



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

INSIGHT



Jewish Child
& Family Services

When emotional and behavioral disorders create problems, trying to fit in can feel like holding one's breath.



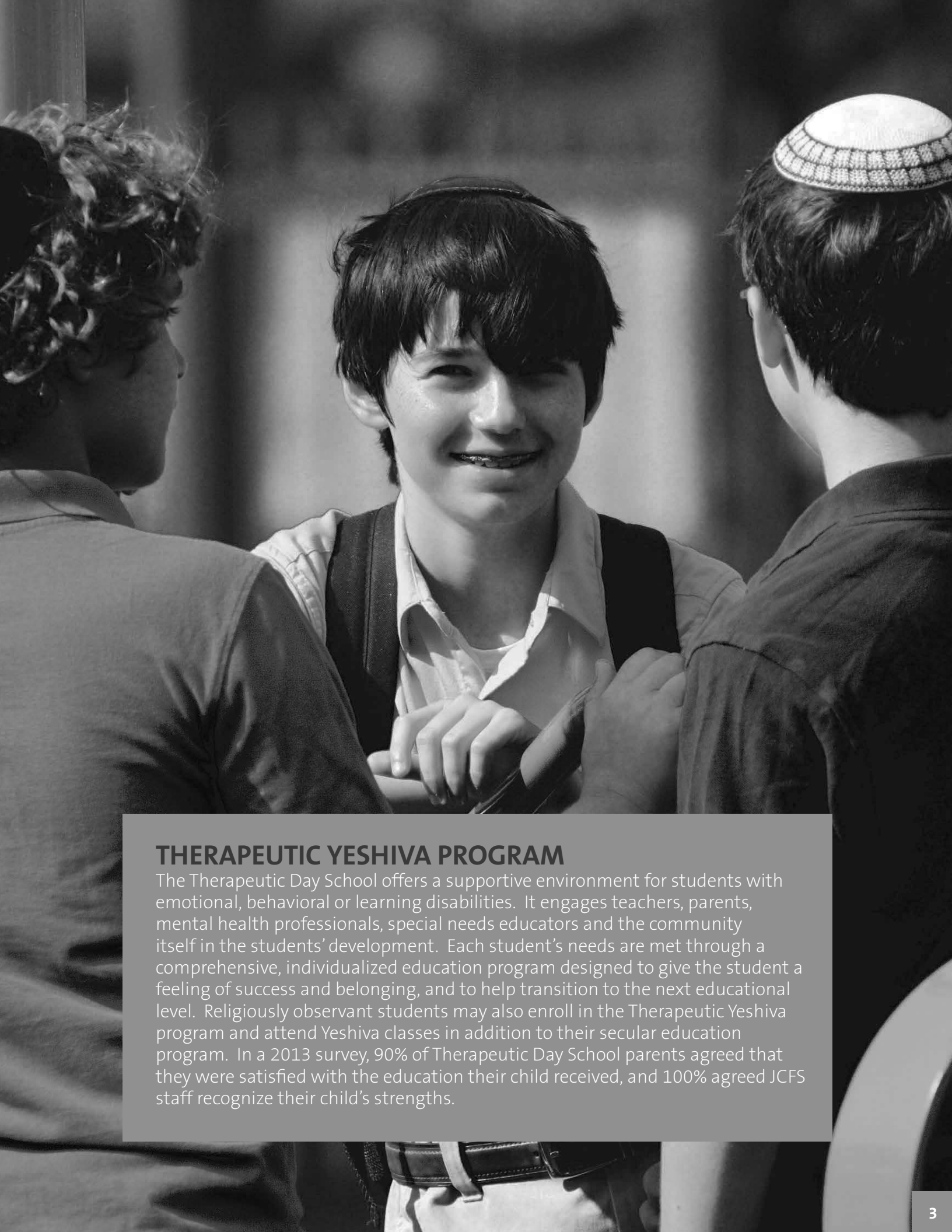
"Teachers and staff at JCFS get it – they see my son's challenges, help me address them and really want him to be successful. They understand that success can be measured in many ways. I'm so happy with JCFS."

– Therapeutic Day School parent

As a middle-school student at a Jewish Day School, Sam was prone to sullen moments spent with his head down and his voice silent, disconnected from his friends, and from his close-knit community. His anxiety attacks made him an outcast at school and his anti-depressant medication often left him unprepared for schoolwork. He didn't fit in, and he knew it. He needed help.

When Sam arrived at the Yeshiva Program at the Therapeutic Day School, he sat in class, hood over his head, literally and figuratively isolated from those around him. But soon Sam found that the Therapeutic Yeshiva was a place where he could be himself – imperfect, curious, temperamental and, over time, fearless. The Therapeutic Yeshiva provided him with opportunities to succeed and grow. Surrounded by a team of special education teachers, social workers, Rabbis and more, Sam went from being a stranger in his own school to a student whose peers embrace him. Today, Sam has been able to return and reintegrate into his home Jewish Day School, where he is a successful student. He's even looking ahead to studying at a local university.

Finding the right ***therapeutic environment*** can mean exhaling, with ***school and community success in sight.***



THERAPEUTIC YESHIVA PROGRAM

The Therapeutic Day School offers a supportive environment for students with emotional, behavioral or learning disabilities. It engages teachers, parents, mental health professionals, special needs educators and the community itself in the students' development. Each student's needs are met through a comprehensive, individualized education program designed to give the student a feeling of success and belonging, and to help transition to the next educational level. Religiously observant students may also enroll in the Therapeutic Yeshiva program and attend Yeshiva classes in addition to their secular education program. In a 2013 survey, 90% of Therapeutic Day School parents agreed that they were satisfied with the education their child received, and 100% agreed JCFS staff recognize their child's strengths.