In your important work, there are countless individuals and families who are better suited for life’s challenges and more fully engaged in the beauty of Jewish communal life because of your talent and effort. As we enter the New Year of 5774, I wish all my colleagues contentment, health, strength, happiness and resolve! May this year be a blessing for you and those who you love….L'Shana Tova!

Marc B. Terrill, President, JCSA, President, THE ASSOCIATED: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore

We are grateful for the opportunity to support our colleagues throughout the entire St. Louis Jewish community through the JProStl. We’ve been inspired by the relationships we’ve established with colleagues across the country and appreciate all JCSA has done to further our efforts. As we enter the new year, we look forward to being part of a national effort to deepen commitments to professional development and community unity.

May we all go from strength to strength.

L’shana tova -

Marc Mayer Eisen, Director and Karen Sher, Senior Program Associate Millstone Institute for Jewish Leadership, Jewish Federation of St. Louis

Let’s make this Rosh Hashana the “Year of the Jewish Communal Professional,” celebrating those who build our community as a career path. Here are three practical steps for showing enhanced respect for our field:

1. Allotting budget dues to JCSA with every hire so that new professionals feel part of a growing network of colleagues.
2. Identifying staff members who can serve as mentors for those at other organizations and vice-versa to break down agency walls.
3. Developing continuing education credits towards the credentialing of JCS professionals.

May this be a year of professional growth and learning for us all.

Misha Galperin, President and CEO, Jewish Agency International Development

We can all feel proud of our work whether we have come to it because of a deep sense of calling or by fortuitous accident. Each day, as counselors, fundraisers, planners, technicians….whatever our role, we contribute to a more just society. My hope for my friends and colleagues in this New Year is that we will take pride in work well done, find joy in new collaborations and scaling challenges, and be renewed in a promising future. May we all be fulfilled with a sense of purpose and have the good health and vitality to greet each day in the New Year with open hearts and minds to all the wonderful possibilities that await us.

Brenda Gevertz, Executive Director, Jewish Communal Service Association

My hope for 5774 is the people find their personal meaning and connection to their own Judaism that then translates to their communal involvement.

David Cygielman, CEO, Moishe House

The coming year will open with a new Jewish population study (from Pew), new challenges abroad, and new uncertainties at home. So it is appropriate that the numerical equivalent (gematria) for (5)774 is the biblical phrase "meletiv ruah hochma" (Exodus 28:3), referring to those whom God has "filled with the spirit of wisdom." In the year 5774 we will need all of that wisdom -- along with knowledge and discernment -- to meet the uncertainties and challenges that lie ahead. May it be a year of health, happiness, wisdom, knowledge, discernment, and fulfillment for us all!

Jonathan D. Sarna, Joseph H. & Belle R. Braun Professor of American Jewish History, Chair, Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program, Brandeis University

As Jewish communal professionals who have devoted our careers in the service of our people, the time between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur affords us the chance to celebrate all we have achieved and take stock of what is left to be done. Perhaps that is why we experience the rhythm of the Jewish year with such a sense of urgency and excitement: because in every Jewish person and in every Jewish space, we see opportunity waiting to be unleashed. In my travels for JDC, I have seen all that can be achieved when we, as Jewish professionals, work with our communities to inspire Jewish life and turn dreams into realities. And I can assure you that from Be’er Sheva to Budapest, from Buenos Aries to Birobidzhan, and everywhere in between, the spirit of arevut (mutual Jewish responsibility) is ensuring stronger and innovative Jewish communities.

That, above all, should give you hope – and pride – in the New Year ahead and for all we wish to achieve together.

May you and your loved ones have a year of the best of health and many blessings. Gmar chatima tova.

Alan Gill, CEO, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)
Each year I look forward to hear the blowing of the shofar. I remember, standing on a chair in shul as a child, inching as close as possible to hear the ba‘al Tekiyah sound the beautiful notes. Now every Rosh Hashanah, I listen to the shofar and ask whether I have done enough. Have I made a difference this year more than last year? Though I always believe I could do much better, I feel extremely fortunate to engage in work that focuses on our Jewish future. I am privileged to partner with inspiring people who make a real difference every day.

I wish all of my colleagues a very happy, healthy year to come. May we all work together to continue to achieve mitzvot and to enhance our collective mission on behalf of the Jewish People.

Jerry Silverman, President & CEO, Jewish Federations of North America

As we face the many geo-political issues in the Middle East, particularly for Israel, and daunting domestic challenges, I’m reminded of Rabbi Harold Kushner’s sage advice: “Judaism, done right, has the power to save your life from being spent entirely on the trivial…” Our work as communal professionals, may have daily tasks, which may seem trivial, but taken as a whole, we do holy work. May the New Year bring us all good health and great accomplishments for C’lal Yisrael and humanity.

Max Kleinman
Executive Vice President/CEO, Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ

The High Holidays are a time that we reflect on the past year and look to the future. As a Jewish community and as Jewish professionals responsible for our community’s institutions, we have become quite proficient at reflection and we have held scores of conferences and meetings on our Jewish future. This year, we need the vision and the courage to embrace our challenges and make our future our top priority. We need to have fewer conferences and make more plans. We need to see “innovation” not as an overused word but as an integral, organic part of our work and the way we do our work. We must continue to sustain our community as we build the Jewish community for the next generations.

Full speed ahead!

Jay Sanderson, President & CEO,
The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles

Every year, the Jewish new year brings us the opportunity to reflect, enumerating and confessing to our (mostly unintended) misdeeds from the past year. But we also have the opportunity to reassess ourselves professionally. How pure are our intentions? How transparent are our motivations? How can we reconfigure our shortcomings and move ahead with both better intentions and improved implementation? This year, let’s grant ourselves this strategic and emotional space to reflect, and open our minds to fresh ideas and perspectives. May we emerge re-energized and recommitted to the work of making the world – and the professional world of Jewish nonprofit – a better place.

Esther Kustanowitz, Consultant for the ROI Community, Program Coordinator, Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles

The Iamim Noraim express what it’s probably the most important contribution of Judaism to humanity: the idea that we craft our own destiny through our thoughts, our words and our actions. Rosh Hashanah is a time of hope, because it celebrates our capacity to change and to create. We are not bound by the mistakes of the past nor by some deterministic fatalism. It is the time to imagine a world of endless possibilities, it’s the time to be naive and believe that everything is possible because the future is ours to paint, over a canvas of hope. May this New Year find every Jewish Professional without fear to dream big dreams, to imagine the impossible and to continue changing the world and touching lives with the warmth of their empathy and the force of their passion. Shana Tova.

Andres Spokoiny, President and CEO, Jewish Funders Network

In 5774, I hope to push myself to listen with deeper humility, act with greater integrity, and anchor myself in meaningful relationships. I am proud that the Jewish community is deeply engaged in improving the ethos of our people and the condition of the broader world. But if we wish to fulfill the promise of tikkan olam, we must first repair our relationships with each other. Whether we’re engaging in difficult conversations about Jewish peoplehood, advocating for equitable labor practices for fast food workers, supporting religious pluralism in Israel, or fighting for the human rights of women and girls in the developing world, we must acknowledge the complexity of building bridges across gulfs of difference. Together, let’s restore a shared ethic of partnership, accountability, and connection.

Ruth Messinger, President, American Jewish World Service

As we reflect on our goals, our successes and our struggles, we begin to lay out our plans for the coming year. I wish for all of us that we take this opportunity to stop and introspectively developing our characters, and in the ways in which we impact the outside world. But if we wish to fulfill the promise of tikkan olam, we must first repair our relationships with each other. Whether we’re engaging in difficult conversations about Jewish peoplehood, advocating for equitable labor practices for fast food workers, supporting religious pluralism in Israel, or fighting for the human rights of women and girls in the developing world, we must acknowledge the complexity of building bridges across gulfs of difference. Together, let’s restore a shared ethic of partnership, accountability, and connection.

Ruth Messinger, President, American Jewish World Service

The Arizal said that every soul was sent here to fulfill a specific purpose that no one else can fulfill. As professional leaders in the Jewish community, there is no doubt that we are well on our way to finding our purpose and fulfilling it. During the Rosh Hashanah season, we stop and make a spiritual accounting. Where have we come from? Where are we going? (Pirkei Avot Mishna 1) Traditionally, there are two ways we can develop ourselves: introspectively developing our characters, and in the ways in which we impact the outside world. As we reflect on our goals, our successes and our struggles, we begin to lay out our plans for the coming year. I wish for all of us that we take this opportunity to stop and assess our current standing and carefully strategize our first steps into 5774. Shana tovah!

Mark S. Young , Program Coordinator, Experiential Learning Initiative, The Davidson School of JTS

Kal Ha’Oalm Kuh, Gesher Tzar Ma’al, V’hayikar, Lo l’achel k’lad. As Jewish professionals, we can feel at times that “our whole worlds” are resting on our shoulders and that overcoming the challenges we face can feel like crossing a narrow, unstable bridge. For 5774, I wish for each of us not to have fear at these times of challenge. Let us take a step back, look at the bigger picture, and realize we are all working towards the same goals and all trying to do well for both our communities and for our families. May we have the courage to be collaborative, hear the other side, and speak with gentler words. Let’s cross the bridges together. Wishing a happy, healthy, and prosperous year to all."

Mark S. Young , Program Coordinator, Experiential Learning Initiative, The Davidson School of JTS

Rachel Victor Goldsmith, M.A. Jewish Communal Service Candidate, Gratz College, JCSA Intern
Mazal Tovs

Mazal Tov to Marc Neiwirth on his being named President of North American Association of Synagogue Executives.

Mazal Tov to David Rivel on his new position as CEO at JBFCS.

Mazal Tov to Dr. Louis Josephson on his new position as President/CEO of Vista Del Mar Child & Family Services.

Mazal Tov to Steven Kraus on his new position as Executive Director of Uri L’tzedek.

Mazal Tov to Joy Brand-Richardson on her recent marriage to Donna Richardson.

Mazal Tov to Miriam Brosseau and husband Alan Sufrin on the birth of their son, Leo.

Welcome and Mazal Tov to JCSA’s new board members

David Cygielman, CEO of Moishe House, Alan Gill, CEO of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Esther Kustanowitz, Consultant for the ROI Community and Program Coordinator for the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, and Jay Sanderson, President & CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles.

Giving Purpose to Our Work

Arthur Sandman, Jewish Agency for Israel, Executive Vice President

As I write, it is August 8. It is also the second of Elul—the shofar is being sounded daily in anticipation of Rosh Hashanah. For those of us who enjoy both legal and Jewish holidays off, Labor Day week will be an even shorter workweek—two days at best. Yom Kippur could well be unusually hot, and certainly the fast will end unusually late at night. My wife, will celebrate her October 3 birthday after the fall holidays are but a memory. We will soon discover the mystery of Thanksgiving latkes and interrupting our turkey course to light Chanukah candles. Parents will be left with no explanation for their kids as to why we have no holiday of our own at Christmas-time.

For the Christian world, time passes in neat accord with the season. For Moslems, the calendar dwells in the spiritual, ignoring seasons—as one is reminded on this day-after-Ramadan, which simply drifts earlier and earlier in Christian-time each year. But for us, consternation and confusion. Time is out of its cycle. The world is in disarray. And it is only to be corrected by that ultimate Purim prank—the insertion in our calendar of an extra month of Adar, the effort to periodically re-align the lunar months with a solar year.

Caught in the disjunction of the secular and Jewish calendars, we find the metaphor for Jewish life in America, where we are caught in the disjunction of our American and Jewish identities.

As communal professionals, we spend our lives addressing that disjunction. It occupies us. It vexes us.

Perhaps I should wait until February or March to complete this piece, because it is the message of the extra Adar that should give us comfort. The Jewish calendar reminds us that the spiritual—the lunar—must be reconciled with the practical realities of the solar seasons. The major festivals have both historical and agricultural associations, because we must attend to both who we are and where we live.

Solving the dilemmas of American Jewish life is more complicated than synching two calendars. But with the beginning of Elul, we recite Psalm 27 daily until Shemini Atzeret. It speaks of our encounter with adversity—enemies and unjust accusers, the passing of our parents from our lives, and even the fear that God might abandon us. And it offers good advice. “Look to the Lord, be strong and of good courage. Look to the Lord.”

Don’t Forget: JCSA member organizations receive
10% off your listing on www.JewishJobs.com

www.JCSANA.org
Despite diminishing interest and affiliation, there has been, over the past decade, a simultaneous burst of innovation manifesting itself in creative communities, organizations, and programs that reflect what many consider a renaissance in Jewish life. These initiatives are often driven by young people and characterized by a language that not only entices but also inspires and empowers them.

The Jewish Survey Question Bank (JSQB) is now available at www.jewishquestions.bjpa.org. Take a look at the more than 15,000 Jewish social research survey questions and response options, covering studies on Jewish population, public opinion, program evaluations, and much more. The JSQB is designed to improve future Jewish social research and help academics, leaders of Jewish organizations, and Jewish educators craft their own surveys, enabling them to do their jobs more effectively. Contact Bipa.wagner@nyu.edu for more information.

The JCC Association Graduate Scholarship Program awards tuition assistance for Master’s level education leading to a full time job in a JCC. This highly competitive scholarship awards select individuals $10,000 a year for up to two years. Applicants must be knowledgeable about the Jewish Community Center field, want to pursue a career in a local JCC and will enroll in a course of study that relates to the work being done in the JCC. Applications are available at www.jccworks.com. Application deadline for the 2014-15 school year is Feb 1, 2014.

FEGS announces Experience 2 Work: Employment Boot Camp for Boomers, a customized four-week, intensive skill development and employment preparation program that will increase your competitiveness in today’s job market and increase your prospects for employment. You must be 50 years of age and over, have a work history and be actively interested in seeking employment.

For more information and to apply, contact experience2work@fegs.org or call 917-606-6556.

The Journal of Jewish Communal Service is now available online for JCSA members!
For more information, contact the JCSA Office.
info@jcsana.org or call 212-284-6945

Despite diminishing interest and affiliation, there has been, over the past decade, a simultaneous burst of innovation manifesting itself in creative communities, organizations, and programs that reflect what many consider a renaissance in Jewish life. These initiatives are often driven by young people and characterized by a language that not only entices but also inspires and empowers them.

www.JCSANA.org
Local Groups Events & Updates

**J - Pro Oregon** and the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland are offering a six-session exploration of Jewish leadership for Jewish communal professionals. Join us as we experience the journey of six leaders who paved the road to Jewish destiny.

We are delighted that Rabbi Motti Wilhelm will lead the course and we will work to have guest presenters (leaders from our community) share their experiences at each session.

For more information email marc@jewishportland.org.

The course dates are as follows:

* **Tuesday, October 8, 2013**  
* **Friday -- November 15, 2013**  
* **Tuesday -- December 17, 2013**  
* **Friday -- January 24, 2014**  
* **Tuesday -- March 4, 2014**  
* **Friday -- April 4, 2014**

**JPro Stl** invites you to JPro Annual New Staff Orientation

**Tuesday, October 29, 8:30-1:30 PM**

Meet colleagues and learn about all about the St. Louis Jewish Community. Breakfast and lunch provided. Open to staff working in Jewish agencies, congregations, organizations and schools. Recommended for those who began work at their organization in the last year or two. Topic includes values, history, trends, strengths and challenges.

RSVP to Karen Sher at 314-442-3824 or ksher@jfedstl.org

Representing the diversity of the St. Louis Jewish professional community, JProStl has kicked off plans for the coming program year including Challah Baking for Rosh Hashanah, Israel and the Media with Neil Lazarus, and the 9th Annual JPro Recognition Luncheon on **January 30**.

**The Darrell D. Friedman Institute for Professional Development** announces

L’chaim! Exploring the Traditions of Jewish Life Today

Facilitator: Dr. Erica Brown, scholar, author, educator

For Lay Leaders and Professionals

**Wednesdays, once a month, October - May, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

JCC, 5700 Park Heights Ave, Baltimore

More Info: Cindy Goldstein cgoldstein@thedfi.org

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Tristate JPRO’s next event will be

**Monday, October 21, 2013**

Contact Ross Berkowitz for more information ross@tribe12.org

www.JCSANA.org
The Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University is now accepting applications for the Legacy Heritage Midcareer Fellowship. The fellowships are specifically designed for professionals who already work in the field, and who wish to enhance their management or pedagogic skills, as well as strengthen their Jewish knowledge. Selected fellows will receive generous tuition scholarships toward their Masters degrees at Towson University in either Jewish Education or Jewish Communal Service.

For more information, contact Jill Max, Director of BHI at Towson University at 410-704-7120 or jmax@towson.edu.

The Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program at Brandeis University is now accepting applications for its 2-year dual degree masters programs. Students earn an MA in Jewish Professional Leadership paired with an MBA, MPP or MA (Judaic Studies). Generous funding is available for highly qualified applicants. For more information, please visit our website, www.brandeis.edu/hornstein or contact Carol Hengerle 781-736-2997 or hengerle@brandeis.edu.

The Jewish Professional Leadership Program at JTS prepares students for careers in the Jewish community by providing them with the essential knowledge, skills, and experience to meet the challenge of building Jewish community in an increasingly complex world. Students may apply to JTS and Columbia University’s School of Social Work (CUSSW), or Columbia’s School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). At JTS, students study Jewish history, tradition, and culture with JTS’s esteemed faculty. At CUSSW and SIPA, students study non-profit management and leadership.

The William Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education, offers master’s degrees in Jewish education with concentrations in Day School Teaching, Educational Leadership in Synagogues and Other Settings and Jewish Experiential Education. All students study pedagogy, Jewish education and Jewish text and participate in hands-on training in their concentration area. Students are eligible for generous tuition fellowships. In-residence and distance learning options, and full-time and part-time options are available for MA students. MA as well as non-JTS students may also apply for Kesher Hadash. The Davidson School’s groundbreaking semester-in-Israel program. Applications are considered on a rolling basis.

For more information on the programs and the application process, please contact Director of Admissions, Abby Eisenberg at abeisenberg@jtsa.edu or (212) 678-8032, or visit our website. The application deadline for the program is January 2 of each year.

www.JCSANA.org
Events & Opportunities Continued


UJA-Federation of New York’s Weiner Educational Center Announces Fall Programming

♦ Presentation Skills, Wednesday October 9, 2013
♦ Performance Feedback: Practical Steps and Practice, Tuesday, October 15, 2013 (For High Impact and Muehlstein Institute alumni)
♦ Community Study Conversations: Russian-Speaking Jews, Adjusting and Advancing, Thursday, October 17, 2013

For more information and registration, please visit www.ujafedny.org/workshops/

On August 28, 2013, Alan van Capelle, CEO of Bend the Arc, addressed the United States on the 50th Anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr's “I have a dream, speech.

Watch it now! http://bendthearc.us/we-are-far-from-justice

Judy Beck and Rabbi Lawrence Troster are in the process of creating an incubator of sorts to help Jewish communal professionals, who are currently between jobs or rethinking their career trajectory, which will enable them to have a venue where they will be able to work on developing new career strategies or even the creation of new Jewish communal initiatives. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, October 15, 2013. Persons interested should contact Judy Beck, judybeck1@verizon.net, or Rabbi Larry Troster, ltroster@optonline.net, for information on time and place.

Employment Opportunities

The Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey is seeking an experienced professional for the position of Planning Associate. Reporting to the Managing Director of Community Planning and Impact, this person will be responsible for developing strong relationships with local agencies, staffing the process of community planning and allocations at the Federation. This person will work with professionals and volunteers from beneficiary agencies and other key stakeholder groups to understand the health, social service, and educational priorities of the community and the requirements to achieve them.

To apply for this position and other Federation positions, please visit our website: www.jewishfederations.org/jobs
JCSA Benefit Plans

Will your Retirement Savings (Pension Plans, TSAs, IRAs) stop or slow down if you are disabled?
Will your plans be “Cut Short” if you are not able to work?

YOU CAN BE PROTECTED

Contributions can be made to an annuity for you if you are disabled.
ACCEPTANCE IS GUARANTEED FOR $5,000. ANNUAL PROTECTION DURING THIS OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD JUNE 1 THOUGH JUNE 30, 2013

Open Enrollment? Yes.
No Medical Questions? That’s correct.

The disability benefit has a COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) of 3%. If the Member is disabled, the 1st annual benefit is $5,000---increasing by 3% each year to age 65.

Call for further information!

Contact our administrators for JCSA Benefit Plans, Brian and Irving Silberberg at:
Telephone: 1-800-597-9245 E-mail: bsilberberg@ceteraadvisors.com Website: www.jcsabenefitplans.com

JCSA Benefit Plans offers the following plans and services to our members on an individual and agency basis:

♦ Long Term Disability
♦ Tax Sheltered Annuities
♦ Retirement Disability Plan
♦ Life Insurance Plan
♦ Fixed Annuities
♦ Fixed Index Annuities
♦ 529 College Fund Plan
♦ IRA Plans
♦ Long Term Care Plans
♦ 24 Hour Accident Plan
♦ Agency Pension Planning

Jewish Communal Service Association of North America

Connecting & Enhancing Professional Leadership

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