

**marlene
meyerson jcc**
manhattan COMMUNITY FOR LIFE

Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan

Chief Executive Officer
New York, NY



OUR MISSION

Together with our community, the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan (JCC) creates opportunities for people to connect, grow, and learn within an ever-changing Jewish landscape.

OUR VISION

The JCC imagines Jewish life that is diverse and engages meaningfully with its values, culture, and ideas in everyday lives.

HISTORY

The founders of the JCC came together in 1990 to envision a unique center for Jewish life in Manhattan that would bring people from all walks of life together to learn, raise their families, stay healthy, work to improve our city and develop lifelong friendships through an active engagement with Jewish values, community, and tradition. This new JCC would be a place that would welcome and respect the pluralistic nature of our community and where people could grapple with how to live a Jewish life in a modern world.

Its initial programs say much about the vision of the founders. A robust literacy program in NYC public schools brought volunteers and public-school children together to strengthen their reading skills. A program was created for the LGBTQIA community to ensure that they felt welcomed at the JCC. A Sunday sports league was created especially for Sabbath-observing children who could not play in the existing Saturday leagues. Ulpan, Jewish learning, and mindfulness classes were offered to a community that was eager to explore Jewish texts. Computer classes and discussion groups were created for older adults. By 2000, the JCC without walls had significantly grown, offering more than 400 programs a year.

FAST FACTS [PRE-COVID]

STAFF SIZE	620
Full Time Employees	180
Part Time Employees	310
Seasonal Employees	130
ANNUAL BUDGET	\$36M
LOCATIONS	3
Upper West Side	
Harlem	
Camp Settoga	
OUR REACH	
Number of people who walk through our doors everyday	3,500
Member Families	5,000
Individuals Served	10,000
Campers server per year	500
Number of Annual Programs	1,200
Number of Annual Programs Participants	50,000
Shavuout Tikkun Night of Study	3,000



The JCC's Samuel Priest Rose Building, at 76th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, opened two days after 9/11, welcoming its first nursery school class. Through its modern design, the 137,000-square-foot, 11-story, state-of-the-art building included a health club and swimming pool, a nursery school and auditorium, art studios and classrooms, a Beit Midrash and art gallery. The building allowed innovative programming to flourish, welcoming upwards of 3,500 people each day.

The JCC supports its programming through a combination of philanthropy and revenue earned from membership, tuition, and programs. Having

a building in the heart of the Upper West Side Manhattan brings the community together and enables much of the wonderful programming the JCC offers. Members pay dues that grant access to the health club, gym and pool and constitute an important revenue stream. In addition, the nursery school and camp are critical functions for building community and revenue creation.

Since its opening, the JCC has created a number of groundbreaking programs through the prism of Jewish values that have since taken root across the city, the country, and internationally. programs that have since taken root across the city, the country, and internationally.

These include:

[R&R and Shabbat Shabbang](#), two programs that seek to revitalize the idea of Shabbat through dinners and free afternoons at the JCC, creating space to "pause" and be in community through the arts, recreation, and programs for adults and children of all ages.

[The Other Israel Film Festival](#), which for over fifteen years has shone a light on Israel's minority populations through film and conversation.

[Adaptations](#), a program for adults in their 20s, 30s and 40s with developmental and/or learning disabilities and a high level of independence that provides community, job training, and support.

[Jewish Journeys](#), a revolutionary initiative for children that provides rich opportunities to engage in extensive educational opportunities outside of the classroom, making use of the vast Jewish resources of our great city.

[Israel Forum](#), a unique program that brings experts who hold contrasting views on Israel's current challenges to engage with each other and a diverse audience. The Forum works to foster serious conversation in an atmosphere of mutual respect and civility.

[The ReelAbilities Film Festival](#), the largest festival in the country dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories, and artistic expressions of people with different disabilities. This festival began in NYC through the JCC and now is seen in over twenty cities across North America.

[The Cancer Care and Parkinson's Wellness Program](#), a groundbreaking program designed to improve the quality of life of those living with Parkinson's and Cancer.



In June 2016, the JCC launched [Camp Settoga](#), a 21-acre wonderland in Pomona, NY, marking its 10-year anniversary in out-of-city day camping (previously located at the Henry Kaufman Campgrounds) but now in an amazing "forever home" just 25 minutes over the George Washington Bridge.

In January 2017, the JCC expanded its campus by opening JCC Harlem, a community space on West 118th Street. An initiative of the JCC, [JCC Harlem](#) is a collaboration with UJA-Federation of New York.

In February 2018, following the presentation of an unprecedented gift from the Meyerson family, the JCC was renamed the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan.

STRATEGIC PLANS

There have also been two major strategic plans that have helped provide the path that has led to the enormous growth and success the institution has enjoyed.

The first in 2012 among other things emphasized the following:

- Creation of the Centers of Excellence;
- Piloting the Jewish Journeys program;
- Making Israel a priority of the JCC;
- Creating green spaces

The second in 2017 emphasized:

- Prioritizing several critical populations including teens, young adults and older adults
- Deepening the work of the Centers and better aligning them;
- Building out the Center for Social Responsibility;
- Naming the center for older adults

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

The pillars of our community are the centers that represent the shared excellence of our program departments.

The Center for Health + Wellness

The Center for Health + Wellness offers a holistic approach to stimulating your mind, strengthening your body, engaging your heart, and connecting you to a caring community. With the integration of culinary, aquatics, fitness, mindfulness programs, and more under one roof, the Center provides everything you need to fulfill your personal wellness goals.

The Center for Jewish Living

The Center for Jewish Living grounds the JCC in Jewish values that are at the heart of the JCC's mission and radiates those values throughout each Center and program area. It offers a Jewish framework accessible to people who span the denominations of Judaism as well as those of other traditions, maintaining the JCC's commitment to diversity and inclusivity.

The Lambert Center for Arts + Ideas

Creative arts programming at the JCC is a critical means by which our community understands and appreciates itself more deeply and truly. The Center uses the unique voices and media of visual art, film, dance, theater, musical performance, and intellectual conversation to amplify and give new perspective to the most important questions we face as a community.

The Selma and Lawrence Ruben Center for 20s + 30s

The JCC provides a space to meet others in this age cohort through one-time events and ongoing seasonal programming. Connect with a warm and lively Jewish community for recreation, social and cultural events, outdoor activities, and Shabbat and other holiday observances.

The Jack and Shirley Silver Center for Special Needs

The Center for Special Needs builds and nurtures an inclusive and accepting community where individuals with varying disabilities and their families have opportunities to make meaningful connections to each other and their community. It serves as a catalyst and leader, transforming the ways in which the community at large understands and interacts with people with different abilities.



The David H. Sonabend Center for Israel

The David H. Sonabend Center for Israel fosters deeper understanding and connections between the diverse Jewish community in New York, and the people of Israel. Through programming, classes, lectures, panel discussions, film, fine and performing arts and other cultural offerings, the JCC is a respected home of Israeli content and a place to explore and grow.

The Joseph Stern Center for Social Responsibility

The Center for Social Responsibility engages participants within and outside of our walls to become more effective civic actors through education, engagement, and advocacy. The Center collaborates with Jewish, social justice, and civic partners to expand our perspectives and impact.

The Bert and Sandra Wasserman Center for Family Life

The JCC nurtures families by cultivating experiences where children can thrive, parents can connect, and families can grow together. Whether your family joins us for prenatal programs, a swim in our pool with your baby, a music class with your toddler, a Tae Kwon Do class with your school-aged child, or community service with your teen, you will feel right at home. The Center for Family Life is here for your family at every age and every stage. It includes The Saul and Carole Zabar Nursery School; a progressive preschool that embraces families from all backgrounds and cultivates a connection to Jewish values and tradition. Teachers work collaboratively to create environments and experiences that spark wonder and creativity, build confidence and skills, allow children to explore materials, and encourage questioning minds. Families are partners in the work that we do, joining with children and teachers to celebrate Jewish life and learning.



The Wechsler Center for Modern Aging

The Wechsler Center for Modern Aging seeks to reimagine older adulthood in a Jewish communal setting as a time of expansive possibility, purpose, community engagement, mutual support, and blessing. The Center envisions an engaged and connected cohort of older adults who find deep meaning in community, who are treasured by the broader Jewish community for their wisdom, and who will develop the tools and attitudes to successfully transition through life as they age. Elements in the Wechsler Center include a focus on research and best practices in the field, a deepening and expansion of volunteer leadership engagement, broadening of the JCC's Caring Initiative aimed at supporting older adults as they age in place, and a permanent virtual center encompassing programming, fostering social connections, and poised to embark on new innovations.

The Carole Zabar Center for Film

The JCC's film program showcases films that promote change and examine important topics. Its year-round Cinematters series presents previews and special engagements of films followed by discussions with filmmakers, actors, and other special guests. The Center also hosts three festivals in house, including the ReelAbilities Film Festival: New York, the Other Israel Film Festival, and the Israel Film Center Festival.

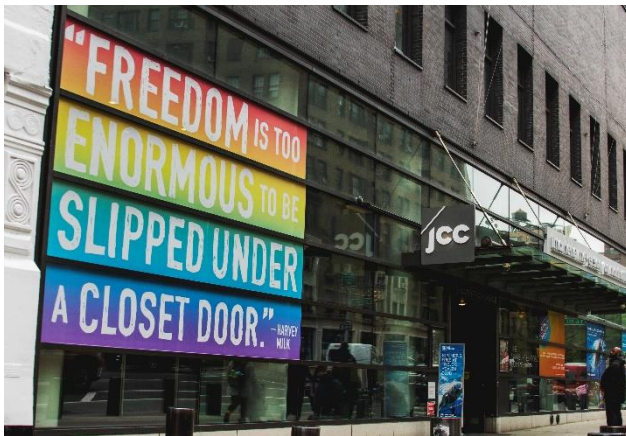
For More Information about the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, Please visit: www.mmjccm.org

OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPACT

The Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan (the JCC) is looking to hire its next CEO to lead at a time of opportunity and transformation for the JCC. The CEO will be a visionary who helps fully reopen the JCC building in the fall and imagines what the JCC's role in community building will be in the future. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the CEO will be a thought leader who will bring an entrepreneurial spirit and use his/her creative and innovative talents to grow this institution that has become "the community's living room." The CEO will continue to transform the JCC towards a strong, sustainable, and innovative future as a center for Jewish life where the community gathers to raise families, build friendships, enhance health, learn, participate, and grow.

The CEO will have the opportunity to define how the JCC uses a combination of virtual and in-person programming to attract and serve both the local community and a potentially national and/or global audience. A key priority for the CEO of the JCC is to maximize programmatic impact and grow its revenue base in order to sustain and strengthen programming needs of the community. A primary role for the CEO will be to actively build relationships with funders, donors, and partners, playing a leading role in the fundraising activity of the organization.

The CEO will embrace the JCC's core value of being deeply rooted in Jewish wisdom, understand the importance of Israel to the JCC community, and be open and welcoming to all members of the community who choose to benefit from its programs and services. The CEO will also be a strong and inspiring communicator whose interests, creativity, and curiosity will put the organization at the center of community conversations, attract members, develop partners, and enhance participation in order to continue to grow, meet new opportunities, and overcome challenges.



The JCC's new CEO must be an inclusive leader who recognizes the value that different perspectives and cultures bring to an organization. This will be of critical importance as the JCC has embarked on its own internal and external diversity, equity, and inclusion journey; the CEO will need to chart a path forward, ensuring that the community, staff, and board leadership are partners on this journey.

This is an opportunity for an inspirational and visionary leader as well as a strong executive manager and organization builder. A priority for the CEO will be to think through the organizational culture, structure, systems, and technology that support the entire JCC enterprise.

The CEO has 8 direct reports, oversees a budget upwards of \$36 million dollars (pre-COVID), and is responsible for setting the tone of the entire JCC and its day-to-day operations, establishing a strategic vision, speaking on behalf of the institution on key matters, and laying out a roadmap for the future.

Responsibilities

Strategic Vision and Leadership

- Create and communicate a vision for the JCC that inspires the community, grows membership, energizes the staff, and maintains the organization's status as a preeminent institution in both the Jewish and general communities.
- Develop, articulate, refine, and implement a set of programs in partnership with the Chief Program Officer that reflect the mission of the JCC, create revenue opportunities and have impact in the Jewish community and the community at large.
- Lead the JCC staff and community transition back to the building with in-person programming while maintaining and expanding innovative virtual offerings.
- Serve as a key spokesperson and represent the organization throughout the community, with private and public funders and national and international Jewish organizations.

Executive Management

- Provide operational leadership and direction to staff to ensure the continued development and management of a professional and effective organization.
- Refine the organization's structure as needed and determine if any additional hires are critical to support the current set of programs and services or important strategic initiatives.
- Oversee the identification, prioritization, and implementation of technology to support both internal operations and external programming for the organization.
- In partnership with the Chief Financial Officer, oversee the fiscal management, systems, and reporting of the organization. Monitor the budget and ensure sound financial controls are in place.
- Establish effective and transparent decision-making processes that will enable the JCC to achieve its goals and objectives.
- Ensure that there is regular reporting to the Board and its appropriate committees.
- Ensure that there is regular communication with staff at all levels.

Resource Development and Fundraising

- Work closely with the board leadership and Chief Development Officer to significantly enhance philanthropic fundraising to enable the JCC to meet the current and anticipated future needs of the organization.
- Continue to develop a pipeline of new members for the Board and work in close partnership with the Board on the strategic direction of the JCC.
- Play a leadership role in fundraising efforts including participation in events, cultivation of current and prospective donors, and solicitations.
- Continue and improve the JCC's relationships with existing partners while cultivating new opportunities for collaboration.

Organizational Culture and Talent Development

- Create and promote a positive, multicultural work environment that supports inclusivity, consistency and transparency throughout the organization's policies and practices.
- Foster a culture of respect, warmth, and consideration for all constituencies of the JCC including the community, donors, employees, and Board.
- Ensure that the JCC's vision, values, brand, and strategic priorities are evident and consistent in every aspect of the organization, including its staff and programs.
- Lead, motivate, supervise and evaluate a high-performance senior management team where giving and receiving ongoing feedback is encouraged.
- Attract, hire, retain and promote qualified professionals and offer opportunities for training and improvement.
- Facilitate cross-departmental collaboration and strengthen internal communications with staff throughout the organization.

Qualifications

- Innovative, entrepreneurial spirit
- Successfully managed a large and complex team
- Proven ability to build a strong organizational culture
- Ability to oversee a complex budget in conjunction with CFO and board leadership
- Demonstrated track record of fundraising and relationship building
- Outstanding communication skills (written, verbal)
- Comfort and expertise being a public spokesperson
- Experience working with community partners to build strategic relationships
- Depth of Jewish knowledge and content
- An understanding of past and current issues affecting Jewish communities and Israel
- Pluralistic approach to Jewish community life
- Understanding and experience with technology as a driver for current and best in class program, engagement, and operations.

This position description is based upon material provided by MMJCCM, an equal opportunity employer.

Dara Z. Klarfeld, Chief Executive Officer

Jessica Hammerman, Talent Consultant

To apply to this position or to recommend a candidate please visit [/https://drgsearch.com/current-searches/](https://drgsearch.com/current-searches/)