



## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **THE LORD’S PLACE LEARNS ABOUT “COPING WITH OUR NEW REALITY: SOCIAL DISTANCING WITHOUT ISOLATION” IN AN EXCLUSIVE VIRTUAL PRESENTATION BY FERD & GLADYS ALPERT JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE**

**WEST PALM BEACH, FL – June 25, 2020** – Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS) has been bringing community members together to share strategies, stay safe, and feel more empowered and connected during the COVID-19 pandemic. A group of employees from The Lord’s Place recently gathered virtually to attend “Coping With Our New Reality: Social Distancing Without Isolation,” an educational opportunity for those struggling with how to manage and cope with the barrage of changes and realities impacting their lives.

The exclusive presentation, facilitated by Licensed Psychologist Iris Kiner, Psy.D. and Clinical Director Elaine Rotenberg, Ph.D., helped participants uncover how to identify coping skills, and learn about available resources and how to connect if you feel “socially disconnected.”

The connection between Alpert JFS and The Lord’s Place was forged by The Honorable Geraldine (Jeri) Muoio, a consultant for Great Cities For All, former mayor of West Palm Beach, and a board member of The Lord’s Place, who said, “Whether you are an individual, a parent, a corporation, or a non-profit, support groups are needed to ensure that we are helping each other in these uncertain times. A free service like this is greatly needed.”

“The workshop provided a new frame of thinking about social distancing and the impact of isolation,” said The Lord’s Place CEO Diana Stanley. “We are committed to providing our staff with resources to navigate this unsettling time in our world. We are honored that we were able to partner with JFS as they shared their expertise in this clinical area.”

While Alpert JFS has always acknowledged and addressed serious situations surrounding mental health issues, the current health crisis has only exacerbated the need for services, and the agency continues to serve the community via virtual technology. Kiner and Rotenberg’s presentation is also a weekly drop-in discussion group on Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Registration is required; visit [www.AlpertJFS.org/events/coping/](http://www.AlpertJFS.org/events/coping/) to register. Other virtual group sessions offered during COVID-19 by the agency, open to the public, are: “**Coping With Our New Reality: Parent’s Edition**” on Mondays at 8:00 p.m.; a **Domestic Abuse Support Group** on Thursdays, from 9:00-10:00 a.m.; two **Family Survivors of Suicide** support groups, the first and third Wednesdays of the month for Lake Worth-area residents, and the second and fourth Tuesdays each month for residents of the West Palm Beach area, both from 5:00-6:30 p.m.; and a **Jewish Family Addiction** support group on Fridays from 12:00-1:30 p.m. Visit <https://www.AlpertJFS.org/virtual/> or call 561-684-1991 to learn more.

“Our Virtual Support Groups are an example of some good that is coming out of the pandemic,” said Alpert CEO Marc Hopin. “We are reinforcing established partnerships, and building new ones. Like The Lord’s Place, the Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce will be having an exclusive presentation of their own next month. We are continuing to build community each day of every month, offering hope while we deliver help.”

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If you are interested in having an exclusive group presentation, call the Alpert JFS Chai Line at 561-684-1991.

The Lord's Place, a social impact agency, has been providing housing, services, and solutions to break the cycle of homelessness for men, women, and families for 40 years. The West Palm Beach-based organization's web site address is <https://thelordsplace.org/>.

Established in 1974, Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service 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 200 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](http://www.AlpertJFS.org) or phone 561-684-1991.

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