



# BEST PRACTICES IN AGENCY ADVOCACY

*How is your agency involved in  
impacting policy change?*

# LEAH ROSENBAUM

- President & CEO, JVS Detroit
- Chair, NJHSA Advocacy Committee



# ELIZABETH CULLEN, J.D., M.P.A.

- Counsel, Health Policy, Strategic Health Resource Center at The Jewish Federations of North America



# JFNA, THE HEALTH CARE SAFETY NET & YOU

- **2015:** Strategic Health Resource Center
- **2017:** Threats to Medicaid Defeated
- **2017-2018:** Health Programs Extended
- **2018-Beyond:** New Threats & Reforms



# JEWISH FEDERATIONS & PARTNER AGENCIES

- 148 Federations and 300 Network Communities
- 15 Leading Academic Medical Centers
- 100 Jewish Aging Communities
- 125 Jewish Family & Children's Agencies



# STRATEGIC HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER

## Core Mission

“Preserve the ability of Jewish communal health, behavioral health, and long-term care providers to serve as a critical health safety net.”



# SHRC HEALTH POLICY PRIORITIES

- **Safety Net (Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP)**
- Innovation (e.g., ACOs)
- Long-Term Care Financing
- Behavioral Health Care System Improvements and Prevention
- Family Caregivers



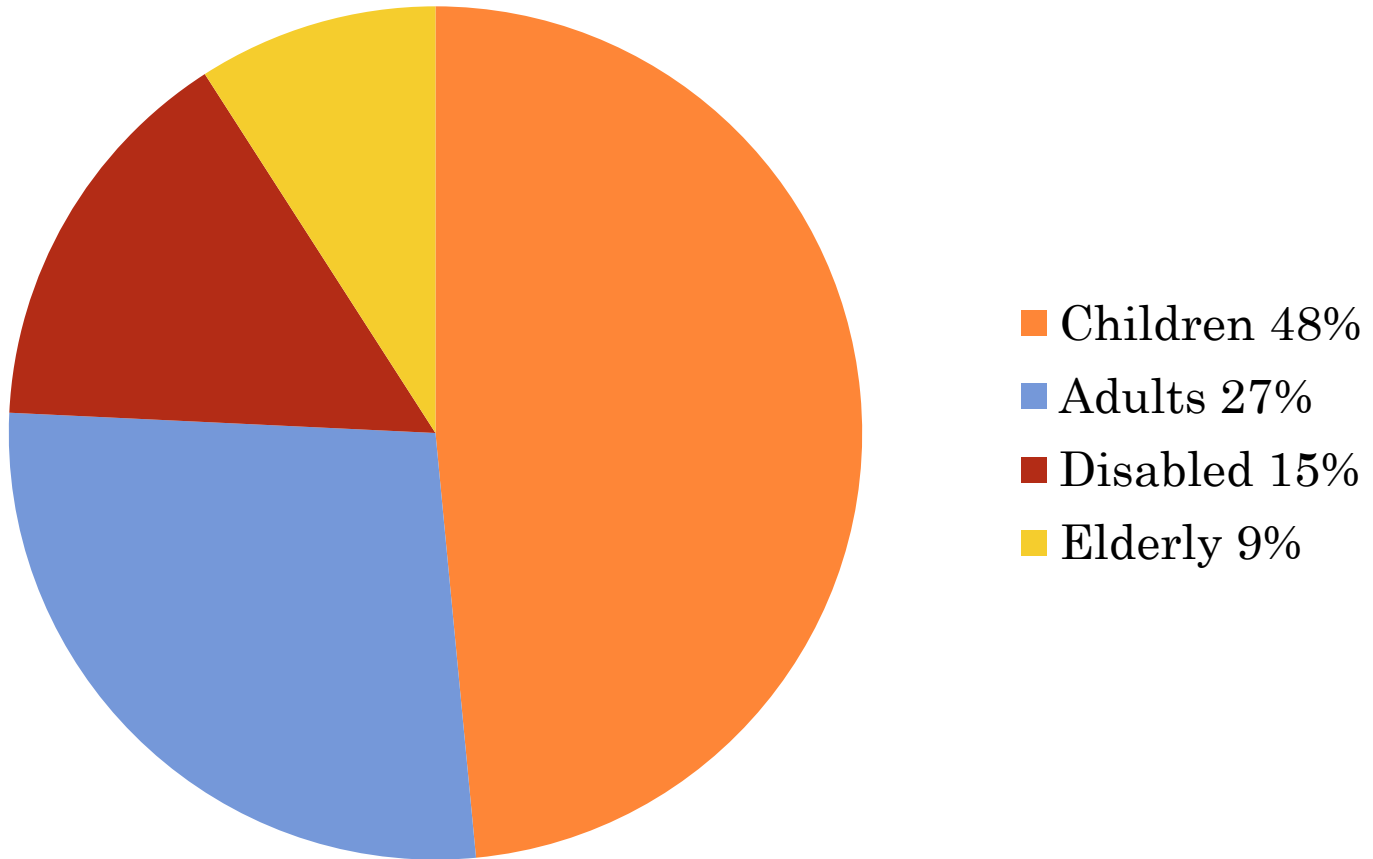
# MEDICAID?



**More than 70 million people:  
One in five Americans**



# WHO DOES MEDICAID SERVE?

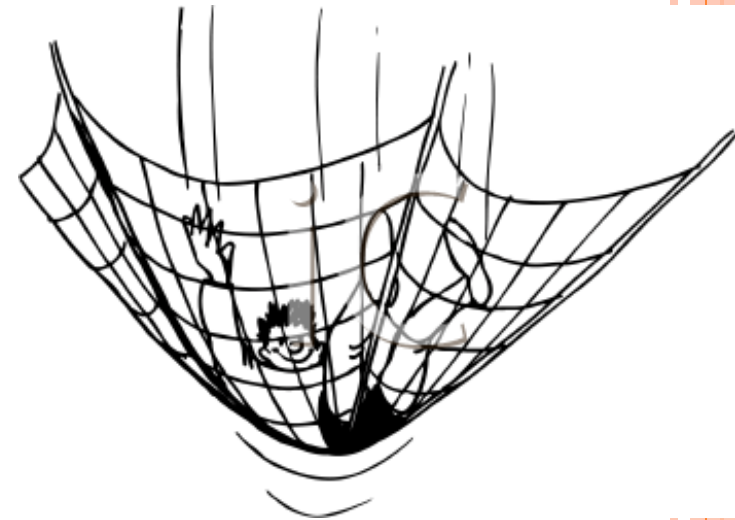


# MEDICAID FUN FACTS

- Largest insurer of long-term services and supports (62%)
- Largest insurer of mental health and substance use treatment (26%)
- Children (40%)
- **Jewish provider agencies: \$6 Billion**



# 2017 Threats to the Health Care Safety Net: Medicaid



# 2017 THREATS TO MEDICAID DEFEATED

- American Health Care Act
- Better Care Reconciliation Act
- Graham-Cassidy

New Normal?



# THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS



*“And I would have gotten away with it, too, if it weren’t for you meddling Democrats, conservatives, moderates, the C.B.O. report, insurance companies, common decency . . .”*



# 2017-2018: SAFETY NET EXTENDED

- Children's Health Insurance Program
- Medicare Therapy Caps
- Maternal, Infant & Early Childhood Home Visiting Program
- Medicaid Cuts to Safety Net Hospitals
- RAISE Family Caregiver Act

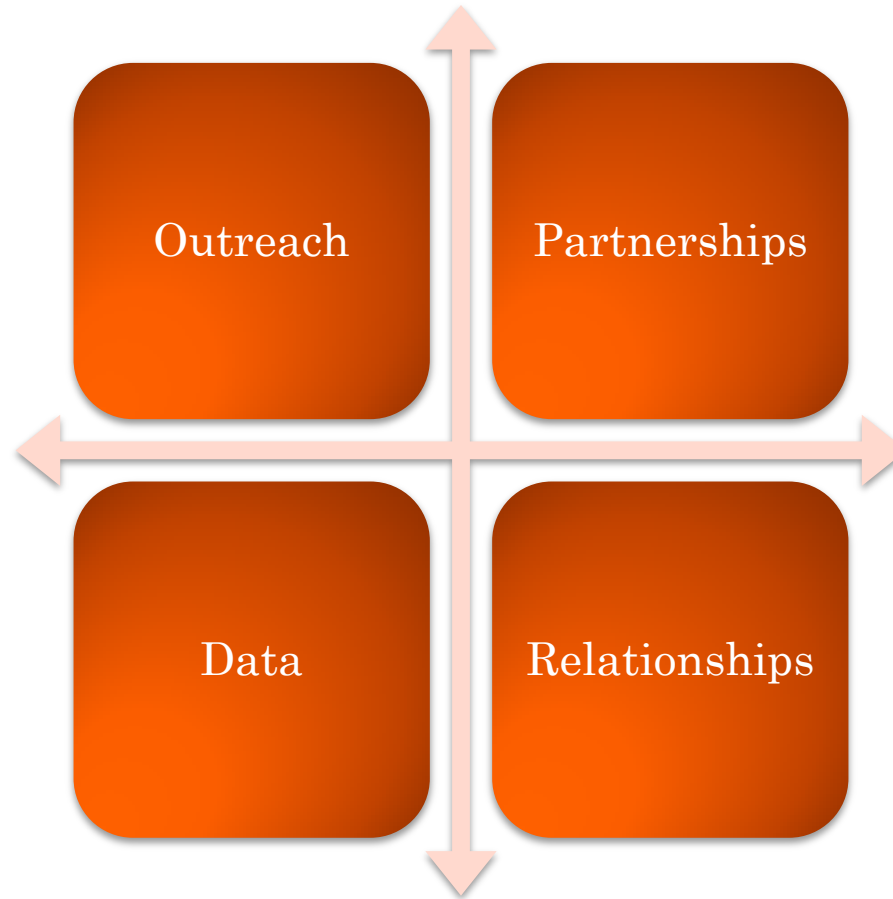


# 2017 SHRC ADVOCACY: CONSEQUENCES

- Beneficiaries
- States
- **Providers**
- Economy



# 2017 SHRC ADVOCACY: ACTING TOGETHER





# SHRC ADVOCACY: JFNA PROPOSED MEDICAID REFORMS

- Rebalance Medicaid to fund **HCBS** without a waiver
- Promote **telehealth** and **health information technology**
- Increase **care coordination** and **integration**
- Promote **prevention**
- Expand the **hospice** benefit



# SHRC ADVOCACY: SHRC HEALTH & LTC SUMMIT 2017 & 2019



# NEW THREATS IN 2018 & BEYOND

- Repeal & Replace + Medicaid Caps Again?
- Waivers
- Executive Orders
- Regulations

**Costs will continue to drive the issue**



# TRENDS IN MEDICAID 1115 WAIVERS

- Work Requirements
- Time Limits
- Premiums & Cost Sharing
- Non-Emergency Medical Transportation
- Removing the IMD Exclusion



# NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR EFFECTIVE REFORM IN 2018

- **Money Follows the Person Demonstration**
- Legislation to Address Opioid Crisis
- Behavioral Health Information Technology



# MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON

- 2005
- Gets low-income older adults & people with disabilities back home
- Transition start-up costs
- 47 states; 75,000 beneficiaries
- Reduces Medicaid spending (20%)
- **September 30, 2016**



# MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON

## Money Follows the Person Expired in 2016!

### Where Does Funding in Your State Stand?

#### 9 State MFP Programs Already Have Exhausted Their Funding

Delaware  
Illinois  
Kansas  
Massachusetts  
Michigan

New Hampshire  
North Dakota  
Texas  
Virginia

#### 36 Remaining States Will Exhaust Their Funding by December 31, 2018

Alabama  
Arkansas  
California  
Colorado  
Connecticut  
District of Columbia  
Georgia  
Hawaii

Idaho  
Indiana  
Iowa  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Maine  
Maryland  
Minnesota  
Mississippi

Missouri  
Montana  
Nebraska  
Nevada  
New Jersey  
New York  
North Carolina  
Ohio  
Oklahoma

Pennsylvania  
Rhode Island  
South Carolina  
South Dakota  
Tennessee  
Vermont  
Washington  
West Virginia  
Wisconsin

Source: The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services

#### What would be lost without this funding?

**Dignity. Independence. Progress. Community Integration.**

# MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON: EMPOWER CARE ACT

- “Ensuring Medicaid Provides Opportunities for Widespread Equity, Resources, and Care Act” (S. 2227/H.R. 5306)
- Reauthorizes and improves MFP
- Ask your Senators and Representatives to co-sponsor and support





# ADVANCING BHIT

- Bipartisan S. 1732/H.R. 3331
- Behavioral health providers lag behind other health care sectors in health IT adoption (HHS, MACPAC, Health Affairs)
- Health IT demonstration program for mental health and substance use treatment providers



# CONTACT

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## MINDY BRODSKY, ESQ.

- Washington Representative, The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
- Director of Government Affairs, The Jewish Federations of North America
- Based in Washington, DC



# THE NETWORK HAS FOUR KEY FOCUS AREAS

Leading the way in  
**innovation**

**Advocating** for  
priorities in both  
legislative and  
partner focus areas

Aggregating and  
distributing **best  
practices** and  
superior **learning  
opportunities**

Enhancing agencies'  
abilities to thrive and  
deliver **quality  
services**



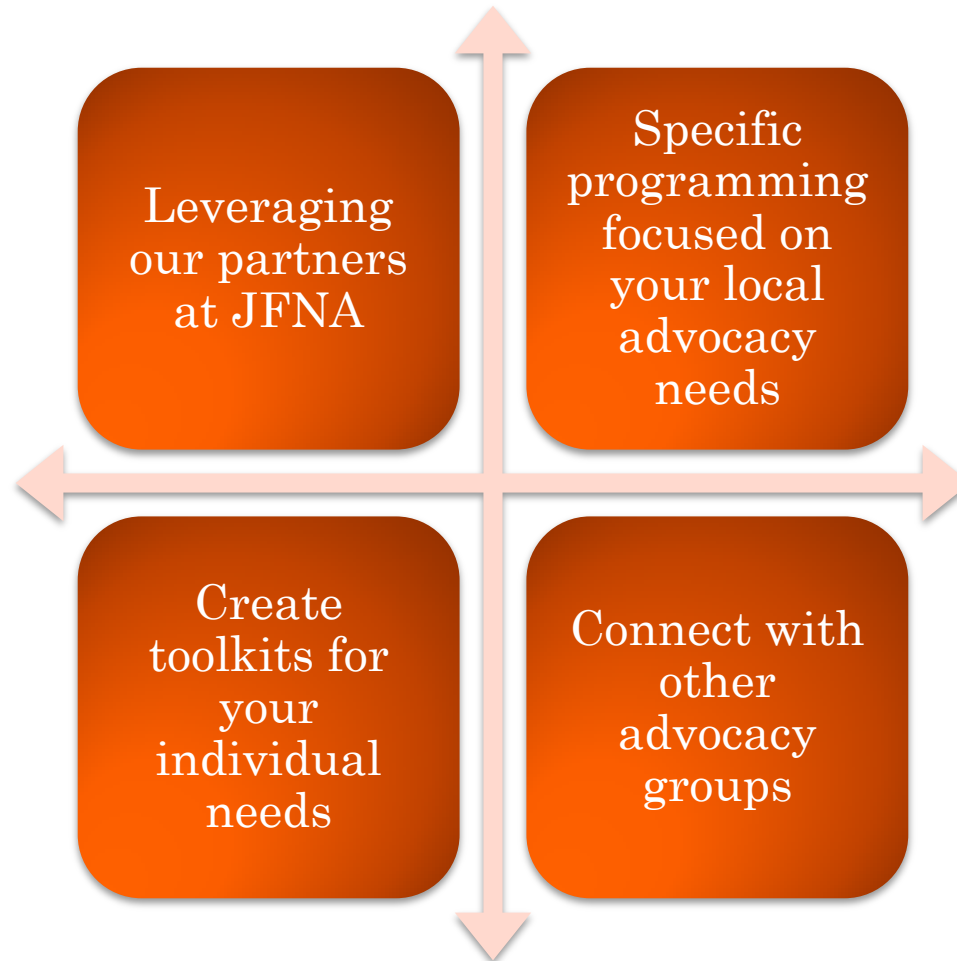
# ADVOCACY: THE JEWISH VOICE FOR HUMAN SERVICES & THE VOICE FOR JEWISH HUMAN SERVICES

Leading the way in innovation

Advocating for priorities in both legislative and partner focus areas

Aggregating and distributing best practices and superior learning opportunities

Enhancing agencies' abilities to thrive and deliver quality services



# NETWORK OF JEWISH HUMAN SERVICE AGENCIES: PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

- **October 2017:** At Executives Conference in Arizona, NJHSA member agencies began process of narrowing down potential priority policy issues for our network to engage in.
- **November 2017:** Data review and survey results to draft priorities list with subcategories.
- **January 2018:** Held first NJHSA Advocacy Committee Meeting. Began review and comment period for committee members and all member agencies.
- **February 2018:** First NJHSA Public Policy Priorities approved by the full board.





## NETWORK of Jewish Human Service Agencies

### Public Policy Priorities

The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies (NJHSA) is the membership association for 140+ non-profit organizations that provide a full range of human services for members of the Jewish community and beyond in the United States, Canada and Israel. The Network is the leading voice for Jewish human service organizations, the go-to resource for best practices, research, innovation, and partnerships. As NJHSA strengthens and supports member agencies that serve their communities through a wide range of human services, its public policy priorities reflect identified needs within these service areas including: employment and workforce, youth and family, healthcare, immigrant and refugee, disability, counseling and mental health, seniors and Holocaust survivors, and caregiver support.

\*The following priorities are listed in alphabetical order, not in order of stated priorities.

**Aging:** Empowering older adults, including those with disabilities, to age with dignity and an enhanced quality of life by:

- Supporting access to home- and community-based services such as affordable and accessible transportation, nutrition, affordable housing, supportive services, respite and family caregiver support through programs to promote aging in place;
- Providing older adults the opportunity to live in their own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level;
- Promoting funding research and services for Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia; and
- Reducing barriers to senior employment.

**Children and Families:** Sustaining services by:

- Safeguarding and supporting resources and protections for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and harassment, including particular at-risk populations such as children, people with disabilities and the aging population;
- Supporting programs that help families meet their basic needs;
- Maintaining policies and programs which support both domestic and international adoption; and
- Supporting and affirming full Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer & Questioning (LGBTQ+) inclusion and equality.

**Disability:** Advocating with and on behalf of people with disabilities across the lifespan by:

- Encouraging full inclusion and physical accessibility for all aspects of life and work;
- Supporting job training and inclusive employment for people with disabilities while allowing for choice;
- Promoting funding and policies for recruitment, hiring, retention, and promotion, without loss of benefits;
- Advocating for affordable and accessible transportation, housing, supportive services, respite care for caregivers, and the right of all people with disabilities to live in and receive support in their own homes and communities; and
- Promoting educational equality for students with disabilities.

**Employment & Workforce:** Helping increase the diversity and number of individuals receiving education or training toward joining the workforce by:

- Supporting continued funding to help address adult education and workforce training;
- Supporting legislative policy to enhance employment opportunities for older workers, particularly Baby Boomers; and
- Advocating for funding for all levels of training for individuals to successfully enter and succeed in the job market.

**Healthcare:** Protecting long-term care, mental health and wellness initiatives, and the health safety net for all by:

- Accessing health information technology funding for behavioral health and long-term care;
- Promoting mental health services, including full mental health parity;
- Supporting member agencies in efforts to bring increased prevention and treatment options for those struggling with the impact of opioid, substance abuse, and other forms of addiction;
- Supporting incentives to transition those living in nursing homes and other institutions into less restrictive settings.
- Advancing preventative measures and promoting efforts that would reduce the number of insured; and
- Advocating for funding to support the programs for children's health insurance at all levels of government.

**Holocaust Survivor Assistance:** Easing the lives of survivors of the Holocaust by:

- Safeguarding the critical needs of at-risk Holocaust Survivors through funding, partnerships, supportive services, and enhancement of safety net services that promote the dignity, strength, and empowerment of Holocaust survivors; and
- Promoting policy to address the unique social welfare, health care, and emotional needs of Holocaust survivors.

**Housing:** Advocating for the expansion of affordable housing options for low-income and at-risk populations, including older adults, people with disabilities, refugees and other communities:

- Promoting social and economic services and assistance to low- and moderate-income tenants and homeowners, older adults, and persons with disabilities;
- Combatting homelessness across age groups, income levels, and sexual orientations while helping to establish economic independence; and
- Advocating for programs that include housing preservation and stabilization efforts, crime prevention initiatives, and commercial revitalization activities.

**Hunger & Food Assistance:** Ending food insecurity by:

- Supporting both kosher and non-kosher food banks, home-delivered meal programs and congregate nutrition sites;
- Protecting and strengthening supplemental nutrition assistance and child nutrition programs; and
- Promoting initiatives that support the needs of those who struggle with the daily challenges of food insecurity.

**Immigration Reform & Protecting Refugees:** Carrying out the tradition of "Welcoming the Stranger," affirming our Jewish values and honoring our history of welcoming immigrants and refugees by:

- Promoting comprehensive immigration reform and policies that support family unity in immigration reform and provide protection for undocumented immigrant youth brought as children;
- Advocating for the continuation of refugee resettlement programs;
- Supporting Jews and other religious minorities fleeing persecution; and
- Advocating for robust funding that supports the integration of refugees in their new communities.

**Institutional Support:** Supporting interests and goals of human service organizations by:

- Advocating for reduction of barriers in obtaining disaster assistance for individuals and organizations;
- Safeguarding charities from regulations that threaten to reduce charitable activity;
- Opposing restrictions on the advocacy rights of charities while preserving laws which prohibit charities' intervention on behalf of or in opposition to political candidates;
- Instituting safeguards that prevent houses of worship from proselytizing or using other prohibited forms of religious practice to deliver publicly-funded social services;
- Advocating for nonprofit access to public funding streams to build and support infrastructure; and
- Advocating for funding to improve the security of human service organizations.

# TAKING ACTION TOGETHER

- Advocacy Committee
- Action Alerts
- Coalition Letters and other efforts
- Direct advocacy with elected officials in Washington and your own communities
- Webinars





# KRISTEN RANTANEN

- Senior Vice President of Communications and Public Affairs, JEVS HUMAN SERVICES
- Member, NJHSA Advocacy Committee
- Based in Philadelphia, PA



## JEVS HUMAN SERVICES

### MEDICAID & MEDICAID-WAIVER FUNDED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

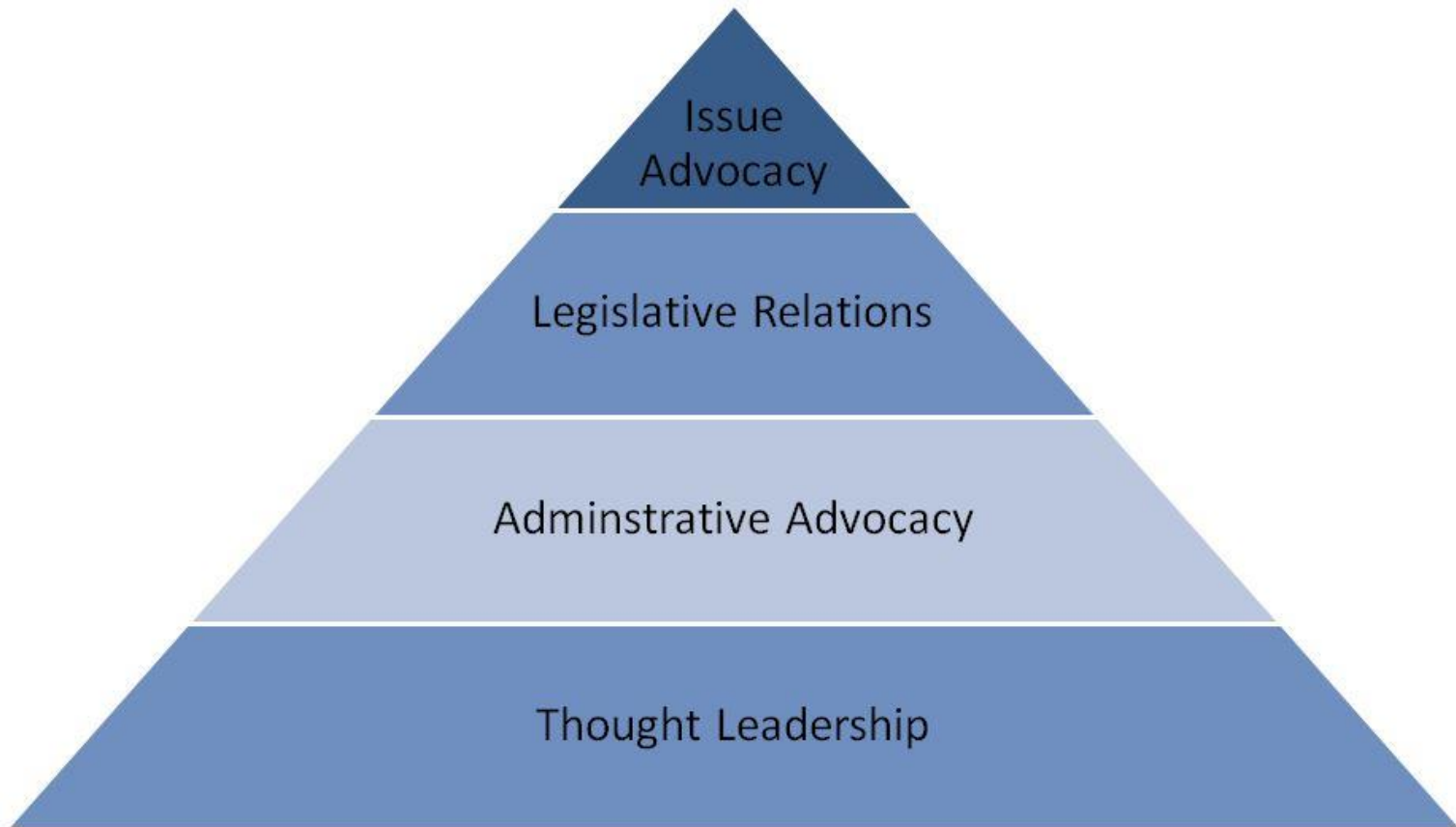
Program or Service	# Served FY 16-17	Budgeted Revenue FY 17-18	Current Employees As of 12/4/17
<b>JEVS at Home</b> Non-medical in-home services	1,261	\$37,033,840	37 administrative employees; 1,130 caregivers
<b>Supports Your Way</b> Supports Coordination; Case management services for people with long-term disabilities to facilitate independence at home (vs. nursing home care)	2,250	\$6,203,250	67
<b>Achievement through Counseling and Treatment (ACT)</b> Medication-assisted addiction treatment for opioid dependence	878	\$4,743,198	48
<b>Community Living and Home Supports</b> Residential programs, intellectual disability day services and mental health services	325 (+29 as of 1/1/18*)	\$18,918,344 (+ estimated \$2,000,000 as of 1/1/18*)	318
<b>Financial Management Services</b> Payroll and related supports to allow adults with disabilities and seniors to manage and direct their own in-home care	740	\$1,853,052	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,454</b>	<b>\$70,751,684**</b>	<b>1,622</b>

\*addition of 10 homes serving 29 clients acquired from Blossom Philadelphia

\*\* estimated FY 17-18 revenue

[www.JEVShumanservices.org](http://www.JEVShumanservices.org)

JEVS Human Services  
Government Relations and Thought Leadership Activity



# NANCY VOLPERT

- Director of Public Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
- Member, NJHSA Advocacy Committee



# EFFECTIVE, CREATIVE, MEANINGFUL ADVOCACY



JFS Los Angeles  
Paper Plate Campaign



# JFS LOS ANGELES MOBILE OFFICE WITH U.S. CONGRESSMAN TONY CARDENAS



# EMILY SWEET

- Executive Director, JCRC and Government Affairs, Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago



# 2018 AGENCY ADVOCACY MISSION TO SPRINGFIELD





# Q&A



# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

- Please contact Mindy Brodsky at [mbrodsky@networkjhsa.org](mailto:mbrodsky@networkjhsa.org) if you are:
  - interested in joining or nominating someone for the NJHSA Advocacy Committee;
  - have questions about our policy priorities or how we do our advocacy work;
  - or have any other ideas about how we can improve our advocacy efforts.
- Contact information for our panelists and all of the materials on this PowerPoint are available on the conference mobile app.

