

Why I choose to be a Monthly Mitzvah Maker.

Jewish Family and Child Service's monthly donors, *Monthly Mitzvah Makers*, provide the agency with a steady and ongoing stream of income to maintain its current programs and services, while responding to the ever-changing needs of our community. The Monthly Mitzvah Maker program provides donors with an alternative way to make an impactful gift.

Janice and Moe Abecassis have chosen to give back to JF&CS by making monthly donations. For them, JF&CS has provided the most incredible gift.

Last October, Joseph celebrated his Bar Mitzvah. Joseph is a very active 13-year-old who loves to play hockey in the winter, baseball in the summer and looks forward to going to overnight camp every year. He is very grateful to his parents for their ongoing support and unconditional love. Likewise, his parents are thankful for the joy he brings them, and both are forever grateful to Jewish Family and Child Service for bringing them together.

At birth, Joseph was placed directly into a JF&CS foster home. Although Joseph has no memory of his time with his foster family, he knows how special they were and how much they loved him. Three weeks later, Janice and Moe were contacted by JF&CS and they brought Joseph home, immediately beginning the adoption process. As Janice notes, Joseph's middle name Nathaniel means a "gift from G-d", which is exactly how they feel about him.

In honour of this milestone in his life, it was important to Joseph to perform a Bar Mitzvah project. Joseph chose to donate backpacks to foster children, so they could have a bag of their own to store their personal and meaningful belongings when it came time to move homes. Joseph also donated a portion of his Bar Mitzvah gifts to JF&CS' *Drive for Dreidels* Chanukah campaign, ensuring that



Photo: Moe, Joseph, Janice and Benjamin

children living in poverty or foster care would receive a toy or gift card during the holiday. In addition, Joseph hopes to one day volunteer at the annual JF&CS holiday party for foster children and their families.

Janice and Moe are very grateful for their family and the foster family who opened their arms and home to Joseph. They remain connected to the foster family, and it was important to Joseph and his family that they were a part of his Bar Mitzvah celebration.

Janice and Moe have chosen to support JF&CS by being Monthly Mitzvah Makers, knowing "It's very important work that JF&CS does."

**For more information, please contact
Brenda Gurvey | Development Manager
416-638-7800 x 6226 | bgurvey@jfandcs.com**

**Monthly
Mitzvah
Makers**
Monthly Giving Program