

MY Connection

Issue 3 Spring 2011 / Tishrei 5772

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Front cover:
Baruch Rosenfeld surrounded
by his caring family
Photo credit: Sav Schulman

Message from our President and CEO

Caring for Carers



CEO Bill Appleby
and President Bruce
Rosengarten

Where family is the
cornerstone,
carers are our
bedrock.

Carers come
from all walks of
life, all cultures
and all religions.
Some are only
ten years old
while others are
nearing ninety.

They may be spouses, parents, sons
or daughters, siblings, friends, nieces,
nephews or neighbours.

Carers Week was recently celebrated
across Australia. This issue of *My
Connection* is dedicated to all carers,
young and old.

Within our community, there are
hundreds of individuals who care for a
loved one or a family member – whether it
is a frail parent, a spouse with early onset
dementia, or a person with a disability.

We recognise them for the amazing
contribution and positive impact they
make to the lives of many.

The currently debated National
Disability Insurance Scheme, provides
for a once in a generation opportunity
for a fundamental and much needed
change. It represents an important leap
forward in recognising the care needs

of an estimated 1 million Australians
living with serious or profound disability.
Offering more equitable access to
essential support, therapy, equipment,
intervention and training, the scheme
promises a more productive quality of
life for people with a disability, their
carers and families.

Meanwhile, in our own community, the
imminent opening of Jewish Care's new
Glen Eira Villas (GEV) Adult Respite
Centre will profoundly impact dozens
of families who will be able to take a
much needed break from their full-
time caring role. As the only Jewish
adult respite service in Victoria, it
will offer carers the peace of mind
that their loved one is in a familiar,
inclusive, *heimish* environment where
their cultural needs are understood,
respected and celebrated.

We thank the thousands of members
of our community who responded
so enthusiastically to our Annual
Appeal and, more recently, those
whose support of the Glen Eira Villas
Adult Respite Centre facilitated the
realisation of a dream. In particular, we
thank Liz Nissen and Dianne Gringlas
for spearheading the campaign with
steadfast determination and vigour.

GEV Adult Respite is just one of the
many ways we support carers, and in
this issue of *My Connection*, you will also
read about others, including:

- National Respite for Carers Program

(NRCP), providing respite for carers
of older people;

- Day Programs designed to promote
healthy ageing and social inclusion
at our Active Living Centre, providing
carers a weekly break;
- Healthy Ageing programs that
have been extended to the Eastern
Suburbs of Melbourne;
- Carer Support Groups, counselling
and other support services; and
- Residential Respite services across all
Jewish Care's facilities, providing block
support for carers on a regular basis.

Like so many of our services, many
of these vital programs could not be
provided without your ongoing support.
If you haven't yet taken advantage of the
opportunity to show your support this
Rosh Hashana, it's still not too late.
Use our coupon on the back cover to
make a donation now, and help make
the New Year sweeter for members of
our community in need.

Bruce Rosengarten
President

Bill Appleby
Chief Executive Officer

New CFO and General Managers on Board

We are pleased to introduce three new
members to the Jewish Care Executive:



Daniel Goodman



Robbie Franco



Meigan Lefebure

Daniel Goodman, Chief Financial Officer,
Robbie Franco, General Manager
of Development and
Meigan Lefebure, General
Manager of Services for
Older People.

Daniel demonstrates
impressive achievements
in financial management
and leadership with over
ten years of professional
support for many

organisations, including the Mizrahi
Organisation.

Robbie has over 25 years of experience
in local and international business. He
joins Jewish Care from his previous
role as Executive Director of the
Zionist Federation of Australia. Meigan
has over 20 years of experience in
the residential aged care sector as a
prominent registered nurse and
manager while also being involved with
a number of boards and committees.

Announcements

Community Raises \$2.8 Million

In the true spirit of 'Turning lives around, together', Jewish Care is excited to announce that with the heartfelt and charitable donations of our community, we have raised \$2.8 million for the 2011 Annual Appeal.

We appreciate your continuous help which assists us in providing much needed social justice programs to our community, such as: mental health programs, counselling, financial aid, cultural and spiritual services and Healthy Ageing Programs.

2011 Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday 23 November 2011

Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm

Venue: Theatrette, Glen Eira Town Hall
(Cnr Glen Eira/Hawthorn Roads)

Highlight: A panel discussion on
the topic of *Ageing and Caring for
Older Australians*

Featuring: Panel moderator, Peter
Mares, from ABC's Radio National
and panel members Susanne Macri
AM, Former Associate Commissioner,
Productivity Commission – Inquiry
into Caring for Older Australians,

Gerard Mansour, CEO,
Aged & Community
Care Victoria (ACCV)
and Prof. Andrew
Markus, Principal
Author Jewry 2030
Ageing Report.

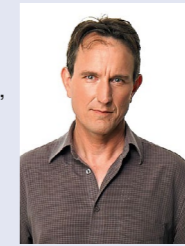
RSVP: By 9 November 2011

Online: www.jewishcare.org.au/events

Phone: Rachel Thorsen on 8517 5733

Email: rthorsen@jewishcare.org.au

We look forward to seeing you there!



Peter Mares

Renew Your Membership

It is the loyalty of our members which enables Jewish Care to support the vulnerable, provide aid in times of hardship and crisis and create opportunities to enhance the wellbeing of the Jewish community of Victoria.

To keep your membership up-to-date, it is important to renew it before **Wednesday 9 November 2011**. Our Annual membership fee is \$35 per person or \$12 Concession.

Being a member of Jewish Care enables you to vote at the 2011 Annual General Meeting.

To renew your membership, contact Bronwyn Sugden on 8517 5786 or bsugden@jewishcare.org.au

Our Website Wins 'Best in Class' Award

We are proud to announce that the
recently revamped Jewish Care
website has won the 'Best in Class'
Award under the 'Community' category.

This award recognises the highest
standards of excellence in website
design and development.

The 'Best in Class Award' is the highest
honour bestowed by the New York-
based Interactive Media Council. Our
website had to successfully pass a
comprehensive judging process, which
we passed with flying colours!



Visit us today at www.jewishcare.org.au

Stay Connected via Email

If you prefer to receive *My Connection*
and other communication from
Jewish Care by email, please provide
us with your email address and we'll
keep you connected with our latest
news, events, activities and programs.

Use one of the following options to
receive *My Connection* by email:

- Submit your details online at
www.jewishcare.org.au, or
- Email your address to
marketing@jewishcare.org.au, or
- Phone 1800 JEWISH (1800 539 474)

Send us your email address before
30 November to receive a handy
Jewish Care shopping trolley token.



Save the Date!

Write this date in your diary today!
2012 Annual Appeal Gala Dinner
Thursday 16 February 2012



Donate monthly. Benefit daily.

Your monthly giving will help
our community all year round.

1800 JEWISH (1800 539 474)
development@jewishcare.org.au
www.jewishcare.org.au



Caring For Carers

Supporting Carers Throughout the Years

It has been 15 years since Baruch Rosenfeld entered the Children's Respite House as a toddler. There he was surrounded by carers and friends creating a wonderful atmosphere of a Jewish home.

During these years, the staff at the Children's Respite House ensured that Jewish cultural heritage and practices were respected and observed. "The Torah traditions were valued at the Children's Respite House. No other facility would offer the same environment for him," said Baruch's mother, Sara Rosenfeld.

The Children's Respite House is known for its skill-building activities, sensory and outdoor play, field trips and Shabbat and Chanukah celebrations. Baruch's father, Yisrael Rosenfeld, remembers the excitement that Baruch felt at the Respite House: "He loved being with people – it was his cultural social group. He still gets very excited when he sees them in other venues in the community."

Because of Baruch's serious disability, he needs to be supervised by trained carers both day and night. The Children's Respite House enabled Baruch's parents to go out as a couple and to rest from ongoing supervision.

In May, Baruch turned 18, and he is no longer eligible to attend the Children's Respite House. Since then,



Baruch Rosenfeld with Sara and Yisrael

his parents and siblings haven't had a break. "The eighteenth birthday is not a magical day that turns a child with a severe disability into a mature, healthy adult. He is still completely deaf, often loses his balance and needs to be tube fed and his tracheal tube monitored and suctioned," Baruch's mother said.

The Rosenfelds are in desperate need of adult respite facilities.

On 16 November the Glen Eira Villas Adult Respite Centre is going to open its doors to families like Baruch's, helping adults with disabilities and their relatives to receive the necessary relief and support in the very heart of Melbourne's Jewish community.

To support Glen Eira Villas Adult Respite Centre, please contact Miriam Suss on 8517 5647 or msuss@jewishcare.org.au

New Carer Support Program Starting Soon

Jewish Care plans to implement a new initiative which will provide information, support and advice to carers who look after people with disabilities. We know how much effort, passion and love you have to support others in need and we would like to support you in a similar way.

The program is going through a scoping phase in which we would like to learn more about the specific needs, challenges and gaps for Jewish carers.

You now have the opportunity to participate in a short, confidential



interview with a Carer Support Worker to let us know what you feel and need.

Please contact Judith Bauerberg for more information on 8517 5964 or jbauerberg@jewishcare.org.au

GEV Adult Respite Grand Opening

Glen Eira Villas (GEV) Adult Respite Centre is opening on 16 November. The Respite Centre is going to provide a welcoming environment for those attending, at the same time allowing their carers to rest.

The state-of-the-art Adult Respite Centre is customised to create a Jewish home away from home, where traditional Jewish holidays and the strict standards of Kashrut are observed.

The GEV Adult Respite fundraising project has so far generated over \$730,000 in combined donor and government funding. We are still seeking prospective donors for generous support with the aim of reaching \$1 million over a three year period. These funds will allow Jewish Care to employ qualified staff to provide appropriate care for five adults during the day and three adults overnight.



If you are interested in supporting Glen Eira Villas Adult Respite Centre, please contact Miriam Suss on 8517 5647 or msuss@jewishcare.org.au

Did You Know?

Over 2.9 million Australians, including 700,000 Victorians provide help and support to a family member or friend.

More than one in eight Australians provide care of this kind. Caring can happen to anyone, anytime.

Source: www.carersaustralia.com.au

Stepping Out!

Carers are the unsung heroes of the community. They provide hours of unpaid support and care that enable their loved ones to remain in their own home and in the community for as long as possible.

However, the caring role can be exhausting and many carers may experience stress, burnout and social isolation.

The National Respite for Carers Program facilitates a Day Care Respite Program called the Stepping Out Program (SOP).

It operates from 9am to 4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Gandel Besen Building at the Montefiore Homes Community Residence on St Kilda Rd.

The Stepping Out Program offers carers valuable respite time as well as an opportunity for their loved ones to socialise in a supportive and caring environment.

For further information, contact Cate Molloy on 8508 6308 or cmolloy@jewishcare.org.au

Respite Across Jewish Care



Respite services at Munzer Community Residence

All Jewish Care facilities provide respite services, allowing the carers to rest while their loved ones are staying in a friendly, inclusive environment where their cultural needs are respected and celebrated.

We also provide in-home respite service via our BlueStar Program enabling carers to have time out, while their loved one is being well cared for from the comfort of their home

To find out more about Jewish Care Respite services, contact 8517 5999 or info@jewishcare.org.au

Focusing on Carers' Needs

Recognising the importance of looking after your own physical and emotional wellbeing is imperative in order to continue caring effectively for another person.

A series of Carer Support Programs are currently on offer, with the focus on carers and their needs.

Each educational program consists of 10 weekly sessions, exploring varied and relevant topics such as effective communication skills and stress management.

If you are interested to attend our various Carer Support programs, register your interest today.



For more information about this program, please contact Kate Fandry on 8508 6323 or kfandry@jewishcare.org.au

Carer Card Discounts and Benefits

Jewish Care is urging primary carers throughout the community to take advantage of the Victorian Government Carer Card.

Launched last year, the Carer Card enables carers to enjoy discounts on food and drink, homewares, entertainment, health and home maintenance from over 700 businesses.

Carers will receive free Sunday travel on all metropolitan and regional

public transport and gain discounted or free entry to Victorian Government venues, festivals and events.

Businesses interested in offering a discount or benefit on goods and services exclusively for carers, are invited to register their interest at www.carercard.vic.gov.au



If you or someone you know could benefit from this card, please visit www.carercard.vic.gov.au for more information.

The Rewards of Caring

- The satisfaction of helping people with a disability to reach their potential and keeping them safe
- The gratification of improving someone's quality of life
- Using your skills and experiences for the benefit of others
- The opportunity for personal growth and development
- Strengthening the relationship with the person you care for and realising how much your help is appreciated
- Becoming a highly valued member of the carers' community
- Receiving the acknowledgement of your family and friends

News, Views and Advocacy

Achieving Far Beyond Expectations

Twelve students participated in a unique, year-long Return to Learning Course, for adults who have experienced mental illness. Run in partnership with the Mental Illness Fellowship Victoria (MIFV), this nationally recognised course leads to the Certificate II in General Education for Adults.



Proud participants celebrate with their counsellors and instructors

The students, comprising of all education levels, were able to face appropriate learning challenges at their own pace as the program incorporated a broad curriculum framework of literacy, numeracy and electives.

Throughout the course, students were able to unveil their potential, develop confidence and achieve far beyond their expectations.

More Choice for Jewish Aged Care Clients

The Australian Government has recently introduced a new type of Community Aged Care package, known as Consumer Directed Care.

The innovative service model will provide our clients with greater control and understanding of their support options, allowing them to access the available services in the best possible way.

Over the last 18 months, Jewish Care has moved to an Active Service Model to underpin its provision of care and service in the community. The model empowers older people to actively reach the greatest level of independence, make decisions about their life and be engaged in directing and controlling their health care.



Jewish Care is thrilled to have been successful in our bid to offer these innovative packages as we are determined to provide care and services that meet the needs of our diverse client group.

To access quick information about aged care, contact the new National Information Line on 1800 200 422

Healthy Ageing Program Arrives in Kew!

Jewish Care's Healthy Ageing Program has now been extended to the Eastern suburbs and services are being held at Leo Baeck Centre and Kew Hebrew Congregation.

The services offer support for people aged over sixty, focusing on their social, emotional and physical wellbeing, including a strengthening exercise class as well as counselling.

In conjunction with the classes, an interactive seminar on healthy life balance was recently held in Kew, providing a meaningful discussion.

Our Healthy Ageing Program looks forward to hosting future events in Kew.

For more information, please contact Kate Fandry on 8508 6323 or kfandry@jewishcare.org.au

Saver Plus Secured

Saver Plus, Australia's largest matched savings and financial education program designed to assist families on lower incomes, has been secured with more funding from the Australian Government and ANZ for the next three years.

Saver Plus helps parents and students over 18 to save for a period of ten months (up to \$500). This money is then matched by ANZ, dollar for dollar, to be used for education-related expenses.

The program has reopened in the Port Phillip, Glen Eira and Kingston areas and Jewish Care is looking for new participants.



For more information, please contact Deena Elmakas on 8517 5670 or saverplus@jewishcare.org.au

DisabiliTea Acknowledges the NDIS Support

In August, the staff at Jewish Care joined over 50,000 Australians in supporting the Every Australian Counts campaign for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) by sharing in a DisabiliTea morning tea.

The NDIS is set to revolutionise the support given to those with a disability, their families and carers, by simplifying access to essential care, therapy, equipment, early intervention and training.

It is projected that the NDIS will transform the delivery and funding of services, providing improved support, more choice and flexibility.

To find out more about the NDIS and to register your support, go to www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au

New Housing Solutions

Jewish Care, in conjunction with Port Phillip Housing Association, has recently introduced a new housing initiative, facilitating affordable housing solutions of brand new developments in McKinnon, Moorabbin and Prahran.

Jewish Care has secured nomination rights of the new housing for 30 years, enabling the organisation to assist eligible individuals and households by offering low rent, short-term accommodation for up to two years. "Our goal is to break the boundaries that prevent people from having a permanent home by building their capacities," says Louise Arthur, General Manager of Community Services.

In addition to offering immediate housing solutions, Jewish Care promotes a sustainable lifestyle



The new housing development in Moorabbin

by assisting people in job search and providing financial support and counseling to enhance their skills and confidence with managing budgets and life plans.

For more information, please contact 8517 5999 or info@jewishcare.org.au

Exploring Modern Technology

Jewish seniors have been learning how to stay in touch and reconnect with their loved ones through participating in the Healthy Ageing Program's technology lessons at the Active Living Centre on Kooyong Road.

The program provides older people with the opportunity to attend classes, developing computer skills they need in order to communicate online with their family and friends worldwide.

Initially starting with only a trickle of participants, the program has grown and now includes over thirty. They come with little or no computer skills, and leave feeling accomplished and confident in their ability to communicate via technology.

Seniors are able to share photos, stories and news, keeping in touch



Mrs Asya Tabakov enjoying her computer lesson

with their loved ones near and far. However, the program that brings much joy and fulfilment to the lives of many families, needs ongoing funding.

If you would like to help with the funding of this program, please contact Deborah Harvey on 8508 6326 or dharvey@jewishcare.org.au

Bringing the World Closer

Life at Montefiore Home Residence is full of engaging, interactive activities, enriching the residents' social skills and capacities and bringing the world to their doors.

The Monte residents have recently gathered for a Skype session with Mr Eli Moscovitz of Montreal, Canada, who celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at the age of 89.

The residents were fascinated by his experience and asked him questions via Skype. The cross-continent interview has opened up new communication mediums to the Monte residents and inspired them to take new chances and feel young at heart.

Pastoral Care Professionalism

The Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) course, completed by a number of Rabbis in our community in June, has enhanced their pastoral and interpersonal skills and provided practical methods of interaction.

Rabbi Yosef Nerenberg, who is based at Gary Smorgon House, states that the experience-based learning in this course has helped him to understand and support residents and their families in a more efficient manner.

The project, a first of its kind in Australia, was run in partnership between Jewish Care, The Rabbinical Council of Victoria, The Alfred Hospital and Healthcare Chaplaincy Council of Victoria.



Rabbi Yosef Nerenberg with Rev Tom Miller

New & Improved Website

www.jewishcare.org.au

- Donate online
- Check our latest job listings
- Read our news
- Subscribe to our newsletter
- View events calendar
- View photo and video galleries

JewishCare
My Community. My Choice.

Partnerships and Community Engagement

Kicking Goals for a Good Cause

A group of eager over-30s men played an exciting football match in June to raise money for Jewish Care and the Melbourne Jewish Charity Fund (MJCF).

Both organisations were winners as they shared in over \$3000 of donations raised from the game.

Donations were made by the players, their supporters, families and friends.

The event's organiser, Reuben Zelwer, and a committee of friends enjoyed the camaraderie of the game while playing for a good cause, hoping to make this game an annual fundraising event.



(L-R) Reuben Zelwer, Bill Appleby (CEO, Jewish Care) and David Gold

A Lifetime of Giving

Community engagement is a key focus of Jewish Care. Likewise, Jewish Care is supported by many generous people who wish to give back to the community. Masha and Avram Zeleznikow present one such example. Over the past sixty years, this enduring couple have been actively involved in helping those in need within our community.

The Zeleznikows first became linked to Jewish Welfare when they arrived in Melbourne in 1951. They received a JumpStart loan and soon opened the Melbourne icon, Café Scheherazade, in 1958.

Together with Jewish Welfare, the couple supported newcomers to Victoria, including many Holocaust survivors.

Café Scheherazade was known as a welcoming environment for European migrants for almost fifty years, providing a place for them to connect with people who spoke their language and shared their cultural values and lifestyle.

Café Scheherazade became a 'home away from home' for many newcomers. Masha and Avram share their stories with true feelings of generosity. Avram once told about a customer: "He never had a family; never had a home...and Scheherazade became his home."

To this day, the Zeleznikows create new ways to involve newcomers to Australia alongside Jewish Care's Healthy Ageing Program. The couple started the Tuesday Club over 32 years ago where both have volunteered to organise weekly meetings inviting Russians and other European migrants to gatherings complemented with food, Russian and Yiddish news, music and socialising.

The Zeleznikows are dedicated to contribute to the causes of Jewish Care and as active volunteers for over three decades, they truly personify caring and passionate individuals.



Avram and Masha Zeleznikow

Sharing the New Harvest

Bialik College Early Learning Centre children happily decorated and donated over 300 Shavuot 'Bikkurim' (first fruit) baskets, which were delivered to residents of Jewish Care Disability Homes and Glen Eira Villas, over the festival.

We appreciate the children's involvement in the joy of sharing and giving to those in need and thank them for their ongoing support and generosity.



Bialik ELC children with their decorated Shavuot baskets

Circle of Care Exciting Day Out

Jewish Care recently hosted a special event for donors and members of the Circle of Care Club.

The participants enjoyed a presentation by Jewish Care's CEO, Bill Appleby, complemented by a delicious kosher lunch and an outing to the critically acclaimed show, *Café Scheherazade*, at Fortyfive Downstairs theatre, reliving the experiences of Eastern European migrants in Melbourne.

Cooking Up New Skills

Young Achievers Program (YAP) participants recently attended self-defence, cooking and leadership workshops, which form a part of their team-building and life-skills development activities.

The program encourages the youth to adopt a professional, can-do attitude and improve self-esteem.



YAP participants discovering their culinary talents

All participants are matched with supportive, personal mentors, assisting them to achieve more in all areas of their lives.

If you are aged 15-18 and willing to learn new skills, increase your confidence and build friendships within a great, fun environment, join the 2012 Young Achievers Program.



Young Achievers practising self-defence techniques

For more information and to apply for the 2012 Young Achievers Program, please contact Candis Herr on 8517 5626 or cherr@jewishcare.org.au

Volunteer Opportunities



Adina Brown and her kids Ben and Elisha busy packing Rosh Hashana gifts for residents

Jewish Care invites all interested volunteers to sign up for the next Working Bee Day. Volunteers of all ages will come together in a joint effort to pack 2000 Chanukah gifts containing chocolate coins and dreidels for Jewish Care's clients, elderly and isolated members of the community.

For more information, please contact Sari Eisen on 8517 5917 or seisen@jewishcare.org.au

YAP Mentor and Mentee Q&A



Karen Stock, YAP Mentor

Why did you choose to volunteer your time working with Young People?

I have always enjoyed young people and I find them great company because they are so full of life.

Working with young people challenges me to broaden my thinking and accept new ways of seeing the world.

What kind of advice does your mentee turn to you for?

My mentee and I discuss topics including school, family, relationships, careers and travel.

Why do you think your mentee turns to you for advice?

I don't see my role as an advisor but prefer to see us as two people sharing our views and opinions as equals. I learn a lot from what my mentee shares about herself and hope that she learns something from me.

I do not profess to know best or to have the right answers, but rather to share my views as something my mentee may wish to think about, but ultimately with the right to make her own choice without the fear of rejection or judgement.



Nechama Dee, YAP Mentee

What inspired you to apply to the Young Achievers Program?

My sister and some of my friends did it last year and I heard so many good things about it (workshops, activities, mentors) that I couldn't wait to sign up!

What kind of subjects do you talk to your mentor about?

I talk to her about anything; friends, family, school, going overseas or which camp I should go to.

Why do you turn to your mentor for advice?

A mentor is like a friend, only older and more experienced. I can count on her for advice; help making decisions, knowledge and experience. I can talk to her because she's really cool and understanding. I love meeting up with my mentor and talking to her, it really straightens out my life and keeps me on track.

Would you recommend YAP to others?

Yes! It is a fun, eye-opening experience, helping you to develop new skills for life, meet new people and get useful advice. This year was incredible, and I will definitely do it again next year. Everyone should join in, and they'll enjoy it as much as I do.

Share the Simcha

A Real Mitzvah!



Aimee Schwartz (right) was happy to mark her Bat Mitzvah celebration by making donations to Jewish Care



Mazal Tov to Alon Katz who recently celebrated his Bar Mitzvah by donating to Jewish Care



Arthur and Bina Best marked their 70th anniversary by helping those in need



Chloe Goldman, age 3 and sister Jessica, 5 raised money for Jewish Care by selling lollies to neighbours and friends

Jewish Care Welcomes Rosh Hashana

Residents, family and friends have recently celebrated the High Holy Days. The festive spirit of unity and joy was felt around all Jewish Care's facilities.



Felicia Moshel celebrating Rosh Hashana with her grandson Eliezer at Montefiore Home Residence



Montefiore Resident Leon Stern makes a 'L'Chaim'



Miriam Pink dancing at the ALC Rosh Hashana party



(L-R) : Klaudia Eydina, Olga Bessaron, Sofia Baru enjoy the ALC Rosh Hashana party



Rabbi Y. Reyder makes a blessing over the apple and honey at Munzer Community Residence



Children from Adass Israel School handing out honey biscuits to residents of Montefiore



Dora Honig (left) celebrating Rosh Hashana with her family at Smorgon Nursing Home



Raisa Naidich receiving a greeting card from a young visitor

Thank You!

A tremendous thank you to all those who have made their recent celebrations an opportunity to donate to Jewish Care.

Bat Mitzvah

Ella Coppel
Emma Berg
Aimee Schwartz
Jessica Brott
Jasmine Benge

Bar Mitzvah

Alon Katz
Jordan Benge
Jasper Dryen

Special Birthday

Dick Hayden
Susan Lincoln
Stanley Tremback
Rachel and
Jeff Lourie
Katarina Kont
Monique Sandor

35th Birthday

Ben Kohn

40th Birthday

Saul Milner

50th Birthday

Dean Estraich

60th Birthday

Merle Behr
Fay Bock
Bob Heilbrunn

70th Birthday

Susan Blashki
Michael Lewin
Clemens Epstein

Fay Rubenstein
Paul Nathan

80th Birthday

Bessie Hymans
Harry Brown

85th Birthday

Theddy Nossbaum

90th Birthday

Dora Bass
Sidney Silver

100th Birthday

Ignacy Tyrmand

Wedding

David Smorgon and
Kathie Rozner

45th Wedding Anniversary

Louis and
Dina Silber

50th Wedding Anniversary

Rubin and
Myra Katz

70th Wedding Anniversary

Arthur and
Bina Best

To share your Simcha, please contact our Development Team on (03) 8517 5963 or development@jewishcare.org.au

Did You Know?

You can now donate to a simcha online with your credit card or PayPal. It's easy! Simply go to www.jewishcare.org.au/donate

B'nei Mitzvah Program Encourages Young Adults to Make a Difference

Jewish Care Victoria, in conjunction with the Pratt Foundation, is proud to announce the launch of its new and exciting B'nei Mitzvah Program – a first of its kind Australian initiative, aiming to connect a new generation of young Jewish people to the concept of tzedakah and philanthropy.

Tzedakah, while often financial in nature, is also about sharing what you have with others, be it your time, skills, experience or talents. The reward is in the giving.

The program is designed for young adults celebrating their Bar/Bat Mitzvah, which marks the crucially important stage in one's life and signifies a turning point in one's transition into adulthood. As such, it is the perfect time for youth to become actively involved with Jewish Care and the wider community.

The Pratt Foundation generously supports the B'nei Mitzvah Program by matching each donation dollar for dollar. "We believe that young Jewish people at age 12 or 13 are ideal candidates for learning first-hand about how giving can make a difference," said Sam Lipski, Pratt

Foundation's CEO. "We hope that this experience will become a life-long memory, just like the Bar or Bat Mitzvah itself."

This unique initiative allows young Jewish adults to develop an appreciation for the vital services that support and enhance the wellbeing of the Victorian Jewish community.

All funds raised by the B'nei Mitzvah program are used for Jewish Care's social justice programs such as financial aid, employment creation, housing support, counselling, disability respite and other needed community support services.

"Learning the need to be a part of community and to add to its wellbeing and growth is contributing to its successful continuity," said Bruce Rosengarten, President of Jewish Care.

This program promotes a sense of communal responsibility and empowers young adults to assist Jewish Care in turning lives around, together.

If you would like to take part in the B'nei Mitzvah Program, please contact Emma Boyar on 8517 5933 or mitzvah@jewishcare.org.au

Be the Difference.
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BNEI MITZVAH
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Tzadik: Hebrew for righteous one.

Cultural and Spiritual

Time to Reach Higher



Rabbi Meir Shlomo Kluwgant

The Jewish New Year commemorates the creation of Adam, the very first man.

The Torah explains that the Almighty initially brought to life only one person

and not the entire mankind, in order to demonstrate the importance of every individual's potential, in the words of the Talmud: "The world was created for me."

During this time of the year, the Almighty empowers each and every one of us with tremendous strengths and blessings to overcome the challenges of the past and to accomplish more in the year ahead. We receive Divine energy to change our habits and attitudes in order to become happier and more accomplished with our lives. It is the perfect time to reflect on our full potential and to resolve to become better people, friends, colleagues and carers.

We all go through our own individual tests and challenges in life, such as

financial insecurity, health issues or family problems. Nevertheless, we also are gifted unique, distinct and fine qualities that are specifically designed to assist us with our personal challenges.

At Jewish Care we value the unique personalities of all individuals, regardless of their age, background and life situation. Our programs and services are designed to accommodate the various needs of the wider Jewish community. After all, our goal is to help each other to reach a meaningful life, and that's an important lesson we can all learn from Rosh Hashana.

With wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Rabbi Meir Shlomo Kluwgant

It's still not too late to make this year sweeter for those in need

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