



2021-2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (July, 2021 – June, 2022) has been a challenging year and, once again, NCJW/Essex has risen to the challenge! Here are just a few of our highlights this year:

Advocacy

- Our commitment to **fight for reproductive rights and abortion justice** was heightened by the leaked SCOTUS draft opinion which will, if issued, overturn Roe. As a 73Forward Section, our work continues at the state and national level on all fronts.
- The **Period.Project** distributed more than 290,000 menstrual products, held 13 Time of the Month collections and advocated for more than a dozen menstrual equity bills being considered in the NJ legislature.
- We strengthened our anti-human trafficking work by educating our members and the larger community about sex and labor trafficking, and cheered the passage of the NJ vacatur bill, which enables survivors of human trafficking to make new lives for themselves.

Back 2 School Store

- The 13th annual Back 2 School Store was again mobile and provided 1,007 underserved children from 35 agencies throughout Essex County with brand-new winter coats, pants, shirts, hats and gloves, socks, underwear, backpacks, school supplies, books, personal hygiene items and more.

The Linda and Rudy Slucker NCJW/Essex Center for Women (CFW)

- Covid did not stop the CFW from providing clients with a wide range of career services support. Client numbers increased over the past year as new clients are discovering the CFW.
- The **Pack the Pantry** program, with its monthly **Food Heroes**, has collected over \$11,000 in Shop Rite gift cards for our clients this year.

Fund Development

- The Curtain Up! 2022 Gala, honoring two of NCJW/Essex's shining stars, Isabel Margolin and Deborah Legow Schatz, was a runaway hit!
- The 2022 Golf Outing went perfect-tee! A big thank you to all our Sponsors this year!

Programming

- NCJW/Essex held several fun and educational programs this year including virtual art museum tours, a chocolate tasting just in time for Hanukkah and a class on cocktails and a no-bake dessert perfect for Passover!



Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI)

- Inspired by the Jewish values of *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world) and *Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof* (justice, justice you shall pursue), NCJW/Essex launched a new initiative on REDI to increase our capacity to partner with other organizations in our community to end systemic racism and inequity.

Volunteer Outreach

- We held several successful **Mitzvahs-in-a-Minute** that included diaper drives, food drives, the Holiday Gift Collection and Wrap, and a pediatric book collection which altogether benefited thousands of families throughout Essex County.
- **Current Events** engaged seniors in lively weekly discussions at the JCC/Jewish Federation Housing in West Orange and expanded to the JHC Village Apartments in South Orange.
- The **Kids Emergency Closet** provided clothing, accessories and sanitary products to 8 schools in our community for students in need.