



Zweigs initiate a very special fund

By Stan Levenson

DALLAS — Louis and Robin Zweig knew that their son's learning differences would require special instruction and accommodation in order for him to receive the education he deserved and would need to succeed in his regular school.

Thanks to a collaborative effort between the Zweigs and the teaching staff at the Plano Independent School District, David today is a 4.0 student who studies in three honors classes at Frankford Middle School.

Religious school, however, took a very different path. What the Zweigs found was a very real gap in experience and training for religious-school teachers when it came to helping children who had neurological disorders or learning differences. At one time, the Zweigs, a family that had attended

the same synagogue for six generations, faced the possibility that one of their children would not celebrate his bar mitzvah.

Mr. and Mrs. Zweig found out that many other Jewish families in the Dallas area had experienced the same dilemma. In their discovery, they learned that most religious schools did not have the budget or resources to train their teachers effectively to deal with learning differences. The Zweigs decided to do something about it.

Through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Zweig and their family and friends, the Gladys Golman/Faye Dallen Education Fund was established. With the vision that "Every Jewish child in our community can have a quality Jewish education," the fund will provide training and

educational resources so religious-school teachers can be prepared to work with the growing population of students with learning differences.

Members of the advisory board include founders Louis and Robin Zweig, Brian Zweig, Martin Golman, Laurie Steinberg, Jon and Kimberly Ross, Stan Levenson, Sheila Chapman, Seth Grubstein, Andy Dropkin and Scott Cohen.

Advisory board members are committed to increasing awareness and understanding of this critical need for children in the Jewish community. The money raised for this fund will go straight to religious schools and teachers, and will directly impact the children, all of whom deserve the opportunity to forge their Jewish identities.

Under the strategic objectives of



Top: Andrew Dropkin, Martin Golman, Louis Zweig, Seth Grubstein, Laurie Steinberg, Scott Cohen; bottom: Esther Nathan of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas, Robin Zweig, Brian Zweig, Sheila Chapman (not pictured: Stan Levenson, Jon Ross, Kimberly Ross)

the program, every teacher in Dallas-area Jewish religious schools would complete six hours of training centered on learning differences of all kinds. Autism/Asperger's Syndrome, ADD/ADHD, dyslexia and other neurological disorders are among the issues that will be covered.

The Gladys Golman/Faye Dallen Education Fund is kicking off its

initial fund-raising campaign in conjunction with David Zweig's bar mitzvah.

The Gladys Golman/Faye Dallen Education Fund is housed within the Dallas Jewish Charitable Foundation. All contributions are tax-deductible. For more details about the fund, please visit www.djcf.org or call 214-615-9351.

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