

Community Connections

Jeff & Jay's New Beginning



Jeff and Jay sitting in the living room at their new apartment.

This past year has brought many changes to JCL, some happy, positive changes and a few that really blew us off our feet. One of the bright sides of this year has been the relationship growth we have experienced as an agency. We have been fortunate to know the Millstein family for many years and have recently welcomed Jeff into our JCL family.

Jeff and Jay moved in together to a beautiful, sunny apartment in West Hartford. This duo has hit it off and have been getting along quite well. Jeff, our newest resident, will surely have lots to learn from Jay, who came to JCL in 1983.

When asked about his new apartment, Jay says, "It's bigger than Woodrow. I like my room because it's bigger. I like to live here because I get to go where I want, like the library."

Jeff works at the local Whole Foods and also really enjoys his new residence. He says, "I like it, it's bigger. I can go out to restaurants. I like to help and cook mac and cheese."

We're very pleased that Jeff has chosen to live with us. Jeff, welcome to JCL!



Endow Hartford 21 - Bonus Gift Opportunity

Endowments are vital to the survival of nonprofit organizations like JCL. They help us sustain our mission during periods of revenue fluctuations, providing predictability and added peace of mind. Any endowment gift given to JCL through June 2022, between \$250-\$10,000 will be matched 50% by Endow Hartford 21.

Additionally, a gift of ANY amount made to JCL's endowment fund through June 2022 will help us reach our \$5,000 goal to become eligible for an extra \$1,000 match.

To learn more, contact Sarah at swiniarski@jcl-ct.org or 860-522-5225 ext. 2239

Passover Celebrations

This year, Judaic Program Coordinators, Bonnie & Susan created a beautiful online presentation with the help of JCL's dear friends Nancy Rosen, Ruth Anne Faust, and Sara deBeer.

Ruth Anne began the program with singing and signing through the Seder. Nancy went through the Four Questions of Passover which really help participants understand the purpose of Passover. Lastly, Sara emphasized the importance of slowing down to truly understand the importance of Passover. To watch the Zoom recording of the Passover Celebration, visit our website www.jcl-ct.org.



Judaic Program's Passover Celebration on Zoom.



David's New Job

David Schuster attends Harc's day program and has been volunteering at Auerfarm for almost a year. David works alongside Will Sykes, the Assistant Coordinator at Harc's Bulova Day Center (and one of JCL's Life Skills Instructors), and four other young men.

Auerfarm is an educational farm located in Bloomfield. At the farm, David and the crew clean out the alpaca stalls and chicken coops. They spend about two hours, twice a week at the farm doing chores. When asked about working at the farm, David said, "I feel excited. I love this farm!". All of the young men truly enjoy working at the farm and being able to contribute their time to help their community. Will Sykes, their vocational coach, enjoys spending time at the farm as well. Although he is a self-proclaimed city kid, he sees the importance of the work he does at the farm and it has grown on him. Will also sees that value in making sure that people with disabilities have opportunities to participate in inclusive programs, like their work at Auerfarm.



David at Auerfarm, after completing his work for the day.

Will Sykes and David relaxing at Harc after working at Auerfarm.



A partner in JCF

We are forever grateful to the overwhelming support from the Jewish Community Foundation. JCL recently received at \$14,4000 grant to assist with a new roof at the Arapahoe Road home.

JCL celebrates JCF's 50th Anniversary



JCF recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. To mark the milestone, the community was invited to assist with creating a mosaic piece of art. Pictured above are Melissa and Tammy (seated) with the professional artists laying their tiles on the mosaic.



JCL is supported by the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford and the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford.

West Normandy Home Receives a Remodel

Our group home located on West Normandy Drive recently underwent a number of renovations which included a new kitchen, new basement floors, fresh paint, and a new front walkway. Thanks to our DDS funding and their support we were able to make all of these updates.



West Normandy kitchen before.



Beautiful, updated kitchen.



West Normandy basement with old floors (left) and bright, new floors (right).

Out & About



Tammy & Melissa attended prom hosted by Marc.



Larry, the Wolfpack super fan, enjoying a game.



Jess & Marianne on their Spring trip to Newport.



Tammy & Melissa enjoying a Yardgoats game.



Kendy & David posing with a lifelike security figure at the New Britain Museum of American Art.



Jess, Jaime, David, Marianne & JCL Life Skills Instructor, Ava Flowers-Dawn support Hall High School's Jazz Band at the Pops n' Jazz Concert.