

CHAI CHAMPIONS

CHAI Champions is a biennial gathering of friends, supporters, and individuals who care deeply about promoting **c**ommunity, **h**ousing, **a**ccess, and **i**ndependence (CHAI) for people of all abilities.

The event hosted by JF&CS is to support CHAI Services, which provide support, strategies, and solutions to strengthen individuals and families, build community connections, and enhance independence. Our specialized programs are designed to address the needs of children and adults with developmental disabilities, mental illness, and autism spectrum disorder.

We are excited to celebrate five chosen individuals and/or organizations of the greater community who share our mission and promote meaningful opportunities for people with a wide range of strengths and needs.

The CHAI Champions 2019 Event is co-chaired by Laurie and Paul Gershkowitz

DATE: Sunday, November 3, 2019

TIME: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Westin Waltham Boston Hotel, 70 Third Avenue, Waltham

Guests will enjoy a warm and meaningful program highlighting the “CHAI FIVE” champions and a spirited musical performance by the Berkshire Hills Music Academy, a South Hadley based school that uses music to help individuals with intellectual disabilities develop skills for communication, independence, and employment.

ABOUT JF&CS

For more than 150 years, JF&CS has focused on one singular, powerful goal – to improve people’s lives. Guided by Jewish values, JF&CS cares for people at all stages of life who seek support, guidance and a purposeful, independent life. JF&CS serves vulnerable populations including children and adults with disabilities or mental illness, new mothers and their infants, older adults living with chronic conditions, and people experiencing financial crisis, hunger or domestic abuse.

NOMINATE A CHAI CHAMPION

Please help us by completing this form to nominate an extraordinary leader and/or organization who you believe is a true CHAI Champion for those with disabilities. Five nominees will be selected in advance to be honored at our event.

Please think broadly using these simple criteria for nominations:

- Demonstrates a dedication towards enabling people of all abilities to reach their potential
- May be an extraordinary caregiver, relative, employer, teacher, neighbor, medical professional, T Driver, volunteer, donor, or advocate
- Embodies a commitment to inclusion, empowerment, life-long learning, social connectedness, and self-determination
- Is a colleague, friend, or business with whom you work
- Need not (but can) be affiliated with JF&CS

Please nominate your CHAI Champion by Friday, February 1, 2019. You may use your name or submit anonymously. Feel free to submit more than one nominee. Our selection committee will be reviewing all nominations promptly and you will be notified about the status of your nomination by Friday, February 15, 2019.

Many thanks for your input!

Please mark your calendar for a wonderful celebration on **Sunday, November 3, 2019!**

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Do you wish to remain anonymous: Y ____ N ____

NOMINEE'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

NOMINEE INFORMATION (PLEASE SEND ALONG ANY BIO OR CV)

Title/Role of Nominee: _____

Is the person you're nominating part of an organization or company? Y ____ N ____

If so, provide name and please describe. _____

Please give a short statement describing how the nominee has demonstrated a commitment to enriching the lives of people with developmental disabilities or mental illness.
