

## **2016 AJFCA Annual Conference KOVOD Awards**

KOVOD Award, Replicable Programming, Disabilities Services

**Disabilities Services:** AJFCS LifePlanning®

**Agency:** AJFCS/Levine Jewish Residential & Family Service

**Community Served:** Palm Beach County Residents (this program also serves families who live out of state who have a relative in Palm Beach County).

**Agency Budget:** \$12,000,000

**Contact information for the point person on the submission:**

Meredith Katzenberg, 561-238-0284, MKatzenberg@JFCSonline.com

**Staff listing by title (of staff involved in program):**

Meredith Katzenberg, LCSW, Director, LifePlanning® Program

Joan Ensink, LCSW, Clinical Consultant, LifePlanning® Program

**200-word summary description of program**

The Melvin J. & Claire Levine LifePlanning® program offers education, advocacy, individual consultation, and on-going support to families who care for a family member who has a disability and for whom they would like to make appropriate future planning arrangements. The program assists families with making viable and appropriate future plans for their family members through **educational seminars and workshops, one-on-one consultations, and an annual resource fair**, all of which enable families to utilize community resources and programs. The program approach is to educate families on the importance of future planning and to give them the tools and support necessary to move forward with the future planning process. Seminars and workshops gather professionals from the community who are experts in their field to present on future planning topics, such as “Benefits,” “Legal & Financial Planning,” “Vocational and Recreational Options,” and more. The combination of providing information coupled with individual, intra-familial consultation, advocacy and referral to other needed services, makes available a powerful intervention process which can be completed in one cycle or can be stopped and restarted again when the family is ready to continue. The program is a free service of the agency.

**Total program cost and funding sources:** \$46,283, United Way Town of Palm Beach and Levine Family Foundation

**A pdf file or link pertaining to the program or video as part of the strategy:**

<http://www.jfcsonline.com/life-planning>

PDF files attached

**List of 3 major outcomes and evaluation method(s) used to determine those outcomes:**

1. **Resource Fair:** Outcome: 85% of survey respondents who attended the Annual Resource Fair reported that they “strongly agreed” that the fair was useful for their future planning needs.

Measurement Tool: Online post-event survey

2. **Seminar Outcomes:** Outcomes: In 2015, 153 people attended the seminars. Of those 153 people:

- 98% indicated that their awareness related to the future planning topic increased;
- 98% indicated increased knowledge of issues related to the need to accomplish their plan;
- 82% reported that they would take steps in planning for their family member with a disability as a result of the seminars

Measurement Tool: Post-Seminar Questionnaire

3. **Provide consultation and individual and family planning** – care coordination, to assist the family in taking the next step/s toward putting a life-plan into place.