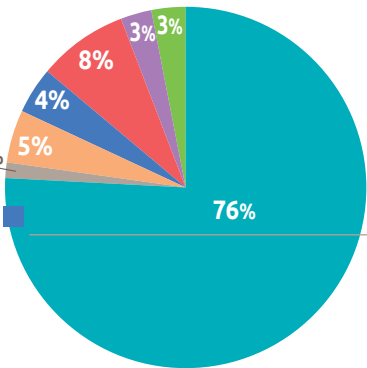
As mentioned earlier in this report, it will be incumbent upon every department within the agency to achieve an operating surplus by increasing program revenue and managing expenses. We will need to explore

opportunities for expansion of program as well as rates charged. Fundraising will need to take a new form and we will require professional leadership to conduct full-time fundraising and development efforts. Our JCC is one of the very few in the United States to not have a fundraising department, let alone an individual responsible for this vital pillar of support.



## Revenue

Contributions and Grants	\$130,195	2%
Fund Raising	\$62,946	1%
Membership Fees	\$2,139,959	32%
Program Fees	\$3,869,412	58%
Federation and United Way	\$224,541	3%
Other Income	\$264,974	4%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,691,074</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Expenses

Printing and Marketing	\$186,911	3%
Professional Fees	\$96,717	1%
Occupancy	\$537,237	8%
Employee Compensation	\$5,107,103	76%
Miscellaneous Expense	\$200,149	3%
Program Expenses	\$310,741	5%
General & Administrative	\$288,499	4%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,727,357</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Donations

Donor participation in the sustainability and growth of the agency has been central to the foundation of the JCC for more than 70 years. Over the next few years and decades it will become increasingly vital that new funding take place for endowments, capital projects, scholarships, reserve-building and more. Current funds have been established and are in need of intensification including funds dedicated to:

## All for One Campaign

**\$250-\$500**

Anonymous  
Irving and Claire Gareleck  
Irving Gareleck in honor of his wife  
Claire's Birthday  
Irwin Gelman and Mara  
Koven-Gelman  
Leslie Mark Greenbaum and  
Judith R. Kerr  
Rita and Richard Lipsitz  
David and Cathy Miller  
Dr. Bennett and Cantor Penny Myers  
Sanford and Margery Nobel  
Errol Sull designated to the  
Holland Spinning program  
Marilyn and Irving Sultz  
Amy Troy and Henry Gartner

**\$501-\$1,000**

Ronald and Susan Benderson  
Marna and Irwin Burstein  
Peter and Ilene Fleischmann  
Glenn and Janet Pincus  
Andrew Talal and Maranthi Markatou  
a lap Line in memory of  
Joyce B. Talal

**\$1001-\$2,500**

Phil and Nicole Nobel from the  
Joseph and Anna Gartner  
Foundation  
Benjamin and M. Madalene Smith  
Charitable Endowment

## People of the Book

**\$250-\$500**

Kevin and Risé Kulick  
Ilja and Pam Weinrieb

## Camp Centerland

**\$250-\$500**

Jordan and Niki Balsom  
Mark and Laurie Criden  
Joseph N. Desmon memorial Fund  
Julie and Rion Kweller  
Aaron Rubin

## Grinspoon Challenge Grant

**\$2,500**

Appelbaum Family  
Janet and David Desmon  
Brenda and Eric Feldstein  
Raymond L. Fink  
Peter and Ilene Fleischmann in honor  
of Sarah, Rebecca and Simon Aaron  
Leonard and Ellen Freed in honor of  
their daughter Susan  
Freed-Oestreicher  
Dr. Irwin Gelman and Mara  
Koven-Gelman  
Rob and Shira Goldberg  
Mark Goldman  
Independent Appraisal Service, Inc.  
Alon and Allison Kupferman  
Joseph Lipsitz and Shannon Pass  
Cantor Penny and Dr. Bennett Myers  
Lillian Schwartz Endowment Fund  
Rick and Beth Steinberg in memory  
of Louis Pollner and Ralph  
Steinberg  
The Weiss Family Philanthropic Fund  
Louis S. and Molly B. Wolk  
Foundation

**\$3,600**

David and Susan Freed-Oestreicher

**\$10,000**

Alan and Michele Scheff Family Fund

**\$15,000**

David Feuerstein

**\$20,000**

Estate of Joel N. Lippman

**\$25,000**

Kevin and Risé Kulick

**\$35,000**

Harold Grinspoon Foundation

## Holland Building

**\$2,000-\$5,000**

Debra Chernoff and Laurence Rubin  
Laway Service Inc.

**\$50,000+**

Variety Club of Buffalo  
Jewish Federation of Greater Buffalo

## Next Generation

**\$250-\$500**

Mr. Daniel Serure

**\$1,000-\$2,500**

Dr. Gary N. Cohen  
Robert J. and Sharon Miller  
Philanthropic Fund

## Geissler Sculpture

**\$250-\$500**

Dr. Robert and Frima Ackerhalt in  
memory of the Holocaust victims  
Norma Shatz Rubin and Martin Rubin  
in memory of Rita Rubin and  
Malcom Shatz

## Jewish Reperatory Theatre

**\$250-\$500**

Ronald Benderson  
Mel and Elaine Brothman  
Janet and David Desmon  
George and Bodil Gellman  
Amy and Eduardo Heumann  
Mark and Rebecca Humphrey  
Louise and Charles Kreiner  
Richard and Rita Lipsitz  
Sanford and Margery Nobel  
David Oestreicher and Susan  
Freed-Oestreicher  
Rolene and Louis Pozarny  
Frank and Vanessa Scinta  
Iris Shore  
Charles and Penelope Shuman  
John Visco  
Wayne and Janet Wisbaum

**\$1,000-\$2,500**

Mel and Elaine Brothman  
David Bunis  
City Mattress  
Louise and Charles Kreiner  
Dr. Maxine Seller  
Wayne and Janet Wisbaum

## Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival

**\$250-\$500**

Mel and Elaine Brothman  
Sanford and Margery Nobel

# Grants Received

United Way of Buffalo and Erie County (Early Childhood) \$29,700  
Buffalo Public Schools Universal Pre-Kindergarten (Early Childhood) \$90,140.10  
Erie County Youth Bureau (Au Some Swimmers) \$7,500  
Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation For Autism (Au Some Swimmers) \$4,000  
The Cullen Foundation (Jewish Repertory Theatre) \$10,000  
County of Erie (Cultural Arts) \$8,400  
M & T Bank (Cultural Arts) \$10,000  
Louis S. and Molly B. Wolk Foundation (Jewish Repertory Theatre) \$5,000  
NYSCA A.R.T./New York Creative Opportunity Fund (Jewish Repertory Theatre) \$2,000  
Town of Amherst (Jewish Repertory Theatre) \$1,000  
Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc. (Café Europa) \$5,000  
Harold Grinspoon Foundation (C Camp) \$105,000

# Management Staff

**Richard Zakalik**, Executive Director: 204-2071  
**Phil Zuccaro**, Chief Financial Officer: 204-2072  
**Patty Simonson**, Assistant Executive Director: 204-2073  
**Pam Marin**, Human Resources Director: 204-2074  
**James Morgan**, Director Facilities Operations: 204-2075  
**Christine Dusher**, Buffalo Children's & Assistant Camping Director:  
886-3172 x 420  
**Laurie Greenspan**, Marketing Director: 204-2088  
**Jordana Halpern**, Cultural Arts & JRT Managing Director: 204-2255  
**Julie Kingsley**, Getzville Aquatics Director: 204-2080  
**Betsy Abramson**, Children's & Camping Director: 204-2078  
**Sharon Kostiner**, Membership Director: 204-2081  
**Bob Lajeunesse**, Buffalo General Manager, Health Fitness & Recreation:  
886-3172 x402  
**Eric Poniatowski**, Buffalo Aquatics Director: 886-3172 x411  
**Barbara Stone Reden**, Buffalo Early Childhood Services Director:  
886-3172 x408  
**Sam Seiler**, Getzville Fitness Center General Manager: 204-2254  
**Stephanie Katzman**, Getzville Early Childhood Director: 204-2082  
**Ann Vorburger**, Getzville Director of Health Fitness & Recreation: 204-2070  
**Karla Wiseman**, Adult Services Supervisor: 204-2257



BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION



Annual Report Text - Rick Zakalik Design - Sarah Schuppenhauer Project Manager - Laurie Greenspan

**Jewish  
Community  
Center of  
Greater Buffalo**

**Benderson Family Building**



**Getzville**

2640 North Forest Road  
behind UB North  
688-4033

[www.jccbuffalo.org](http://www.jccbuffalo.org)

**Holland Family Building**



**Buffalo**

787 Delaware Avenue  
at Summer Street  
886-3145

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