

Jewish Community of Prague (JCP)

Annual Report 2021

JCP logo

Table of Contents

I. Introduction from the Chairman

II. Basic Information about the JCP

 Mission

 Associations

 Lauder Schools, Programme of the Lauder Kindergarten in Prague

 Marta Choděrová Endowment Fund

 Members of Statutory Bodies and Management of the JCP

 Synagogues managed by the JCP visited by tourists

III. Obecní noviny

IV. Cultural and Social Events, Celebrations of Jewish Holidays, Commemorative Events

V. Report on the Activities of Individual JCP Departments

 1. Rabbinate and the New Jewish Cemetery, Three-Generation Community Centre

 2. Social and Healthcare Department

 3. Library and Information Centre, Pre-archival Care Centre

 4. Shalom Restaurant

 5. Financial Department

 6. Security Centre

 7. Operations Centre

VI. Matana, a. s.

VII. JCP Website

VIII. Grants, Subsidies and Donations provided to the JCP in 2021

IX. Economic Results of the JCP in 2021

X. Auditor's Report

I. Introduction from the Chairman

Dear friends and members of the community,

Last year was an unfortunate continuation of the year before. The most frequently uttered word in all the vernaculars was undoubtedly “Covid.” This word has taken over our thinking, our social services, our schools, our community life, and unfortunately, our economy. The severe constraints on everyday life, the endless and stressful debates about whether vaccinations were useful, and the horrific statistics on the consequences of the disease have all contributed to the oppressive atmosphere in society. In the end, we witnessed an easing in the strict measures, the possibility to work and study without official restrictions, to develop social activities, to travel... Today the city is no longer empty and we are grateful that we no longer have to meet through monitors. We were optimistic that the economic consequences of the pandemic would soon pass. However, a new crisis has hit the world, and instead of the unpredictability of nature, we are threatened by human folly and anger in the form of the senseless war unleashed by Russia in Ukraine.

Both crises created an unprecedented level of solidarity, understanding, and expressions of belonging. Our synagogues may not be filled, but the hearts and willingness of our members and friends have opened. A large number of volunteers helped during the Covid period and continue to help today, this time with refugees. The former Covid ward at Hagibor has been transformed into a shelter, Matana has vacated several apartments, and other accommodations for refugees are being provided by willing people. After a heavy workload caused by dealing with the consequences of Covid, the staff of the Social Department has switched without rest to assisting refugees, with significant help from volunteers.

We greatly appreciate the unprecedented willingness of many members and supporters to contribute financially to the increased costs of our social services. Without their help and support, we would have to draw far more from reserves earmarked for necessary building renovations or limit the scope or quality of care. Many thanks to all donors and volunteers. We anticipate that even the cost of refugee assistance will not jeopardize our overall economy, but donations and contributions are extremely important and appreciated.

Losses of income from tourism and commercial real estate have been and still are high. Tourism, which is a major source of our income, is still very limited and we must therefore continue to operate in a savings mode. In 2020 and 2021, state and city subsidies for

our social services operations were extremely important. Their total amount contributed significantly to the relatively small loss in our bottom line.

However, we all hope that soon Prague will once again be full of tourists and that our tenants will prosper. Perhaps I can express the hope on behalf of all our members that the war in Ukraine will end and peace and prosperity will once again reign around us.

Despite all the pressure of crises, we are trying to intensively develop community and social life, connect the school more with the community, and create conditions for its future successful functioning. We believe that after months of restrictions you will be eager and interested to be an active part of community life again, and therefore we cordially invite you to participate in the programmes and activities offered by the Jewish Community of Prague.

I wish everyone good health on behalf of the entire JCP management.

František Bányai

Prague, April 2022

II. Basic Information about the JCP

Mission

The Jewish Community of Prague brings together citizens from more than forty per cent of the territory of the Czech Republic who claim to be of the Jewish faith, nationality or origin, and who are not members of other churches or religious societies or other Jewish communities in the Czech Republic, and who have been accepted as members. The Community ensures the religious and cultural life of its members through the Social and Healthcare Department, providing social and psychosocial assistance to the members of the Jewish community and their family members who find themselves in unfavourable life situations. The Community supports the education of its members in Jewish traditions and contributes to general education in Judaism and Jewish history, in particular work with youths. The Community actively opposes all manifestations of anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, Nazism, Fascism, discrimination and intolerance, and protects the memory of Jewish victims.

On 31 December 2021, there were 1,479 members registered (672 men and 807 women), 238 extraordinary status holders (106 men and 132 women), and 4 guests (2 men and 2 women).

The average age of members has stabilized in recent years: 51 for men (48 for extraordinary status holders, and 55 for guests), and women 55 (54 for extraordinary status holders and 54 for guests).

In the last year, there has been a noticeable decline in the total number of members, which is likely one of the consequences of the Covid pandemic. The decline of 26 members corresponds to 1.8% of the total membership and is related to an increase of almost half a year in the average age of members. The decline in membership of 3 is less pronounced for holders of extraordinary status. Their average age has also increased, by almost one year.

In the future, we can expect a greater increase in members whose native language is not Czech.

Member's Assembly

On Sunday, 14 November 2021, an assembly of JCP members was scheduled in the Shalom dining room in the Jewish Town Hall building. There were 74 members present, which did not reach the required quorum, and therefore the meeting was not quorate. JCP Chairman F. Bányai nevertheless thanked all those who came even in the restrictive pandemic situation. H.E. Anna Azari, Ambassador of the State of Israel, greeted those present at the beginning.

The meeting Chairman, Tomáš Pasternak, presented the agenda. In the first part, Chairman F. Bányai made a presentation of the activities and information on the community's economic activities for 2020 and the outlook for 2021. The main economic summaries and graphs of the activity report were available to everyone present in printed form and are also available on the internal part of the kehilaprag.cz website. The Chairman compared the economic results from 2019 to 2020, when the effects of the global Coronavirus pandemic hit us. There was a CZK 70 million drop in revenue in the interim period. Income from admissions to our buildings, particularly the Old and Jerusalem Synagogues, income from the Jewish Museum in Prague and rent from commercial properties fell significantly. On the other hand, subsidies from the city of Prague, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and others increased significantly, which largely compensated for the shortfall in income. Donations from individuals, legal entities and institutions from all over the world also increased. In the end, all this, together with austerity measures, led to a total loss of CZK 17 million. Given the initial concerns and the significant shortfall in our standard income, this is a very good result. Despite all the complications brought on by the pandemic, the Hagibor DSP reported an increase in costs of only 3 million Czech crowns. F. Bányai used the occasion to express appreciation for the commitment of the staff and volunteers. The EZRA CHC also performed well economically and the community did not have to pay excessive funds for its operation in 2020 thanks to the subsidies received. All our social institutions were almost self-supporting in the end thanks to the grants and donations. F. Bányai also mentioned the salvage of six thousand paving stones from the lower part of Wenceslas Square, which came from cut-up Jewish tombstones. The stones will be installed in the "Return of the Stones" monument in the Old Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov, designed by the Rón family. The JCP Chairman reported on the online streaming of cultural and social events as well as the distance learning school. He also referred back to last year's elections to the JCP bodies, thanked for the trust of the voters on behalf of all those elected and stressed that the Community's leaders are open to all suggestions and comments and that the doors of the office of the Secretary and the Chairman are always open. In terms of economic results in 2021, the percentage of fulfilment is in line with expectations, but miracles in terms of revenue are of course not expected. Moderate optimism and only a partial return of tourists in the second half of the year constitute a clear reason for maintaining the savings regime of the community's operations. The report of the Review Committee was presented by Tomáš Pezl. He evaluated the year 2020 as a good year from the point of view of the RC, the community was well managed and properly used the funds entrusted to it. Jakub Král gave a comprehensive report on the security of the Jewish community in the Czech

Republic and the world. Anti-Semitic manifestations do occur in the Czech Republic primarily in the Internet environment, but there is a noticeable growing trend that can lead to radicalization and even physical attacks.

The EU agenda is already addressing this issue intensively. The final discussion focused on what we can do to fight anti-Semitism, the preparation of the 2022 budget, the openness of the community and the involvement of the Israeli community in its life.

Subsidized Associations

In 2021, the JCP financially contributed to the activities of the following associations, organizations and groups:

- Children's Theatre,
- Besamim,
- Rafael Institute,
- Chinuch,
- Moishe House,
- Terezín Initiative,
- Youth Coordinator (Federation of Jewish Communities),
- Camps for children (Federation of Jewish Communities),
- Limmud (Federation of Jewish Communities).

JCP Lauder Schools (and Jewish programme of the 1.B class of the Na Výšinách Kindergarten)

In 2021, the JCP also significantly subsidized the activities of the Lauder Schools (25% of the school budget). The Lauder Schools represent a unique educational project for children, pupils and students interested in education in the spirit of Judaism. The primary school was established in 1997, and since 1999 there has been a middle school and since 2009 a kindergarten. In September 2016, the 2nd level of grade school was restored. Teaching at all levels of education is based on the Le Chajim school educational programme, which is based on framework educational programmes for preschool, elementary and middle school education, enriched by Jewish education and Hebrew. The school profiles itself as community-based and inclusive and is currently facing a sort of overhang of demand that it is unfortunately having to turn away applicants from the target group. By the end of 2021, there were 390 pupils and students in the kindergarten, grade and middle Lauder Schools, with an additional 150 students in the so-called E-school.

As of 2021, the Jewish programme of the 1.B grade at the Na Výšinách Kindergarten will also be under the responsibility of the Lauder Schools. It is implemented in a classroom with a specific programme for Jewish children. The kindergarten run by the Prague 7 district has been operating a class with this programme for twenty-eight years and is intended for preschool children belonging to the JCP. The number of children is the same as in the other classes, i.e., twenty-eight. The children are guided together in Jewish traditions, history and holidays. Meals for the children are prepared in the preschool kitchen in a kosher style.

Marta Choděrová Endowment Fund

The Marta Choděrová Endowment Fund at the Jewish Community of Prague was founded in 2019.

The fund's resources are intended to support and provide for the needs of the dignified life of children from the wider Jewish community who are medically or socially disadvantaged or are at risk of social exclusion and material deprivation, and whose family situation does not allow this disadvantage to be sufficiently compensated and for standard living conditions to be ensured for the child.

The resources from the fund are allocated on the basis of applications received by members of the committee. Those interested in a subsidy apply for support through one of the following organizations: the Jewish Community of Prague - Social Department, Lauder Schools, Bejachad, z. s., the management of the Tuvja scout unit, and Beit Simcha, the management of the Jewish community.

A total of 17 applications were submitted to the fund in 2021 through the JCP Social Department and the Lauder Schools. A total of 19 children received financial support in the amount of CZK 85,714.

We would also like to thank all donors who supported us in 2021 with a total amount of CZK 60,782. We appreciate it very much.

Members of Statutory Bodies and Management of the JCP

In 2021, the following representatives worked in the top bodies of the JCP:

Chairman - *statutory representative of the Community*

František Bányai

Management - *fulfils the role of Community executive*

František Bányai, Chairman

Eva Lorencová, First Deputy Chairwoman

Tomáš Pasternak, Second Deputy Chairman

Michal Borges, Secretary

David Peter, Chief Rabbi of Prague

Ester Karasová

Tomáš Taussig

In 2021 the management met for eleven regular meetings.

Representation - *is elected once every four years. It is the highest body of the Community after the Member's Assembly and fulfils the role of the community parliament. Meetings are accessible to members of the Community, and the dates are published on the Community website.*

In 2021, the JCP Representation worked in the following composition:

František Bányai

Tomáš Büchler

Ivana Hrubá

Martin Jelínek

Ester Karasová

Michal Klíma

Eva Kosáková

Tereza Kotláríková

Pavel Král

Tomáš Kraus

Šimon Krýsl

Petr Kučera

Eva Lorencová

Marta Malá

Vida Neuwirthová

Jiří Pacovský

Tomáš Pasternak

Leo Pavlát

Jan Roubínek
Jindřich Svátek
Tomáš Taussig
Zuzana Veselá
Michaela Vidláková
Dominika Weiss Hošková

Virile members:

Michal Borges, Secretary
David Peter, Chief Rabbi of Prague

In 2021, eight regular Representation meetings took place with the participation of members of the Review Committee.

Review Committee

In 2021, the JCP Review Committee worked in the following composition:

Jaroslav Němec, Chairman
Otto Herman
Hermína Neuner
Tomáš Pezl
Jakub Roth
Zdeněk Racek
Vít Šlechta

Synagogues and other tourist centres managed by the JCP visited by tourists

Tourist traffic at monuments directly managed by the JCP was significantly affected by the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020, which caused a significant drop in attendance and the associated fatal drop in admission revenues. Given that revenue from tourism accounts for a significant share of JCP revenues, for the second year in a row, this deficit also had a significant impact on the economic results of the JCP.

Old-New Synagogue

Today, the Old-New Synagogue is the oldest monument of Prague's Jewish Town and the oldest surviving functioning synagogue in Central Europe, and it has been a National Cultural

Monument since 1995. In 2021, due to the Coronavirus epidemic and related restrictions, the synagogue was only open from 3 May. Throughout the year, only 74,554 paying visitors came to the synagogue, which is a decrease of 73% compared to 2019.

Jerusalem Synagogue

The Jerusalem Synagogue was also open to the public in 2021 from 3 May. The attendance of the synagogue in 2021 decreased by 64% compared to 2019, with a total of 19,955 people visiting the synagogue. During the season, four guided tours took place attended by 138 visitors. These tours included an organ intermezzo performed by organist Václav Peter

In 2021, the cycle of organ concerts continued for the seventh year in a row, with the financial support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. The start was always at 18:00 and the music programme did not exceed 70 minutes. The project was also purely educational last year, with no entrance fee.

During the season, two short-term exhibitions were presented in the synagogue - Photographs by Jaroslav Guth and Musical Treasures of the Jerusalem Synagogue.

Old Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov and Historic Mikveh

Both monuments were closed in 2021, with the exception of occasional guided tours.

Concerts and Cultural Events at the Jerusalem Synagogue

In 2021, the cycle of organ concerts continued for the eighth year in a row, where a number of Czech organists performed: the beginning of the cycle was postponed until June and it was opened by organist Jitka Chaloupková together with Václav Peter (9 June), followed by a concert by organist Václav Peter together with trumpeter Tomáš Hrbáček and cellist Dominika Weiss Hošková (23 June), rescheduled from last year, followed by Vojtěch Novák (organ) with flutist Eliška Bošková (21 July), Pavel Kohout (organ) with singer Iva Hlaváčková (11 August), organists Petr Vacek (1 September) and Josef Kšica (20 October).

Regular evening commented viewings of the Jerusalem Synagogue with brief music performances by organist Václav Peter were held four times in 2021.

Musical Treasures of the Jerusalem Synagogue - In November 2021, a new exhibition was installed in the synagogue, showcasing the collection of music that has been kept in the Jerusalem Synagogue for decades. It is a collection that includes more than 400 bound parts, booklets and single sheet music - over 1,000 songs in total. For decades it sat almost

unnoticed in a cabinet next to the organ before it was dusted off and transferred to the JCP archives in 2012. The rich musical collection mirrors the liturgical and musical practice not only of the Jerusalem Synagogue but also of other synagogues in and outside of Prague. The exhibition is complemented by audio cassettes, including valuable transcriptions of monogram rolls from the beginning of the 20th century.

The **Feast of Lights** at the Jerusalem Synagogue in 2021 was held on 2 December. It was the only celebration of this holiday at the Jewish Community of Prague, all others were cancelled due to the Coronavirus. Participants were greeted by the majestic sound of the organ, led by the hands of Václav Peter.

As usual, Milan Hein introduced the evening, everyone was welcomed by JCP Chairman František Bányai, the Chief Rabbi of Prague David Peter gave the Hanukkah blessing, lit the candlestick and then “Maoz cur” rang through the synagogue. This was followed by a talk about Hanukkah by Petr Vacek and Vida Neuwirthová, children from the Feigele Theatre recited Hanukkah poems, and the children’s choir from the Lauder Schools sang Hanukkah songs under the direction of Helena Divecká, and finally, the actress and singer Hana Holišová performed.

Days of European Cultural Heritage

A guided tour of the Karlín Synagogue took place as part of the Days of the European Cultural Heritage in September 2021.

Day of Jewish Monuments

On 8 August 2021, the fourth year of the Day of Jewish Monuments event was held in the Czech Republic. The purpose of the event was to make several dozen regional monuments, synagogues and cemeteries available and visible, which either are not open to the public or recently underwent reconstruction. For this reason, structures repaired within the Revitalization of Jewish Monuments - 10 Stars project, were also included in the Day of Jewish Monuments. All the buildings were accessible free of charge.

In total, 24 cemeteries and 25 synagogues (including the Jewish monuments of the 10 Stars project) were made accessible at 38 locations across the Czech Republic.

III. Obecní noviny

Publication of the internal, free news bulletin intended for JCP members called *Obecní noviny (ON)*, continued in 2021. Eleven regular editions were published. The newspaper is published in both printed and electronic form, which can be found on the Community website. The online version of ON is in colour. The graphic design of the printed version is based on the JCP corporate design. *Rabínský list (Letter from the Rabbi)* was inserted into *Obecní noviny* as an independent supplement prepared by the Rabbinate.

Through its regular publishing of news from the Representation and the JCP management meetings, as well as information about social events and upcoming events, *Obecní noviny* facilitates greater awareness and better communication amongst the members of the JCP.

In 2021, much of the information was devoted to current reports related to the Covid-19 pandemic, information about vaccinations at Hagibor and at the Ch. Jordan Pension, information on other JCP measures during the pandemic, and regular information from Hagibor SCF physicians on the epidemiological situation.

In 2021, the newspaper continued to include a double page containing information from the Lauder Schools compiled by Petr Karas and Irena Poláková. There were regular reports from the Rabbinate, and the reflections of Chief Rabbi Efraim K. Sidon continued (*Propagace zázraku, Hamánova šibenice, Chamec umaca, Budete mi lidem a vám budu Bohem, Svoboda, demokracie a lid, Obec a synagoga, Dopis k novému roku 5782, Jak dále po svátcích?, Mlčeti zlato, Svoboda vepsaná do desek*) (*Promotion of a Miracle, Haman's Gallows, Chametz umaca, You will be my People and I will be your God, Freedom, Democracy and the People, The Community and synagogue, Letter for the New Year 5782, What to do after the holidays?, Silence Gold, Freedom Inscribed in Records*). Attention was devoted to the work of the JCP Rabbinate not only during the Covid pandemic (*Povídání s vrchním pražským rabínem Davidem Peterem, Ptáme se Davida Petera, vrchního pražského rabína*) (*Conversation with David Peter, Chief Rabbi of Prague, We Ask David Peter, Chief Rabbi of Prague*).

Readers were informed about prof. Felix Kolmer being awarded the Medal of Merit for the Republic of Austria and they could also read *Reflections on the New Jewish Cemetery in Prague*. ON also provided information from Michal Klíma about the Chamber of Deputies tightening the law on the promotion of Nazism. ON published a speech by Rabbi Daniel Mayer on the occasion of the 73rd anniversary of the State of Israel (14 April 2021). At the same time, ON reported on the laying of more stones of the disappeared, the so-called Stolpersteins, in Prague and in other cities in the Czech Republic.

Reports were regularly published on the cultural programmes of the Jewish Museum in Prague at the Department of Education and Culture and at the Maisel Synagogue, and ON informed about the 115th anniversary of the Jewish Museum in Prague and also about the JMP's award in the XIX year of the Gloria Musaealis National Competition.

Readers learned about the activities of the Public Benefit Association for the Support of Persons affected by the Holocaust, which subsidizes the social and health services of the JCP, about the activities of the JCP Social Department, about the virtual Café on Zoom, and about reconditioning stays for seniors at the JCP. ON also reported on the activities of EZRA CHC during the pandemic, printing the article Ezra CHC *Behind the Secrets of Occupational Therapy*. Mrs Golda's psychological couch continued, as well as the new memory exercise: Think, Brain! Regular information from the Social Department included interviews with volunteers (Veronika Konvičná, Sara Kovaříková, Damian Jirout, Erik Rothenbuchner, Stefan Lercher, Martin Silly, Miroslava Weibelová, Karel Ehrenhaft, Alena Parolková, Petr Balajka.

The Osudy (Life Stories) column published the memories of Edita Katzová, Yechiel Bar-Chaim on the war in Yugoslavia (Yugoslavia and the Jews), Sonia Eislerová-Kubrová and her sister Hana Eislerová-Žantovská, Conversations about Inka Bernášková with Jana Vrzalová, Jan Hála's memories of the conductor Robert Brock, Roman Cílek's memories of Emma Šternová, Dana Braunová's memories of Renia Spiegel (the "Polish Anne Frank"), Věra Trnková's memories of prof. Gerda Hermína Černá and the memory of Karel Müller (1941-2000). ON brought readers the memories of Tomáš Haas (on his late 80th birthday), Ing. Hanuš Schimmerling, CSc. (the 100th anniversary of his birth) and Pavel Stránský (the 100th anniversary of his birth).

Readers were also informed about the economic results of the JCP for 2020.

In 2021, *Obecní noviny* also continued providing the memoirs of Alexandr Goldscheider, as well as other stories from the Jewish environment written by Arnošt Goldflam (*Povídky o mamince*) (*Stories about my Mother*), Zuzana Peterová (*Fatty a Lili, Naše (ne)věrné milování, Tchýně v záběhu*) (*Fatty and Lili, Our (Un)faithful Lovemaking, Mother-in-law in the run*), Miroslav Adamec (*Hotel a my, Hořící keř na Sinaji*) (*The Hotel and Us, The Burning Bush in Sinai*), Jana Herrmannová (*Tam bys jedl trávu, Tři*) (*There you'd eat grass, Three*), Eva Frantinová (básně *Odevzdaný život, Test, Plápolej, Rozhovor s Kristiánem, V přestrojení*) (poems *Surrendered Life, Test, Flicker, Interview with Kristián, In Disguise*), Petr Eidler (*Případ Aleny Struskové, Přerušný řetězec*) (*The Case of Alena Strusková, Broken Chain*), Vladimír Kolár (*Hugo Münz. Osudy*) (*Hugo Münz. Fates*) and Arnošt Lustig (*První řádky/Noc*) (*First Lines/Night*).

The newspaper briefly informed about significant projects, commented on current political affairs, and provided information concerning the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic. The newspaper reported in detail on the JCP economic results for the preceding year and the approved budget for the following year. Regular information about new books appeared in the newspaper. The editor-in-chief was Petr Balajka.

IV. Cultural and Social Events, Celebrations of Jewish Holidays, Commemorative Events, Important Visitors

Cultural and Social Events, Celebrations of Jewish Holidays

In 2021, the talk show *Káva o čtvrté* (Coffee at Four) was held only seven times due to government pandemic restrictions. The dates were adapted to government hygiene measures, the availability of guests and lecturers, and to the Jewish calendar. The guests in 2021 were: Bára Hrzánová, actress and singer, Jan Fingerland, columnist, journalist, radio commentator and writer, Michaela Sidenberg, art historian and curator of the visual art collection of the Jewish Museum in Prague, Karel Hvížďala, writer, playwright, journalist, science fiction author and political commentator, František Koukolík, neuropathologist, writer and columnist, Iveta Dušková, actress, screenwriter, director, and the Director of the Kampa Theatre, Arnošt Goldflam, actor, playwright, director, teacher and writer.

In 2021, projects at Klub Na balkoně were only implemented in the second half of the year:

- 2 September – Opening of a retrospective exhibition of paintings by Lojza Štyndl,
- 14 October - Opening of paintings by JUDr. Dana Římanová under the title *Podzim* (Autumn),
- 20 October - lecture by Eva Kolenská about the work of a make-up artist.

In 2021, various cultural and discussion events were newly held at the Charles Jordan Pension on a regular basis (if the pandemic allowed for it):

– *Hovory na přání* (*Discussions upon request*) with guests – Dagmar Svěráková and Jana Wichsová (21 October); Erika Landischová (11 November); Jana Vrzalová (16 December); hosted by Ruth Sidonová.

– *Křeslo pro hosta* (*Chair for a guest*) with subtitle *Poznejte zajímavé lidi dnešní doby* (*Meet interesting people of today*) - JUDr. Zuzana Wirthová, singer (25 May); PhDr. Věra

Semerádová, psychologist (29 June); Milan Šteindler, director (26 October); PhDr. Vladimír Kolár, writer, editor (30 November); hosted by Ruth Sidonová.

– *Společné posezení s hudbou a Beseda se zajímavými lidmi (Sitting together with music and Discussion with interesting people)* - Jana Dubová (22 June); Welcoming the new upright piano - Mgr. Václav Peter (20 July); Odpoledne se zpěvem a klavírem “Pojďme si zazpívat (Afternoon with singing and piano “Let’s sing”) (14 September, 19 October, 18 November, 31 December).

Exhibitions:

– 12 August – Opening of photographs Paris through the lens of Petr Balajka.

At the Shalom restaurant:

- Unfortunately, the annual celebrations of the Jewish holidays of Purim and Hanukkah, which are among the most popular, most anticipated and attended events organized by the Jewish Community of Prague, were not held in 2021 at the JCP Town Hall. The reason was the government regulation related to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Purim celebration was videotaped without an audience and streamed.
- 5 October - discussion meeting with Jana Černochová: Defence and Security of the Czech Republic - Current Challenges.
- 27 October - The commemorative evening to mark the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Terezín ghetto was organized by the Holocaust Victims Foundation together with the Czech Auschwitz Committee. The discussion with two living witnesses, Michaela Vidláková and Toman Brod, and the historian from the Terezín Memorial, Vojtěch Blodig. Hosted by journalist Petr Brod.

Commemorative events

On Wednesday, 27 January 2021, for the sixteenth time, a commemorative meeting was held at the Wallenstein Palace in Prague on the occasion of Holocaust Remembrance Day and the Prevention of Crimes Against Humanity. The meeting was organized by the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic and the Holocaust Victims Foundation in cooperation with the Office of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and was under the auspice of Senate President Miloš Vystrčil. The Chairman of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic, Petr Papoušek, welcomed the audience and television viewers. In his opening speech, Miloš Vystrčil recalled that the Czech Republic established 27 January as Holocaust Remembrance Day in 2004, a year before the United

Nations General Assembly, but still 59 years after the end of the Second World War. Radek Vondráček, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament, condemned the current manifestations of anti-Semitism and pointed out the parallel between the biblical Amalek and modern tyrants, including representatives of Nazism. Michaela Vidláková, who survived the Holocaust as a child, gave an emotional speech and described her own experiences from the tragic time of Terezín. Next to speak was the representative of the Romani minority, Čeněk Růžička, who, on the one hand, highly praised the role of the state in the destruction of the infamous pig farm at Lety u Písku, but was critical of the way compensation for Romani victims is being handled. In his closing speech, Federation of Jewish Communities Chairman Petr Papoušek recalled that just a year ago, at this very gathering, a call was made for a law to be passed to prevent the commercial misuse of Nazi symbols. This was done during this occasion. He went on to mention one particular fate, the example of which he used to show the depth and breadth of the human tragedy of the Holocaust: “The murdered and the survivors, among them former prisoner 170 265 Miloš Dobrý, my grandfather, were human beings just like us. Let us thank them for what they passed on to us, let us not forget and let us not be indifferent.” In the musical part, David Dorůžka, Robert Fischmann and Martin Novák performed a piece by Gideon Klein, who was murdered during the Holocaust. The secretary of the FJC, Tomáš Kraus, moderated the programme in the Czech Republic and during the breaks, there was a live interview with the director of the Jewish Museum in Prague, Leo Pavlát. Due to the crisis measures of the Czech government, this year’s commemorative gathering was held without the participation of the public and was only broadcast live by Czech Television on the ČT24 programme. The commemorative gathering on the occasion of Holocaust Remembrance Day and the Prevention of Crimes Against Humanity was financially supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.

On the evening of 27 January, those interested could still watch a festive concert at the Spanish Synagogue on the YouTube channel of the Jewish Museum in Prague to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day. JMP Director Leo Pavlát and JCP Chairman František Bányai gave the opening remarks. The Doležal Quartet played intimate pieces. The broadcast had a lot of viewership.

The traditional **memorial service** held annually on 8 March at the Pinkas Synagogue to commemorate the largest single killing of Czechoslovak Jews in the Auschwitz Birkenau

extermination camp in 1944 had to be broadcast online due to quarantine measures related to the Coronavirus pandemic. Nevertheless, the organizing Terezín Initiative ensured its dignified course, which was first introduced by the words of its chairman Michal Stránský, who also lit six candles for the victims of the Shoah. The keynote speech was delivered by Toman Brod and the closing prayer was delivered with feeling by Rabbi Michael Dushinsky.

Memorial of silence in memory of BIIb

The development of epidemiological measures once again did not give much hope that the commemoration of the murder of the Terezín family camp in Auschwitz would take place with public participation.

In 2021, they traditionally joined forces with the Institute of Terezín Composers and newly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A symbolic light bridge was created between the Bubny railway station and the place from where the members of the Terezín family camp in Auschwitz were driven to their deaths. On 8 March, a pre-recorded remembrance from the Bubny platform appeared on social media shortly before 18:00. The commemoration culminated in the lighting of candles that lit up the Czernin Palace with festive illumination. At the same moment, candles were also lit on the authentic site of the former “concentration camp building” in Březinka. The entire event was streamed on social media.

In 2021, the April 8 **Yom HaShoah** commemoration, traditionally held by the JCP at the Pinkas Synagogue, could also only take place virtually, as it did last year, due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Thanks to a YouTube video posted by the Community on its website and a link published in the Newsletter, everyone was able to participate, at least online, in a private memorial service for murdered Jews. In the beginning, the Ambassador of the State of Israel, H.E. Daniel Meron, spoke in front of the memorial plaque at the former Holešovice Jewish Assembly Center. Then we were visually transported to the High Synagogue. JCP Chairman František Bányai gave the opening remarks and also lit candles for the six million murdered Jews. Petra Ernyeiová sang a song for Jewish mothers in the Pinkas Synagogue, and Fedor Gál gave a topical reflection on the legacy of the Shoah and the current times. Terezín poems by children’s authors were read by Petr Forman and his daughter Antonia, followed by a selection of names of those who did not survive the Shoah. A prayer for the deceased was recited by the Chief Rabbi of the Land, Rabbi Ephraim K. Sidon. The end belonged to Vida

Neuwirthová and the children from the Feigele ensemble, who sang the Israeli anthem Hatikvah.

On 8 April 2021, another annual public reading of the names of Holocaust victims took place virtually. We were unable to meet in person, but on the other hand, people living abroad - not only from neighbouring European countries but also from overseas, from Canada and the United States - could actively participate in the reading of the names. Most of them were members of families with roots in the Czech Republic and thus had the opportunity to participate in the memorial right here in the Czech Republic. The reading of names was held under the auspices of H.E. Daniel Meron, Ambassador of the State of Israel to the Czech Republic, MUDr. Zdeněk Hřib, Mayor of the City of Prague, and Mgr. Tomáš Petříček, Ph.D., Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, and with the support of the Holocaust Victims Foundation.

Terezín Memorial Service 2021

After a year's hiatus caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, the Terezín Memorial Service was once again held in 2021, moved from the traditional second Sunday in May to Sunday 5 September. Seventy delegations gathered at the National Cemetery. On the grandstand stood the heads of state, ministers, senators and deputies, representatives of the President's Office, ambassadors including the new Ambassador of the State of Israel, H.E. Anna Azari, representatives of churches, institutions, initiatives and of course representatives of the Jewish Community of Prague and the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic. After the opening Czech anthem, performed by opera singer Edita Adlerová, the director of the Terezín Memorial Jan Roubínek welcomed the guests. The main speech was delivered by Pavel Rychetský, a signatory of Charter 77 and Chairman of the Constitutional Court. Hanuš Hron spoke on behalf of the survivors and living witnesses. As always, a Christian prayer followed, after which Chief Rabbi Efraim Karol Sidon prayed for the victims of the Shoah. The ending consisted of a choral aria from Verdi's opera Nabucco. Afterwards, representatives of Jewish organisations went to the Star of David, where H.E. Anna Azari laid a wreath and the Jewish prayer was again said.

In 2021, thanks to the cooperation with the IDF, the Ministry of Defence of Israel and the Czech Republic, the Rabbinate of the JCP and Chevra Kadisha CR, the first and most important part of the long-planned mission to retrieve and transfer the remains of Martin

Davidovich, who perished in our country in 1948, to Israel for reburial was successfully completed on Monday 25 October 2021. The remains of Yechiel Michel ben Chayim Yehuda Davidovich, retrieved from the New Jewish Cemetery, were taken by an Israeli military special on Wednesday 27 October 2021 and reburied a day later on Mount Herzl, where the greats of Israeli history are buried.

On 28 November, a regular commemoration was held at the New Jewish Cemetery for those killed on the ship Patria. Chief Rabbi Karol E. Sidon said the prayer.

The lighting of the first Hanukkah candle at the Memorial of Silence at the Prague-Bubny railway station took place on 28 November at 18:00 with the appropriate motto Light of Victory, Light of Hope, Light of Memory... This time as well, despite the need to observe strict hygiene measures, many people, including several surviving witnesses, gathered at this historic site from where the first transports to Terezín began to leave eighty years ago. The traditional event was held in cooperation with The Memorial of Silence, headed by Pavel Štingl, and the Jewish Community of Prague, on behalf of which Chairman František Bányai spoke. The first candle on the new Hanukkah, designed by David Vávra, was lit and a prayer was recited by the Chief Rabbi of Prague, David Peter. He spoke about the holiday and emphasized that its main meaning is that it gives people hope. The event also included an expressive performance by an accordionist. “It is also a victory that we may finally be able to begin the reconstruction of the station into a memorial after many years of unsuccessful negotiations,” said Pavel Štingl. A total of 81,000 Jews were deported from Czech lands, 50,000 of whom were deported from this location.

V. Report on the Activities of Individual JCP Departments

1. Rabbinate

The powers of the Rabbinate include: ensuring all of the religious activities of the JCP, organising holidays, keeping a register of Jewish marriages and other documentation and issuance of relevant affirmations, supervision over the religious guidance and education of JCP members (regular religion classes from the Midrash and special courses), education of women (Rosh Chodesh party); supervision of acceptance of new members into the JCP, supervision of operation of ritual baths, making decisions in matters of Kashrut, issuing hechshers (certificates of compliance with Kashrut requirements), supervision of catering both

inside and outside the JCP, ensuring that synagogues are equipped, supervision of the condition of ritual items, responsibility for the used ritual items and their condition, co-decision-making on the use of consecrated buildings owned by the JCP, close cooperation with the Lauder Schools and the Bejachad citizen's association, and cooperation with the Czech Union of Jewish Youth. The Rabbinate is also responsible for the inspection of kosher foods at production facilities, composing a list of kosher foods for the needs of the JCP members, and for the operation of the New Jewish Cemetery and the Old Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov.

The Rabbinate publishes a monthly supplement to *Obecní noviny* titled *Rabínské listy* (Letter from the Rabbi). Currently, continuous online lectures are underway at JCP Midrash, such as an introduction to Judaism, Gemara, Halacha, Mishnah and Maharal.

Preparations for a Bar and Bat Mitzvah are also underway.

Chief Rabbi of Prague: David Peter

Head of the Rabbinate: Lior Sharafi

Rabbis: David Peter (Chief Rabbi of Prague), Menachem Kalchheim (responsible for Kashrut), Efraim K. Sidon

Rabbinate Secretary: Dagmar Dushinsky

Kashrut Coordinator: Chaim Kočí

Cantors: Bryan Wood (Old-New Synagogue)

Teachers in Midrash: r. Michael Dushinsky, r. Efraim K. Sidon, r. David Peter, Zeev Breiner

Mashgiachs: Václav Bittner, Marie Goldbergerová, Jakub Peter, Milan Walter, Eva Kočová

Balanit in the Mikveh: Dagmar Dushinsky, Marta Polakovičová, Eva Kočová

Shameses: Andrej Weissman (Old-New Synagogue and Tall Synagogue), Milan Walter (Jerusalem Synagogue), Václav Peter (Hagibor Social Care Facility)

Prayers: Daily morning and afternoon prayers are held in the Tall Synagogue on an irregular basis due to the pandemic, Sabbath and holiday prayers are held in the Old-New, Jerusalem and Tall Synagogues.

The weekly evening prayers, Kabbalat Shabbat and Havdalah were held online.

Kashrut: we regularly provided kosher meals from JCP catering facilities - Shalom Restaurant, Lauder Schools, Hagibor). We also performed daily kosher supervision of the Mamacoffee café network. Cooperation with the King David Hotel was renewed. The kosher supervision of Terpet's Trdelník and the ChocoCafé and Cafe Ebel cafés continued on a regular basis. In 2021, a total of 21 special kosher productions were supervised by our

mashgiachs for Extrudo Bečice, a. s., which again meant an increase in production volume compared to previous years. Special production also took place under our supervision at the company Jan Becher - Pernod Ricard. Although the year 2021 was marked by a partial economic downturn, we managed to develop our cooperation and make audit visits to 4 new companies and strengthened cooperation with our traditional partners in the field of kosher certification.

Cooperation with the Le Caveau and Mansson bakeries based in Prague continued in order to provide basic food for our members. The assortment of basic foodstuffs was supplemented by cooperation and supervision of dairies Lacrum Velké Meziříčí (Eidam cheese), Polná (steamed cheese, Balkan cheese, Zlatá Praha), Příbyslav (Hermelín) and Tatra Hlinsko. Cooperation and supervision also took place with United Bakeries, Penam, Spak (mayonnaise, mustard, ketchup), Agrimex Vestec and Agro Jesenice (frozen fruit and vegetables), Nowaco (frozen fish), BonaVita (breakfast cereals) and Nominal (gluten-free instant porridge and bread mixes).

Circumcisions: 2

Bar Mitzvahs: 9

Bat Mitzvah: 1

Weddings: 1

Deaths: 27

Funerals: 12

New members: the JCP accepted a total of 31 regular members for 2021, as well as 11 holders of extraordinary status and renewed the membership of 8 persons.

Memorial and commemorative events: the representatives of the Rabbinate attended 6 events

Lecturing: online daily teaching of Judaism at JCP Midrash, Rosh Chodesh party for women.

New Jewish Cemetery

The New Jewish Cemetery (NJC) is a protected historical building. Since it is a cemetery that has been used continually for the funerals of deceased persons of the Jewish faith since 1890, it requires constant and increasingly costly care. Operation of this cemetery and the urn depository are subject to the regulations for non-public cemeteries applicable as of 1 January 2002 and by the religious customs of the Jewish community.

In 2021, there was a minor increase in the number of funerals with a total of twelve taking place. Funerals have always been arranged in accordance with orthodox religious practice, but at the same time with a strong desire to create the most welcoming environment for the bereaved, who are often not practitioners themselves. Conducting traditional funerals therefore also involved talks with the bereaved before and after the funeral, assisting in dealing with the authorities and, last but not least, the ritual preparation of taharas for the deceased.

Sixteen urns were also placed during this period, depending on the practice and wishes of some of the dying and survivors, either in special urn graves or, in rare cases, in existing family graves. These burials were also carried out with the utmost reverence and with the addition of spiritual content if the survivors agreed.

In 2021, only 4 meetings were held to mark death anniversaries and the erection of new headstones. The low frequency of these anniversary events was due, among other factors, to pandemic restrictions and problems with international arrivals. Traditional commemorative acts were held, led by the commemoration of the anniversary of the Patria boat tragedy

All mourning and anniversary occasions took place in compliance with all current anti-pandemic measures.

The NJC Ritual Administration cooperated with Matana a. s. on the maintenance of the greenery and the gradual renovation of damaged gravestones including the addition of missing gravestones. Significant attention was paid to removing the ivy from the overgrown trees and clearing the sectors of weeds and resistant grasses. The new cemetery database was continuously updated to correspond as closely as possible to the actual situation.

In 2021, the new Sector 24 began to be actively used.

Close cooperation continued with Chevra Kadisha Czech Republic, which is an important partner for cooperation in the field of ritual matters associated with cemeteries and burials. Members of Chevra Kadisha are also actively involved in the creation of the necessary Minyan, they visit the sick, participate in the ritual preparation of the deceased and assist in other ritual acts.

The NJC Ritual Administration supervised the continuation of preparations for the opening of the non-public burial ground in Brandýs nad Labem. The Bejt Simcha group was negotiated with as a partner to provide for the ritual needs of this burial site. Volunteers from its ranks began to be trained at the end of the year for the future ritual preparation of the deceased before burial.

In November 2021, a long-prepared and carefully planned event took place consisting of the retrieval of the remains of the Israeli soldier Martin Davidovich, who tragically died in 1948 in the Czech territory and was buried at the NJC. The event took place with the cooperation of the JCP Rabbinate, Chevra Kadisha Czech Republic and the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic and Israel. The successful handling of this event certainly brought prestige and strengthened our cooperation with the military forces of the State of Israel

We provided consultations to individuals and educational institutions and a number of guided tours were held during the year. The cemetery building was involved in the Day of Jewish Monuments project and Prague 3 events.

Three-Generation Community Centre (TGCC)

In 2021, the TGCC is now in its second year as part of the Rabbinate and works closely to develop educational and cultural activities, in particular activities for families, children, and teenagers. Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, just as last year, some events were cancelled, reduced or moved to outdoor activities. For the same reason, contact between Hagibor clients and children and visitors was kept to a minimum; all events were held separately.

The Three-Generation Community Centre worked closely with the Lauder Schools and Kindergarten, Bejachad, FJC, Chinuch associations, Hakoach and Beit Simcha.

The TGCC events in 2021 were funded by the JDC, JCP, FHV and Prague City Hall.

The biggest events were:

- Tu BiShvat - outdoor battle game at Stromovka
- Purim - Purim detective game in the Old Town
- Megilat Esther reading in the Old Synagogue, programme for children
- Pesach - Pesach escape gam
- Yom Ha'atzmaut - Zoom meeting with the Israeli ambassador
- Shavuot - children's celebration
- Shabbat together again, farewell Shabbat
- Rosh Hashanah celebration - New Year's celebration with workshops for children at the JCP
- Decoration of the sukkah combined with workshops
- Simchat Tora - celebration for families and children

- Hanukkah - Hanukkah celebration at the JCP at several events: joint lighting of lights via Zoom, Hanukkah workshops for children, battle game
- Baking together with the children from Bejachad
- Regular Rosh Chodesh parties for women

2. JCP Social and Medical Facilities

The main aim of the work of the facilities is to provide social and medical services at a professional level according to the individual needs of users. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 2021 was also a specific year for social and health services.

The target group of all of the provided services are people in need, with special attention paid to the needs of survivors of the Shoah.

The individual facilities work in mutual cooperation and are divided according to the service user target group and type of social or medical service. These include:

1. Ezra Comprehensive Home Care - social and medical care in the field,
2. Social Department - social activation services for senior citizens and persons with a medical disability, community social work for JCP members,
3. Care service at the Charles Jordan Pension,
4. Hagibor Social Care Facility, day care and Relief Services - residential and outpatient social care,
5. Vehicle Transportation Centre,
6. General Practitioner Centre - medical care.

2.1. Ezra Comprehensive Home Care

Ezra Comprehensive Home Care (hereinafter Ezra CHC) is a non-state medical facility and registered in-field “Personal Assistance” social service. Since 2002, it has been providing to the users of the service an interconnected form of medical and social care in their natural social environment according to individual needs. The main aim of this comprehensive care is to support and extend the life of users in their own home environment for as long as possible, and safely.

Services were provided to those in need - users with reduced independence due to age, chronic illness or medical disability whose situation requires the help of another person.

Comprehensive social and medical services were provided to clients in their natural social environment in the activities that they need and, with special attention focused on

Shoah survivors, erstwhile victims of Nazi violence, whose personal goals are rooted in Jewish traditions and roots.

Personal Assistance services were provided within the City of Prague for 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year according to the individual needs of the clients.

In 2021, 124 clients were cared for by Ezra CHC. These clients were provided with social, medical and occupational-therapeutic care.

Comprehensive services provided by Ezra CHC in 2021:

- home medical care - expert medical care according to specialisation 925;
- social care services - basic social consulting and provision of personal assistance pursuant to Section 39 of the Social Services Act No. 108/2006 and Decree No. 505/2006 Coll., Section 5;
- occupational therapy - expert medical care pursuant to Decree No. 55/2011 Coll;
- compensatory aid rental.

The costs for the services were financed using several resources - the JCP, Claims Conference grant, state and private grants and subsidies, health insurance companies, FHV grant, financial assistance from the Association for Persons Affected by the Holocaust, and client deductibles.

In 2021, client care continued to be impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Ezra CHC staff provided unrestricted services despite all the adversity the pandemic caused. This made us all the more committed to contributing to the improved mood of our clients, as well as Ezra CHC staff and supporters. We hope that this was also possible thanks to our benefit concert in October 2021. The entire audience was delighted by the performance of the Pueri Gaudentes Boys Choir and the masterful performance of the organist Vaclav Peter. A recording of the concert can be found on the YouTube channel.

The following persons worked in the Ezra CHC team led by Director Ing. Eva Jelínková: head nurse, nurses, social workers, personal assistants, occupational therapists and administrative workers. In 2021 the team consisted of 27 employees.

More information is available on the JCP website: www.kehilaprag.cz.

2.2. Social Department

The Social Department provided two social services in 2021:

- social activation services for seniors and people with disabilities,
- care service.

Social activation services for senior citizens and persons with medical disabilities are mainly intended for persons belonging to the Jewish community and their close families who find themselves in a negative social situation either due to reasons of age, loss of independence, illness, crisis situation or a health condition.

The following activities are provided as part of these services:

Social consulting was primarily related to information in the area of compensation, social services, social allowances, work consultations and the possibility of follow-up services.

Social workers also provide assistance with writing and submitting claims for compensation, social benefits, and the handling of other official matters. They mediate health and social services and help with the home care reimbursement agenda from the Claims Conference grant. The counselling was provided in the Town Hall building, and assistance in dealing with the authorities and institutions and with the personal affairs of the clients was done in the field at the relevant offices or at home.

Dusiach Help - psychotherapeutic services, crisis intervention over the phone and in person, memory training and brain jogging, positive thinking training.

Health Club -exercise at the Charles Jordan Pension, individual physiotherapy at home and at the JCP Town Hall, trips and outdoor walks, reconditioning and wellness stays (Hejnice, Vysočina, Šumava).

In 2021, a **total of 134 persons (107 women, 27 men)** utilized these services and 5,300 hours of direct care were provided.

Volunteer programme for local volunteers and volunteers from abroad. The programme is accredited by the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic and its main activities primarily include the Miriam Volunteer Café in Klub Na balkoně, house calls to clients by volunteers at the Charles Jordan Pension and at the Hagibor SCF, and assistance at the Old Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov. During the course of the year, 44 Tmicha group volunteers worked more than 1,800 hours. In 2021, four foreign volunteers worked at the department - two from Germany and two from Austria. These young volunteers visit our clients on a regular basis and provide them with accompaniment during walks, small home help and lunch delivery.

The Social Department team worked in the following composition: centre manager, four social workers, psychotherapist, administrative assistant, financial assistant, volunteer coordinator, two physiotherapists and trainers.

Community social work for JCP members

In 2021, we expanded community social work due to the pandemic situation. During emergencies and restrictions affecting community members, the contact point at the Social Department became the centre of assistance and coordination.

The social workers gradually contacted all members of the community in the 65+ age group and in the endangered group - the sick, the lonely, and those in a crisis situation. We were able to get many volunteers who selflessly helped throughout the year by bringing lunches, sewing face masks, going shopping, or doing important errands for members at home. They also became heavily involved in helping the Pension and Hagibor, often supplementing the work of professional caregivers. Social workers, in cooperation with the general practitioner's office and mobile teams from the Central Military Hospital and Hospital na Františku, organized Covid vaccinations for more than 600 people from the Community. The majority of those vaccinated were seniors over the age of 65, as well as direct care workers and educators from the Lauder Schools. Vaccinations were given in three doses throughout the year.

Community social work supplements social services and is very important for the life of the Community and promotes solidarity and mutual assistance.

2.3 Care Service

The care service is provided in clients' homes in Prague and at the Charles Jordan Pension. The Charles Jordan Pension is another of the JCP Social Department projects and is intended for permanent housing of seniors and people with disabilities. In this five-storey building, there are 27 flats - studio apartments with a hallway and bathroom with shower and toilet, and two double studio apartments. The double studios are intended for two people - a married couple, or for one physically disabled person who needs numerous compensatory aids, and therefore also more room. One flat is used for short-term living and is intended for Social Department clients who, due to a sudden medical or social emergency, require social services to be provided to them for a limited time.

Clients also have available a social room, a multi-purpose gym and a bathroom with a washing machine, and they can also use the balconies and seating in the courtyard. The building is managed by Matana, a. s.

In 2021, clients at the Charles Jordan Pension were provided with care services and social activation services for senior citizens and for persons with medical disabilities. In terms of care services, they mainly consisted of help for persons taking basic care of themselves,

help in maintaining personal hygiene, help in care for a household, provision of meals, shopping, outings, and escorts.

Home medical care in 2021 was provided by DP Marie Jarošová and regular care from external Monada and Rehabilitace Praha physiotherapists.

In addition to the services in the Pension, the field care service was provided to another approximately 60 clients in apartments throughout Prague. The most frequent aid for these clients is to help with care for their household (shopping, cleaning), provision of food and accompaniment.

The care service is provided by two social workers and nine caregivers, and one caregiver also provides laundry service. The team also includes lunch delivery staff - a coordinator and employees who directly provide lunch to clients, as well as a cleaning employee. Services for clients in the field are available on business days from 8:00 to 16:00. The care service in the Pension is operated every day from 8:00 to 18:00.

In 2021, a total of **134 clients (106 women, 29 men)** utilized the care service and **11,724 hours of direct care** were provided.

2.4. Hagibor Social Care Facility

The Hagibor Social Care Facility (HSCF) is a social care facility that provides comprehensive social services.

The following registered social services were provided in 2021: Retirement Home with 47 beds, Relief Services with a capacity of 15 beds and a Day Care Centre with a capacity of 5 places.

The **Retirement Home** residential service offers permanent accommodation, full board, and social care pursuant to Section 49 of Act No. 108/2006 Coll., Section 15 of Decree No. 505/2006 Coll., and medical care to senior citizens in the scope under specialisation 913. The service is provided to senior citizens who, due to their age, impaired state of health and reduced independence, are no longer able to look after themselves in their natural environment and need the help of another person all day long.

In 2021, the services of the Retirement Home were used by a total of 51 clients, of whom 41 were women and 10 were men. A total of 9 clients were accepted in 2021, 16 clients died - 4 in the hospital and 10 at the HSCF. The average age of clients of this service was 92.

The residential **Relief Services** provide essential rest for families or persons caring for one of their members - a close person in the household. The clients of these services may be

either senior citizens who need the help of another person all day long due to reduced independence and impaired health, or adults with a medical disability who need the daylong help of another person. The scope of social care is stipulated by Section 44 of Act No. 108/2006 Coll., and Section 10 of Decree No. 505/2006 Coll. The maximum length of stay is three months.

A total of 42 clients used the Relief Services in 2021, 31 of whom were women and 11 men. Some clients used the Relief Services repeatedly, whilst a total of 7 clients went over to the Retirement Home services. A total of 4 clients died. The capacity of the relief beds was fully utilized. The average age of clients of this service was 89.

The outpatient **Day Care Centre** is intended for senior citizens who have reduced independence due to age or a medical disability, and persons with chronic mental illness whose condition requires the regular help of another person. Clients come to the centre from their homes. The service is provided on business days between 8:00 and 16:00. The scope of social care is stipulated by Section 46 of Act No. 108/2006 Coll., and Section 12 of Decree No. 505/2006 Coll.

The Day Care Centre had a maximum capacity of 5 spots in 2021. A total of 3 contracts were on record.

All the services are provided with special attention paid to the needs of Shoah victims and persons whose personal goals are based on Jewish traditions and roots.

Overview of provided activities and programmes:

Music programme with possible active participation, AAA (Animal Assisted Activities), Atelier Golem - art workshop, dance activation, individual activation, memory training, creative activities (filling sewn products, production of, for example bathbombs), cognitive training, literary and musical cafés, film meetings, café with a guest, lectures, readings, board games - individually, computer work - individually, moderated debates, celebrations of Jewish holidays, birthdays, openings, concerts, theatre performances, and trips. Shopping that included optional shopping.

The CDA also held special meetings with top representatives of the Jewish community of Prague in 2021, which had a positive response among both clients and staff. There was also a meeting with the Israeli Ambassador H.E. Daniel Meron. On this occasion, a meeting of clients and visitors took place in the garden with music and dancing, which was attended by HSCF staff, including its management.

In 2021, collaboration with the JCP Social Department continued, in particular in the volunteer area. The volunteering scheme has been divided to ensure that volunteers are deployed in all areas where possible. Engagement with volunteers is now on a more individual basis but very flexible in response to pandemic government measures. Together with the volunteers we discuss and choose the most optimal path for each of them. Volunteers visit clients in their rooms, accompany them on walks, play board games with them, read to them, keep them company and bring them birthday parcels. International students also had a significant contribution to volunteering at the HSCF. Several students from the Lauder Schools are now among the volunteers.

In 2021, the Day Activity Centre worked closely with **Bejachad** - for example, the children and teachers helped us beautifully decorate the dining room for the HSCF clients.

Due to anti-Covid measures, it was not possible to renew the cooperation between CDA and TGCC. For this reason, we have been arranging all celebrations and other events largely on our own with the help of other HSCF staff.

Among the largest events, which were mostly limited by the pandemic, were:

- Tu Bishvat celebration - internal small celebration for HSCF clients;
- Purim celebration - internal small celebration for HSCF clients;
- Pesach celebration - internal small celebration for HSCF clients;
- Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration - celebration of the establishment of the State of Israel - traditional Israeli food, music, dance. With a visit by H.E. Ambassador D. Meron;
- Rosh Hashanah celebration - New Year's celebration with a visit by Rabbi E. K. Sidon, internal small celebration for HSCF clients;
- Sukkot - internal small celebration for HSCF clients;
- Simchat Torah - Internal reminder for HSCF clients;
- Hanukkah - joint candle lighting with clients, internal small celebration for HSCF clients.

Other events organised by CDA:

Discussions:

Discussions with director J. Kačer, discussions with Rabbi E. K. Sidon.

Concerts and dance:

Concert of Helena Petráková, Tereza Rejšková Quartet, Naches Trio, Petra Rézová and Mr Šatoplet, concert of Mr Taussinger, concert of Ema Trávníčková, concert of the Ema Trávníčková Trio, Zdeněk Pilecký, Jerusalema Dance - Hagibor and Bejachad staff.

Exhibitions, trips and vernissages:

Trips: to the First Republic café Šlágr, to the synagogue in Brandýs nad Labem, to the Průhonice Park, by historical tram around Prague, and by the Blaník boat on the Vltava River. The opening of the Atelier Golem workshop project was postponed to February 2022 due to the pandemic.

Creative workshops:

Production of bath bombs, art techniques - introduction, art techniques: drawing, basics of watercolour, “smejvák technique (“wiping out and washing out” watercolour technique), light/shadow. Year-long project: lights and celebration (Purim/Hanukkah themes).

AAT

Daniela Hypšová (felinotherapy - Skype), Morning with Animals (Lenka Šilhanová).

List of CDA events:

28 January 2021 Tu BiShvat celebration

26 February 2021 Purim celebration

26 March 2021 Pesach celebration

14 April 2021 Creative workshop with clients: Production of bath bombs

16 April 2021 Creative workshop: creation (art techniques)

10 May 2021 Jerusalem Day - dance performance by Hagibor and Bejachad “Jerusalema Dance”

17 May 2021 Shavuot celebration

20 May 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký

25 May 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký

25 May 2021 Creative workshop: drawing

27 May 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký

1 June 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký

1 June 2021 Creative workshop: basics of watercolour

2 June 2021 Concert of the Tereza Rejšková Quartet in the dining room

3 June 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
3 June 2021 Singing in the Garden and the Jerusalema Dance on the occasion of the visit of the Israeli Ambassador
8 June 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
8 June 2021 Creative workshop: “smejvák” technique
10 June 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
15 June 2021 Creative workshop: mass, light, shadow
15 June 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
17 June 2021 Helena Petráková - bagpiper performance
18 June 2021 Ema Trávníčková, piano concert
21 June 2021 Trip to the First Republic café Šlágr
22 June 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
24 June 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
29 June 2021 Trip to the synagogue in Brandýs nad Labem
8 July 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
9 July 2021 Trip to Průhonice Park 1
13 July 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
15 July 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
20 July 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
23 July 2021 Trip to Průhonice Park 2
26 July 2021 Historical tram trip around Prague
27 July 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
3 August 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
5 August 2021 Blaník boat trip on the Vltava River
10 August 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
17 August 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
24 August 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
31 August 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
2 September 2021 Rosh Hashanah celebration with Rabbi E. K. Sidon
2 September 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
3 September 2021 Morning with animals (Lenka Šilhanová)
7 September 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
14 September 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
30 September 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký

5 October 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
7 October 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
11 October 2021 Koncert Naches Trio
12 October 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
14 October 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
19 October 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
2 November 2021 Concert of Petra Rézová and Mr Šatoplet
2 November 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
4 November 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
9 November 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
11 November 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
16 November 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
18 November 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
21 November 2021 concert of Mr Taussinger
Hanukkah - lighting Hanukkah candles with clients in the HSCF garden
23 December 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký
30 December 2021 Dance - Zdeněk Pilecký

The website HSCF <https://www.kehilaprag.cz/cs/dsp-hagibor> was up and running

Professional care

Multidisciplinary consultations

Multidisciplinary consultations concerning the development of the overall condition and individual needs of HSCF clients were held regularly once a week, or once a month for each client, but up to once a week if necessary. The multidisciplinary meetings maintained the option of a medical consultation with a geriatrician on pre-selected clients. These were usually clients who had experienced a significant deterioration in their health, and the geriatrician, therefore, suggested a different, at that moment most optimal and gentle method of nursing care, including possible palliative care. The system of the possibility of consilient consultation within the wider team, including physicians and with the participation of family members, also continued to work in a supportive way towards the families of the clients. The aim of the consultation was to inform the family of the client's health status and the details of the individual's follow-up care. In acute cases, an intervention consultation was convened.

Intervention consultations

Intervention consultations (immediately - up to 48 hours) were convened in the event of a serious problem in the client's care, the resolution of which usually could not be delayed. These conferences were attended by anyone and everyone who could be of assistance in resolving the problem, including the social worker, the head nurse, the manager of the Territorial Rescue Service Centre, the director, psychologist, sometimes the GP and geriatrician, psychiatrist, the client or family members.

Palliative care

We continued to provide palliative care to our clients as part of their mutual cooperation, the cooperation of their families, a general practitioner and a geriatrician. In addition, the possibility of professional consultation, cooperation and support is still provided at the organization Cesta domů, but it has not yet been utilized. In this regard, the professional experience of MUDr. Zdeněk Kalvach was still primarily utilized. In 2021, palliative care was set up for 10 clients.

Biography - life story

Putting together a client's life story is very time-consuming for both staff and family members. In 2021, thanks to the activity of some staff, it was possible to compile a life story for several clients.

Reminiscence

We have long worked with reminiscence (reminiscence cafes take place), which helps to use knowledge about a person's past to enrich his or her present. Reminiscence therapy revives positive experiences and their remembrance through various subjects and verbal and nonverbal communication. In 2021, both individual and group reminiscence took place with clients based on the development of the pandemic situation.

Healthcare system

HSCF has long collaborated with the General Health Insurance Company (VZP), the Military Health Insurance Company (VOZP), the Health Insurance Company of the Ministry of Interior (ZPMV), and the Occupational Health Insurance Company (OZP) and the Škoda Employee Insurance Company. It can be said that for health insurance companies VZP, VOZP, OZP and ZPMV, we have contracted all health care specialities (general nurse in social services, geriatrics, occupational therapy, physiotherapy).

For the speciality of Physiotherapy, unfortunately, only one hourly commitment is contracted by all health insurance companies (insurance companies do not want to contract

more hours, so three physiotherapists share one hourly commitment), and therefore physiotherapy is not profitable for health insurance companies.

Even in 2021, procedures were contracted in full according to the List of Medical Procedures with point values of 2021.

In 2021, we managed to establish a contractual relationship with VZP for the Occupational Therapy speciality. However, this speciality is shared with Physiotherapy and can only be reported using shared codes. Given that VZP only contracted one physiotherapist hourly commitment with us, which is shared by three physiotherapists, we agreed on reflection that the Occupational Therapy speciality would not be reported to VZP as it would reduce the number of hours to be reported to physiotherapists. It can be said that the many years of work to reach an agreement with VZP were not very successful, although VZP did accommodate us.

Professional collaboration with other entities

In 2021, cooperation continued with the JCP Social Department (volunteering) according to the applicable hygiene measures.

External staff provided services on the HSCF premises only under strict conditions: hairdresser services and pedicurist services.

Cooperation with secondary or higher education institutions continued according to the applicable hygiene measures.

- Secondary Nursing School and Nursing College in Prague, 5. května, Prague 4 - qualified general nurse
- Charles University, 1st Medical Faculty - occupational therapy
- Charles University, 3rd Medical Faculty - general nursing
- Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem - occupational therapy
- Secondary school - Waldorf lyceum - social practice

Professional employee development

Training of employees in social services and social workers is defined by the Social Services Act No. 108/2006 Coll. The planned training for 2021 was implemented as proposed. The training team of HSCF professionals worked according to the operational options. Regular supervision with PhDr. Zuzana Peterová were held. Having HSCF employees meet for relaxation and psycho-hygiene is a great challenge for us, which we are trying to gradually

fulfil, and which could also contribute to greater bonding of employees and prevention of burnout syndrome.

HSCF employee training above the set plan

18 February 2021 - Training in psychosocial interventions in the care of people with dementia

22 March 2021 - Rights and obligations in social services

11 March 2021 - An elderly patient in a hospital, long-term residential and home care: communication in hearing and cognition impairment

22-23 October 2021 - Follow-up course of coaching skills

21-26 November 2021 - Course for certified memory trainers II.

The Covid-19 pandemic at HSCF

In 2021, we made every effort in our individual actions to ensure that the Covid-19 pandemic does not return to the HSCF wherever possible. We consider the timely vaccination of clients and staff to be a great success, and it has been achieved through collaboration with the JCP and the General Practitioner. The admission of clients to residential services took place under specific hygienic conditions. For a number of clients, the GP once again set up a palliative care regime, as they were experiencing psychological distress. The frequency of visits was discussed and graded at each change in conditions in collaboration with the Hygiene Station. Only twice during the year were visits banned altogether, and the online visiting booking system was heavily used. However, most of the year was open for visits from our clients. We also experienced much more frequent indiscipline of visitors, which brought about major disagreements between the staff on duty and the visitors. We faced fear from staff who perceived a high risk of the infection being introduced. Therefore, we decided to have a face-to-face discussion between the director or the JCP management and a particular visitor, whereby the visitor in question was warned of the risks of non-compliance. All staff were required to wear an FFP2 respirator, rubber gloves and other protective equipment to carry out their work. We continued to provide regular psychological support to staff through a psychologist. Cooperation continued with public authorities (the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Prague City Hall, and the Prague Hygiene Station). At the end of the year, the operation of the isolation unit was reactivated for only one client, which we consider to be a great success compared to 2020. It can therefore be stated that thanks to the timely vaccination of clients with the third booster dose, there were no tragic deaths of clients at HSCF.

A number of measures were newly developed, and a number of measures had to be revised or reviewed. The following were carried out:

- checking of permanent measures,
- setting of new measures,
- changes to the standards in cooperation with the Prague Hygiene Station.

Checking of permanent measures:

- Isolation room check for a confirmed case of Covid-19, can be activated within 18 hours - see General Information and Instructions - Covid.
- Maintaining empty rooms for preventive quarantine of clients - measure cancelled due to it being unnecessary
- Maintaining the placement of hand sanitiser containers - the measure is ongoing.
- Intensive disinfection of surfaces and stress areas - the measure is ongoing.
- Intensive cleaning of common areas and client rooms - the measure is ongoing.
- Strict adherence to hygienically safe handling of laundry, even in the presence of other infections - the measure is ongoing.
- Ensuring the operation of the kitchen - sufficient supplies, menu preparation - the measure is ongoing.
- Strict adherence to hygienically safe waste handling - the measure is ongoing.
- Regular updating of the list of staff who have expressed their willingness to remain at HSCF in the event of quarantine - the measure, cancelled for lack of need, is governed by the current approach of the Ministry of Health.
- Increased supervision and active approach to hand hygiene in clients with cognitive impairment - the measure is ongoing.
- Adequate air ventilation in client rooms - the measure is ongoing.
- Wearing protective equipment with clients (FFP2 respirator, rubber gloves) - the measure is ongoing.

Setting new measures:

- quick vaccination of clients,
- quick vaccination of staff,
- ensure regular or universal testing of staff,

- ensure sufficient protective equipment for staff,
- ensure sufficient disinfectants,
- continue to provide psychological support to staff through a psychologist,
- create Covid measures and have them approved by the Prague Hygiene Station,
- setting up a flexible visiting system (reservation system),
- setting measures for visitors - only visitors who have fulfilled our important requirements (filling in an affidavit, taking their temperature, proving themselves through a negative antigen or PCR test, wearing an FFP2 respirator, hand disinfection) are allowed to enter,
- cooperation with the JCP Social Department - setting up cooperation with volunteers in the event of staff shortage,
- purchase of aids (laptop, tablet) and setting up a system of social contact between clients and their family members,
- checking of rapid activation of isolation spaces,
- introducing a new system of basic health and nursing care for clients, the so-called “Crisis File”,
- checking of the nutritional care system for clients,
- checking of the system of food distribution to clients (dining room, room, common room),
- establishing sufficient food supplies for clients.

Changes in standards in cooperation with the Prague Hygiene Station:

The Prague Hygiene Station approved the newly drafted operational addendums and Covid measures.

- Addendum No. 1 to the HSCF Operating Regulations,
- Addendum No. 1 to the Occupational Therapy Operating Regulations,
- Addendum No. 1 to the RHB Operating Regulations,
- HSCF Covid Measures,
- Disinfection Plan,
- General Information and Instructions - Covid.

Clients infected with Covid-19 at HSCF - overview

- number of clients infected with Covid-19: **2**
- of whom were hospitalized: **1**
- deaths of clients related to Covid-19: **0**

2.5 JCP Vehicle Transportation Centre

The JCP Vehicle Transportation Centre offers its services to members of the Jewish communities of the Czech Republic, JCP employees and members of associated groups.

The equipping of vehicles and operations of the centre are adapted so that primarily clients with restricted mobility can use the services, in particular seniors, for trips to the doctor, regular trips to the HSCF Day Care Centre and home again, to public offices, cultural events, and for trips and regeneration stays. The vehicles are also used for the delivery of kosher lunches to individual households.

The Vehicle Transportation Centre's services are linked to services provided by the JCP social and medical facilities, thereby sharing in the provision of comprehensive care for senior citizens.

Every client may book vehicle transportation at the facility that cares for him or her, or directly with the vehicle transportation dispatcher.

The head of the JCP Vehicle Transportation Centre in 2021 was Dr Radek Roule.

In 2021 the Vehicle Transportation Centre had two private cars, one with a platform and one minibus (16 seats). The platform minibus was sold in October 2021. One driver of the car transport centre handled client orders together with external contractors Profi Taxi, AAA Taxi, Taxi Kužel and Pragotour.

Collaboration with external carriers made it possible to cater to the travel needs of clients in the late afternoon and evening hours, on weekends and on public or Jewish holidays. External carriers mostly provided transport and lunch delivery as part of their orders,

The total costs of the centre in 2021 were CZK 1,657,271, and 1,296 orders were handled.

Vehicle transportation in 2021 was financed from the following sources:

7% - client payments and GG fund (in 2020 - 17.5%),

91% - JCP centres (in 2020 - 59.5%),

1% - external clients outside of the JCP (Bejachad, the Federation of Jewish Communities, TI etc.; in 2020 - 1%),

1% - JCP (i.e., to the extent of economic losses; in 2020 - 22%).

The largest costs were incurred for lunch deliveries (80% , i.e., CZK 1,333,249; in 2020 - 53%) and for clients' trips (7% , i.e., CZK 116, 342; in 2020 - 30%). The cost of travel for both of these purposes is supported by the Claims Conference according to the rules of the currently announced projects.

2.6 General Practitioner

The main activities of the general practitioner for the JCP at Hagibor is the provision of quality individual care for registered JCP patients, clients of Hagibor SCF and employees as part of the facility care system.

The office of the general practitioner works full time. Care was provided by MUDr Přemysl Šubrt, MUDr. Karin Taussig and nurse Kateřina Čítková.

The office currently cares for 1,660 patients, 855 of whom are registered.

The office has three basic pillars of care on which it currently bases its work:

Operation of a classic general practitioner's office for adults

Every day we provide medical, preventive, visiting and occupational care for patients at the Hagibor doctor's office. We perform daily blood sampling, and for patients, we provide basic CRP monitoring, swabs, etc. We have contracted new services with health insurance companies and thus offer the possibility of regular monitoring of uncomplicated metabolic diseases (diabetes, thyroid disorders...).

Care for the residents of the Charles Jordan Pension

This care is provided through regular visits every week with the possibility of checking the health status of the residents who need or require it. Here, the procedure is coordinated with home care agencies (Ezra, Jaroš, s. r. o., Monada), the Social Department and the on-site care service.

Care for clients at Hagibor SCF

We make daily visits where we check the health status of clients whose health has deteriorated or need their treatments to be adjusted.

We collaborate in a multidisciplinary manner - i.e., with occupational therapy, rehabilitation and social workers and other representatives of various medical specialities.

Since the spring of 2020, one of the main activities has been the Covid-19 disease, which also affected Hagibor SCF and abundantly patients of the doctor's office during the autumn of 2021. As of September, it started first in cooperation with a hygienic station with regular testing via PCR tests of Hagibor employees and clients, and since November, regular weekly

testing has been underway using antigen tests. In 2021, a total of 368 patients were sent for PCR tests from the doctor's office, of which 87 were positive. A total of 335 antigen tests were done at Hagibor SCF before 31 December, all with negative results.

3. Library and Information Centre, Pre-archival Care Centre

The Library of the Jewish Community of Prague is a public library that serves not only members and staff of the community, but also readers from the general public.

In 2021, the library was hit hard by savings measures associated with the effects of the pandemic, librarians' hours were reduced and cancelled, and visiting hours were restricted. From the original four visiting days, library opening hours were reduced to just four hours twice a week. Despite this, the library has proved to have loyal readers who come regularly. This year 101 readers visited the library, 12 of whom were new registrants. A total of 250 books were borrowed. As a public library, we also made two interlibrary loans this year.

For our library, we purchase, process and lend out books by Jewish authors and books with Jewish themes, primarily fiction, but also professional literature including Judaica and topics related to the Holocaust. This year, the library purchased a total of 122 new books which were processed and included in the library collection. Of these, 103 titles were purchased and 18 titles were donated. This year, we have purchased 3 new additions for our child readers, and the children's bookcase has a total of 95 titles

Readers are regularly informed about new books through *Obecní noviny* or the library website, where we publish our newly purchased books once a month. In the comprehensive catalogue of the Czech Republic on the website of the National Library, it is possible to verify whether we have the required title in our collection and under what signature it is stored.

This year we did not proceed with the retirement of older titles due to a lack of time and staff capacity. Therefore, we will be urgently looking for some suitable space to deposit older and less desirable books to make room for new additions.

The role of the **Information Centre** (hereafter IS) is to search for answers to questions that come to the Community or directly to the IS. The queries are varied and often include information about survivors. More recently, they have consisted of documents needed for the Stolpersteine, or Stones of the Disappeared. There are also enquiries related to the still pending restitution proceedings. Several memorial plaques have been unveiled, for which we have provided documents. Among the more complex searches is the search for living descendants. Thanks to the Geni World Family Tree, the searches are mostly successful. The

IS processes the daily newspapers and selects news items from them that relate to the Community's activities or other items of interest. Once a week, a selected list of news is sent out to those interested.

In 2021, the Pre-archival Care Centre took over a total of 13 bm of documents in nine handovers for deposit in the depository. As in previous years, in 2021 the largest volume of documents was handed over from the Economic Department and the Payroll Accounting Department (a total of 8 bm). The Social Department handed over 2.9 bm. The remaining centres (i.e., the restaurant, secretary's office, doctor and fundraising) handed over a total of 2.37 bm.

The Centre cooperated in 2021 in answering the questions that were addressed to the KIS Centre. It also dealt with requests to locate and produce the documents referred to it by individual JCP centres or departments. Namely, in 2021, these included the Rabbinate, fundraising and the tourism coordinator.

At the end of the year, the Centre was asked to prepare an opinion on the Jewish collections in the Czech archives.

In addition to the above-mentioned regular activities, the Pre-Archival Care Centre was entrusted with extraordinary tasks. The first of these is the creation of the signature regulations of the Jewish Archives in Prague. A considerable part of 2021 was devoted to its preparation, specifically to its fifth version. The fourth draft, submitted in February, had to be completely revised after comments from the JCP Chairman. The second task was to work with the HSCF to update their internal rules on data protection.

Personal data in archives was also the subject of an online workshop held on 9 November 2021, which the JCP archivist attended.

Eva Fantová is the head of the Library, the Information Centre and the Pre-archival Care Centre.

4. Shalom Restaurant

The JCP Food Centre operates the Shalom Restaurant and a kosher shop.

The Shalom Restaurant is one of the best kosher meat restaurants in the Czech Republic. It regularly provides lunches Monday through Friday for JCP and FJC members, JCP staff, guests and groups including international visitors, and also cooks Shabbat and holiday meals. As part of the services of the Social Department, with which the Food Center

works closely, it also provides regular take-out lunches for clients of the Social Department, many of whom are residents of the Charles Jordan Pension. Another activity of the kosher kitchen is the preparation of refreshments for in-house events, for affiliated Jewish organizations and for private individuals.

In 2021 the restaurant was closed to the public most of the time due to the Covid situation and its operation was severely restricted. In 2021, the restaurant had ten employees and prepared a total of 16,439 meals, of which 35 were for tourists.

The kosher shop provides kosher goods of the highest quality. It has a wide range of kosher beef and poultry, meat products, cheese, sweets and snacks. The store also organizes the distribution of kosher goods to other communities and Jewish organizations in the Czech Republic. During the Pesach holidays, it is the main seller of Pesach goods and does its best to meet the needs of JCP members.

In 2021 the head of the Food Centre was Marek Holík.

5. Financial Department

In 2021, the Financial Department performed all the necessary duties of a legal entity. It employed six permanent full-time employees in the following positions: Head of the Financial Department, Head Accountant, Wage Accountant, two financial accountants and a cashier. An external expert provided IT management.

6. Security Department

The year 2021 was marked in many ways by the continuing Coronavirus epidemic. As a result of anti-epidemic measures taken by the state and as a result of the necessary savings measures, the operation of the JCP was significantly reduced; for most of the year, a significant part of current activities were cancelled or moved online. Despite the unfavourable epidemic situation, security remained one of the priority topics of Community life. The Security Department (SD) of the Jewish Community of Prague therefore continuously worked to increase the resilience of protected buildings and provided ongoing repairs, revisions and new projects involving technical elements of physical security. In addition to conceptual and planning activities, the SD cooperated with all of the JCP centres and departments, with many other Jewish associations and organisations, as well as with state and community institutions, under whose responsibility security falls.

As part of crisis preparedness, an experiential first aid course for JCP and Lauder School staff was successfully implemented. The course, which took place over six dates, was funded by a grant from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.

In relation to the development of activities in the virtual environment, the SD dealt with a new type of threat, whilst at the same time being intensively devoted to the systematic collection of data on anti-Semitism in the Czech Republic. In 2021, almost 1,100 incidents with an anti-Semitic subtext were recorded, primarily in the online environment. Many of these incidents have been linked to the Coronavirus epidemic and to various conspiracy theories. In a year-on-year comparison over the past five years, a constant increase in the number of anti-Semitic manifestations is evident.

Through the SD, the JCP continued to participate in the fulfilment of the aims of the *Memorandum on Cooperation in Providing Security to Jewish Institutions (soft targets)*. The Memorandum was concluded on 5 April 2016 between the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, the Police of the Czech Republic and the City of Prague as one party, and the Federation of Jewish Communities, JMP and Chabad Lubavitch as the other party. It was possible to continue in the good practice of coordinating joint security activities mainly during important Jewish holidays, and such coordination is connected to the Memorandum.

Security officers served a total of approximately 20,000 hours in 2021. In addition to the routine operation of independent protected JCP buildings and holiday and sabbatical worship, the SD provided security for more than 100 community, religious and public events.

7. Operations Department

The main tasks of the Operations Department include:

ensuring the trouble-free operation of the organization's equipment and the proper condition of buildings directly used by the JCP, ensuring the periodic course of inspections of technical equipment and carrying out inspection and control activities in fire prevention and occupational safety.

The Operations Department coordinates the work performed by Matana and collaborates in project preparation.

The Operations Department collaborates with JMP on the registration and loans of collection items and provides technical and staff social and cultural events for the JCP. The Operations Department also ensures the purchase of technical and protective material

In addition to its usual activities, the Operations Department produces audiovisual works from JCP cultural events.

VI. Matana, a. s.

(photo from Matana)

Matana, a. s.

Registered office: Malá Štupartská 1/646, Prague 1

Company ID No: 41 69 12 11

Matana, a. s., whose exclusive and sole owner is the Jewish Community of Prague, operates as an independent commercial company separated from its founder. The company is headed by a Board of Directors. The General Meeting consist of a sole shareholder, the Jewish Community of Prague, which also appoints the company's Supervisory Board.

Implementation of the decisions of the Board of Directors and the General Meeting is provided by the company director with a team of employees. The average number of employees in 2020 was 25, of whom 3 were managers.

Board of Directors: Ing. František Tomášek, BSc. - Chairman

Ing. Mojmír Malý

Mgr. Alice Güttlerová

Ing. Zdeněk Skála

Ing. Daniel Kosta

Supervisory Board: František Bányai - Chairman

JUDr. Tomáš Pezl

Tomáš Hruša

Once again, the main activity performed by Matana a. s. in 2021 was the management of the properties owned by its founder and 100% owner, the Jewish Community of Prague. Matana also performs this activity for the Jewish Community of Prague Foundation, the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic, and the Hagibor Foundation. This involves not only the management of so-called commercial buildings mainly in Prague but also the management of 273 Jewish cemeteries (181 belonging to the JCP), 40 synagogues (30 belonging to the JCP) and 150 cemetery buildings of all shapes and sizes throughout the Czech Republic.

The 2021 calendar year was marked by the Covid-19 epidemic, the consequences of which began to manifest themselves with varying degrees of intensity throughout the year, based on adopted government measures. The vast majority of commercial premises managed by Matana, a. s., are located in Prague 1. It is here that the consequences of the epidemic leading to the fatal decline of tourism were most pronounced, for the second year in a row. Mostly affected by the crisis were hotels, restaurants, clubs, fitness centres and various retail stores. The fall in rental income for the past year compared to 2020 amounted to CZK 3,540,000. Compared to 2019, revenues were down by CZK 17,669,000. In principle, 2021 was the same as 2020 if we take into account that the revenues for the first quarter of 2020 were standard (the pandemic did not start until the end of March 2020).

Non-residential premises

In 2021, several clients terminated their leases due to pandemic-related problems but we managed to find replacements for all but one of them. Matana has continued its strategy to retain current tenants, the vast majority of whom we have long-term relationships with. We continued to provide rent discounts and tried to set the rent levels to take into account possible government support so that our tenants can survive economically. The spring of 2022 brings with it mild optimism when it comes to the pandemic. It is almost certain that tourism will not return to its original level for a long time; the summer months of 2022 will provide a better picture. The effects of the war in Ukraine are difficult to estimate for the time being. As of the date of this report, the Czech Republic is visited by tourists from neighbouring countries, with Russians, Asians and US citizens being particularly absent.

Apartments

Rental income in Prague in 2021 was stable with a slightly increasing trend, as the Coronavirus pandemic did not affect this segment of the market. We expect that the sharp rise in interest rates leading to higher mortgage prices will gradually lead to an increase in rental housing prices.

In 2021, we continued with repairs of vacated apartments. The repaired apartments were subsequently newly rented for higher rents. A total of CZK 4,185,000 was spent on repairs of 6 apartments owned by the JCP in 2021. From 2021 onwards, the cost of unscheduled refurbished apartments is part of the cost of the approved budget and is not drawn from the JCP reserve.

Rental income from residential and non-residential premises in the amount of CZK 73.706 million was 2.68% lower compared to the approved budget for 2021.

Total revenues amounted to CZK 74 million, without counting subsidies. This amount also includes insurance benefits and other income. Revenues were therefore 2.63% lower than the approved budget.

The construction activity plan for 2021 was designed to be as economical as possible due to the ongoing pandemic. Basically, necessary maintenance and emergency repairs were carried out in addition to housing repairs. In terms of investments, the only significant event was the ongoing reconstruction of the synagogue in Čáslav by the tenant, at a cost of CZK 1.1 million. Compared to the plan, there was a total saving of CZK 7,290,000 in construction activity.

There was an overall saving of CZK 7,717,000 in the costs of the JCP tax centres.

Activities of the BCA

New Jewish Cemetery (NJC) - the activities of the technical management of the cemetery were adversely affected by the Coronavirus crisis in 2021 and some of the planned activities had to be postponed or reduced for cost-saving reasons. As in the previous year, the most important event was the next stage of a long-term project to save the tombstones that are in a static state of emergency, and the overall revitalization of greenery also continued. Part of the costs related to these works were covered by subsidies and donations in the total amount of CZK 2.53 million (Capital City of Prague, Prague 3 City District, Czech-German Future Fund and 10 private donors). Routine maintenance of the cemetery area and buildings was simultaneously carried out, mainly by our own staff. The total costs incurred for these activities amounted to CZK 4.65 million with an actual drawing of 98.5% of planned JCP expenditures.

The extent of the originally intended savings for construction and restoration activities has been adversely affected by several circumstances, notably repeated storms causing damage to gravestones and tree foliage. Nevertheless, a saving of CZK 70,000 was achieved against the planned expenditures.

Old Jewish Cemetery in Žižkov (SŽHŽ) - In 2021, the most important event relating to the technical management and maintenance of premises was the restoration of 18 erosions of endangered historically valuable tombstones. Four of them are located in the vicinity of Landau's grave, while the others were selected from the oldest part of the cemetery on the east

side and date from 1747, from the time of the expulsion of Jews from the Prague ghetto, when burial in the Old Cemetery in Prague, Josefov, was not permitted. The remaining tombstones were chosen because of the serious threat of crust, which damages the cohesion of the stone.

The list of activities is supplemented by textual documentation of 1,200 tombstone inscriptions, primarily focusing on the identification of personal data of the buried and entering this data into an electronic database.

As in previous years, professional tree care was also carried out. Routine activities (mowing grass, removal of waste, leaves and fallen branches) were provided by our staff with the support of the NJC work platoon. Part of the total costs incurred in the amount of CZK 694,000, which were related to these works, was covered by an FHV contribution in the amount of CZK 100,000. The originally approved budget was not exceeded and with an actual drawing of 99.7% of planned JCP expenditure, a saving of CZK 2,000 was achieved.

Care for monuments outside of Prague

The Building and Cemetery Administration (BCA) is an independent department of Matana a. s., which primarily ensures care for Jewish monuments owned by the JCP located in an area about half the size of the Czech Republic. In their activities, BCA employees attempt to use subsidiary sources of financing as much as possible, mainly by obtaining funds from various subsidy programmes and donations.

The total volume of acquired subsidies, donations and other income during 2021 amounted to CZK 3,721,000, which represents 35.6% of annual expenditures totalling CZK 10,455,000.

The ratio of the sums of the received subsidies and donations against the available JCP funds (total budget minus administrative expenses) was 1.45, which means that each CZK 1 paid out from the JCP funds as a deductible for subsidies and donations brought in an extra CZK 1.45. The sum of received subsidies and donations reflects the great efforts made by BCA employees to gain such funding, the use of good relationships built over the years, and its subsequent administration. This amount consists of 64 separate entries, most of which reflect the very complicated administrative, negotiation and justification process.

The most significant construction and restoration projects in 2021 included the continuation of the gradual building and restoration of the cemetery premises in **Černovice, Golčův Jeníkov, Habry, Jindřichův Hradec, Kolín - Old Cemetery, Mořina, in Prague 5 at Smíchov-Malvazinky, and in Tučapy.**

Rescue, conservation or restoration work on selected tombstones was carried out on historically significant cemeteries which were violently damaged during the Nazi occupation and during the previous regime, and which are endangered today as a result of this by erosion, for example in **Benešov - New Cemetery, Brandýs nad Labem, Březnice, Čichtice, Čkyně, Hostomice, Hořepník, Hořice v Podkrkonoší, Hroubovice, Kamenice n. L, Kolín - New Cemetery, Kostelec nad Labem, Měchnov - Divišov, Mirotice, Mirovice, Nový Bydžov - Old Cemetery, Pardubice, Polná, Pouchov - Hradec Králové, Prudice, Přelouč, Přistoupim, Rychnov nad Kněžnou, Staré Město pod Landštejnem, Třeboň, Votice and Zběšičky.**

In addition to the above works, a number of other events took place, which were smaller in scope, but no less important. These mainly concerned the removal of unwanted vegetation and waste, emergency chopping, clean-up after natural disasters, healthy pruning of trees and creation of documentation (cemetery plans, photo documentation of tombstones, transcriptions and translations of epitaphs), and last but not least, the securing of technical operation of the synagogues renewed in the **10 hvězd** (10 stars) project (www.10hvezd.cz).

The originally planned BCA budget for 2021 was not exceeded, and a total saving of CZK 66,000 was achieved, representing a budget fulfilment of 99.06%.

VII. JCP Website

No changes were made to the JCP website in 2020. The website is divided into two levels - the public section offers not only general information about the JCP but also a selection from daily news and cultural events.

The section that is accessible only to JCP members, JCP special status holders and JCP employees, publishes minutes from management and representation meetings, important announcements, and an overview of events organized for members of the community. *Obecní noviny* and the *Letter from the Rabbi* in colour PDF format can also be downloaded here. You can view the Jewish Community of Prague website at: <http://www.kehilaprag.cz>.

The JCP is improving communication with its members - since 2018, members are informed electronically via e-mail and they receive a weekly newsletter each week. They are informed about social, cultural and religious events, and the activities of associations, and since 2021 they have also been receiving up-to-date information on the situation around the Coronavirus pandemic.

VIII. Grants, Subsidies and Donations provided to the JCP in 2021

Foundations and Institutions

a) with headquarters in the Czech Republic:

Czech-German Future Fund,
Federation of Jewish Communities,
Havdalah Team,
South Bohemia region,
Kraj Vysočina,
Prague City Hall,
Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic,
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic,
Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic,
Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic,
Prague District 1,
Prague District 3,
Prague District 4,
Prague District 6,
Prague District 10,
Moneta Money Bank,
Foundation for Holocaust Victims,
Oborová zdravotní pojišťovna,
Pardubice Region,
Rotary Club Prague City,
Sochnut,
Labour Office of the Czech Republic,
Public Benefit Society for Supporting People Affected by the Holocaust, Military Health Insurance Company, The General Health Insurance Company, Ministry of the Interior Public Health Insurance Fund, municipal councils of Golčův Jeníkov, Habry, Hradec Králové, Kolín, Polná, Žamberk.

b) with headquarters abroad:

Claims Conference (USA),

EFI, Educating for Impact (UK),
Huawei Technologies (Czech), s. r. o.,
Stillking Films, s.r.o.,
The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,
The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation (USA).

Individuals (donations above CZK 10,000):

Michal Arend,
Noam Asor,
Darius Asly,
Lenka Bock-Pozarová,
Klára Bojarová,
Michal Dostál,
Věra Dvořáková,
Václava Faltová,
Jiří Frankl,
Michal Frankl,
Eszter Gabor,
Martin Gerstman,
[Axel and Christa Guehl.](#)
Lenka Havlová,
Pavel Chabr,
Zdeněk Janovec,
Petr Janda,
Jitka Jonáková,
Vladimír Jonák
Renata Kašparová,
Bettina Kirnbauer,
Marie Konětopská,
Jakub Koranda,
Pavel Král,
Alexander Kravcov,
Jan Krušina,
Evan Lazar,

Katarina Lederer,
Hana Linhartová,
Anna Lounková,
Mrs Mrázová
Jan Neubauer,
Petr Neuwirth,
Tomáš Pasternak,
Blažena Petrlíková,
Jana Petrová,
Lucie Pokorná,
Jana Rejšková,
Vladimír Singer,
Zuzana Skálová,
Vladimír Stojé,
Kateřina Svobodová,
Linda Austin Thomer,
Rachel Tzouriel,
Jiří Vytlačil,
Ory Weihs,
Helena Wiener,
Charles Wiener,
Michael Wiener,
Rafael Zadjedel

and many others who did not wish for their names to be published.

Donors (donations up to CZK 10,000):

In 2021, the JCP received financial donations from more than a hundred donors, mostly for social purposes, repairs of Jewish cemeteries, or as donations focused on equipping the HSCF.

IX. Economic Results of the JCP in 2021

The document was discussed in the representation of the Jewish Community of Prague (JCP) on 13 June 2022.

The economic activities in 2021 can be considered good, despite continued low levels of tourism revenue. The trend of community-wide savings was maintained, but at the same time, the external economic environment made it necessary to increase the wages of health and social services employees. The community received significant inheritance income. The economy showed an **overall surplus of £13.3 million** in fulfilling all the basic tasks set out in the JCP budget for 2021.

On the basis of an overall evaluation of the financial results, supported by the accounting audit by Ing. Ivo Rambousek, KAČR No. 418, the economic results for 2021 were approved. The extra funds generated within the budget savings of **CZK 13.3 million** will be invested in the Large Scale Reconstruction Fund.

Overview of the economic results of the entire Community from the official profit and loss report:

Item in thousands of CZK		2021			
		Main	Financial	Total	Budget
B.I.	Operational subsidies	53 469	1 885	55 354	
B.II.	Contributions received	45 799	53	45 852	
B.III.	Revenues from special acts and for goods	31 957	93 618	125 575	
B.IV.	Other revenues	24 498	989	25 487	
B.V.	Revenues from property sales, clear. res. etc.	0	2 162	2 162	
B.	TOTAL REVENUES	155 723	98 707	254 430	224 080
A.I.	Consumed purchases and purchased services	42 201	25 473	67 674	
A.II.	Change inventory status and activation	0	0	0	
A.III.	Personnel costs	118 262	14 067	132 329	
A.IV.	Taxes and fees	329	487	816	
A.V.	Other costs	28 381	1 122	29 503	
A.VI.	Depreciation, property sold, Reserve creation	0	32 371	32 371	without depreciation *
A.VII.	Provided contributions	47	0	47	
A.	TOTAL COSTS	189 220	73 520	262 740	228 926
C.	Financial result before taxation	-33 497	25 187	-8 310	-4 846
	Income tax		8 669	8 669	9 071
D.	Financial result after taxation	-33 497	16 518	-16 979	-13 917

Commentary: Economic activities in 2021 incurred accounting losses of CZK 17 million. Compared to 2020, total losses were increased by CZK 13,2 million

Summary of development in the Community's assets (in thousands of CZK) - so-called balance sheet

Item	Changes between 2009 and 2019	Status as of 31.12.2019	Changes in 2020	Status as of 31.12.2020	Changes in 2021	Status as of 31.12.2021	Growth 21/20 in%
Assets							
Fixed intangible assets	817	1 670	0	1 670	0	1 670	100.0%
Fixed tangible assets	175 697	1 537 696	23 139	1 560 835	9 873	1 570 708	100.6%
Long-term investments	2 000	2 000	0	2 000	3 300	5 300	265.0%
Fixed asset adjustments	321 225	724 668	31 051	755 719	31 103	786 822	104.1%
Total fixed assets	-142 711	816 698	-7 912	808 786	-17 930	790 856	97.8%
Stocks	2 558	4 127	-75	4 052	-252	3 800	93.8%
Receivables	1 162 547	1 173 945	119 026	1 292 971	83 024	1 375 995	106.4%
Liquid assets	119 616	208 917	-35 116	173 801	18 899	192 700	110.9%
Total other assets	-782	2 001	-722	1 279	-308	971	75.9%
Cash and cash equivalents	1 283 939	1 388 990	83 113	1 472 103	101 363	1 573 466	106.9%
TOTAL ASSETS	1 141 228	2 205 688	75 201	2 280 889	83 433	2 364 322	103.7%

Liabilities							
Equity	21 614	1 033 132	-5 408	1 027 724	14 601	1 042 325	101.4%
Financial result	-11 198	17 489	-14 393	3 096	-11 406	-8 310	-268.4%
Own capital	10 416	1 050 621	-19 801	1 030 820	3 195	1 034 015	100.3%
Reserves	-6 244	0	0	0	0		-
Short-term debts	1 123 964	1 138 505	105 590	1 244 095	82 046	1 326 141	106.6%
Bank loans	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Other liabilities	13 092	16 562	-10 588	5 974	-1 808	4 166	69.7%
External capital	1 130 812	1 155 067	95 002	1 250 069	80 238	1 330 307	106.4%
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1 141 228	2 205 688	75 201	2 280 889	83 433	2 364 322	103.7%

Commentary:

The value of the Community's long-term movable and immovable property increased in 2021 by CZK 9.9 million to a total value of CZK 1,570.7 million. In combination with intangible assets and after deduction of depreciation, fixed assets total CZK 786.8 million; long-term investments amounting to CZK 5.3 million consisted of Matana, a. s. shares, of a cooperative share of CZK 3.3 million originating from inheritance; the balance of receivables in current assets increased by CZK 83.0 million year-on-year.

The community's equity in liabilities increased by CZK 14.6 million. Current liabilities increased by CZK 82.0 million. The economic result is CZK 8.3 million before tax. Liabilities are presented in their pre-tax form.

X. Auditor's Report

Auditor's report on the audit of the 2021 Financial Statement - reduced

Auditor's Report on Auditor's Statement

I. PURPOSE

This report is issued to document the auditor's statement on the verification of the 2021 Financial Statement in the "Annual Report of the Jewish Community for the period of 2021".

II. FORMAL REQUISITES

Recipient of the report

František Bányai
Chairman of the Jewish Community of Prague

Person authorized to act

on behalf of the accounting entity in the
matter of the audit

Ing. Michal Borges - Secretary

Accounting period:

1 January 2021 - 31 December 2021

Author of verification:

Statutory auditor
AUDIT FINANCO, spol. s.r.o.
U Trojice 1042/2
150 00 Prague 5
KAČR 418
Ing. Ivo Rambousek
KAČR 1262

III. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The verification was carried out on the basis of an agreement dated 27 January 2022 after approval of the auditor by the Jewish Community representation.

- The client is the statutory representative - Chairman of the Jewish Community
- Contact persons - Mgr. Karel Hrdina - Economist of the JCP
Milan Batovec - accountant of the JCP

IV. AUDITOR'S STATEMENT AND OPINION

The structure of the asset and financial situation in the prescribed financial statements is reported in accordance with the given and valid legal framework for financial accounting and accounting reports pursuant to provisions of Act No. 563/1991 Coll., on Accounting, and Decree No. 504/2002, by which are implemented certain provisions of the Act on Accounting, including the annex to the Financial Statement.

The verified Financial Statement for the 2016 accounting period gives, in all important aspects, a true and honest depiction of the subject of accounting pursuant to provisions of Section 7 (1) of Act No. 563/1991 Coll., on Accounting, as amended, and provides to authorized users reliable information about assets and liabilities, financial position, cash flows and the result of the economic activities after the tax obligation was determined and accounted for. Its conclusiveness was verified by an inventory check of assets pursuant to the provisions of Sections 29 and 30 of this Act.

2.2 STATEMENT

The above statement is considered a

STATEMENT WITHOUT RESERVATIONS

stamp
AUDIT FINANCO, spol. s.r.o.
(Illegible)

Prepared on: 23 May 2022

Auditor's signature (signature)

Auditor's report on the audit of the 2021 Financial Statement - reduced

Page 1

Basic Information about the JCP

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Company ID No. 00445258

data box of the JCP: pecaq88

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