

"WHOEVER SAVES A SINGLE LIFE IS AS IF ONE SAVES THE ENTIRE WORLD."—TALMUD



Jerzy Radwanek

THE
JEWISH
FOUNDATION
for
the
righteous

ANNUAL REPORT
April 2024

I thank each of you for your continued support of the work of The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous. Please know that your financial assistance is valued and appreciated. Because of the support of individuals like you, the Foundation continues to meet the needs of these noble men and women who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust and to educate teachers and their students about the history of the Holocaust in general and rescue in particular.

\$650,000 Distributed in Rescuer Support – Keeping a Commitment

For the last thirty-one years, I have had the honor and privilege of serving as the Executive Vice President of The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous (JFR). Over the years, the JFR has provided financial support to more than 3,600 Righteous Gentiles living in 34 countries. In 2023, the JFR continued to meet its commitment to aged and needy Righteous Gentiles.

I am pleased to report that during 2023, the JFR distributed more than \$650,000 in direct support to the rescuers. As in past years, the Foundation sent each JFR-supported rescuer a special award of \$3,500 for the Christmas holiday. This was the largest individual Christmas holiday award the JFR has sent to rescuers. The rescuers use our Christmas gift for the purchase of food, medicine, and home heating fuel. With Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the JFR continues to concentrate on meeting the needs of Ukrainian rescuers.

Effective January 1, 2023, each rescuer's monthly award was raised by \$50. We raised the individual monthly grant by \$100 effective January 1, 2024, to \$400. The JFR is continuing its commitment to the rescuers – to provide monthly financial support until they pass away. We also provided special one-time grants to meet emergent needs.

Education Program – Preserving a Legacy and Offering New Teacher Education Programs

The JFR has launched its first of two online programs. Our education program provides teachers with the knowledge and tools to teach about both the history of antisemitism and the history of the Holocaust in their classrooms.

How Was it Possible? A Holocaust Curriculum For and By Teachers™

In 2021, the JFR began work on a new Holocaust education program. The program is being piloted in Florida and we would like to thank inSight Through Education, one of the JFR's Holocaust Centers of Excellence, for partnering with the JFR on this important and innovative program. The program, *How Was it Possible? A Holocaust Curriculum For and By Teachers™*, provides middle and high school teachers and their students with an online program that provides a basic Holocaust unit of study. The program includes 16 lessons; each lesson has a professionally prepared and scholar-vetted video. This program is being offered at no cost. The program was piloted during 2023 and will be launched nationally this spring. For more information on this program, please visit our website at www.jfr.org/hwip.

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JERZY RADWANEK
AUSCHWITZ, POLAND... 1940

AS A CAMP ELECTRICIAN AT
AUSCHWITZ, POLISH
PRISONER OF WAR JERZY
RADWANEK SMUGGLED
FOOD AND MEDICINE IN HIS
TOOLBOX INTO THE
WOMEN'S CAMP AT
BIRKENAU. JERZY
BEFRIENDED SEVERAL OF
THE WOMEN WHOM HE
HELPED, AND PROMISED
THAT IF HE SURVIVED, HE
WOULD TELL THE WORLD
OF THE BRUTALITY AND
SUFFERING HE WITNESSED.
JERZY WAS A PRISONER IN
AUSCHWITZ FROM MAY
1940 UNTIL THE CAMP WAS
LIBERATED IN JANUARY
1945.

Schulweis Fellowship Program

The Schulweis Fellowship Program is for those educators who are unable to attend the JFR's Summer Institute for Teachers (SIT) in person. The scholars who present at JFR's SIT were filmed. Teachers will be able to register for this program through the JFR website. Teachers completing the entire program will be known as Schulweis Fellows and will be able to access JFR's other educational programs such as the Advanced Seminar and European Study Program. The Schulweis Fellowship Program will launch by the end of 2024. For more information on this program, please email the JFR at jfr@jfr.org.

The JFR's 2023 Summer Institute for Teachers welcomed 28 teachers from across the country. More than 790 teachers and Holocaust center staff – known as Alfred Lerner Fellows – have now attended the Summer Institute, a program that explores the entire chronology of the Holocaust as well as the challenges of teaching this complex history. We are fortunate to have world-renowned Holocaust scholars present at the Summer Institute each year.

The 2023 European Study Program to Germany and Poland was held in July 2023. Professor Robert Jan van Pelt was our scholar for the European Study Program. The JFR's Advanced Seminar, which is held each January over Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., weekend, was held in January 2023 and 2024. The focus of the 2024 Advanced Seminar was on antisemitism. The 2025 Advanced Seminar will address "America and the Holocaust."

We would like to thank the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) for their support of our Summer Institute for Teachers, Advanced Seminar, and European Study Program.

Stay Connected

The Foundation's monthly e-newsletters – *At the JFR* and *From the JFR Library* – continue to keep JFR supporters informed and engaged. You can sign up for the e-newsletters on our website, www.jfr.org. If you are looking for other ways to stay connected, please follow us on X @JFRDirector, like us on Facebook, and visit us on Instagram @jfr_photos.

Moving Forward

The rescuers we support are in the twilight of their lives, so our obligation to be there for them takes on heightened importance with each passing day. So does our obligation to teach the history of the Holocaust, as these events continue to recede further into the past, and to address contemporary antisemitism.

On behalf of the officers, the Board of Trustees, and the staff of the Foundation, thank you again for joining us in the important work of The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous. We are able to make a difference in the lives of the rescuers, to preserve their legacy, and to meet the needs of teachers because of the support of people like you.

I am pleased to let you know that the JFR continues to uphold its mission and to enlarge its impact. Your contribution is greatly appreciated, and I look forward to your continued involvement.

Sincerely,



Stanlee J. Stahl
Executive Vice President