







Bender JCC of Greater Washington

A Place for Belonging

FY19 Impact Report July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019













A PLACE FOR LEARNING

The Bender JCC Preschool brings a progressive and research-based approach to education, driven by the interests of the close to 200 children who are enrolled.

Cali and Michael are an interfaith couple raising their daughter, who attends the Bender JCC preschool, to be Jewish. Cali says:

> I wanted to attend classes at a Jewish venue so I can learn and experience more about the Jewish traditions and religion and at the same time, expose our daughter to the Jewish faith. I find the Bender JCC to be a very welcoming place for all faiths.



A PLACE FOR CONNECTIONS

72% of Bagels & Business survey respondents said they met someone new with whom they expect to network.

Great networking, an informative and entertaining speaker, and great food!

> —Attendee of Bagels & Business, a networking and learning opportunity for emerging and seasoned business professionals



A PLACE FOR ILLUMINATION

The lives of approximately 9,000 patrons of the arts are enriched each year by attending our films, concerts, literary events and gallery exhibits.

The young performers are so gifted, thoughtful and gracious. We enjoyed the concert so very much, and we are delighted to have the opportunity to attend concerts of this caliber on a regular basis. So thank you very much for arranging such marvelous evenings for us.

> —Patron of a free concert performed at the Bender JCC by Mount Vernon Virtuosi, an innovative chamber orchestra of exceptional young musicians



Find **Your Place** at the

Bender JCC of Greater Washington

A PLACE FOR C

25% of our annual enabling us to prov otherwise would n Bender JCC. We of services annually t to all. This report i





A PLACE FOR FAMILIES

1,200 families with young children participate in programs hosted by the Bender JCC through the Bender-Dosik Parenting Center and Jewish Family Ambassadors.

Our two sons went to preschool here; we still socialize with many of the parents and kids from preschool. We came Sunday mornings for Family Gym, our boys took swim lessons here, and they learned karate, how to lift weights and how to play soccer. They spent afternoons here at Kids After School. The Bender JCC is a place that completes our family.

—David and Melanie, of the Bender JCC's place in their lives as their family's needs have changed and grown

IRATITUDE

budget comes from our generous donors, vide the warmth of community to so many who ot have the opportunity to participate at the Fer \$500,000 in financial assistance and support o ensure that programs and services are available llustrates the impact we made, together, in FY19.



A PLACE FOR BELONGING

More than 100 senior adults throughout Montgomery County attend the satellite program, appreciating the opportunity to be served close to where they live.

Coming here gets me out of the house, and we have lots of friends here. Being with people is very important. It's not good to be alone.

> -Carol who, along with her husband, attends the Selma Sweetbaum Senior Satellite Program through which older adults socialize over a hot, kosher meal; can exercise and have their blood pressure screened; and enjoy lectures and entertaining programs that engage and stimulate the mind and spirit.



A PLACE FOR WELLNESS

Almost 1,000 people attend our 90+ group exercise classes that are offered for all interests, ages and abilities.

Physically, emotionally, mentally, socially – working out at the Bender JCC gym is of great benefit in every way. It's extremely enriching. I know everybody and they know me. We're like a little family.

> —Shelly, a Bender JCC member who committed to focusing on her own health and wellness upon her retirement



A PLACE FOR INCLUSION

Each year, the Bender JCC touches the lives of 35,000 unique individuals of all backgrounds, religions, abilities, sexual orientations, and interfaith couples and families.

Our loved ones who have disabilities unalterably change the course of our lives and the lens through which we see the world, and we are grateful. Few places truly understand that set of facts. The Bender JCC, where children are celebrated and supported just as they are, is one of those places.

—Allison, mother of a Camp JCC camper with disabilities







A PLACE FOR GROWTH

In a survey, 93% of respondents rated their overall experience with the Gudelsky Exceptional Swim Program as great. All participants planned to return the next year.

I have met many interesting individuals from diverse backgrounds. I have gained so many wonderful experiences and made so many long lasting friendships. My experiences as a volunteer have made me grow into a person of dedication, integrity, determination and compassion.

> —A volunteer for the Isadore and Bertha Gudelsky Exceptional Swim Program for individuals with physical disabilities

Your Place at the **Bender JCC** of Greater Washington

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