

Jewish Community Action

Annual Report
2010

Message from the Board Chair, Rick Chase

It takes power to achieve justice and prosperity for all. But power doesn't require or only reside in powerful people. Regular Jewish people working in coalition with other Jews and with people of other faiths and from other communities in pursuit of economic, social, and racial justice is the way Jewish Community Action (JCA) builds power.



Preserving wealth and stability in disadvantaged neighborhoods and organizing to protect the rights and to voice the concerns of immigrants and workers – these have been JCA's hallmarks of power in the past year. Growing our membership base, our relationships within coalitions, and Jewish justice

Coalition and a recipient of a national Environmental Justice award from the Environmental Protection Agency for securing the three additional light-rail stations in the most transit-dependent neighborhoods along the University Avenue central transit corridor.

Jewish Community Action is organizing to protect the rights and to voice the concerns of immigrants and workers through educational campaigns and efforts to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

- We continue to support and work with the local Liberian community to extend their legal status and to achieve permanent residency for this community and other refugees under temporary protective status. Congressman Ellison is a key ally and is the chief author and leader for permanent residency.

- As part of a national immigration education

campaign, we launched, *We Were Strangers Too*, the Jewish Campaign for comprehensive immigration reform.

leaders for tomorrow – these are the ways Jewish Community Action will remain a strong and credible force for justice.

“JCA is growing our membership base, our relationships within coalitions, and Jewish justice leaders for tomorrow...”

Jewish Community Action is preserving wealth and stability in disadvantaged neighborhoods through preventing foreclosures and economic displacement and by ensuring transit equity.

- Recognized by the National Community Reinvestment Coalition for its strong grassroots organizing, our Northside Coalition has built a cadre of neighborhood and JCA members working together to inform residents and direct them to assistance for saving their homes. We have had recent success negotiating with major banks to extend the time homeowners have to get the resources they need to preserve their home equity.
- JCA is replicating this work in St. Paul through the St. Paul Fair Lending Coalition. These sister-city coalitions are working to simplify the loan modification process with lenders and to make it a more transparent. The Minnesota Commissioner of Commerce has agreed to be a strong ally in this endeavor. So far we have helped prevent dozens of foreclosures. With more power, we will save even more.
- JCA is a leader in the *Stops for Us!*

- JCA continued to make progress on the “I Am Minneapolis” campaign, gaining support from 4 members of the City Council and the police chief. Municipal ID is gaining momentum with over 40 Neighborhood Ambassadors trained in and doing work by Wards, with JCA members working alongside community partners. Additionally, we have upped our outreach on campus with events at Hillel and at Augsburg.
- JCA connected with more than 1,000 people in various educational and discussion forums supporting worker and immigrant rights. These included a series of programs commemorating the Triangle Shirt Waist Fire; the premiere of the JCA VOICE film featuring the common stories of immigration among the Russian, Hmong, Latino and Somali communities; the documentary film “aBUsed: The Postville Raid,” with film director Luis Argueta; and Dvrei Torah during the months of March and April to educate the community about the linkage to our past experiences as an immigrant community, our historical connection to the labor movement, and why it is still important today delivered at Beth Jacob, Temple of Aaron, Beth El, Shir Tikvah, Mount Zion,

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Financial Highlights

2010 Financial Information

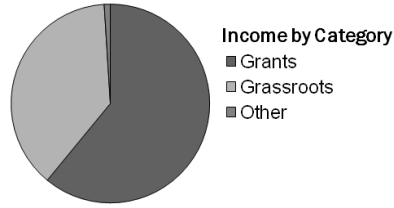
Total Income \$479,283
 Total Expense \$482,714

Income by Category

Grants \$246,850
 Grassroots \$227,527
 Other \$4,906

2010 Expense Allocation

Program Service \$362,591
 Management and General \$53,189
 Fundraising \$66,934



Rabbinic Advisors to Jewish Community Action

Rabbi Morris Allen, Beth Jacob
 Rabbi Norman Cohen, Bet Shalom
 Rabbi Alexander Davis, Beth El
 Rabbi Shosh Dworski, Carleton College
 Rabbi Amy Eilberg, Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning
 Rabbi Sim Glaser, Temple Israel (Minneapolis)
 Rabbi Harold Kravitz, Adath Jeshurun

Rabbi Michael Latz, Shir Tikvah
 Rabbi David Locketz, Bet Shalom
 Rabbi Alan Shavit-Lonstein, Temple of Aaron
 Rabbi Charni Flame Selch, B'Nai Emet
 Rabbi Adam Spilker, Mount Zion
 Rabbi Sharon Stiefel, St. Paul JCC
 Rabbi Marcia Zimmerman, Temple Israel (Minneapolis)

Join Jewish Community Action today!

I want to become a member. I've selected my payment option below.

Name(s) (as you'd like it to appear on our roster and acknowledgment)

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Call me! I want to get involved!

Please circle one:

\$54 \$108 \$180 \$360 Other \$_____

I am enclosing a check made payable to Jewish Community Action.

Please charge my (circle one) Visa / Mastercard for the amount above.

Card #: _____

Expiration date: ____ / ____

CSC code: _____

Signature: : _____

Yes! Count me in! I want to address Minnesota's social and economic justice challenges.

Your membership is important to us. Any contribution, regardless of size, is welcomed.

Your membership is tax-deductible.

Thank You

JCA thanks these foundations, corporations, and congregations for their generosity during 2010.

Adath Jeshurun Congregation
Adath Jeshurun Hesed Committee
Aeon
AFSCME Council 5
Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
American Jewish World Service
Aronson Philanthropic Fund
Array Financial Services
Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation
Baldinger Bakery
Baratz Family Foundation
Barbra Wiener Fund of Headwaters Foundation for Justice
Best & Flanagan
Bet Shalom Congregation
Beth El Synagogue
Beverly Foundation
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation
Bremer Foundation
Brochin's
Candy and David Gray Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation
Casa Guadalupana
Common Roots Café
CommonBond Communities
Community Action Partnership of Ramsey Hennepin
Community Shares of Minnesota
Council on American-Islamic Relations Minnesota (CAIR-MN)
Crossroads Delicatessen
David and Goldfarb
David and Mary Ann Wark Fund
Debra and Gil Mann Family Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation, Minneapolis Jewish Federation
Eiser Foundation, Inc., Abraham and Sarah
Fiterman Family Foundation
Flat Earth Brewing Co.
Focal Point Financial Services
FrameStyles
Fredrikson and Byron, P.A.
Harrison Neighborhood Association
Hawthorne Neighborhood Council
Headwaters Foundation for Justice
Heilicher Family Foundation
Hodroff-Epstein Memorial Chapels
Housing Preservation Project
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota
Interfaith Coalition on Immigration
ISIAIH
IsenbergADR
J. Peter Brull Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
James Ford Bell Foundation
Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation
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Jewish Community Center of the Greater St. Paul Area
Jewish Family Service of St. Paul
Justice Witness Team of the Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ
Kaplan Family Foundation
Kelen Family Foundation
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La Conexion de Las Americas
Lerner Foundation
LISC Americorps
Lockridge Gindal Nauen, P.L.L.P.
Lubar Family Foundation
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Mansfield Foundation
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Mayflower United Church of Christ
McKnight Foundation
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Minneapolis Jewish Federation
Minneapolis Urban League
Minnesota AFL-CIO
Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ
Minnesota Immigrant Freedom Network
Miriam and David Sanders Family Philanthropic Fund of Jewish Community Foundation, Minneapolis Jewish Federation
Mount Zion Temple
Mujeres en Liderazgo
National Council of Jewish Women
Neighborhood House
Otogawa-Anschel
Paper Depot
Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation
Pohlad Foundation
PRG, Inc.
RBC Wealth Management
Resource Center of the Americas
Richard and Rossi Shaller Family Foundation
Sabes Jewish Community Center
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SEIU Local 26
Seven Corners Printing
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Still Ain't Satisfied: A Foundation with Attitude
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Sudz Salon
Sunrise Community Banks
Surad Interpreting and Translation
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Take Action Minnesota
Talmud Torah of Minneapolis
Tankenoff Family Foundation
Temple Israel
Temple of Aaron
The Advocates for Human Rights
The American Jewish World
The Jewish Council on Urban Affairs
The Keys Restaurant
The Lebovitz Fund
The Minneapolis Foundation
Triangle Park Creative
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity
UFCW 1189
UFCW Local 789
UNITE HERE Local 17
United Jewish Fund and Council
University of Minnesota Immigration History Research Center
University of St. Thomas
Walker Foundation, Archie and Bertha
Wells Fargo
Wellstone Action!
Western Bank
Woessner Freeman Family Foundation

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JCA gratefully acknowledges the hard work and distinguished efforts of Steven Foldes, Margaret Levin, Reva Rosenbloom, Rick Seidband and Jim Stein, who completed board terms during 2010.

Jewish Community Action Staff 2010

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Message from the Board Chair, Rick Chase *(continued from first page)*

Adath and Mayim Rabim.

- Around the same theme, JCA held our 9th Annual Immigrant Freedom Seder on March 27, which was a huge, multi-faith, multi-ethnic event enjoyed by more than 230 people. The apex of the Seder can be seen on YouTube -- a video of many voices calling on Governor Dayton to veto any and all anti-immigrant and anti-worker legislation.
- Our VOICE initiative received a new large grant from the Bremer Foundation, increased the number and involvement of new leaders in the initiative, and completed a film honoring Russian people who survived the holocaust, WWII and other struggles.
- Despite the challenging economy, JCA had a strong year, expanding our budget and our membership to over 700 households. Our goal is to grow to at least 800 household memberships in the next year. We are working on retaining our current members, so expect a friendly phone call of thanks during the year.
- We are exploring ways to work more in coalition with ISALAH, a collection of congregations who have committed themselves to each other in order to build power for a worldview that prioritizes racial and economic justice.
- Nationally, Vic Rosenthal, JCA executive director, is on the leadership team and is chairing the fundraising working group for the Jewish Social Justice Roundtable.
- We are looking forward to another cohort of Seeds of Justice fellows, about a dozen high school students, who spend the academic year learning about the intersection of social change, community organizing, and Jewish values through workshops and apprenticeships with JCA staff organizers.
- Indie Jews continued to build community outside of congregations, hosting Shabbat dinners and engaging programs. Indie Leaders have attended trainings and are looking forward to working on the I Am Minneapolis campaign as it continues to emerge.
- An extensive 18-month congregational organizing campaign -- which will strengthen our base, build our power, and potentially lead us to new justice pursuits to work on together -- is in the planning stage.

JCA is growing our membership base, our relationships within coalitions, and Jewish justice leaders for tomorrow through concerted efforts by the JCA staff and board.

All in all, Jewish Community Action is stronger than ever, thanks to an active membership and a terrific staff of community organizers. But we'll need even more strength and more power to meet the policy and political challenges before us, which, for starters, include 1) ensuring health care access for the most vulnerable Minnesotans and 2) opposing the constitutional amendment to ban same sex marriage.

We believe cuts to GA Medical Care and the marriage constitutional amendment are unjust, undermine the character and well being of the entire community, and must be opposed with all the power we can muster. I'm looking forward to working with our congregational and community

partners and allies on these and other causes in pursuit of economic, social, and racial justice. I hope to see you there.

Rick Chase, JCA Board Chair



JCA Seder at Mount Zion Congregation, March 2010
Photo: Vic Bloomfield



VOICE Participants at "abUSed: The Postville Raid" Screening, June 2010
Photo: Lou Michaels



JCA and NCRC Members at Temple Israel, February 2010
Photo: David Snyder



Annual Report 2010

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JCA's Mission: To bring together Jewish people from diverse traditions and perspectives to promote understanding and take action on social and economic justice issues in Minnesota.

Subscribe to JCA's bi-weekly News You Can Use (send an email request to kami@jewishcommunityaction.org) for upcoming dates and action alerts.

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