

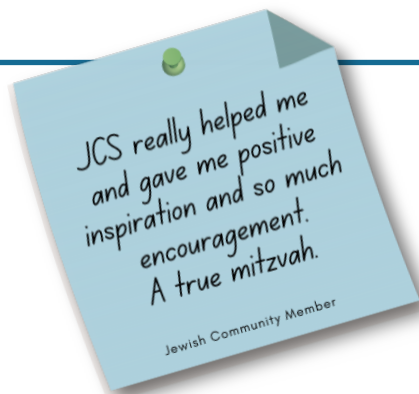


## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2023

This past February, the JCS of Hawaii Board of Directors met to discuss our top three strategic priorities for 2023. We are happy to share them with you, our Ohana.

1. Expand our capacity, services, and outreach to better support those in need within the Hawai'i Jewish community.
2. Increase our presence and effectiveness throughout the islands to support a thriving, collaborating Jewish community.
3. Establish a solid infrastructure to help community groups collaborate, and to increase capacity for leadership and volunteerism.

These strategies will help JCS move toward our mission of helping to keep Hawai'i's Jewish community safe, healthy, and connected.



### JCS Support Groups and Counseling

JCS offers support groups for various life experiences. Groups can cover topics such as grief support, domestic violence support, and crisis intervention. Groups are facilitated by a licensed clinician.

Groups are not religiously based and are open to anyone who self-identifies as Jewish.

Cost: Free of charge

Contact for more information: 808-258-7121 or [admin@jcs-hi.org](mailto:admin@jcs-hi.org)

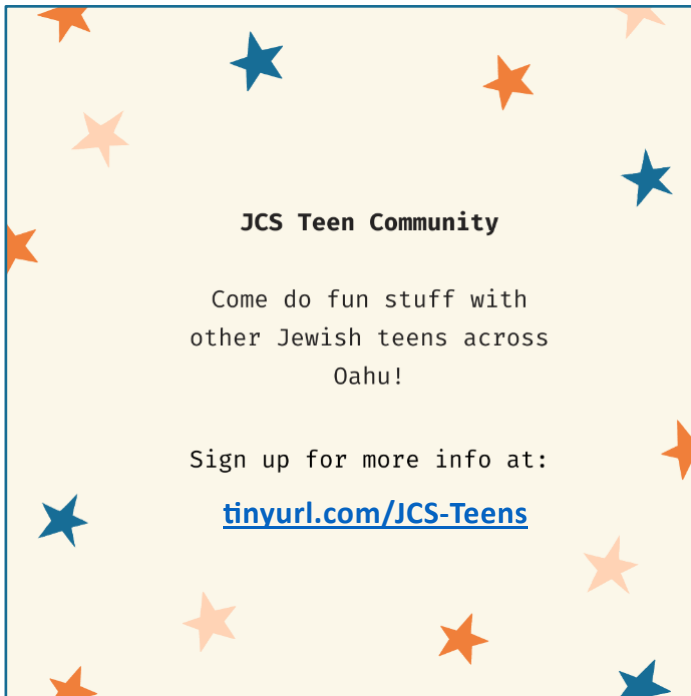
### Clinical Corner: Addiction and Shonda

There is nothing to be ashamed of when you have allergies, asthma, or arthritis. So why are behavioral health experiences so full of shame? Childhood trauma is a leading cause of adult mental illness, homelessness, and addiction — and that's no fault of the child or the adult. I often heard my grandfather say, "Jews don't use drugs," and we now know that it isn't true. Those who struggle with substance use disorders and other addictions come from all races and religions.

Thankfully, the medical community has finally moved beyond judging it as a moral issue, stopped blaming the victim, and found a medical model to treat addiction as a neurological issue. Our brains get conditioned and then addicted to the stimulus — like gambling. Give us a call if you want to think through your experience, and options, with addiction. It's confidential, always.

## JCS PARTNERS WITH HAWAII'S NEXT GENERATION

Are you a family with school-aged kids or teens looking to connect to other Jewish families? Sign up for more information to join Oahu Keiki Havurah or our JCS Jewish Teen group. Or contact JCS of Hawaii to get connected!



**JCS Teen Community**

Come do fun stuff with  
other Jewish teens across  
Oahu!

Sign up for more info at:  
[tinyurl.com/JCS-Teens](https://tinyurl.com/JCS-Teens)



SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



**OAHU  
KEIKI  
HAVURAH**

JOIN US FOR MONTHLY FAMILY PLAY DATES  
AGES 0-10 WELCOME

RSVP HERE OR SCAN ABOVE - [TINYURL.COM/3F8RRYH2](https://tinyurl.com/3F8RRYH2)

World Premiere Jewish Theatre!

# WHAT A SURPRISE!



**JOYFUL SURPRISES** **TRAGIC SURPRISES**  
**FEARFUL SURPRISES** **FUNNY SURPRISES**

Live on  **Sun, MAY 14 at 1:00pm HST**  
**Sun, JUNE 4 at 8:00 am HST**

Joyous moments, deep losses, and everything in between — See *What a Surprise!* a new work of theatre from The Braid and sponsored by JCS of Hawaii!

*Stayed tuned for the JCS-sponsored code*

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Most of you know Bob Sigall as the writer for the weekly Friday column “Rearview Mirror” in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser ... but to us, he’s a valued volunteer board member who is passionate about social justice.

While teaching graduate-level marketing and management courses at HPU for 15 years, Bob helped connect students to businesses on the island, which led to his book series, “The Companies We Keep.”

Bob also has a long history of community work in Hawai‘i. Busy as the director of Small Business Hawai‘i for 25 years, he was also the community coordinator of The Hunger Project, and helped found Hawai‘i Foodbank.

Bob’s advice for getting involved is simple: Be willing to seek out opportunities and take chances. “That’s my formula: Be prepared and spot opportunities and then take the leap.”

Interested in volunteering for JCS? Give us a call at 808-258-7121 or email [admin@jcs-hi.org](mailto:admin@jcs-hi.org).



## EAST HAWAI‘I ISLAND PARTNERS WITH JCS FOR HANNUKAH FUN



Ahava Aina’s 2022 Hanukkah celebration at the Grand Naniloa Hotel was very well attended, with approximately 100 guests filling the ballroom. Rabbi Rachel created our festive Haggadah. In a separate ballroom, there was a busy Keiki activity area

staffed by the Hebrew teacher, where they made their own menorahs. Everyone was entertained by the Ahava Aina Jewish Jam Band. A good time was had by all!

## WE NEED YOU!

Are you looking for a way to support our community and JCS, while keeping your wallet as is? We are always in need of volunteers, and here are some ways you can help:

- Food delivery to those in need
- Friendly visitors for senior community members
- Carpooling to social events or services
- Day of event help (e.g., Keiki events, our annual gala, etc.)
- Administrative work
- Emergency caregiving and/or cleaning
- Teaching basic technology (e.g., Zoom, email) to seniors
- Any other skills you have to offer!

Interested? Contact Mimi Lind at [admin@jcs-hi.org](mailto:admin@jcs-hi.org) for more information. Thank you!



Check out the Community Calendar to see what’s happening in the Hawai‘i Jewish community!

[www.jcs-hi.org/community-calendar](http://www.jcs-hi.org/community-calendar)



# JCS AWARDS 7 CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS



The Alexander Singer Scholarship Fund was established in blessed memory of its namesake and provides financial assistance for teens to experience Jewish camp, or to travel to Israel for an educational program like the Birthright Israel program. JCS is honored to manage this grant for Hawai'i's Jewish youth (ages 12-18) for the past many years. This year, seven different awards were granted throughout the islands.

Ari, who was awarded the grant last year, went on Birthright Israel. He shared, *"This was the most momentous time in my young adult*



*life. I never thought that I would fly halfway around the world, meet young Jewish people, and have a better understanding of the foundation of Israel."*

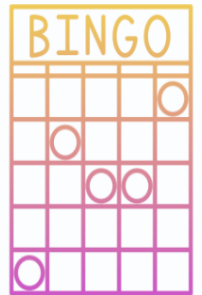


## Join our Hawaii Jewish Community

Move your body!  
Free of charge!

Bingocize combines Bingo with easy exercises to help with balance, heart health and strength!

- You can stand or sit in a chair
- Bingo cards will be provided if you want to play (optional!)
- Taught by a certified instructor



Classes meet on Zoom:  
Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10 AM - 11 AM

To register:  
Please email or call us with your name, email & mailing address:  
808-258-7121 or  
admin@jcs-hi.org



# JCS PARTNERS WITH UH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

By Sarah Osofsky, BSW candidate at UH Manoa

I was honored to be the first social work case management intern at JCS. Over the semester I had the opportunity to help clients by assisting with housing, getting back lost identifications, problem solving phone complications, connecting them with emergency assistance, immigration resources, and so much more. I have loved my flexible work environment, where I meet weekly with my JCS supervisor and then meet clients at many places including Temple Emanu-El, Chabad, their homes, and by phone. The internship was 8 hours a week, and there was plenty to do. This partnership has the potential to expand to 16 hours a week with JCS starting in the fall. As a Jewish person, I know the value that is placed on education which is one of the many wonderful reasons why JCS supporting the learning and growth of future social workers is kismet.



## JCS of Hawaii Book Club

**Meets the last Sunday of  
each month!**

**Magic Island/Ala Moana  
Beach Park**

**For more information:  
[email admin@jcs-hi.org](mailto:admin@jcs-hi.org)**

**Stay tuned for future  
reads!**

## CLIENT CORNER

“Adam’s” anxiety about his financial situation was so debilitating that it brought him to the Emergency Room more often than he’d like to admit. That in itself brought him a lot of shame. Since JCS was able to add him to the Jeannette LeVine senior rental subsidy, there have been no more ER visits. Finally able to find peace with financial stability, he was able to pursue some part-time work and be even more independent.

Unfortunately, this grant for on-going rent is full, but we are always happy to help connect our K’puna to resources that allay the stress of financial insecurity.

*“I consider the assistance that JCS gives me to truly be a blessing from G-d. The people involved are performing these Mitzvot selflessly. It is Holy work that you are doing”*

*Jewish Community Member*



# JCS WEAVING INTO THE FABRIC OF HAWAI'I

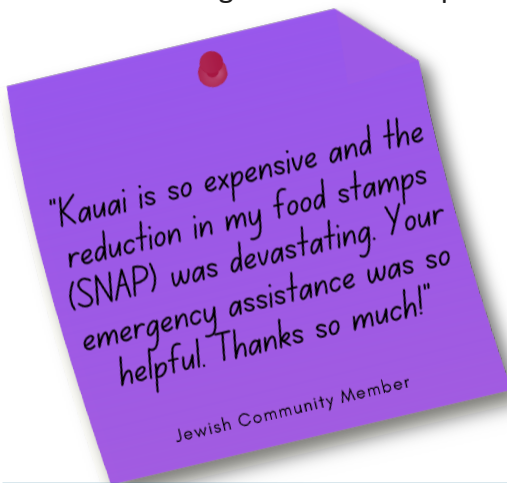
This year JCS is working hard to weave ourselves into the state and national fabric of human service non-profits. This is integral to client care because no matter the business – especially in Hawai'i – it's all about relationships. Knowing the right person to call about the housing waiting list, getting the most updated news on SNAP (food assistance), or finding the best food bank – can make a huge difference.

Our membership in HANO – Hawai'i Alliance of Non-Profit Organizations – help JCS make invaluable new relationships with resources large and small. Our ED was chosen to be a HANO fellow, with other leaders in Hawai'i non-profits, to forge these partnerships and better serve our community.

Another exciting new relationship is with internationally respected NTEN - the Nonprofit Technology

Enterprise Network – whose mission is to assure skillful and equitable technology and “to change the world” by changing our approach to technology. NTEN is partnering with JCS to improve our ability to reach our audience and assure accessibility for all.

Lastly, the National Jewish Non-Profit Association (NJHSA) provides affinity groups and valuable trainings to help our team better meet the needs of our clients. Recent trainings include case management in the Orthodox community, culturally appropriate care, financial assistance and homelessness, and Jewish grief and loss. We are very grateful for their support, knowledge, and community.



## KEEPING CONNECTED

Staying true to our tagline, we are working hard to help the Jewish community across Hawai'i gather together. We have a small fund available for community events.

Here are some of the events that we have co-sponsored recently:

- Keiki Tie Dye with Oahu Keiki Havurah
- Teen Escape Room with Oahu Jewish Teen Group
- Purim treats delivery with Jewy Hui
- Keiki Passover with Oahu Keiki Havurah
- Teen Beach Day with Oahu Jewish Teen Group
- Yom HaShoah Remembrance Service with JCRB, Temple E, and more

### Stay Connected to JCS of Hawaii



Email [communications@jcs-hi.org](mailto:communications@jcs-hi.org) to join our email list!



Jewish Community Services of Hawaii



@jcsofhawaii

Feel free to give us a call or email [communications@jcs-hi.org](mailto:communications@jcs-hi.org) with ideas.



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# JCS TO CELEBRATE 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING



It was in 1998, not so long ago, that visionary founders Judy Goldman and Lynn Zukerkorn founded JCS to provide social services to Hawai'i's Jewish community. Judy is still an active board member, as are founding board members Steve Guttman and Alice Tucker.

We expect a sold-out crowd to this annual opportunity to come together to support a great cause. You can look forward to a fun evening with live entertainment and dancing.

The JCS dinner serves as both a "friend maker" and a fundraiser and is open to our diverse community. Looking for a way to be involved? We need event sponsors and donations for our Lucky Draw. If you want to help, please contact Mimi Lind at [admin@jcs-hi.org](mailto:admin@jcs-hi.org) or 808-258-7121. See you there!



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## Honor Someone in the Spirit of Tikkun Olam

Send us a donation in honor of an accomplishment, anniversary, a friend or family member, or a loss – and we will send a beautiful acknowledgment to them. Go to our website or just write us a letter. Or give us a call to talk about it.

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## Friendship and Connection with the Hawaiian Community

With funding from the Jews of Color initiative and The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, and in a partnership with the Matsunaga Institute/University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, JCS was invited to participate in a research project between the Jewish and Kānaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) communities. We discussed shared values and visions and ate a meal together with food inspired by both cultures. A short documentary will be made from this inaugural event. We were honored to be part of this thoughtful and intentional dialogue.



"Thank you so much for connecting me to so many activities. It's hard being new to Hawaii and your help really made the transition easier."

Community Member



Jewish Community Services of Hawaii

PO Box 235805 Honolulu, HI 96823



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Sara Silverman

Alice Tucker

Aviela Weltman

Rabbi Mendel Zirkind

## JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES OF HAWAII

### Our Mission:

**To support and enhance Jewish life in Hawai'i through communication, coordination and provision of appropriate social services to those in need.**

### Contact us!

**[www.jcs-hi.org](http://www.jcs-hi.org)**

Phone: (808) 258-7121

Email: [admin@jcs-hi.org](mailto:admin@jcs-hi.org)

PO Box 235805 Honolulu, HI 96823