



Best Practices in Agency Advocacy | Wednesday, August 8th – 2pm ET

Advocacy is an essential human service provider best practice that positions our sector to advance missions and visions. Whether or not your agency has an advocacy focus or a dedicated public policy professional, this webinar is for you. Even small steps can lead to big change. Join this discussion with members of the NJHSA Advocacy Committee and dispel common misconceptions about agency advocacy. Panelists will share strategies and success stories for community engagement with elected officials. *How will your agency be involved in impacting change?*

Speakers

Mindy Brodsky, Esq., Washington Representative, NJHSA & Director of Government Affairs, The Jewish Federations of North America

Mindy Reinstein Brodsky serves as Director of Government Affairs for the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) in their Washington office and Washington Representative to the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies. Prior to this role, Mindy was the Deputy Director of Government Relations, Advocacy and Community Engagement at the Anti-Defamation League, where she led the League's advocacy on a variety of international, immigration and civil rights issues since 2012. A proud Floridian, she previously served as Legislative Counsel to U.S. Congressman Alcee Hastings (FL-20) and is a member of the Florida Bar Association and an alumna of the University of Miami School of Law. Mindy graduated from Emory University with a degree in International Studies with a focus on the Middle East and Africa.

Kristen A. Rantanen, Senior Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs, JEVS Human Services

Kristen A. Rantanen is responsible for all strategic marketing communications, brand awareness, media relations, public and government affairs in support of agency's human service programs and agency-wide efforts. A dynamic, creative professional, Kristen directs the agency's public policy agenda, including development and implementation of strategies responsive to agency growth goals. She has been a member of the executive leadership team at JEVS Human Services since joining the agency in 2000.

Kristen provides leadership and support for both internal and external relations, including content development, editing and research for speeches, presentations and policy papers. She also plays a lead role in the agency's annual fund and awareness-raising event, Strictly Business, in collaboration with the JEVS Board of Directors, executive team and fund development staff.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Boston College. Kristen serves on the Board of Directors of Graduate! Philadelphia and the immediate past President of the Board of Directors for the Lutheran Settlement House.

Nancy Volpert, Director of Public Policy & Strategic Initiatives, Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles

Nancy Volpert is Director of Public Policy & Strategic Initiatives at Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (JFS), where she has been part of the senior leadership team since 2007. She is responsible for JFS' advocacy, public policy and strategic initiatives. She is also managing the \$28 million construction of the new JFS multi-use headquarters campus. Along with Board and staff partners, Nancy advocates on behalf of JFS clients and programs at the local, state and federal level. She previously directed media relations for JFS and led the agency's strategic planning process. JFS counsels families, supports the elderly, feeds the hungry, assists the

disabled and empowers survivors of domestic violence, serving more than 100,000 people of all ages and backgrounds each year.

Nancy has an extensive background in community and media relations, as well as fund and board development in the Los Angeles non-profit community. Before joining JFS, she worked in programs, operations, marketing and development at political policy, civil rights, and health care non-profit organizations in the Los Angeles area. She frequently presents at local and national conferences about advocacy and civic engagement on behalf of vulnerable populations.