



## Biographies of Speakers & Staff

**Barbara Bedney**, Ph.D, MSW, is Director of Program Planning and Evaluation at The Jewish Federations of North America. She helps the Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care grantees with goal-setting, evaluation, and measuring impact, and works with Federation lay and professional leaders to identify trends in domestic human services and disseminate service models and best practices throughout the Federation Movement. Her areas of expertise include aging, family caregiving, and program planning and evaluation, and she has created numerous resource materials, issue briefs, trainings, and program models.

Previously, Barbara worked at the University of Illinois-Chicago on an HIV prevention project for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; examined national long-term care needs and trends at the University of California, San Francisco; and practiced Social Work in New York City. She received her Ph.D in Sociology from the University of California, San Francisco, her MSW from New York University, and her Bachelor's in Psychology and Sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles.

**Leah S. Bergen** is the Project Manager of the Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care. From 1999 to 2015, she dedicated herself to the field of refugee resettlement, working as a case worker at Church World Service-Joint Voluntary Agency in Nairobi, Kenya and as an employment advocate at Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area in Silver Spring, MD. She also worked for nearly seven years at HIAS — which aided her Holocaust survivor grandparents — as both a Program Manager and an advocate for refugees and asylum. Before graduating from American University's School of International Service with a degree in International Peace and Conflict Resolution, she processed asylum applications at the Arlington Asylum Office.

**William C. Daroff** is the Senior Vice President for Public Policy and Director of the Washington Office of The Jewish Federations of North America. As such, Daroff is the chief lobbyist and principal spokesperson on public policy and international affairs for the 148 Jewish Federations and more than 300 independent communities represented by JFNA, Daroff ensures that the voice of Jewish Federations is a prominent force in the Nation's Capital. Named by the Forward newspaper as being among the fifty most influential Jews in America, Daroff guides the Jewish community's advocacy efforts on the Federation movement's key domestic policy issues, principally on health and human services, such as Medicare and Medicaid, long-term care, and

policies affecting older Americans, including Holocaust Survivors, as well as homeland security programs and strengthening the capacity of charities to care for those in need.

In addition to his focus on domestic policy, Daroff is a key player in foreign policy circles – advising policymakers and elected officials on Jewish communal concerns, namely those related to the US-Israel relationship, the Middle East conflict, and efforts to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. He is also a leader in the worldwide fight to combat the assault on Israel’s legitimacy, creating and overseeing the Federation movement’s Israel Action Network, and serving on both the steering committee of the Prime Minister of Israel’s global task force and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organization’s working group.

**Michael Eisinger** is the Assistant Project Manager at the Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care. While completing his Master’s in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at West Chester University, he participated in several international academic and research programs and was invited to speak at conferences, seminars, and symposiums on the subject of the Holocaust and genocide. After graduating, Michael deepened his knowledge of Holocaust survivor care as an AmeriCorps VISTA at Jewish Family Service of Metro Detroit. There, he helped enhance services and outreach to local Holocaust survivors and developed and implemented a staff training program on survivor history. In his spare time, Michael is pursuing a Ph.D in Philology, focusing on Holocaust survivor testimony, at Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen in Giessen, Germany.

**Dr. Ken Epstein, Ph.D., LCSW**, is the Children’s System of Care Director for San Francisco County Community Behavioral Health Services, where he also leads the vision and implementation of the Trauma Informed Systems Initiative. While leading the initiative at DPH, Dr. Epstein has initiated and convened numerous groups of trauma experts and interagency collaborations in San Francisco and across the Bay Area. A notable collaboration is the Bay Area Trauma Informed System of Care (Trauma Transformed) Initiative comprised of seven Bay Area counties, which was awarded a four year SAMHSA grant. Prior to his appointment to this position he has worked within family and youth service programs since 1981 as a line worker, clinician, program director, professor, and chief executive officer.

His professional interests have focused on providing clinical services and developing comprehensive family-based services for children, youth and families experiencing alienation, conflict and loss. He has developed and directed comprehensive and integrated community-based service systems including crisis services, hospital diversion, wrap-around, kinship, school-based and intensive outpatient services in Massachusetts, Vermont and California. Dr. Epstein is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a Ph.D. in clinical social work from Smith College, an MSW from UC Berkeley and a BA in community mental health from Hampshire College. Since 1991, Dr. Epstein has served as an Associate Clinical Professor and in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSF, where he has developed and directed an Intensive Family Therapy Training

Program. In addition, he has served as adjunct faculty at UCSF, School of Nursing, University of California Berkeley, School of Social Welfare and Smith College.

**Maya Gumirov, LPC, NCC, MACC** is a Supervisor and a Russian Survivor Coordinator of Holocaust Community Services (HCS) at CJE SeniorLife in Chicago. She provides direct clinical case management to survivors and oversees intake, referrals and other services provided to Holocaust survivors including psychological support, assessment and financial assistance, socialization and oral history preservation. Maya is a supervisor of the JFNA grant team that enables Friendly Visitor and Friendly Caller programs for survivors, in-home counseling and different well-being classes and events for survivors. She has served as a key facilitator in establishing community partnerships to build resources and service delivery to survivors. She also conducts community Holocaust commemorations, education and trainings for professionals and caregivers on the special needs of aging Holocaust survivors and trauma-informed care in Russian and English. Maya Gumirov received her Master of Arts in Journalism from Far East University in Russia and Master of Arts in Community Counseling from Argosy University in the U.S.

Maya's prior clinical work centered on immigration, cultural adjustment, citizenship, trauma, loss and refugee populations. Most recently, her clinical interest shifted to studies on resilience and identity in Russian-speaking Holocaust survivors and their descendants. Together with other community volunteers she is interviewing, collecting, writing and translating stories of the Holocaust survivors from the former Soviet Union which was recently published in "Never Heard Never Forget" in Russian and English, and included in the Teaching Trunk of ILHMEC to educate Chicago public school students on topics of the Holocaust in the Nazi-occupied territories in the former Soviet Union. She is a second and third generation descendant of Holocaust survivors and victims.

**June K. Gutterman, Ed.D.**, is the CEO of Jewish Family Services of Columbus, Ohio. Prior to joining Jewish Family Services, she served as the Vice-President of Community Services for the Columbus Jewish Federation. She served as the Director of the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission's (ORSC) Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, a post she held from 1988 to 2004. Dr. Gutterman currently serves as co-chair of COWIC's One Stop Partner Committee. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Association of Jewish Vocational Services. She also served on the Jewish Federations of North America: Health & Long-term Care Workgroup

After receiving an undergraduate degree from New York University, Dr. Gutterman completed her graduate work in vocational rehabilitation counseling and administration at the University of Cincinnati, where she received a Master of Arts and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study. She was awarded a Doctorate of Education in special education and rehabilitation administration from the University of Cincinnati. Her dissertation was the Development of an Interagency Model for the Transition from School to Work for Children with Severe Disabilities.

**Amanda Jarvis** is the Project Assistant at the Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care. Most recently, Amanda worked as an Associate Case Manager and the Holocaust Survivor PCTI Program Associate at Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services in Boca Raton, Florida. She began working at Rales JFS as an AmeriCorps VISTA. Amanda also served as a Corps Member in AmeriCorps NCCC, where she performed active community service across the west coast of the U.S. She has a background in Marketing, from her time as the Marketing Coordinator at Cruise Lines International Association. Amanda has a BA from Florida Gulf Coast University.

**Stephan Kline** is The Jewish Federations of North America's Associate Vice President for Public Policy. Previously he was JFNA's Senior Director of Government Affairs where he worked to provide service to Jewish Federations and expand their capacity to access health and human services funding and as Legislative Director, supervising the Federations' advocacy related to health and long-term care, not-for-profit tax, housing, budget and appropriations, and family issues. Stephan received the Association of Jewish Community Government Affairs Directors Distinguished Service Award and authored a publication, *"The Continuum of Care in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century -- Helping Federations Meet the Needs of our Jewish Elderly."*

Prior to joining the Jewish Federations in 1999, Stephan was the Legislative Counsel at the Alliance for Justice and Director of the Alliance's Judicial Selection Project, where he worked on protecting the rights of not-for-profit organizations and on judicial independence issues. Stephan has also worked for the Federal Election Commission as an enforcement attorney, lobbied for the American Civil Liberties Union on health care reform and reproductive rights, and was a Women's Law and Public Policy Fellow at Georgetown University Law Center. Stephan is a graduate of Wesleyan University, and has a J.D. *magna cum laude* and L.L.M. in Law and Government from American University.

**Jessie Kornberg** joined Bet Tzedek as President & CEO in 2014. Kornberg's tenure has seen the agency grow to address the most pressing legal issues facing low-income families, including the nation's first transgender medical-legal partnership, Los Angeles' first low-income tax and small business start-up clinics, and a family preparedness program to respond to growing concerns surrounding the deportation of undocumented parents. Kornberg distinguished herself as a trial attorney at Los Angeles-based litigation boutique Bird Marella. Prior to joining Bird Marella, Kornberg served as the first executive director of Ms. JD, which she established as a national voice on issues concerning women and law. Kornberg's earliest exposure to impact litigation and strategic policy work came while serving as a legal fellow with the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund (now known as Legal Momentum).

Following graduation from law school, Kornberg was a clerk to Chief Judge Jon P. McCalla of the U.S. District Court in Memphis, Tenn. She earned her J.D. from the UCLA School of Law, where she was editor-in-chief of the Women's Law Journal. Kornberg holds a bachelor's degree in American history from Columbia College of Columbia University.

**Greg Link** is the Director of the Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services with the Administration for Community Living/U.S. Administration on Aging, which oversees programs funded under the Older Americans Act (OAA), including Title III-B in-home supportive services, Title III-E National Family Caregiver Support Program as well a portfolio of programs addressing the needs of persons with Alzheimer's disease and their family caregivers. Greg and his team support the aging network in a range of program areas, including Information and Referral, family caregiver support programs and policies, housing, employment, transportation, LGBT aging, and Holocaust Survivors.

Before coming to AoA, Greg worked at the National Association of State Units on Aging where he provided technical assistance and training to states on family care giving, consumer direction, and transportation. Greg has also worked at the community level as a case manager and social services manager at Senior Friendship Centers in Fort Myers Florida. There, he oversaw the social services staff and the delivery of services funded by the Older Americans Act, state funded and Medicaid waiver-programs. Greg holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Central Florida and a Master of Arts in Government from Johns Hopkins University.

**Perry Ohren**, MSW, LMSW, has been the CEO of Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit (JFSMD) since 2011. Prior to that, since 2004, he has worked at JFSMD, first as Director of Older Adult Services and then as Chief Program Officer. Ohren worked for the Jewish Federation in Detroit as its *NORC* Director, helping seniors age in place. Before that, he worked for Detroit's Jewish Vocational Service, supervising and managing programs and services including refugee employment, supported employment and school to work. Before this, Ohren worked at Wayne State University supervising a program in the Child Welfare arena. He started his professional career at JFSMD in the early 1990's as a clinical social worker in a family violence intervention program.

Ohren has been on the following Boards of Directors: Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies, Metro In-Home Solutions, Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, Oak Park Business and Education Alliance, Greater Detroit Network of Social Innovators, KADIMA and the Wayne State University School of Social Work Board of Visitors. He received his MSW and BA degrees from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in the 1980s. Ohren grew up in Cincinnati and has three young adult children.

**Shelley Rood Wernick** is the Director of the Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care and is inspired every day by her Holocaust survivor grandparents. An experienced staff member and advocate on Capitol Hill, she previously served as JFNA Senior Legislative Associate and Washington Director of the Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies, where she conveyed critical policy priorities to Congress and the White House, and trained communities to advocate for the populations they serve. A committed leader, Shelley headed the 2011 Congressional initiative to install the Jewish Chaplains Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

and has held volunteer positions in Jewish Women International, JProDC, University of Florida Hillel, Israeli Dancing, and LearnServe International. She has an MBA from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University and a BA in Sociology and Political Science from the University of Florida.

**David Rosenberg** is the Senior Vice President of Programs and Strategy at Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia. In this capacity, David oversees the management and strategic direction of JFCS's diverse portfolio of services and programs that benefit the community. He is also responsible for working with JFCS's team of program directors on identifying needs in the community and new growth opportunities. David brings 20 years of nonprofit and senior service management experience to the organization. Prior to joining JFCS, David served as President and Founder of Senior Care Advisors, a care management company that advised mature adults and their family members on resources for seniors and how to access them.

David previously was Executive Director of Wilf at Home, a community-based program of The Oscar and Ella Wilf Campus for Senior Living that helped seniors to age safely in place. David has also held leadership positions at CARIE, the Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly, and at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, where he planned and implemented innovative programs to help older adults.

**Reuben Rotman** serves as the founding President and CEO of the recently established Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies. The Network is an international membership association, which seeks to be the leading voice for the Jewish human service sector; the go-to place for best practices, research, innovation, training and partnerships. With a focus on the needs of its 140 member organizations, the Network's over-arching goal is to strengthen its member agencies so they can better serve those who seek their help.

Previously, Mr. Rotman served as the Executive Director of Jewish Family Service of MetroWest New Jersey. He held positions with UJA Federation of New York, Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit and Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit. He was a board member of J-Pro New Jersey and the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies. Reuben's educational background includes an MA in the Management of Human Services from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management and an MA in Jewish Communal Service from the Hornstein Program, both of which are affiliated with Brandeis University.