

## KAVOD – Ensuring Dignity for Holocaust Survivors

KAVOD's mission is to provide aid to Holocaust Survivors who have emergency day to day needs for food, medicine and/or household goods. We serve Holocaust Survivors living at or below the poverty line in the United States. KAVOD is designed to make sure these men and women live out their remaining years with dignity and respect by issuing aid in the form of gift cards to grocery stores and pharmacies near where they live. KAVOD works with agencies that are already serving Survivors in order to connect with these individuals in a strictly confidential basis. The decisions of KAVOD are overseen by a diverse and experienced Board of Community Leaders with the majority being 2nd Generation or children of Holocaust Survivors.

It has been estimated that there are approximately 100,000 Survivors living in the United States and that 30-35% of them are living at or near poverty levels. It is unconscionable and unacceptable that these courageous people, who've endured so much already, are living their remaining years without basic necessities.

When forming our organization, we learned that although there are organizations offering aid, it is usually a complicated and frustrating process for the Survivor and it takes a long time to receive support. When it comes to emergency needs like groceries and medicine, they simply cannot wait. This is the gap we found in the process and made the commitment to fill the gap.

At this time, KAVOD is serving Holocaust Survivors in 19 communities across the US. We provide a seamless option for the service agencies working with these individuals so they can receive aid for basic needs. Our turnaround time is 5-7 days and we operate with a very low overhead. 100% of all donations received by KAVOD go to the Survivors and we have a grant that covers operation and administrative costs.

The communities we are now serving include: Denver, Memphis, Chicago, West Palm Florida, Gulf Coast FL, Miami FL, Houston, NYC, Orange Count NY, Somerville NJ, Elizabeth NJ, Charleston SC, Charlotte NC, Chattanooga, Kansas City, Los Gatos CA, Cleveland, Metro West NJ, and Raleigh NC.

Donations for KAVOD can be made through our website or by sending a check to KAVOD at 600 River View Road, Memphis, Tn 38120.

Another project that John and Amy continue to work on is a Photography project of Survivors. In the past 4 years, John has photographed over 480 Survivors all over the US, Prague and Tokyo. The Photographs are for the Survivors and their families. There is no commercial aspect and yet, many give John permission to use their photographs on the KAVOD website. They feel it humanizes the issue even though none of the images reflect Survivors KAVOD serves.

### Contact Information:

Amy Israel Pregulman, Executive Director

[amy.kavod@gmail.com](mailto:amy.kavod@gmail.com)

[www.kavodensuringdignity.com](http://www.kavodensuringdignity.com)

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