



JEWISH FOUNDATION
OF MANITOBA

IMMEDIATE NEEDS ²⁰²²

As you determine your distribution allocations for 2022, we present the following requests for your consideration. These are a few of our community's most pressing needs. Your allocation can make an immediate and significant difference in the well-being of our community.

Shalom Residences

"We are asking for \$6,425 to improve working and living conditions for 20 staff and residents."

Several individuals in the Supported Independent Living (SIL) program need high-quality vacuum cleaners for their homes. The vacuums they currently use are either ineffective or broken.

An individual in our SIL program requires a high-quality couch as his previous couch has broken. This individual is heavy set and requires a couch with thicker cushions and more durable material. The same individual is also seeking out two patio chairs that he can enjoy on his balcony.

One of our community homes needs a new garden shed to store its outdoor maintenance tools and materials. Currently, there is no suitable place to organize the equipment, so it is cluttering the backyard.

Gray Academy of Jewish Education

"We are asking for \$26,000 to assist 25 students who have limited resources and are not able to pay tuition fees."

The Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education's goal is to ensure that every child in our community has access to Jewish day school education. This is accomplished through the school's robust bursary program, supported by funds from the allocation received from the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg and funds raised by the WBJE. Approximately 60% of families whose children attend Gray Academy receive some level of financial assistance based on the combined family income.

This year, Gray Academy has a total of 17 families (25 children) that have been assessed for additional support beyond the minimum level of parental contribution (tuition). The additional amounts needed per family range from \$500-\$2000. The impact is immediate and helps the families immensely. The circumstances of these families range from single parents in transitional housing and public housing, parents who are unable to work due to serious medical needs, families impacted by job loss and families living close to poverty levels.

These funds will help offset the monthly payment for each family in need.

Jewish Child and Family Service

“We are asking for \$8,000 to assist up to 100 clients by referring them to the appropriate physiotherapy services.”

Most of the clients in the JCFS Mental Health and Older Adult Services programs experience financial challenges. Many also experience physical health issues.

The chronic pain issues these clients have diminishes their quality of life, furthering anxiety, depression, isolation, and marginalization. The benefits of physiotherapy for these individuals would improve their quality of life, but they can not afford it.

Social Assistance and Manitoba Health do not cover this type of service. With external funds to cover the treatment costs, JCFS is able to support client access to these services by making referrals, interfacing with the healthcare professionals, facilitating transportation to appointments, and emotionally supporting clients to continue with their treatments.

“We are asking for \$10,000 to benefit 20seniors by providing them with access to the internet.”

During the COVID-19 pandemic, JCFS launched an iPad Lending Program for seniors. The iPad Lending Program and the Senior Concierge Pilot Program reduced senior isolation, virtually connecting them to the outside world.

These seniors can now interact virtually with their families, many living out of town. Virtual access has been a lifesaver for those with mobility issues who cannot attend synagogue services or other community programs (e.g. concerts, chat groups). We have realized the importance and value of this program as a continuing tool to improve the quality of life of seniors.

Of those seniors that accessed the iPad Lending Library, a portion of them did not have internet connections or access to data plans at home, as many live on fixed incomes and were challenged to incorporate the added monthly expense. The typical internet cost is about \$65 per month per person or household.

The total amount of this Immediate Needs request would cover their internet costs for one year.

“We are asking for \$7,500 to benefit over 20 clients by funding additional specialized group programs.”

JCFS has welcomed just over 20 Jewish Ukrainians fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. They arrived steadily over three months and required settlement support through the JCFS Settlement Program.

The circumstances under which they arrive leave them traumatized, exhausted, overwhelmed, and at a loss for how to settle and proceed. Their initial settlement and integration require help in various forms.

They need financial help for many short-term basic needs such as food, rent, and transportation. It is also vital to help them gain a sense of normalcy by joining socially with the community. JCFS has been assisting with this by creating additional opportunities for activities. Attempts at integrating these clients into our existing programs, primarily made up of Russian clientele, have been emotionally triggering for our recent Ukrainian newcomers.

Some dedicated financial resources will help JCFS fund additional specialized group programs to boost their social integration into our community.

Updated September 2022

**For further information please contact Marla Aronovitch
Director of Operations & Grants**

at 204.480.7557 or maronovitch@jewishfoundation.org

123 Doncaster Street | Suite C400 | Winnipeg Manitoba | R3N 2B2
204.477.7520 | TF 1.855.284.1918 | info@jewishfoundation.org



**JEWISH
FOUNDATION**
— OF MANITOBA —