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Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC underwrites Fit & Fun sports program for second year at Levis Jewish Community Center for children with special needs



WEST PALM BEACH — The law firm of Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC continues to provide significant funding to bring “fun and fitness” to more than 75 children and teens with special needs who are enrolled in the upcoming Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center Fit & Fun Sports Program from March 27-May 22.

Through the 1 ½ hour weekly fitness program provided by the JCC’s Special Needs Department, credentialed, dedicated staff, skilled coaches, and more than 50 volunteer “buddies” help children with Autism, Down Syndrome, language and communication disorders, and other genetic disorders achieve greater independence by coaching them through various sports in a fun, comfortable environment. Participants build strength, flexibility, agility and self-confidence and improve coordination, gross-motor and social skills, all as they learn the basics of baseball, soccer and basketball, as well as how to run relay races and jump hurdles. The buddies are typical peers, from local high schools, with a passion and great commitment to spending time with individuals with special needs. Volunteers, who are

interviewed and partnered with Fit & Fun Sports participants, receive ongoing training that teaches them how to maximize each participant's potential to succeed in the program.

“So many special needs children cannot participate in after-school programs due to time being spent in therapy, and the Fit & Fun Sports program is held at the JCC on Sundays afternoons to accommodate these children,” noted Emily Grabelsky whose son is a camper. “We are very thankful to Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith and Gary for their continued support for this program that has grown so fast that there is a waiting list. It is due to the generosity of supporters like Gary and his law firm that continues to make this program available and accessible to so many families who benefit from having this program opportunity right here in our community.”

Innovative programs offered by the JCC's Special Needs Department such as Fit & Fun Sports focus on strengthening self-esteem, improving communication and social skills, and enhancing gross and fine motor skills — all while helping participants enhance relationships with peers and with their families. Inclusion opportunities in existing Levis JCC programs are available; resource and referral services and ongoing support are provided to all families by professional staff. The agency embraces all individuals without regard to race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability or national origin.

“The Levis JCC's dedicated commitment to ensure that individuals with Special Needs are embraced in JCC life is extremely impressive and inspiring, and that is why we want to continue to do our part in helping to continue the Fit & Fun program's important mission,” noted Gary Lesser, managing partner of Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC. “We know first-hand from friends with children enrolled in the Fit & Fun program about the heartwarming success stories and critical breakthroughs made possible by this type of empowering guidance.”

Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC (LLL&S), the third oldest law firm in Palm Beach County, was established in 1927 by Joseph H. Lesser in West Palm Beach, and has been serving clients throughout Florida for more than 80 years focusing on serious personal injury and wrongful death cases. LLL&S (www.lesserlawfirm.com) enjoys a reputation in the community for superior legal skills, hard work, client service, and high ethical standards. The Firm partners are "AV" rated by Martindale Hubbell, the highest rating in ethics and legal ability. LLL&S is very active in the community, and has donated significant time and financial support to numerous charities. The Firm has obtained significant settlements and verdicts over the years and is well known to insurance companies and insurance defense lawyers as skillful advocates. This experience and reputation allows the Firm to obtain the best possible results for its clients.

For more information on the Levi JCC Special Needs programs and services or volunteer opportunities, call Marianne Jacobs, Director of Special Needs, at (561) 852-3256 or e-mail ariannej@levisjcc.org or visit <http://www.levisjcc.org>. For sponsorship opportunities, call Cindy Bergman, Associate Executive Director, at 561-852-3253 or e-mail cindyb@levisjcc.org.