

NCJW/Cleveland To Host First Livespecial Celebration of Champions

Seeking Nominations of Champions by August 21

To celebrate the fifth anniversary of livespecial.com, the online resource that has helped countless families find appropriate providers to meet the needs of family members with special needs, NCJW is seeking nominations of people who are living well with a disability or who have been instrumental in the success of another with special needs.

These people will be honored at Celebration of Champions, a gala fundraiser and awards dinner on Sunday, November 5, at 5 pm, at Landerhaven. Gold Medal Champions and a friend will attend the awards dinner as NCJW guests. Each Gold Medalist Champion will receive a personalized award and \$500 toward an approved program, service or adaptive device. Silver and Bronze Champions will also be honored.

To submit a nomination, visit <http://livespecial.com/AboutUs/Fundraising.aspx>, download the nomination form, then follow directions or pick up *livespecial.com*, a free annual magazine, a collaborative effort of NCJW/Cleveland and *Northeast Ohio Parent Magazine*, and find the nomination form on pages 34-36. Deadline for



Alana Gohn, the inspiration for the creation of livespecial.com, is one of this year's Livespecial heroes.

receiving nominations is August 21. The magazine may be found where publications are located throughout the community.

Livespecial heroes eight-year-old Alana Gohn and David Rabinsky, director of beverage and catering for Cleveland's downtown Ritz-Carlton hotel, are the honorary champions for the event. Alana, born with microcephaly, was the inspiration for the creation of livespecial.com. Rabinsky was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa in 1997, which eventually stole his vision.

Cost to attend Celebration of Champions is \$150 per person. Funds will be used to continually research and update the website, sponsor workshops and boot camps for families who care for children or adults with special needs and to make the community aware of this resource and connect them to the help they request.