January 21, 2020

The Jewish Federations of North America Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care
Awards Grants for Holocaust Survivor Care

January 27, 2020 is International Holocaust Remembrance Day
and the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz

As the world observes the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the Jewish Federations of North America Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care (“the Center”) announces the award of 45 grants to improve lives for Holocaust survivors. Funding from the Federal government and generous philanthropic support has resulted in $27 million since the program’s inception in 2015. This remains the first and only federally supported grant program designed to help Holocaust survivors age in place.

The alarming rise in antisemitism has made life for Holocaust survivors even more challenging, given their history of trauma. Attacks on what were once safe spaces – supermarkets, synagogues, and homes – have caused anxiety for people who have faced extreme hatred before. Some can no longer sleep at night and others are afraid to leave their homes or attend an event at a Jewish venue. If left unchecked, this situation can lead to increased isolation and a sense of hopelessness resulting in physical and emotional decline.

“Antisemitism has shaken our community and Holocaust survivors are deeply affected,” said Mark Wilf, chair of JFNA’s Board of Trustees and past chair of JFNA’s National Holocaust Survivor Initiative. “We are grateful for the Federal government’s commitment to help survivors and ensure that this vulnerable group has additional support.”

New grants will provide person-centered, trauma-informed (PCTI) services to more Holocaust survivors to promote aging in place, raise awareness about the prevalence and impact of trauma in the lives of older adults, and promote the widespread implementation of PCTI care for traumatized populations.

The Center has become the catalyst for a nation-wide culture shift toward PCTI care, an innovative model of service delivery that promotes well-being and avoids the re-traumatization of anyone who has experienced trauma in the past. With the increasing age, frailty, and poverty of the nation’s 80,000 Holocaust survivors, and with research suggesting that almost 90% of older Americans have experienced a traumatic event, the development and implementation of the PCTI approach is urgent.

In the first two and a half years for which data is available, the Center has impacted the lives of tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors through direct service and by training over 9,000 professionals including social workers, physicians, dentists, lawyers, and home health aides. Additionally, the Center has provided over 2,000 family caregivers with training and support in
their caregiving role, and has trained hundreds of agencies across the county on how to provide PCTI care to older adults through national webinars and conference presentations.

The Center promotes excellence in service delivery together with the expertise of partner organizations including the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

As the world commemorates the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi German concentration camp and extermination center, and International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Center remains committed to ensuring that the nation's living Holocaust survivors are never forgotten.

Year 5 Cohort
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit
Jewish Federation of San Diego County
Generations Housing Initiative, Chicago
Young Mens Young Womens Hebrew Association of Boro Park, Brooklyn
Jewish Family Service of MetroWest New Jersey
Project Lead, Richmond Hill, New York
Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley
Jewish Federation of Raleigh-Cary
OHEL Children's Home and Family Services, Brooklyn
Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Monmouth County
Menorah Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care, Brooklyn
Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County
Lola and Saul Kramer Senior Services Agency, Palm Beach County
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Phoenix
Jewish Family Service of Dallas
DOROT, Inc., New York

Renewal grants awarded to:

Year 4 Cohort
UJA-Federation of New York
Greater Miami Jewish Federation
Jewish Federation of Broward County
Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ
Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago
Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman Jewish Family Services of Broward County, Inc.
Edith and Carl Marks Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst
Elayne and James Schoke Jewish Family Service of Fairfield County
Guardians of the Sick, Brooklyn
Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services, Inc.
Jewish Family & Child Service of Portland, Oregon
Jewish Family & Children's Service of Southern New Jersey
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia
Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland
Jewish Family Service of Atlantic and Cape May Counties
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
Jewish Family Service of Orange County
Jewish Family Service of San Diego
Jewish Family Service of St. Paul
Jewish Family Service of Cincinnati
Jewish Social Service Agency, Greater Washington
Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, Inc., New York
MJHS Hospice and Palliative Care, New York
Pesach Tikvah Hope Development, New York
Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services, Palm Beach
Selfhelp Community Services, Inc., New York
The Blue Card, Inc., New York

Previous grant recipients:

Year 3 Cohort
CJE SeniorLife, Chicago
Edith and Carl Marks Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, New York
Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family & Children's Service of Palm Beach County, Inc.
Jewish Community Council of Canarsie, New York
Jewish Community Council of the Rockaway Peninsula, New York
Jewish Family & Children's Services of Southern Arizona
Jewish Family & Community Services East Bay, California
Jewish Family & Community Services, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida
Jewish Family and Children's Services of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties
Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey
Jewish Family Service of Cincinnati
Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit
Jewish Family Service of Orange County, Inc, New York
Jewish Family Service Seattle
Jewish Family Services Columbus, Ohio
Jewish Family Services of Greater Charlotte
KleinLife, Philadelphia
Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, New York
Older Adults Technology Services, Inc., New York
Pesach Tikvah Hope Development, New York
Selfhelp Community Services, Inc., New York

Year 2 Cohort
Bet Tzedek, Los Angeles
Edith and Carl Marks Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, New York
Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services, Inc., Clearwater, Florida
Jewish Family & Career Services, Louisville, Kentucky
Jewish Family & Child Service, Portland, Oregon
Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia
Jewish Family and Children’s Services of North New Jersey
Jewish Federation and Family Services of Orange County, California
Pesach Tikvah Hope Development, Inc., New York
Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services, Palm Beach
Selfhelp Community Services, Inc., New York
The Blue Card, Inc., New York

Year 1 Cohort
CJE SeniorLife, Chicago
Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Palm Beach County
Guardians of the Sick, Brooklyn
Jewish Community Services of Baltimore
Jewish Community Services of South Florida
Jewish Family & Career Services of Atlanta
Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Greater Boston
Jewish Family & Community Services East Bay, California
Jewish Family and Children’s Services of San Francisco
Jewish Family Service Agency of Central New Jersey
Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit
Jewish Family Service of Orange County, New York
Jewish Family Service of Rochester
Jewish Family Service of San Diego
Jewish Family Service of Cincinnati
Jewish Family Services of Columbus, Ohio
Jewish Family Services of Greater Kansas City
Jewish Family Services of Indianapolis
Jewish Social Service Agency, Greater Washington
Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, New York
Selfhelp Community Services, New York

This program is made possible by federal funds from a grant through the Administration for Community Living. Approximately 60% of the project, or $4,935,000, comes from federal sources. Approximately 40% or $3,317,500 comes from non-federal sources.

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The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) represents 146 Jewish Federations and over 300 Network communities, which raise and distribute more than $3 billion annually for social welfare, social services, and educational needs. The Federation movement, collectively among the top 10 charities on the continent, protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide through the values of tikkun olam (repairing the world), tzedakah (charity and social justice), and Torah (Jewish learning).

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