

To Our Dear Friends,

On behalf of the board of directors and staff of the Claims Conference, we hope this finds you well.

Now that we have passed the one-year mark since the beginning of the pandemic, we have gone through the cycle of Jewish holidays, searching for new ways to create joy and meaning. This has taken place even as we were worried and isolated and witnesses to tragedy in our community and around the world.

Throughout these last months, we have learned lessons of resilience from you, the community of survivors. As spring arrives, and we see the light at the end of this long, dark tunnel, we are grateful to you for sharing your strength. Spring is a time of hope, as the first buds appear, flowers peek out of the ground and birds return with their songs.

Now that many of us have been vaccinated, it looks like our days may be returning to close to normal, or a new normal, before too long. For those of you not yet vaccinated, we want to be sure to give you the opportunity to do so. If you need help

accessing a vaccine, please see the toll-free number inside. Of course, we need to remain vigilant and continue the healthy habits we have learned.

At the Claims Conference, we affirm our commitment to take care of survivors, providing a small measure of justice to allow survivors to live with dignity. And we remain dedicated to Holocaust education, to further an understanding of history among all citizens of the world -- and to spread the lessons that you continue to teach us.

We look forward to the time -- may it be soon -- that we will be meeting again in person, that we'll see and greet one another at Café Europa and enjoy other social events and happy occasions. We think you will find the articles inside about health and safety of interest.

Sending our warm regards and all very best wishes,



Gideon Taylor
President,
Claims Conference



Greg Schneider
Executive Vice President,
Claims Conference

Дорогие друзья,

Совет директоров и сотрудники Клеймс Конференс надеются, что это письмо застанет вас в добром здравии.

С начала пандемии прошёл год, за это время мы прошли полный цикл еврейских праздников, попытались найти новые способы обрести радость и смысл. Все это происходило на фоне тревоги, изоляции и трагедии, разворачивающейся в нашем обществе и во всем мире.

Все это время вы, пережившие Холокост, преподавали нам уроки стойкости. Теперь, когда с наступлением весны начинает проглядывать свет в конце длинного, тёмного туннеля, мы благодарны вам за мужество. Весна время надежды, появляются первые почки, цветы пробиваются сквозь почву и певчие птицы возвращаются.

В свете того, что многие из нас уже сделали прививку, похоже, что наша жизнь вскоре вернется к норме, возможно к новой норме. Тем из вас, кто ещё не сделал прививку, мы хотели бы обеспечить возможность её сделать. Если вам нужна помощь в получении вакцины, пожалуйста, позвоните по бесплатному номеру телефона в этом письме. Разумеется, мы должны оставаться осмотрительными и продолжать применять полезные навыки, которые мы выработали.

Клеймс Конференс подтверждает, что будет

продолжать свои целенаправленные усилия по обеспечению малой доли справедливости заботясь о переживших Холокост, обеспечивая им возможность жить достойно. Мы продолжаем продвигать образование по вопросам Холокоста с целью расширить понимание истории жителями всей земли, а также распространить опыт, который вы продолжаете передавать нам.

Мы очень надеемся на скорую личную встречу, когда мы сможем увидеться и поприветствовать друг друга в кафе Европа, сможем насладиться другими мероприятиями и приятными событиями. Мы надеемся, что статьи о здоровье и безопасности, а также о сохранении памяти, вам покажутся интересными.

Тепло вас приветствуем и желаем всего наилучшего,

Всегда ваши,
Гидеон Тэйлор
Президент,
Клеймс Конференс

Грег Шнайдер
Исполнительный Вице Президент,
Клеймс Конференс

News You Can Use

SO, WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN VACCINATED?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is starting to release guidelines for people who have been vaccinated. First, though, make sure you have gotten all the shots you need. That means two doses of the vaccine three weeks apart if you received the Pfizer vaccine; two doses four weeks apart if you received the Moderna vaccine; and one dose if you received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

No vaccine yet? Many states are making

BY FRAN KRITZ

arrangements to vaccinate people in their homes, often along with their caregivers. Call 211 for more information.

CDC recommends that fully vaccinated people continue to take the following COVID-19 precautions when in public, when visiting with unvaccinated people from other households, and when around unvaccinated people who are at high risk of getting severely ill from COVID-19:

- ✿ Wear a well-fitted mask.
- ✿ Stay at least 6 feet from people you do not live with.
- ✿ Avoid medium-and large-sized in-person gatherings.
- ✿ Get tested if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- ✿ Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations.

Some good news is that guidelines for



FRAN KRITZ is a consumer and health policy reporter based in Jerusalem and Silver Spring, Md. For a decade Fran was the health reporter for the New York Jewish Week and is a frequent contributor to NPR.org and the Washington Post.



L'Chaim
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gathering indoors with family members and others who are fully vaccinated have changed. Please check [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for the agency's latest recommendations.

Dr. Aaron Glatt, chief of infectious diseases and hospital epidemiologist at Mount Sinai South Nassau in New York, a rabbi and the son of Holocaust survivors, says that people "have done a wonderful thing for themselves by being vaccinated," but adds that there are still some precautions to take. "While the vaccines are very effective, there can still be a very tiny risk of vaccinated people transmitting the virus to others and of getting the virus themselves."

Dr. Glatt recommends avoiding crowds, and if you're with groups you don't know, such as at the grocery store, keep your mask on and maintain a six-foot distance from others.

"But, once you are fully vaccinated, you can gather indoors — masks off — with family members, and even hug each other so long as you are sure that no one is sick or has been exposed to the virus."

LIKE TELEHEALTH VISITS? EXPECT MANY TO CONTINUE

About 30 percent of all outpatient medical visits during the pandemic have been conducted by video, according to a February 2021 study in the journal Health Affairs. Even once you're vaccinated you may decide you prefer the convenience of video medical visits from home, but there are still some visits best had in person, say experts.

Dr. Conrad Banis, chief medical officer of the telehealth firm DrFirst ([drfirst.com](https://www.drfirst.com)), says many types of care work very well with telehealth. For example, says Dr. Banis, "a lot of patients prefer telehealth visits with their therapist or psychiatrist because of the privacy it offers and because they feel more comfortable in their home than navigating a waiting room with other people."

Telehealth can also be a great option for patients with chronic health conditions to



plan ongoing care with their doctor and review data, or even collect data at home — such as blood pressure, blood sugar levels and weight — and go over current symptoms. This is the type of information that patients typically gathered at home and brought into the office to discuss, so doctors could discern valuable trends rather than just take in-office measurements.

Of course, telehealth shouldn't replace all in-person visits, says Dr. Banis. Quick treatment of emergencies can be the difference between life and death, so for symptoms such as chest pain, severe infections, worsening shortness of breath and severe allergic reactions, always call 911.

"And some evaluations are more effective with a face-to-face visit, such as examining new lumps, bumps and fluid collection. And face-to-face visits also help establish trust with a new doctor, which is such an important element of the doctor-patient relationship.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR TECH DEVICES EASIER TO USE

Among the things we've all learned during the pandemic is the value of technology — from our phones to our TVs and computers. Volunteers at the Marlene Meyerson JCC in Manhattan have some tips to make your tech devices even easier to use.

- ✿ Create a password that you can remember, date it, write it down somewhere and protect it.
- ✿ Finding the laptop screen too small? Monitors as big as TV sets are easy to connect to the tablet and cost about \$125.
- ✿ Many websites have a link at the top that lets you make the type-size larger for

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'Providing a Bit of Comfort to People Who Have Suffered So Much'

AN INTERVIEW WITH GREG SCHNEIDER

Greg Schneider, Executive Vice President and CEO of the Claims Conference, joined the organization in 1995 as an assistant to Saul Kagan, the then Executive Vice President, eventually becoming Director of Allocations and Chief Operating Office. He lives in New York with his wife and three daughters. In his work directing 10 offices and 400 employees around the world, he is in constant and frequent contact with Holocaust survivors.

How do you describe your role at the Claims Conference?

I'm the lead staff person in our negotiations with the German government and other entities. I'm also very involved, in various venues, with telling the stories of the survivors, which is, in and of itself, important but also helpful toward the goal of convincing the German government and others of the importance of what the Claims Conference is doing. Often, the conversation quickly turns to the bottom line, but we are interested in the human-interest stories, for instance, how home care for a survivor can change a person's life, why having to face the impossible choice between paying for food or for rent is an outrage that no survivor should have to make.

As the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), my job is to implement policies developed by our Board, ensuring that people who are eligible for payments receive them in a timely manner. We also work closely with hundreds of social welfare agencies worldwide that, using funding from the Claims Conference, provide home care, food, medicine, transportation and actually help survivors with whatever they need.

How did you become interested in issues related to Holocaust survivors and social welfare?

I grew up near Norwich, Conn., and from an early age knew that I wanted to work in the Jewish community. Being at the Claims Conference has proven to be an ideal opportunity to combine my interests in Jewish communal activities and international

SANDEE BRAWARSKY, an award-winning journalist and editor, is editor of *L'Chaim*.



work, helping the most vulnerable victims worldwide.

Were there any particular people who inspired you or helped you to clarify your thinking about issues related to this work?

My great fortune was that, for a number of years, I worked with Saul Kagan and Rabbi Israel Miller — two giants of blessed memory — who served in leadership roles at the Claims Conference for decades. When I began my career here, Saul Kagan was the Executive Director and Rabbi Miller the President. Both were men of commitment and brilliance. Their dedication was unparalleled, and they negotiated billions of dollars to begin unprecedented programs.

In my early years at the Claims Conference, I was the assistant to Mr. Kagan, who survived the Holocaust. He was relentless in his pursuit of what was best for Holocaust survivors. Saul became my mentor, fashioning a leadership role based on patience, kindness and humanity.

What is most satisfying about your work?

For me, it's about how we can help survivors in a personal way. I've seen close-up how home care can make a huge difference in individual lives, especially as survivors age. Being able to provide a bit of comfort to people who have suffered so much is the best part.

How has the last year been different?

What elevates us is knowing the differences we are making in some people's lives.

There are pockets of extreme poverty which too many survivors experience around the world, particularly in Eastern Europe. When someone is living in such circumstances, or is suffering from an illness, Claims Conference support often helps make them more comfortable and enables them to have more dignity, but there's not much we can do beyond that.

Lately — and this isn't a typical main function of the Claims Conference — we have worked in many cities worldwide to try to gain access to COVID-19 vaccinations for Holocaust survivors. For instance, we worked closely with Mayor Bill de Blasio in New York City to create



Greg Schneider

a vaccine center for Holocaust survivors, and we were able to have more than 500 survivors vaccinated. We worked with our partner agencies to bring people to the center; for some survivors we arranged for car services or ambulettes; and we made sure there were translators present at the vaccination sites to help. In Israel, we partnered with Hatzalah, an emergency medical services organization, to help the most vulnerable survivors — those who are disabled and homebound — get to the vaccination centers via ambulances. We are going to expand these projects to many countries around the world.

In this last year that has been different than any other, how would you characterize your day-to-day activities on the job?

I used to travel quite a bit but now I'm in New York — working from home. I have found that the people we fund, our staff and the staffs of the agencies, as well as all the home care workers are such incredible heroes.

In the early days of the pandemic, we heard stories of home care workers sleeping at the homes of survivors, not wanting to leave them alone and not wanting to go out and risk exposure. They gave up their own lives for weeks to make sure that the survivors were taken care of and protected. What an amazing level of commitment. We were expecting emotional triggers for the survivors, that being confined to their homes might remind them of their Holocaust experience when they weren't permitted to move around, but, instead, and overwhelmingly, the survivors reassured us. They typically would say we have been through worse; we'll get through this. The survivors often helped calm others during the pandemic.

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Greg Schneider

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Unfortunately, but as a practical matter, the socializing activities the Claims Conference supports for survivors, such as Café Europa, had to be cancelled, but the agencies constantly kept in touch with them, developing creative ways to engage.

All in all, the resilience of survivors is just amazing. They taught us an important lesson.

What has been your experience being involved in negotiations with the Germans at the top levels of government?

I have been very lucky in my career to work on a great number of negotiations with Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat over a 12-year period. One of the most important lessons I've learned from him is to try to understand where the other side is coming from. It's easy to present your position. I talk to survivors every day and can articulate the challenges they face. However, that's only half the battle. To be effective, we need to consider the perspective of the other side; what they understand and what they don't, what they are bringing to the table, the context in which they are working and how they see the world. Then, we can work to find common ground and forge creative solutions that will satisfy both sides. That has been the most important lesson through these years.

In addition, the people now representing the German government were not alive at the time of the Holocaust. That makes it all the more important for us to arrange meetings with survivors in need, in substantial part because of their Holocaust experience. Hearing the stories of survivors and going to their communities goes a long way to help give context to what German funding does.

With all your global responsibilities, how do you stay in touch with the survivors the organization is serving?

It is essential to stay connected to real people, otherwise one could get lost in the numbers — I could spend entire days on the computer and looking at charts. Almost every day, I speak to survivors to understand their needs as we try to

enhance existing programs and develop new programs to implement.

What are your hopes and vision for the future of the organization?

For years, when I would talk to groups of survivors, the conversation used to be about eligibility for compensation, for pensions. Then I noticed a shift occurring. More and more survivors were receiving compensation and a significant part of the discussion at the town halls we held was about home care. Over the last few years, the conversation has shifted again. We are providing more home care and other services and fewer survivors are talking about unmet needs. The conversation has shifted to the future.

A survivor might say something like, "I am the one who lights Yahrzeit candles, who remembers my parents and grandparents and our entire town, all of whom were destroyed. I am the last link to that world. Who is going to remember me and what I went through in the death camps, ghettos, death marches? Who is going to remember what happened?" As a result, we have been increasing our previous involvement in Holocaust education. In the 1950s, the Claims Conference helped establish Yad Vashem and various other Holocaust memorials.

While the overwhelming efforts of the Claims Conference are on compensation and welfare services for survivors, we also try to ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust are widely disseminated. If it is important for Holocaust survivors, it is important to us.

How do you measure the success of your efforts?

If you use money as a measure, we have increased the amount of funding we have been able to distribute for compensation and welfare, every year, for the past decade. Moreover, even while there now is a smaller population of survivors, the money we provide is increasing. The amount of the Article 2 pension payments has increased, there is a supplemental payment for Hardship Fund, we are funding more home care than ever. But that's not the measure I prefer to use. The measure for us is how we impact people's lives, and that's not easily quantifiable. You could count the number of hours of home care, the number of meals we provide, the hours of teacher training, the number of people who are receiving pensions. Using those as a gauge, we are doing better than ever, building and growing programs.

Ultimately, I find the feedback that I and others get when in contact with survivors to be critical. Survivors will tell me their age, where they are from, what concentration camps they were interned in and then say that the money they are getting from their pension is saving their life. And they thank us.

It is so wonderful to hear that, and yet, I also think it's crazy and want to stop the person: They don't have to thank us for doing the right thing. Being able to work with survivors is a privilege and it is inspiring — they repeatedly teach us lessons of resilience and Am Yisrael Chai. ✿

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Email aarfe@jbilibrary.org or visit JBI's website at www.jbilibrary.org, or call 800-433-1531, JBI, since 1931, connecting blind and visually impaired individuals to the Jewish world.

Key things to know about COVID-19 vaccines from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- COVID-19 vaccines are **safe and effective**.
- You may have side effects after vaccination, but these are normal.
- It typically takes two weeks after you are fully vaccinated for the body to build protection (immunity) against the virus that causes COVID-19.
- People who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic.
- COVID-19 vaccination is an important tool to help stop the COVID-19 pandemic.
- COVID-19 vaccination helps protect people from getting sick or severely ill with COVID-19 and might also help protect people around them.
- **Research** provides growing evidence that mRNA COVID-19 vaccines offer similar protection in real world conditions.
- COVID-19 vaccination is an important tool to help stop the COVID-19 pandemic.
- All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the United States are effective at preventing COVID-19 as seen in clinical trial settings.
- To receive the most protection, people should receive all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Some people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 will still get sick

Основные положения о вакцинах против COVID-19, предоставленные Государственным Центром санитарно-эпидемиологического контроля США (CDC):

- Вакцины против COVID-19 **безопасны и эффективны**.
- Возможно, у вас будут побочные явления после прививки, но это в пределах нормы.
- В обычном случае иммунитет против вируса, вызывающего COVID-19, формируется в течении двух недель после полной вакцинации.
- Полностью привитые люди могут снова начинать делать кое что из того, что они вынужденно оставили в результате пандемии.
- Вакцины против COVID-19 очень важный фактор для прекращения пандемии COVID-19.
- Вакцины против COVID-19 помогают предотвратить заболевание или очень тяжёлое течение болезни COVID-19, а также могут помочь защитить людей вокрут.
- **Исследования** все больше подтверждают, что mRNA вакцины против COVID-19 дают похожую защиту в реальных условиях мира.
- Все вакцины против COVID-19, доступные в США в данное время, эффективны для предотвращения заболевания COVID-19, как

because no vaccine is 100% effective. Experts continue to monitor and evaluate how often this occurs, how severe their illness is, and how likely a vaccinated person is to spread COVID-19 to others.

- CDC recommends you get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as one is available to you.

Vaccine Scheduling and Transportation Assistance

Vaccines will become widely available, in the coming months. If you are interested in getting vaccine assistance, such as assistance with scheduling or transportation for the COVID-19 vaccine, please call this toll-free number:

+1-833-478-7844 (+1-833-4SURV14)

Запись на вакцинацию и организация транспортировки

Вакцины станут широко доступны в ближайшие месяцы. Если вам нужна помощь с записью на вакцинацию или организацией транспортировки к месту вакцинации против COVID-19, пожалуйста, позвоните по бесплатному номеру телефона:

+1-833-478-7844 (+1-833-4SURV14)

показывают клинические испытания.

- Для максимальной защиты нужно привиться всеми рекомендованными дозами вакцины против COVID-19.
- Некоторые полностью привитые против COVID-19 люди, заболеют несмотря на прививку, так как ни одна вакцина не является 100% эффективной. Эксперты продолжают оценивать, как часто это происходит, насколько серьезно они заболевают, и насколько возможно, что привитый человек передаёт вирус COVID-19 другим людям.
- CDC рекомендует сделать прививку, как только это станет возможным.

4 Reasons You Shouldn't Skip Your Second COVID-19 Shot

WHY THE FINAL DOSE OF MODERNA,
PFIZER VACCINES COULD BE MORE
IMPORTANT THAN THE FIRST

BY RACHEL NANIA, AARP

The majority of Americans who are rolling up their sleeves for the coronavirus vaccines are doing so twice. Both the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines — the most commonly administered COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S. — require two shots, several weeks apart. But not everybody is going back for their second dose.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](https://www.google.com/amp/s/feeds.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2021/why-to-get-second-vaccine-shot.html%3f_amp=true)

https://www.google.com/amp/s/feeds.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2021/why-to-get-second-vaccine-shot.html%3f_amp=true

Rachel Nania writes about health care and health policy for AARP. Previously she was a reporter and editor for WTOP Radio in Washington, D.C. A recipient of a Gracie Award and a regional Edward R. Murrow Award, she also participated in a dementia fellowship with the National Press Foundation. Reprinted from AARP.org April 2021. Copyright 2021 AARP. All rights reserved.

Turning Your Home Into a Safe House



Over this last year of being in lockdown, many people have come to appreciate the comforts of their home as well as the blessings of having a home.

Make it a safe home.

Medical specialists, consumer advocates and social workers encourage senior citizens and their families to look closely at their homes and make sure that the spaces they live in are as safe as possible, to avoid slips, and falls and other injuries.

In a conversation about home safety, Rachel Weintraub, legislative director and general counsel for Consumer Federation of America (CFA), whose primary focus is on advocacy for product safety issues, encourages people to look at their home “through a new frame.”

“People who have lived in the same house since they had children at home may not be thinking about how to minimize the hazards of falling because it has never been an issue,” Weintraub, who has long been involved in issues of senior safety, says.

“A mistake that many people make is not prioritizing the issue of possible falls in their homes. There are relatively simple things that people can do to reduce the risks of injury.”

Weintraub, who combines compassion and attentiveness to the latest studies, points out that statistics show that not all falls end in serious injury, but a significant number of them do. So preparedness and caution are of utmost importance. A first step is to remove any hazards that might lead to falls, to clear clutter and check the thresholds between rooms (experts can help to raise flooring or to install handrails when needed).

“Falls are often due to hazards that are easy to overlook but easy to fix,” according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The agency offers a checklist of recommendations (excerpted below) to help find and fix hazards.

In addition, Weintraub explains that seniors must also pay attention to their health in general, and be sure to take their medications daily, exercise (with doctor’s permission), make sure that they get regular eye exams and use their glasses properly (for example, reading glasses may not be useful for walking). And, she suggests, it’s a good idea to wear shoes inside the house.

Some household items in daily use may be overlooked, but need attention. Everyone should take precautions when lighting candles in their homes — to be sure that the candlesticks are sturdy and set in a safe place, and not to leave the room when the candles are lit. All appliances should be left unplugged when not in use, and all cords should be checked regularly to be sure that there is no fraying.

Emergency numbers should be posted in an easy-to-read place. —SB



CHECK FOR SAFETY: A HOME FALL PREVENTION CHECKLIST FROM THE CDC

FLOORS:

Q: When you walk through a room, do you have to walk around furniture?

Ask someone to move the furniture so your path is clear.

Q: Do you have throw rugs on the floor?

Remove the rugs or use double-sided tape or a non-slip backing so the rugs won’t slip.

Q: Are there papers, books, towels, shoes, magazines, boxes, blankets, or other objects on the floor?

Pick up things that are on the floor. Always keep objects off the floor.

Q: Do you have to walk over or around wires or cords (like those attached to a lamp, telephone, or extension cords)?

Coil or tape cords and wires next to the wall so you can’t trip over them. If needed, have an electrician put in another outlet.

STAIRS AND STEPS: Look at the stairs you use both inside and outside your home.

Q: Are there papers, shoes, books, or other objects on the stairs?

Pick up things on the stairs. Always keep objects off stairs.

Q: Are some steps broken or uneven?

Fix loose or uneven steps.

Q: Are you missing a light over the stairway?

Have an electrician put in an overhead light at the top and bottom of the stairs.

Q: Do you have only one light switch for your stairs (only at the top or at the bottom of the stairs)?

Have an electrician put in a light switch at the top and bottom of the stairs. You can get light switches that glow.

Q: Has the stairway light bulb burned out?

Have a friend or family member change the light bulb.

Q: Is the carpet on the steps loose or torn?

Make sure the carpet is firmly attached to every step, or remove the carpet and attach non-slip rubber treads to the stairs.

Q: Are the handrails loose or broken? Is there a handrail on only one side of the stairs?

Fix loose handrails or put in new ones. Make sure handrails are on both sides of the stairs and extend the full length of the stairs.

KITCHEN:

Q: Are the things you use often on high shelves?

Rearrange items in your cabinets. Keep things you use often on the lower shelves (about waist level).

Q: Is your step stool unsteady?

If you must use a step stool, get one with a bar to hold on to. Never use a chair as a step stool.

BATHROOMS:

Q: Is the tub or shower floor slippery?

Put a non-slip rubber mat or self-stick strips on the floor of the tub or shower.

Q: Do you need some support when you get in and out of the tub or up from the toilet?

Have grab bars put in next to and inside the tub and next to the toilet.

BEDROOMS:

Q: Is the light near the bed hard to reach?

Place a lamp close to the bed where it is easy to reach.

Q: Is the path from your bed to the bathroom dark?

Put in a night-light so you can see where you’re walking. Some night-lights are timed to go on by themselves after dark.

Supplemental Hardship Fund Payment

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

During the last 10 years, as a result of Claims Conference negotiations, the eligibility criteria of many compensation programs have been expanded. At this stage, most survivors are eligible for either a one-time payment or a pension from either the German Government (known as BEG or Wiedergutmachung) or from the Claims Conference through expanded and liberalized criteria of the Article 2 Fund. These pensions are generally paid to those who were in a camp, closed or open ghetto or in hiding/false identity for a specified time. The Article 2 Fund has an income limit — see www.claimscon.org.

The many others who fled from the Nazis — from Germany, Austria, Soviet Union or wore a yellow star or suffered other restrictions of liberty under Nazis or their Axis allies — may be eligible for a one-time payment (not pension) from the Hardship Fund of the Claims Conference. The Hardship Fund has been open since 1980 so you may have received this payment many years ago. There is no income limit for the Hardship Fund.

If you don't think you have received any payments at all, or have any questions, please write to us at:

Claims Conference
PO Box 1215, New York, NY 10113
or email info@claimscon.org.

Who is eligible for this payment?

Anyone who is alive **and has been approved for a Hardship Fund Payment** and does not receive a pension as compensation for persecution during the Holocaust.

If I receive a pension from the Claims Conference (Article 2) or BEG, am I eligible?

You are not eligible for the Supplemental Hardship Payment if you receive a pension as compensation for Nazi persecution.

Do I have to file a claim form to receive this payment?

Yes, you must submit an application form to be eligible for this payment. The Claims Conference mailed personalized pre-populated application forms to potentially eligible survivors. If you think you are eligible and did NOT receive an application form in the mail yet, please contact us at the address below.

How can I send in my application form?

Applications can be sent by mail, and due to the Coronavirus, we are accepting applications sent by fax and email until June 2021. Due to delays in the postal system, applications sent via email or fax are preferred. Please send your application form to hs-us@claimscon.org.

How much money will I receive?

The fund will pay eligible claimants two supplemental payments, each in the amount of €1,200 for a total of €2,400. There will be two installments, the first in 2021 and the second will be paid in 2022.

When will I receive my payment?

The Claims Conference is paying survivors each month in 2021.

What if I moved since I last was in contact with the Claims Conference?

We are accepting address changes over the phone or in writing. Please contact the Claims Conference office.

Does my application need to be certified?

Your application will explicitly state if it needs to be certified, or if we require various additional documents (such as a photocopy of your government ID and birth certificate). If you have any questions about your specific application after receiving it, please contact us.

If I am a child or spouse of a Hardship Fund recipient or survivor, can I apply for this supplemental payment?

No, only a Holocaust survivor may apply for the Supplemental Payment.

Are there any heir payments?

Yes, if the survivor applied and is found eligible but passes away before the payment

could be made, the surviving spouse may be entitled. If there is no surviving spouse, children may be eligible. No other heirs are eligible. Surviving spouses and children should contact the Claims Conference.

Is there a deadline for applying?

The deadline to apply is **December 31, 2022**.

Do I need a lawyer?

You do not need a lawyer to apply for the Supplemental Hardship Payment.

Is there a fee to obtain an application?

There is no fee to apply to the Supplemental Hardship Fund.

I think I'm eligible, but I never applied to the Claims Conference before?

Please fill out the Unified Application Form found on our website, and we will notify you if you are eligible for the Hardship Fund and the Supplemental Hardship Fund Payment. You can also write to us to request a form in the mail.

Can the Supplemental Payment be sent to me by a check?

No, payments from Hardship Supplemental Fund are made by wire transfer, we are not able to send checks, you must have a bank account opened in your name.

Do you need my bank information?

Yes, payment will be wired to your bank account. Please fill out the bank details in the personalized application.

If I am an authorized representative, can I submit an address change for a claimant?

Yes, you need to mail us a copy of the following:

- ✿ A photocopy of a document granting legal guardianship/power of attorney
- ✿ A photocopy of the authorized representative's government issued ID
- ✿ A completed Doctor's form (www.claimscon.org/doctor)
- ✿ A copy of the claimant's government issued ID.

Any further information, please contact us at:

Claims Conference
PO Box 1215
New York, NY 10113
Via Phone: +1-646-536-9100
(United States)
Via Email: info@claimscon.org

Дополнительная выплата из Фонда для нуждающихся

ЧАСТО ЗАДАВАЕМЫЕ ВОПРОСЫ

За последние 10 лет критерии прав на получение выплат в рамках многих компенсационных программ существенно расширились благодаря переговорам, которые ведет Клеймс Конференс с немецким правительством. В данное время многие пострадавшие во время Холокоста имеют право либо на одноразовую выплату либо на пенсию, которую выплачивает немецкое правительство (известной под названием BEG "Федеральный закон о компенсации" или Wiedergutmachung) или Клеймс Конференс, основываясь на расширенных и более либерализованных критериях Фонда Article 2. Эта пенсия выплачивается обычно тем пострадавшим, которые находились во время Второй мировой войны в концентрационном лагере, в закрытом или открытом гетто, либо скрывались под ложным именем на протяжении определенного времени. Право получения пенсии основывается также на том, что доход заявителя не превышает определенного предела – смотри www.claimscon.org.

Многие другие пострадавшие, которые бежали от нацистских захватчиков - из Германии, Австрии, Советского Союза -, были вынуждены носить Желтую звезду или страдали от других ограничений личной свободы во время немецкой оккупации или под гнетом немецких союзников, могут претендовать на одноразовую выплату (не пенсию) из Фонда Помощи (Hardship Fund). Фонд Помощи существует с 1980 года - таким образом, вы уже могли получить соответствующую выплату много лет тому назад. Фонд Помощи не имеет ограничений, связанных с доходом заявителей.

If you don't think you have received any payments at all, or have any questions, please write to us at:

Claims Conference
PO Box 1215, New York, NY 10113
or email info@claimscon.org.

Кто имеет право на данную выплату?

Все живые лица, получившие право на выплату из Фонда помощи Hardship Fund, которые не получают пенсию в качестве компенсации за преследования во время Холокоста.

Если я получаю пенсию от Claims Conference (Article 2), Министерства финансов Израиля или BEG, имею ли я право на получение?

Если Вы получаете пенсию в качестве компенсации за преследования нацистов, Вы не имеете права на получение дополнительной выплаты из Фонда помощи.

Нужно ли мне заполнять и подавать заявление на получение этой выплаты?

Да, для получения права на данную выплату Вам необходимо подать заявление. Комиссия по еврейским материальным искам к Германии («Клеймс Конференс») разослала по почте персональные формы заявления с заданными вариантами ответов лицам пережившим Холокост, потенциально отвечающим установленным критериям.

Если Вы считаете, что имеете право на выплату, но ещё НЕ получили форму заявки по почте, свяжитесь с нами в ближайшем к вам офисе Claims Conference. <http://www.claimscon.org/about/contact-us/>

Как я могу отправить свое заявление?

Заявления можно отправлять по почте, и из-за коронавируса до июня 2021 года мы принимаем заявления, отправленные по факсу и электронной почте. В связи с задержками в почтовой системе, предпочтительнее высылать заявления по электронной почте или факсом.

Отправляйте заявления на один из следующих номеров и

электронных адресов:

По факсу:

☎ + 1-646-536-9159 (Нью-Йорк)

☎ + 972-03-679-6281 (Тель-Авив)

☎ + 49-69-72-1104 (Франкфурт)

По электронной почте:

☎ hs-us@claimscon.org (Нью-Йорк)

☎ hs-il@claimscon.org (Тель-Авив)

☎ hs-ffm@claimscon.org (Франкфурт)

Какую сумму я получу?

Заявители, имеющие право на выплату, получат из Фонда две дополнительные выплаты в размере 1200 евро каждая на общую сумму 2400 евро. Выплаты будут осуществляться двумя платежами: первый в 2021 году, а второй в 2022 году.

Когда я получу выплату?

В 2021 г. Клеймс Конференс производит выплаты пережившим Холокост каждый месяц.

Что, если я сменил (-а) место проживания с тех пор, как в последний раз связывался (-лась) с Клеймс Конференс?

Уведомления о смене адреса принимаются по телефону или в письменном виде. Пожалуйста, свяжитесь с офисом Клеймс Конференс .

Если я являюсь уполномоченным представителем заявителя, могу ли я подать заявление об изменении его (ее) адреса?

Да, Вам нужно отправить нам по почте копии следующих документов:

☎ Ксерокопия документа о назначении опекуна (попечителя) / доверенности.

☎ Ксерокопия выданного государством удостоверения личности (ID) уполномоченного представителя.

☎ Заполненный формуляр врача (www.claimscon.org/doctor)

☎ Копия выданного государством удостоверения личности (ID) заявителя.

Нужно ли заверять мое заявление?

В Вашем заявлении будет четко указано, нужно ли его заверять, и нужны ли нам от Вас дополнительные документы (например, ксерокопии Вашего выданного государством удостоверения личности (ID) и свидетельства о рождении). Если у вас есть вопросы касательно Вашей формы заявления после её получения, свяжитесь с нами:

По телефону:

+1-646-536-9100 (США)

+972-(3)-519-4400 (Тель-Авив, для звонков за пределами Израиля)

☎ 03-519-4400 (Тель-Авив, для звонков в пределах Израиля)

☎ +49 69 970 7010 (Франкфурт)

По электронной почте:

☎ info@claimscon.org (США)

☎ infodesk@claimscon.org (Тель-Авив)

☎ A2-HF-CEEF2@claimscon.org (Франкфурт)

Могу ли я получить эту дополнительную выплату, если являюсь ребенком или супругом (-ой) получателя выплат из Фонда для нуждающихся или лица, пережившего Холокост?

Нет, дополнительная выплата может быть выплачена только лицам, пережившим Холокост и имеющим право на данную выплату.

Есть ли выплаты наследникам?

Да, если пострадавший/ая в Холокосте подал/а заявление и признан/а подходящим/ей под критерии, но скончался/ась до того, как могла быть произведена выплата, право на ее получение может иметь переживший супруг(а). Если нет пережившего супруга/и, право на получение выплаты могут иметь дети. Никакие другие наследники не имеют права на получение выплаты. Пережившие супруги и дети должны обратиться в Claims Conference.

Есть ли крайний срок для подачи заявления?

Крайний срок для подачи заявления — **31 декабря 2022 года.**

Могу ли я получить дополнительную выплату в виде чека?

Нет, дополнительные выплаты из Фонда Помощи (Hardship Fund) производятся путём банковского перевода. У нас нет возможности направлять чеки. У Вас должен быть действующий банковский счет на Ваше имя.

Вам нужна информация о моем счете в банке?

Да, платежи будут перечисляться на Ваш банковский счет. Просьба указать банковские реквизиты в персональной форме заявления. Пожалуйста, примите во внимание: если Вы проживаете в России, Украине или Беларуси, то банковскую информацию предоставлять не нужно. Выплаты будут производиться через Альфа банк (в России), Приват банк (в Украине) и Фонд "Взаимопонимание" в Беларуси.

Нужно ли мне для получения дополнительной выплаты из Фонда Помощи оформлять свидетельство о нахождении в живых?

Оформлять свидетельство о нахождении в живых не нужно, но для получения выплаты Вы должны быть живы на момент, когда Вы подаете заявление о дополнительной выплате из Фонда Помощи (после 1 декабря 2020 г.).

Мне нужен юрист?

Чтобы подать заявление на получение дополнительной выплаты из Фонда помощи, юрист не нужен.

Я думаю, что соответствую критериям, но я никогда раньше не подавал/а заявку в Claims Conference.

Заполните единую форму заявления на нашем веб-сайте <http://www.claimscon.org/what-we-do/compensation/apply-for-compensation/>, и мы сообщим, имеете ли Вы право на получение единовременной компенсации из Фонда помощи (Hardship Fund) и Дополнительной выплаты из Фонда помощи (Supplemental Hardship Fund Payment)

News You Can Use

continued from page 2

easier reading. Can't find it? Ask a relative or call the site's customer service number.

❁ Don't reply to emails from people you don't know. That can result in a virus sent to your computer that can slow it down or even disclose personal and financial information.

OLDER PEOPLE CONTINUE TO FEEL GRATEFUL

Older people in Japan have an "attitude of gratitude" that keeps them feeling hopeful despite the challenges of aging, according to a new study in the Journal of Anthropology and Aging. And those feelings of thankfulness and gratitude for the care and support they receive help them feel more optimistic,



even when they experience difficulties, says the study's author, Iza Kaved, Ph.D., a researcher at the University of Exeter.

Those findings are no surprise to Rabbi Bryan Kinzbrunner, president of the National Association of Jewish Chaplains. "As one ages," says Rabbi Kinzbrunner, "you get a better perspective of seeing day to day and week to week, and peoples' attitudes often become 'how can I make the best use of each day.' Reflecting on what we have now allows us to feel gratitude." ❁

SUPPLEMENTAL HARDSHIP FUND APPLICATION TRACKER

In an effort to enhance the service provided to survivors, the Claims Conference launched a new online tool that would allow survivors who applied for the Hardship Supplemental Fund (HSF) to check on the status of their application. By entering the unique application number provided to each survivor, and the applicant's date of birth, survivors will be able to receive up to date information about the stage in which their application is in. The HSF Application Tracker will eliminate the need to call the Claims Conference for status updates. There is no charge to use the Hardship Supplemental Fund Application Tracker, and no limit to the number or frequency of the requests for information.

Please go to:

<https://applicationtracker.claimscon.org>

ATTENTION HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

The Claims Conference has negotiated the following liberalizations of criteria to compensation funds with the German government.

HARDSHIP FUND - NEW SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT

Jewish Nazi victims eligible for the Hardship Fund can now apply to receive two Supplemental Payments of €1,200 (approximately \$1,400) — with the first payment to be made between December 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021, and the second payment between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022 — for a total payment of €2,400 (approximately \$2,800) per person.

NEWLY APPROVED OPEN GHETTOS:

Jewish Holocaust survivors who were persecuted in the open ghettos identified below, for at least three months, may be eligible for a monthly pension from the Article 2 or CEE Fund:

- In Romania, survivors persecuted in Arad, Braila, Brasov, Buhusi, Deva, Dorohoi, Falticeni, Husi, Ilia, Lugoj, Ploesti, Podul Iloaiei, Targu Frumos, Timisoara, Turda and Sibiu between August 1941 and August 1944;
- In Bulgaria, survivors persecuted in Dobrich, Kazanluk, Kurdzhali, Lovech, Nevrokop (a.k.a Gotse Delchev), Nikopol, Popovo, Preslav, Provadiya, Turgovishte, and Yambol, between September 1942 and September 1944;

In addition, all pension recipients who were in one of the open ghettos in Romania or Bulgaria named above and born after January 1, 1928, may be entitled to a one-time payment from the Child Survivor Fund administered by the Claims Conference.

Note: Jewish Nazi victims from these open ghettos in Romania and Bulgaria may also be entitled to a pension from the ZRBG (Ghetto Pension).

This pension is not administered by the Claims Conference. Please contact a German embassy or consulate near you.

CHILD SURVIVOR FUND

The Child Survivor Fund may provide those who are among the **One Thousand Children**, a one-time payment amounting to €2,500 (approximately \$2,900) per person. Approximately 1,400 children were forced to leave their parents behind when they were rescued from Nazi Germany and Nazi-occupied countries and taken to the United States. Please contact us to learn the details of eligibility.

LUXEMBOURG FUND

A new compensation program is now available for Jewish Nazi Victims who are currently living in Luxembourg, and for Jewish Nazi Victims persecuted in Luxembourg by the Nazi regime or their allies during the Shoah and currently living outside of Luxembourg. For more details and application forms please visit www.claimscon.org or send an email to LuxembourgFund@claimscon.org

PAYMENT TO SPOUSES OF DECEASED ARTICLE 2/CEE FUND BENEFICIARIES

The Claims Conference will provide payments to eligible spouses of deceased recipients of the Article 2 and Central and Eastern European (CEE) Funds.

A spouse of an Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary may, upon the death of the Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary, be entitled to receive €513 per month for up to 9 months, paid in three quarterly installments, if the following conditions apply:

1. The spouse is alive at the date of the payment; and
2. The spouse was married to the Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary at the time of death of the Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary; and
3. The Article 2/CEE Fund recipient passed away at any point while he or she was receiving a payment from the program.

The spouse of a Holocaust survivor must be alive at the time of each payment. Other heirs, including children, are not entitled to receive any payment. To download an application from our website, please go to: www.claimscon.org/apply

The German government established a similar program for surviving spouses of BEG (sometimes referred to as wieder gutmachung), for Holocaust survivors who passed away January 1, 2020 or later. For more information, please check with the BEG authorities.

For more information, contact:

CLAIMS CONFERENCE

P.O. Box 1215

New York, NY 10113

Tel: 646-536-9100

Email: info@claimscon.org

www.claimscon.org

If you are a Holocaust Survivor who needs help, please call one of the numbers below.

UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

Jewish Family & Children's Services of Southern Arizona
Tucson (520) 795-0300

Jewish Family & Children's Services
Phoenix (602) 279-7655

CALIFORNIA

Jewish Family & Community Services of East Bay
Berkeley (510) 704-7475 ext. 275

Jewish Federation and Family Services of Orange County
Irvine (949) 435-3460

Jewish Family and Children's Service
Long Beach (562) 427-7916

Jewish Family Service
Los Angeles Location-based San Fernando Valley
(818) 984-1380

West Hollywood (323) 851-8202
City of Los Angeles
(323) 937-5900

Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley
Los Gatos (408) 556-0600

Jewish Family Service
San Diego (858) 637-3210

Jewish Family and Children's Services
San Francisco (415) 449-3700

COLORADO

Jewish Family Service of Colorado
Denver (303) 597-5000

CONNECTICUT

Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford
West Hartford (860) 236-1927

FLORIDA

Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services
Boca Raton (561) 852-3333

Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services
Clearwater (727) 479-1800

Jewish Family & Community Services
Jacksonville (904) 448-1933

Jewish Community Services of South Florida
North Miami (305) 899-1587

Goodman Jewish Family Services of Broward County
Plantation (954) 909-0800

Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family & Children's Service
West Palm Beach (561) 684-1991

GEORGIA

Jewish Family and Career Services
Atlanta (770) 677-9300

ILLINOIS

Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago
Chicago (773) 508-1004

INDIANA

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis
Indianapolis (317) 536-1476

MARYLAND

Jewish Community Services
Baltimore (410) 466-9200

Jewish Social Service Agency
Rockville (301) 838-4200

MASSACHUSETTS

Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Boston
Waltham (781) 647-5327

MICHIGAN

Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit
Detroit (248) 592-2313

MINNESOTA

Jewish Family and Children's Service
Minneapolis (952) 546-0616

NEW JERSEY

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Monmouth County
Asbury Park (732) 774-6886

Samost Jewish Family and Children's Service of Southern NJ
Cherry Hill (856) 424-1333

Jewish Family Service & Children's Center
Clifton/Passaic (973) 777-7638

Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey
Elizabeth (908) 352-8375

Jewish Family Services of Metrowest
Florham Park (973) 765-9050

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Ocean County
Lakewood (732) 363-8019

Each agency listed below is funded by the **Claims Conference** to help support a designated Holocaust Survivor Assistance Program. If you know a survivor who needs aid or if you would like to volunteer to help a survivor, please contact any of the agencies below.

Jewish Family Service of Atlantic County
Margate City (609) 822-1108

Jewish Family & Vocational Service of Middlesex County
Milltown (732) 777-1940

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Mercer County
Princeton (609) 987-8100

Jewish Family Service of Somerset, Hunterdon & Warren Counties
Somerville (908) 725-7799

Jewish Family & Children's Services of Northern New Jersey
Teaneck (201) 837-9090

NEVADA
Jewish Family Service Agency
Las Vegas (702) 732-0304

NEW YORK
Guardians of the Sick / Bikur Cholim Hased Organization
Brooklyn (718) 438-2020

Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island
Brooklyn (718) 449-5000

United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg
Brooklyn (718) 643-9700

Selfhelp Community Services
Manhattan (212) 971-5475

Bikur Cholim of Rockland County
Monsey (845) 425-7877

Community Improvement Council
New Square (845) 354-4100

Rockland Jewish Family Service
West Nyack (845) 354-2121

Westchester Jewish Community Services
White Plains (914) 761-0600

OHIO
Jewish Family Service of Greater Cincinnati
Cincinnati (513) 469-1188

Jewish Family Service Association
Cleveland (216) 292-3999

Jewish Family Services
Columbus (614) 559-0379

OREGON
Jewish Family and Child Service
Portland (503) 226-7079

PENNSYLVANIA
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia
Philadelphia (866) 532-7669

Jewish Family and Community Services
Pittsburgh (412) 422-7200

TEXAS
Jewish Family Service of Greater Dallas
Dallas (972) 437-9950

Jewish Family Service of Houston
Houston (713) 667-9336

WASHINGTON
Jewish Family Service
Seattle (206) 461-3240

CANADA

Jewish Family Services
Edmonton (780) 454-1194

Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors
Montréal (514) 342-1234

CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE
(514) 734-1441

Jewish Family Services of Ottawa
Ottawa (613) 722-2225 x 311 & 312

Circle of Care
Toronto (416) 635-2860

Jewish Family & Child Service
Toronto (416) 638-7800

Jewish Family Services
Vancouver (604) 558-5701

CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE
(604) 558-5719



If you live in the United States or Canada outside the listed areas, please call the **Claims Conference for assistance (646) 536-9100.**



PO Box 1215, New York, NY 10113

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- ▶ The Claims Conference wants to be in touch with you during these challenging times. Inside L'Chaim, you will find important information in English and Russian including:
- ▶ A Letter from the Claims Conference Leadership
- ▶ Important Information about Vaccinations
- ▶ An Interview with Executive Vice President Greg Schneider
- ▶ Guidelines for Home Safety
- ▶ 4 Reasons You Shouldn't Skip Your Second Covid-19 Shot
- ▶ Health News You Can Use
- ▶ Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the Hardship Fund Payment
- ▶ Contact Information for Local Agencies

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