



October 31, 2025

Wycliffe Charities Foundation [via email]

Attn: Mr. Ed Goldstein, President

Attn: Ms. Susan C. Brenner, Vice President

Dear Mr. Goldstein and Ms. Brenner:

On behalf of Alpert Jewish Family Service, please accept our warm appreciation for the longstanding partnership and support of the **Wycliffe Charitable Foundation**. As requested, below is the progress report detailing our use of the \$ \$16,250 award that we received on April 30, 2025.

Purpose of the Grant:

The generous grant from the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation** is being used to support the cost of stocking the Alpert JFS food pantries for 12 months, provide food baskets to families in need, and serve the increasing number of families we are helping that are struggling with food insecurity.

The operations of Alpert Jewish Family Service's food pantries are made possible by the generosity of volunteers, who donate their time and effort each month to assist us in the preparation of food baskets for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.





With the generous funding of \$16,250 from the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation** that we received in April, we have been able to keep our food pantries stocked and provide food baskets to dozens of families in need. During the period of July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025, Alpert JFS Food Pantries added **40 households** experiencing food insecurity, particularly among younger families who are in the ALICE (***Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed***) demographic.

During that same three-month period, we served approximately 195 households each month, representing 486 individual recipients.

We anticipate that the above-referenced growth in food assistance requests will continue or even increase sharply in the short-term while federal employees are unpaid and as families with children and the elderly at the poverty level do not receive the SNAP assistance for which they are currently eligible. Longer term, we project continuing need as other economic factors push the Palm Beach County cost of living higher. Increasing costs of housing (especially rents for young families and HOA fees in older housing stock where the elderly tend to reside), rising insurance premiums, food inflation, higher transportation costs for families, which own or lease vehicles needed to travel to/from work and to drive children to/from school, will exert financial pressures on these families.

Alpert JFS seeks to help families move from ALICE survival budgets to ALICE stability budgets. The latter is a higher standard that includes a savings category. This approach to family stabilization helps our agency to manage the influx of new households and help some families – especially those experiencing temporary setbacks – to improve their financial condition and achieve food security.

The continued support of the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation** has allowed our agency to further expand and transform our Food Insecurity program, helping us to reach more ALICE households in addition to hundreds of chronically food insecure seniors.



The Enrichment Center Food Pantry currently functions in two capacities: as a client-choice pantry and as a pantry that provides monthly deliveries to clients. **Currently, we are serving 120 households (impacting over 180 individuals) through our Boynton Beach pantry each month. More than three dozen clients now visit the pantry once a month.**

With the client-choice model, families have the opportunity to select the items that are best for their own households. This increases client-satisfaction and reduces food, while increasing disposable income.

Until this time, our pantries have provided primarily dry food staples, canned goods, cleaning products, and personal hygiene items. With the support of generous funders such as the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation**, we are currently on the verge of expanding food assistance to include fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and frozen foods for "shoppers" who visit the Boynton Beach pantry location in person and select their preferred items. This upgrade is critical to helping families consume a more nutritious diet. We will be scheduling special days and inviting families to make appointments. We will begin to use holiday distributions and themed food days to extend this outreach.

Beneficiaries:

With the kind and compassionate support provided by the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation**, Alpert JFS has been able to expand our food insecurity services to the growing population in our service area and connect hundreds of families struggling with food insecurity to the human service supports that the agency offers. The demographics of the clients who are accessing our Food Pantry services range from young families and individuals in the ALICE population whose basic household budgets exceed total income. We will continue to provide food assistance to homebound seniors, whose fixed incomes are not always adequate to meet their **expenses**. For many years, most of the people accessing our food pantry have been clients of Alpert JFS, mainly older adults, and persons with disabilities. In recent years, food insecurity has become a growing issue in Palm Beach County, especially among younger families who qualify as ALICE households (46%). The generous support from funders such as the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation** allows us to expand our services to meet the needs of the growing number of food insecure families in our area especially among the ALICE population.

While there are many stories of impact to share, below are just two examples of how Alpert JFS is helping families experiencing food insecurity thanks to the generosity of the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation**. Please note client names are not divulged to protect their privacy.

Rachel S. is an 88-year-old, married woman currently living with her husband and grandson in Lake Worth, FL. As a client of the food pantry, Rachel receives monthly food deliveries and has been able to access financial resources that have prevented her family from losing their home. AJFS has assisted them by paying property taxes and utilities at times when they were unable to meet these expenses. Rachel is extremely grateful for the help that her family has received.

Melissa M. is a 67-year-old, divorced woman currently living alone in Jupiter, FL. Melissa has been diagnosed with lymphoedema. She is medically obese and wheelchair bound. As a client of the food pantry, Melissa receives monthly food deliveries. Recently, Melissa reached out to AJFS staff to express how grateful she is for the food that she has received and for the kindness that has been extended to her. She credits said kindness and food with motivating her to lose weight for the first time in fifteen years. Her weight has gone from 410 lbs. to 345 lbs. From a recent note:

“P.S. It is not just the food you give me. It is knowing that someone cares about me that inspires me to take care of myself.”

It is because of the generosity of the **Wycliffe Charities Foundation** that we can be there **for individuals like Mrs. Smith and Ms. Jones.**

Thank you so much again for the foundation's extraordinary generosity and support. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can answer any questions or if you need additional information.

With gratitude,

Karen L. Oleet

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Director of Grants

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