



Jewish Family Service of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties Holocaust Survivor Assistance Program

Jewish Family Service of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties has been providing support to Holocaust Survivors for over 20 years. As the Holocaust Survivor population ages and becomes frailer, many more face illness, loneliness, bereavement and a strengthening of the painful memories of the past. JFS helps these Survivors maintain their dignity and independence and quality of life by enabling them to remain in their homes for as long as possible through the provision of home care, case management and socialization services.

The largest service in the JFS program is home health care. This type of service ranges from chore service (i.e. light housekeeping, meal prep, laundry) to personal care (bathing, grooming, etc) and escorting to medical appointments. In addition, social work services provide therapeutic counseling and care management to assist survivors through their emotional and daily living needs as they age. A consulting nurse assesses medication management, home safety and nutritional issues as needed and Café Europa offers regular social gatherings for Survivors at JFS and on the Wilf Campus.

While the JFS services provide a great deal of support to the Survivor community, there are still unmet needs. Transportation services in this tri-county area are very limited and JFS is often asked to provide for transportation when no other options are available (family, friends, county services, volunteer).

JFS provides emergency assistance, such as food assistance as well as helping to cover the cost of hearing aids, dental care, medicine not covered by insurance, rental assistance/utility assistance, household appliances, and more. Unfortunately, the funds available for these services are not sufficient to meet the need.

Lastly, although we address trauma individually with the survivors when needed, we recognize the necessity to offer more opportunities for survivors to express themselves around their trauma/holocaust experience. We would very much like to initiate a Healing Arts Program. An art therapist would work with survivors to help them express their feelings about their Holocaust experience through various artistic media.

Jewish Family Service is an agency of the Jewish federation of Somerset, Hunterdon & Warren Counties.