

HERE'S TO



Kendra Watkins

Detroit Jews for Justice hired **Kendra Watkins** as part of its full-time staff in the newly created position of program associate

for Racial Equity. A Pontiac native and Roeper alum, Watkins went on to graduate from the University of North Carolina, majoring in Jewish studies with a focus on racial and religious identity, culminating with their thesis, "The Mixed Multitude: Jews of Color in the American Jewish Community."

Over the next two years, Watkins will foster teams of clergy and lay leaders at four local synagogues to co-create unique DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) cur-

ricula for each community, grounded in Jewish learning and values.

Jewish Family Service is proud to announce its eighth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the leading charity evaluator in America. It is the highest possible rating and indicates that JFS adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially efficient way. Attaining this rating verifies that JFS of Metro Detroit demonstrates strong financial health and a commitment to accountability and transparency. Only 5% of the charities evaluated by Charity Navigator have received at least eight consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that JFS outper-

forms most other charities in the country.

Farber Hebrew Day School-Yeshivat Akiva announces with gratitude a substantial multi-year grant from **Nancy** and **Jim Grosfeld** to support and expand its Educational Support Services (ESS) through the Grosfeld ESS Initiative. Educational Support Services provide learning support for students who need more than what they receive within a regular classroom setting in order to succeed academically. Many of these students could not attend Jewish day school, either because of the challenges of a dual curriculum or because their more complex academic needs could not be met.



Shari Stein

Shari Stein, co-founder of DesignTeam Plus, a full-service interior design and architecture firm based in

Birmingham, has been awarded the Role Model/Mentor of the Year Award from the Great Lakes Women's Business Council. As a collaborative team player highly regarded for "putting people first," Stein exemplifies the award's criteria of demonstrating extraordinary leadership, serving as a role model, encouraging other women business owners, and sharing her knowledge and experience with others.

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