



**PESACH TIKVAH/DOOR OF HOPE**  
**FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES**

SWISS BANKS HOLOCAUST



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- Sheterea Workshop
- Community Residences
- Continuing Treatment Program

February 4<sup>th</sup> 2004

Holocaust Victims assets Litigation  
P.O.Box 8300  
San Francisco CA 94128-8300

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LEGAL SERVICES

Dear Sir/Madam,

Due to our inadvertent error the grant request enclosed which we attempted to send you by Fedex was not deliverable to you. We were not aware that Fedex does not deliver to post box addresses and should not have accepted our letter. It was only today returned to us by Fedex. We are mailing it overnight. Please accept it as per the original mailing date of January 29<sup>th</sup>, so that it will not be considered as having arrived late, after the deadline.

Respectfully,

Zalman Kotzen CSW  
Director, Holocaust Survivors Program

PESACH TIKVAH HOPE DEVELOPMENT, INC.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES: 18 MIDDLETON STREET • BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11206 • TEL: (718) 875-6900 • FAX (718) 875-6999



# PESACH TIKVAH/DOOR OF HOPE

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## FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES

- Family Services
- Outpatient Clinic
- Sheltered Workshop
- Community Residences
- Continuing Treatment Program

January 28<sup>th</sup> 2004

Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation  
P.O. Box 8300  
San Francisco, CA 94128-8300

### GRANT REQUEST

Contact person: Zalman Kotzen CSW, Director of Holocaust Survivors Program

Amount requested from the Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation:

Social Services: \$1,500,000 per annum.

Assisted-living facility: \$4.5 million one time allocation.

### Background information about our organization

Pesach Tikvah is the major professional social service agency in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Pesach Tikvah operates a Family Counseling Center, Continuing Day Treatment Program and a Men's residence under license from OMH; an Intermediate Care Facility for severely handicapped women under the license of OMRDD; respite programs for physically and mentally handicapped children and, a social service program for Holocaust survivors which is funded by the Claims Conference. Pesach Tikvah was established seventeen years ago in 1986.

Pesach Tikvah will be running an expanded program of social services as well as the establishment of an assisted-living facility in association with the Williamsburg Senior Center

The Williamsburg Senior Center is Day Program for Jewish seniors, 90% of whom are Holocaust survivors. It is licensed by DFTA (New York State Department of the Aging, DFTA ID 0320F). Established approximately thirty years ago it has been ably managed since 1979 by it's current director Esther Fishman. The center serves 120 survivors per day on site at 125 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206, and provides meals on a daily basis for a further 20 survivors. It is open daily from 9am to 5pm. There are four full-time staff members and two part-time. The annual budget for this agency is \$300,000. Services provided survivors include meals, educational and recreational groups, case management, nutrition education, and exercise groups. The Williamsburg Senior center is a fitting partner for Pesach Tikvah's expanded program, which includes the establishment of an assisted-living facility. The two agencies have worked in close cooperation since the inception of Pesach Tikvah's Holocaust Survivor program. The Advisory Board of the Williamsburg Center comprises Zalmen Glantz, Herman Greenwald, Joseph Gross, Faye

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Klein, Elias Leitman, Levi Markowitz, Olga Mendlowitz, Joseph Pollack, Riva Pollack, Rifka Rosenberg, Zalmen Sander, Lipa Teitelbaum, Arye Wertzberger, Leah Weiss, Yeshaya Weinstock, Devora Zupnik and Mendel Zupnik.

Pesach Tikvah Board members and persons holding major positions within the organization.

*Executive Board:*

Wilmos Friedman – President  
Rabbi David Niederman- Chairperson  
Hershel Gross – Vice President  
Moshe Ryba – Treasurer  
Moshe Friedman  
Rabbi Naftuli Weiss  
Zevi Steinmetz  
Aron Jacobowitz  
Simon Wieser  
David Mayrowitz  
Cheskel Friedman  
David Kahan

*Senior Staff Members:*

Irwin Shindler Psy. D. – Executive Director  
Miriam Eisdorfer Psy. D. – Director of Family Services Clinic  
Brenda Katz CSW – Director, Continuing Day Treatment Program  
Chana Shindler – Director, Intermediate Care Facility  
Zalman Kotzen CSW – Director, Holocaust Survivor Program  
Joe Bistricher – Director – Mens Residence  
Esther Sperber – Director, Childrens Respite Program

Pesach Tikvah primarily serves the Williamsburg Jewish community, but also a large number of members of the wider Jewish and non-Jewish community of Brooklyn, New York.

The organization's annual current budget is \$4.2 million.

A copy of the organization's audited financial statement for the last fiscal year is enclosed.

**Background to Pesach Tikvah's Holocaust survivor Program:**

The survivor population of Williamsburg is likely the largest single remaining group of survivors in the world. It is also the youngest, as it is comprised mainly of survivors from Hungary and Romania, of the countries last forced to send their Jews to the death camps.

There are believed to be between five and seven thousand survivors in the Williamsburg area. It is estimated that approximately one-third to a half of these survivors need services, i.e. between two to three thousand. This population has been historically underserved by the agencies most closely involved in working with survivors. This is due to several factors: An unwillingness to take "blood money" from the Germans; mistrust of "government" and "authority", and dependence on children. However, as the population aged and became more needy, and as trust grew in the community of Pesach Tikvah, a social service program for survivors was launched nearly three years ago through a grant from the Claims Conference. Since that time the Conference has continued to provide guidance, direction and moral support for this program. Pesach Tikvah has also established a close working relationship with The Blue Card, Self Help and the Met Council. Pesach Tikvah also works in close cooperation with local agencies, especially with the UJO and the Williamsburg Senior center.

#### **Social Service Programs currently being provided to Holocaust survivors by Pesach Tikvah:**

*Social Work Evaluations.* Trained social workers visit survivors at home, in hospitals and nursing homes to evaluate clients' physical, financial and emotional needs. More than 300 visits have been made over the past year.

*Case Management and Advocacy.* Caseworkers secure financial support for needy survivors from agencies such as The Blue Card and advocate for their legal and social rights. They also make referrals to local agencies and facilities serving the elderly. Pesach Tikvah workers have also advocated successfully for reparations not received previously. For example \$16,000 was recently secured for a Williamsburg survivor who was in desperate need of financial assistance, through the persistent effort of a caseworker. Over the past year 128 survivors have been served, and the financial benefits secured alone total over \$80,000. Several applications for Article II have been submitted on behalf of survivors and are expected to come through soon. In 2003, Pesach Tikvah distributed \$120,000 in emergency aid and services to Williamsburg survivors.

*Friendly Visitation.* Pesach Tikvah staff and volunteers visit homebound survivors and assist them by securing warm meals, clothing and medications.

*Education and Rehabilitation.* In conjunction with the Williamsburg Senior Center, which is partially funded by the Department of the Aging, Pesach Tikvah sponsors weekly physical training and cultural activities which are invariably well attended and greatly appreciated by the clients, 90% of whom are survivors. Pesach Tikvah also organizes special events such as Chanukah and Purim parties for survivors. Activities and events are led by workers who are culturally sensitive to the special needs of the highly observant Williamsburg survivor population.

#### **Expansion of existing services**

Pesach Tikvah has developed an extensive network system in Williamsburg to identify needy survivors. Local organizations such as the UJO, ODA, Williamsburg Senior Center and Satmar Bikur Cholim as well as synagogues, community centers, nursing homes and community activist organizations make referrals to Pesach Tikvah on an on-going basis. In addition to this, hundreds of individuals are reached by word of mouth in this tight-knit and largely integrated community, through an informal yet highly effective "grapevine".

Pesach Tikvah proposes to maintain all of its' existing programs and at the same time make a major expansion into the area of providing homecare needs, especially chore/housekeeper services; personal care; medicine, medical equipment and respite care; food and transportation; and personal emergency response systems.

Pesach Tikvah is especially well placed to effectively implement a major increase of services to holocaust survivors. The Director of the Holocaust Survivor Program of Pesach Tikvah is Zalman Kotzen. He is a certified clinical social worker, an ordained rabbi, and he has many years of experience in Jewish communal service, both in the United States and overseas. He is ably assisted by a staff of service coordinators and case workers who are dedicated to their mission of helping Holocaust survivors.

Claims Conference has done and continues to do everything in its power to increase its financial, logistic and advisory support to Pesach Tikvah. Nevertheless Claims conference funds are limited and nowhere near what Pesach Tikvah actually needs to even remotely address the growing needs of the Williamsburg survivors. Pesach Tikvah therefore respectfully requests an allocation of \$1,500,000 per financial year to be distributed directly and exclusively to needy Holocaust survivors residing in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. This would provide 180 Holocaust survivors an average of twenty hours per week each of homecare services over a one year period, at a cost of \$8 per hour.

Pesach Tikvah will of course abide by the rules, regulations and recommendations of the Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation. Where no stipulation is made by the court, Pesach Tikvah will adhere to the present standards dictated to it by the Claims Conference with respect to its' allocations from that body.

### **Assisted Living Facility**

Increasingly, elderly survivors in Williamsburg find themselves isolated and alone because of health problems and/or lack of discretionary income. They have few opportunities to get together with other people with similar histories and interests. This is particularly difficult for the large number of elderly Holocaust survivors who have no family members, or for those whose family members have moved away or are overwhelmed with the needs of their children and are thus unable to provide assistance. As with any aging population, many of their friends have become ill themselves or have passed on, leaving them with nowhere to turn.

There are many cases of childless widows and widowers who spend endless hours on their own, often in dingy rooms, poorly heated in the winter and without air-conditioning in the hot, humid summer months. Sometimes they do not have enough to eat, lacking even simple amenities and medical attention. Perhaps worst of all, many are still emotionally traumatized by their memories of the horrors of the concentration camps.

The Williamsburg community is well known for its kindness to and respect for the elderly, especially when they are Holocaust survivors. Nevertheless the community cannot do everything on its own and there are many survivors who "slip through the cracks". There is an urgent need for appropriate housing and care for these people. It is therefore proposed to build an assisted living facility in Williamsburg. It is envisaged that this facility will provide medical, nursing, social and religious programs. A major goal of the facility would be to keep survivors out of nursing homes and hospitals for as long as possible.

Pesach Tikvah therefore respectfully requests that a one-time allocation of \$4.5 million be made to Pesach Tikvah for the sole and exclusive purpose of establishing an assisted-living facility for qualified needy holocaust survivors residing in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

#### **Footnote**

Over the course of the next several weeks Pesach Tikvah intends to submit letters of support from the major Jewish organizations as well as from local agencies and individuals in positions of leadership. Enclosed is a copy of a letter of support from the Claims Conference itself.

For further information please call the executive director of Pesach Tikvah Dr. Irwin Shindler at (718) 875-6900 ext 132, or the director of the Pesach Tikvah Holocaust Survivor program, Zalman Kotzen CSW at (917) 553-0910.

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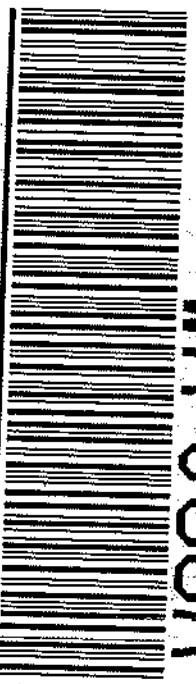
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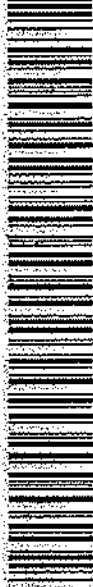
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