



## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

**Contact:** Nina Glaser, Communications Coordinator  
Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service  
**Cell Phone:** 561-909-7014  
**Email:** [Nina.Glaser@AlpertJFS.org](mailto:Nina.Glaser@AlpertJFS.org)

### THREE LOCAL NONPROFITS WORK TOGETHER TO DELIVER MORE THAN 450 CHANUKAH MEALS

**WEST PALM BEACH, FL – December 15, 2020** – A coordinated effort between Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS), the Jewish Volunteer Center (JVC) of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, and The Kind Kitchen of Palm brought 450 Chanukah meals to community members in need on Friday, December 11, 2020.

Fifty cars with volunteers traveled throughout Boynton Beach, Lake Worth, Palm Beach Gardens, Royal Palm Beach, Wellington, and West Palm Beach to deliver holiday meals of fresh challah rolls, gefilte fish, pickles, apricot-glazed chicken, roasted vegetables, potato latkes, applesauce, and fresh donuts, to isolated and vulnerable community members. They donned masks and gloves, and practiced social distancing, safely delivering the food. The meals that reached clients of Alpert JFS' Holocaust Survivors Assistance program were funded through KAVOD, an organization that partners with Jewish family services and other organizations that work with survivors, providing assistance with whatever emergency or day-to-day needs that they have.

Alpert CEO Marc Hopin was among the volunteers, making deliveries in a residential community in West Palm Beach. "We are blessed to live in a community that works in partnership to help isolated seniors," he said. "From a distance, I could see in their smiles how much the people appreciated what we all did."

"We are incredibly inspired by so many community members who volunteered to deliver more than 450 meals to homebound seniors and community members, bringing joy and light during a season when many need it most," said Melissa Hudson, Director, Jewish volunteer Center, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach. "This initiative is part of the Jewish Volunteer Center's '8 Days 8 Ways' campaign and just one of the ways throughout the year that we provide the community with an opportunity to give back and support each other."

"Holidays, in particular, have been challenging for our clients during the pandemic," said Alpert JFS Director of Long Term Care Jennifer Escobar. "We are so grateful to have been able to work together to provide such a special meal on Chanukah."

"We have seen three times the amount of food requests during the pandemic," said Chana Ezagui of The Kind Kitchen. "Our Chanukah meals helped ensure that the warmth of the holiday season, which is the season of giving, was experienced by those with who needed it."

"Our clients were able to celebrate Chanukah with dreidels, gelt, and latkes, thanks to deliveries made by wonderful community volunteers," said Alpert JFS Director of Volunteer Leadership Belinda Lasky. "Our partnership with The Kind Kitchen and the Jewish Volunteer Center enables us to bring light and laughter to so many people."

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The Kind Kitchen of Palm Beach is located at 844 Prosperity Farms Road in North Palm Beach. The 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to doing kindness, provides weekly kosher meals to those in need, from the elderly to single mothers, and people with terminal illness. Menus rotate each week so established clients have variety.

The Jewish Volunteer Center of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County works to identify, cultivate, and develop a network of people and opportunities that connects the Jewish community with meaningful volunteer experiences.

The mission of KAVOD is to provide emergency relief to Holocaust survivors in need, helping them live the remainder of their lives in comfort and with dignity. The organization partners with Jewish Family Service and other organizations that work with Survivors, providing assistance with vital emergency or ongoing day-to-day needs that they have. One hundred percent of all donations by KAVOD go to Survivors.

The Alpert JFS Holocaust Survivors Assistance Program has seven full-time employees working to preserve the dignity of Holocaust survivors, identifying and addressing their distinct social welfare, health care, and emotional needs with the utmost sensitivity. The team helps them navigate the Reparations Benefit Process, and provides monthly, bi-monthly, and annual socialization activities for survivors. The HonoringLife™ program facilitated by Alpert JFS provides cultural competency training for healthcare and legal professionals, as well as others who may encounter Holocaust survivors.

For more information about Alpert JFS' Holocaust Survivors Assistance Program, visit [www.AlpertJFS.org/for-seniors-holocaust-survivors-assistance/](http://www.AlpertJFS.org/for-seniors-holocaust-survivors-assistance/).

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 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/](http://www.AlpertJFS.org/) or phone 561-684-1991.

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