

Broward County Jewish Preschools Study 2020

**This document reports on Jewish Federation of Broward County
in-house study conducted in early 2020.**

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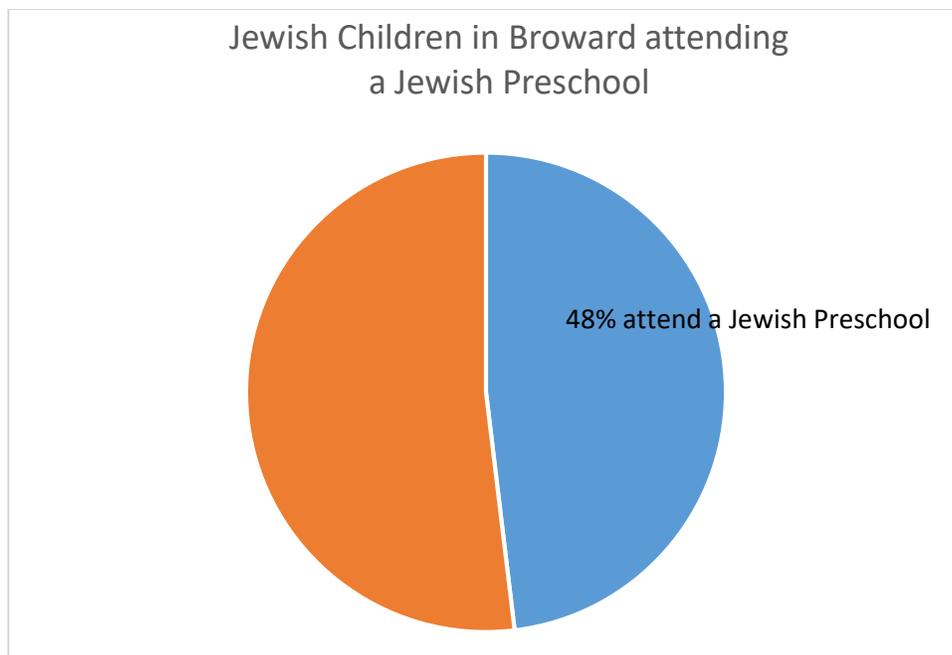
Broward Jewish Preschools

Great News, Horrible News, Opportunities, and Challenges

The Good News

Nearly half of all Jewish Children in Broward County currently attend a Jewish Preschool.

- This appears to be well above the average for the country. (No formal studies have been conducted, however, to provide comparison information.)



2096¹ Jewish children, out of an estimated total of 4350² children in Broward Jewish households attend a Jewish preschool.

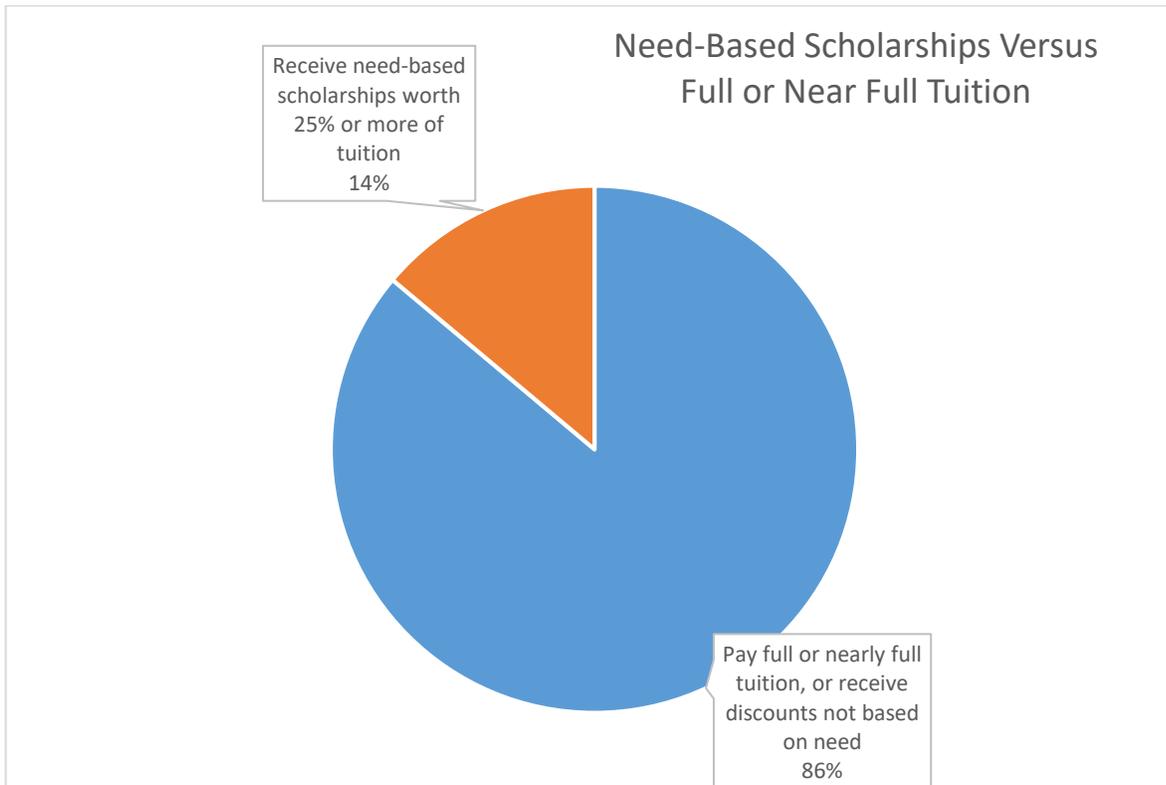
- 48% percent of all appropriately aged Jewish children currently attend a Jewish preschool
- This is effectively more than a 50% penetration rate since most infants 0 - 3 months, and many others, do not attend childcare or preschool.

¹ Numbers reported by Broward Jewish preschools January 2020 (BL)

² Per demographic study 2016 (IS)

Scholarships Make Attendance Possible For Many

291 Jewish children currently receive need-based scholarships equaling 25% or more of tuition that make it possible for them to attend a Jewish preschool. (14% of all Jewish children attending Jewish preschools.)

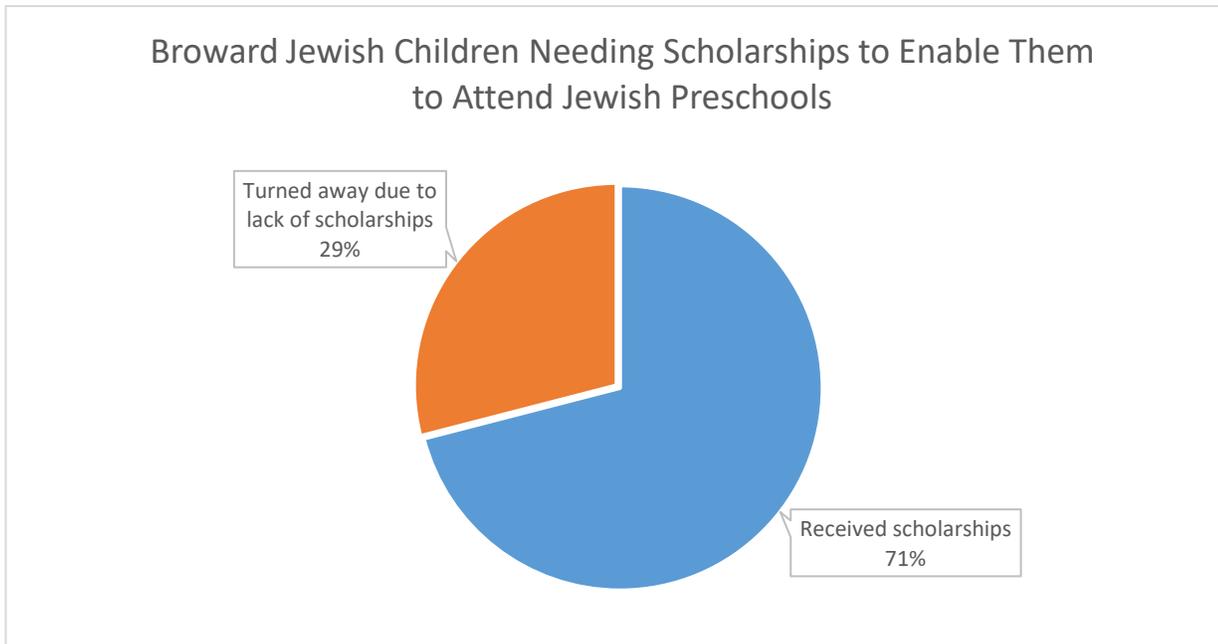


These scholarships strengthen our community by enabling lower-income young Jewish families in Broward County to send their children to Jewish preschools:

- Building connections between families and the Jewish community, where connections might otherwise be weak or not exist
- Providing a Jewish foundation for children to later build upon
- Ensuring the children who attend receive a quality start to their education that will help them succeed for years to come

The Bad News

119 Jewish children were turned away from Broward Jewish preschools due to a lack of scholarship funding this year. No alternative was offered to these families.



- Jewish Children denied acceptance to Jewish preschools may
 - Be placed in less expensive church preschools or non-affiliated pre-schools
 - Be left with a neighbor, older sibling, or lower quality home daycare
 - Remain home for lack of alternatives and make it impossible for parents to work
- Families whose children are denied access to Jewish preschools
 - May feel the Jewish community has let them down
 - May have no reason to interact with the Jewish community in the future

High, Long-Reaching, Costs to Our Community

Jewish families who cannot afford quality Jewish preschools, and who are unable to obtain scholarships, face untenable choices that impact them, and our community, for decades to come.

Parents may not be able to work at all if they can't find any affordable preschool. This pushes families further into poverty.

- In addition to the pain this causes the family, it may impact our community as we find ourselves providing support to impoverished families through foodbanks, etc.
- Even if, for the moment, working a relatively low-wage job seems not “worth it” given childcare costs, long-term costs of stepping back from the workforce are serious. Most people start in lower paying jobs and move up; not working for a few years results in poorer community members (mostly women) losing the years of building experience that would help them move up into higher paying jobs later.

Parents may be forced to send their child to a church preschool or secular preschool that costs less than a Jewish preschool. This is a lost opportunity that may never be regained.

- For many secular Jewish, and other less Jewishly engaged families, their child's pre-school experience is the most likely time for them to initiate engagement with the Jewish community. This is especially true for poorer families who may not join synagogues or JCCs due to the perceived cost of membership, and won't engage with the Federation as they cannot afford to give. If the opportunity to engage these families when they are receptive is lost, it may never be regained.

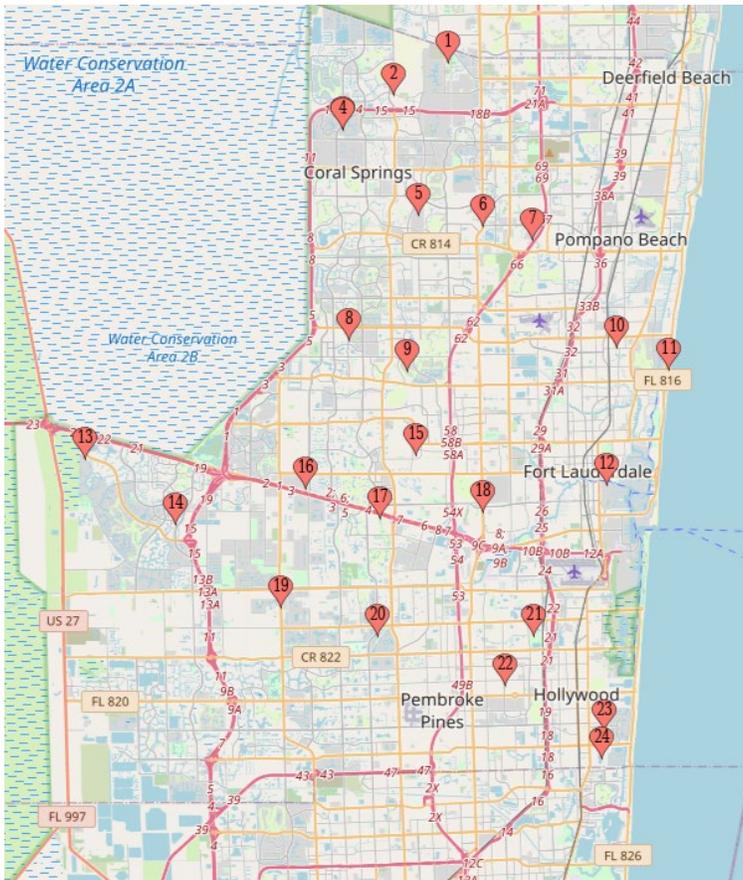
Parents may choose to have their neighbor or elderly relative watch their child, or send their child to the cheapest home daycare option available. This lost opportunity for high quality preschool comes with a serious permanent cost to the child and to our community.

- Studies show, children (especially from economically-challenged and stressed families) attending *high-quality* preschools, do better in school and ultimately earn *significantly* higher incomes as adults. They are less likely to repeat grades, less likely to need special education, and less likely to get into future trouble with the law. They also graduate from high school at higher rates, are more likely to eventually own their own homes, and actually have longer marriages. Our community will benefit too, as their higher incomes allow them to be more engaged and give more.

Widespread Availability of Jewish Preschools in Broward County

There are currently 24 Jewish preschools in Broward County. These preschools are spread across the county, with most families within a short drive of one of them.

- Exceptions: We lack Jewish preschools which would be convenient for families to access in the Southwest (Pembroke Pines and Miramar), where it is estimated 391 Jewish preschool aged children live; and in the Northeast (Deerfield Beach and Lighthouse Point) where we lack estimates of the number of resident children.

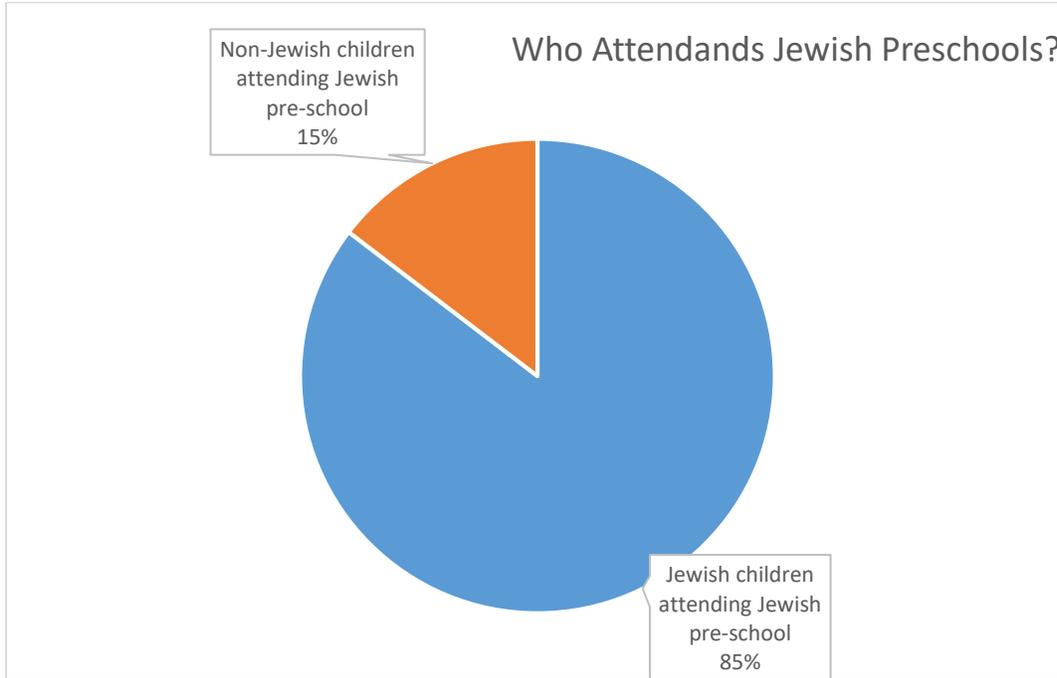


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|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Preschool of the Arts – Chabad of Parkland | 9. Inverrary Chabad | 18. Brauser Maimonides Academy |
| 2. Congregation Kol Tikvah | 10. Temple Bat Yam – David Posnack JCC | 19. Temple Beth Emet |
| 3. Chai Center – Chabad of Coral Springs | 11. Shalom Preschool | 20. David Posnack JCC |
| 4. Soref JCC – Heron Lakes | 12. Downtown Jewish Center Chabad | 21. JIT Chabad |
| 5. Temple Beth Orr | 13. Temple Dor Dorim | 22. Temple Sinai |
| 6. Hebrew Academy Preschool | 14. B’nai Aviv Synagogue | 23. Temple Beth El |
| 7. Little Lights | 15. Soref JCC – Brodzki Early Childhood | 24. Chai Tots |
| 8. Temple Beth Torah Sha’aray Tzedek | 16. Ramat Shalom Synagogue | |
| | 17. Temple Kol Ami Emanu-el | |

Serving Jewish and Non-Jewish Children

Jewish preschools in Broward County serve a total of 2455 children, including 2096 Jewish children, and 359 non-Jewish children.

- 85% of children attending Jewish Preschools in Broward have at least one Jewish parent
- 15% of children attending Jewish Preschools in Broward are not Jewish



- The vast majority of children at Broward Jewish preschools are Jewish
- The percentage of Jewish Children at Jewish preschools ranges from just over 50% (Beth Orr) to 100% (Brauser Maimonides, Little Light at South Florida Jewish Academy, Hebrew Academy, and JIT Chabad and Emery & Mimi Green Chabad Preschool)

Brauser Maimonides	100%	Ramat Shalom ECC	98%	B'nai Aviv ECC	83%
JIT Chabad	100%	The Chai Center	98%	Heron Lakes – Soref JCC	83%
Little Light - SFJA	100%	Shalom Preschool	97%	Brozki ECC - Soref JCC	82%
Emery & Mimi Green	100%	Beth Emet ECC	95%	Temple Sinai	70%
Chai Tots	100%	Phyllis Green ECC	95%	Temple Beth El	59%
Hebrew Academy	100%	Posnack JCC	88%	Temple Dor Dorim	51%
Temple Kol Ami Emanuel	99%	Beth Torah Sha'aray Tzedek	84%		
Beth Orr	50%				

Non-Jewish Children are More Likely to Attend Part-Time Than Jewish Children Are

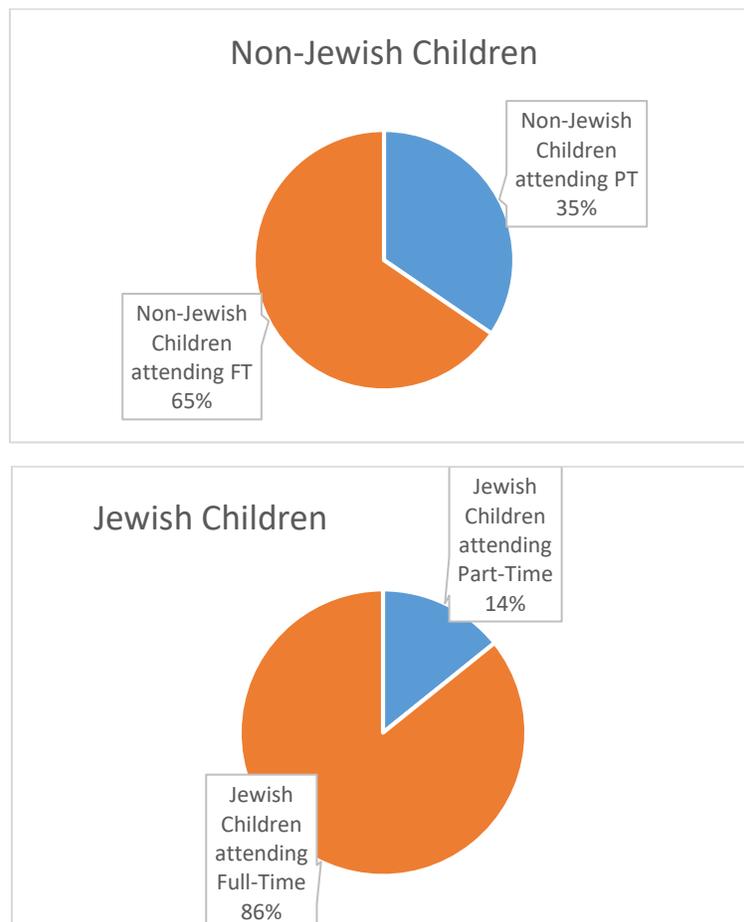
The percentage of children who attend part-time as opposed to full-time differs dramatically between Jewish and non-Jewish students.

While the overall number of Jewish children attending part-time is higher than the overall number of non-Jewish children attending Jewish preschools...

- 298 Jewish children attend Jewish preschools part-time
- 124 non-Jewish children attend Jewish preschools part-time

The proportion of non-Jewish children who attend Jewish preschools part-time as opposed to full time is much higher than the proportion of Jewish children who attend Jewish preschools part-time as opposed to full time.

- 35% of Non-Jewish children who attend Jewish preschools attend part-time.
- 20% of Jewish children who attend Jewish preschools attend part-time.



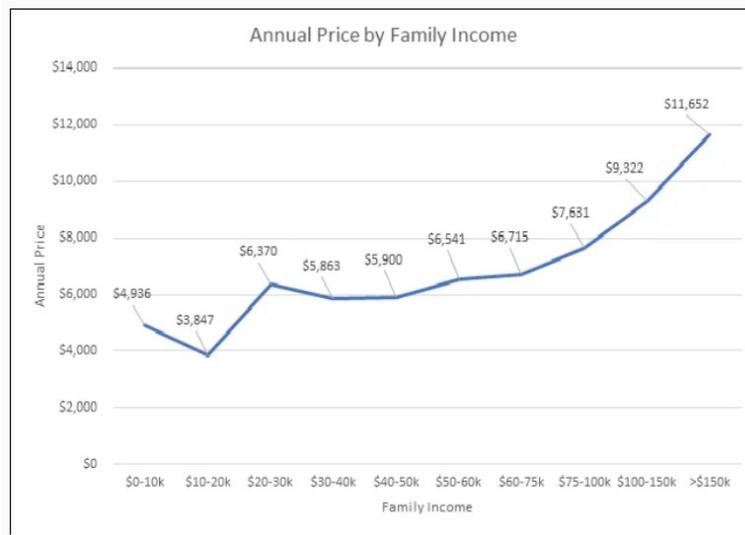
Tuition

The average tuition for full time attendance at a Broward Jewish preschool, is \$1,021.77/month. This ranges from a low of \$750.00 (Emery & Mimi Green Chabad Preschool) to a high of \$1,680.00 at Phyllis Green ECC (Kol Tikvah.)

B'nai Aviv ECC	\$865	Posnack JCC	\$1335 (non-mem)
Beth Emet ECC	\$1,165	Ramat Shalom ECC	\$923
Kuhn ECC /Beth Orr	\$1,025	Hebrew Academy	\$1,071
Brauser Maimonides	\$951	Shalom - Chabad	\$995
Brozki - Soref	\$1213	Temple Dor Dorim ECC	\$1,072
Chai Tots	\$990	Temple Kol Ami Emanuel	\$973
Heron Lakes – Soref	\$1309	Temple Sinai ECC	\$1,221
JIT Chabad	\$930	The Chai Center	\$850 to \$950
Little Light - SFJA	\$1,000	Temple Beth El	\$960
Phylis Green ECC	\$1,680	Emery & Mimi Green Chabad	\$750.00
		Temple Beth Torah Sha'aray Tzedek	\$1100

This leaves many lower-income families (especially those with more than one child) unable to afford quality pre-school programs.

- For comparison, it is worth noting that preschool tuition is more expensive than in-state tuition at multiple Florida colleges.
- Research shows lower, moderate, and even mid-income families are able to pay significantly less than families with greater incomes for preschool and center-based childcare, than families with higher incomes, and that this results in a significant difference in the quality of care children receive.

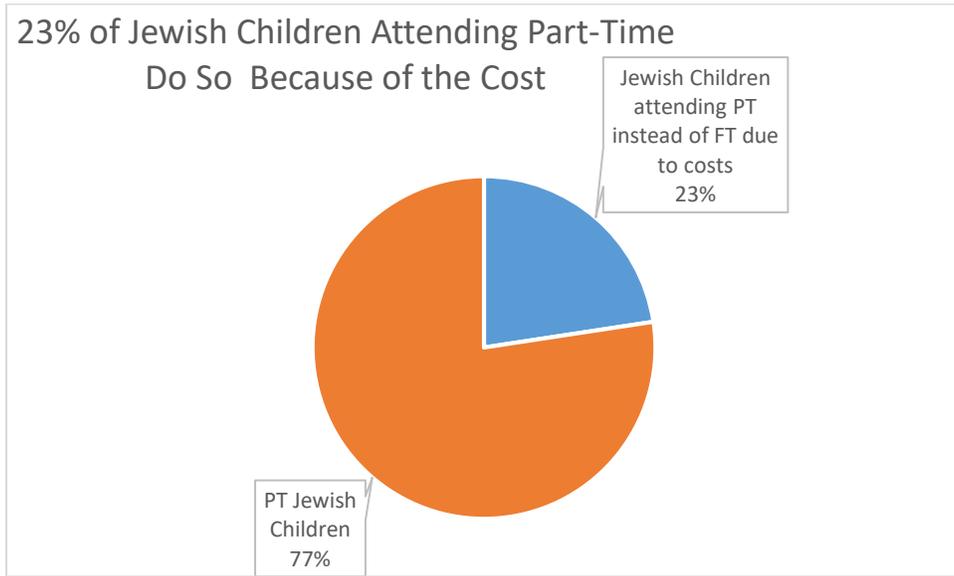


(Brookings Institution Chart)

High Tuition Cost Leave Many Jewish Families Unable to Afford Full-Time Preschool

23% of Jewish children who attend Jewish preschools part-time, attend part-time as opposed to full-time solely because their families cannot afford to pay full-time tuition.

- 87 Jewish children currently attending Jewish preschools in Broward County have parents who report that their children have been placed part-time as opposed to full time because they are unable to afford the cost of full-time preschool.



While all Jewish Preschools in Broward are “Licensed” not all are “Accredited”

While all Jewish Preschools in Broward are Licensed (*at least all who reported) not all Jewish pre-schools are accredited. This is true among schools associated with JCCs, day schools, and large established synagogues, as well as those associated with smaller Chabads.

Many preschools report that they have chosen not to pursue accreditation, or have let accreditation lapse for a variety of reasons:

- Achieving and maintaining accreditation is extremely time consuming.
- Achieving and maintaining accreditation can be extremely expensive (For instance, requiring higher staff rations)
- Accreditation is not possible to acquire the first years in operation. (It requires a history.)
- Accreditation is not standardized, and requirements vary by accrediting agencies.
- Few parents indicate they care about accreditation, leaving schools wondering if it’s worth the investment of time and money.

School Directors from Jewish Preschools in Broward County are Committed to Quality

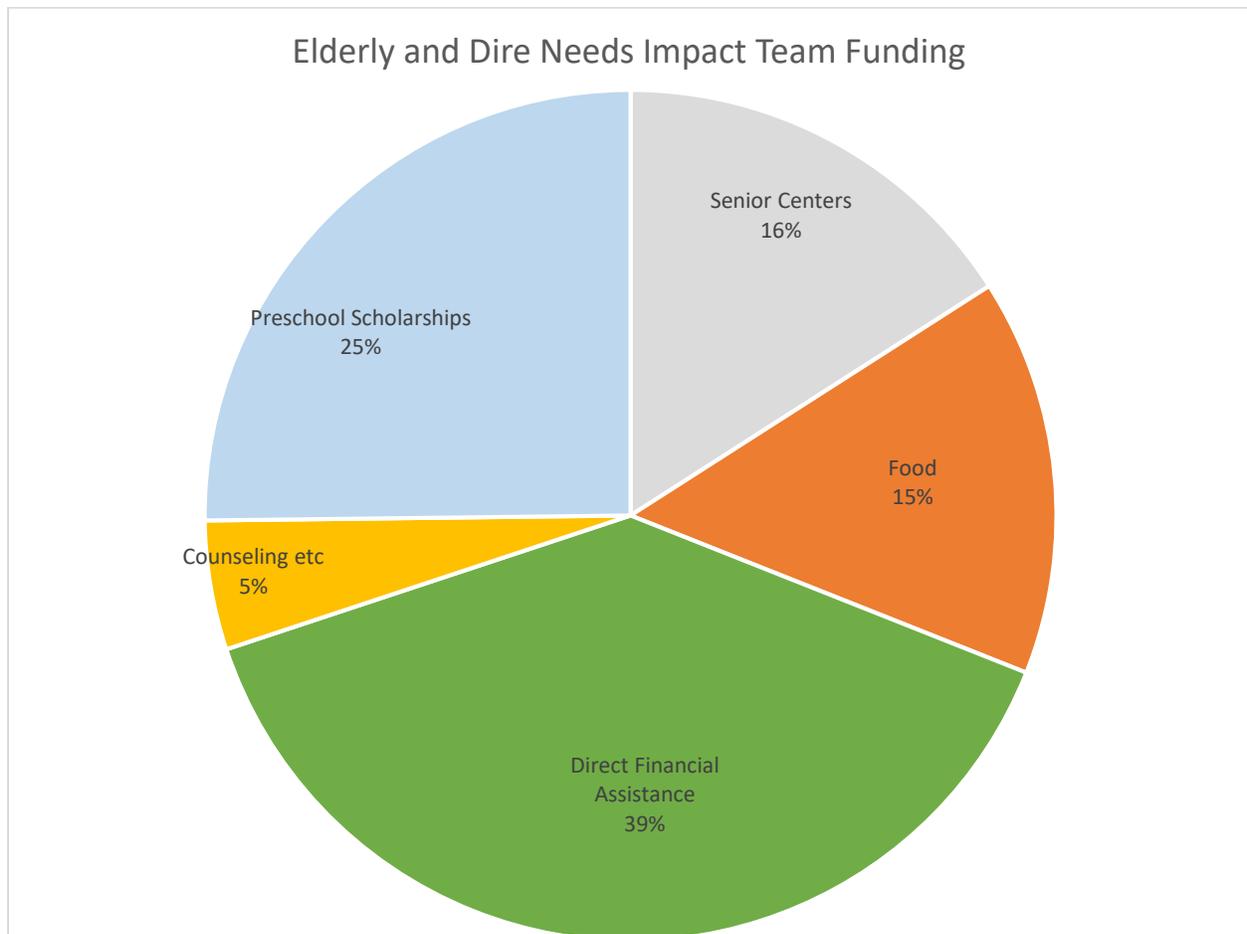
- The directors from 17 of Broward’s Jewish Preschools belong to JECP (Jewish Early Childhood Professionals) a professional support group hosted by the Federation. (*Because there is a cost to join this group schools are not required to participate.)

B’nai Aviv	Kol Tikvah	Temple Beth Torah
BMA	Little Lights Preschool	Sha’Ary Tzedek
Dor Dorim	RAMAT Shalom	Temple Beth Emet
Downtown Jewish Preschool	Shalom Preschool Chabad	Temple Beth Emet ECC
DPJCC	Soref JCC	TBE Hollywood
Hebrew Academy	Temple Beth Orr	Temple Kol Ami Emanu-El
		Temple Sinai

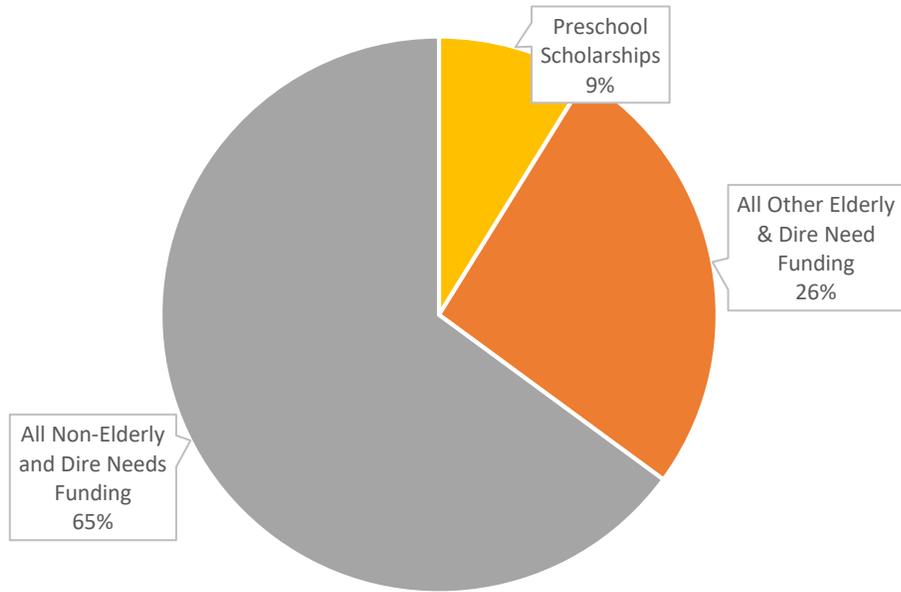
- Professionals from other schools belong to other professional support groups.

Current Federation Funding for Preschools

- The Federation currently provide \$308,000 to Jewish preschools in Broward County to use to provide scholarships for Jewish families that would otherwise be unable to afford to send their children to our preschools.
- Preschool funding is provided through the Elderly and Dire Needs Team.
- Preschool funding currently represents 25.187% of Elderly and Dire Needs funding. (\$308,000 out of \$1,222,853.)
- Preschool funding currently represents 8.8% of the total amount allocated by Federation impact teams.



Preschool Scholarship Funding as a Proportion of Total Impact Team Allocations



Preschool Scholarships as a Proportion of Total Impact Team Allocations

