



## **Expanding the National Capacity for Person-Centered, Trauma-Informed (PCTI) Care: Services and Supports for Holocaust Survivors, Other Older Adults with a History of Trauma and Their Family Caregivers**

### **Expansion of the Critical Supports Program (August 2020)**

**Overview:** The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) has been awarded a grant from The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging (ACL/AoA). This grant expands the national capacity to provide Person-Centered, Trauma Informed (PCTI)<sup>i</sup> care to Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers. This grant will build off the success of the initial grant JFNA received from ACL, which included the Critical Supports Program. Through the original grant, eight Jewish Federations received subgrants to convene local agencies to prevent and/or ameliorate Holocaust survivors' crises and provide critical support services to aid in the ability of Holocaust survivors to age safely in their own homes.

In response to this new grant from ACL, the JFNA Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care will expand the Critical Supports program by awarding eight to ten Jewish Federations with two-year subgrants to: a) convene local agencies to develop strategies to provide coordinated, PCTI emergency support services for Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history trauma, and their family caregivers; and b) outreach to and provide critical support services to Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers.

**Expanded Direct Services:** While direct services remain focused on assisting Holocaust survivors, the new grant will expand service delivery to other older adults with a history of trauma. Expanded direct services could include emergency financial assistance for medical, dental, food, home maintenance, and home care needs for Holocaust survivors and other older adults with a history of trauma. Additionally, as the health and well-being of family caregivers is vital to maintaining the independence of Holocaust survivors and other older adults, awards should be expanded for support services for family caregivers, including support groups and training on how to provide PCTI care to their loved ones.

**Expanded Leadership Councils:** Expanded Leadership Councils will enable JFNA and local Jewish Federations to broaden the reach of PCTI critical supports while building sustainable community partnerships at the local level. Leadership Councils could include local governmental agencies, hospitals, universities, mental health, and other aging services providers, as well as Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers to represent the voices of clients. JFNA strongly encourages including Holocaust survivors and older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers, to represent their communities and add an invaluable voice to conversations.

As trusted conveners in their communities, Jewish Federations are ideally suited to create these Leadership Councils. Jewish Federations will train their expanded Leadership Councils on PCTI care, conduct needs assessments, and allocate subgrants for critical support services to help Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers. Jewish Federations will also be responsible for collecting information and data about grant activities from subgrantees and Leadership Council members. Through this grant, selected Jewish Federations will develop, implement, and sustain their local Leadership Councils.

The grant offers the opportunity for invited Jewish Federations to:

- Serve more Holocaust survivors
- Develop new partnerships with agencies that work with traumatized older populations and their family caregivers
- Facilitate and foster the innovation and expansion of PCTI services to local Holocaust survivors and other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers
- Share promising practices in community-building and PCTI care on a national level



**Structure and Funding:** JFNA will fund selected Jewish Federations in two parts:

- a. **Convene and Coordinate:** Federations will receive planning funds to convene Leadership Councils and develop strategies for service delivery focused on PCTI crisis prevention and/or resolution.
- b. **Direct Services:** Federations will receive direct service funds to distribute to providers to **prevent and resolve crises** for Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers. Funds will be allocated in accordance with the Leadership Councils' strategies. JFNA requires that funds serve Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers. The selected Jewish Federation working with their Leadership Councils will determine how much funding will be spent on each population in their community while ensuring that Holocaust survivors continue to be served.

**Match Requirement:** The required match for this program is 50% of the funds received from JFNA. The match can be cash, including non-federal public funds or Claims Conference funding directed to critical supports for crisis prevention or crisis resolution for Holocaust survivors. The match can also be related in-kind resources, including staff time and office space. The match must be raised and documented to JFNA by August 31, 2021.

**Expanded Critical Supports Subgrantee Requirements:** Participating Federations will be expected to:

- Convene service providers (Local Area Agencies on Aging, senior centers, rehab centers, independent and assisted living facilities, medical and mental health professionals, etc.), organizations that work with other older adults with historical trauma, potential partners from the private sector, Holocaust survivors, family caregivers and others in community-wide Leadership Councils;
- Develop strategies to identify Holocaust survivors and other older adults with a history of trauma most at risk for premature institutionalization and their underlying risk factors (isolation; food insecurity; unsafe housing, declining health of family caregivers, etc.);
- Develop partnership-based strategies to provide services to Holocaust survivors and other older adults with a history of trauma to reduce their risk for premature institutionalization before and after a crisis occurs, including ways to support their family caregivers;
- Distribute funds for direct services;
- Monitor subgrantees and provide fiscal oversight;
- Provide JFNA semiannual updates on coordination and service delivery;
- Participate in JFNA conference calls and training webinars;
- Participate in The JFNA Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care's annual Training Workshop (funds to attend can come from the convening and coordination budget);
- Conduct program evaluations for their subgrants;
- Provide service utilization data to JFNA (including number of clients served in each program funded by the grant) as well as program progress, challenges, and lessons learned;
- Participate in JFNA Critical Supports Program evaluations of Federations, Leadership Council Members, and Leadership Council sub-subgrantees;
- Integrate PCTI principles into Federation policies and operations; and
- Raise the required matching funds, which is 50% of the total JFNA award.

**Process and Timeframe:** Jewish Federations must be invited by JFNA to apply. JFNA will award subgrants to a select group of Jewish Federations that have the capacity to serve Holocaust survivors, other older adults with a history of trauma, and their family caregivers. After invited Jewish Federations communicate their plans with JFNA, they must submit a brief application to JFNA in late fall of 2020. Awards distribution is estimated to be in January 2021. The program year will begin January 2021 and end January 2023.

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<sup>i</sup> PCTI care is a holistic approach to service provision that promotes the dignity, strength, and empowerment of trauma victims by incorporating knowledge about the role of trauma in victims' lives into agency programs, policies, and procedures (Eisinger and Bedney, 2018).