

Stepping Up

Fiscal year 2021-22 felt a bit like stepping into the unknown. What would the post-pandemic era mean for the agency and the community we serve? Was the pandemic truly in the rear view mirror? What will the aftermath mean for Bellefaire and the families and children who depend upon our services? Honestly, a year later we still are not sure we can answer these questions but our team at Bellefaire JCB did what it always does – they stepped up, put one foot in front of the other to fulfill the agency mission. It is what we do.

The staff of Bellefaire JCB stepped up to ensure that youth, whether in a community based program or a residential one on our campus, had access to the highest quality behavioral health and educational services. Our board of directors stepped up to support the staff, providing critical leadership as the agency navigated new, and often rough, waters. And you, our community, stepped up to let us know that you value Bellefaire JCB. Just as in years past, you provided thousands of gifts for our holiday gift drive and hundreds of school supplies for our neediest clients. And you stepped up when we announced our \$18,000 challenge grant; your generosity meant that not only did we secure the challenge but Bellefaire JCB raised 13% more in its annual campaign than in year's past. Boy did you step up! Thank you.

As we step into a new fiscal year we know that we have much work yet to be done. The number of children and teens with mental health issues is increasing; from 2013 to 2019, demand for behavioral health services rose 353% across the state of Ohio, according to the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Demand spiked again in 2021, with providers reporting a 70% hike in the need for youth mental health services.

The steps might seem to be getting steeper but the team at Bellefaire JCB is not discouraged. We know that the combination of our experience, highly trained and skilled staff and leadership are prepared. And as you stepped last year, we know that we have the support of our community. Thank you for staying in front with us.

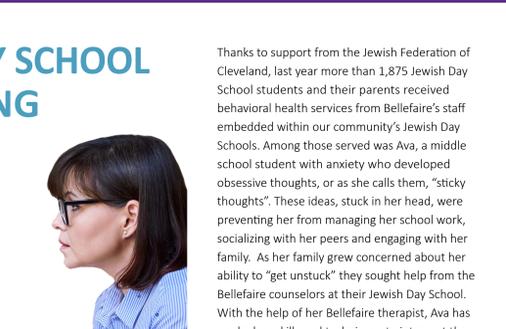
Adam G. Jacobs, Ph.D.
President

Stephanie Silverman
Chair, Board of Directors

It is nearly impossible to highlight all of the achievements of the past year as the staff of Bellefaire JCB met the needs of more than 30,000 children and their family members through our array of more than 25 programs. The programs featured below illustrate several of the ways in which the agency touched the lives of vulnerable youth in our community.

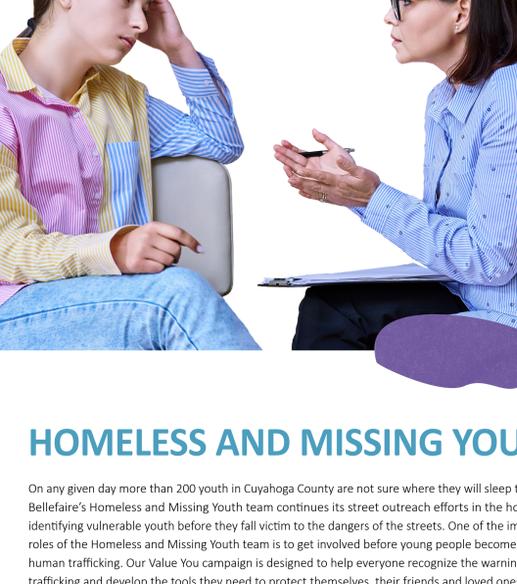
JEWISH BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Studies show that children with mentors, like those in the Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters program at Bellefaire, become more self-sufficient and confident, do better in school and are more likely to avoid illegal behaviors. The supportive, healthy relationships formed between our matches contribute to a host of benefits for both the Bigs and the Littles. Just ask Micah and Ben. Micah's parents were both very ill preventing Micah from participating in extracurricular activities. He was isolated and thus, struggling in school and with social connections. Until he met his Big Brother, Ben. Together they explored the community; they visited the zoo, area museums and sometimes just went on walks, allowing Micah to talk about his feelings. As we see with so many of our matches, both Ben and Micah have grown and benefited from participating in the program. Importantly, Micah no longer feels so alone and is performing better in school.



To learn how you can become a Big Brother or Sister [CLICK HERE](#)

JEWISH DAY SCHOOL COUNSELING



Thanks to support from the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, last year more than 1,875 Jewish Day School students and their parents received behavioral health services from Bellefaire's staff embedded within our community's Jewish Day Schools. Among those served was Ava, a middle school student with anxiety who developed obsessive thoughts, or as she calls them, "sticky thoughts". These ideas, stuck in her head, were preventing her from managing her school work, socializing with her peers and engaging with her family. As her family grew concerned about her ability to "get unstuck" they sought help from the Bellefaire counselors at their Jewish Day School. With the help of her Bellefaire therapist, Ava has worked on skills and techniques to interrupt the obsessive thoughts as well developing new coping strategies for dealing with her anxiety. To ensure Ava's success, the therapist has also coached her family on the same skills so that they can support her when she is at home. Following months of treatment, Ava is feeling hopeful, her school work has improved and she is excited to be preparing for her upcoming Bat Mitzvah.

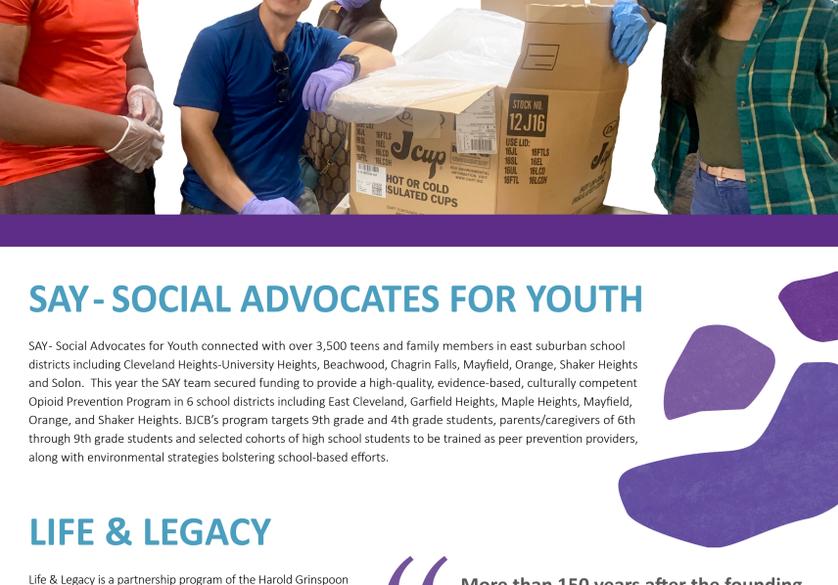
HOMELESS AND MISSING YOUTH

On any given day more than 200 youth in Cuyahoga County are not sure where they will sleep that night. Bellefaire's Homeless and Missing Youth team continues its street outreach efforts in the hopes of identifying vulnerable youth before they fall victim to the dangers of the streets. One of the important roles of the Homeless and Missing Youth team is to get involved before young people become victims of human trafficking. Our Value Campaign is designed to help everyone recognize the warning signs of trafficking and develop the tools they need to protect themselves, their friends and loved ones.



MONARCH CENTER FOR AUTISM

It is hard to believe that anyone is happier than Cody that the Monarch School returned to in-person learning. Cody, age 15, has attended Monarch for the past three years; he found remote learning challenging and the disruption to his routine upsetting. His Monarch team noticed that some of his academic advancement had slipped and that Cody was struggling to remain attentive. But he was ready to return in the fall, entering the building on the first day with a giant smile on his face. While the pandemic impacted staffing at the school, just as it has across the nation, Cody was excited to see his favorite teacher and several other familiar faces in the building. As the year has progressed Cody has made great progress through his Independent Education Plan (IEP) and is actively participating in his therapeutic activities. Throughout the school year Cody greeted each day with that same smile he wore on day one. As he prepares to transition to adulthood, Cody will be moving to the Monarch Transition Education Program where the staff will work with him on employability skills, life skills including executive functioning, health and safety, social competency, consumer awareness, recreation, and independent living.



SAY - SOCIAL ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH

SAY - Social Advocates for Youth connected with over 3,500 teens and family members in eight suburban school districts including Cleveland Heights-University Heights, Beachwood, Chagrin Falls, Mayfield, Orange, Shaker Heights and Solon. This year the SAY team secured funding to provide a high-quality, evidence-based, culturally competent Opioid Prevention Program in 6 school districts including East Cleveland, Garfield Heights, Maple Heights, Mayfield, Orange, and Shaker Heights. BICB's program targets 9th grade and 4th grade students, parents/caregivers of 6th through 9th grade students and selected cohorts of high school students to be trained as peer prevention providers, along with environmental strategies bolstering school-based efforts.

LIFE & LEGACY

Life & Legacy is a partnership program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Cleveland that invites everyone in our community to consider their role in the long-term sustainability of Jewish Cleveland. The program fosters collaboration among participating organizations by encouraging and incentivizing them to create new endowment funds and strengthen existing ones to support the vital Jewish institutions, programs, and services that make our community such a wonderful place to live a Jewish life. Through LIFE & LEGACY, we can share and promote our values and philanthropic passions while creating a meaningful and lasting impact. Commitments made through this program can directly benefit Bellefaire JCB and ensure its existence, and thus services for youth, well-beyond our current 150 years. Bellefaire's effort has been strong right from the outset, having secured 17 legacy commitments of the 18 needed by November 30, 2022 to earn the first incentive grant of \$10,000. If you are interested in learning more about Life & Legacy please click [HERE](#) or contact Nancy K. Levin at 216-320-8585 or levinn@wingspancg.org.

“More than 150 years after the founding of Bellefaire JCB, the agency continues to meet the mental health and education needs of the children and families served. For us to make a legacy commitment to Bellefaire was a no-brainer. We need to guarantee the long-term future and sustainability of the agency. Bellefaire is a mission of love that I cannot walk away from!”

-Sandy Wuliger



The past fiscal year would not have been a success without the partnership of our caring community. Thank you to all of our donors for your ongoing and generous support.

Thank you to the following individuals who have committed to including Bellefaire JCB in their estate planning. These future donations will ensure the long term sustainability of the agency for generations to come.

- | | | | | | |
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VAN CHALLENGE DONORS

We would like to say a special thank you those who met the challenge to secure funds for the purchase of vans to transport clients to our After School Program. With their help, we raised \$62,000 for the purchase of two vehicles, ensuring the most at-risk youth have access to mental health services.

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The 2022 Annual Fund raised \$194,140, an 11.4% increase from the previous year. The number of donors to last year's campaign also increased by 14.7%, to 249 contributors.

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July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

* Board of Directors
* Of Blessed Memory

Every effort has been made to ensure our donors' names and contributions are reported accurately. We regret any inadvertent omissions or errors.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Expenses by Type



Expenses by Program



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fiscal year 2021-2022

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