



JCFC Introduction

Ensuring Care for the Underserved Since 2001

Mission Statement



JCFC Mission: Drawing on Jewish traditions of tzedakah (charity) and tikkun olam (repairing the world) we offer free health care services to anyone in need, without regard to religion.

Clinic Information



During the past fiscal year, the JCFC successfully provided 4634 total client encounters to 2502 individuals. Additionally, the following services were provided in an atmosphere of respect, compassion, and empowerment:

- 663 Adult vaccines
- 426 Physicals
- 481 Tuberculosis tests
- 815 Therapy sessions
- 352 Acupuncture sessions
- 395 Medications
- 1579 Laboratory Tests
- More than 1000 Referrals to Community Clinics

Primary Care

The JCFC offers primary care clinics 4 times each week. Staffed entirely by volunteer medical providers and nurses, social workers, front office workers and translators, we provide care for any number illnesses. We see people for respiratory conditions, skin problems, digestive ailments, headaches, body aches, and an endless number of diseases and medical concerns. The JCFC covers free labs and medications and helps our clients stabilize their medical condition. We provide both telemedicine and on-site visits, and refer clients with serious illness to a permanent medical home. We are the only entirely free place to receive vaccinations, and during the recent COVID-19 emergency, the JCFC took a leadership role in emergency response work.

Immunizations



More than a decade ago Sonoma County's Department of Public Health stopped providing direct services to clients and instead strategized that these services should be provided by community health clinics. Sadly federally qualified health centers charge a minimal fee for immunizations making this service out of the reach of some very poor families, particularly families who are undocumented. The JCFC is the only healthcare center in our community that provides completely free vaccinations completely free of charge.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE



The JCFC was especially helpful in our community during the pandemic. We were only closed a few weeks and immediately pivoted our services to include telehealth medicine for those suffering from the virus and other health ailments during the first months of the pandemic. When vaccines became available, the JCFC was at the forefront of vaccination efforts, assuring that all people, regardless of economic status or immigration status had access to the vaccines. We have vaccinated thousands of people since January of 2021 and continue to do so every Thursday afternoon at our permanent COVID-19 vaccination clinic.

Test to Treat



The JCFC is a Test to Treat site here in Sonoma County. This means that we are a designated clinic where those who fear being contagious for COVID-19 can get help getting tested, and if appropriate, treated for the virus within the 5 day period necessary to get the therapeutics. It has been shown that for certain age groups Paxlovid, the medicine for COVID-19 most commonly prescribed, cuts down the seriousness of the infection, hospitalizations, and saves lives. This program will go through June of this year, and is meant to be for capacity building so that we can help patients suffering from COVID-19 over the long haul. Please be sure to let people know we provide this service.

Acupuncture



The JCFC has the only completely free Acupuncture program in the North Bay. Run by 2 licensed acupuncturists, anyone who does not have access to affordable acupuncture can be scheduled for hour-long visits at our Friday clinics. Acupuncture helps with an array of medical conditions including pain, digestive and respiratory problems, anxiety, depression and many more. If you know of anyone in need of these services who doesn't have affordable access elsewhere, please have them contact us to learn more about the program.

Mental Health Services

Following the Tubbs Fire in 2017, the Jewish Community Free Clinic, supported by donations from Tipping Point, opened our Solution Focused Therapy Program. Supervised by our mental health supervisor Dr. Mark Bender, we currently have 8 volunteer therapists and a social work Associate. These volunteers provided 815 therapy sessions last year, and the program continues to show steady growth. We are currently at more than 65 sessions a month, which is a 20% increase over last year. There is a severe service gap in our community for mild to moderate mental illness, and our program addresses that need, helping to assure that clients can avoid mild problems to become severe ones.

A Teaching Clinic



Since our first clinics in 2001, the JCFC has had formal learning partnerships with local schools of higher learning. We partner with SSU School of Nursing, Touro Medical School, Kaiser Permanente Residency Program, SRJC programs, Dominguez Hills CSU and pre-med students from UC Berkeley. They provide care and receive training with low-income clients.

Benefiting the Community



People in need of immediate care have a place to come with no questions asked. We do not require identification, proof of income or any other paperwork. We save the local emergency rooms more than an estimated \$1,000,000 a year by keeping clients without ability to pay from coming in to use the emergency room for primary care.

Trusted in the Community



Thousands of clients have come to the JCFC since it was founded in 2001. Now in our 21st year, we are genuinely trusted in the community as a place to go where you will face few obstacles in attaining quality care. This trust has taken years to build, and we are proud that we are a safe place where volunteers will treat clients with the utmost respect and compassion.

Gateway to a Permanent Medical Home



The JCFC refers all chronically ill patients to a community clinic in our community for ongoing care. We are not a permanent medical home. 100% of all chronically ill clients are referred to a permanent medical home. Partnering with other community clinics is a central focus of our mission.

Volunteers are what make us strong.

More than 100 volunteers come together each year to provide thousands of client encounters to low-income and at risk adults and children. We estimate that our volunteer staff provides more than \$800,000 in free services that save our local emergency rooms more than \$1,000,000 in fees which they would not be able to collect due to the uninsured status of our clients. Our free setting provides better care than the emergency rooms would, and provide our volunteers for a venue in which they can give back generously to the community in which they live. Volunteers provide acts of kindness day after day through their service at the JCFC.

Community Support is our Lifeblood

People from all walks of life come together to make the JCFC what it is today. There are many ways to support the Clinic; through volunteering, sitting on a board committee, providing outreach into the community, assisting at our weekly vaccination clinics, and spreading the word about our organization.

Each year our grassroots organization grows and thrives, and we are just so proud of what we are able to accomplish. To learn more about the JCFC please contact me Donna Waldman at director@jewishfreeclinic.org so we can schedule you with a clinic tour, so you can see with your own eyes the amazing services we provide, and you can learn more of how you can help to carry out our mission. We look forward to hearing from you!

Healthcare is a Human Right



The Jewish Community Free Clinic aligns with the Right to Health as outlined by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Our organization also aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, primarily #3: “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”. The JCFC’s mission is designed to provide health care through our compassionate equity lens. Our inclusive approach empowers volunteers from diverse backgrounds to ensure equitable access to anyone in need.

Health Equity at our Core



The underserved represent the core of our community, where income inequality is a critical issue that drives disparities in health outcomes. Low-income individuals and families suffered the brunt of the pandemic, especially with respect to access to equitable health care. During the COVID-19 emergency the JCFC has used its dual role as a licensed public health clinic and a trusted community-based organization, to mobilize outreach, prevention, treatment, and education activities to mitigate the harm being done to people of color and low-wage workers.

What we need for the future



Here are some of the key goals we have for sustainability into the future:

- We are always in need of more volunteers, including medical providers and nurses as well as support staff to work at our 5 weekly clinics.
- The JCFC has 2 annual fundraising events. Join our fundraising committees, make donations to our silent auction, attend our events!
- The JCFC has launched a Legacy Giving Initiative. We need your help reaching community members who are interested in including the JCFC in their planned giving. For more information please contact director@jewishfreeclinic.org