On May 31st, JFS Houston had their 105th anniversary gala with over 830 people in attendance which raised over \$1 million dollars for the agency, the first time the agency ever made that mark. One of the key team members who put it together was Gloria Ribnick. She handled the media, advertising and photography, worked on programmatic aspects, made sure the 50 page program and auction booklet was produced properly, proofed every donor and auction list and worked 12 hour days to help put everything in place.. Not impressed? Well maybe you would be if you knew that **Gloria Ribnick** is *91 years old* and the most senior staff member at JFS. You

also would understand why she just won the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston's prestigious **Hans Mayer Jewish Communal Professional Award**.

The list of people who have won this Houston community award are those have made the biggest difference as communal professionals at major Jewish institutions in Houston. Gloria, as **Director of Marketing and PR for JFS for the past 20 years**, produces a printed newsletter for JFS, one that the agency has tracked has brought in over \$10 million in donations to the agency, written hundreds of articles for the community newspapers, was the staff manager for two groundbreakings and two new building opening events, produced over the last



dozen years of annual meetings on her own, managed the annual staff United Way campaign and the list goes on and on. Gloria has served as an inspiration to JFS interns, staff members and lay leaders for what it can look like to live a full life of productive impact.

Gloria represents a true commitment to life – to living it to its fullest and to keep going full speed. As Linda Burger, CEO of JFS Houston says, "I think it is fair to say that Gloria represents all of the energy and enjoyment of life that we all should strive to achieve"

Rarely slowing down, you will see Gloria at her desk writing articles, meeting with staff and lay leaders to plan media releases, and do what she loves doing best, sharing with the public what JFS is all about. Loved and respected by all, Gloria is an example of how older communal professionals who want to work can still make a critical impact on the outcomes of our agencies' work. Congratulations, Gloria!