



July 1, 2019 - 28 Sivan 5779

Shavua Tov!

The JCA community is one that has proven time and again that our ethical commitments are a critical part of our identity. Just two weeks ago, [I reached out to you by email](#) to let you know that the JCA's Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services had a unique opportunity to offer a tangible resource to the most recent wave of asylee's who had just arrived at the Portland Expo Center. Thanks to your donations, KJFS is able to cover the costs associated with a tremendous donation provided by the National Diaper Bank Network (NDBN) and its founding sponsor Huggies.

Through our membership with NDBN, a truckload of more than 200,000 Huggies diapers will be delivered to the Wayside Food Rescue Warehouse at the end of July. The retail cost of these diapers will be over \$40,000 and we are so grateful that your generous donations will make it possible for us to bring them here at this time!

Last year at our Annual meeting, I referred to the wisdom of Fred Rogers as a reminder of our common humanity, and a link to Rabbi Nachman's statement that "The day you were born was the day G-d decided the universe could not exist without you." The idea that each of us has a special capacity to make a difference is fundamental in the Jewish tradition. And Mr. Rogers' well-known exhortation to "look for the helpers" when trying to understand calamity is similarly mirrored in Jewish life, where a plethora of organizations and structures have historically existed to provide support, assistance, and care during times of extremity. Today, Southern Maine is home to so many organizations that have stepped up and offered support to our new neighbors, demonstrating the strength of our community and underscoring our pride in making Maine our home. As Southern Maine's only National Diaper Bank Network affiliate, this was a moment that allowed KJFS to help our community at-large in a big way—and we couldn't be more proud to highlight the amazing work being done every single day here at the J.

Thank you for your immediate action. While we have raised enough to cover the cost of the delivery truck, **please remember Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services—and the JCA—are here all year long, supporting our broader community as much as possible.** We will continue to work to extend our resources to the asylum-seeker community and to welcome asylee Center Day Campers, families and individuals to participate in our programs and offerings! Your gifts to our Annual Campaign, or directed to causes you care about—like our diaper bank—enable us to continue and expand upon these amazing efforts. It is an honor to work alongside each of you every day, making this community brighter, stronger, and healthier for all who call it home.

L'Shalom,
Molly Curren Rowles

DONATE NOW

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