



PRESS RELEASE

Yachad Mentorship Program: a New JCFS Initiative*

Yachad, the Hebrew word for *together* is a suitable name for a new JCFS initiative. The **Yachad Mentorship Program** is aimed at maximizing opportunities for employment and community integration of Jewish immigrants to Winnipeg. It will bring together Jewish immigrants to our community with established Jewish community members currently working in similar/related occupational fields. These short-term mentorship relationships will help build professional contacts for newcomers, supportive relationships and a sense of community caring togetherness.

Jewish Child and Family Service (JCFS) has a long history of assisting new immigrants to Canada and specifically to the Winnipeg Jewish community. As the local arm of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS), JCFS not only provides initial resettlement services to newcomers (e.g. assistance with securing documents, housing, schools/daycare, etc.) but also supports new Canadians with integrating into the Winnipeg community, as well as the Jewish community. Typically, the primary factor which predicts a smooth settlement process and stable integration into daily community life is the quick securing of financial stability through employment. There is a high correlation between the securing of stable long-term employment and a successful immigration process. With financial stability families are able to focus on building strong social connections and affiliating and becoming part of a greater supportive community. If you are a professional and/or a business person, **your** experience and knowledge of the labour market could help support Jewish newcomer to our community. Consider becoming a mentor in the YACHAD MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.

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