



Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)
191 Bethpage-Sweet Hollow Road, Old Bethpage, NY 11804
Phone: 516-870-1600 Fax: 516-870-1660

******PRESS RELEASE******

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CONTACT: Patrice Radowitz, Tel: [516-870-1621](tel:516-870-1621)/Cell: [631-553-7432](tel:631-553-7432)
Email: pradowitz@familyres.org

Andy Robles: 516-603-0447
Email: familyres.free@gmail.com

HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR PRESENTED WITH SPECIAL GIFT



Laura Levy presenting her self-portrait to Werner Reich

Old Bethpage, NY – Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) presented Werner Reich, a Holocaust survivor and art collector, with a special gift as thanks for being a guest speaker at a seminar they hosted. The gift, a print of a self-portrait of FREE artist Laura Levy, was presented to Werner by FREE Director of Art Therapy Ed Regensburg, Judi Weissman, a professor at Stony Brook University and the

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facilitator of the seminar where Werner spoke, Joyce Law, Senior Recovery Coach/Art Therapist, FREE, and the artist herself, Laura Levy. Laura's self-portrait hangs on the walls of RXR's lobby in Woodbury, NY, and has been featured on a wine label by the LENZ winery.

"Words cannot truly express how honored and thankful we are to Mr. Reich for sharing his incredible story with us," said Robert S. Budd, CEO FREE. "He's honored us even further by appreciating the talent of one of our artists," he continued.

Werner spoke at a seminar entitled "Preventing Bullying and Bias" at FREE. While giving his presentation to team members at FREE who are receiving their Master's Degree through a joint program with Stony Brook University, he noticed a print of the self-portrait hanging on the wall of the conference room in which he was presenting and expressed his interest in purchasing it. Professor Weissman, noted his interest in the piece and arranged to purchase the print for Werner. Werner was invited back to FREE and was presented with the piece.



Ed Regensburg, Laura Levy, Werner Reich, Joyce Law and Professor Judi Weissman

Werner Reich presents to schools and universities across Long Island. Last year alone he presented to 60 high schools. The main theme of his presentation is "Bad things happen when good people do nothing." Werner implores students to promise not to be a bystander in life.

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE), founded in 1977, benefits and proudly supports more than 4,000 individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, mental illness and traumatic brain injury. It is the mission of FREE to assist individuals of all abilities realize their full potential. FREE provides a diverse array of supports and services including: housing; recovery services; transition to work; employment; day, community and family services; respite; crisis services; education and after school support; specialty health services; and advocacy.

FREE also collaborates with a variety of diverse 501(c)(3) nonprofit partners on educational, vocational,

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rehabilitative and a myriad of other creative initiatives to enhance the local communities and the lives of more than 25,000 people that reside within them. Each of the valued partners of the FREE Network has a unique mission, vision and strategic goals that are aligned in purpose, and embody the spirit of the meaningful work we do every day. For more information, please call 516-870-7000 or visit www.familyres.org.

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