

Mission Statement

Samost Jewish Family & Children's Service (JFCS) of Southern New Jersey

is dedicated to helping people successfully meet the challenges of daily life. We are a

non-profit agency that provides quality, affordable, and accessible social services to Jewish individuals and families in need. JFCS is also responsive to the needs of the broader community on a non-discriminating basis. We place the highest value upon treating people with dignity and respect and are guided by the Jewish tradition of helping people help themselves.

Family Assistance

For community members who are struggling to survive in these difficult economic times, need assistance with employment related issues, or are suffering as a victim of domestic abuse, we offer our Rhona Fischer Family Assistance Program. With the utmost compassion and care, our dedicated staff helps to find effective solutions by providing support, resources, counseling, and case management. We strive to empower individuals, as well as families, to take control of their finances and become economically self-sufficient. Our Domestic Abuse Program, Project SARAH (Stop Abusive Relationships at Home), provides services to support victims of domestic abuse and their families. We also offer vocational guidance and assistance to benefit the unemployed and underemployed in our community.

Case Management

Our counselors and social workers help to provide the tools and resources families need to manage their finances, become economically self-sufficient, and regain control over their lives. They make every effort to connect those in need to programs and services available in the community, including healthcare, housing, nutrition assistance, legal and employment services, and job training programs.

Food Pantry

Our three Betsy and Peter Fischer Food Pantries offer nonperishable food and personal care items to individuals and families in need. In addition, we also distribute supermarket gift cards, which can be used to purchase perishable foods. We rely solely on community donations and grants to keep our shelves stocked. We are the only food pantry in South Jersey that is exclusively kosher. Individuals and families, regardless of race or religion, can receive food from our pantries on a weekly basis.

Domestic Abuse Program (Project SARAH)

Our Domestic Abuse Program, Project SARAH (Stop Abusive Relationships at Home), provides comprehensive services which include counseling, case management, and resource information to support victims of domestic abuse and their families. We strive to educate teenagers about creating healthy relationships so that they themselves do not become victims or perpetrators of domestic abuse. We also raise awareness of the fact that domestic abuse occurs in all communities, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

Emergency Financial Assistance

Limited cash assistance and gift cards are available to families in dire economic need, on a case-by-case basis, as determined by their social workers.

Vocational Services

We offer individual and group support aimed at addressing both the emotional and practical barriers to successful employment. Through the Stan Kessler Career & Entrepreneurial Counseling Services Program we provide support with career assessments, resume and cover letter writing, networking, career transitioning, and skill building. Our vocational counselor is available to meet with clients individually to assess their goals and needs. Additionally, our Back to Work Support Group provides a forum for participants to share their experiences and resources with others going through the job search process.

Legal Assistance

We offer free consultations to community members with attorneys representing a variety of legal specialties. We also provide legal referrals.

Financial Literacy and Counseling Support

Services include individual counseling, crisis intervention, and case management. We provide individuals with the tools to make informed decisions regarding budgeting, debt and expense reduction, credit, and savings. As we become aware of new needs for financial literacy programming in our community, we are responsive and offer free workshops.

