

AJFCA & IAJVS Boards Vote "Yes"

Many IAJVS and or AJFCA members are wondering about dues for next year and moving forward...

A large part of the impetus for the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies has been the reality that dues paying membership associations are becoming anachronistic. Toward creating a modern association that is not (as) dependent on dues, much discussion has happened and much activity still needs to happen. The NJHSA wants to create revenue streams, within its collective areas of expertise and experience, in order to provide valuable service and gain revenue from these, e.g., it's possible that the NJHSA will sell market rate strategic planning services. Further, the NJHSA wants to form partnerships with entities in the for-profit world, creating win-win situations, e.g., a drugstore chain might partner with the NJHSA to provide geriatric care management for its customers. These are just two illustrations of what is possible. At this time, however, this is aspirational, and will be worked on, in full force, during 2017. For the time being the Steering Committee is asking all agencies to budget neutral for the next year, i.e., whatever you paid (or will pay) for 2016 is what the NJHSA will need for 2017. After 2017, it is fully anticipated that dues will be somewhat alleviated by alternative revenue streams.

Lots of people have wondered what will be happening to the current Boards of Directors of IAJVS and AJFCA...

These Boards have worked hard, have been kept apprised of the NJHSA's progress at regular intervals, and met on October 30th to approve the creation of NJHSA. Once NJHSA is officially/legally formed, both Boards will be sunsetted and can celebrate their accomplishments. The NJHSA interim Board of Directors will be comprised of the current Steering Committee members. However, soon after its creation a new Board will be formed (per the NJHSA's bylaws) and will look different than either of the current Boards of Directors of IAJVS and AJFCA. While there may be some executives and or lay leaders from our agencies on this Board it will also want/need to include other interested stakeholders, e.g., professional staff from interested foundations, business leaders whose businesses are interested in the work of the NJHSA, etc. In order for NJHSA to be much more than the sum of IAJVS and AJFCA, its Board needs to be populated by new thinkers who come from different places, backgrounds and industries, and who care deeply about the agencies where we all work.

Finally, on October 30, the IAJVS and AJFCA Boards met separately and both ratified the proposal to officially create the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies. (See accompanying photo of the Boards and others at the 10/30/2017 meetings.) Of course both Boards have greenlighted the activities over the

last two years that have led to this momentous decision, but this makes it (almost) final. As the AJFCA is a member association, there needs to be a member vote, which will be happening on November 14. Pictured are members of both Boards. It's really happening!

