The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies (The Network) is the membership association for over 170 non-profit organizations that provide a full range of human services for close to 2 million clients each year. The Network acknowledges that Canadian member agencies are situated on treaty lands, the traditional lands of the many indigenous nations and peoples within and across Canada. This document was approved by The Network’s Board on January 8, 2024, and does not preclude The Network from responding to or pursuing other timely policies related to core services or client-base as necessary.
Food Insecurity, Poverty, and Economic Vulnerability:
The Network is committed to alleviating food insecurity and poverty while promoting economic mobility for our clients, ensuring all individuals and families have access to food, shelter, and other vital benefits and supports that help them achieve a decent quality of life by:

- Advocating to end hunger and food insecurity, ensure food access and affordability (including kosher and non-kosher options in food banks and pantries), and strengthen access to SNAP, WIC, child nutrition, senior meals, and other federal food security programs.
- Promoting the expansion of affordable, accessible, and safe housing.
- Advocating to alleviate poverty and increase economic mobility, such as by expanding the Earned Income and Child Tax Credits, modernizing the SSI and SSDI programs, and supporting resources for basic necessities, such as diapers and personal hygiene items.
- Ensuring that the Emergency Food and Shelter Program is sufficiently funded to meet community needs.
- Supporting increased federal and state government support for immigrants, refugees, parolees, and asylees, including funding for resettlement agencies.

Workforce and Employment Opportunities:
The Network is committed to addressing widespread workforce shortages affecting the delivery of human services, including but not limited to the mental health and direct care sectors. We also are committed to expanding employment opportunities and job readiness skills for individuals seeking employment, including those recently out of work, first-time job seekers, individuals with disabilities, older adults, immigrants, refugees, parolees, asylees, veterans, and those who are justice-involved by:

- Advocating to reduce widespread direct care and mental health workforce shortages by increasing the federal reimbursement rates for Medicaid, address recruitment and retention challenges including by promoting opportunities for nonprofit employees and ensure the availability of national mental health professional state licensure reciprocity.
- Advocating for increased investments in safety net mental health, health, and long-term care programs, including to expand services, improve reimbursement for mental healthcare professionals and direct care workers, and provide additional training and professional advancement opportunities.

Supporting increased funding for adult education, skills training, and technology disparities to ensure success for individuals entering and working in the job market, including integrated, competitive employment for persons with disabilities while allowing for choice.

Gun Violence and Gender-Based Violence:
The Network is committed to addressing violence in our communities, including gun violence and gender-based violence, by:

- Addressing the trauma of gun violence by advocating for additional resources to increase access to mental health services and peer support for survivors, their families, first responders, and impacted communities.
- Advocating for increased funding to train mental health professionals, law enforcement, and communities on the traumatic impact of gun violence, particularly for children and the underserved, to ensure safer communities.
- Promoting increased funding and other measures to reduce gender-based violence and provide education about its prevalence and traumatic impact, including both the mental and physical effects.

*The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies (The Network) is the membership association for over 170 non-profit organizations that provide a full range of human services for close to 2 million clients each year. The Network acknowledges that Canadian member agencies are situated on treaty lands, the traditional lands of the many Indigenous nations and peoples within and across Canada. This document was approved by The Network’s Board on January 8, 2024, and does not preclude The Network from responding to or pursuing other timely policies related to core services or client-base as necessary.*