

Dear Friends of JFS,

I am pleased to report some exciting news: Jewish Family Service of Rhode Island and Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island are merging, after having participated in thoughtful and thought-provoking discussions during the past nine months. The new agency, which represents its broad-based reach, will be called the Jewish Community Services of Greater Rhode Island.

With complementary missions and a large number of overlapping clientele, the agencies determined that a merger was most appropriate. On April 26 and 27, the boards of JSA and JFS, respectively, voted to approve the merger and to take the steps necessary to bring the Jewish Community Services of Greater Rhode Island to fruition.

While change can be challenging, especially for those with a long history with JFS and/or JSA, we are excited by this opportunity to better fulfill our mission. With a vision shared by both JFS and JSA, the new agency will bring enhanced services to our clients and constituents and more robust programs to the community at large.

We anticipate that the merger's legal processes will take several months, and we will keep you apprised of our progress. In the meantime, the merger committee – comprised of individuals from the boards of JFS and JSA – has promised: "The existing staff of both organizations will be retained by the new agency, in current, new or reconfigured positions." I will serve as interim chief executive officer of the Jewish Community Services of Greater Rhode Island, and Susan Bazar, currently the Executive Director of JSA, will join the senior leadership team of the new organization as the Chief Strategy and Development Officer.

Please reach out to me with questions or comments as they arise.

Warm Regards,

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Erin Minior
Chief Executive Officer
JFS