

The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous

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LEADING ADVOCATES FOR HOLOCAUST RESCUERS AND HOLOCAUST EDUCATION HONORED BY THE JEWISH FOUNDATION FOR THE RIGHTEOUS

NEW JERSEY COUPLE RECEIVES RECOGNITION OF GOODNESS AWARD

NEW YORK – The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous (JFR) honored Yolanda and Raymond Kunz, with its Recognition of Goodness Award on Monday, November 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the New York Public Library in Manhattan. The Kunzs, who reside in Saddle Brook, NJ were honored for their three decades of supporting the JFR and its missions of showing gratitude to the rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust and educating future generations on their heroism.

Raymond serves as a Trustee of the College of St. Elizabeth while Yolanda serves as a member of the advisory board of the college's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education. The couple has also endowed the center's annual week of Holocaust Remembrance and Interfaith Dialogue Program.

They are intimately involved in several other charities including the Lusgarten Foundation, the Clifton Boys and Girls Club, Clifton Rotary, and a handful of others for the developmentally disabled.

Yolanda retired after 30 years as an early childhood educator and now volunteers in pastoral care at Hackensack University Medical Center. Raymond is a private real estate investor in residential and commercial properties in New Jersey and Minnesota, previously he worked in the finance industry. The couple have been married for 48 years and have two married daughters and six grandchildren. The Kunzs reside in Saddle Brook, NJ, and are members of the parish community of St. Philip the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Saddle Brook.

“The Kunzs embody the Recognition of Goodness Award, for more than 30 years they have supported the work of the JFR, through their support, we have been able to financially support the rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust as well as create a state-of-the-art Holocaust education program benefitting teachers around the country and in Poland and Croatia,” said JFR Chairman Harvey Schulweis.

The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous was created by Rabbi Harold Schulweis to fulfill the traditional Jewish commitment to hakarat hatov, the searching out and recognition of goodness. The JFR provides critical financial support to aged and needy Righteous Gentiles, offering a degree of dignity to their lives that would not otherwise be available.

At this year’s dinner, attendees paid tribute to Melpomeni Dina, a Righteous Gentile from Greece, and Sarah Yanai and Yossi Mor, who were saved by the Melpomeni’s family 76 years ago. They were reunited by the JFR at Yad Vashem on Sunday, November 3, 2019.

The JFR continues its work of providing monthly financial assistance to more than 265 aged and needy Righteous Gentiles, living in 18 countries. Since its founding, the JFR has provided more than \$40 million to aged and needy rescuers – helping to repay a debt of gratitude on behalf of the Jewish people to these noble men and women. Its Holocaust teacher education program has become a standard for teaching the history of the Holocaust and educating teachers and students about the significance of the Righteous as moral and ethical exemplars. For more information, visit <https://jfr.org/>.