



KIDSHARE 2022 IMPACT REPORT

KIDSHARE 2022

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Thank you for being part of KidShare 2022 – not only our most successful KidShare to date, but possibly the most celebratory, being back at the Pfister Hotel, sharing the evening together.

As a direct result of your participation and support, KidShare 2022 raised nearly \$500,000 to benefit the children and families served by JCC programs – \$131,900 during the Raise the Paddle alone!

Your support of KidShare, paired with the generous support of our sponsors and the tireless dedication of our co-chairs – Mark & Kaye Kass and Michele & Joe Ellner – moved the JCC mission forward: Creating spaces. Building opportunities. Inspiring Jewish moments for diverse communities.

Please read more about how your participation in KidShare impacts the programs of the JCC and the people who benefit from these programs. We are proud to share this with you and hope that you can feel some of that pride as a direct result of your philanthropy. You have made a difference, and we are grateful.

If you have questions about any of the programs in this report, or if you would like to see any in action, please contact Chief Development Officer, Elyse Cohn, at ecohn@jccmilwaukee.org or 414-967-8188.

We hope that you found both joy and purpose through KidShare 2022 and that you will save the date to join us once again on Thursday, May 4, 2023!

B'Shalom,

Ryan O'Desky
Chair, JCC Board of Directors

Mark Shapiro
President & CEO



Albert & Ann Deshur
JCC Rainbow Day Camp

The Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center and its day camp team at the Albert & Ann Deshur JCC Rainbow Day Camp believe that the opportunity to

experience camp should not be only for the privileged few. Every child deserves access to the fun, friendship, exploration, and discovery that comes with an inclusive summer camp experience.

With your support, this summer more than 700 children from a variety of Milwaukee summer programs -- including Journey House, Hmong American Peace Academy, and the United Community Center -- get to experience a free week of camp through "Road to Rainbow." Road to Rainbow was developed to remove obstacles and bring the joy of camp to children throughout Wisconsin.



A new element we are piloting through Road to Rainbow this summer is a water safety program. The program focuses on water safety to prepare campers for situations they may come across like falling into a lake, pool, or river. While we may not be able to teach children to swim in one week, we can teach them to be safe.

Karen Rosio, Director of the Henry David Thoreau School's Camp Thoreau, a longtime Road to Rainbow partner, shared her gratitude for this new program enhancement:

"Over the last decade, we have brought hundreds of children from Camp Thoreau to Rainbow Day Camp. Out of those hundreds of children maybe 10 have been proficient at swimming. The water safety program that your staff ran this past week was fantastic. With the recent drowning tragedy in Milwaukee, it came at the perfect time to really impress upon our kids how important it is to be safe by any body of water."

We are so happy to welcome our Road to Rainbow friends to Fredonia and offer them much more than fun in the sun. Camp Director Lenny Kass has a favorite catchphrase: "Keep Smiling!" Thanks to you, more young people are doing just that!



11 Unique Road to Rainbow Groups

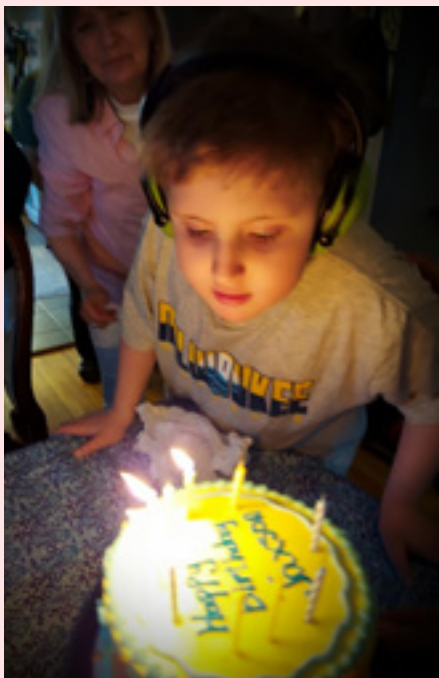


25 Week-Long Road to Rainbow Programs Delivered



Center for Inclusion & Special Needs

The JCC Center for Inclusion and Special Needs (CISN) provides important resources for children and adults with special needs and their families, offering programs that are open to the whole community. A full range of activities ensures opportunities for education, exercise, entertainment, socialization and creating community.



These programs are exceptionally affordable to families, thanks to the support of donors like you.

Beginning last fall, CISN partnered with the JCC aquatics professional staff to launch an adaptive swim lessons program, designed for participants ages 4-18 who identify as having a disability. Lessons are one-on-one with an instructor and focus on building comfort and proficiency in the water. The skills developed through adaptive swimming are useful for life on land as well. As a beautiful and heartwarming example, a parent shared a photo, along with a message of gratitude to the CISN staff:

"This is the most amazing moment! Because of adaptive swimming lessons at the JCC and learning to blow bubbles, Jax blew out birthday candles for the first time ever! He turns ten this Wednesday!"



65 Program Members



The Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC in Eagle River is a place where friendships are formed, independence is discovered, community is built, and traditions are honored. Camp Interlaken is a special place that current camp families and alumni cherish forever.



We believe that everyone should have the chance to experience a summer at camp, which is why we are committed to making it available to anyone who wishes to attend. This is where scholarship support plays a vital role.

For summer 2022, we saw an increase in scholarship aid requests – even from families who have been able to afford camp for their children in the past.

Vowing to turn no one away based on need, we honored their requests with your generous support of KidShare.

Here is just one story of a family that is grateful to donors like you for making camp possible:

This year our scholarship fund was able to make a second summer at Interlaken possible for a very deserving family. When a camper was able to experience the magic of Camp Interlaken for the first time last summer, she was worried it would be the only summer she might get to attend. Her mother was hesitant to apply for a scholarship because she felt like there were likely other campers who needed it more. The family income was greatly affected by the pandemic, making camp and most general expenses out of reach. The camper's father left three years ago, and he has not contributed to the family since then. After a very difficult year financially and emotionally, her mom wanted nothing more than to send her daughter to Camp Interlaken for another amazing experience. When we informed the mother that camp would be fully paid for, she was at a total loss for words. She wanted to share her immense gratitude for this opportunity which would not have been possible without the JCC's generous donors and KidShare supporters.



413 Campers Enrolled



**88 Children
Receive Scholarship**



The Jewish Community Pantry, part of the Hunger Task Force Emergency

Pantry Network, is our communal response to hunger in Milwaukee. For nearly 50 years,

our mission has been to provide emergency food to Milwaukeeans in crisis, to connect clients to community resources, to increase awareness of hunger's existence in Milwaukee and to educate the community about how to help. The Pantry reflects our JCC's commitment to the Jewish values of Tzedakah (justice), Tikkun Olam (repair of the world) and treating our community with Kavod (respect).



Families in Milwaukee have been struggling for months to maintain an adequate supply of infant formula for their babies. The nationwide formula shortage is impacting all formula feeding parents in Milwaukee, but

the hardship is especially felt among families who are living in poverty or experiencing financial hardship.

Parents who depend on the Jewish Community Pantry can't drive around to half a dozen stores looking for formula—the gas prices or the bus passes are just too costly. The Pantry has been fortunate to maintain a supply of various formulas throughout the shortage, thanks to the support of passionate donors and the Hunger Task Force.

One young mom of a seven-week-old infant had only “five more scoops” left of Enfamil's Gentlease formula when she was referred to the Pantry in May. We had enough supply to give her three cans of formula! Upon receiving her supply, this mom got tearful and said,

“I can't tell you how stressful this has been. Can I give you a hug? Thank you, thank you!”

Parenting a newborn is stressful enough without a nationwide formula shortage. The Jewish Community Pantry is proud to be one of the select pantries in Milwaukee serving infant formula during this most challenging time.



On Average, 122 Households Visit Each Week



**In Last Six Months, 3,000 Households Served
(More Than 9,000 Individuals)**



Introducing children to new experiences is a critical part of their development. Gan Ami Early Childhood Education teachers delight in helping children through their “firsts” – and the sometimes multiple attempts it takes to achieve a new skill. New experiences have the potential to be frightening, but with trusted and patient guides like our nurturing educators in Whitefish Bay and Mequon, they provide excellent opportunities for growth.



Each day at Gan Ami we are blessed to observe milestones large and small, like the one-year-old who referred to himself in the first person, rather than by his name, for the first time.

The teacher’s joy was visible upon hearing this, recognizing an important milestone in verbal communication, and he quickly shared the happy news with the infant’s parents.

The summer heat offered an opportunity for a child who has never been comfortable with water to explore an inflatable rainbow “waterfall” with encouragement from peers and teachers. Staff captured this moment on video – and the celebration that ensued – providing a cherished opportunity for parents to see their child conquering a fear. The three-year-old classes at both locations have the benefit of weekly swim experiences at the JCC’s beautiful Whitefish Bay pool. For many of the children, this marks their first or only opportunity to experience being in a swimming pool.

Gan Ami educators partner with parents to keep an eye on each child’s development. They celebrate the successes with their families and also walk parents through the frustrating moments, helping to enhance their understanding of what is happening with their child, and how they can collaborate to provide the positive and consistent guidance that helps their child build confidence and grow.



296 Children Enrolled
63 in Mequon • 233 in Whitefish Bay



52 Children Receive Scholarship
13 in Mequon • 39 in Whitefish Bay

JCC KIDS CENTER

Understanding that many parents need a safe and enriching place for their children while they work, the JCC offers families Kids Center afterschool program as a perfect solution.

The children enrolled in Kids Center have opportunities to explore the JCC, make new friends, and take advantage of swim lessons, sports, and art classes. They participate in Pink Umbrella theater workshops sponsored through the Robyn Temkin Family Theater Endowment Fund, with each age group sharing their work with friends and family at the end of an 8-week session of classes. Kids Center also offers students inclusive and engaging Shabbat and holiday experiences throughout the year.

A highly valued feature of JCC Kids Center is the daily bus transportation to and from local schools, in addition to supervised homework support. Kids Center simplifies the lives of working parents, providing peace of mind that their children are productively engaged when school is not in session, including on vacation days.



This past winter, when many schools announced snow days, the Kids Center staff quickly rose to the challenge and spontaneously organized snow day coverage for affected families – a lifesaver for parents who had nowhere else to turn. One parent shared their gratitude to Kids Center leadership, writing:

"I need to share how absolutely AMAZING this offering is for families! I'm shouting your praises and skills to quickly organize a snow day at Kids Center!"

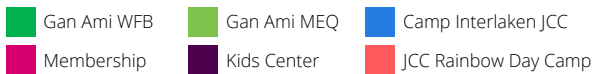
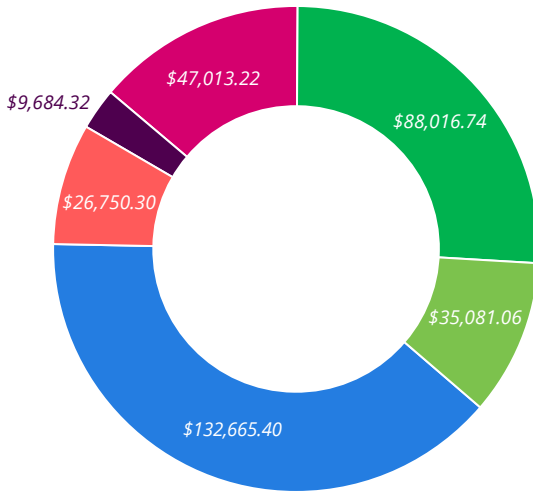


76 Youth Enrolled

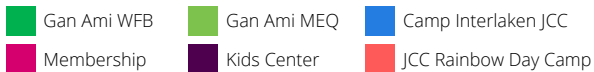
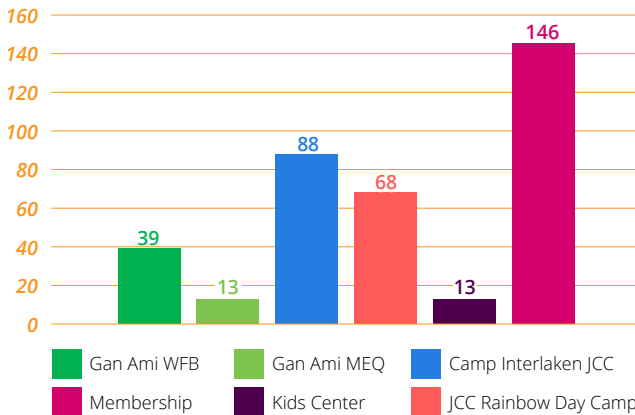


**13 Children (9 Families)
Receive Scholarship**

SCHOLARSHIP ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM AREA



NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHO RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIP



KIDSHARE 2022

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Mark & Kaye Kass • Joe & Michele Ellner

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Interlaken JCC Committee
Albert & Ann Deshur
JCC Rainbow Day Camp Committee

SAVE THE DATE
KidShare 2023
Thursday, May 4



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jccmilwaukee.org



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MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

The JCC is a partner in serving the community with the Milwaukee Jewish Federation and is a beneficiary agency of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County.



Greater Milwaukee
& Waukesha County