

Our Community...

Leslie is a 36-year-old divorced mother of two children, ages 9 and 12. She insisted on keeping the family home after the divorce, but the mortgage payment is more than she can afford. While holding two jobs, she has kept up with bills by renting out rooms in the house. Due to issues with her children, who have had a hard time adjusting to the divorce, the tenants have moved out. Leslie has \$20,000 in credit card debt, and with sinking home values in her area, owes more on the house than it is currently worth. Leslie turned to Jewish Family Service for assistance.



Our Challenge...

Leslie met with a JFS case manager who assessed her needs and provided food certificates and gas vouchers for short-term relief. The case manager is coordinating with a JFS therapist to work with Leslie's children to develop effective coping mechanisms for dealing with their feelings of anger and loss, as their father is now living in another state and only sees them a couple times a year. The JFS case manager coordinates with staff of Jewish Housing Association to help the family transition to affordable housing. The family's case manager continues to monitor the situation and provide additional assistance when needed.

Doug is an athletic, 40-year-old auto salesman who suddenly began having severe digestive problems. This led to a spiral of failing health, an inability to work consistently, and not enough money to pay for medications – which caused emotional stress, and rapidly declining health. Eventually diagnosed with

Crohn's Disease, Doug found himself unemployed and unable to pay for mounting medical bills. A friend referred him to Project Chessed.



In a letter to the Chessed staff, Doug wrote "I came to Project Chessed skeptical that they would help someone like me. How wrong I was. Chessed lined up the doctors, the appointments, and the coordination of my care. They facilitated my enrollment in prescription assistance programs and paid for medications not covered by those programs....Project Chessed did much more than provide medical help for me, they became my support group that I could call on when in need. They made it possible for me to work full time again, and put my life back into my hands. Thank you for all you've given me, and I only hope that I can give back to you someday, so that someone else can get the help they so desperately need."

JFS rises to our community's greatest challenges by providing

Counseling – Master's level psychologists and social workers assist people of all ages coping with addiction, mental health issues, severe anxiety, divorce and family issues, domestic abuse, and bereavement

Geriatric Care Management – assessments, evaluations and ongoing support services, including counseling, home care/respite care, and kosher meals on wheels

Crisis Support – case management, emergency financial assistance for basic food, shelter and medical needs

Escorted Transportation – professional drivers provide individually arranged rides for medical and legal appointments, immigration, shopping and more

Healthy Start – helping new parents to have a successful bonding experience with their infants and participate fully in their child's early development

Holocaust Survivor Assistance – provides culturally sensitive care management service and helps survivors file claims for Indemnification and Restitution

Home Care – in-home personal care, homemaker services and respite care

Immigration & Citizenship Services – document preparation assistance, and classroom instruction to help new Americans prepare for naturalization

Mentor Connection – connecting Oakland County youth with caring adult volunteers through social and career mentoring services

Project Chessed – a referral network of health care providers and institutions who partner with JFS to provide pro-bono care to medically uninsured Jewish adults

Volunteer Services – friendly visitors, hospice, reading tutors, office assistants, and seasonal community projects

Help us rise to the challenge...

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