



JVS At Work

FALL 2006

Building Better Lives. One Job At A Time.

Join Us At the January 20 Gala

JVS' 2007 GALA TRIBUTE DINNER

WINTER
WONDERLAND

HONORING BETTY & CHUCK WILSON

JVS LIFETIME OF SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

JANUARY 20, 2007 • THE REGENT BEVERLY WILSHIRE

JVS will present the Lifetime of Service Award to Betty and Chuck Wilson on Saturday, January 20 at the 2007 Gala Tribute Dinner, chaired by Donna Garber, to be held at The Regent Beverly Wilshire. Betty and Chuck

represent the finest in agency benefactors. In addition to their generous support of the JVS Scholarship Fund, they have both served tirelessly on agency committees and special projects, improving the quality and breadth of service JVS offers to all of our clients. Both are long time board members and Chuck is a past president of JVS. As a couple, they share a rich history of volunteer involvement, having truly lived a life characterized by the Jewish commitment to



2007 Gala honorees Betty and Chuck Wilson.

tzedakah in its' highest form: assisting others to achieve self-sufficiency. We are proud to honor them with this prestigious award.

Join us for an elegant evening of dinner, dancing and entertainment on January 20. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, including ads in the the Gala Tribute Journal, please contact JVS Director of Development David Moses at (323) 761-8888 x8895 or email dmoses@jvsla.org.

Stories from the Heart

Where would Rachel be without JVS?

"JVS really helped me when I needed it. I didn't know where else to go, and had kept trying to get back on my feet."

Rachel had been on welfare since 1994. A victim of domestic violence, she faced numerous barriers to finding a job, including mental health issues and a lack of education. With JVS' expert assessment and career counseling, she was directed to the community resources she needed, attended vocational training and was offered a full-time position with a local printing company. Today, she has hope, a job and a plan for her family's future.

Every day JVS helps people overcome significant obstacles to finding a job. But a job is more than just a paycheck to the people we help; it represents the road to independence and the opportunity to make a fresh start. As Rachel put it, "They gave me a chance."

Donors Make It Possible

With Heartfelt Thanks To Our Generous Foundation And Corporate Funders Who Make It All Possible!

This year, the JVS Grants Department, Candice Stein and Mary Flowers, working closely with the JVS Board and Program Managers, have achieved a stunning 92% success rate on proposals submitted to government, foundation and corporate funders. We congratulate them on this stellar accomplishment. Keep up the great work!

New Program Funders For 2006-2007

Bank of America
Change A Life Foundation
Chevra Chai Foundation
City National Bank
Northrop Grumman Corporation
Pacific Western Bank
The Biller Family Foundation

Renewed Program Support For 2006-2007

Frederick R. Weisman Philanthropic Foundation
Fundacion Josef y Gloria Gorelik
Karl Kirchgessner Foundation
Nathan Cummings Foundation
The Jewish Federaton
The Newton D. & Rochelle F. Becker
Family Foundation
The Valley Alliance of The Jewish Federation
Wells Fargo
Whitecap Foundation

Investing In the Future

The International Association of Jewish Vocational Services (IAJVS) was awarded a \$1 million grant by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration to provide financial services training to American workers with disabilities. According to U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Cho, "Financial services has been among the strongest sectors of America's growing economy and there is a need for skilled new workers as well as upgrading the skills of existing workers."

The grant will be shared by three JVS agencies – Los Angeles, San Francisco and East Orange, New Jersey. This project was one of five demonstration grants announced by the Department of Labor, intended to provide genuine solutions, leadership and models for partnerships that can be replicated in different parts of the country.

The Department of Labor grant will be administered by Lisa Meadows under the umbrella of **C-STEP** – JVS' Customer Service Training & Employment Program. The first project to be launched under C-STEP is an innovative partnership called **BankWorks**, made possible by the efforts of philanthropist and former Wells Fargo COO Les Biller. BankWorks will prepare clients for entry-level jobs as bank tellers as a first step on the career ladder in the financial services industry. C-STEP is funded by a grant from the The Biller Family Foundation along with a consortium of banks, including Bank of America, City National Bank, Pacific Western Bank and Wells Fargo.

Lisa Meadows joins the JVS team as Banking Program Manager. A former executive in the financial services industry, she brings extensive experience in business development, operations, marketing, product development and customer service. Lisa was Vice-President and Community Banking Manager at Vineyard National Bank, was a Senior Vice President at Comerica Bank of California and a Vice President at Union Bank. She also served as Client Services Manager for Delta Dental of California. Lisa believes strongly in giving back to the community, a philosophy that's right at home at JVS. She volunteers as the coordinator of the Victim's Assistance Team for the Manhattan Beach Police Department and is a supervisor and crisis counselor for the Suicide Prevention Hot Line at the Didi Hirsch Mental Health Center in Culver City.

New Beginnings

A new beginning. That's what JVS is offering participants in several new programs, from mature workers to at-risk youth to victims of domestic violence.



JVS CEO Vivian Seigel (left) and Ruben Montano, a participant in JVS' Probation Youth Program, join Kristina Scott (right) from City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo's office to announce First Chance at the Strictly Business Luncheon. Photo by Bill Aron.

JVS' track record with its youth programs is what inspired Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo to collaborate in starting **First Chance**, which targets young people at risk of gang involvement. The program, announced at this year's Strictly Business, offers them educational support, job training and placement, with referrals from local law enforcement agencies. Participants will also have access to other supportive services including after-school tutorials, GED assistance, community college or vocational training, drivers license assistance, substance abuse counseling, transportation assistance, childcare assistance and mental health counseling, as each client requires.

A program designed for mature workers called **Retirement in the 21st Century – A New Model**, will assist people who cannot survive on a fixed income and must remain in the job market due to economic pressures. This program represents JVS' first collaboration with Northrop Grumman Corporation, which is funding the initiative.

JVS is also collaborating with Jewish Big Brothers and Sisters on **Picture Your Future**. Made possible by a grant from The Jewish Federation, the program does exactly that, helping children ages 13-18 from single parent families explore their career options through creative workshops and photography.

Hope for the future is also what JVS is giving the women of Cottage Hope, a project of Jewish Family Services' Family Violence Project. Aptly named **Partners in Hope**, the program is funded by The Jewish Federation Valley Alliance and will provide employment services for victims of domestic violence living in the shelter.

"These programs expand and enhance our impact, placing us on site to assist those who most need our help and they are also examples of what we can achieve when we partner with our sister organizations, pooling resources and expertise," says JVS CEO Vivian Seigel.

This year, JVS has added another component to its donor-designated programs for Jewish youth called **New Linkages**, which matches Jewish college students with internship opportunities at Jewish communal organizations.



Rabbi Arthur Rosenberg meets with New Linkages Interns participating in one of three informal study dinners with noted Jewish scholars to explore the meaning and importance of Judaism in their lives.

Placements for the spring and summer included JVS, JFS' Van Nuys SOVA Food Pantry, the Israel and Overseas Program of The Jewish Federation, JCRC, Bureau of Jewish Education, B'nai Brith Youth Organization, ADL, ICE/Taglit, and the LA Hillel Council. **New Linkages** is generously funded by the Melvin N. and Eunice A. Miller Foundation and the Chevra Chai Foundation of Los Angeles.



JVS' 9th Annual Strictly Business Luncheon was a resounding success, raising nearly \$450,000 for the agency, due in large part to the generosity of Los Angeles real estate investor and renowned humanitarian Stanley Black, who was honored with JVS' Business Leadership & Philanthropy Award.



JVS' 2006 honoree Stanley Black accepting his award for Business Leadership & Philanthropy. Photo by Bill Aron.

Black's oft-quoted motto – "If you have much, give of your wealth; if you have little, give of your heart" – mirrors his lifelong commitment to philanthropic action. This philosophy was definitely in play at the luncheon, as he announced that he and his wife Joyce would be making a gift of \$100,000 from their family foundation. He also challenged his 2007 successor to outdo him!

In his remarks, Black acknowledged the moving stories of his fellow honorees, all former JVS clients. Ellen Rundle, Trevon Smith and Fortuna Ippoliti surmounted tremendous obstacles to meet their goals, and are a testament to what can be accomplished with help from JVS.

To see Ellen, Trevon and Fortuna's stories for yourself, contact JVS Director of Development David Moses to receive the DVD "Stories From The Heart," containing the 2006 honoree video shown at this year's Strictly Business, along with the stories from previous years. David can be reached at (323) 761-8888 x8904 or by email at dmoses@jvsla.org.

JVS' Strictly Business will celebrate it's tenth anniversary on May 17, 2007. Please mark your calendars to **SAVE THE DATE!**

JVS Out

JVS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The JVS Scholarship Fund will award a total of \$300,000 to 158 deserving Jewish students for the 2006-2007 academic year. Close to half of the recipients will be attending undergraduate colleges and universities, while 54% are graduate students, many of whom are pursuing careers in law and medicine. Final award determination was made by the JVS Scholarship Committee, which is chaired by Judy Felsenthal and co-chaired by Rhea Coskey. The Annual Scholarship Awards Reception, a moving testament to the impact of this program, was held on September 13 - watch for story and pictures in the Spring 2007 issue. To learn more about the Scholarship Fund or to find out how you can help, contact Hilary Mandel at (323) 761-8888 x1868 or email hmandel@jvsla.org.

SANTA MONICA JOB FAIR

Looking for a summer job? Students ages 14-24 attended the Santa Monica Job Youth Fair, sponsored by the JVS West Hollywood WorkSource Center, in partnership with the City of Santa Monica, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and Virginia Avenue Park. More than 40 area employers were present. Josefina Aranda Santiago, associate director of JVS WorkSource said, "This is exactly the kind of grassroots outreach we feel is most effective in preparing young people for the job market." To further assist area youth, JVS has joined with Father Mike Gutierrez to establish a satellite WorkSource Youth Center at St. Anne's Catholic Church, offering a range of services to assist local youth with job skills and placement. Providing youth with meaningful job opportunities is one of the key goals of the JVS West Hollywood WorkSource Center, which was described by L.A. City Councilmember Herb Wesson as "an antidote to economic dependency and youth gang activity."



Students met with area employers to explore summer job opportunities.

and About



Coffee, tea, or JVS? JVS' CoffeeWorks, an innovative job-skills training program, held its Grand Opening at the Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aging in May.

More than fifty people attended the Grand Opening, including a representative from the office of Councilman Dennis Zine, who joined JVS Board President Rick Powell, JVS CEO Vivian Seigel, Jewish Home Board Chair Robert Hirsch and Jewish Home CEO Molly Forrest.



CoffeeWorks manager and trainer Bella Alvarado (left) with CoffeeWorks trainee Julie O'Connor at the Grand Opening event. Photo by Marvin Steindler.

Designed specifically for people with emotional and physical disabilities, CoffeeWorks is both a coffee kiosk and a classroom. In addition to the preparation of specialty coffee beverages, CoffeeWorks teaches vital workplace skills such as managing money, interacting with customers and workplace behavior. CoffeeWorks' success rate is impressive: more than 80% of graduates have found permanent jobs in the food service and retail industries.

A project of JVS with referrals from the California State Department of Rehabilitation, CoffeeWorks also accepts private referrals and is generously funded by grants from Wells Fargo, S. Mark Taper Foundation, Frederick R. Weisman Philanthropic Foundation, Change A Life Foundation, Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation and the Estate of Bernard R. and Miriam S. Roth.



What do a single mother, an aide to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and a manicurist have

in common? They were all helped by JVS' innovative WoMentoring program. Since its inception eight years ago, WoMentoring has assisted more than 150 women in finding fulfilling careers with the help of professional mentors. JVS celebrated the accomplishments of this year's participants with a special luncheon in June, generously hosted by Debbie and Rick Powell.

Alice Graham, an attorney in Marina Del Rey, was the keynote speaker and shared with the audience some of her rules for getting through difficult times. Rule number two was especially resonant for many of the women. Said Alice, "Take one step at a time. You didn't get where you are now in one day, and you are not going to change your life in a day. Do one small thing at a time to reach your goal. That way, you will make progress and not feel overwhelmed. The women who have participated in the JVS mentoring program have already taken an enormous step: they have



(L to R) WoMentoring graduate/Strictly Business honoree Fortune Ippoliti, program donor Bruce Corbin, Chairman of Union Bank of California Foundation, keynote speaker Alice Graham, JVS CEO Vivian Seigel and program donor Debbie Powell.

decided on something new to pursue. Often, just making that decision is the most difficult part of change. You don't have to make 'the' choice, just make 'a' choice!"

Funded by Union Bank and Debbie and Rick Powell, WoMentoring aims to help participants achieve a career milestone -- such as a promotion, completion of a training program, obtaining a key interview or landing a job in their field of choice.

JVS...Did You Know?

Just one person can make a difference.

JVS is working hard to build an endowment fund that will ensure our legacy continues into the future. Your gift can make a difference. To receive a copy of our new brochure and to learn about the range of giving opportunities available, please contact JVS' Director of Development David Moses at (323) 761-8888 x8895 or email dmoses@jvsla.org.

JVS Welcomes Adine Foreman New Director of Government Affairs & Special Projects

The agency is delighted to welcome Adine, a former colleague at The Jewish Federation where she served as Director of Government Relations. She has held a series of key positions at the LA County Departments of Community and Senior Services and Public Social Services, from Program Manager and LA County Refugee Coordinator to Chief of State Government Relations. Most recently, Adine served as President of Forman/Jerome Consulting. A graduate of Loyola Law School, she will bring her extensive experience and wealth of expertise to the JVS family and we look forward to having her on the team!

Long time JVS Board member and former Executive Director Ethel Taft, was honored on July 27th at the L.A. Pearls Awards Luncheon, sponsored by City Attorney Rocky Delgado. The awards recognize individuals who have contributed to improving the quality of life for the citizens of Los Angeles, with a special emphasis on seniors. Ethel created JVS Volunteer Service, a program to recruit and train volunteers with clerical and other specialized skills and place them in crucial roles within JVS. Today, more than 25 people, mostly retirees, have found meaningful volunteer positions. To volunteer at a JVS office in Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Marina Del Rey or West Hills, call (323) 761-8888 x8882 or email volunteers@jvsla.org.



Paul Gilbert, Ethel Taft, Harry Gilbert and Volunteer Committee Co-Chair Jessica Fisher.

Former JVS Board member Harry Gilbert was recognized by the JVS Board of Directors for his 17 years of selfless dedication and invaluable service. In addition to his background in accounting and manufacturing, Harry owned an international placement agency for 20 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the clients of JVS' City Career Resource Center. He was joined at the meeting by his son, Paul Gilbert, a marketing executive, who is carrying on the family tradition of giving back by volunteering his time at JVS' West Hills office.

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2006 Tributes

January through June

In Memory of:

Arnold Albert

Laura & James Maslon

Arnold Barco

Laura & James Maslon

Ed Broida

Shirley Goldenberg

Jim Brown

Laura & James Maslon

Gary Eifer

Vivian & Jeff Seigel & Family

Herb Forer

Rick Powell & the JVS Board

Vivian Seigel & Claudia Finkel

David Galinsky

Lenore & Herb Schorr

Yona Goldberg's Brother

Rick Powell, Vivian Seigel

& the JVS Board

Mitchell Evan Gordon

Bernice & Harry Gordon

Karen Joseph

Vivian & Jeff Seigel

Paul Kraemer

Mordechai Rabinowitz

Rose Kravitz

Judith & Herbert Galperson

The Seigel Family

Nancy Mandler

Debbie & Rick Powell

Vivian Seigel, Claudia Finkel &

the JVS Staff

Edward Marks

Patricia Rosenberg

Jim Pelot

Laura & James Maslon

Blanche Pfeffer

Judith & Herbert Galperson

Robert Galperson

Ben Rosenmayer

Polly & Herb Weinberg

Esther Schulman

Shirley Goldenberg

Ron Silverman's Son

Rick Powell, Vivian Seigel &

the JVS Board

Jane Slavin

Rini & Arthur Kraus

Becky Smith

Rick Powell, Vivian Seigel &

the JVS Board

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Luda Harkin

Norman Hoffman, MD

Marie Koenig

Edna Purer

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Sylvia Solomon

Robert Galperson

Mark Stawisky

Gloria & Norman Ross

Antony Trattner

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Eunie & Jack Berman

Block Plant Eisner Fiorito &

Belak-Beger

Susan & Roy Brown

Rhea & Hal Coskey

Sheri & Bradford Greger

Bobbi & Hal Delevie

Janet & Jake Farber

Claudia and Gary Finkel

Carol & Larry Fradkin

Sandra & Ted Friedberg

Jacqueline & Julian Galperson

Ellyn Gelson

Monique & Bradley Gibbons

Annabel & Bob Goldstein

Sharon & Michael Goodman

Debra & Edward Gordon

Evelyn & Murray Handler

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Joneda Rizzo

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Barbara & Elliot Rottman

Linda & Jerry Rubenstein

Joan & Lewis Savinar

Vivian & Jeff Seigel

Melanie & Lewis Sharps

Betty and Charles Streusand

Marsha & Michael Wachtell

June Waldman

Shirley Wolfson

Marty Zweig

Donna Garber

JVS Board & Staff

Betty & Charles Wilson

In Honor of:

Ora Band's Birthday

Ruby & Jerry Bubis

Frieda & Alan Berlin

Roz & Abner Goldstine

Sunny Caine

Dr. Beryl Geber

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Friedman

Mary Ann & Mike Klapper

Shirley & Edgar Phillips, Jr.

Jacqueline & Julian Galperson's

50th Anniversary

Judith & Herbert Galperson

Judy Galperson

Laura & David Galperson

Robert Galperson's

Confirmation

Amy & Jack Paul

Dr. & Mrs. Don Rosman

Dr. Beryl Geber Honored by

University Women

Vivian Seigel, Claudia Finkel &

the JVS Board

Arnold L. Gilberg's County

Commission Appointment

Rick Powell, Vivian Seigel &

the JVS Board

Susie & Alan Greenberg on

Jake's Bar Mitzvah

Polly & Herb Weinberg

Rini & Arthur Kraus

Jimmy Hausberg's dedication

to JVS

Jory Goldman

Congratulations John Heilman

West Hollywood Mayor

JVS Board & Staff

Vivian Seigel, Claudia Finkel &

David Kruskall

Maxine Kardell's Bat Mitzvah

Carol Abrams

Joy & Ian Kravitz's 40th

Anniversary

Nancy Koven & Carter

Omens

Valerie Lewis's Birthday

Beatrice Lewis

Robert Mann's Book

Publication

Arnold L. Gilberg, MD, PhD

Laura Maslon's B'Nai Mitzvah

Sue & Ed Meltzer

Shirley & Edgar Phillips, Jr.

Laura & Jim Maslon

Mary Ann & Mike Klapper

Elaine and Jonathan Pelz on

Nathaniel's Bar Mitzvah

Alkmene & Raymond Bandar

Marion Pink's Birthday

Barbara & Milton Moritz

Chip Robertson's Engagement

JVS Board

Vivian Seigel

Sue & Carl Robertson on

Chip's Engagement

JVS Board

Vivian Seigel

Max Robinson's Bar Mitzvah

Bonne & Barry Bearson

Debbie Powell's Birthday

Claudia & Gary Finkel

Debbie & Rick Powell

Donna Garber

Linda Gach-Ray & Steve Ray

Debbie & Rick Powell's

Anniversary

Vivian Seigel & The JVS Staff

Rick Powell

Danielle Finkel

Mary Ann & Mike Klapper

Veronica Sernas Alenkin's

Wedding

Sunny & Robert Caine

Elinor & Rubin Turner

Susan & Carl Robertson

Stephen Webb's Birthday

Judy & Jerry Felsenthal

Polly Marks Weinberg's

Birthday

Shirley & Edgar Phillips, Jr.

Lois Weinsaft Honored by

AMEINU

JVS Board & Staff

Wishing a Speedy Recovery to:

Bud Rabin

Mary Ann & Mike Klapper

Dick Fellman

Deborah Fellman

Mark Levy

JVS Board & Scholarship

Committee

Wishing a Speedy Recovery, from the JVS Board & Staff to:

Joyce Berger

Stan Dashew

Sylvia Gumbiner

Monty Hall

Renee Holland

Susan Krevoy

Jerry Lushing

Jerry Rogoway

Marcia Ross

Annette Shapiro

Marvin Smalley

A Special Tribute from JVS

The JVS family sends deepest condolences to long time board members Rhea Coskey and Sunny Caine on the loss of their beloved husbands, Hal Coskey and Robert Caine. In their honor, scholarships have been established through the JVS Scholarship Fund to be given annually to deserving Jewish students.

In Our Opinion

Now, more than ever, it is important to renew our commitment to our founders' core values and strengthen our resolve to improve the quality of life for the people in our community.

Real change is possible at the individual level. *One child turned away from gangs. One disabled worker using assistive technology to become productive. One welfare mother learning the skills she needs to become self-sufficient. One refugee finding out that he has a whole community waiting to welcome and assist him.* At JVS, we believe that our clients' success stories ARE the story.

But what does it take to achieve those individual successes? It takes a strong infrastructure and a powerful network of

support to make one-on-one client service a reality. Placing the right counselor or the right resource in front of the client so he or she can achieve their goals – that's the aim of JVS. From a foster youth to a seasoned career professional, each person has a team of experts behind them.

You've certainly heard the expression "It takes a village to raise a child." Well, it takes a community to make lasting change. This issue of **JVS At Work** highlights the myriad partnerships the agency has forged – with corporate and foundation funders, fellow non-profits, government agencies and individual donors – collaborations that make it possible to achieve great things for the people who turn to us for help.

While certainly one person can make a difference, imagine what two people

can do together, two people who share the same philosophies and commitment to giving people a first, second, or even third chance. And imagine what all those people combined can accomplish when they work together. Taking it one step further, imagine what that one person JVS helped can do if they turn around and give back. That's the true spirit and goal of partnership.

Thank you for your continued support.



Vivian Seigel
CEO



Rick Powell
President

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Masthead photo from 2005 Annual Report.
To obtain copy email dmoses@jvsla.org



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Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) is a non-profit, nonsectarian organization that helps people overcome barriers to employment, expand their professional skills, find work and redirect their careers. We also help businesses hire the best employees, train them for top performance and mentor them for ongoing success. Founded in 1930, JVS helps more than 24,000 people in greater Los Angeles each year.

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