

Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Nina Glaser, Communications Coordinator Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service Phone: 561-713-1908 (office) 561-909-7014 (cell) Email: Nina.Glaser@AlpertJFS.org

REACH OUT TO ALPERT JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE'S "CHAI LINE" FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES DURING CHALLENGING COVID-19 CRISIS

WEST PALM BEACH, FL – March 31, 2020 – Master's-level professionals at Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS) are just a phone call away at their "Chai Line" for community members in need of counseling, child psychology, senior services or community referrals. The goal of Chai Line ("chai" is Hebrew for "life") is to provide support to individuals and families – from children to teens, adults, seniors, Holocaust survivors and people with disabilities -- whatever their challenge, whenever needs arise.

"We are open for business at the Alpert JFS Chai Line," said Director of Intake, Assessment and Referral Olivia Tartakow. "The people who call us are so appreciative of reaching a human voice, rather than a recording, and thankful that someone is here to listen to them and offer direct guidance or facilitate referrals. Many out-of-town families have reached out to see how we can be of assistance to their elderly parents who should not be leaving their homes."

Alpert JFS continues to serve its clients, and is welcoming new clients, through Tele Mental Health appointments and Zoom videoconferencing. Services include counseling for all ages, child psychiatry, support groups, Holocaust Survivors Assistance, LifePlanning[™] for families of someone with a disability, and college scholarships and loans for Jewish students living between Boynton Beach and Port St. Lucie.

The support and guidance provided by Chai Line's professional staff often saves lives. Phone **561-684-1991** or email <u>www.AlpertJFS.org/contact</u> to leave a message; the team will respond as soon as possible.

More than 3,500 people of all denominations phone the Chai Line annually, looking for assistance with a myriad of challenges. A no-cost, in-depth telephone assessment with a Masters-level professional is provided for each caller; this customized consultation service identifies needs, develops a plan, handles intake for available services with Alpert JFS, and/or provides referrals to community resources. Partners include the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC); assorted home health agencies; independent, assisted, and skilled nursing facilities; 211; doctor's offices; hospitals; synagogues; and more.

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 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.