The Holocaust Survivor Support Fund

Meeting the Needs of Holocaust Survivors in Greater Atlanta
Donate to help survivors

A joint partnership of Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, Jewish Family & Career Services, Jewish Home Life Communities, The Breman Museum, the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, and Eternal-Life Hemshech to meet the increased needs of home care, health care, social services, assisted living support, and financial assistance for Holocaust survivors in our community.

Today, at least 150 of the more than 250 Greater Atlanta Holocaust survivors receive financial, social, or support services. The average survivor age is 84 and more than 25% of survivors receiving financial and support services have annual incomes that fall below the Federal poverty level. As needs increase each year, so do the funding gaps.

It is predicted that over the next five years the costs to cover these services and assistance will exceed at a minimum $2 million, or $400,000 annually for the most fundamental needs.

Projected Support and Service of Unmet Needs for Survivors in One Year

Hilda (name changed for privacy) suffered persecution from the Nazis during World War II. As Hilda ages and her health deteriorates she needs assistance with home care, house cleaning, prescription drug coverage and transportation. Hilda is low income with few assets. She is fortunate in that she receives financial support and services from JF&CS through Claims Conference funding. However, these dollars are insufficient to meet the needs of all the Holocaust survivors in our community. And as needs increase each year, so do the funding gaps.

We need your help. Please consider making a contribution to the Holocaust Survivor Support Fund so we can meet the critical needs of Holocaust survivors in our community and ensure they live their final days in comfort and with dignity.

To learn more, be part of this community effort, or make a contribution, please contact Beth Warner at bwarner@jewishatlanta.org or 404.870.1624 or visit JewishAtlanta.org/holocaustsurvivorsupportfund to make an online donation.
Why is your help needed?
The critical needs for these survivors have primarily been funded through Claims Conference. Founded in 1951, Claims Conference allocates German government funds to agencies for Holocaust survivors in need throughout the world for suffering and losses resulting from Nazi persecution. This resource is insufficient for this aging population because:

- Available funds cannot keep up with demand
- Stringent Claims Conference restricts limits on home care
- Medical equipment, hearing aids, dental, prescription drug, and other health related needs are underfunded

In addition, Claims Conference does not help survivors with assisted living expenses despite the fact that some people need the care provided in such an environment.

How will funds raised for the Holocaust Survivor Support Fund be used?
Funds will be used to help pay for home care, medical needs, medical equipment, prescription drugs, dental care, home-delivered meals, emergency financial assistance, adult day care, hospice, food assistance, assisted living, housing support (with partial scholarships), and other basic needs.

Why is it so expensive to care for these survivors?
Many survivors rebuilt their lives without the basic financial security to ensure sufficient funds for self-care in their senior years. At this point, survivors’ needs are primarily related to health care, home care and residential needs.

Where are the families, and in particular, the children of these survivors? Can’t they help?
Family members do what they can, but may struggle with their own budget challenges or are elderly themselves and unable to assume financial responsibility for increasingly costly services for their elderly family members.

Why should you support the Holocaust Survivor Support Fund?
We must take care of the final generation of survivors as our responsibility to the Jewish community. Dollars are diminishing, needs are increasing, and survivors have a short window to receive this precious care. The HSSF will provide this special group the opportunity to live their remaining years as full of a life as possible, in comfort and with dignity.

The Holocaust Survivor Support Fund is a partnership of:

Get involved now. Contact Beth Warner at bwarner@jewishatlanta.org or 404.870.1624 or go to JewishAtlanta.org/holocaustsurvivorsupportfund to learn more.