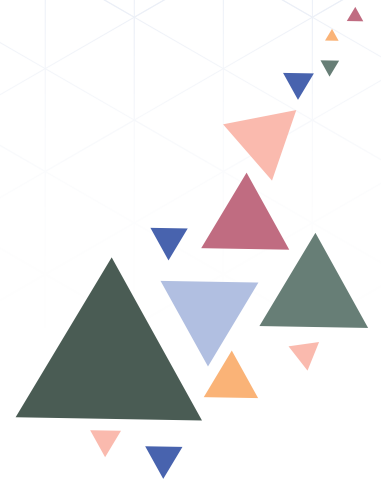


“When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me,

‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

– Mr. Rogers



In times of uncertainty and distress, these comforting words are an important reminder that, in our community, there are always people willing to help. This remains true as we navigate the ever-changing COVID-19 landscape. While people are experiencing financial uncertainty, struggling with isolation and mental health challenges, young philanthropists in our community are finding meaningful and creative tzedakah opportunities to help JF&CS’ clients. We are humbled by their amazing generosity.

Read on and be inspired by their creative initiatives designed to support those in need in our community.

MAYA & EMILY FROMAN and MADDY, KATIE & JAIMIE HYMAN

Meet Maya & Emily Froman and Maddy, Katie & Jaimie Hyman. These sets of sisters, with the support of their families, raised impressive dough, literally, for JF&CS through their *Scratch Bake Shop*. They combined their love of baking with a passion for philanthropy and the result was a recipe for a summer they’d never forget. The sisters dedicated full days to baking and raised over \$7,000 in support of JF&CS’ COVID-19 Relief Fund.

The COVID-19 Relief Fund provides clients’ with additional funds needed to access groceries and other essential needs. It will also provide clients with kosher meals, PPE and warm clothing once the colder weather sets in.

JF&CS thanks the Froman and Hyman sisters as well as all supporters of the *Scratch Bake Shop*. Click [here](#) to see their Toronto.com feature!



BROOKE DZALDOV

Meet Brooke Dzaldov. Brooke launched *Challah for Charity* after baking challahs every Friday for her bubbe and zaida while they were quarantined and was then inspired to start selling the challahs to raise money for people in need in our community.

Brooke chose to support JF&CS and donated the proceeds raised from *Challah for Charity* for JF&CS' COVID-19 Relief Fund.

Brooke is no stranger to JF&CS and has been a foster sibling to five JF&CS foster children. From her experiences, Brooke was motivated to donate the money she raised to an organization that helps ensure children are safe and well cared for. As Brooke wrote, "A small gesture can really go a long way, and doing something as simple as baking in your own kitchen can make a really big impact on others."

Thank you Brooke and *Challah for Charity* and all those who enjoyed Brooke's challah while supporting JF&CS!



JONAH, BLAKE & LIV HANICK

Every August, Jonah, Blake and Liv Hanick reach out to Jewish Family and Child Service to understand the greatest current needs of the Agency. This year, Liv took the lead and contacted JF&CS to see how her family could help and was put in touch with Noa, Manager of Family Services, Poverty Reduction.

Jewish Family and Child Service's Poverty Reduction clients have been severely affected by the pandemic. Many clients are housebound due to poor physical and mental health and many have lost their social networks. JF&CS tries to mitigate these harsh realities for clients by providing them with regular human contact and care packages. Noa suggested to Liv that it would be wonderful if clients could receive house plants along with their care packages as research has shown that house plants can contribute to stress reduction and lessen one's sense of loneliness.

Eager to help, the siblings used their own funds to purchase 48 potted plants to be added to the care packages. During a time when going outside wasn't always an easy option, JF&CS was very grateful for a gift that brought the outside world of greenery and nature inside many clients' homes.

JILLIAN KRUPSKI

Meet Jillian Krupski. At 18 years old, Jillian undertook the ambitious role of singlehandedly providing JF&CS clients with weekly Kosher groceries, which she delivered every Friday for 12 weeks during the summer, through her initiative, named, the *Shabbat Box Initiative*. The boxes Jillian put together were thoughtfully filled with fresh produce and household items such as paper towels, laundry detergent and much more.

Jillian raised over \$6,000 to fund her initiative. She used her family's living room to pack the boxes and her parents' car to deliver them. Jillian herself describes this initiative as, "a life changing experience that will stay with me forever." She was touched by how many clients waited at their doors for her every Friday. And we are equally touched by Jillian's generosity and spirit.

Thank you, Jillian, we know our clients will miss you!



Thank you for reading these inspiring stories. The Froman and Hyman sisters, the Hanick Family, Brooke, and Jillian are all examples of how people of any age can make a difference. Your family can help JF&CS' clients prepare for the harsh winter ahead by organizing your own fundraiser!

Consider doing so for an upcoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah tzedakah project! If you'd like to speak with a JF&CS staff member about your project, please don't hesitate to reach our Donations Team at 416-638-7800 x 6999.