

#StrongerTogether

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June Newsletter #1

Message from the CEO.

Welcome to our first June Issue! So much has happened at home and abroad in the last fortnight. COVID-19 restrictions are slowly lifting. We at NCJWA Vic are still working from home and running our programs remotely.

Our **Advocacy Committee** is actively working on our **Gender Equality Campaign** and **#MakeSpaceForHer**. The New Israel Fund Australia is the latest organisation to take the pledge. Last week the Committee issued a statement on behalf of NCJWA Vic welcoming the Israeli Court finding that **Malka Leifer** is fit to stand trial in the extradition proceedings.

If you have passion for women's issues and share our mission, the Advocacy Committee is looking for **new members**. More details including how to apply are in this newsletter.

At present we are working on our **COVID-SAFE Plan** which the Board will consider later this month. All being well, we will gradually move to our new normal which I expect to be a **mix of face-to-face and virtual programming and events**. More of that in the next newsletter.

This week we held our first **Virtual BrainFood**, presented by **Anna Jacobson**, poet, illustrator and photographer from Brisbane. It was a wonderful excursion into the place of memory in art. Anna read some of her poetry and **magically inspired** some of us to write a short poem of our own. We hope to publish these in the weeks to come.

As you will read in this issue, this was only one of a several virtual events held in the last fortnight. There was a **professional development session** for our

Caring Mums volunteers with **Ronit Joel**; a special session for the **mums** with **Christine Connell**; the last **Caring Mums training** session for the current group; a virtual **Dessert Party** for **The Jam Project**; and **Sarah Hinchcliffe** spoke at the NCJWA Vic **Session** for the **Seniors Programs' Volunteers**.

There is more to come next week with a very special **NCJWA Vic Session open to everyone** - an update on the **US situation** from **Nancy K Kaufman** - zooming in from New York.

Finally, I would like to thank those of you who have donated to our **End of Financial Year campaign** and to ask those of you who are yet to give, to give what you can, if you can.

The people we support need us now more than ever. Our staff and volunteers continue to work harder than ever in this difficult environment.

Thank you for your support in whatever form it comes.

Lee Ann Basser
CEO



Burning Issues and Human Rights implications.

In light of the latest burning developments, we have scheduled a special **NCJWA Vic Session** with guest speaker **Nancy K Kaufman**, former CEO of NCJW USA. Nancy will join us live from New York, to discuss the **George Floyd protests; human rights implications; and the COVID-19 crisis.**

Nancy was our 2019 Fanny Reading Human Rights Lecturer. With her sharp insights into current affairs and human rights, this Session is an event not to be missed. **(Wed 10 June 2020 11am-12pm via Zoom).**

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Latest news.



The Sylvia Gelman Award - Call for Nominations

In honour of Sylvia Gelman ז"ל AM MBE for her lifelong commitment to education, women's issues and the Jewish community, NCJWA Vic presents an annual award to **recognise and encourage women with outstanding achievements in any area of Jewish education.**

The Award will be presented at our AGM in August. Nominations are due by 17 July 2020. [Nomination Form \(Word\)](#). / [Nomination Form \(PDF\)](#).



Your Chance to Join Our Advocacy Committee

NCJWA Vic is now offering exciting opportunities to join its Advocacy Committee.

Through the Committee, you'll **support our vision** of powering women and girls for a better world. We achieve this through community advocacy, events and **public awareness campaigns**.

[READ MORE >](#)

The People We are Supporting are Calling On Us Now More Than Ever.



NCJWA Vic is now in the middle of a **critical funding drive**. All donations we receive during this time will help us to **continue our work**.

A donation from you, whatever the size, means the world to us. It helps support our work in so many ways. **Your generous gift will make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable women and girls in the Jewish and broader communities.**

EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS! With your help we know we can be **#StrongerTogether**.

DONATE NOW >

Program news.



Virtual Bonding - Real Connections

The Jam Project's group Sessions have halted for some time due to COVID-19. It made us rethink - how can we do things differently? Quickly adapting to the **“new normal”**, our Jam team launched virtual, more frequent get togethers. These **virtual Jam Sessions** enable more cohesiveness, allowing a group bond to form.

Last Sunday evening, the cohort enjoyed a Jam Dessert Party via Zoom. With **huge smiles** - the conversation flowed. This group has a **unique bond** and is really

facing up to the challenges we are all being presented with this year.



New Caring Mums Volunteers Joined the Family

Caring Mums has just completed **training of new volunteers**. This year, the training was carried out **virtually** for the first time. The new volunteers are now officially joining the program and will be assigned to support new mothers.

"I signed up for the Caring Mums program after it was highly recommended to me by a good friend. **I'm so glad I signed up**. From meeting **Michelle Kornberg** (Caring Mums Coordinator), who facilitated the training - it was obvious how **passionate, caring and dedicated** she was to making volunteers like myself **fully equipped with all the knowledge, skills and training we needed.**" *Rebecca Goldberg.*



Golden Age Clubs: New Collaboration with Khilat Nitzan

The **Tikun Olam Community** from Khilat Nitzan has a new collaboration with our Golden Age Clubs.

Light, packaged meals are now offered weekly to some members at public housing. **Toda Raba** Khilat Nitzan for supporting our Clubs members!



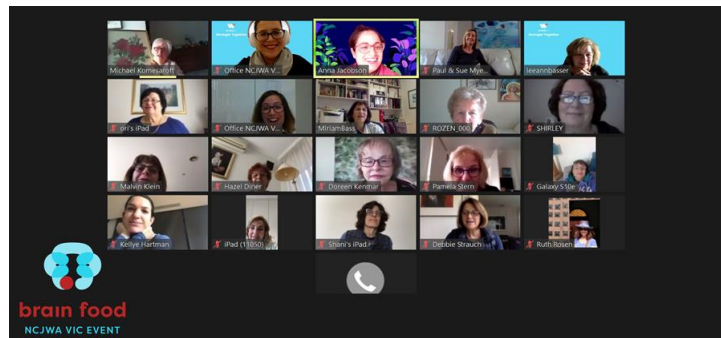
A Session with a Superwoman

We were honoured to host **Dr. Sarah Hinchliffe** as part of our NCJWA Vic Session last week.

Sarah is a real superwoman. A **mother** of 3 little children, she is a **successful** lawyer and an Accounting Associate Professor at RMIT. In addition, she is now studying Pharmacology at Harvard University. Her husband, a Paediatric Surgeon, is now in NYC, helping in the **fight against COVID-19**.

Sarah shared her **interesting life story and life philosophy**.

Empowerment Through Creativity.



Earlier this week, we held our first virtual **BrainFood** event with the award-winning artist **Anna Jacobson**. Anna - a talented poet, writer, illustrator and photographer – shared her passion for words and gave us a taste of her beautiful art.

Taking inspiration from her **empowering creativity** and mesmerising artistic guidance, participants got a chance to **experiment in poetry**. “It was the first time I wrote a poem and I enjoyed it deeply” said one of the participants.

More virtual BrainFood events to follow – watch this space for more details!

Upcoming events.



George Floyd Demonstrations, Human Rights & COVID-19: An Update

A special NCJWA Vic Session with **Nancy K Kaufman**, Former CEO of NCJW USA. Nancy will join us from NYC, reporting on the latest developments

Wed 10 June 2020

11am-12pm

Via Zoom

[REGISTER NOW >](#)



"The Jam Project equipped me with a tool belt of skills that I could use in the future - ways to tackle anxiety or anger, knowledge of the world and a newfound compassion for women everywhere"

MIA, THE JAM PROJECT PARTICIPANT

Would you like to help us?

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GET IN TOUCH

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