



Jewish Community Alliance

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### **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **JCA Executive Director Myron Flagler Retires after over 20 Years**

At the end of December 2018, JCA Executive Director Myron Flagler will retire from the Jewish Community Alliance. Flagler's tenure with the agency has been marked with achievements that brought the JCA to the forefront of Jewish Community Centers across the nation.

A native of Massachusetts, Flagler earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Massachusetts and his C.S.S. in Business Management from Harvard University. A former elementary school teacher and principal, he entered the nonprofit field as a Jewish Community Center day camp director before leading a Massachusetts Jewish Community Center. He came to the Jewish Community Alliance in 1998.

Under his stewardship, the JCA of Jacksonville has been at the vanguard of innovative programming which has been replicated in the national Jewish Community Center movement. The JCA has consistently been a leader in its annual Jewish Community Center Association (JCCA) Benchmarking scores, which compare the effectiveness of Jewish Community Centers throughout North America in areas of financial stability, member and staff satisfaction and program innovation.

"It has been my pleasure to work in partnership with Myron during his time at the JCA. How fortunate are we that we had the best JCC director serving our Jewish community! We have accomplished things that no other federations and Jewish community centers have even attempted..." said Alan Margolies, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Jacksonville.

Some notable milestones over the past twenty years include securing the financial stability of the agency with the burning of the building mortgage in 1999. In 2000, the agency's preschool expanded to include kindergarten, which secured unparalleled excellence in early childhood education at the JCA. Adult programming was redeveloped into the J Institute, a department which has grown to offer enrichment, education and socialization opportunities for adults of all ages and interests. A Capital Campaign was established in 2006 to raise \$4.5M toward the creation of a new and improved, state-of-the-art fitness center, art and ceramic studio, expansion of the JCA Dubow Adult Center and addition of new ECE classrooms. In 2014, in honor of 40 years of the early childhood program, the JCA raised 1.3M to further renovate Michele Block Gan Yeladim Preschool and Kindergarten. Over the past twenty years, membership at the JCA has reached over 2500 units, up from 800 when Flagler joined the agency. A recent milestone comes in the establishment of the Sol and Hilda Goldman Memorial Endowment for Early Childhood and Camp Scholarships for \$4.8M.

“Myron is the consummate professional educator. He uses every opportunity imaginable to help unite and grow our Jewish Community...the community is infinitely better and stronger because of him. Professionals of Myron’s caliber do not come along all that often, but when they do, they make all the difference in the world,” said Martin Goetz, CEO of River Garden Senior Services.

Flagler will be succeeded by Adam Chaskin, who will assume the role of JCA Chief Executive Officer on January 1, 2019.

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