



World Federation News Update!

A periodic email update from the
World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Descendants
September 21, 2014

From the Executive Committee of the WFJCSHD:

*President— Stefanie Seltzer (USA); Executive Vice President—Steve Adler (USA); Vice Presidents—
Anita Ekstein (Canada), Jacques Fein (OSE-USA, USA), Melissa Hacker (KTA, 2G, USA),
Max Arpels Lezer (Netherlands), René Lichtman (USA), Daisy Miller (USA),
Henri Obstfeld (U.K.), Melita Svob (Croatia); Elisheva Van deHal (Israel),
Secretary—Charles Silow (2G, USA), Treasurer— Isaac Kot (2G, USA)*

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Houston Conference 2015

Berlin Conference: Letter from Stefanie Seltzer

World Federation Resolution on Anti-Semitism, for local media distribution

From: Claims Conference [<mailto:info=claimscon.org@mail64.atl71.mcdlv.net>] **On Behalf Of** Claims Conference

Sent: Friday, September 05, 2014

Subject: Child Survivor Fund Established



September 4, 2014 | 9 Elul 5774



Jewish children in the Drancy internment camp, France, 1942. Photo: Memorial de la Shoah

Claims Conference Reaches Landmark Agreement with Germany to Assist Child Survivors of the Holocaust

The Claims Conference has reached a landmark agreement with the German Finance Ministry under which the organization and the German government will together provide assistance to Jewish child survivors of the Holocaust.

The Claims Conference negotiating delegation emphasized to the German government that the trauma Jewish children suffered during the Holocaust has overshadowed the rest of their lives. Their experiences included devastating separation from parents, witnessing unimaginable atrocities, malnutrition and a range of physically abusive situations. These early traumas are now resulting in late-onset physical and psychological problems that only now are appearing as concrete symptoms in their old age.

“Child survivors” are defined as Nazi victims born on January 1, 1928 or later. Those who were in concentration camps, ghettos or were, for at least six months in Nazi-occupied territory or 12 months in Axis countries, in hiding or living under false identity will be eligible to receive a one-time payment of



Claims Conference negotiating delegation emphasized the trauma endured by child survivors in their talks with the German government.



Special Negotiator Amb. Stuart Eizenstat spoke passionately about the unique plight of Jewish children during the Shoah.

€2,500 (approximately \$3,280).

The fund is expected to become operational on January 1, 2015, and details will be made available after approval by the German Bundestag and the Claims Conference.

[Child Survivor Fund: Frequently Asked Questions](#)

The agreement reached by the Claims Conference in negotiations with the German government comes on the heels of the first-ever symposium of Jewish Child survivors held in Berlin on August 27th at Centrum Judaicum. “Lost Childhood. Jewish Childhood Survivors” was organized by the Claims Conference in cooperation with the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Descendants (WFJCSD) and the Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel. Internationally recognized experts provided a broad picture of the special suffering of Jewish children during the Holocaust and shed light on the particular situation of child survivors today. Witnesses who survived the Holocaust as children shared their experiences and spoke about their life after the Holocaust. An exhibit of the same name at Stiftung Neue Synagoge Berlin - Centrum Judaicum is being presented in conjunction with the symposium. The exhibit – a tribute to the special fate of Jewish child survivors of the Holocaust – was created by the Claims Conference in cooperation with “Agency for education. History, Politics and Media e.V.” and the “Pedagogical center of the Fritz Bauer Institut and Jewish Museum in Frankfurt.” The exhibit will travel



In ongoing negotiations, Roman Kent has been pressing issues of importance to Holocaust survivors.



Stefanie Seltzer, President of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and their Descendants, spoke at a Claims Conference symposium in Berlin about child survivors the day before negotiations.
Photos: Marco Limberg

throughout Germany over the course of the coming months and panels can be seen at

www.jewishchildsurvivors.org

In 2014 the Claims Conference allocated a total of more than \$302 million to 120 agencies in 44 countries to pay for homecare, food programs, medical care, dental work, emergency cash assistance and transportation for elderly Jewish Nazi victims worldwide, with substantial financial support (about \$185 million in 2014) from the German Government. The needs of Holocaust victims are different now than they were immediately following the war, but no less crucial. And as Holocaust victims age, the Claims Conference support has become even more important in helping every Jewish Nazi victim live out his or her years in dignity and comfort.



Amb. Colette Avital, who survived the Shoah as a child, participated in the Claims Conference negotiations that recognized the suffering of children who lost their childhoods.

Photos: Marco Limberg

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You are receiving this email because you have expressed interest in news and information from the Claims Conference.

Our mailing address is:

Claims Conference

1359 Broadway, Room 2000

New York, NY 10018

Child Survivor Fund: Frequently Asked Questions

For additional information on this program, [please see the announcement.](#)

1. Who is eligible?

This fund is to recognize the specific and unique consequences of deprived childhood of Jews who survived the Holocaust as children.

Eligibility is open to those born January 1, 1928 or later AND who were persecuted as Jews in (I) concentration camp or (II) ghetto (or similar place of incarceration in accordance with the German Slave Labor Program) or (iii) in hiding or under false identity for a period of at least six months under Nazi occupied territory or 12 months in axis countries (in accordance with the persecution requirements of the Article 2 Fund).

2. What is the payment?

If eligible, each person is entitled to a one-time payment of euro 2,500.

3. When will the program begin?

Applications will become available as of January 1, 2015.

4. Is there a cost to apply?

No, application forms are free. There is no cost to apply.

5. Do I need a lawyer?

No.

6. Can an heir apply?

No, applications can only be submitted by the child survivor.

7. Are heirs entitled?

If the child survivor applied, and subsequently dies, the surviving spouse is entitled to payment. If there is no surviving spouse, the child(ren) of the child survivor is entitled to the payment.

8. Is there an income limit?

No.

9. If I already receive an indemnification pension, will I still be eligible?

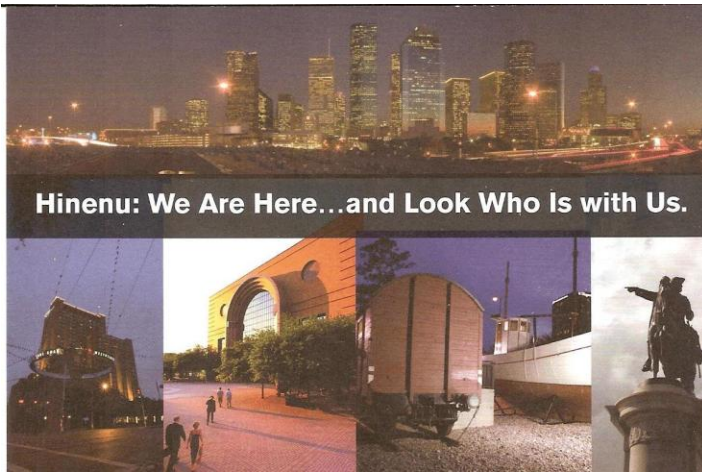
Yes. No previous indemnification payments will bar eligibility under this fund.

10. Will there be an appeals process?

Yes, there will be an independent appeals process.

September 3, 2014

***Save the Date: Houston, Texas, October 9-12, 2015
The Westin Galleria Houston Hotel***



It is our distinct pleasure to invite you to Houston, Texas for the
27th Annual WFJCSHD Conference
 Celebrating our survival and welcoming participants of following
 generations whose presence reaffirms and comforts us.

Save the Date
Oct. 9-12, 2015
 The Westin Galleria Houston
 5060 W. Alabama, Houston, Texas, USA 77056

For more details, check out our website at www.hmh.org
 early in 2015.

Hosted by
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON
 Morgan Family Center
 5401 Caroline Street • Houston, Texas 77004
 713-942-8000

World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors
 of the Holocaust and Descendants

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WFJCSH &D BERLIN CONFERENCE 24-27 AUGUST 2014

... was a great success. Thank you to all who came from far and wide, organizers in Berlin, in the USA, attendees including survivors and families, 2G,3G, special guests, facilitators, panelists, plenary speakers, hotel staff... We continue to receive many compliments.

From Stefanie Seltzer, President, WFJCSH&D

Dear Friends; Governing Board members and Berlin Conference Attendees

We are happy to receive your very positive comments about the Berlin conference!

It is so important for us to know that the months of hard work, consultations, conference calls, decisions weighed, and, in the case of Max, numerous trips to Berlin, did in fact result in such a significant, meaningful conference for all our attendees, of three generations!

Almost 350 persons attended this conference representing 19 countries. Among our attendees were 40 people from the central and eastern part of Europe. 70 second generation and 20 third generation people were among our attendees.

Although I had thanked the Executive Board, I feel I had not spoken clearly enough about all the work that each member of our Conference Committee contributed.

Steve Adler, who serves as our Executive VP, drew up the agendas in advance of our numerous conference calls, and he does that also for our Executive and Governing Board meetings. He also chairs, and maintains order, at our meetings, as well as making sure that we stay on the subject, and work within meeting guidelines and protocol. Steve also drafts, in written form, proposed ideas and suggestions for action to be undertaken by the Executive Board.

I think that, without him, our work would not have progressed in an orderly manner, nor attained the goals for which this conference has been so well praised by all of you.

Steve, Todah Raba!

Max Arpels Lezer, served as our WF liaison for Berlin, and made numerous, very productive trips to Berlin as well as continuing active, productive contact with a variety of local organizations, officials, and individuals in many

countries. Our thanks to you, Max!

Rene Lichtman worked on our website, on WFNU, and as he usually does, deliberated on the various subjects for panel presentations, invited appropriate speakers, and discussed their respective presentations. The spectrum for these panels was unusually broad this year, given where we were meeting, and the current world situation. Good job, Rene!

Daisy Miller has been our workshop coordinator for many years; that means coming up with the subject to be discussed at each workshop, the best way to describe it in the program book, and lining up the appropriate workshop facilitators. Once again, not an easy task, given the range of our experiences, the fact that we live in different countries, and the fact that we want to add new topics for our workshops. Some workshop facilitators have been available through the years, but each year efforts have to be made to contact them, and also to find new, qualified persons. Daisy, we are most grateful—the workshops mean so much to us!

Last, but certainly not least, our gratitude goes out to Philipp Sonntag, our on-the-ground host and Child Survivors Deutschland contact in Berlin. Philipp contributed vastly in meetings with local organisations and officials and in gaining contributions for our conference.

Of course, we all cooperate and consult with each other; this is truly an extreme example of team work! Our team is the personification of devotion, of love for a cause; it's the putting aside of personal lives, of personal pleasure, in order to achieve what each of our conferences has given us!

I personally want to thank each of you, all of us!

Yasher Koach!

Stefanie

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World Federation Resolution on Anti-Semitism in Europe

August 24, 2014, Berlin

***We ask that this Resolution be distributed immediately to all your
local media, newspapers, radio and TV stations,
and to leaders of your various religious communities.***



World Federation Of Jewish Child Survivors Of The Holocaust And Descendants

Joining hands and hearts to keep Holocaust memory alive, fighting hatred and genocide

We are the Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust persecuted by the Nazis in ghettos, in camps, in hiding, on the run or forced to leave Nazi occupied Europe. Our objectives are to represent the interests of the child survivor community, to support each other, to keep alive the memory of the six million Jews – including the 1.5 million children – murdered during the Holocaust and to pass on our legacy to future generations. We pursue these objectives by telling the stories of our survival, by community interaction, education, holding conferences and by fighting anti-Semitism

European Association of Jewish Survivors
of the Holocaust
Friends and Alumni of OSE-USA, MD
Hidden Child Foundation/ADL, NY
KTA – Kindertransport Association, NY

Aloumim, Israel
Association of Children of the Holocaust in
Poland
Assn. of Child Survivors in Croatia
Assn. of Jewish War Children – Amsterdam
Assn. of Unknown Children, Netherlands
Assn. Of Holocaust Survivors in Sweden
Child Survivors Group of British Columbia
Child Survivor Group of Sydney, Australia
Child Survivors' Assn. of Great Britain-AJR
Child-Survivors-Deutschland e.V.
Child Survivors, Hungary
Child Survivors/Hidden Children of Toronto
Children of The Shoah,
Figli Della Shoah, Italy
Generaciones de la Shoá en Argentina
Hidden Child Assn. of the Netherlands
Hidden Child-Praha
Holocaust Children in Sweden
Jews Rescuing Jews, Israel
Melbourne Child Survivors of the Holocaust
Mengele Twins, Israel
Montreal Child Survivors/Hidden Children
Organizacia Hidden Child,
Ukravane Diet'a Slovensko
Swiss Assn. of Hidden Children
Terezin Initiative-International
Terezin Association
Ukrainian Assn. of Jews—Former Prisoners
of Ghetto and Nazi Concentration Camps
Union of Former Ghetto and
KZ Prisoners, Lithuania
YESH—Children and Orphans Holocaust
Survivors in Israel

Assn. of Holocaust Survivors from the
Former Soviet Union – Brooklyn, NY
Bay Area Hidden Children, CA
Child Survivor Group of Orange Co. CA
Child Survivors of the Holocaust of Houston
Child Survivors of the Holocaust, LA
Child Survivors of the Holocaust
of N.E. Ohio
Child Survivors of the Holocaust, NM
Child Survivors/Hidden Children
of Palm Beach Co.
Colorado Jewish Child Survivors
of the Holocaust
Greater Boston Child Survivor Group
Greater Seattle Child Survivors
Hidden Child/Child Survivor Group
of St. Louis
Hidden Children/Child Survivors Chicago
Hidden Children of Rockland County, NY
Hidden Children of the Holocaust
of Bergen County, NJ
Hidden Children of Westchester, NY
Hidden Children/Child Survivors of
Michigan
Holocaust Child Survivors of Connecticut
Hungarian Hidden Children – New York
Jewish Child Holocaust Survivors,
Philadelphia
Oregon Holocaust Survivors,
Refugees and Families
Survivors of the Holocaust—The Last
Generation, Washington/Baltimore
Yaldei Hashoah, San Francisco

RESOLUTION

• August 24, 2014

We the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust & Descendants, comprised of 54 member groups with representations from 18 countries at this conference in Berlin, Germany express our great concern and distress at the present resurgence of Anti-Semitism in Europe and throughout the world.

Our presence in Berlin this year is a strong statement of our theme and belief for justice, respect, & peace in the world for all people.

As Child Survivors of the Holocaust, we know first-hand what Anti-Semitism led to, the tragic murder of 6 million of our people, a figure that include 1½ million children.

As Survivors, children of Survivors and grandchildren of Survivors of the Holocaust we are greatly concerned about the suffering and survival of our people.

Discrimination against any group of people whether by race, color, religion, religion, creed or sexual orientation is a crime against all humanity and must not be tolerated by decent human beings.

Discrimination against any group of people does not stop with just one group.

While there may be political differences, we must remember to treat each other with respect and consideration. We are all God's children; we are all human beings with the right to live.

The Executive Committee & Governing Board

President: Stefanie Seltzer (USA), Executive Vice President: Steve Adler (USA), Vice Presidents: Chana Arnon (Israel), Anita Ekstein (Canada), Jacques Fein (USA), Melissa Hacker (USA), Max Lezer (Netherlands), Rene Lichtman (USA), Daisy Miller (USA), Henri Obstfeld (UK), Charley Silow (USA), Melita Svob (Croatia), Treasurer: Isaac Kot (USA).

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