

# Jewish Care

Annual Report 2014 – 2015



## JewishCare's Mission

Support and strengthen the resilience and independence of community members in need



**ALLAN BOYD VIDOR**  
President

## ALLAN VIDOR

Appointed as Director on 29 June 2006.

Born 29/03/1963 in Sydney, Australia.

Allan is the Managing Director of the Toga Group of Companies, a property development, construction, investment and hospitality management group.

He graduated from the University of NSW with Bachelor of Commerce and Laws degrees in 1985 and was admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW in 1986. Prior to Allan joining the Toga Group where he is responsible for the Group's strategy and operations, he worked in the banking and finance sector. He was appointed to the Board of JewishCare in 2006 having had strong earlier communal involvement with the Keren Hayesod and the United Israel Appeal.

Other directorships include the Tourism and Transport Forum (TTF) and the Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council (AIJAC).

Allan was elected President in 2011.



**LAWRENCE MYERS**  
Honorary Treasurer

## LAWRENCE MYERS

Appointed as Director on 26 June 2008.

Born on 17/04/1974 in Cape Town South Africa.

Lawrence is the Managing Director and founder of MBP Advisory Pty. Limited - a prominent high end Sydney firm - which he established in 1998. Prior to that, Lawrence spent 6 years in small and large Chartered Accounting firms. His client base spans a broad range of industries and activities and specialises in advising very high net worth individuals and families, their businesses and commercial endeavours. This portfolio includes some of Australia's largest private and public companies. Lawrence's specialist areas of practice include Mergers and Acquisitions, Corporate and Business advisory, Tax Consulting and Advisory, Succession Planning and Family Office services. He received a Bachelor of Accountancy from The University of South Australia. Lawrence is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, Taxation Institute of Australia and NTAA. He is a Registered Company



**DR JEFFREY LIONEL ENGELMAN**

Auditor and a Registered Tax Agent. Lawrence holds several board positions with private and not for profit organisations. Lawrence is also a non-executive director of Breville Group Limited, listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.

## DR JEFFREY ENGELMAN

Appointed as Director on 24 November 2005.

Born 08/11/1962 in Sydney, Australia.

Jeffrey is a Gastroenterologist, currently working in private practice in both the Eastern Suburbs and Kogarah. He has been in practice for over 20 years.

Jeffrey completed a higher degree at the UNSW after undertaking research in London, England. He has been actively involved in communal work having served on the Jewish Board of Deputies and being on the Holocaust Remembrance committee for two years.

He belongs to both South Head Synagogue and Maroubra Synagogue (where his father is a Life Vice President and Life member) and is also a



**SHIRLI KIRSCHNER**

member of the Australian Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants, where his father is a past President.

## SHIRLI KIRSCHNER

Appointed as Director on 20 March 2013

Born 05/12/1964 in Tel Aviv Israel

Shirli has a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and Law (UNSW) and is a Nationally accredited mediator.

She worked as a lawyer for six years before founding Resolve Advisors in 1996. Resolve provides services resolving disputes, assisting group decision making and process design to a wide client base in Australia and Internationally.

Shirli holds the position of dispute resolution adviser for the National Electricity and wholesale gas markets, an appointment as a sessional Lecturer in the Masters of Law Program at UNSW, a part time Registrar for the Federal Circuits Court.

Shirli currently sits on a number of National and International mediation panels. She has held positions on the Board of the Shalom Institute,





**TONY LEIBOWITZ**

the ADR committee of the Law Society and the Board of BRC (the Brain Resource Company) which specialises in brain functional analysis.

### **TONY LEIBOWITZ**

Appointed as Director on November 2014.

Born 18/09/1953 in Cape Town South Africa.

Since retiring as Senior Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), Tony has been involved in a number of investment activities and maintained an advisory business. He has also served on the board of Directors of numerous publicly listed companies both as Chairman and as a general board member.

Prior to retiring, Tony had been a partner in PricewaterhouseCoopers (and Coopers & Lybrand) for 14 years. During those years he specialised in Corporate Finance and Investment Banking and was responsible for the management of that part of the national practice of PwC.

The Financial Consulting and investment activities undertaken by Tony since retiring from PwC have



**DARRON LONSTEIN**

been similar in nature to those which he was responsible previously. He is currently the Executive Director of an ASX listed company and sits on the board of a UK listed fund manager.

Tony's core skills are in the areas of corporate governance, investment analysis, valuations, financial evaluation, commercial advice and negotiations. Over many years these skills have been applied on a wide range of assignments requiring both formal and informal reporting and provided as an independent adviser, board member and advocate.

Prior to moving to Sydney Tony was vice president of The Perth Hebrew Congregation and also served as an executive and treasurer of Carmel School.

### **DARRON LONSTEIN**

Appointed as Director on 20 March 2013

Born 30/07/1964 in Bulawayo Zimbabwe

Darron holds a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computer Science from UCT.

He was one of the founding Directors of



**DAVID MORRIS**

the network technology company, Com Tech, which was later sold to the global technology organisation, Dimension Data. During his time at Com Tech, Darron served as its Technical Services Director, responsible for all service and support activities as well as being involved in the strategic direction of the company.

Since then Darron spent several years as Executive Chairman of Controlled Climate Logistics, a logistics business focused on warehousing and distribution for confectionary and allied industries. Darron now invests across a range of property and equity assets and also has a number of private equity investments in start-up enterprises.

Darron has worked with JCA for many years and has been a member of the IT, Allocations, Planning and Executive Committees.

### **DAVID MORRIS**

Appointed as Director 22nd July 2014.

Born 15/01/1969.

David is the Chief Strategy Officer at Cochlear Limited, having been appointed in September

2011. Prior to this he was the President of Cochlear Bone Anchored Solutions, having been appointed to this position in September 2005. David joined Cochlear Limited in December 2002 as Senior Vice President, Business Development.

Prior to joining Cochlear Limited, David worked with Accenture in strategy and operational consulting, and has extensive International and Australian experience in the healthcare, consumer products, utilities and financial services industries.

David has a Bachelor of Business and a Bachelor of Applied Science from Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. He has also completed the Advanced Business Management Program at Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University in Chicago, USA.



**On behalf of the Board of JewishCare I have great pleasure presenting my fourth Annual Report to the community. In doing so I reflect on changes that have taken place over this period and the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead.**

In 2012, JewishCare moved into our purpose built Saber Street premises, a wonderful community resource providing a hub for all of our services including Print35 Design Studio as well as meeting and Board rooms which are regularly utilised by many other communal organisations. Our new signage on Newland Street clearly shows 'the hand', which since our 2010 Capital Appeal has been the distinctive symbol of JewishCare,

While a large part of our work still relates to supporting elderly members of the community, in recent times JewishCare has increased its activities in the fields of Mental Health and Domestic Violence, two areas that have seen an increase in need within our community. Our Mental Health services has been rebranded as the Mental Health and Wellbeing program reflecting the changing focus of much of our work. Our recent cooperative arrangements with Headspace and Partners In Recovery and our leading role in Mental Health Month demonstrates the level of respect in which our Mental Health and Wellbeing program is held.

Recent government initiatives have raised further awareness in relation to domestic violence. Sadly our Jewish community is not immune and JewishCare continues to support women and children exposed to domestic violence, helping them to get their lives back on track. JewishCare's White Ribbon Days Men's Breakfast which encourages men to stand up against domestic violence, is gaining increased traction and attracting more attendees each year. Community Rabbis are increasingly engaging with JewishCare in the post White Ribbon Day Breakfast community awareness campaign. JewishCare is also playing an important role in the school based Love Bites program which educates children about domestic violence as well as respectful relationships.

Since 2012, funds provided by The Chai Foundation have enabled JewishCare to assist over 350 community members in financial crisis. This help by way of food vouchers or direct payment to medical professionals or chemists or other service providers, together with the professional support of JewishCare's staff, has made a significant difference to the lives of vulnerable people.

The recently commissioned survey of our Clients, Family/ Carers and Volunteers carried out by The Voice Project has confirmed the belief that JewishCare provides high quality services and care to our clients. In virtually every respect our results benchmarked higher than equivalent organisations with clients expressing a very high level of satisfaction with the services received.

As mentioned previously this is a time of unprecedented change in terms of the way government will fund services for the aged and for people with a disability, including certain mental health conditions. As government represents our biggest single funding source the implications of these changes are significant. The Board and executive of JewishCare are very mindful of the challenges and in fact opportunities that lay ahead. The range of skills and experience around the Board is impressive and the community can be assured that strategic decisions will be made and resources will be allocated in a way that will best meets the future needs of the community.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the valuable contributions of our Vice President Dr Jeffrey Engelman who has been a Director for ten years and retires this year allowing for ongoing Board renewal in line with our Board Charter. I especially want to thank Richard Spencer who stood in so effectively as CEO during Claire Vernon's sabbatical break making a great impact in the short time he led the organisation.

On behalf of the Board I wish to express our condolences to the family of former Board member Erica Turek who passed away during the year. Erica spent 11 years on the Board and made a substantial contribution to our organisation.

I continue to be impressed with the skills, expertise and passion of the dedicated team who work and volunteer for JewishCare. Many of the issues they are responding to are complex and emotional and our strong teamwork and culture of staff support and supervision means that the response is always at a high level of professionalism.

Our 200 staff and 450 volunteers continue to be our greatest resource and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of these people for their dedication that has enabled JewishCare to continue to help so many people.

**Allan Vidor  
President**



**The 2015 financial year was a year of further consolidation of the financial position of the organisation. JewishCare recorded an operating deficit of (\$17,464) as against last year's operating surplus of \$478,638.**

JewishCare requested a smaller grant from the Jewish Communal Appeal (JCA) in the 2015 financial year as a result of the large surplus recorded in the previous year which was due to larger than expected Claims Conference and government grants. Notwithstanding this \$600,000 voluntary reduction in JCA funding, JewishCare still managed a near breakeven result. This is an excellent reflection of the sound economic management and cost control of the organisation and its senior management.

In March, JewishCare's highly regarded CEO, Ms. Claire Vernon began a sabbatical away from the organisation. During Claire's absence, we have been fortunate to have Mr. Richard Spencer acting in the capacity as CEO. We look forward to working with Richard into the future on a range of consulting projects.

## REVENUE

Government funding remains the largest single source of funding for JewishCare, contributing one-third of total receipts. The Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany (Claims Conference) represents another major funding source. Given the ageing of the Holocaust-Survivor population and their increasing dependency on support, the annual allocation has been increased significantly for 2015.

Notwithstanding the voluntary reduction in JCA funding in 2015, the organisation received \$1,794,373 from the JCA which is gratefully acknowledged.

We would also like to thank the Lowy family for providing support of the Chai Foundation, and particularly for allowing us to use funds from this Foundation for the provision of additional vital services to our community.

Earned income, from client fees increased by 30% during the year, still only representing 13% of JewishCare's annual turnover. Therefore, the organisation remains reliant on donations, grants and endowments from the community.

## EXPENDITURE

Operating expenditure increased by 10% over the prior year to \$11,597,149 from \$10,577,661.

The 2015 result reflects savings in publicity and advertising as well as insurance and communication costs. Production costs have moved in line with the increased Print35 sales result. Relief expenditure – directly supporting our clients – has increased by 11%.

The largest single item of expenditure remains salary and related costs. Over 80% of the operating budget is spent on salaries, superannuation and related items. Staff numbers increased by 9% during the year, predominantly in service delivery areas.

## ASSETS

The total assets of JewishCare as at 30 June 2015 were \$13,839,147. This is a minor increase over the June 2014 amount of \$13,488,932. More than half of JewishCare's assets are real property, vehicles and other equipment used in the provision of services to the community. A further 35% of assets are represented by cash and deposits.

## LIABILITIES

Total liabilities as at 30 June 2015 were \$2,975,381 compared to \$2,487,850 at the previous year end. In line with the increase in staff, our employment related entitlements have increased by 10% over the year, which represents 42% of all liabilities.

Trade and other payables remains at 6% of annual turnover – a good indication of financial health.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Board and management decisions are supported by the timely reporting received from JewishCare's Finance and Administration team. The Board is pleased with the senior and program managers' skills in the day-to-day operations as well their contribution to the budgeting process. JewishCare's management team has continued to demonstrate a commitment to quality services to clients while running a tight, well planned and executed operation.

## BURGER CENTRE

Sir Moses Montefiore Home and JewishCare operate Burger Centre aged day care facility in partnership, holding equal rights in the registered company - The Burger Centre Pty Ltd.

During 2014-15 no financial support was provided to Burger Centre. The annual result was \$92 shortfall and JewishCare recorded 50% of this operating deficit. JewishCare has accounted for a \$131,949 impairment of the investment carrying value in line with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.



# SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

## FUTURE CHALLENGES

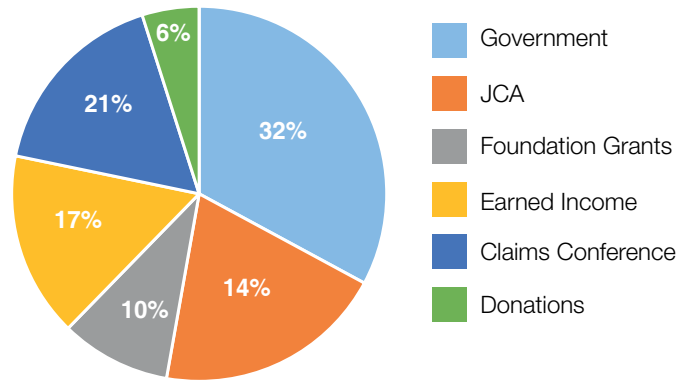
JewishCare faces significant and important challenges in the years ahead. In line with government requirements, the transition to CDC (Consumer Directed Care) has begun in July. This, along with the planned transition to NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) represents the biggest change to JewishCare's government funding and operating framework in decades. It will require a fundamental change in the way that JewishCare services our community and conducts its activities. The board and senior management have spent considerable time and resources in preparing the organisation for these cultural

and organisational changes which will be required to ensure JewishCare's long term viability.

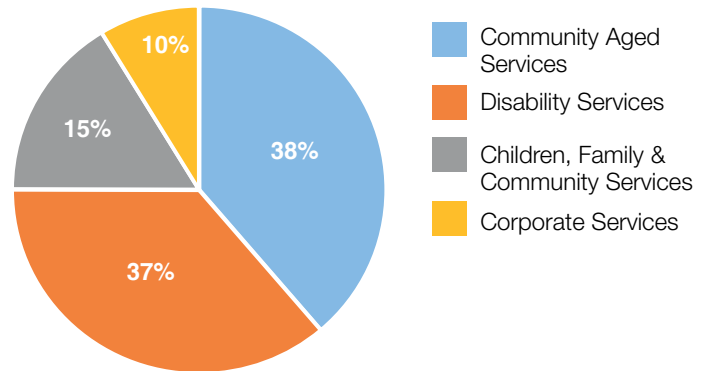
I would like to express our thanks to the auditors, Deloitte Private, as well as to the Senior Managers and the Finance and Administration team at JewishCare for their continued support of the Board and management of the organisation.

**Lawrence Myers**  
**Honorary Treasurer**

SOURCES OF FUNDS	2015
Government	3,749,761
JCA	1,601,472
Foundation Grants	1,160,000
Earned Income	1,986,945
Claims Conference	2,426,056
Donations	667,594
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,591,828</b>



USE OF FUNDS	2015
Community Aged Services	4,408,407
Disability Services	4,323,246
Children, Family & Community Services	1,782,893
Corporate Services	1,214,598
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,729,144</b>



SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INCOME & EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	2015
Revenue	11,591,828
Employee benefits expense	-9,592,615
Depreciation expense	-361,042
Client care expense	-576,829
Rent and utilities expense	-148,216
Insurance expense	-60,216
Other expenses	-990,226
<b>Operational Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>-137,316</b>





**During the year I took seven months leave from JewishCare and we were fortunate to recruit Richard Spencer to act as Chief Executive Officer during this time.**

Besides giving me an opportunity to travel and spend time with family and friends I think there were a number of other outcomes which are worth reflecting on.

The overwhelming response Richard and I have had from fellow CEOs is what an innovative thing to do.

Finding someone to be the right fit is crucial and my knowledge of the diverse not for profit sector assisted me in identifying Richard and contacting him about the possibility. Richard is best known for his previous role as CEO of the Benevolent Society, an organisation I know well and his reputation for having a solid management and operational overview combined with a strategic focus made him an obvious choice.

Too often leaders resign from positions of responsibility when in fact all they might need is a break. Any Board recognises the challenges inherent in recruiting a new CEO and the resources required to find the right candidate. By having a break the long term tenure of the CEO is increased. A break also recognises the contemporary focus on work and life balance and that in fact an energised leader is what any organisation needs.

It provided the Board with a new perspective on the organisation. Directors largely rely on the CEO to report on operational issues and despite any number of external audits and surveys they can often be left wondering if things are running to an optimal level. Richard, with his wealth of experience in both the corporate and non government sectors, was able to confirm to the JewishCare Board that the organisation is efficient and effective and providing quality services to the community.

To ensure success of Richard's tenure as CEO a thorough hand over was important to minimise disruption to the organisation. Richard spent two days a week at JewishCare for a month prior to my departure and in that time attended key internal and external meetings. He also met a number of key stakeholders and was able to build on these relationships during his tenure.

Too often in leadership roles, particularly after a five to ten year tenure, leaders can become protective of the status quo and defensive when aspects of the organisation are questioned. Richard brought a new perspective and lens to the operations of JewishCare. It also exposed staff at JewishCare to a different management style which was a good developmental opportunity for them.

By providing strong leadership to the staff and working with the Board on strategic directions, Richard was able to steer JewishCare and ensure it was in great shape for my return.

My thanks to the Board and Richard for providing me with this amazing opportunity.

**Claire Vernon**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## **JEWISHCARE'S UNIQUE VALUE AND OFFERING**

***JewishCare offers services to a wide cross section of the community:***

- ***the aged***
- ***people with a disability***
- ***families and children***
- ***those with mental health issues***

***We support by:***

- ***giving information, advice and referrals based on assessment and planning***
- ***providing practical support and assistance***
- ***helping people acquire skills to deal with challenges they face***
- ***developing and building social connections***

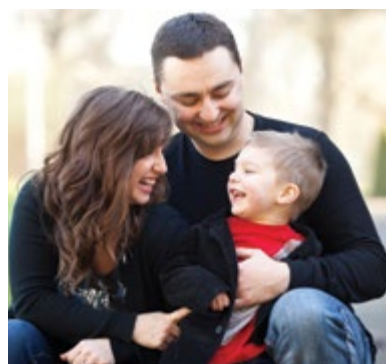


## ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SERVICE USERS 2014-2015

	<b>Program</b>	<b>Estimated number of service users over the year</b>
<b>Community Aged Services</b>	Home Support	400
	Club 50	266
	Community Club Network	450
	Restitution	667
	Russian Community Development	88
	Links	42
	Aged Casework	420
	Occupational Therapy	90
	Herta Muller	56
<b>Children Family and Community Services</b>	Chessed	48
	Youth Services:	
	Big Brothers Big Sisters	98
	Mentoring	28
	Youth Casework	27
	Family Support	151
	Domestic Violence	47
	Family to Family Respite	15
	Prison Outreach	36
	Family Dispute Resolution	60
Mental Health	187	
<b>Disability Services</b>	Beit Chaim	23
	Print35 Design Studio	17
	24 Supported Accommodation	15
	Options	93
	Chai Flexible Relief Fund	80
<b>Other</b>	FirstCall	1796
	Chai Emergency Relief	102
	Communal organisations using the Saber St facilities	20



Enabling independence at home



Support through challenging times



Improving health and wellbeing



Working together for a great life



**When Hannah came to JewishCare back in 2011, she was experiencing significant levels of stress due to ongoing family issues. It was affecting her interest and performance in school, as well as her optimism about the future. Hannah was referred to JewishCare's Big Brothers Big Sisters program, which links children aged 7-15 with older mentors for friendship and support. Hannah spent three years in the program with her Big Sister Nikki and the regular contact significantly increased Hannah's social interest and skills.**

Hannah states, "I was an 8 year old girl who was disillusioned with the world and generally didn't like being around people. Nikki showed me that people can be fun, and she became my first real friend." Over this period JewishCare continued to assist family members with other needs, including involvement in the Mental Health and Wellbeing program, housing support, volunteer tutors, and support with some complex financial issues.

Two years ago Hannah began working with Loretta King, a counsellor with JewishCare's Youth Services team. Loretta states, "I've always found Hannah to be proud, forthright, discerning and intelligent. During one of our weekly sessions she expressed a passion to learn the violin. This had previously not been possible due to the cost of an instrument and lessons."

JewishCare set about making this wish a reality. With the assistance of the volunteer manager Lana Kofman, a volunteer teacher was found, the acclaimed violinist, conductor and lecturer, Sam Podjarsky. Originally from Odessa, Russia, Sam is now a permanent violinist with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra. While he agreed to teach Hannah on a pro bono basis, he felt it was important she have a suitable instrument. Loretta King managed to acquire such an instrument and weekly lessons began. Some twelve months later, Sam commented, "At the beginning I wasn't sure if everything would work out, but Hannah works hard and over the past year her playing has improved. There's something in her in musical terms. It's her thing! Also, my grandchildren visit on the day she comes for her lessons and they love her! She's so good with them. She's learning Fiddler on the Roof and the Dreidle song. On a personal level, she's open and very conversational and I really enjoy our sessions."

Now in year 12, Hannah has a wide range of interests outside of music, including palaeontology, astrology, and fan fiction. Through JewishCare's Young Adult

Mentoring Program, Hannah has recently been linked with a mentor, whom she meets up with on a fortnightly basis. This provides her with the opportunity of having someone older, someone outside of her home and school environment, whom she can spend time with someone she knows is always there for her. They continue to enjoy the time they spend together and continue to build a positive friendship.

The impact of JewishCare's involvement with Hannah and her family, and the often complex issues that have been presented, are reflected in Hannah's ongoing progress and strong future prospects. Perhaps, this is best summed up by her grandmother who has said, "Our family is indebted to JewishCare for the amazing case workers, counsellors, Big Sisters, mentors, volunteers, all who have helped us though a stressful and hard 10 years. We could not have asked for more dedicated and sincere people. From the bottom of all our hearts, we thank you".





**Fiona was born in Sydney and moved to Los Angeles. She later married, had a daughter and the family were naturally very excited about the upcoming arrival of a new baby.**

Soon after Matis' birth in February 2013 it was evident that he had Downs Syndrome. When Matis was 10 months old the family suffered yet another shock. Matis had a lot of wet nappies and initially it was thought that he might be dehydrated. He was taken to Emergency at the local hospital and after initially investigating what doctors thought might have been a kidney problem he was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes and became insulin dependent.

Fiona initially did not realise the implications of this disease in which the body's immune system destroys insulin producing cells in the pancreas. The family embarked on a steep learning curve and learnt how critical management of blood levels are. If left unchecked, the disease can be life-threatening and has the potential to affect nearly every organ. Worse yet, the disease can lead to coma and potentially be fatal.

The family came home from hospital with a list of instructions which included checking Matis' blood every two hours. 12 times a day, his blood had to be taken and tested - and injections had to be given. Fiona said, "Diabetes is a difficult disease to manage and it felt almost impossible to keep Matis' blood sugar levels in range, even when following all the directions from our endocrinologist. We were waking up several times a night to check his blood sugar levels, and we had become very sleep deprived. There was constant fear of low blood sugars - hypoglycaemia and much anxiety in-between checks. We even tried restricting foods just to keep his blood sugar more stable."

In June 2014, the family decided to relocate from L.A. back to Sydney where they would have more support from Fiona's family. A friend suggested Fiona should contact JewishCare and soon Terri, a JewishCare Options coordinator from the Disability Team began the process of assisting the family. "I immediately had a great rapport with Terri and knew JewishCare would be of great assistance to me. I was very pleasantly surprised with the range of support services and the competence and commitment of the staff" said Fiona.

As if life hadn't already challenged the family enough, Matis was then diagnosed with Sleep Apnoea and he was soon back in hospital to have his tonsils and adenoids removed. Fortunately, the surgery proved successful and he is now getting a restful night's sleep.

What happened over the following months was life changing for the family. A doctor from the Children's Hospital who was treating Matis advised that technology was available that can automatically monitor blood and send an alert if action is required. The technology known as a Continuous Glucose Monitor involves a mobile monitor linked to a small device just underneath the skin that takes blood samples 12 times a day, thereby obviating the need to take blood manually. The device also stores and analyses data which can help predict problems as they are developing. This technology would be of great benefit to the family in so many ways however the monitor and its on-going use are expensive and not subsidised under Medicare.

Charmaine who coordinates JewishCare's Affiliated Professionals program, in which professional service providers especially medical professionals, provide pro bono help to members of the community in financial need, contacted leading Endocrinologist, Professor Tuch, who then approached Colin Bloch, President of Bondi Lions Club, on Matis' behalf.

The Lions Club agreed to purchase the device plus the required consumables (needles) for 12 months. Within a few weeks the device was purchased and the family began experiencing the benefits.

"I can't thank the staff of JewishCare enough. Their caring attitude and professionalism has been remarkable. They have gone far beyond the normal call of duty. Without their initiative in engaging Professor Tuch and the generosity of The Lions Club, we would not have access to this technology which has made such a difference to our lives." said Fiona.





**Yacov was born 1931 in Romania, where he remained until after World War II. After the War he moved to Israel where, in a theme that would repeat itself many times during his life he became fluent in the language and an active community participant in a very short space of time. In Israel he worked as a paramedic among a number of other jobs, got married and brought up a son and a daughter.**

He then lived in Australia until 1984 when he moved to Indonesia and later married Nenne with whom he had three children. He worked for the UN and for USAid, his role being to help villagers to sell their art and craftworks into foreign markets. His initiative and tutelage was of great long-term benefit to the locals, who came to not only accept him, but to admire and respect his wisdom and generous spirit. He also established a business with his eldest son from his first marriage, selling Indonesian made furniture.

During the 1990s he began suffering from circulation and later kidney problems which were becoming increasingly debilitating. His much cherished independence and mobility were becoming restricted and in 2009 he decided to come to Australia for what he thought would be short term medical interventions, intending to return to Indonesia as soon as possible. Sadly within a short time, first one then soon after his remaining leg had to be amputated. He subsequently required a heart by-pass and was confined to a wheelchair, which left him extremely depressed. In 2010 his Indonesian wife and children, and now one grandchild, made the momentous decision to leave their large family and move to Australia to be with their beloved Yacov.

In 2011 Yacov realised he needed more help than his family could provide and he contacted JewishCare where he was initially referred to The Burger Centre. His daughter Jennifer explained "He loved the Burger Centre so much, it gave him a feeling of independence, he made new friends and his 'mens table' was the site of many stimulating discussions about a wide range of topics including religion, politics and current affairs". Throughout his life he craved mental stimulation and would often sit for hours solving page after page of mathematic equations. His family credits this determination with the high level of mental sharpness he displayed throughout his life.

Not only did his health decline but the business he operated with his son went bankrupt and Yacov lost everything in a financial sense. It became obvious that

he required further help and Iris of the Aged Care Team, as well as the Restitution Team, commenced working with him. Over the following years, JewishCare provided a wide range of help. Being a Holocaust Survivor with limited resources, he was eligible for assistance from The Claims Conference. Iris and the Restitution Team secured funds to install a ramp at the front of his home. Critical medications that he would not have been able to afford were paid for and, importantly, he was also able to hire an electric wheelchair. "This wheelchair was a life saver to him" said Jennifer, "It helped him to regain much of his independence which he could see diminishing".

JewishCare's Links program enabled Yacov to regularly meet up with a volunteer, often driving his electric wheelchair on the road, for a chat and a coffee at the local shopping centre. JewishCare also helped pay for some utility bills, a heater and Coles vouchers via the Chai Foundation. Despite his compromised health and financial position this enabled him to feel that his community was helping to look after his family.

Sadly Yacov's health problems caught up with him and after two months in hospital Yacov died in October 2015. "Daddy really appreciated all the support that JewishCare was able to provide. Just knowing JewishCare and especially Iris were there for him made him feel secure, like part of a community. He loved speaking to Iris in Hebrew, it made him feel very much at home, she was not only very professional but very caring. We will always be thankful for the way JewishCare has helped our family" said Jennifer





Georgy Kapchits was born in Russia in 1994 and lived in St Petersburg until he came to Australia on a student Visa in 2010. “I wanted to get a better education than I thought I could get in Russia and had always wanted to visit Australia” said Georgy.

He enrolled in an accountancy course at Macquarie University and immediately fell in love with the country and knew he wanted to live here.

Following an inspirational sermon from Rabbi Ninio about the mutually beneficial rewards of volunteering, Georgy sent emails to a few organisations. Lana Kofman, JewishCare’s volunteer manager, quickly responded and initially arranged for him to be trained as a volunteer for the Burger Centre. Since March 2015, volunteering has been an important and a very rewarding part of Georgy’s life. He has also helped with the tutoring of young clients, the Shabbat Project and with many administrative tasks, including in the Accounts Section. Overall, in a very short time he has already devoted more than 380 hours volunteering for JewishCare.



“I am now on a working visa, have a job and have made some great friends. I credit my volunteering time with helping to improve my confidence, especially my English skills and helping me to understand the culture of this city where I intend to stay. Whatever the future holds I will always find the time to continue volunteering for JewishCare” said Georgy.

## BRIEF TRIBUTE TO NANCY AND MAURICE GOLDBERG ON THEIR 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Nancy and Maurice Goldberg celebrated their Platinum, 70th wedding anniversary on 11th November 2015.

They were High School sweethearts in South Africa and went out together for 7 years prior to their wedding day – so they have actually had a 77 year partnership.

In that time, there have been many highs including the births of their 4 children, their grandchildren and great-grandchildren, joy and fun dancing, playing bridge and sport and loving life. Their commitment to each other and their innate strength enabled them to weather the grief of the untimely death of Khannah, their youngest daughter.

They have made two migrations with four young children, sacrificing an easy lifestyle for uncertainty. Their choice to move to Australia some 50 years ago was wise and far-sighted and their children are eternally grateful.

Nancy and Maurice have always maintained a positive attitude, an interest in the world at large and are

blessed to have full cognitive function, even at the age of 93 years.

Their decision to request the guests at their anniversary party donate to JewishCare in lieu of gifts, is yet another example of their generosity and community spirit.





# DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS

**JewishCare continues to benefit from donations given as gifts in lieu for birthdays, anniversaries and Chaggim. These donations provide a valuable stream of income for services that assist the aged, families in crisis, vulnerable children, and those with mental illness.**

An increasing number of people are deciding that, rather than receiving gifts for their birthdays, they ask their guests to make a donation to JewishCare. By choosing our organisation, their generous gestures endorse the valuable work performed by our professional staff.

It is rewarding to recognise that many children generously make the decision to give a portion of their Bar/Batmitzvah gifts to JewishCare, and in the process, learn firsthand from our teams about the hardships and difficulties our younger clients face.

A number of our donors also make contributions each year in memory of a loved one.

We appreciate and acknowledge the financial contributions we receive for our Mental Health Foundation which supports our Mental Health and Wellbeing Program which provides support for about 200 clients and their families.

We are also most appreciative for contributions to the JewishCare Foundation Trust. In the last financial year \$900,000 was given by the Trust to support our programs and services.

**A bequest remains the ultimate gift you can make to our organisation.** JewishCare relies on bequests to continue its services to the community, for now, and into the future. Setting aside a portion of a person's assets for JewishCare also ensures that the memory of that person's good deed lives on and on.

Bequests are often made by long standing clients of JewishCare who have received assistance from a number of programs.

We also receive bequests from those who know of the wide spectrum of services we offer, and the high standard for which we always strive. Their generous gestures are a way of acknowledging and endorsing JewishCare's contribution to the community.

We are extremely grateful to all those who have included JewishCare in their wills, and acknowledge those who have contributed to our organisation in such a valuable way.

If you want to find out more about how you can make a contribution or a bequest to JewishCare please call Maureen Mendelowitz on 9302 8003.

**MAUREEN MENDELOWITZ**  
**Donations And Bequests Manager**

## Gifts in Lieu

- |                            |                          |                               |
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B'Nai B'Rith - Sydney Masada Unit 1546	Faul Allon	Gyenes Judith	Katz Helen	Lonstein Valerie	Rabie Hayley	Sher Steven	Weiss Nelly
Bootcov Michelle	Faul Josef	Haifer Maurice	Katz Natalie	Lopis Arnold	Radomsky Cecile	Sher Sylvia	Wesek Reuben
Border Martin	Fayn Suzan	Halas Anthony	Katz Sharon	Losurdo Daniele	Radomsky Leonard	Sher Thelma	White Les
Borowsky Bob	Feilich Cyril	Hammer Gael	Katz Simmy	Lowy Helen	Reid Anne	Sherman Barry	Wilkenfeld Simon
Bortz Alan	Feingold Mavis	Haneman Peter	Katz Steven	Lowy Julianna	Reingold Cynthia	Sherman Barry	Wolf Felicity
Boskovitz Agnes	Fekete Rose	Harris Basil	Katzeff Saul	Lurie Ethne	Reinhardt Mark	Sherman Barry	Wolf Michael
Boyarsky Andrew	Fine Theresa (Terry)	Hart Sandra	Kaufman Dina	Ressnick Sybil	Resnick Sybil	Sherman Barry	Wolf Sonya
Boyer John	Fink Bruce	Heilig Anne	Kaye Elise	Rogers John	Rohald Stan & Jeannette	Sherman Barry	Woods Michael
Braham Michael	Finkelstein Bernice	Heller Gillian	Kaye Roger	Rohald Tessa	Rohald Tessa	Sherman Barry	Zaidel Danny
Brandt Selwyn	Finkelstein Ruth	Helprin Samuel	Keleman Tom	Romer Zoltan	Romer Zoltan	Sherman Barry	Zeckendorf Otto
Brandt-Sarif Alicia	Fischer Joe	Hempton John	Kessell Joshua	Rosenberg Bertram	Rosenberg Bertram	Sherman Barry	Ziman Alex
Bregman Lucelle	Fischer Kurt	Hendler Gary	Kessler Cecily	Rosenberg Cliff	Rosenberg Cliff	Sherman Barry	Ziman Geoff and Lisa
Breuer Joanna	Fischl Gerald	Herman David	Kessler Raymond	Rosenberg Julie	Rosenberg Julie	Sherman Barry	Ziman Robyn
Broll Cheryl	Fisher Fran	Herman Howard	Kessler Selwyn	Rosenberg Ross Duncan	Rosenberg Ross Duncan	Sherman Barry	Zipser Ann
Brosan Ariella	Fisher Mark	Herman Jennifer	Kettler Hazel	Rosenfeld July	Rosenfeld July	Sherman Barry	Zucker Joe
Browne Wesley	Flax Renee	Herman Leeba	Kichkin Eva	Ross Duncan	Ross Duncan	Sherman Barry	Zulberg Naomi
Buchman Ilan	Fleischer Shirley	Hertzberg A	Kilov Esmond			Sherman Barry	Zulman Jeffrey
Buckler Margaret	Forbath Magda		King Steven			Sherman Barry	
Bukofzer Tina	Ford Eva		Kirschner Shirli			Sherman Barry	
Burdo Ron	Forrester Mary		Kirsh David			Sherman Barry	
Burman Robyn	Frank Rita					Sherman Barry	

# Contact

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