ESTABLISHING

A

RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY

FOR

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1421 52nd St.
Brooklyn NY 11219
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Introduction

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov (PEBC), one of the largest community human service agencies in New York dedicated to meeting the needs of the ill and infirm, proposes to address the housing, health care, and daily living needs of needy victims of Nazi persecution through the establishment of a large residential senior housing complex. For the past 24 years, PEBC has been in the forefront of meeting the needs of survivors of the Holocaust. PEBC has extensive experience caring for elderly survivors, and is exceedingly capable of operating a residential facility of this caliber that will potentially serve thousands of Nazi victims and their families for many years to come.

The Residential Community For Holocaust Survivors senior housing complex will be built in the Boro Park section of Brooklyn NY, home to the largest concentration of Holocaust survivors in the United States. Numerous studies have documented the survivor syndrome—the problematic effects of the Holocaust experience. While personal strength and perseverance have enabled Holocaust survivors to reach old age, that very status threatens to undermine their stability and success. This project is responsive to this threat.

The 110-115 unit senior housing complex, to be located at 1309 38 St., is estimated to cost close to $39 million. The preliminary design and specifications were developed through consultation with several independent firms who specialize in senior housing development and financing. The design is based upon a number of basic principles: personalizing services, enabling freedom of choice, protecting privacy, encouraging independence, preserving dignity, and stressing quality of life. Among the
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

services offered are 24-hour round the clock support staff, daily service of three meals, nutritional counseling, regularly scheduled health monitoring, daily medication monitoring, 24-hour emergency call response system, and scheduled transportation.
There will be extensive common areas including an auditorium, synagogue, library, gym and exercise rooms, health and wellness center, and activity rooms.

Maimonides Medical Center, one of the most outstanding medical facilities in the City of New York, located in the catchment area of the proposed facility, will administer all aspects of medical care for residents of the facility. Maimonides Medical Center’s patient load includes hundreds of Nazi victims, thereby giving it special expertise in caring for Holocaust survivors, and making it especially sensitive to the needs and concerns of survivors.

The fee structure for the complex is considered reasonable but the project is only financially viable with the proceeds of a grant to offset the capital costs required to build the complex. PEBC will pursue tax free bond financing for the project as well.

Data were gathered to assess the viability of the project. Input was obtained from 4 key project constituencies: [a] potential residents from the local area; [b] hospital nurses and social workers responsible for elderly patient discharge planning; [c] geriatricians from Maimonides Medical Center; [d] local agency service providers. There was strong support for the project across all key constituencies.
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

The project will provide support services and housing for a significant number of elderly Holocaust survivors with mobility and/or self care limitations. While the Residential Community for Holocaust Survivors will be located in Boro Park, residents will be drawn from a much larger geographic area, including the New York City neighborhoods of Williamsburg, Flatbush, Forest Hills, Rego Park and Kew Gardens. Although the facility will accommodate 150 Nazi victims at one time, it has the potential to serve considerably more survivors over the course of many years. A waiting list to accommodate future residents will be established immediately upon completion of the facility. Thousands of “younger” survivors who may not need this type of facility at this point in time will undoubtedly need it as they grow older and frail. Even second generation survivors who have also suffered from mental anguish and trauma of growing up with parents who endured Nazi persecution will eventually need this facility. Could there be a better legacy for the survivors than the knowledge that an assisted living project will help their family and friends even after they have passed on? Moreover, providing for Nazi victims’ supportive living needs is everlasting and will undoubtedly benefit survivors much more than mere cash.
NUMBER AND LOCATION OF NAZI VICTIMS

The Nazi victim population that will benefit from the proposed residential facility will come from the New York State area in general and specific New York City neighborhoods in particular. The Jewish Community Study of New York: 2002 (JCSNY 2002), reports that there are an estimated 55,000 Jewish Nazi victims living in the eight county New York area, representing 15% of all Jewish adults age 57 and older. About half of all survivors living in the entire country are in New York, making New York fertile ground to draw potential residents for an assisted living residential center. Most Nazi victims -54% - live in Brooklyn. 17% reside in Queens, and 12% live in Manhattan. The proposed residential facility will be located in Brooklyn, containing the largest number of victims, and will serve neighborhoods in the two largest boroughs - Brooklyn and Queens. The Boro Park section of Brooklyn is the ideal setting for such a facility. Boro Park contains the largest number of Holocaust survivors than any other community in New York. Boro Park is home to several large Hasidic groups, including Bobov, Satmar, Belz, and Ger, all former European communities whose populations were decimated during World War II. According to the local Boro Park Community Council, which represents more than 100 religious, educational and human service institutions in the community, nearly 75% of senior citizens residing in the community are indeed victims of Nazi oppression. There are 23,486 people 65 years and over residing in Community District 12 (Census 2000), which contains Boro Park. It is very likely that Boro Park has upwards of 17,000 Holocaust survivors living there.
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Findings from the National Jewish Population Survey 2000-01 (NJPS 2000-01) indicate that Nazi victims are older on average than non-victims. The median age of Nazi victims is 71 years, compared to 68 for non-victims over the age of 55. 44% of victims are at least 75 years old. There are indeed more victims that can make use of a residential facility than non-victims.

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF NEEDY NAZI VICTIMS

The JCSNY 2002 indicates that many of the Nazi victims in the New York area are poor. Half are living below the federally defined poverty level. Nazi victims are more likely to be poor than “near-poor.” More Nazi victims live in poor households (51%) than in near poor households (11%) which have incomes of 150% of the Federal poverty guidelines, but under $35,000 annual yearly income. 44% of Nazi victims living alone are under the 100% poverty level, compared to 37% of those living with another person. The NJPS 2000-01 says that victims are five times more likely to be living below the poverty line than non-victims. When asked to evaluate their household’s financial situation, proportionally more victims (35%) than non-victims (23%) said they were “just managing.” Victims report lower incomes than non-victims. Two-thirds of victims report income below $35,000, compared to 45% of non-victims. The median income for victims is $15,700, and for non-victims it is $40,800.

The evidence is clear that Nazi victims in New York are poorer, and that a significant number live in Boro Park. About 4,500 needy victims eligible for social
service benefits visit the offices of the Boro Park Community Council every year, seeking social service and entitlement benefit assistance. The Council reports that close to 2,000 of these victims are in extremely desperate financial straits.

**ASSESSMENT OF SURVIVOR NEEDS**

Poverty for the survivors, particularly those living in Brooklyn, means a poor quality of life. Essential costs for food, health care and rent, are generally too prohibitive and too difficult for survivors to bear. The NJPS 2000-01 indicated that 19% of Nazi victims rely on personal savings to pay for assistance if they are disabled. A senior citizen housing facility would alleviate the financial burden of needy Holocaust survivors.

As a direct result of years of physical and emotional persecution, there is no doubt that elderly Nazi victims experience health problems at higher rates than the elderly population in general. The lack of proper eating habits and good food during their younger years affects the health of Nazi victims as they grow older. Many experience heart problems, osteoporosis and broken bones, and high blood pressure.

According to the NJPS 2000-01, a considerable number of Nazi victims are in poor health. 27% of victims, compared to just 8% of non-victims, described their health as poor. 33% described their health status as “fair.” Many victims have a physical, and/or mental condition that limits employment, education, or other daily activities. 36%
of victims say they or someone in their household struggles with a health condition that restricts activities. Households with an afflicted member appear to have more severe limitations than non-victims and their household members. 83% of victims who report someone in their household with a disability also say that the afflicted person requires supervision or assistance daily or several times a week, compared to 50% of non-victims who make the same claim. It is clear that a residential facility would provide the supervision or assistance needed by Nazi victims.

The NJPS 2000-01 indicated that among the social service needs of victims of Nazi persecution, the need for home health care is more predominant. More victims (20%) than non-victims (14%) stated a need for home health care.

The NJPS 2000-01 reports that many Nazi victims live alone. The study emphasized that living alone is an issue of concern because it may lead to social isolation and contribute to health related problems. A quarter of all victims reside by themselves. The JCSNY: 2002 stated that 60% of Nazi victims living alone are 75 years old and over. In the event of an emergency, which is more likely to occur to those over 75, elderly victims should have someone available at all times to take care of them. Many experience isolation and loneliness, which brings back horrible frightening memories of the dark Holocaust era. This condition can lead to depression, which ultimately results in physical and mental deterioration. While living alone they may forget to take their medications, and may have poor eating habits. An assisted living residential facility would provide victims with 24 hour nursing care, proper food and nutrition, and much
needed warmth and friendship. A supportive residential community aimed at overcoming survivor limitations and promoting health will be especially beneficial for elderly Holocaust survivors.

There is an obvious need to address Nazi victims’ financial volatility, poverty, and poor health. There is a need to deal with loneliness and social instability among survivors of the Holocaust, and the necessity for home health care. There is a need to develop an all-encompassing project that would provide Holocaust survivors with a quality of life that would enable them to live out their years with the tranquility and serenity that they truly deserve.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR DISTRIBUTION**

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov proposes to establish a Residential Community for Holocaust Survivors – a supportive living senior housing complex – that would offer a comprehensive program to respond to the needs of elderly Nazi victims.

In order to clarify the viability of this project, focus groups were held with several different key groups. Specifically, input was solicited from [a] potential residents from the local area; [b] hospital nurses and social workers responsible for elderly patient discharge planning; [c] geriatricians from Maimonides Medical Center; [d] local agency service providers.

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RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Potential Residents: This group (which also included children and relatives of potential residents) was uniformly and strongly in favor of this project. They believed that getting elderly Nazi victims out of their current homes and apartments and into a sheltered environment with supervision was a necessary and needed strategy.

The group thought the location of the facility is excellent and was very positive about the exterior design. The design of the apartments was well received. Additional project features that received strong endorsement were the support staff and services and the medical oversight. There was agreement as to the importance of communicating the health focus of the residence while making clear that it is not a nursing home. The majority of participants believed that community residents would want to move into the new facility.

Hospital Nurses and Social Workers: The project was viewed as highly desirable by all group participants. By having a large concentration of seniors in a single location, medical and other support services could be efficiently delivered; this would overcome the current problem of excessive travel time to make home visits to disparate locations. They especially appreciated the project principles of independence, choice and dignity.

Geriatricians: There was agreement in this group that the project was both necessary and well designed. They underscored one major design strength— that Maimonides Medical Center will offer medical services and oversight of both clinical and custodial services. Services will include regularly scheduled blood pressure monitoring, diabetes testing, and weight monitoring and nutritional counseling.
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Local Agency Service Providers: Interviews with the Executive Director and a Board member of Bikur Cholim ("Guardians of the Sick") of Boro Park supported the need for a residential facility. This agency provides emergency services to many elderly community residents, including Holocaust survivors. Assistance includes home services and emergency cash distributions. Among the Holocaust survivor population there is a growing need for assistance and support services.

Summary: There was strong support for the project across all key constituencies. No one expressed a concern regarding the need for the project.

Services

The proposed Boro Park Residential Community will offer broad latitude of amenities, services, and affordable payment mechanisms. With approval of the current grant application to cover the expense of construction, the residents would only be required to cover the ongoing monthly cost of support services. Consequently, a potential monthly rental and service fee of $1750 (studio) - $2250 (two bedrooms) was thought to be extremely attractive. This rental and service fee is practically half the amount paid at other supportive living facilities.

Project staff will assist residents with activities of daily living, including bathing, toileting, meal preparation, dressing, and ambulation.

Another important service will be assistance in preparing meals. Even if one can prepare meals, the burden of preparation and eating alone is such that each resident will
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

prefer to congregate in a care setting where meals are prepared by others and eaten in a communal dining room.

Staff of the Residential Community for Holocaust Survivors will also deal with residents’ health care needs and ongoing medical conditions. In conjunction with Maimonides Medical Center, each resident will receive assistance in taking his/her medication. Nurses will be available to help with medication monitoring and administration, and will offer nutritional counseling. The goal of this facility is to keep its residents as mentally and physically active as possible. Moreover, a healthy, alert resident population helps reduce the negative stigma often associated with matured senior housing. This facility will provide supportive rehabilitation in order to maintain the residents’ health and promote wellness and independence.

Residents will also receive support with other instrumental activities of daily living, such as house maintenance, shopping, and taking care of finances. Using a telephone, cleaning an apartment, paying bills, and dealing with everyday chores of maintaining an apartment are other examples. For some older individuals a decline in the ability to perform these functions is sufficient reason to move into housing with assistance. Individuals who, because of a vision problem, can no longer drive a car and cannot shop will find it difficult to prepare meals. Therefore, the residential facility will provide three meals per day and van service to visit doctors, specialists, etc.
Structure

One of the most important factors for the elderly Holocaust survivor requiring assistance is independence and privacy. The facility will house 110-115 private units, accommodating about 150 Nazi victims. Each unit will have its own bathroom. One and two bedroom units will have a full kitchen, whereas studio or single units will have a kitchenette. The building will be 10 stories tall, and its dimensions will be 150 ft. x 140 ft. Outdoor amenities will be included such as courtyards, walking paths, and gardens that will be available to residents. Common spaces such as a dining room, synagogue, Mikva, multi-purpose room, library/study hall, beauty shop/barber, activity rooms, lap pool, gym and exercise room, wellness center, and a lounge, will promote socialization and independence. It goes without saying that the close proximity of other seniors and the availability of common rooms add a beneficial social opportunity not found in home care. In addition, nursing care can be more effectively delivered to a number of seniors in a single supportive complex than in many individual homes.

Conference rooms will be made available to community agencies to promote educational programs on aging to help indoctrinate the community to alternatives to senior housing and services and accessible programs and funding sources.
Home Visitations

In addition to the aforementioned services, the Residential Community for Holocaust Survivors will also reach out and serve approximately 2,000 additional Nazi victims in the community who will not find placement in the facility due to a lack of available units. The Residential Community will work together with local yeshiva high schools and arrange home visitations to Holocaust survivors. Community youth will visit elderly survivors at home, offering solace and comfort, and tending to their everyday needs. They will help with shopping, and escort Nazi victims to doctors and other appointments when necessary, and help them maintain their household in a dignified manner. Aside from the obvious assistance and benefits that this will provide Nazi victims, this activity will also serve to instill in youth a sense of volunteerism, accomplishment, self-worth, and caring for elderly and needy individuals.

The Residential Community for Holocaust Survivors will achieve the following benefits:

- Offer personalized services
- Enable freedom of choice
- Protect the individual survivor's privacy
- Encourage victim's independence
- Preserve survivor's dignity
- Stress Nazi victim's quality of life
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

- Create in the minds of caregivers, providers, regulatory agencies and the elderly a positive, friendly and welcome perspective of the entire gamut of residential healthcare

- Prevent the migration of Holocaust survivors to other parts of the country

- Create a center for senior care education. Seminars and conferences for the education of all those involved with caring for elderly Holocaust survivors will be held at this facility.

- Serve as the laboratory and on-site training grounds for affiliated nursing programs, and continuing education for healthcare professionals

RECOMMENDED DISTRIBUTION AGENCY

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov is a large community based volunteer organization whose purpose is to meet the needs of the ill and infirm. More than half of PESC's client caseload are Holocaust survivors whose needs and concerns require special assistance.

Founded 24 years ago by Holocaust survivors, PESC has extensive experience providing humanitarian aid to Nazi victims and to the community at large. PESC continually visits the homes of survivors, assessing their needs and providing the necessary services and/or referrals to meet their special needs. It provides medical referrals and supportive services to ease the burden of patients and their families. Well trained volunteers who are especially sensitive to the needs of sickly individuals visit patients confined to hospitals, nursing homes and geriatric centers throughout New York City, offering care and comfort and see to their multiple needs. PESC provides hot
cooked meals, shopping, and friendly visitation to patients who ultimately leave the hospital and are in need of home care.

Patients in need of special treatment who come to the United States from overseas and have no insurance coverage or long term living accommodations, receive financial assistance and a comfortable place to stay. PEBC disburses thousands of dollars every month to cover medical expenses not covered by insurance companies. PESC also covers dental care expenses for the needy, pharmacy bills, x-rays, physical therapy, MRIs and CAT scans, and a recuperating patient's stay at a convalescent home. PESC pays the tuition for children in need of special education and cannot afford the exorbitant cost, as well as the summer camp expense for disadvantaged children.

An integral part of its many services, PESC provides escort and transportation to and from doctors' offices and treatment/therapy centers. Cars and drivers are on call 24 hours a day. PESC's Rodeph Chesed ambulance, which is seen all over New York City, picks up wheelchair-bound patients and drives them to their medical appointments or just to visit a friend.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobov has the organizational and administrative experience, capacity and capability to effectively operate and administer the proposed Residential Community for Holocaust Survivors. Its reputation and excellent track record of success in the New York City Jewish community, and its quarter century knowledge and experience working with elderly Nazi victims, as well as its special
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

relationship that it has developed with the medical and geriatric health care community, has given it the proficiency and necessary expertise in providing for the needs of Holocaust survivors in a senior citizen housing facility.


NAMES, ADDRESSES, AND AFFILIATIONS OF ALL PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH OR ENDORSING THE PROPOSAL – see attached Letters of Support.

Other Attachments:

1. Estimated Cost Breakdown

2. Schematic Drawings and Fact Sheet of the Residential Community for Holocaust Survivors
## Boro Park Residential Community

Brooklyn, NY

### Capital Cost Estimates

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**Grand Total** 38,207,250
Boro Park Residential Community  
New York, NY  

January 28, 2004

FACT SHEET

1. **Area of Site:** 21,000 SF (140 ft x 150 ft)

2. **Number of Units:** 115 - 120

3. **Building Type:** 10-Story Type-1 construction

4. **Height of Building:** 113 feet to rooftop

5. **Zoning:** M1-2

6. **Current use:** Vacant

7. **Parking Provided:** NA

8. **Setbacks:** NA

9. **Square Feet / Floor:**
   - **Basement:** 16,310
   - **Level 1:** 16,310
   - **Level 2:** 12,971
   - **Level's 3 - 10:** 100,280

   \[
   \frac{(12,535 \text{ SF} \times 8 \text{ Floors})}{\text{Total Gross SF}} = 145,871
   \]

10. **Type of Units/Floor:**
    - **Level 2:**
      - Single:
      - 1 BR:
    - **Typical Level (3 - 10):**
      - Single:
      - 1 BR:
      - 2 BR:
"1B" (One Bedroom) 635 SF

ARCHITECTURE
CONSTRUCTION
MANAGEMENT
3130 WILSHIRE BLVD., 36TH FLOOR
SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA 90403

BB&C
ARCHITECTS

DATE: 01/28/2004
DRAWN: 16:09
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

DIMENSIONS:
- BR 11'x13'
- BR 11'x13'
- LBD 10'x16'
- KITCH 7'x10'
- 23'-9" x 27'-6"
- 11'-4" x 7'-7"
- 3'-8" x 24'-11"

NOTE: All measurements are approximate.
January 23, 2004

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing this letter as a representative of a community with one of the largest concentrations of Holocaust Survivors and children of Holocaust Survivors in America.

We are very pleased to hear that the plans for the Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov Project, servicing the housing medical and social needs of the Holocaust Survivors is in full gear. Unfortunately a great majority of our Holocaust Survivors are destitute, infirmed and live in unacceptable conditions on low-set incomes. Their desperate situation is not being addressed appropriately.

The assisted living project for the Holocaust Survivors will preserve the dignity of our Holocaust Survivor population and provide them with housing, recreational programs, social services, medical care and daily hot meals.

It would be a shame that we the beneficiaries of their brave and heroic struggle against tyranny and persecution would let them down at a moment when they are most vulnerable, by not proceeding swiftly and aggressively with this project.

I strongly urge you to consider this desperately needed project and fund it appropriately so that the Holocaust Survivors could still live to reap some benefits from the monies that truly belong to them, the Holocaust Survivors.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Yechiel Kaufman
Executive Director
December 27, 1999

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to join the many public officials and community leaders in supporting Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s application to receive funding to enable it to provide affordable assisted living accommodations for senior citizens who are survivors of the Holocaust. There is a dire need for senior housing in the Borough Park area and the surrounding communities. As the number of those who lived through this horrific period in human history is diminishing, the imperative to meet their needs and provide decent housing is all the more important. Your efforts together with Maimonides Medical Center to provide meals, medical care, and social amenities support to create a suitable environment to allow them to live out their years in dignity and security are essential.

I hope that all consideration will be given to this proposal and that the necessary support will be forthcoming promptly to enable this important project to go forward quickly. My very best wishes to your success.

Sincerely yours,

Malcolm Hoenlein
Executive Vice Chairman
January 28, 2004

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Greetings:

It is wonderful news indeed that Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobov has plans to provide assisted living accommodations for elderly Holocaust survivors of our community. On behalf of Agudath Israel of America, I am delighted to offer this letter of support for those plans, and to commend this project for favorable consideration by potential funding sources.

Agudath Israel has many constituents in the communities in which the Bobover Bikur Cholim is active, and we are well acquainted with the wonderful work that you do. We are also well acquainted with the fact that the neighborhoods you serve contain perhaps the largest single concentration of elderly Holocaust survivors anywhere in the world. As this population ages, their needs grow, and we have noted with admiration the tremendous commitment your organization has shown toward helping meet those needs.

That is why it makes such good sense for the Bobover Bikur Cholim to turn its attention toward the problem of housing accommodations for elderly survivors who need help in caring for themselves. The need for affordable assisted living accommodations for such survivors is great and growing greater. Your organization has the credibility, the know-how and the dedication to successfully meet this need; and we at Agudath Israel would consider it an honor to help you in any way we can.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

David Zwiebel

DZ:Id
January 26, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to wholeheartedly support Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim’s project to build Independent Assisted Living facilities that will serve the elderly in our community, mostly Holocaust survivors.

As a Bikur Cholim organization ourselves, we witness first hand the severe difficulties the elderly in our community face. Many of them live alone and their condition rapidly deteriorates, physically and mentally. As this happens they are hampered from socializing with family and friends, from shopping and even from attending services in shul--something extremely vital for their spiritual uplifting. In short, they become incarcerated and isolated in their own homes and live a life of misery.

The Assisted Living project will preserve the dignity of our Holocaust survivor population by giving them their own privacy and at the same time providing all essential services that they need. This is indeed a very urgent and important project. Our organizations share one goal --to help people in our community. This project will definitely accomplish this goal.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Shmuel Steinhardt
Executive Director

 RSS:sg
January 29, 2004

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter of support on behalf of the Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s application to receive funding in order to enable them to build assisted living housing for senior citizen survivors of the Holocaust. Many of these people are being served by Maimonides Medical Center for their medical care and an assisted living project would provide them with many of their other needs during their golden years.

I am confident that you will give this proposal due consideration and provide them with the support necessary to implement this very important program.

Sincerely,

Pamela S. Brier
July 27, 1999

Rabbi Yitzchok Fleischer
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Rabbi Fleischer,

I am pleased to accept your invitation to serve on the Advisory Board for your project providing affordable assisted living accommodations for senior citizens who are survivors of the Holocaust.

This program, undertaken in cooperation with the renowned Maimonides Medical Center, seems to be an excellent way to assist Holocaust survivors with affordable senior housing in our community and should be appreciated by all those who cherish respect for human dignity.

Please accept my great congratulations on this important program.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Marvin Hier
Dean and Founder

RMH:gr
To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in strong support of Peshas Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s application for funding to provide an affordable assisted living facility for senior citizens who are Holocaust survivors.

Peshas Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov is a multi-service organization that has worked extensively in the Borough Park area to serve the needs of the sick and elderly. Their proposal will make possible a comprehensive housing accommodation suited to the unique needs of Holocaust survivors, providing them with private living space, recreational programs, medical care, and daily meals. Furthermore, the Borough Park community has among the highest concentration of elderly Holocaust survivors in the United States and Peshas Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s proposed facility will help these survivors receive appropriate assistance and care as they grow older.

I hope that careful consideration will be given to fund this important project, which will provide affordable living accommodations for elderly Holocaust survivors and help ensure that they can live in a secure and dignified environment.

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Hillary Rodham Clinton
June 9, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my support for Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s application for funding to provide affordable assisted living accommodations to senior citizens who are survivors of the Holocaust.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov recognizes the needs and desires of senior citizens, and wants to provide a housing option most tailored towards the particular concerns of elderly Holocaust survivors. Their proposal is for a program that would provide meals, medical care, entertainment, and social programs to residents who would each live in their own small apartment. Grant money would make these apartments affordable to low and middle income senior citizens, who would then be able to enjoy the benefits of assisted living while still keeping their privacy.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov shows a tremendous amount of concern towards the elderly Holocaust survivors in its community. It provides much-needed assistance to people in need.

As you review Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s request for funding, I ask you to realize the value of their proposed program and the difference it will make in the lives of senior citizens in need.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schumer
United States Senate
February 22, 1999

Dear Mr. Fleischer,

I am delighted to accept your kind invitation to serve on the Advisory Board for your project providing appropriate housing for Senior citizen Holocaust survivors.

This program, undertaken in cooperation with the renowned Maimonides Medical Center, should be appreciated by all who cherish our national heritage of respect for human dignity.

Please accept my great congratulations on this important program.

Sincerely,

Daniel Patrick Moynihan

Mr. Yitchok Fleischer
Executive director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11219
January 29, 2004

To whom it may concern:

I write to express my support for the Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bovov application for funding for affordable assisted living for Holocaust survivors.

After having their families, homes, community, and personal wealth taken from them in the Holocaust, many survivors live out the rest of their lives in the U.S. and around the world in poverty and squalor. Considering the serious lack of senior housing in New York City and the large number of survivors in our community, I am glad that this important proposal has been developed to help senior citizens who are survivors of the Holocaust with their assisted living needs.

I urge you to give full consideration to this worthy proposal. It will benefit not only the residents of the assisted living center, itself, but the entire community.

Sincerely,

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress
February 2, 1998

Mr. Yitzchok Fleisher
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Mr. Fleisher:

I am honored and gladly accept your invitation to be on your Advisory Board for your project with Maimonides Medical Center to plan and build complexes to take care of senior citizens who are survivors of the Holocaust.

I am well aware of the lack of senior housing in our community to attend to the special needs of seniors and especially Orthodox Jews who are survivors of the Holocaust. Your proposal seems like an excellent idea that would assist these people in their time of need when they should be comfortable and enjoying their twilight years.

Once again thank you for this honor and please don’t hesitate to contact me so that may assist you in this important project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress
To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to underscore my support for Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s application for funding to construct assisted living complexes for Holocaust survivors in conjunction with Maimonides Hospital.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov has routinely proven itself to be an advocate for those who are unable to help themselves. For the last two decades, Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov has been an organization which has dedicated itself to alleviating the concerns and meeting the needs of the ill and infirmed. Their proposal would provide social programs, entertainment, medical care and meals as alternative for Holocaust survivors who, as a result of their experiences, prefer to stay home alone, rather than join an institutional style of living where they would lose their privacy.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov stands as a model of community service as it provides much needed assistance to so many people throughout my district and the entire borough of Brooklyn.

In reviewing Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s funding request, I urge you to consider the value of such a program in light of the service it provides to the public.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY D. WEINER
Member of Congress

ADW:bg
January 22, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

I am strongly supportive of Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim, led by my friend Rabbi Yitzchak Fleischer, in their project to build an assisted living center for Holocaust survivors in Boro Park, Brooklyn.

I am particularly delighted that Pesha Elias is doing this in conjunction with Maimonides Medical Center. Under the able leadership of Pam Breier and her entire staff, Maimonides has been serving this community with great distinction.

As a former Regional Director for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, I am very aware of the acute housing shortage we face, particularly for senior citizens.

The Boro Park neighborhood has a large population of holocaust survivors, the majority of them elderly. It is most crucial that we provide them the means to live out their final years in dignity. This assisted living center will go a long way to ensuring that.

I trust that you will give this important matter your utmost consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio

Bill de Blasio
January 26, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim’s initiative to provide survivors with affordable and dignified assisted living housing. This proposal would create an assisted living facility, coupling essential services like meals and medical care with necessary services like social programs and recreation in one facility. We often forget that this community, though courageous, is quickly fading. Subsidized living is at a premium, and the cost to seniors of unsubsidized services is prohibitively expensive.

Grant monies from Holocaust funds will ensure that this housing will be available – that this service is accessible to all survivors – and that these seniors will be able to live their remaining years in comfort and dignity.

As my district has the largest concentration of Holocaust survivors in the world, I am very much aware of the needs and concerns of this community. I am indeed honored to support such an honorable cause.

Best Wishes,

Simcha Felder
Council Member - 44th District
March 2, 1999

Mr. Yitzchok Fleisher  
Executive Director  
Pesha Elias Bikur  
Cholim De Bobov  
1542 47th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Mr. Fleisher:

I am honored that you have asked me to serve your Advisory Board for the project with Maimonides Medical Center to plan and build complexes to take care of senior citizens who are survivors of the Holocaust. As you know, justice for Holocaust victims has been a priority for me and my administration, and your endeavor is a natural fit.

I am well aware of the lack or senior housing in your community. Particularly, housing that attends to the special needs of those who have survived one of worst human atrocities in our history. Your proposal is good and thoughtful. It aims to assist seniors in their time of need so they can relax and enjoy their twilight years.

Once again thank you for this honor and please don't hesitate to contact me so that I may assist you in this important project.

Sincerely,

H. Carl McCall  
State Comptroller

HCM/jse
November 3, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s project to build assisted living complexes for Holocaust survivors in conjunction with Maimonides Medical Center.

For close to 20 years, Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov has been dedicated to meeting the needs of the ill and infirm and smoothing the path to good health for thousands of patients in major New York area medical institutions. This project will meet a desperate need by providing much needed housing and services to the largest community of Holocaust survivors in the world.

This elderly population has unique needs as a result of their experiences. Most prefer a solitary existence rather than join an institutional living style where they would lose their privacy. The result, unfortunately, is rapid physical and mental deterioration. The proposed assisted living facilities would allow this vulnerable population to live in their own small apartments within a complex, which would provide vital social programs, entertainment, medical care and meals.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s proposal will certainly help to alleviate the plight faced by many of these individuals. I wholeheartedly support this worthwhile effort.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

SHELDON SILVER
Speaker
June 24, 1999

Mr. Yitzchok Fleischer
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11219

Dear Mr. Fleischer:

It is with great pleasure and high honor that I accept your invitation to be on the Advisory Board for the Maimonides Medical Center Project. I applaud the efforts of the Bikur Cholim to provide assisted living for low and middle income Holocaust survivors.

I cannot think of a better purpose for which Holocaust funds should be appropriated. Not only would this have the effect of offering direct reparations to those who have suffered the most, but it would serve as a living memorial to Holocaust survivors in the place where they reside.

As I have had dealings with the Bikur Cholim on other issues, I know that your organization will bring the highest level of professionalism to this project. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Senator Seymour Lachman
March 26, 1999

Mr. Yitzchok Fleisher
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim De Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Mr. Fleisher:

As you well know, the catchment area of Maimonides Medical Center (MMC) is home to the largest concentration of Holocaust survivors in the United States. I would be honored to serve on the Advisory Board for the project proposed by Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim and MMC to plan and build senior housing for survivors.

This is a community that goes to great lengths to treat the elderly with respect and dignity. Any plan to provide for the needs of this special group of seniors, who have suffered more than most of us can comprehend, is worthy indeed. I offer you my support in this important project. To that end, I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dov Hikind
Member of Assembly
April 28, 1999

Mr. Yitzchok Fleisher
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11219

Dear Mr. Fleisher,

It would be an honor to accept your invitation to serve as a member of the Advisory Board. I look forward to assisting, in conjunction with Maimonides Medical Center, the construction of an assisted living facility in a community where a great number of Holocaust survivors reside. This project undoubtedly has my full support.

The providing of housing, social programs, entertainment, medical care, and meals to this elderly population, ensures that they are well taken care of. This project will enable survivors to live out the rest of their lives with dignity.

Please update me on the status of your plans and advise me of the Advisory Committee schedule. Also, please inform me if additional information is necessary.

Sincerely,

Lena Cymbrowitz
Member of Assembly
November 23, 1999

Mr. Isaac Tauber, Executive Vice President
Mr. Yitzchok Fleischer, Executive Director
Peshal Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Mr. Tauber and Mr. Fleischer:

I am pleased to accept your invitation to serve on the Advisory Board of your organization’s worthy project of building assisted living complexes for low and middle income senior citizen Holocaust survivors.

Charitable organizations, such as Peshal Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov, are essential to the fabric of a community and serve a need that government cannot always meet. I am confident that your valuable work will improve the living conditions and enhance the human dignity of the beneficiaries of your assistance.

I look forward to working with you on this important project.

Sincerely,

Alan G. Hevesi

AGH:cc
June 8, 1999

Rabbi Yitzchok Fleischer
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobow
1542 - 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Rabbi Fleischer,

I am honored to accept your invitation to serve as a member of the Advisory Board of your project to build affordable housing for low and middle income elderly people who are survivors of the Holocaust.

There can be no nobler use for Holocaust funds, than to help those very people who suffered in that great atrocity. I fully support your efforts to find funds that will alleviate their loneliness and their depression, while allowing them independence and privacy in their own apartments. Assisted living with social programs and entertainment, and for those who need it, medical care and meals, in a community with a great shortage of senior housing is a worthwhile effort in which I am delighted to join.

I wish you the greatest success and look forward to working with you on this project.

Best regards,

Mark Green

Mark Green
September 14, 1999

Mr. Yitzchok Fleischer
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bovov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Mr. Fleischer,

I am delighted to accept your invitation to serve on the Advisory Board for your project with Maimonides Medical Center, to provide affordable assisted living housing for senior citizen holocaust survivors.

Your project seems to be an excellent way to deal with the very serious problem of the lack of senior housing to deal with the special needs of holocaust survivors.

Again, thank you for this honor and please don’t hesitate to contact me so that I may assist you with this important project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Peter F. Vallone
Speaker
August 6, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my support for Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s application for funding to provide affordable assisted living accommodations to senior citizens who are survivors of the Holocaust.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov recognizes the needs and desires of senior citizens and wants to provide a housing option most tailored towards the particular concerns of elderly Holocaust survivors. Their proposal is for a program that would provide meals, medical care, entertainment, and social programs to residents who would each live in their own small apartment. Grant money would make these apartments affordable to low and middle income senior citizens, who would then be able to enjoy the benefits of assisted living while still keeping their privacy.

Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov shows a tremendous amount of concern towards the elderly Holocaust survivors in its community. It provides much needed assistance to people in need.

As you review Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov’s request for funding, I ask you to realize the value of their proposed program and the difference it will make in the lives of senior citizens in need.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephen DiBienna

SD: gb
May 26, 1999

Rabbi Yitzchok Fleischer
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobov
1542 47th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11219

Dear Rabbi Fleischer:

I am in receipt of your recent letter requesting my participation on your advisory board and my support of your application for funding to develop housing for Holocaust survivors.

I am pleased to acknowledge the fine work of your organization and to support its endeavors in securing funds for the creation of much needed housing for Holocaust survivors. Clearly, this is a need that should be met and your organization is well qualified to fulfill the requirements necessary to make it a reality.

I must decline participation on your advisory board in order to prevent any conflict of interest which might arise if projects you develop ultimately require land use approvals pursuant to the New York City Uniform Land Use Review Procedures.

I therefore, wish you success in the pursuit of grant funds and applaud your commitment to meeting the needs of the community you represent.

Sincerely,

Howard Golden
July 15, 1999

Mr. Isaac Tauber  
Executive Vice President  
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov  
1542 - 47th ST  
Brooklyn NY 11219

Dear Mr. Tauber:

Thank you for your letter describing the work of Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov in developing assisted living complexes for survivors of the Holocaust. Communities across the U.S. are suffering from acute shortages of affordable housing, making daily life a struggle for many seniors. Individuals who also suffer the ongoing effects of the Holocaust nightmare need special sensitivity and deserve financial assistance in their elder years.

I do extend my best wishes for the success of your worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

WFM/Ilp  
cc: Rabbi Jules Fleischer
HENRY A. KISSINGER

August 4, 1999

Dear Rabbi Fleischer:

It goes without saying that I support Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobov's proposal to construct assisted living facilities, in conjunction with Maimonides Medical Center, for elderly and infirm Holocaust survivors. I am happy to provide the enclosed letter of support.

As much as I commend the aims of this project, however, I must decline to join the Advisory Board. I have long followed a policy of not lending my name where I will be unable to give the time and attention that an important project deserves. I know you will understand and will accept my sincere good wishes for the success of this very worthwhile initiative.

Best regards,

Henry A. Kissinger

Rabbi Jules Fleischer
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobov
1542 - 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219
December 7, 1999

Mr. Yitzchok Fleisher
Executive Director
Pesha Elias Bikur
Cholin DeBobov
1542 – 47th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219

Dear Mr. Fleisher:

Assisted living senior housing will enable our population of Holocaust Survivors to enjoy their "golden years".

Your project would insure that this senior group would be permitted to live in their own apartments within a safe environment.

The services you expect to provide are most necessary for the self-esteem, good health and independence for this Community.

With every good wish for your continued success with this most worthwhile project.

Very truly yours,

PRISCILLA CELANO
District Manager

PC:rt
December 7, 1999

Judah Gribetz, Esquire
Richards and O’Neil, LLP
885 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Judah:

I had a fascinating meeting last Thursday evening with leaders of the Bobov Hasidic community in Boro Park. They had approached me seeking advice on their new project for assisted living for survivors. Frankly – perhaps even unexpectedly – I was most impressed.

As you know, I have long advocated that the new funds that have become available – or will become available – from Holocaust-related claims through Swiss banking money, insurance claims, slave labor and recovered Jewish property and art, be devoted to a simple achievable task.

It is a question of dignity. Survivors who were robbed of all dignity in their youth should be given the opportunity to live in dignity to the end of their days, and to leave this earth in the fullness of their natural years without being a burden to their family.

It is a question of justice. Those who robbed survivors of their dignity and property, not once but twice, by refusing to return survivors’ rightful property after the Shoah, are responsible to provide for the survivors now.

Since the principles of the Boro Park proposal are specifically structured to preserving dignity, protecting privacy, and stressing the quality of life, this project seems to be a most appropriate endeavor for which funds should be allocated.

As Marty Payson told you, Maimonides Medical Center is a cosponsor of this project. Maimonides is situated in the center of the largest concentration of survivors in the United States. It is therefore quite fitting that a pilot project should be done in this area.

Having met with the Bobov leadership and having reviewed their important proposals, I think that they provide a model for the responsible use of these new resources to provide dignity to the survivors of the Shoah to the end of their natural days.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Berenbaum
PESHA ELIAS BIKUR CHOLIM D'BBOBOV

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

BENJAMIN ROSENSTARK
WEST HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK

JANUARY 26, 2004
January 26, 2004

To the Board of Directors
Pesham Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov

I have reviewed the accompanying financial report of Pesham Elias Bikur Cholim D’Bobov, and the related statement of support, revenue and expenses for the year ended December 31, 2003 in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of the charitable organization.

A review consists of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures applied to the financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an audit in accordance with generally accepted standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly we do not express such an opinion. Based on this review we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.
Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'Bobov

Balance Sheet
December 31, 2003

ASSETS

Current Assets:
Cash and cash equivalents $ 63,867
Marketable securities 262,488

Total Assets 326,355

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities none

Total unrestricted net assets 326,355

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS 326,355
PESHA ELIAS BIKUR CHOLIM D'BOBOV

Statement of cash receipts and disbursements
Year ended December 31, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gift and pledges</td>
<td>176,249</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governments grants</td>
<td>94,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>270,811</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistances to the indigent</td>
<td>161,392</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>6,000</td>
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<td>Printing and postage cost</td>
<td>30,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conferences and luncheons</td>
<td>12,786</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>21,587</td>
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<tr>
<td>Automobile expenses</td>
<td>4,307</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts and prizes</td>
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<td>Office expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll taxes</td>
<td>1,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>247,428</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NET OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES**  **23,383**
PESHA ELIAS BIKUR CHOLIM D'BOBOV

Notes to financial statements
For the year ended December 31, 2003

NATURE OF ACTIVITY:

The Pesha Elias Bikur Cholim D'bobov entity is a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income taxes under section 501c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organization was formed for the purpose of helping indigent individuals in defraying the extra costs incurred in going to doctors, purchasing expensive medicine and doctors visits not covered by insurance.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts of the organization are maintained on a cash basis. Accordingly, revenues are recognized when received, and expenses are recognized when paid. The financial statement is based on the cash basis of reporting. There are no restricted funds. All excess funds are invested in marketable securities.