

Congressman Higgins supports National Holocaust Survivor Assistance Program:

The Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council and The Jewish Federations of North America express their profound gratitude to Congressman Brian Higgins for his support of the Holocaust Survivor Assistance Program. Congressman Higgins became the 100th member of the US House of Representatives to join this bi-partisan worthy effort. Once passed, \$10 million will support programs that assist the thousands of survivors of the Nazi genocide who live in poverty in our country.

The sign-on letter to Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations states, "This is a timely and necessary program that responds to an immediate bipartisan public policy priority to assist Holocaust survivors as well as address the emerging needs of other diverse aging populations impacted by trauma.

There are approximately 80,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States today - with an estimated one-third living in poverty. After witnessing the darkest period of the last century and demonstrating the resiliency of the human spirit, survivors built a new life in the United States, raised families, and enriched our country. Many are age 85 or older. As a group, Holocaust survivors are subject to increased risk of depression, social isolation, and extremely poor outcomes associated with institutionalization, which can trigger the traumas of the forced institutionalizations and relocations experienced during the Holocaust."

Congressman Higgins has once again proven himself a true friend of those most in need.