



Jewish Family Service
one source for a lifetime of help

Kelly O’Laughlin – Marketing Specialist & Copywriter
Jewish Family Service of San Diego
Turk Family Center
8804 Balboa Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 637-3033
kellyo@jfssd.org

PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 28, 2012

Human Rights Campaign Puts Jewish Family Service in Top Tier of Jewish Organization Equality Index

Jewish Family Service of San Diego has been ranked among the top Jewish service agencies in the country for our integration of LGBTQ cultural competency.

JFS received the top score of “inclusion” in the Jewish Organization Equality Index (JOEI), the first-ever index of inclusive policies and practices in a faith-based community and the nonprofit sector. This rating means JFS’s organizational LGBT diversity and inclusion efforts are integrated into its everyday functions. JFS demonstrates the benefits of a fully-engaged LGBT community both internally and externally by developing innovative approaches in programming and supporting continuing education of both new and established staff and community members.

The Jewish Organization Equality Index was created in an effort to analyze and rate U.S. Jewish non-profits on their policies, practices and programs as they are pertinent to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) employees and members. The index was a collaboration between the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and Jewish community organizations, and included a survey of 2,000 Jewish organizations in North America. Read more about the JOEI here: <http://www.hrc.org/joei>

Michael Hopkins, CEO stated that he was “extremely proud of the recognition and that JFS has had a long history of being an inclusive and welcoming organization for its clients and professionals.” He added the recognition “doesn’t mean we can check this off on our list and move to the next issue. Creating a welcoming space is intentional work that needs on-going training and attention.”

ABOUT JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF SAN DIEGO

Jewish Family Service was founded in 1918 by a consortium of women’s clubs who sought to address the myriad of human needs of the time. Today, JFS is a comprehensive human service organization with eleven locations throughout San Diego County and three in the Coachella Valley. From its early grassroots origins, the agency now serves more than 35,000 people annually. Its programs and services include: Adoption; Case Management; Counseling; Crisis Services; Family Violence; Jewish Connections; Refugee Resettlement; Older Adult/Senior Services; Parenting, Youth & School-based Services; and Training/Education. Learn more about why JFS is ***One Source for a Lifetime of Help*** at www.jfssd.org.