

**2016 Leadership Award by AJFCA to
Joanne Graf, Jewish Family Service ReelAbilities Chair 2016
Recipient of the Jewish Family Service Houston
2016 Shirley and Allen Becker JFS Leadership Award**

Joanne Graf, a member of the Jewish Family Service Board of Directors since January, 2014, brought her many talents to benefit JFS in Houston.

Joanne's background as a partner/managing director of global operations for JMW Consultants Inc., a management consultancy firm with over 35 years experience helping the world's most successful business leaders create and realize high-impact outcomes and dramatic shifts in performance, has offered her the opportunity to work with leaders from 75 companies and in more than 20 industries across the United States.

Her expertise has led her to numerous requests to speak and write about her clients' successes, which includes a Houston Business Journal contribution entitled "8 Steps to Promoting Collaboration in Your Company".

Joanne offered to work with the agency leadership in intensive leadership training series to strengthen skills, confidence and communication. "We found Joanne's background and success in facilitating difficult conversations help our staff teams develop better ways to work together to impact our clients and create positive morale. Joanne worked for months to improve our agency's most valuable asset: a successful staff," stated JFS CEO Linda Burger.

With an added background and knowledge of corporate Houston and collaboration techniques, Joanne was named Chair, ReelAbilities Houston 2016, a city-wide film and art festival that promotes inclusion and celebrates the lives, stories and talents of people with disabilities. Joanne's guidance has helped the festival reach new heights, reaching more students with a message of inclusion and furthering the agency's mission as an advocate in this arena.

During the recent 103rd Annual JFS meeting, Joanne Graf was presented the agency's 2016 Shirley and Allen Becker Jewish Family Service Leadership Award on January 28, 2016 for her dedicated service and commitment to the agency and its clients. Her family has a long legacy of leadership roles at JFS with her Mother as a decade plus member of the Bergen County JFS Board and her brother and sister-in-law philanthropic contributors to the same JFS, and the Houston JFS is thrilled to have her energy and talent.