



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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16th ANNUAL NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE LUNCHEON DRAWS CARING CROWD TO HELP FERD & GLADYS ALPERT JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE END THE CYCLE OF ABUSE IN ALL ITS FORMS

WEST PALM BEACH, FL – February 27, 2020 – More than 400 community members came together at the Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS) 16th Annual No Excuse for Abuse (NEFA) Luncheon chaired by Ilene Goldstein, Diann Mann, and Judith Rosenberg, on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts' Cohen Pavilion, 701 Okeechobee Blvd. in West Palm Beach.

Guests enjoyed boutique shopping from local vendors, including Elegant Hostess, Jodi Rose LLC, Marti Rosenberg LLC, and Three Girls Gifts, and were able to purchase signature event items that included scarves, neckties and color-changing umbrellas with butterfly motif; a collapsible tote bag, cashmere shawl and Tervis tumbler with NEFA design. Keychains made by clients of the Melvin J. & Claire Levine Jewish Residential Service (Levine JRS) were also available for purchase.

The featured guest speaker was Linor Abargil, a lawyer and former Miss Israel and Miss World, who is a sexual violence survivor and advocate. Lesser Lesser Landy and Smith PLLC was the Title Sponsor.

Additional sponsors include Platinum Sponsor Atria at Villages of Windsor Senior Living; Gold Sponsors Donald M. Ephraim for the Donald M. Ephraim Family Foundation, Jane and Arnold Lampert, Diann and Thomas Mann, Zelda and Allen²¹ Mason, and Minto Foundation; and Silver Sponsors Socki and Bruce Berg, Colleen Haggerty and Irv Seldin of Visiting Angels; Comiter, Singer, Baseman & Braun, LLP; Sheila and Alec²¹ Engelstein, Judith and Jack Rosenberg, Barbara and Peter Sidel, Wasser-Jiminez Group at Morgan Stanley, and Passport Publications and Media.

Film festivals and TV stations around the world play the 2014 Emmy award-nominated "Brave Miss World," a documentary about Abargil's life and speaking tour, in which she tells the story of her brutal rape while modeling in Italy, a mere month-and-a-half before being crowned Miss World in November 1998. After her attacker was sentenced to a 16-year prison sentence, she made a public statement before the nation of Israel, urging women to report rape and seek punishment for the perpetrators. Her web site, launched in 2008, encourages rape victims to speak out and take action. Her career is dedicated to representing women who are victims of sexual violence.

At the event, Alpert JFS CEO Marc Hopin welcomed the group and presented each of the co-chairs with a glass sculpture made by local artist Steve Funk, who is a new volunteer with Levine JRS; Alpert JFS Board President Michael A. Lampert was presented with a leadership award; Carol Shubs and Karen Berkner, co-chairs of The KOLOT (Hebrew for "voices") Committee, with a mission to end domestic abuse through educational outreach and awareness training in the community, announced this year's annual student poster contest winners; and teenage leaders who work to engage and

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educate their peers in the community about developing healthy relationships, building self-esteem, and understanding stereotypes to help prevent bullying and abusive dating relationships, staged real-life stories happening to teens across the nation every day; a survivor of abuse shared his personal story; and a live auction resulted in lucky winners who will be traveling to the Kentucky Derby, going on a shopping spree at The Colonnade Outlets, and enjoying a New York City getaway with hotel accommodations and restaurant reservations.

The Alpert JFS Domestic Abuse Program can assist people with identifying abuse, creating a personalized safety plan for victims and their children, and provide direction to local and national domestic abuse resources.

Established in 1974, Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS) is a nationally accredited service provider for children, adults, seniors, and Holocaust survivors. The non-profit, non-sectarian organization is a trusted leader, with a team of more than 175 highly skilled professionals delivering high-quality care to community members. Alpert JFS works to ensure the well-being of children and families, independence of older adults and quality-of-life for individuals with disabilities. For more information, visit www.AlpertJFS.org or phone 561-684-1991.

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