



Jewish Renaissance Foundation

“One People, One Heart”

**2025
3rd Qtr Newsletter**

July - September

OUR MISSION. The Jewish Renaissance Foundation (JRF) is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization founded by individuals who feel compelled to act upon the teachings of the Jewish faith. **With two federal designations:** as an Anti-Poverty Agency and as a Federally Qualified Health Center, we believe as citizens in a democratic society, we must respond to the needs of our neighbors and share our talents and resources. The JRF is committed to helping individuals/families become healthier and stronger.

We believe in changing lives by creating hope and self-sufficiency, and we succeed by providing individuals, children and families with essential health and human services, community development and youth programs. Our life-improving services extend across all cultures and faiths, regardless of economic status.



Message
FROM THE CEO

"It is with deep gratitude and great enthusiasm that I step into the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Renaissance Foundation. I am honored to lead this extraordinary organization at a time when our mission—to strengthen individuals, families, and communities through education, health, and human services—is more vital than ever."

*With appreciation and hope,
Alexandra Mansonet, MSW*

**The JRF Welcomes
Alexandra "Sandy" Mansonet,
as CEO**

We are proud to announce the return of Ms. Alexandra "Sandy" Mansonet, as Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Renaissance Foundation, effective August 2025.

Ms. Mansonet is no stranger to our organization. Her history with JRF, along with her passion for our mission, makes her return both meaningful and inspiring. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to strengthening families, uplifting underserved communities, and advancing equity through education, health, and social services—all of which are central to JRF's identity.

We look forward to the journey ahead & the continued growth of our mission under her thoughtful and visionary leadership.

HEALTH SERVICES

**The JRF Community Health Center Honors
Yisel Cordova as our 2025 NJPCA Healthcare Hero**

On September 18, 2025, NJPCA honored Healthcare Heroes across New Jersey. The NJPCA Healthcare Hero Award recognizes outstanding healthcare professionals in New Jersey who go above and beyond in serving their patients and communities. This award highlights the efforts of healthcare workers who make significant impacts on the quality of care and the well-being of communities.

At the [JRF Community Health Center](#), we recognized Yisel Cordova, Dental Assistant, for her exceptional technical skills, empathy, and professionalism. Her positive attitude and calming presence help create a comfortable experience for patients and support a smooth workflow for the entire team. Yisel's dedication to maintaining clean, well-prepared treatment rooms and efficient operations makes her an invaluable part of our center. We are deeply grateful for all that she does.



COMMUNITY SERVICES



A Brush with Kindness

On July 22, 2025, the [Perth Amboy Alliance for Community \(PAAC\)](#) program came together with our incredible partners to show what kindness, teamwork, and pride in our neighborhood looks like! Together, we created something meaningful — not just cleaner spaces and brighter homes, but stronger community connections. With the help of dedicated volunteers, we:

- Repaired the exteriors of 3 homes in the City of Perth Amboy PAAC Neighborhood
- Cleaned up streets near the homes and around the PAAC Community Garden.
- Built and installed floating flowerpots to brighten up the garden space.

This incredible day wouldn't have been possible without our powerful partnerships and volunteers from the Greater Middlesex Morris Habitat for Humanity, the City of Perth Amboy – Green Team, and the students and staff of the JRF Step Up Program, School-Based Youth Services Program, and the Emerging Leaders Program.

FAMILY SERVICES

**A Place Where Families Grow
Together**

On Saturday, August 9, the [Bayside Family Success Center \(FSC\)](#) and JRF Community Health Center hosted a Back-to-School event supporting over 250 families as they prepared for the new school year. Parents, children, staff, and volunteers came together to create a warm, festive atmosphere filled with community spirit. Families received backpacks, school supplies, shoes, and enjoyed refreshments, music, and health and wellness services from our partners. The City of Perth Amboy also provided a tent to help keep everyone comfortable throughout the day. The smiles and gratitude of families reminded us how powerful it is when our community comes together.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partners and volunteers, whose support helped make this event possible: Horizon NJ Health, The City of Perth Amboy, PAAC, NJ4S, Blessings from Above, Wellpoint, Municipal Alliance, JRF Community Health Center, Perth Amboy Police Department, PNC Bank, and Walk a Mile in Our Shoes and our wonderful volunteers. Your support allows us to provide meaningful experiences and connections that make a real difference.



YOUTH SERVICES

**Affirmation Wall for Suicide
Prevention Month**

During lunch periods, the [School Base Youth Services Program](#) at PAHS set up an Affirmation Wall as part of our efforts to raise awareness about suicide prevention. Students were invited to write encouraging notes to their peers, fostering a supportive and positive school environment. Additionally, students took notes for themselves, reinforcing self-affirmation and mental wellness. This initiative not only helped promote open conversations about mental health but also encouraged kindness and empathy within the student body.



Anti-Poverty Youth Summit

Students from our [Step-Up Program](#) actively participated in the Anti-Poverty Youth Summit where they learned about poverty within the community and how to use Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to bring awareness. Students completed their Anti-Poverty PSAs in groups. Each group covered a topic and presented their PSAs at the end of the program. Students participated in a presentation of each PSA and were each presented with a certificate of program completion.

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN & TO SERVE



AmeriCorps Service Opportunities

AmeriCorps is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps provides opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds to serve their country, address the nation's most pressing challenges, and improve lives and communities. As an AmeriCorps member at the JRF, you will build a competitive resume and gain leadership skills that will help take your career goals to the next level.



Alternative Education Institute

The Alternative Education Institute (AEI) program is a comprehensive educational program delivered in a non-traditional learning environment to help youth with parental consent between the ages of 16 – 17 and adults earn their New Jersey State High School Equivalency Diploma. AEI students can choose between two tracks — English or Spanish — and meet virtually or in person each week.

Upcoming Events

Join Us for a *Night of Purpose, Elegance, and Impact*
You're invited to an unforgettable evening at the Jewish Renaissance Foundation's **Annual Gala**, at the breathtaking:

Park Chateau Estate and Gardens
on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:30 PM

This special evening unites community leaders, partners, and friends in support of our mission to empower more than 6,000 individuals across Middlesex County each year. With your support, we strengthen programs that uplift our community — from health and human services to family development, education, nutrition, and emergency assistance.

The evening will include a cocktail reception, an elegant dinner & awards ceremony honoring four inspiring leaders making a difference across Middlesex County — and wrapping up the night with an unforgettable tribute performance to the King of Pop!

Don't miss this opportunity to make a meaningful impact while enjoying an unforgettable night!



Register Here

JOIN OUR TEAM & MEET OUR SUPERSTARS!

We Are Hiring!

- Chief Medical Officer, FT
- Credentialing/Billing Specialist, FT
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), PT
- Family Practice Physician, PT

Quarterly Superstar

Wendy Medina
Program Director / Manager
Alternative Education Institute (AEI)

Quarterly Superstar

Precious Ojeda
Sr. Coordinator
School Based Youth Services Program (SBYSF)



Programs & Locations

Serving the Borough of Carteret, the Borough of Metuchen, the Borough of Highland Park, the Borough of Sayreville, the City of Perth Amboy, the Township of Edison, and the Township of Woodbridge.

Bayside Family Success Center
500 Dobranski Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
732-638-5063

JRF Community Health Center
1931 Oak Tree Road, Lower Level
Edison, NJ 08820
(732) 482-9600

Administrative Offices
1090 King Georges Post Road
Building 7, Suite 704
Edison, NJ 08837
(732) 324-2114

533 New Brunswick Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
The home of AmeriCorps, AEI, T&TC, FAC including My Choice Store, and PAAC.

To learn more about our programs please click on the links below to visit us on:



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