

Greater MetroWest ABLE  
2021 Year-End Impact Report  
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

# Greater MetroWest ABLE

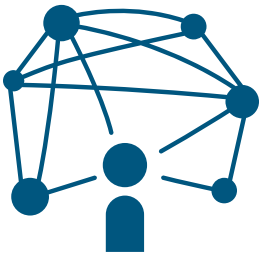
Access **B**elonging & **L**ife **E**nrichment for people with disabilities and their families

## WHAT ABLE DOES

**Creating a Jewish community made whole by the meaningful inclusion of all of its members with disabilities and their families.**



Support the development of **meaningful participation opportunities** in all aspects of Jewish communal life for individuals with **disabilities** and their families.



**Promote the collaboration** and coordination of Greater MetroWest **partner agencies** engaging with **individuals with disabilities** and their families.



**Raise awareness** of **resources and services** for individuals with disabilities and their families.

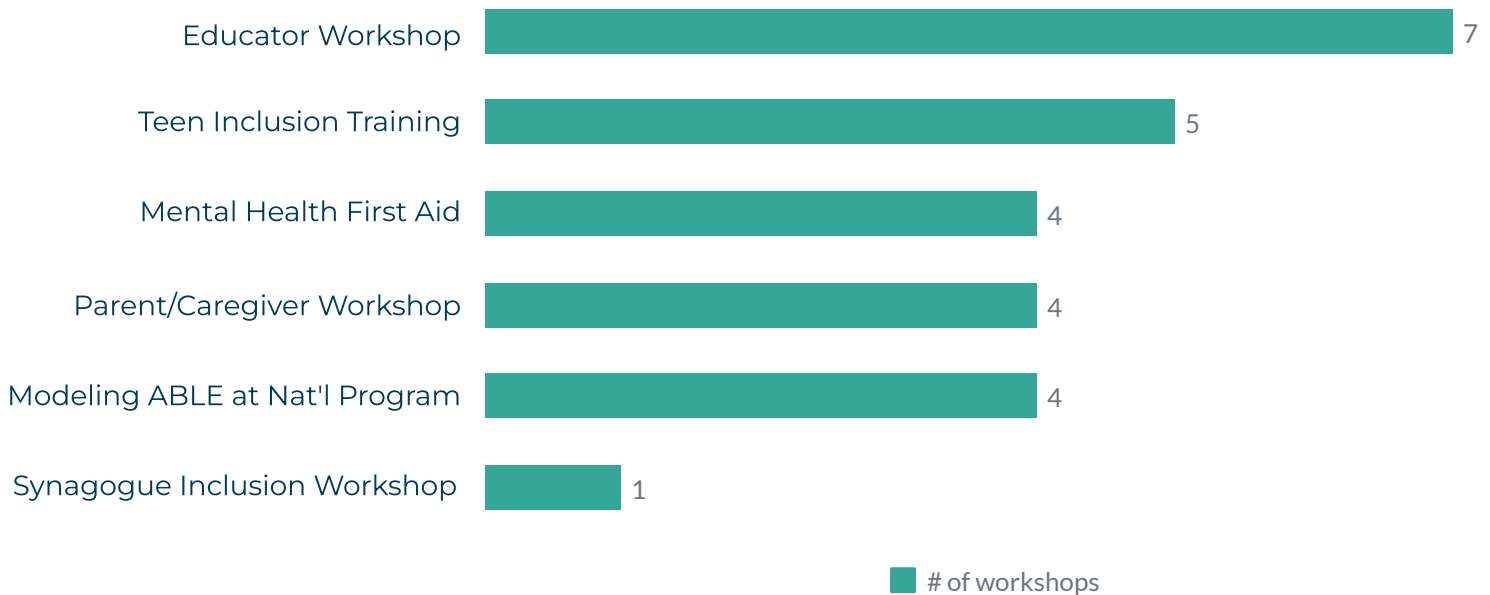
# Greater MetroWest ABLÉ

## HOW MUCH ABLÉ DOES

### Raise Awareness of Resources and Services:

**25** ABLÉ sponsored workshops  
brought in **696** touchpoints  
(496 touchpoints in the prior year)

### Types of Workshops



*"This workshop should be required of all educators, it provides so much to think about in today's mental health care."-educator*



# Greater MetroWest ABLE

## HOW MUCH ABLE DOES

### Raise Awareness of Resources and Services:



**313**

Requests for Referrals  
and Information from  
ABLE



**185** Professionals (clergy, educators,  
disability specialists)

**128** Families



**31**

Programs and  
Publications



**5** Conference presentations  
for educators

**5** Publications (blog posts, congregational  
articles and resource guides)

**21** Community education programs



**605** followers of ABLE Facebook page &  
**278** posts



**163** followers of ABLE Twitter page &  
**278** posts

### Interacts with institutions in Greater MetroWest Area:



**57**  
Interactions



**24** Day Schools

**18** Synagogues

**9** Congregational Schools

**6** Early Childhood

# Greater MetroWest ABLE

## HOW MUCH ABLE DOES

### Promote Collaboration of Greater MetroWest ABLE and Partner Agencies:



49

Collaboration Opportunities  
(40 in the prior year)



17

Programs/collaborative programs

14

Convening opportunities for National Jewish Disability professionals

10

Convening opportunities for Partner Agencies

8

Interactions with Day Schools

### Our community members want to be trained.

33

**GMW community partners** participated in Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and **Inclusion Month**.

161

**educators attended** GMW ABLE professional development **training on disability inclusion**.

12

community professionals and parents participated in **Youth Mental Health First Aid program** during Community Mitzvah Month.

# Greater MetroWest ABLE

## HOW WELL ABLE DOES

**Our community members want to be trained.**

**Not only adults wanted inclusion training.**

19

**teens from 8 congregations** attended ABLE's **inclusion advocate training** to help promote inclusion of students and campers with disabilities in the Jewish community.

19

**teens** participated in the 3rd year of **Here.Now. GMW program**. A program that build connections, increase wellbeing, **promote mental health awareness** and engage in conversations about social pressure, physical and romantic relationships, anxiety, substance use, and other relevant topics.

## Beyond Greater MetroWest

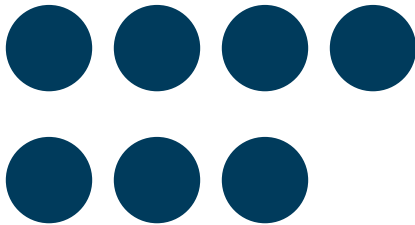
★ ABLE continues to **serve as a model for other Federation communities** as they expand their networks to include disability inclusion efforts, consulting with and presenting to other national Federation communities on the work we do locally.

★ **ABLE organized the "Community Inclusion" workshops for:**

- Educators at the New CAJE, JEA/JYDA REBOOT, and CIJE conferences.
- Federation and Jewish disability partners through RespectAbility.
- Jewish Disability Taskforces through JFNA, NJHSA and JFNJ, modeling our Federation program.
- Camp staff through the Camp Leadership Training program.

# Greater MetroWest ABLE

## WHY THE COMMUNITY IS BETTER OFF



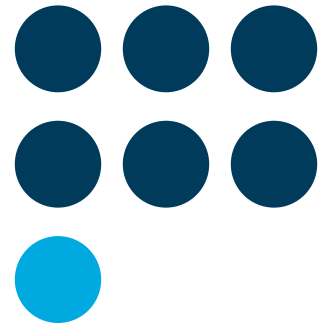
**100% (7/7)** of active ABLE partner agencies say that "Greater MetroWest ABLE helped to **build their network of professionals** working in the field of disability and inclusion."

*"Thank you so much for taking the time to come to our meeting and giving such a great report....not to mention, everything you do for all the members in our community with special needs. Much appreciated.*

*- JSDD Board Chair*



**86%** of active partner agency professionals are **more confident and proud** of the opportunities provided for individuals with disabilities and their families as a result of the collaborative network of ABLE.



## Changing Culture:



### Language matters.

- **100%** of active ABLE partner agencies have **inclusive language** statements on their website.
- **GMW Synagogues** have shifted their **language to be more inclusive** and reach out to include individuals with disabilities in their Shabbat and holiday experiences.
- **Our Federation promotes inclusive practice** in the language used in marketing and registration materials.

# Greater MetroWest ABLE

Partner Agency Professional

"Lots of wisdom, and good people around that round table. You gave us so many good ideas and I know you have even more."

# 100%

ABLE partner agencies who attribute new client or collaborations as a result of participation

# 86%

Federation partner agencies list ABLE on their websites

Partner Agency Professional

"You are always the consummate professional, a wealth of information, never rattled, always a smile on your face."



# Greater MetroWest ABLE

## What our community is saying :

"I appreciated reading your blog post about why employment matters. Thanks for the reminder of the value that employment brings to all of us, and why that is equally so important for people with disabilities. Thank you for raising awareness of the practical ways that you can help make connections between employers and potential employees."

-colleague

"I really do hope you write up what you managed to build over the years, how you did it, what you've learned, etc. I was blown away by it. The world – Jewish world especially – needs to hear the sophistication and nuance you bring to your change process, your deep knowledge, and your amazing passion and compassion."

-Director of Curriculum & Research, Wexner Foundation

"Becca, you are a gem! An angel! Always full of amazing contacts, information, resources--and warm smiles."-parent

"Thank you for your time, for lending an ear, being a sounding board, sharing your resources, and being an inspiration to our community."

-community member

*"Better than any conference presentation I ever went to, and the enthusiasm and engagement it has inspired in our Board and staff has truly been beyond anything I could've hoped for. Several of our staff and lay leaders commented to me about what an incredible resource you were." -Gateways*

# Greater MetroWest ABLE

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST

**\$125,077** (for 2021-2022)



- 1 Manager of Community Inclusion
- Program Expenses
- Conference Fees
- Trainer Fees

## LOOKING AHEAD

### ABLE Priorities for the 2022 Fiscal Year

- ★ **Raise mental health awareness** as it is a key need in our community.
- ★ Raise **awareness** of the importance of **creating employment** opportunities for adults with disabilities to assist in creating inclusive employment opportunities.
- ★ **Promote Jewish community inclusion** within our synagogues, schools, partner agencies and the Greater MetroWest Community.

# Greater MetroWest ABLE

## WHO ARE THE PLAYERS

### Greater MetroWest ABLE Partner Agencies

**Friendship Circle**

**JCC of Central NJ**

**JCC MetroWest**

**JESPY**

**Jewish Family Service of Central NJ**

**Jewish Family Service MetroWest**

**Jewish Service for the Developmentally Disabled**

**Jewish Vocational Service**

**Round Lake Camp**