

JCCA HONORS BOARD CHAIR BARBARA SALMANSON AND CEO RICHARD ALTMAN AT MOST SUCCESSFUL GALA EVER

The event which benefits vulnerable children and families raised a record \$1,150,000

Honoring the outstanding contributions of Barbara Salmanson, Chair of the Board of Trustees of Jewish Child Care Association (JCCA), and Richard Altman, Chief Executive Officer, *Celebration of Hope: A Gala to Benefit Children and Families* raised a record \$1,150,000. More than 300 people attended the elegant event on May 19, 2015 at the Pierre Hotel which benefited JCCA, one of the nation's oldest child and family services agencies.

According to Peter Hauspurg, President of JCCA's Board of Trustees, "We are honoring two extraordinarily dedicated and talented leaders. Their commitment to our mission is unparalleled. Together they have transformed lives and given hope to thousands of children and families."

Ms. Salmanson has a long and distinguished history of commitment to improving child welfare and Jewish community services. She has been deeply involved in Jewish Child Care Association since 2002. In receiving JCCA's highest award, the Tikkun Olam award she said, "I love the mission and the work JCCA does every single day to help save kids who are desperately in need of that help."

The event was a fitting tribute to Mr. Altman's 45 years of devoted service as a passionate and articulate voice for child welfare. As Chief Executive Officer, the number of JCCA's programs doubled to 40, the budget doubled to \$110 million, the number of staff doubled to 1,400 and the number of clients has grown to 16,000 children and families annually. He created important new programs and influenced child welfare policy in New York and nationally. In receiving the Tikkun Olam award Mr. Altman said, "I am deeply moved to be honored by a Board of such talented and committed individuals and to know that I have helped children and families live more meaningful and productive lives."

One of the highlights of the evening was remarks by four teens whose lives have been transformed by JCCA. According to DJ, one of the youth, "At JCCA I learned to trust again – it was the turning point in my life. I have overcome my past struggles and believe I will achieve my goals for the future." DJ is now living independently, studying forensic psychology in college and writing poetry.

For 193 years, Jewish Child Care Association has served vulnerable, at-risk children and families who have been neglected or abused, immigrant families and those building new lives. These services include foster care, mental health and preventive services, residential treatment programs, services to recent immigrants, education, early childhood services and special needs programs.

Jewish Child Care Association (JCCA) is a comprehensive child and family services agency. We work with those who need us most, including children who have been neglected or abused, immigrant Jewish families and those building new lives. Most of our clients come to us because they struggle with poverty or family crises, and because they are working to create an independent future. JCCA helps more than 16,000 children and families every year and is consistently rated at the highest levels for the quality of our programs. In all our work, we are motivated by *tikkun olam*, the value within Jewish tradition that calls upon all of us to repair the world, and by our belief that every child deserves to grow up hopeful.

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