

NCJW[®]

National Council of Jewish Women
Louisville Section

Bulletin

2020-2021

Celebrating Our Past & Celebrating Our Future

125th Anniversary Events



Photo Credit Robbyn McClain, Jewish Community of Louisville

On June 15th we proudly celebrated the Louisville Section's 125th Anniversary with our 650 members, their friends and families, and our community partners!

The virtual luncheon was a special reflection of past leaders and of the vast and impactful work we have done. NCJW, Inc. CEO, Sheila Katz, joined us as our guest speaker to share the current successes and direction of the organization at the national level. And we were thrilled to receive recorded congratulatory videos from Governor and First Lady Beshear and Congressman Yarmuth! The in-person evening event was held at the Big Four Walking Bridge for our guests to celebrate and socialize! We were honored to have been joined by Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman, Representative Nima Kulkarni, Councilwoman Cassie Chambers Armstrong, and Heaven Hill Brands Chief Marketing Officer Kate Latts! The wonderful evening concluded with the spectacular lighting of the Big Four Walking Bridge in NCJW's blue and green colors!

Thank you to all of our sponsors for their support, and to Heaven Hill Brands and Jane and Bert Emke for their generosity as Title sponsors. We are grateful for the support of so many members and community partners who continue to believe NCJW is a vital and integral part of the local, and statewide, Jewish community – and we are eager and excited for the efforts we can bring in the years ahead!

NCJW BOARD & STAFF

Board of Directors

Joyce Bridge, *President*
Ellen Shapira, *Treasurer*
Elaine Weinberg, *Advisor*
Beth Salamon, *State Policy Advocacy Chair*

BOARD MEMBERS

Jane Emke
Susan Gardner
Cheryl Gilchrist
Diane Graeter
Mindy Klein
Surekha Kulkarni
Sonia Levine
Sue Paul
Ellen Rosenbloom
Leni Sweet
Helen Wahba

NEARLY NEW SHOP COMMITTEE

Joyce Bridge
Jane Emke
Cheryl Gilchrist
Sonia Levine
Phyllis Present
Ellen Rosenbloom, *Treasurer*
Judy Shapira
Leni Sweet

NCJW STAFF

Nancy Chazen, *Executive Director*
Jamie Ingram, *Communications & Administrative Manager*

NEARLY NEW SHOP STAFF

Brittany Hanson, <i>Manager</i>	Dominique Gahafer, <i>Sales</i>
Lora Powers, <i>Assistant Manager</i>	Phawn Edwards, <i>Cashier</i>
Barbara Ehrlich, <i>Accessories</i>	Monica Taylor, <i>Cashier</i>
Sue Horn, <i>Collectibles</i>	Jessie Boyd, <i>Driver & Maintenance</i>
Cheryl Farris, <i>Donations</i>	Willie Boyd, <i>Driver & Maintenance</i>



Message from the Executive Director
Nancy Chazen
nancychazen@ncjwlou.org

As we all return to a somewhat state of normalcy, we remain thankful for the health and safety of our members, staff, and their families, and continue to extend our support to those that have been affected by COVID and its challenges.

To reuse an overused phrase we have all said and heard these past 12+ months, "what a year this has been!" It has been trying times for sure, but we are happy as a Section to use this phrase in its positive context! Despite the lack of in-person connections and opportunities, our Section had a surge in re-engagement among its members and community partners.

We achieved our strategic planning objectives and created a multi-year plan to grow the Section; operational policies and procedures continue to be updated; membership increased; new advocacy committees were formed with planning and efforts underway; community partnerships were strengthened and newly formed; and we successfully adapted to the health precautions and retail obstacles that faced the Nearly New Shop.

We're grateful to our members for their support and involvement - and we are excited to share with you the many programs and events in the coming months! If you'd like to know more about the Section's strategic plans or if you have any questions, please allow me the pleasure of talking with you and sharing the excitement for our Section.



Message from the President

Joyce Bridge
joyce.bridge@gmail.com

An enormous THANK YOU to Nancy Chazen, Jamie Ingram and the entire 125th Committee for a FABULOUS 125th ANNIVERSARY PARTY!!!! Great job by all.

Now a TOAST to the future and looking forward to seeing each other IN PERSON. The Fall Fashion Encore is scheduled for October 23rd, 24th, and 25th.

Hope to see you helping out there - we have frequently reconnected working together there. Have a great summer seeing family and friends in person and I look forward to seeing you in person at events this Fall

Women's Committee & Racial Justice Committee



We are eager to form these two committees to resume the important advocacy work and community service needs to address these social and civic issues. Please contact Nancy Chazen at nancychazen@ncjwlou.org with interest.



Message from the Office

Jamie Ingram
office@ncjwlou.org

What a year! Celebration, newness, and LOTS of changes. If you have made any changes to your contact information (address, phone, email, etc.), please email me at office@ncjwlou.org to update this info.

I'm also available for membership questions, tribute purchases, volunteer sign ups, and just about anything else you might need from NCJW. You can reach me at 458-5566 or email me at office@ncjwlou.org.



If you're not receiving our Member News emails, please make sure we have your email address! Contact us at 458-5566 or office@ncjwlou.org



State Public Affairs Message
 Beth Salamon
 salamonba@aol.com

In the past 12 months, NCJW Louisville Section has sent out action alerts to our members on a wide variety of issues including, the following:

- Supporting the Louisville Safety Zone Ordinance which Louisville Metro Council passed to create a safety zone outside healthcare facilities, including the EMW Women's Surgical Center, which has been the target of anti-abortion protests.
- Supporting S1, which is a Federal bill that would strengthen voting rights on a national level
- Supporting the Maternal and Infant Health Project. The project includes 21 Kentucky bills related to care for families, mental health, incarceration, access to care, and health equity.
- Supporting Kentucky SB 21, which would allow unaccompanied youth (youth that are homeless) to receive mental health care from a licensed mental health professional.
- Opposing a whole list of bills that would restrict reproductive choice in Kentucky, including HB 91 which would create a new section of the Constitution of Kentucky to state that Kentucky's Constitution does not secure or protect a right to abortion or funding of abortion.
- We also opposed HB 216 which would stop all agencies in Kentucky that receive any public dollars from even saying the word abortion.
- Opposing 3 anti LGBTQ bills.

In addition to action alerts, the Louisville Section:

- Signed on the letters supporting the nomination of two candidates for positions at the Department of Justice.
- Supported Kristen Clarke who will serve as the first black woman to lead the Civil Rights Division at the DOJ.
- Supported the nomination of Vanita Gupta for Associate Attorney General of the DOJ.
- Authored a letter to the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections for three measures to be taken on behalf of children and their families who have been denied visitation due to COVID.
- Participated in Rabbis for Reproductive Rights encouraging local rabbis to speak out as members of the faith community who support access to abortion.
- Hosted a webinar with the League of Women Voters on the topic of redistricting and why it matters.



DAVID RICHART COMMITTEE

The Richart Committee was proud to be a sponsor of the Kentucky Youth Advocates Children's Advocacy Week in February and to attend the online events and session during their virtual advocacy week.

The co-chairs of the Richart Committee plan to meet regularly beginning in August to begin "brainstorming" on events and projects that we think would be interesting for our members' participation.

Some of the ideas we will be pursuing will involve:

- (1) a follow up with our Court Watch volunteers on our Recovery Court
- (2) an evening meeting/luncheon with Councilwoman Cassie Chambers Armstrong, to discuss her recent book
- (3) planning for the David A. Richart Awards Dinner honoring Terry Brooks, Executive Director of Kentucky Youth Advocates, next April.

If you'd like more information on this committee please contact its co-chairpersons Joyce Bridge (joyce.bridge@gmail.com), Diane Graeter (dianegraeter6709@hotmail.com), and Janie Hyman (janiehyman@icloud.com).



NCJW & community members, & local officials attend JFRC reception

The Jefferson County Family Recovery Court resumed "in person" sessions and continued to celebrate their graduates but are looking forward to being able to help more participants reach their goals with the resumption of in-person proceedings.

If you are interested in visiting the Family Recovery Court, or would like to know more about it, please contact Joyce Bridge, Richart Committee co-chairperson, at joyce.bridge@gmail.com.

PROMOTE the VOTE **PROTECT the VOTE**



The Voting Committee formed as a result of the energetic Promote the Vote voter engagement initiative in 2020 to help ensure fair, informative, engaged, and safe voting policies and procedures. A partnership with the Jewish Community Relations Council was quickly formed to strengthen the Jewish community member's impact and engagement locally and statewide. Letters of re-introduction, and in some cases, re-introduction, were sent to over 150 elected officials to ensure they were aware of our Section and to schedule meet and greet sessions. In May, NCJW co-hosted the League of Women Voters Kentucky

with the JCRC for a community webinar to discuss legislative mapping and why redistricting matters. Planning is underway for continued voter engagement programming including legislative informational events for the 2021 Kentucky General Assembly sessions, an event with our women's organization coalition partners, and candidate and judicial forums. More information will follow in the coming months, but in the meantime please take a moment to ensure your voter registration information is current and correct by going to: govoteky.com

HOMELESS YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Homeless Youth Committee formed in early 2021 as an extension of our partnership with the Junior League of Louisville and the overwhelming increase in housing evictions due to COVID. The committee members jumped right in with two advocacy initiatives. The first will assist families with school aged children complete the eviction process paperwork through JCPS's Family Resource Center department and other community partners. This "Family Eviction Prevention Project" will hopefully start as a pilot project in early 2022 locally with the goal to take it statewide thereafter. The second initiative is creating legislation to make it more difficult for landlords to evict families with children or with pregnant women. We're privileged to be working with the JLL, Kentucky Youth Advocates, and Councilwoman Cassie Chambers Armstrong in these discussions.

For more information contact Marlene Gordon (marleneogordon@gmail.com) or Phyllis Florman (flormanphyllis@yahoo.com).



OPTIMAL AGING ADVOCATES COMMITTEE (SENIORS)



The seniors committee has been hard at work planning programming to benefit the senior-aged community and is focused on strengthening relationships with the JCC, JFCS, and The Temple's Chavurat Shalom groups.

The committee began with two successful community service projects for the JCC and JFCS. NCJW volunteers wrote 175 letters to the JCC senior programming group to stay connected with seniors who may be feeling isolated due to COVID and the lack of personal interaction. The second project involved assembling bags of food for seniors affected by COVID and food insecurity.

Additional focuses include: job loss and career challenges, senior abuse (with our partners at ElderServe), Medicare enrollment, and a long term "state of the seniors" study to identify current advocacy needs and issues facing this group.

If you would like to be a part of the committee, or would like more information contact Sue Paul suepaul59@hotmail.com



To help call (502) 583-007 or Helen Wahba at helenwahbarn@aol.com

GILDA'S CAMP

Gilda's Club Kentuckiana has remained closed throughout the pandemic and is slowly getting the damage from flooding and sewer backup cleaned up and repaired. They hope to have the clubhouse reopening in August to welcome back guests and the community.

Despite in-person programming, they have done well virtually this year, even adding members from other states and one from Belgium! However, they have decided to keep this year's NCJW/Gilda's Camp virtual since the clubhouse is not yet ready. The theme this year is Jungle Jam with fun rainforest/jungle theme daily crafts, virtual games, and afternoon interactive online experiences. Our volunteers are signed up to fill the goodie bags for the camp on July 15th, but Gilda's can still use additional volunteers to distribute the bags on Saturday, July 17th.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg card sales continued to be another great fundraiser for the Section! Card sales were up 16% from the previous year even despite most players not being able to play in person! We're looking forward to another successful campaign later this year - and a fun, social Mah Jongg community event in December! More information will be provided soon, but please contact Mindy Klein, Mah Jongg Chairperson, at msklein83@gmail.com with questions or interest.



Since July of 2020 we have held four successful blood drives with the American Red Cross and the Jewish Community Center! Our partnership with the JCC has resulted in achieving between 96%-152% of our blood donation goals for each of the drives! More drives are planned through 2022 with the next one being August 25th so please save the date to help save a life!



While COVID impacted the 2020 Shopping Spree program, we were happy to bring it back in February to help bolster the sales with our retail store partners, including the Nearly New Shop!

The next 20% off shopping event is August 9th – August 21st, so please contact Jamie in the Office if you have not yet purchased your NCJW Shopping Spree Discount Card! The cards are \$30 each and are a fundraiser for the Section – and some of the merchants accept these Shopping Spree Discount Cards all year long!

Thanks to our participating merchants: Circe/Swag: Southern Wear & Goods, Clay & Cotton, Dallas Jewelers, Deck the Walls, Discoveries, Fleur de Lis, Kiddo, Korrek Optical, Krebs Optical, Merci Boutique, Miller's Fancy Bath & Kitchen, Nearly New Shop, Peacock Boutique, Posh Home, Rodeo Drive, Rodes for Him & For Her, St. Matthews Feed & Seed, and Summer Eliason Jewelry.

And special thanks to Wilson & Muir Bank & Trust for their continued sponsorship of the Shopping Spree Card program!

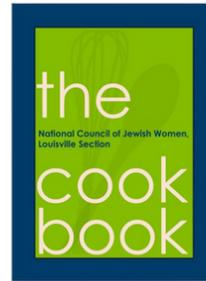
Cards can be purchased at ncjwlou.org, the Nearly New Shop, or by calling 458-5566

NCJW SCHOLARSHIP FUND

We were honored to continue the awarding of the NCJW Scholarship Fund to two recipients this Spring! Our Scholarship Fund, administered through the Community Foundation of Louisville, helps offset college expenses of students who are of Jewish Faith. We are extremely proud of the 100 years we have financially invested in these students and of the committed investment to the local Jewish community! Donations to the NCJW Scholarship Fund are always welcomed and appreciated. Please contact the Office at 458-5566 or office@ncjwlou.org to make a tax-deductible contribution.



NCJW, LOUISVILLE SECTION COOKBOOK



As part of our 125th Anniversary celebration we created our first cookbook with over 250 recipes from Section members. This fundraiser was a huge success and we sold out of our supply within the first month of sales! We're looking forward to planning another cookbook soon!



In 2017, the Section participated in the annual Give for Good Louisville fundraising campaign. Each year since then we have taken part in this one day a year campaign to help raise money for our mission and general operations. Give for Good 2020 was our biggest year yet bringing our combined total donations from this campaign to almost \$6,000! We're eager and excited to build upon this momentum and set a new fundraising single day record on **September 17th!**

As a way to help our members through the stressful year, in November we hosted a mindfulness event to relax the mind and body to promote better well-being. Beaded Treasures founder, Surekha Kulkarni, took us through a mindfulness practice and creation of a beautiful multi-colored, Millefiori beaded bracelet!

Profits benefited NCJW, Louisville Section, the JCC Senior Adult Social Club, and underprivileged women in our community.



JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL
We were proud to continue being a sponsor of the 23rd Annual Jewish Film Festival in early February and to help enrich and inspire the community through the arts, new ideas, and speaking engagements.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

We will be printing the 2021-2022 Membership Directory early this Fall, so please let us know of any contact information updates!

502-458-5566
office@ncjwlou.org

WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Ann Allen, Karen Barnes, Karen Berg, Jaye Bittner, Brooke Blackford, Susan Bornstein, Barbara Ehrlich, Joan Epstein, Shannon Fauver, Dr. Rebecca Feller, Miriam Godhelff, Lisa Graves, Stacy Gordon-Funk, Melanie E. Hughes, Channing Klein, Nana Lampton, Marci Levine, Sue Levy, Amy Callen Maidenberg, Kathleen Miles, Rochelle Najmy, Laura Trachtenberg, Emily Trager, Marci Wahba, Laura Weinstein, Mollie Weisberg

WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS

May their memory be a blessing to us all.

Carolyn Balleisen, Gladys Bass, Valeri Bornstein, Carol Friedman, Annette Geller, Sonia Hess, Margot Kling, Laura Koby, Josephine Loeb, Mercedes Nibur, Rita Raus, Roberta Waldman

MEMBERSHIP DUES

We kindly request that dues are paid by
August 31, 2021



RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER

\$35 Annual membership
\$20 (30 and under and Senior Citizens 65+)
Local Life membership \$360

- Call us at 458-5566
- Mail a check (payable to NCJW, Louisville Section) and your contact information to NCJW, Louisville Section, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Ste. 26 Louisville, KY 40204
- Online at ncjwlou.org

Membership dues, and any financial contributions, may be a tax-deductible donation. Many businesses and corporations offer matching donations, so please check with your employer!

GRANT UPDATES

- We are extremely grateful to have received grant funding from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence to support the Section's capacity building and the Executive Director's salary.
- The Section was also the proud recipient of two COVID funding grants through the generosity of The United Jewish Louisville Rapid Response Fund – as well as both Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) grants to help us pay for the Nearly New Shop expenses during its decline in sales.
- We are also very pleased to have received grant funding from the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels to assist with updating the Nearly New Shop exterior and interior signage! HOKC awarded \$2.1 million in grants supporting 275 nonprofits, impacting close to 3.7 million Kentuckians. Grants are made possible through donations from contributing Kentucky Colonels from throughout the Commonwealth and around the world who chose to exercise this honor in a meaningful way.
- Thank you as well to one of our Section members who is graciously providing support to work with the Louisville Climate Action Network to identify energy reduction and efficiencies with our electric usage.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Thank you Republic Bank and Wilson & Muir Bank & Trust for the gracious financial assistance and sponsorships throughout the year.



WAYS TO SUPPORT NCJW, LOUISVILLE SECTION

Personal giving and fundraising activities are necessary to support the general operations of the Section, budgeted programs and community service commitments established each year by Board.

We are grateful for your support in any of the following ways:

- Direct Donations
- Matching Gifts/Donations from any business, corporation, or employer
- Wills and Bequests
- Insurance Policy Surrenders
- End of Year Contributions
- Tribute Cards & Chai Cards
- Membership Renewals

More information can be found at ncjwlou.org, or by contacting the Office at 458-5566 or office@ncjwlou.org

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Supporting NCJW, Louisville Section is easy with Amazon Smile!

Visit smile.amazon.com and select "National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville" as your supporting charity.



NCJW is now part of Kroger's Community Rewards Program, so every time you use your Kroger Plus Card NCJW earns money! Just sign into your Kroger account and use NCJW's organization code: **QJ991**

kroger.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards



Tribute cards and Chai cards can be purchased in memory of, in honor of, in celebration of, or in thought of messages.

Tribute cards \$5
Chai cards \$18

To send a card call 458-5566, email office@ncjwlou.org, or order online www.ncjwlou.org

DONATION UPDATE

2020 was also the "year to donate" as so many of us cleared out our homes of items to donate!



Approximately 80% of the people who donate to the Shop request an itemized tax donation receipt. This group donated over 885 times throughout the calendar year 2020. The other approximately 20% of donors who prefer to receive a blank tax donation receipt in return for their items accounted for a large, unmeasurable amount of inventory that we were extremely grateful to place on the sales floor!

The profit from the sales of these donations funds the Section's advocacy programs and projects. The Shop further supports the community by donating back items at the end of the season (Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter) to local organizations. In 2020, we proudly donated merchandise valued at \$31,060 among our 18 partner agencies (these agencies are listed on shopnearlynew.org).

The Nearly New Shop accepts donations of gently-used clothing, furniture, household items, toys, jewelry, accessories, shoes, and other goods. Clothing must be clean and on hangers or folded neatly in boxes. All other items must be in usable and re-saleable condition. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law.



Over the years we have unfortunately seen a slow, steady decline of volunteers from our NCJW members. Nearly New Shop is owned and operated by the Louisville Section. We rely on members to assist with the Shop's daily operations. We do not have the surplus of funding to hire the additional store employees and we want to ensure the Shop continues to provide a quality and affordable shopping destination – as well as a source of giving back to the community.

Volunteers are needed a few hours each week to a few hours a month to help with:

- Sorting and hanging donated items
- Pricing and tagging items
- Sales floor upkeep and merchandising
- Customer service and sales associate assistance

Please contact the Shop to offer your assistance, 454-6633 or nearlynewshop@ncjwlou.org

NEARLY NEW SHOP

Despite a challenging retail year due to COVID, the Nearly New Shop held on and did its best to provide funding for the Section's advocacy programs and projects.

Fashion Encore 2020 was extended into a two-week "Fall & Winter Preview Sale" to help manage the in-store capacity limitations and safety regulations. But thanks to the support of our members and customers, sales were good, and everyone enjoyed this little bit of "normalcy" during the pandemic. Spring Fling 2021 brought in more customers and strong sales as the community was ready for a new season – in all aspects!

This past year, we continued to focus on improving the store's operations and efficiencies and launched Fabulous Finds! This online initiative showcases some of the well, fabulous, items the Shop has to offer, from designer jewelry to well-known collectibles. Customers can view the carefully curated items at shopnearlynew.org and call the Nearly New Shop to hold that item for purchase! Special thanks to two of our Shop employee's for presenting this idea and coordinating the program, Barbara Ehrlich (Accessories Associate) and Sue Horn (Collectibles Associate)!



We are extremely appreciative of the dedication and work from our 9 staff members who kept the Shop running smoothly and safely with large amounts of hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, and endless mask wearing! Thank you especially to Brittany Hanson, Manager, for her enthusiasm to lead the Shop through these difficult times – and to Lora Powers, Assistant Manager for her oversight of the donations room in the midst of the increased inventory of donations!

CELEBRATE!

65th ANNIVERSARY

at

FASHION ENCORE

October 23-25



Your Dollars Making a Difference

Sign up for the Nearly New Shop's customer emails to receive the monthly sales notices and information.

Contact
458-5566 or
office@ncjwlou.org or visit
www.shopnearlynew.org

Follow us on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook

NCJW, Louisville Section
1250 Bardstown Rd. Ste. 26
Louisville, KY 40204

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The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.



1250 Bardstown Rd, Suite 24
Louisville, KY 40204

Monday- Saturday
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

502- 454-6633

nearlynewshop@ncjwlou.org

shopnearlynew.org



National Council of Jewish Women
Louisville Section

1250 Bardstown Rd, Suite 26
Louisville, KY 40204

502-458-5566

office@ncjwlou.org

ncjwlou.org

NCJW, INC.

Keep up with all of NCJW's national initiatives by visiting ncjw.org. Be sure to sign up for NCJW, Inc's Action Alerts, register for upcoming webinars, and learn more about the advocacy tool kits and information!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

7/19-7/23: Camp Gilda Event
8/9-8/21: Shopping Spree Program (20/20)
8/25: American Red Cross Blood Drive 12-5pm, co-sponsored with JCC
9/6: Labor Day (OFFICE & NNS CLOSED)
9/6: Erev Rosh Hashanah
9/7: Rosh Hashanah (OFFICE & NNS CLOSED)
9/15: Erev Yom Kippur
9/16: Yom Kippur (OFFICE & NNS CLOSED)
9/17: Give for Good Louisville
9/18: Louisville Pride Festival
9/21: Sukkot (OFFICE CLOSED)
9/27: Optimal Aging Advocates Committee "Duty Free" Film Event @ JCC
9/30 & 10/14: Optimal Aging Advocates Committee
"Elder Abuse Prevention" Event @ JCC
10/5: "Women at Work" Filson Exhibit Event 11am
10/23-10/25: Fashion Encore
11/25: Thanksgiving (OFFICE & NNS CLOSED)
11/29 - 12/6: Hanukkah
12/12: Mah Jongg Event (1:30pm-4:30pm @ JCC)
12/12-1/2/21: Donation Room Closed
12/16: American Red Cross Blood Drive 12-5pm, co-sponsored with JCC
12/24: Christmas Eve (OFFICE & NNS CLOSED)
12/25: Christmas (OFFICE & NNS CLOSED)
12/31: Last day to change voting party affiliation