

### Care help for Holocaust survivors

Exclusive and generous funding is available to support the welfare and care needs of Holocaust survivors and refugees living anywhere in the UK.

Thanks to funding received by the Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) from the Claims Conference, following their negotiations with the German government, Holocaust survivors and refugees are eligible to receive up to 24 hour care to help alleviate their welfare needs and to enable them to live in dignity, comfort and security in their own homes. Through the Homecare scheme, the AJR – and the community partner organisations with which it works – is able to award hours of care from an £8.6m ring-fenced fund, which is part of an overall allocation of £10.4m to support UK Jewish Nazi victims. Other funding is available to help defray the costs of food, medicine and transport, and more specifically, for help with dental and hearing problems, white goods and minor home adaptations.

With the number of hours of care awarded based on assessments and a person's war time experience, we can always allocate at least 100 hours of care to those with the highest needs.

Although there is a means test to be eligible, the value of a person's home is not taken into consideration and they can hold £500,000 of assets. Equally, any income from pensions – whether private, reparations or social security – is disregarded. Most Holocaust survivors in need of support will be eligible.

As part of the registration process and any follow up assessment, we will check whether the applicant is eligible for any missing reparations also provided by the Claims Conference and ensure that the applicant is receiving the maximum available support from their local authority. Once funding is approved, the survivor and their family will continue to be supported by dedicated and professional social workers who monitor their clients' needs.

With around 325 survivors already supported through Homecare and more than 50 new first generation clients registered in the last year, we know we are supporting this unique community but want to ensure that anyone with any needs is provided for. As it can take a few weeks to obtain approval from the Claims Conference we are reaching out to survivor organisations to encourage them to register members now so that any help can be immediately provided when needed.

To give you a flavour of the Homecare programme and how it can help, have a read of this: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jun/20/how-a-survivor-of-auschwitz-and-belsen-found-help-in-old-age-from-an-unexpected-source> and see the attached article that appeared in the AJR Journal (you can also see it on p2 on this link <https://ajr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/6238-AJR-Journal-December-2020-v7.pdf>)

Any questions or referrals – always treated in strictest confidence – can be sent to Rebecca Webb [rebecca@ajr.org.uk](mailto:rebecca@ajr.org.uk) or Leah McKay [leah@ajr.org.uk](mailto:leah@ajr.org.uk)