



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL HOCKEY FANS TAKE THEIR PLACE IN VIRTUAL BLEACHERS FOR ALPERT JFS ONLINE EVENT WITH JEWISH FORMER NHL PLAYER MIKE HARTMAN

WEST PALM BEACH, FL – September 17, 2020 – Community members of all ages attended “Goal to Goal” on September 15, 2020. The free online event, presented by Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS), featured a Q&A with Jewish Former National Hockey League (NHL) player Mike Hartman. Event sponsors were Mutual of America and Atria at Villages of Windsor.

Alpert JFS CEO Marc D. Hopin introduced Hartman, kicking off the agency’s 2020-2021 event calendar. The self-professed N.Y. Rangers fan urged people to team up with Alpert JFS as a supporter and/or client, as our community faces continued uncertainty and anxiety in the age of COVID-19. “The Alpert JFS team is dedicated, hardworking and resilient, determined to help change the lives of those experiencing challenges,” said Hopin. “You are not alone. We are here.”

Hartman, interviewed by his cousin, Alpert JFS Director of Development Tara Laxer, spoke about the importance of passion and purpose in his life as an athlete and a businessman, as well as helping others not just survive, but thrive. “I’ve had to overcome a lot of hurdles in my life. I wasn’t the biggest, strongest, or fastest hockey player, but I studied, I watched, and I prepared,” said Hartman. “My advice is to face adversity, have a plan in place, and set measurable goals. Take the good in what everyone brings and learn from it.”

Hartman’s NHL career spanned from 1986-1995 as a winger for the Buffalo Sabres, Winnipeg Jets, Tampa Bay Lightning, and Stanley Cup-winning New York Rangers teams. He played Canadian junior hockey with the Belleville Bulls and North Bay Centennials of the Ontario Hockey League, and represented the U.S. at the 1987 World Junior Ice Hockey Championships.

“Playing in the NHL was a dream come true,” said Hartman, who turned his boyhood love of the sport into a career, deciding at the age of 14 to play in the major leagues after seeing the Detroit Red Wings. “My goal was only to play one game, and I exceeded that dream beyond my imagination. I am proud to have been a small piece of a big puzzle, and part of a team that won the Stanley Cup.”

Hartman, who received his undergraduate degree from Kensington University, was inducted into the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame and Museum in 1995, and the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame

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and Museum (Commack, NY) in 2012. He currently resides in North Carolina, where he airs the “Mike Hartman Stories: Mindset & Champions” podcast, and is working on the “20 Days to a Wellness Mindset” nutritional program.

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 nearly 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 or phone 561-684-1991.

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