

# Jewish Agencies & Programs

## Kansas City

### Animals

- **Jasmine's Corner** - Jewish Family Services' pet food pantry ensures that people in need don't have to choose between feeding themselves or their pet. Last year, 1,275 animals received food from Jasmine's Corner.

### Arts/History

- **Jewish Community Archives** - Collects the history of the people, organizations, and businesses of the Kansas City Jewish community.
- **Kinnor Philharmonic** - Dedicated to bringing performances that reflect the long traditions of the symphonic repertoire and the rich diversity of the Jewish heritage to the Kansas City community.

### Community Organizations/Programs

- **Jewish Community Campus** - Brings together the agencies of the Jewish community into a common facility.
- **Jewish Community Center** - Serves people of all ages in an environment of Jewish values and Jewish traditions; offers child development and youth activities, sports and fitness activities, adult educational courses and cultural arts programs.
- **Community Legacy Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation** - Awards grants that enhance and maintain the quality of Jewish life in the Greater Kansas City area.
- **Jewish Community Relations Bureau/AJC** - Builds bridges with government officials, the minority community, business and civic leaders, educators, and law enforcement agencies to develop understanding of the Jewish faith.
- **Jewish Family Services** – JFS helps people from all walks of life, regardless of their religion. Their food pantry helped more than 900 families last year. They also provide counseling and mental health services as well as transportation and home repairs for the elderly.
- **Jewish Federation** - Serves those in need and strengthens Jewish identity and renewal in Kansas City, Israel and throughout the world; partners with synagogues, agencies, organizations and others to build a caring, principle-centered, sacred community.
- **Jewish Vocational Service** - Assists individuals and families in achieving self-reliance by providing support, personal development, employment and training services, and helps refugees from all over the world settle in Kansas City. Last year, JVS helped 450 refugees from 24 different countries.

- **Jewish War Veterans** - Organized more than 100 years ago, Jewish War Veterans volunteer at Veterans Administration hospitals, ensure that flags are placed on the graves of Jewish veterans on Memorial Day, and provide a color guard for the Holocaust Memorial Day services. B'nai Tzedek contributions provide warm clothing and supplies for hospitalized veterans at the holidays.
- **Kansas City Vaad Hakashruth** – This organization provides kosher certification, supervision, education and inspection for caterers, wholesale and retail food vendors, and food production companies in the Kansas City area and the Midwest.
- **Midwest Center for Holocaust Education** - Teaches the history and lessons of the Holocaust to people of all races and religious beliefs throughout the Midwest to prevent its recurrence and perpetuate understanding, compassion, and mutual respect for generations to come.
- **Moishe House of KC** - A pluralistic international organization which provides meaningful Jewish experiences to young adults in their 20s.
- **Priya** - A Fund for Jewish Reproduction - Assists Jewish couples struggling with infertility. Provides financial support for medical and adoption costs and emotional counseling.
- **Rabbinical Association** - The rabbinic voice in and for the Jewish community and the larger Greater Kansas City community; guides the community in making religious decisions for community events, supports the rabbis in their personal and professional growth, and develops and nourishes collegial relationships within the Association.
- **Village Shalom** – A retirement community located in Overland Park, Kansas; offers independent villas and town homes, two forms of assisted living, two forms of skilled nursing, short-term rehabilitation, adult day programs, and a specialized health club.

## Food

- **Jewish Family Services Food Pantry** - Offers both VAAD-supervised kosher and non-kosher food, with wholesome staples such as grains, dairy, protein, fruits, and vegetables to members of the community in need.
- **Kansas City Kosher Meals on Wheels** - Delivers in-home kosher meals to community seniors.
- **Mitzvah Garden of Kansas City** - A community gardening project that grew from the passions and talents of members of The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah; donates almost 10,000 pounds of produce yearly to various food pantries in our community.
- **Yachad Kosher Food Pantry** - Kosher food pantry that is open to the entire community, regardless of religion or race, and follows no income guidelines.

## Jewish Education/Congregations

- **Chabad House** - Serves the community with youth programs, adult education, social programs, Kosher food pantry, mikvah, and preschool and Hebrew school.

- **Community Kollel** - Through sharing the classic and richly varied Torah texts of Jewish heritage in classrooms, board rooms, and one-on-one study, the Kollel engages the community in the exciting and inspiring pursuit of Judaism's legacy of wisdom.
- **Congregation Beth Israel Abraham & Voliner (BIAV)** - A Modern Orthodox synagogue with a "forward thinking" mentality; belief is that every Jew, regardless of background or level of observance, can find a place in their warm and friendly community.
- **Congregation Beth Shalom** - Conservative congregation with a rich heritage in Kansas City beginning in 1878. Currently, the congregation of approximately 1000 families holds services and programs encompassing the wide spectrum of Jewish religious, cultural, educational and social experiences.
- **Congregation Beth Torah** - A Reform Jewish congregation dedicated to creating an inclusive caring community and providing opportunities for lifelong learning and meaningful worship. Promotes ethical Jewish living, spiritual growth, social justice and the continuity of the Jewish people.
- **Congregation Kol Ami** - A welcoming and inclusive congregation that promotes Judaic values, continuity, spiritual growth and a sense of community through participatory worship, education, outreach and mitzvot.
- **Congregation Ohev Sholom** - A Jewish congregation affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Represents a centrist ground in Jewish theology.
- **Rabbi Gershon Hadas Guardian Society for Jewish Children** - Provides funds for Jewish children to attend camps and to participate in Israel study tours.
- **Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy** - K-12 day school that serves the individual needs of students from all segments of the Jewish community.
- **Kehilath Israel Synagogue** - A warm and welcoming congregation, proud of its traditional values of learning Torah, engaging in meaningful and inspirational prayer and practices, and performing acts of loving kindness.
- **New Reform Temple** - The only Reform congregation that offers all of its activities and services in the midtown area of Kansas City. NRT consider itself true to the values of Reform Judaism.
- **PJ Library** - Sends a Jewish children's book, CD of Jewish music, and parenting resource to Jewish families' homes on a monthly basis.
- **Sasone** - Works Jewish pre-schools, Sunday schools, and HBHA to ensure that students with special needs are integrated; also helps teachers develop teaching strategies that allow children with special needs to maximize potential for learning.
- **Temple Israel** - A progressive Jewish Reform congregation which is tolerant & international, participatory & flexible and, above all, warm and welcoming to both Jewish and interfaith families.

- **Temple Sinai** - A Reform congregation whose service includes music, readings and inspiring offerings.
- **The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah** - A caring community of Reform Jews, committed to worship, education and acts of loving kindness and dedicated to the perpetuation of these ideals for ourselves and future generations.
- **Torah Learning Center** - Provides community outreach through adult and child education, Shabbat and holiday services, hands-on workshops, Judaic resources, hospital and prison chaplaincy, counseling, spiritual guidance and healing.

## LGBTQ

- **Jewish Family Services**-provides LGBTQ-inclusive outpatient counseling to individuals and families. Areas of focus include sexual orientation, gender identity, coming out, family conflict, bullying, anxiety, and depression.
- **Keshet** -Keshet works to promote equality for all LGBTQ Jews. Keshet offers a variety of online initiatives to support and empower queer youth ages 13-18 and 18-24.

## Women's/Family Organizations

- **Hadassah, Greater Kansas City Chapter** - The Women's Zionist organization of America is a volunteer organization whose members are motivated and inspired to strengthen their partnership with Israel, ensure Jewish continuity, and realize their potential as a dynamic force in American society.
- **National Council of Jewish Women** - A volunteer organization inspired by Jewish values that works to improve the quality of life for women, children and families, and strives to ensure individual rights and freedoms for all. Signature programs in Kansas City include Baskets for Babies, the Back to School Store, and Suitcase to Start.
- **Women's American ORT** - Promotes vocational training of trades and agriculture among impoverished Jews.

## Youth Activities

- **BBYO** - Helps teens connect with their own Judaism and learn Jewish values through informal education and special programming.
- **Boy Scout Troop 61** - Aims to build character, fitness, and citizenship through the indoor program (meetings and merit badges) and the outdoor program (camping and hiking). Troop 61 is comprised of young scouts and a core of senior scouts as well as experienced, trained adult leaders.
- **Cub Scout Troop 3153** - Aims to build character, fitness, and citizenship through indoor and outdoor programs for those in first through fifth grades.

- **Jewish Committee on Scouting** - Aids and supports Jewish Scouting by recruiting Jewish youth to the program and by assisting organizations in developing and maintaining Scouting programs.
- **Jewish Student Union (JSU)** – The mission of the Jewish Student Union is to engage Jewish teens attending public high schools and encourage them to explore Jewish life and culture. JSU facilitates club meetings during the lunch hour or before or after school.
- **Kansas City United Synagogue Youth (KCUSY)** – This youth group is associated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. It serves as a way for Jewish teens across the country to meet and make lifelong friendships.
- **National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY)** – NCSY provides leadership opportunities and guides teens to become committed leaders in the traditional Jewish community.
- **North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY)** - NFTY instills Jewish identity, increases synagogue participation among high school youth, and fosters long-term commitment to the ideals and values of Reform Judaism.
- **University of Kansas Hillel** – The center of Jewish campus life at the University of Kansas which focuses on Jewish leadership and engagement.
- **University of Missouri Hillel** - Aims to enrich the lives of Jewish undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Missouri.
- **Young Judaea** - The oldest Zionist youth movement in the United States; seeks to build Jewish identity and Zionist commitment in American Jewish youth and young adults, particularly through summer camp.

# Israel- B'nai Tzedek Fundholder Favorites

## Animals

- **Concern for Helping Animals in Israel** - Aims to prevent and relieve animal suffering in Israel and to elevate consciousness about animals through education.
- **Israel Guide Dogs for the Blind** - Improves the quality of life of blind people by providing them with safe mobility, independence and self-confidence through the faithful assistance of guide dogs.
- **Israel National Therapeutic Riding Association** - Teaches equine skills and horseback riding to people with a wide variety of disabilities in Israel.

## Food

- **Leket Israel** - Serves as the country's largest food bank and food rescue network actively working to alleviate the problem of nutritional insecurity among Israel's diverse population.

## Health/Social

- **Association of the Deaf in Israel** - Assists in the daily living, wellbeing and rights of deaf people in Israel.
- **Friends of Israeli Disabled Veterans** - Cares for Israeli servicemen and women disabled in the line of duty. Provides therapeutic, sports and recreational facilities to help them resume lives of purpose and dignity.
- **Fund for Needy Immigrants** - Responds to problems such as poverty, disability, trauma and social isolation.
- **Israel Elwyn** - Provides disabled adults and children with tools to gain more independence for living and working in the community.
- **Israel Sports Center for the Disabled** - Specializes in the physical and psychological rehabilitation of Israeli children and youth through participation in sports activities. Provides children with equipment and access to such activities.
- **Luba Slome Dental Center** - Provides cutting edge dental care and education to Jerusalem's residents.
- **Magen David Adom** - Provides rapid emergency medical response for disasters in Israel and around the world. It coordinates ambulance and blood services for Israel's population.
- **MASLAN** - Provides practical and emotional support to survivors of violence and their families throughout the entire legal and recovery process.

- **NATAL** – Provides mental health services for trauma victims including soldiers dealing with PTSD.
- **One in Nine** – Promotes public policy and education to help individuals detect breast cancer.
- **Schneider Children’s Medical Center of Israel** - A comprehensive, highly specialized hospital in Israel dedicated to the well-being of children and adolescents from all over the Middle East.
- **Weizmann Institute** - A world-leading research institute located in Rehovot, Israel from which groundbreaking medical and technological applications have emerged.

## LGBTQ

- **The Aguda: The Israeli National LGBT Task Force**-The Aguda strives for full equality for gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgender people. They aspire to create a public and social climate of acceptance and respect for the LGBT community and for its individual members.

## Security

- **Friends of the Israel Defense Force** - Supports educational, social, cultural, and recreational programs for the soldiers of Israel. It also supports the families of fallen soldiers.
- **Israel Terror Relief Fund** – Supports Israeli residents as they rebuild and recover from the physical, emotional and psychological impact of rocket fire from terrorists in the Gaza Strip.

## Youth/Adult Leadership

- **A.H.A.V.A.** - The only non-profit organization in Israel dedicated solely to promoting English literacy among disadvantaged children, especially those living in geographically and socially peripheral areas of the country.
- **AMIT** - Serves as Israel’s official network for traditional, secondary technological education; its network contains schools that specialize in science, computer technology and robotics.
- **Birthright Israel Foundation** - Raises the necessary funds to support Birthright Israel, a program that offers free 10-day trips to Israel to young Jewish adults between the ages of 18 and 26.
- **JAFFA Institute** - Assists Jaffa’s severely disadvantaged children and their families by providing educational, recreational and social enrichment programs.