



## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **FERD & GLADYS ALPERT JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE ANNOUNCES CALL FOR ENTRIES OF JEWISH STUDENT ARTWORK AND POEMS FOR THE “NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE” POSTER AND POETRY CONTEST**

**WEST PALM BEACH, FL – December 9, 2020** – The “No Excuse for Abuse” Poster & Poetry Contest, sponsored by Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS) is now accepting entries from Jewish student artists and poets in elementary, middle and high school. Poster designs and poems may contain one or more of the following topics: bullying; teen dating abuse; healthy relationships; and emotional, verbal, or physical abuse. Submissions are being accepted until Friday, January 8, 2021.

Entries must be on a white piece of 8.5” x 11” paper, in any medium, in either vertical or horizontal format. One entry per person is permitted. The entrant’s name, age, grade, school, synagogue and phone number must show on the reverse side of the paper.

All work becomes property of Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service. There will be three winners of cash prizes for each age level, announced by Carol Shubs and Karen Berkner, co-chairs of The KOLOT (Hebrew for “voices”) Committee at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual “No Excuse for Abuse” virtual event on February 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Abduction survivor, advocate and author Elizabeth will be the featured guest speaker at the event.

“This is an opportunity to engage children and teens, raising awareness about bullying, what makes a healthy friendship versus an unhealthy one, and dating abuse,” said Sara Walsh, Alpert JFS Program Director of Domestic Abuse. “We need to have these conversations with our kids in order to prevent abuse and victimization.”

KOLOT (Hebrew for “voices”) is a coalition of representatives from Jewish and other community organizations, professionals, and volunteers. The group is on a mission to end abuse and encourage help seeking, through awareness and education, including accessible informational materials for victims, community education, and events.

The Alpert JFS Domestic Abuse Program exists to help victims identify abuse, create a personalized safety plan, and provide direction to local and out-of-state domestic abuse resources. To learn more about the domestic abuse support services of Alpert JFS, visit [alpertsjfs.org/for-adults/domestic-abuse-support/](http://alpertsjfs.org/for-adults/domestic-abuse-support/) or phone 561-684-1991.

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 [alpertsjfs.org/](http://alpertsjfs.org/) or phone 561-684-1991.

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