

*Connecting People Through
the Heart
the Mind
and the Soul*

Because we work with vulnerable populations such as the elderly, children and people with disabilities, our application process includes an interview, reference checks, a criminal background check, and a driver's record check for volunteer drivers.



Jewish Social Services

6434 Enterprise Lane
Madison, WI 53719

Telephone: (608) 278-1808

Fax: (608) 278-7814

Email jss@mjcc.net

www.jewishmadison.org/JSS



Our staff is small and our job is big. Fortunately, our community support is great. Hundreds of individuals and families generously donate their time, energy and kindness to enrich the lives of the people we help.

When you volunteer with Jewish Social Services, you reinforce the "chain of humanity." Our volunteers tell us that these experiences touch their hearts, stimulate their minds, and nourish their souls. We welcome you to volunteer with Jewish Social Services and experience for yourself how each small act of kindness connects people to one another.

Affiliated with the Association of
Jewish Family & Children's Agencies

Jewish Social Services of Madison is a beneficiary of the Madison Jewish Community Council and is a participating agency of the United Way of Dane County.

Office Hours Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Volunteering

with

Jewish Social Services

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Connecting Through the Heart

Friendly Visitor. Develop an on-going, one-to-one relationship that helps to provide a sense of community, security and belonging. You'll brighten someone's day and enjoy getting to know another person. *Minimum six month commitment, usually with weekly contact.*

Holidays and Shabbat Volunteer. Assist at our monthly Friday afternoon Shabbat programs for seniors, deliver Hanukkah menorahs or serve at the community Senior Seder.

"If you have an opportunity to do a mitzvah, you're not supposed to pass it up."

—JSS volunteer

The Driver Connection. Help clients get to an appointment, social engagement, religious service or funeral. This is a vital service for those who can no longer drive. *Commitment can be regular or as needed.*

First Friend. First Friends provide social interaction and support for people with a disability through regular contact and appropriate activities.

Minimum six month commitment with weekly contact.

Designated Shopper. Help a home-bound individual or couple maintain their independence and keep up good nutrition. You'll ease a family's burden or lessen someone's isolation. *Usually a once-a-week commitment.*



Connecting Through the Mind

Tutor English as a Second Language. Can you imagine starting over in a new language as an adult? Tutoring ESL is important and rewarding volunteer work. JSS works in cooperation with the Madison Area Literacy Council. *Once- or twice-a-week for at least six months.*



Provide professional expertise. Put your legal, medical or financial expertise to work for a low income client on a *pro-bono* basis. These and other professional services help us support our clients through some difficult times.

Lechayim Mealtime Plus. There's work to be done, but you'll also enjoy a great meal, lively programs and conversation at our Monday kosher lunch for senior adults. Our presenters also volunteer their time and talents. *Weekly commitment on Mondays between Labor Day and Memorial Day.*

Read to an individual or group. Provide intellectual stimulation while alleviating loneliness and isolation in people with vision deficits. *Regular weekly commitment or as needed.*

Lend a hand at the Jewish Social Services' office. A warm welcome awaits you when you come to our office to help with mailings, filing or answering the telephones. *Commitment is weekly or as needed.*

Connecting Through the Soul

Bikkur Holim. The Talmud teaches us that a person who visits the sick removes one-sixtieth of the illness. This centuries-old tradition is both rewarding and deeply appreciated. *Commitment can be as needed or regular weekly visits.*

"I was really down one day and the bikkur holim visitor turned me completely around. It was like a ray of sunshine."

Telephone reassurance. Provide a sense of security through regular, brief phone calls. *Commitment is daily calls for at least six months; calling can be shared with another volunteer.*

Care Sharing. We reach out to individuals and families facing physical and mental illness, loss, end of life and grief. To do so, the Hand in Hand program combines all three elements: the heart, mind and soul. Through "Care Sharing," JSS gathers and organizes friends, family, co-workers and other volunteers who provide practical support such as meals, transportation and errands.

To find a connection that's right for you, contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 278-1808, ext. 26 or jss@mjcc.net. Be sure to ask about family volunteering, a very satisfying way to be of service and connect with the people in your life.



Volunteer opportunities are also posted in the *Monthly Reporter*, in synagogue e-mail announcements, and on our website, www.jewishmadison.org/JSS/.

"There's got to be a chain of humanity"

—JSS volunteer