



Jewish Abilities Atlanta



Jewish Federation  
of Greater Atlanta

## Embracing Disability, Inclusion, and Accessibility to Make an Impact in Jewish Atlanta

Jewish Abilities Atlanta (JAA) promotes an inclusive community that celebrates the uniqueness of each person and lifts the voices and experiences of people with disabilities. JAA supports Jewish Atlanta in valuing people with disabilities, regarding them as full participants in all that our community provides. JAA acts as a platform to further inclusion across the lifespan, ensuring that considerations of inclusion and accessibility are integrated into planning, mindset, and service provision within the Jewish community.



## JAA Areas of Focus

### Increasing Individual & Organizational Awareness

- Disability awareness programs and training for the Jewish community
- Advocacy and advancing employment for people with disabilities

### Increasing Organizational Capacity

- Inclusion grants of all sizes for inclusion initiatives, accessibility, and facility improvements
- Agency inclusion assessments
- Education and consulting

### Increasing Community Planning

- Developing a Jewish Disability Network

*"The impact of JAA resonates far and wide, and we are incredibly fortunate to have JAA as a guiding force in our journey towards a more inclusive and accessible community."*

-Denise, JAA grantee

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## Our Impact

- **\$190,000** in grants was awarded to Jewish community partners to enhance inclusion and accessibility over the last 6 years
- **428** individuals received inclusion training
- **593** individuals participated in community awareness events to foster a shared dialogue and vision of inclusion
- **40+** Jewish classrooms received educational consulting providing strategies to make classrooms and teaching practices more inclusive
- **\$21,000** distributed for inclusion and accessibility projects

## New in 2024

- Jewish Early Childhood Education Initiative
- Teen Inclusion Cohort
- New JAA Training Catalog
- JAA Lending Library Partnerships
- Synagogue Inclusion Committee Cohort
- JAA awarded over \$116,500 in community grants in 2024

## About the Future

### In 2025, we will:

- Launch a pilot initiative, engaging educators, parents, and students, to develop a comprehensive inclusion plan for at least 1 Jewish early childhood program and 1 day school
- Expand our large-scale grant program and invest 10 community projects that further accessibility and inclusion efforts in Jewish Atlanta
- The JAA professional team will complete the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) certification and develop accessibility assessments to offer to 5 Jewish communal organizations in FY25

JAA has established the Disability Synagogue Inclusion Committee, dedicated to fostering inclusive communities within synagogues for individuals with disabilities. This committee actively assists synagogues in making their spaces, information, and materials accessible. Moreover, it strives to enhance community awareness about the social model of disability, emphasizing the significance of creating inclusive environments. The committee convenes quarterly, providing a platform for members to connect, share ideas, and collaborate with one another to advance the mission of inclusion.

*"JAA training has proven to be an invaluable resource, equipping our community with the tools and mindset necessary for genuine inclusion."*

-Synagogue Inclusion Committee Member