

**LIFE** educate  
employ  
enjoy Living Inclusively for Everyone, Inc.

**The Primary Mission of LIFE is to improve the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities in Broward County**

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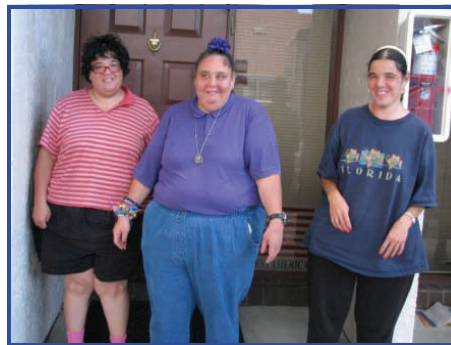
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**LIFE Awards the Cohen Family a Supported Living Grant**

At first glance, one might never suspect any of the three Cohen sisters of having an extraordinary existence. Laurie delights in activities most would take for granted: "I get to watch TV when I want, and I like learning to be more independent," she says. Her sisters follow suit with seemingly ordinary lives. Tracy, acting as the "boss" of their house, works at Publix and pays the bills. However, these three sisters do in fact prove a vital source of inspiration for adults everywhere: each of these girls was born with a developmental disability and yet lives independently from her parents.



97.3 Coast DJs - 2008 BBQ



The Cohen sisters in front of their home

**2009 Corporate Benefactors**

**Broward Health**

**The Leonard Friedland Foundation**

**The Kingsberg Foundation**

**Loving Support Care Corp.**

**Motorola**

**Westside Regional Medical Center**

**Wings Plus**

Jennifer, 34, and twins Laurie, 31, and Tracy, 31, have all been diagnosed with fragile X syndrome. Until recently, they had to live with their parents Martin, 61, and Trudy, 60. This is a tale told repeatedly through cases of adult children with developmental disabilities: forced to live with their parents or in group homes without any experience on how to navigate through life. Approximately 60% of adults with developmental disabilities live with their aging parents. Naturally, Martin and Trudy were concerned with what would happen to their grown children after they were physically unable to care for them.

To ease their concerns, LIFE is proud to announce its awarding the Cohen family a \$2000 grant from the Roger H. Matos Memorial Housing Fund in order to assist the Cohen children's desire to live independently. This fund was inspired by LIFE's Secretary, Laura Prado, who believes that supported independent living is a viable option for many adults with developmental disabilities and has made this issue the focus of LIFE's goals for some time. In this environment, adults with developmental disabilities live in their own homes and participate in the community with appropriate assistance to ensure their health and safety. It also provides a wealth of opportunities, ones that the Cohens take full advantage of. For example, these sisters are able to live together without the threat of separation. For them, this is a dream come true: "We're a team," says Jennifer, "don't split us up."

**2009 Individual Benefactors**

- Ruby Acosta
- Belkis & Sigfredo Almeida
- Kathy Behl-Whiting
- Victoria Bovee
- Richard Curry
- Maria Delmoro
- Ann Eisner
- Flora Fasciani
- Louise Friddle
- Andrea Friedman
- Jim Giblin
- Hon. Angel & Stephanie Gomez
- Miguel Angel & Linda Gomez
- Richard Gorgens
- Gary & Diane Grove
- Hon. Mercedes & Otto Henrickssen
- Stanley & Joan Hinden
- Ivonne & Miguel Juradini
- Teresa Kanis
- Johnny Kavouklis
- Dr. Mark & Joann Kaylin
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- Paul & Karen Salver
- Thomas & Mary Serian
- Arthur & Helen Smith
- David & Ethel Sommer
- Dr. David Steiman
- Mary Stifflemire
- Larry & Sandy Teich
- Dr. Victor & Angela Toledano
- Drs. Robert & Shari Topper
- Ruben & Magda Valle
- Jack & Dorothy Weiss
- Elaine Weiss
- Marc & Linda Weiss
- Bob & Barbara Wessels
- Jan & Magda Wild

**UPCOMING LIFE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- Sept. 12th FAN Club Wings-n-a-movie outing, Weston
- Sept. 25th Bowling at Davie AMF, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
- Oct. 10th FAN Club Wings-n-a-movie outing, Weston
- Oct. 30th Bowling at Davie AMF, 6:30 –m to 9:30 pm
- Oct. 31st LIFE's 3rd Annual Halloween Barbecue, Davie

**For more details email us at:  
[lifeflorida@gmail.com](mailto:lifeflorida@gmail.com)**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Friends:

It is hard to believe that it has been six month since our successful fundraiser in 2009. Time certainly goes by quickly. We want you to know that thanks to your generosity we have been able to accomplish a lot during this time.

In this newsletter we highlight some of our achievements but we are not resting on our laurels. Our future plans include continued expansion and renovation of our adopted group home – Whispering Oaks -- located in Davie, Florida. Thus far we have spent \$20,000 to renovate this facility.

Our immediate plans include continued remodeling of the common areas and individual bedrooms. Long term plans include adding a second building on the grounds which would include an exercise center and a multi-function recreational room. We also hope to develop an urban farm project which could provide employment for some of our residents and serve as a microenterprise.

Thank you for being part of LIFE's family. With your continued support we will achieve our goal to improve the lives of Broward County residents with developmental disabilities and to set a shining example of what a group of dedicated volunteers can accomplish. In closing I leave you with our current wish list.

David M. Steiman, M.D.  
President



Halloween BBQ 2008

**WISH LIST**

- 12 Passenger Van
- Playstation 2
- Hand held video games
- Adult -size bicycles
- Easy arts-n-crafts projects

## Second Annual American Dream Gala Raises Over \$37,000

The second annual American Dream Gala was very successful this year as LIFE managed to raise over \$37,000. This fundraiser was held on February 28th at the Weston Hills Country Club, with participants including an array of individuals: professionals, sponsors, friends, and families. Dr. David Steiman, as President of LIFE, gave the opening speech and Motorola generously donated a multi-media presentation, emphasizing LIFE's mission and goals for the future. Dinner, music, silent auction and dancing made the event festive and enjoyable for those who attended-ensuring a mutually beneficial night for both the sponsors and LIFE.



David Sommer, Stanley Hinden, Barbara & Jules Pearlman



Paul and Karen Salver



Flora Fasciani and Blanca Prado

The money raised will be used to fund projects supporting individuals with developmental disabilities achieve aid in seeking independent living, locate jobs, and actively assimilate into their communities. This year, the majority of our funds will be used to renovate a group home in Davie, Whispering Oaks, our newly adopted group home for adults with developmental disabilities. The property includes about two acres of land and a fifteen bedroom home. With this money, we will be able to begin to refurbish and redesign the old facility into a new home for eager residents.

Already, our host committee is hard at work planning next year's American Dream Gala, in which we hope to obtain even more sponsorship and participation. As always, your participation and contributions and are sincerely appreciated. Thank you for making this year's Gala such a success. We look forward to having you join us for our 3rd Annual American Dream Gala in 2010.

## FAN CLUB NEWS!

Have you heard about our FAN Club — Friends Are Necessary Club. The FAN Club is geared toward young adults with special needs. It provides families with support groups to foster friendships for both the family member with a developmental disability and their parents through social and recreational activities.

The group meets for monthly activities and during the past year has participated in activities such as, dances, barbecues, theater performances, horse back-riding, trip to Lion Country Safari and the ever popular "Wings-n-a-movie".

LIFE subsidizes the majority of the cost of the FAN Club with participants contributing a nominal amount dependent on the activity.



## Living Inclusively for Everyone, Inc. (LIFE)

I would be pleased to assist and make a difference in the full community integration of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Check (made payable to LIFE) and mail to:

**LIFE**

**350 NW 84 Avenue, Suite 211**

**Plantation, FL 33324**

Charge my credit card:

VISA \_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ VIN: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_



Laurie Cohen cooking at home

**THANK YOU FOR SENDING A GENEROUS DONATION TO-DAY!** A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free within the State call 1-800-435-7352. Living Inclusively for Everyone, Inc. (LIFE) is a corporation registered as a public charity under section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code.

## Board of Directors

### President

David M. Steiman

### Vice-President

Stanley Hinden

### Treasurer

Bob Wessels

### Secretary

Laura B. Prado



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