



# NETWORK of Jewish Human Service Agencies

## 2019 NJHSA Conference Award Winners

The Network was delighted to receive many award submissions this year. There is no doubt that member agencies from across the globe are busy strengthening and serving their communities through innovative and sustainable initiatives and programming, managed by extraordinary professionals and lay leaders.

As the leading voice for Jewish human service organizations and the go-to resource for best practices, research, innovation and partnerships; the Network designed this year's awards around these core values, in addition to recognizing extraordinary member agency professionals and lay leaders.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Award winners will be recognized on Sunday, March 31st at the Opening Conference Reception at the Center for Civil and Human Rights. Additionally, they are invited to an Awards Reception on Monday evening, April 1st, to pick up their awards and celebrate!

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## Extraordinary Leadership

### Professional

**Jordan Golin**, Psy D - President & Chief Executive Officer

[Jewish Family and Community Services of Pittsburgh](#)

In 2014 Jordan Golin was promoted to the Chief Operating Officer at JFCS Pittsburgh and two years later became its President/CEO. He serves on the NJHSA Board and was the NJHSA Executive Conference Committee Chair. Unfortunately, on October 27, 2018, on the day of the Pittsburgh Tree of Life Synagogue murders, and every day after, Jordan Golin was forced to show up to work in a very different way than ever before. Not only was he forced to change his, and his agency's work, but he also chose to do so, in his down-to-earth team-focused manner. JFCS has been and will continue to be the Pittsburgh Jewish community's major "helper," and Jordan has been in the forefront of facilitating that help. With an emphasis on collaboration with local members of the Jewish community, the broader community, his team and his Board, Jordan Golin has been at the center of helping his community put one front in front of the other. When he talks about it he quickly thanks his colleagues who have also had to step up in ways unimaginable. This was an extraordinary event and Jordan Golin's leadership had to be and was extraordinary.



## Lay Leader

**Jeffrey Padwa** , Chairman of the Board of Directors

[Jewish Collaborative Services of Rhode Island](#)

Jeffrey Padwa has served throughout the executive ranks of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island (JSARI), and was unanimously elected to the Presidency, an office that he held for over three years. During his tenure at JSARI, he was instrumental in revising and updating the agency's by-laws, oversaw and operationalized the development of an integrated electronic financial reporting system, and advanced the medical records system for the residents of the agency's assisted living facility.



Jeffrey was one of several leaders to further develop the idea of combining two Jewish social service agencies in RI, JSARI and JFSRI, as one unified entity. He advanced his vision, bringing the right people to the table to make his vision a reality, in spite of unsuccessful merger discussions in years past.

Having demonstrated extraordinary leadership during the merger discussions between JSARI and JFSRI, Jeffrey was elected to be first chairman of the Board of Directors of JCS. Under his leadership, the two organizations achieved formal legal status as a combined entity and the agency has already made dramatic strides during the first year of their existence in the areas of governance, finance, development, cultural integration, programming, IT, HR, budgeting and strategic planning.

During this final year of Jeffrey's presidency, he continues to dream "big" for JCS, focusing on succession planning and forming a foundation to support the agency's continued sustainability and secure its future.

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## Pillars of Excellence

### Best Practices

- [Samost Jewish Family & Children's Service of Southern New Jersey](#)

#### [Sexuality and Gender Sensitivity and Support Initiative](#)

The JFCS Sexuality and Gender Sensitivity and Support Initiative is a group of programs developed and designed by JFCS to address the needs of the Jewish LGBTQ+ community, their families, and the broader community as well as to raise the level of community awareness and education as it relates to the challenges faced by our LGBTQ+ friends. This JFCS initiative is comprised of three distinct programs: Project Rainbow, Emerging Sexuality and Aging with Pride.



- [Jewish Family Service of Houston](#)

[Mental Health Programs: A New Division of Behavioral Healthcare](#)

A New Division of Behavioral Healthcare is a comprehensive mental health program JFS Houston has implemented in the past two years to combat deaths by suicide and substance misuse in the Jewish community of Houston and to provide aftercare for those who remain after a related death. The goals are to increase awareness and decrease stigma, provide support to those suffering and those effected by mental illness, develop a conversation in the community about mental illness, decrease suicide in the Houston Jewish community, and to promote and train the community in Mental Health First Aid.



## Collaboration

- [Jewish Child and Family Service of Winnipeg](#)

[Operation Ezra Jewish Winnipeg's Yazidi Rescue Initiative](#)

Over the past few years, JCFS Winnipeg has engaged in an innovative and unprecedented role; that of serving as a pillar to provide formality and organizational structure for a partnership of inter-faith and multifaceted community groups, non-profits, churches, synagogues, corporations, as well as government agencies to work together to save, integrate, and improve the quality of the lives of Yazidi refugees.



**JEWISH CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE**  
Strengthening Lives in Keeping with Jewish Values

## Innovation

- [Jewish Family Service of San Diego](#)

[On the Go: Navigator](#)

On the Go: Navigator bridges social service silos and the technology gap of access to cost effective on-demand response transportation to increase client centered access to social participation and community support and health services through an extensive and existing social service provider network. On the Go: Navigator addresses the Age Friendly Community domains of Transportation, Social Participation and Community Support and Health Services. On the Go: Navigator is unique because it utilizes existing networks of social service, health care providers and transportation programs to capitalize on a centralized dispatch center for cost effective transportation. Individuals in need of transportation access the program directly with On the Go or through health care providers, social service agencies such as 2- 1-1 and other social service transportation providers.



**Many thanks to the 2019 Awards Committee!**

Lauren Schwartz, Collat JFS Birmingham, Chair

Marla Meyers, Samost JFCS Southern NJ

Aviva Sufian, NJHSA Board Member

Madeline Wenzel, JVS Boston

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**We can't wait to see you in Atlanta!**