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Media Contacts:

Danielle Lustman, Director of Marketing & Communications
Cell: 443-690-9044; Email: Danielle.Lustman@AlpertJFS.org

Rob Lucarelli, Marketing & Communications Associate
Cell: 216-939-622; Email: Robert.Lucarelli@AlpertJFS.org

In Honor of His 100th Birthday, Boynton Beach Resident, Irwin Lebow Sets Goal to Raise \$100,000 for Project H.O.P.E. (Help Our Poor and Elderly)

Lebow Started H.O.P.E. Fund 30-Years Ago to Benefit Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS) in West Palm Beach; He Has Already Raised Nearly \$400,000 for the Organization Over the Last Three Decades

West Palm Beach, FL – February 28, 2022 – Boynton Beach resident, Irwin Lebow, a decorated World War II fighter pilot, author, and philanthropist, is celebrating his 100th Birthday on March 27, 2022. In honor of this milestone, Lebow and Judy, his wife of 79 years, are asking the community to help him raise \$100,000 for Project H.O.P.E. (Help Our Poor and Elderly). Lebow is also hoping to receive 100,000 birthday wishes.

Project H.O.P.E. was created by Lebow nearly 30 years ago to benefit Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (Alpert JFS) in West Palm Beach. Since its inception, Project H.O.P.E. has raised nearly \$400,000 for Alpert JFS programs that combat food insecurity and assist those most in need from Boynton Beach to Vero Beach. Lebow is a long-time supporter of Alpert JFS and has been an emeritus member of the organization's Board of Directors for over 30 years.

"For my 100th birthday, I want to get 100,000 birthday wishes on Facebook," Lebow says. "You can also be a part of my Project H.O.P.E. – Help Our Poor and Elderly Initiative – by giving \$1 towards my birthday goal of \$100,000."

"Over the last thirty years, Irwin has been an incredible supporter of Alpert JFS, our programs and the individuals from our community who are most in need," said Zelda Mason, Alpert JFS President and Board Chair. "As an organization, we are honored to be the beneficiary of Irwin's great work and kindness, and we look forward to enthusiastically celebrating him and his 100th birthday exactly as he wishes."

How to Contribute

Those interested in contributing may visit the Facebook fundraising campaign page at <https://tinyurl.com/Love4Lebow>. In addition to monetary support, Lebow is also asking for 100,000

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“Happy Birthday” wishes in honor of his birthday. The campaign is using the hashtag #Love4Lebow on social media.

Video: <https://vimeo.com/680060876>

Photos of Irwin: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1k2SitullzsL6mzwNRLkuklmKbxw3IH7x> (Credit Alpert JFS)

About Irwin Lebow

Born in the Bronx, New York, Irwin Lebow was a night student at New York University, and working in a defense plant when Pearl Harbor was attacked. He immediately enlisted in the Army Air Corps, became a fighter pilot, and was assigned to the 27th Fighter Group in Europe, where he flew 93 missions in a P47 Thunderbolt. Lebow received five Air Medals and the Legion of Honor from the French Government. He was the pilot chosen to fly the half-million sortie for the 12th Air Force in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations. His diary is in the Library of Congress and his book, “A Pilot’s Story,” was published by Amazon. Lebow has served on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army, and for the last 30 years has been on the Board of Directors of Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service. Irwin and Judy, his wife of 79 years, currently live in Boynton Beach.

About Alpert JFS

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.