



The American Jewish  
Joint Distribution  
Committee



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April 14, 2004

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BY FAX:

Special Master Judah Gribetz  
Deputy Special Master Shari Reig  
Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation  
c/o Bingham McCutchen, LLP  
399 Park Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Gribetz and Ms. Reig:

The attached chart is submitted in response to your request for clarification of the January 30, 2004 submission by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) regarding the needs of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution in the Former Soviet Union (FSU). The JDC submission estimated that in 2004 the 177 Hased welfare centers in the FSU will serve 121,600 needy elderly Jewish Nazi victims. The service enhancements proposed are an augmentation to care for these clients which are currently funded by the Court under the Looted Assets Class of the Swiss Banks Settlement, as well as by the Claims Conference and other sources. In this letter and the accompanying chart we summarize and clarify the priority humanitarian services needed for 2004 and beyond.

### 1. FOOD A

In 2004 all 121,600 Jewish Nazi victims in the FSU would benefit from this \$39 per annum enhancement totaling \$4,742,400, as follows:

A) Increasing the frequency of food packages so that all Nazi victims in this program receive a food package once a month. This is the most basic component of the FSU food program. These packages, containing basic non-perishable items such as pasta, flour, beans, canned fish, rice, sugar and oil, are intended to supplement the insufficient diets of the elderly. They are distributed to clients, on average, about six times per year, including special packages prepared for Passover and Rosh Hashanah. The contents were developed pursuant to the recommendations of a Hebrew University nutritionist and adjusted according to the availability of local products.

B) Increasing the frequency of both canteen meals and meals-on-wheels so that all Nazi victims in these programs receive a hot meal once a day. Canteen meals are served three to four times per week, on average, either in communal dining rooms in the Hased centers, or, in small towns where there is no local Hased building, at a local cafeteria where clients eat during a special daily time period when it is rented specifically for their use. For many Hased clients, this is the only

The JDC receives its funds primarily from American Jewry through the Jewish Federations of the United States and the United Jewish Communities. JDC also receives funding from World Jewish Relief of Great Britain and UIA Federations Canada.



## GRIBETZ AND REIG LETTER CONTINUED:

hot meal they will receive during the course of a week, and their only source of protein. In many cases, these meals prevent malnutrition and starvation. A typical meal includes salad, chicken, fish or soy, a vegetable, pasta or cooked grain, and a baked dessert or fruit. Meals on Wheels are provided four to five times per week to bedridden or otherwise homebound clients and are ready-to-eat, cooked meals delivered to those who are unable to prepare food for themselves. Many of the meals-on-wheels recipients have not gone outside in years. Hesed centers use reusable containers to package and deliver the meals. Some also use a special method of deep freeze cooking that keeps food sterile and fresh. In these cases, the Hesed is able to deliver several meals at a time to the client's home, which can last over the course of a week.

C) Increasing the frequency of fresh food sets so that all Nazi victims in this program receive 2.5 fresh food sets a month. This Market-to-Home program offers an alternative to the more expensive meals-on-wheels. Food sets with fresh products such as eggs, poultry, cheese and milk are delivered about every three weeks to the homes of clients who lack the strength to go out to the market, but are capable of preparing their own meals - either independently, or with the assistance of a homecare worker.

## 2. MEDICAL

Currently due to funding limitations only half of Hesed Nazi victim clients are able to receive medical services. JDC believes that in 2004 with additional funding approximately 30,000 additional clients who need some form of medical service from the Hesed centers could be served. Our proposal, totaling \$1,459,200, at an average cost of \$4 per month, would mainly cover the distribution of subsidized medication for these 30,400 additional clients. Medicines and vitamin supplements are provided either through the services of a volunteer pharmacist working at a dispensary established within a Hesed, or via an arrangement made between a Hesed and a local pharmacy. Assistive devices - such as eyeglasses and hearing aids - for the hearing and visually impaired are also provided as needed. Rehabilitation equipment, such as wheelchairs, canes, walkers, crutches, non-slip aids, bedsore prevention mattresses, and special devices for bed-adjusting and bed-lifting, are loaned to clients who have been injured for a limited period, until they recover.

## 3. HOMECARE

Currently, approximately 14% of Hesed clients (about 17,000) need homecare services and received on average 4 hours of such care per week, entirely through



**GRIBETZ AND REIG LETTER CONTINUED:**

Hesed programs. They do not benefit from any state-funded homecare or have the possibility of any decent institutional care as a last alternative. Our proposal, totaling \$8,852,480, is based on providing each client who needs homecare with an average of 10 hours of service per week (in addition to the 4 hours currently provided) therefore totaling 14 hours per week, or an average of 2 hours per day. At an average cost of \$1 per hour this would cost \$520 per year. JDC believes that as clients age there will be an increased percentage of clients who need homecare each year and this is reflected in the chart.

Homecare workers assist with dressing and feeding the client, administering medications, and facilitating mobility and limited activity; they take care of personal hygiene needs and track clients' changes in health. Homecare services also help with fundamental activities of daily living, such as tidying and cleaning, laundry, shopping, food preparation, and accompanying the client to various appointments. Caregivers also see to it that essential home repairs are carried out. In more remote areas, homecare includes carrying water from local wells and chopping wood for heating and cooking.

**4. WINTER RELIEF**

The frigid temperatures in many regions of the FSU make winter relief programs vital in helping Hesed clients cope with the harsh weather conditions. Winter relief "kits" are distributed once per winter, at an average cost of \$50 per kit. They may comprise heating and cooking fuel, including coal, wood and gas, as well as blankets, coats, sweaters and boots. An additional \$500,000 per year is needed to ensure that an additional 10,000 Nazi victims in the FSU who need a winter relief "kit" can receive one.

**5. SOS**

Although Hesed welfare services serve the individual needs of clients in a variety of circumstances, the strict set of eligibility criteria makes it impossible for every eventuality to be met. The SOS Special Needs and Emergency Cases Program address this need. The average SOS grant is \$50 and a client may receive more than one grant if needed. We estimate that \$500,000 is needed to provide approximately 10,000 additional SOS grants.

The range of SOS goods and services includes:

- Health services, including drugs, hearing aids and glasses, emergency dental care, hospitalization costs such as surgery, adult diapers, bedding, test-strips, medical tests and transportation, and laundering of soiled clothes, as well as



**GRIBETZ AND REIG LETTER CONTINUED:**

prostheses and the purchase of rehabilitative equipment and rehabilitative courses of treatment.

\* Food and utilities, including emergency food supplies and payment of utility debts.

\* Extra winter relief such as the purchase of heating fuels (wood, coal and gas) and heating appliances, clothing, boots, and blankets.

\* Home repairs for houses and apartments, including roof repairs and the purchase of building materials.

\* Purchase and repair of household goods and electrical appliances, including stoves, refrigerators, furniture, and telephones.

\* Other humanitarian aid, including, for example, the purchase of pots and pans, sinks, and toilets; dentures; bedpans; adaptation of bathrooms for the elderly; special medical equipment; provision of water jugs to enable a Nazi victim to bring water from a well to his/her home and outhouse; the purchase of a cow to provide milk for a client in a remote rural area; connection of a gas pipeline to heat a home; and payment of rent to prevent eviction.

An additional \$500,000 per year is needed to ensure that all Nazi victims in the FSU who face emergency situations can benefit from the SOS program.

**6.ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

Should significant additional funds be available, JDC recommends consideration of the following service enhancements for Jewish Nazi victims in the FSU.

**A.) FOOD B**

This option involves the addition of fresh food sets (described above) to the assistance provided to all 121,600 Nazi victim clients currently eligible for any other food program. This would serve as the for a second daily meal for these clients, thereby providing for their complete nutritional needs. This option requires the purchase of nearly 4,000,000 additional fresh food sets annually for distribution to Nazi victim clients, at an estimated additional \$150 per capita annually for a total of \$18,240,000 in 2004.

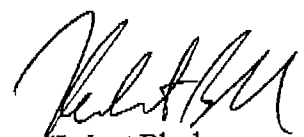



GRIBETZ AND REIG LETTER CONTINUED:

B.) MINIMAL MEDICAL INSURANCE

A more complete solution to the lack of structured healthcare can be given by providing the 121,600 Nazi victim clients with medical insurance. The FSU national health system is theoretically supposed to cover all the medical needs of the population; in reality, this does not occur. JDC has looked at funding a voluntary medical insurance program for Hased clients. Based on one such private program currently operating in Russia, the estimated minimum required to cover clients' medical needs would be annual premium of \$250 per client to cover ambulatory treatments in clinics; home visits by physicians; immediate medical care; and emergency hospitalization (with a maximum compensation per occurrence of \$2,500). The 2004 cost of this insurance would be \$30,400,000.

Sincerely,

  
Herbert Block  
Assistant Executive Vice-President

  
Steven Schwager  
Executive Vice-President

SS/HB:km  
Enclosure

JDC PROJECTIONS OF SERVICES NEEDED FOR JEWISH NAZI VICTIMS IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION (as of April 14, 2004)

	Service Cost Per Capita	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015	2020
Nazi Victims / Year		121,600	114,500	105,600	96,800	87,700	79,500	71,000	33,300	22,100
Food A Clients		121,800	114,500	105,600	96,800	87,700	79,500	71,000	33,300	22,100
Food A	\$39	\$4,742,400	\$4,465,500	\$4,118,400	\$3,775,200	\$3,420,300	\$3,100,500	\$2,769,000	\$1,298,700	\$661,900
Medical Clients		30,400	28,625	26,400	24,200	21,925	19,875	17,750	8,325	5,525
Medical	\$48	\$1,459,200	\$1,374,000	\$1,267,200	\$1,161,600	\$1,052,400	\$954,000	\$852,000	\$399,600	\$265,200
Honorecare Clients		17,024	20,610	23,232	25,168	26,310	27,030	26,980	19,314	17,238
Honorecare	\$520	\$8,852,480	\$10,717,200	\$12,080,640	\$13,087,360	\$13,681,200	\$14,055,600	\$14,029,600	\$10,043,280	\$8,963,760
Winter Relief Clients		10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Winter Relief	\$50	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
SOS Clients		10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
SOS	\$50	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Annual Subtotal		\$16,121,504	\$17,625,935	\$18,535,872	\$19,093,528	\$19,222,135	\$19,177,005	\$18,715,330	\$12,789,219	\$11,133,623
Food B Clients		121,600	114,500	105,600	96,800	87,700	79,500	71,000	33,300	22,100
Food B	\$150	\$18,240,000	\$17,175,000	\$15,840,000	\$14,520,800	\$13,155,000	\$11,925,000	\$10,650,000	\$4,995,000	\$3,315,000
Minimal Medical Insurance Clients		121,600	114,500	105,600	96,800	87,700	79,500	71,000	33,300	22,100
Minimal Medical Insurance										
Medical Insurance										
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Medical Insurance	\$250	\$30,400,000	\$28,625,000	\$26,400,000	\$24,200,000	\$21,925,000	\$19,875,000	\$17,750,000	\$8,325,000	\$5,525,000
Annual Subtotal		\$48,761,600	\$45,914,500	\$42,345,600	\$38,816,800	\$35,167,700	\$31,879,500	\$28,471,000	\$13,353,300	\$8,862,100
Annual Grand Total		\$64,761,504	\$63,425,935	\$60,775,872	\$57,813,528	\$54,302,135	\$50,877,005	\$47,115,330	\$26,109,219	\$19,973,623