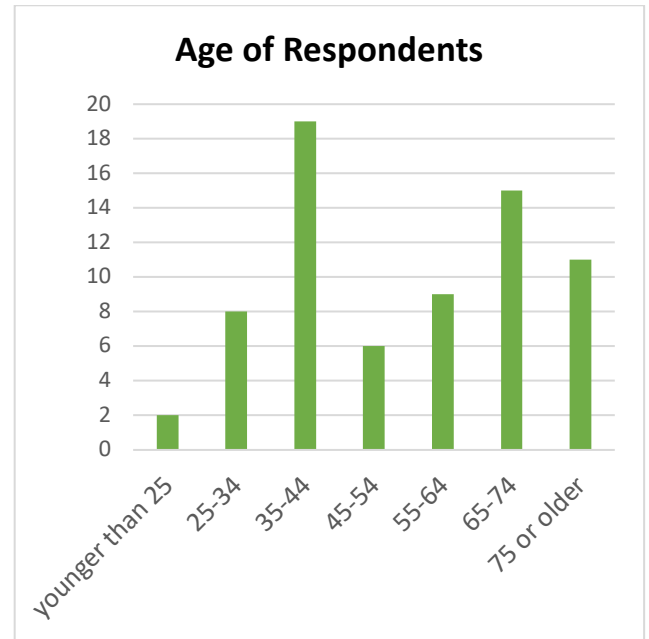
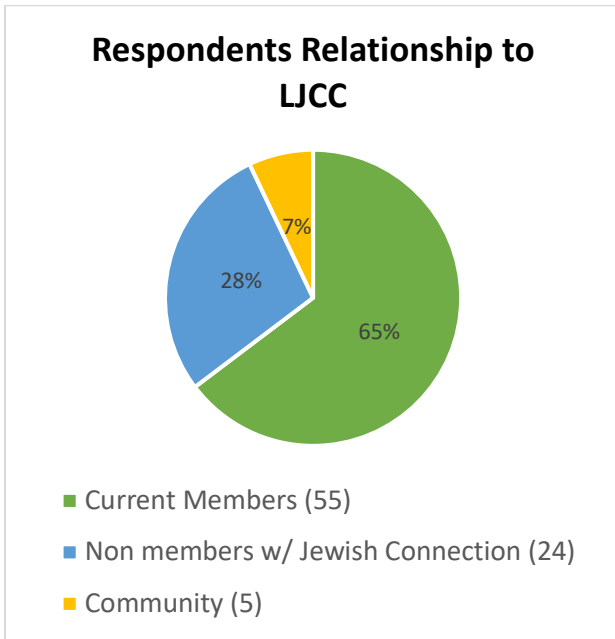
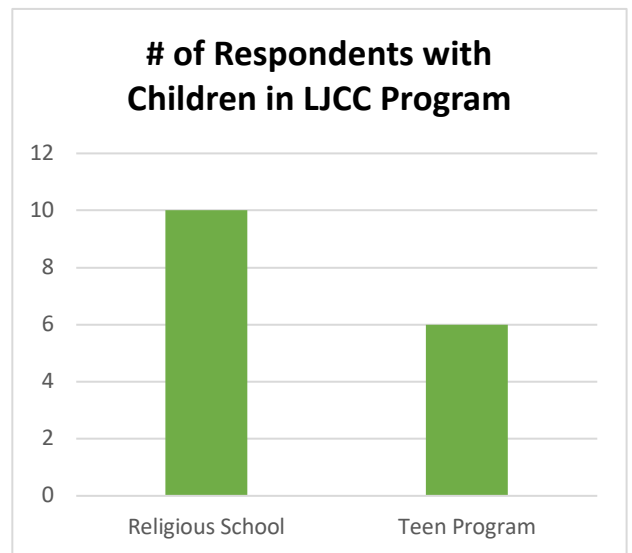
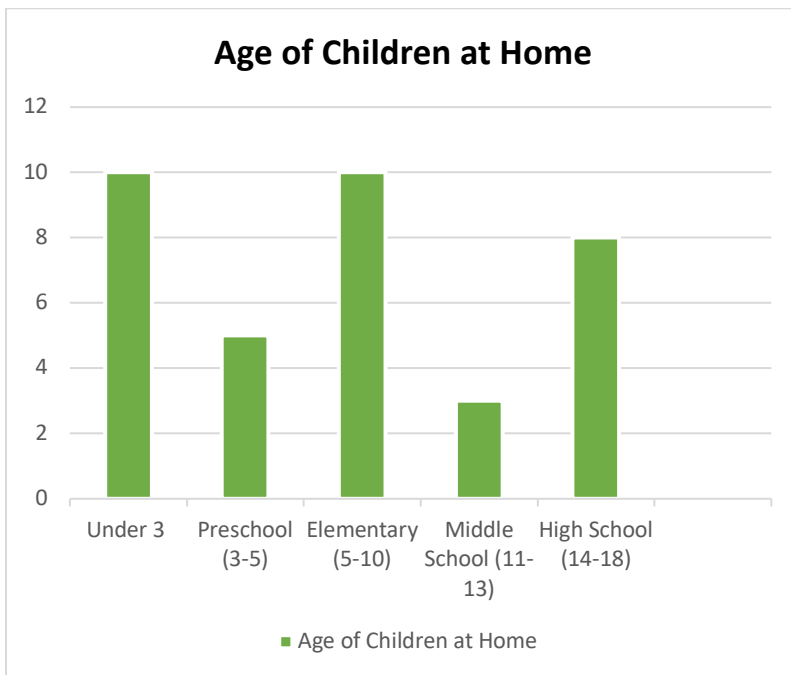


Strategic Visioning Process: Survey Results

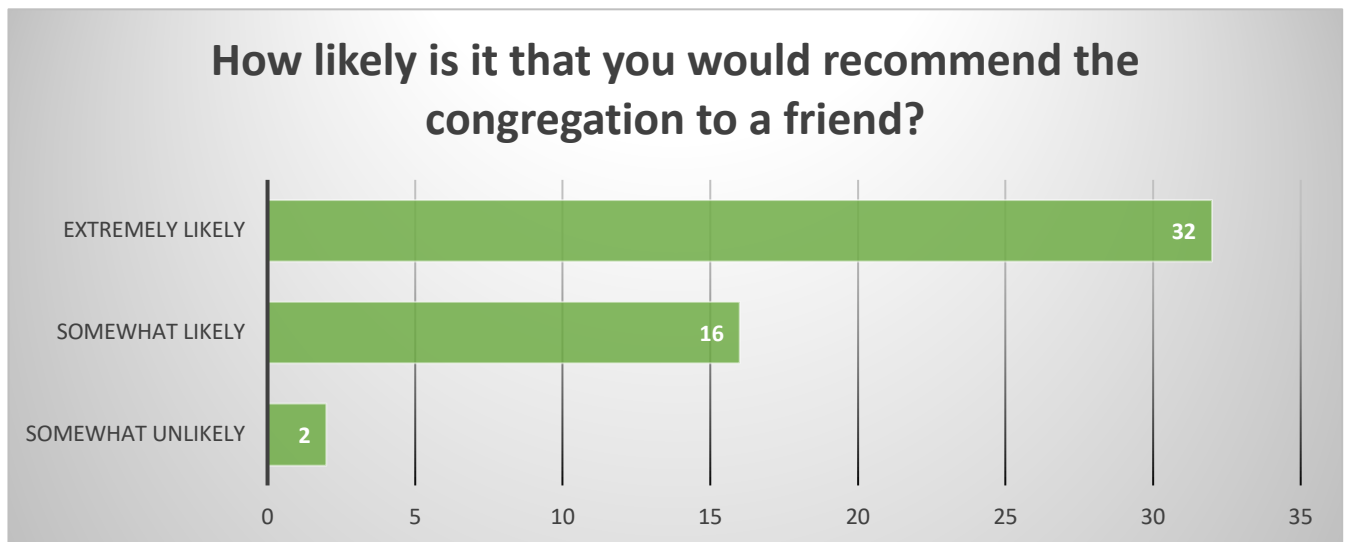
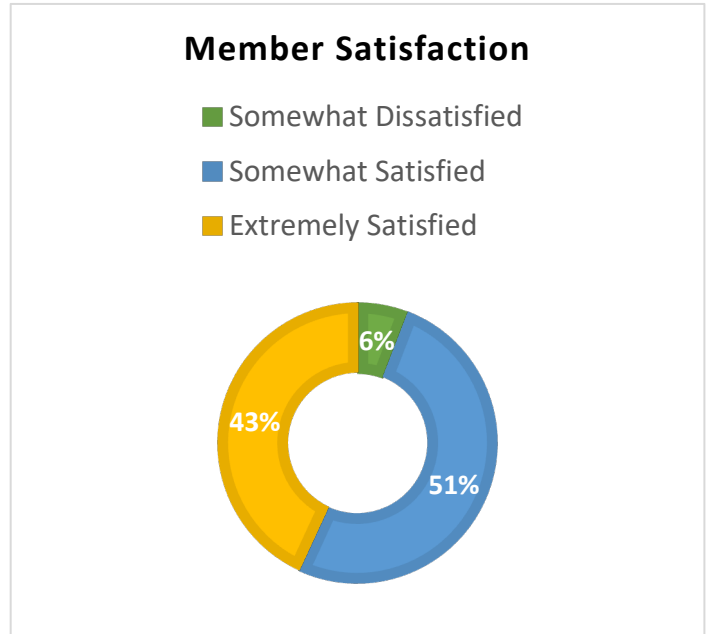
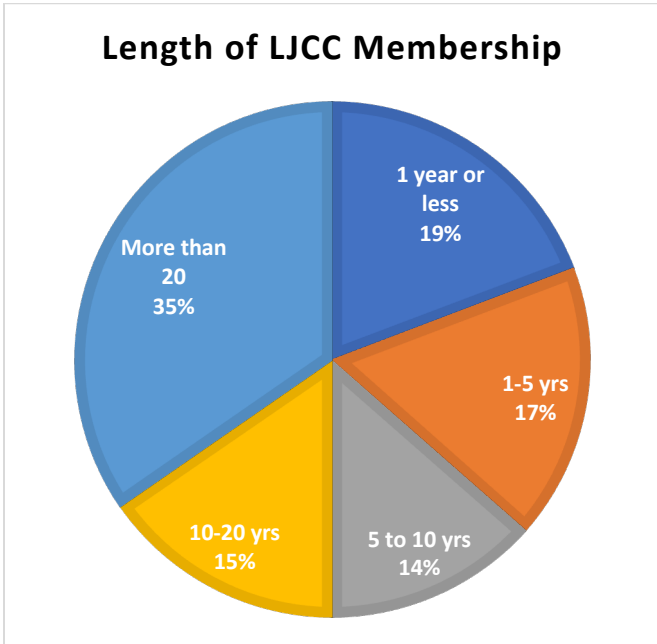
Demographic information for all respondents



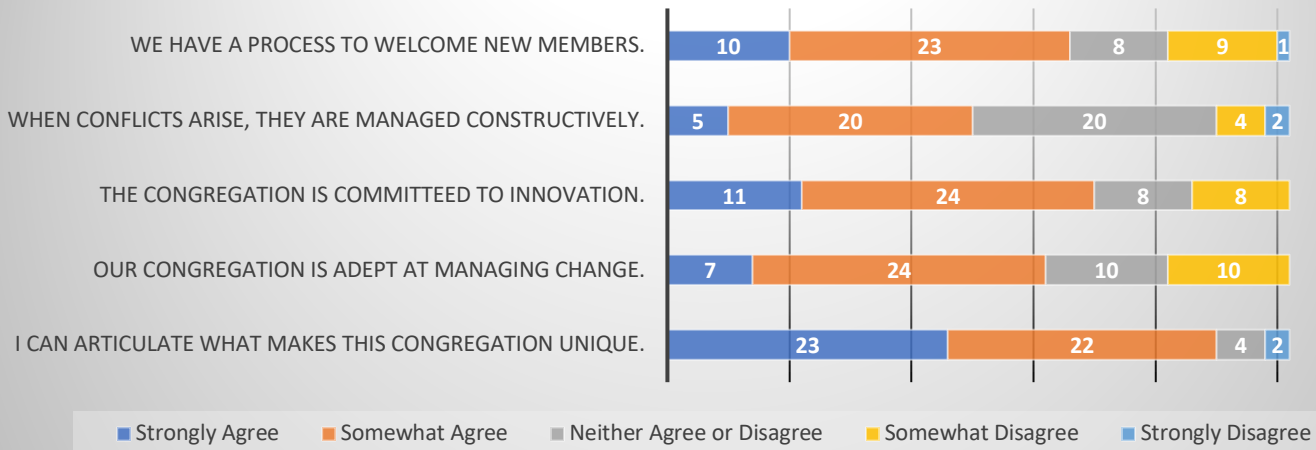
Respondents with children (39% of total)



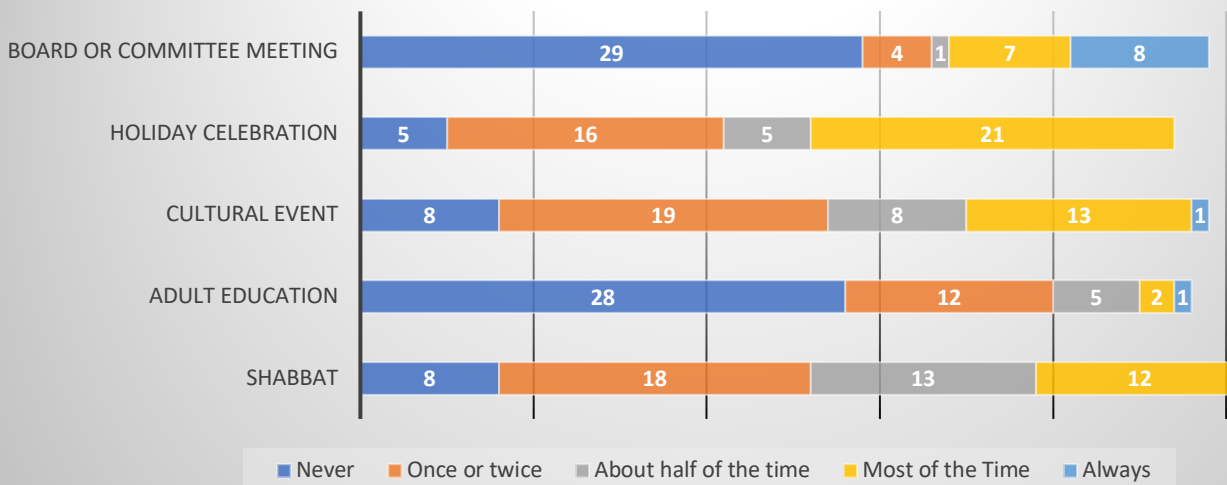
LJCC Member Responses



Member Assessment of Congregational Culture



Member Level of Involvement



“Which of these factors are most important in your decision to remain a member of this congregation? Check all that apply.”

	Number	Percent
Sense of community	46	83.6
Shabbat and Holiday services	30	54.5
Friends and/or Family belong here	28	50.1
Location	26	47.3
The lay leadership	19	34.5
The religious school	16	29.1
Lack of convenient alternatives	13	23.6
The fact that the congregation is not affiliated with a denomination	12	21.8
Other, please describe*	11	20.0
Adult Education	10	18.2

**Those answering “other” focused predominantly on themes of inclusivity and pluralism.*

“If you could wave a magic wand, what would you change?”

Overarching themes: desire for a rabbi; larger and more engaged community; improved facilities

	Number
The LJCC would have a rabbi.	8
An increased number of engaged members	4
Nothing; satisfied with current direction of congregation	3
A different/improved building	3
Continued improvement on issues of inclusion; <i>removal of police presence at holiday services</i>	2

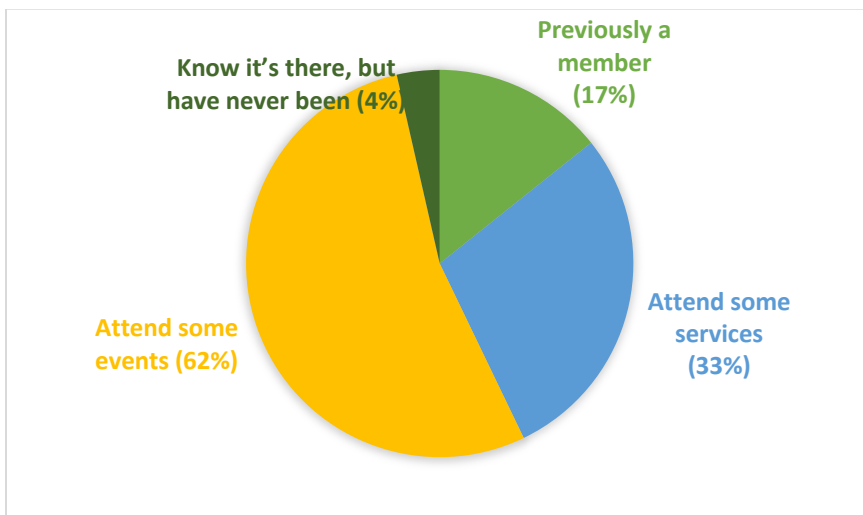
Non-Jewish Respondents Connection to the LJCC

Blintz Brunch	2
Attend Services	1
Friends Attend	1
Pay attention to what is happening in town	1

Jewish Non-Member Responses

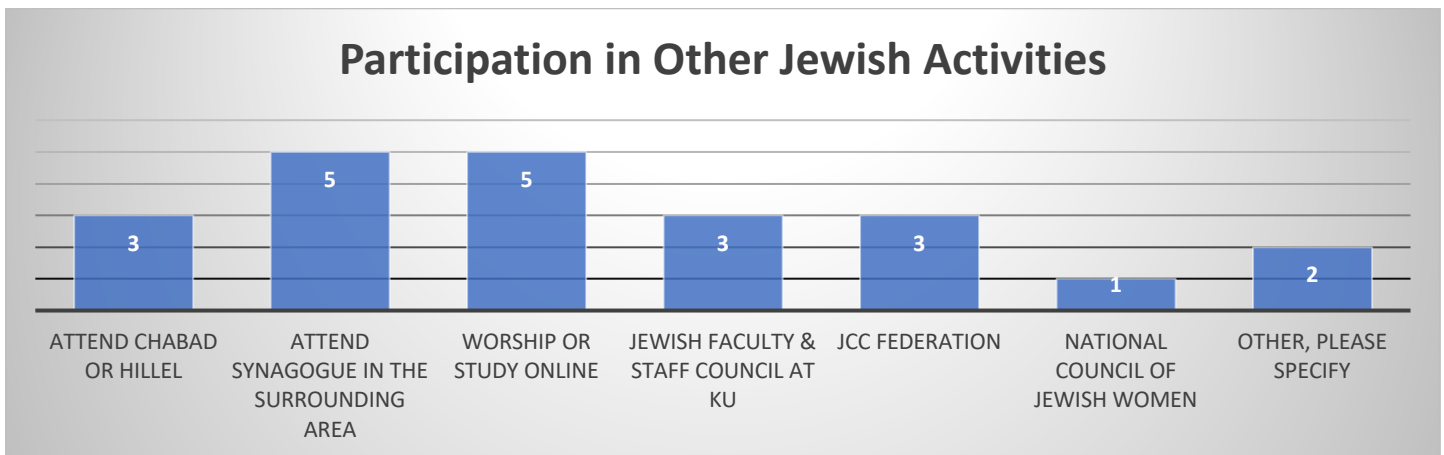
What is your connection to the LJCC?

Have you considered joining the LJCC?



Yes	14
No	5

Participation in Other Jewish Activities



Factors important in your consideration of whether to join the LJCC?

	Number	Percent
Friends and/or Family belong here	10	52.6
Shabbat and Holiday services	10	52.6
Location	9	47.4
Other, please describe*	9	47.4
Cost of Membership	8	42.2
Lack of Clergy	4	21.1
The lay leadership	4	21.1
The religious school	3	15.8
The fact that the congregation is not affiliated with a denomination	1	5.3

**Narrative responses to “other” did not yield a common identifiable theme.*

Respondents cited the following factors:

- Adult education, strategies for tzedakah & tikkun olam
- Enough people in my age cohort
- Jewish agnostic & don't like prayers
- Lack of traditional services
- More diverse times & types of programming, but notes recent improvement in this area
- Size and vibrancy of existing community; atmosphere/energy

How Important is it for Lawrence to have a thriving synagogue?

- Respondents all agreed that it was important.
- Some questioned whether it was possible given the size of the community.

What can the LJCC do to improve your Jewish Life in Lawrence?

Answers emphasized desire for cultural & educational events and community-building.

	Number	Percent
Educational and cultural events	4	28.6
Family/kid-focused events	3	21.4
Better outreach; more welcoming	2	14.3
Partnering with other organizations (KC, Hillel)	2	14.3
Unsure	2	14.3
Pursuing tikkun olam	1	7.1

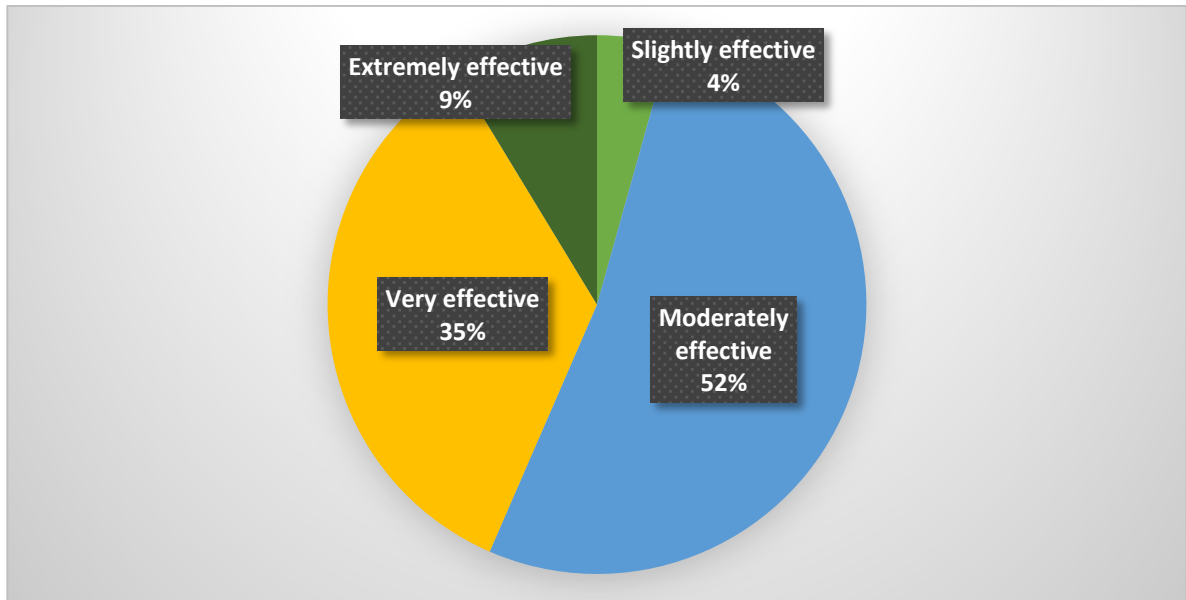
All Respondents

This section features responses from all who were surveyed, including members, Jewish non-members, and non-Jewish respondents.

How effective do you believe the LJCC has been in achieving its Mission Statement?

LJCC Mission Statement

“The LJCC’s website states: Located in the heart of Lawrence, the LJCC is a lay-led, inclusive and pluralistic community. The only full-service shul in Lawrence, we are committed to the enhancement of Jewish life and experience. We invite you to join us in our effort to lead more connected and meaningful lives and in the collective pursuit of tikkun olam.”



“Feel free to elaborate on your thoughts on the accuracy of the mission statement.”

Respondents expressed confusion about the meaning of the phrase “full-service shul.” Other themes included the aspirational status of our commitment to tikkun olam as well as achievements and limitations in the area of inclusivity.

	Number
“Only full-service shul” – confusion about meaning of this term; several pointing to Chabad’s status as such; doubts that the LJCC is accurately characterized by this phrase	9
“Collective pursuit of tikkun olam” – an aspirational claim, requiring more to be done; one suggestion that this is too narrow of a focus	5

“Inclusive and pluralistic” – sense that we make efforts, but that there is more work to be done	3
General comments: descriptive but too intellectual; broad statements lacking context; appropriate but mostly aspirational	3
Our commitment to diversity is excellently reflected in our programming	2
“Heart of Lawrence” – 9 th and Iowa is central but not the heart	1
Previous experience of the LJCC as a closed social structure	1

“What do you think is the best thing about the LJCC?”

Overriding emphasis on our achievement of the values of inclusivity and pluralism; the welcoming and haimish nature of our congregation; and the sense of community that we have achieved.

	Number
Inclusive and pluralistic	27
Sense of community and commitment of its members	19
Recent trajectory: innovative programming & fresh leadership	4
Demographic-diversity (all-ages are involved)	3
Lay-led status	3
Religious School	3
Blintz Brunch	3
Child-friendly atmosphere & involvement of families	2
Involvement in LINK	2
Educational & Cultural Programming	2

That we are such an active community	2
Rabbi talks	1
Potential for growth through cultural & educational programming	1
Having a physical location	1

“What is the LJCC’s biggest challenge?”

Overall thematic emphasis on growing membership; maintaining and engaging members; the small size of the local Jewish population and its effect on financial prospects & stability

	Number
Growing membership	13
Maintaining & engaging members (emphasis on balancing needs of diverse membership)	9
Financial Stability	9
Size	6
Lack of Clergy	4
Insufficiently active congregation; too much work for too few volunteers	4
Connecting generations	4
Generational shifts & need for innovative programming that allows people to connect in new ways with their Jewish identity	6
Building community	2
Tikkun Olam: opposing view on its apolitical or political status	2
Regular services & programming	1

Lack of affiliation	1
Security practices that promote the privileged over the marginalized	1
Visibility (the building)	1

“Is there anything else you would like to share?”

Remarks that were positive in nature:

- Great job with limited resources
- Right people doing the job (staff and lay leaders)
- Appreciate safety measures
- Like the direction and programming
- Treasure alternative aliyot
- Appreciate the LJCC as a non-observant person
- Diversity is an asset
- Love it at the LJCC
- Place to keep rituals and traditions alive.

Critical feedback

- Dislike the name – LJCCC doesn’t sufficiently convey that we are a synagogue, particularly given the prior name of “center”
- Lost interest when Shiray Shabbat ended
- Need printed phone book
- Need to do better to help people in tangible and organized ways when bereaved or have personal challenges

Other

- Want more info about participating in Tikkun Olam
- Glad to have the survey to make me think about my relationship to the LJCC