



The Survivor Mitzvah Project

“Heroic Women of the Holocaust”

In recognition of **International Women’s Day** (March 8th), we are proud to honor the heroic women of *The Survivor Mitzvah Project*, who you have supported with your kindness and compassion.

Many of the female Holocaust Survivors in our program have played active roles in combatting the hate, violence, and intolerance of our world.

Looking into the eyes of Holocaust survivors and hearing their stories, we search our own hearts, wondering “How could they bear it... What would I have done?”

Raisa Efimovna (right)

“We were captured by the Germans and forced to do hard labor. We were starving, but had to dig trenches. I was raped. We had frostbite. The Germans planned to send us to a concentration camp, but the Russian Army liberated us. I went to work as a nurse’s aide, caring for the wounded. I moved across Poland with this hospital, and celebrated Victory Day in Dresden, Germany.”

Raisa is now 92 years old. *“I would like to forget those awful years, but I cannot. They left a wound that never heals in my soul. I tell my story to other people, so that those horrors will never happen again.”*



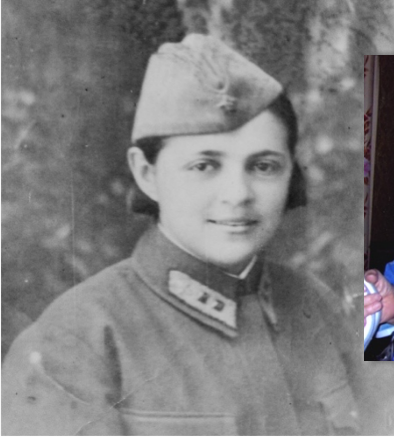
Sara K. (left)

During the Holocaust, Sarah volunteered to go the Front to fight the Germans. She survived the Battle of Stalingrad. Her mother and her two sisters were killed in their Belarus shtetl along with all of her community.

“Once a German boy came up to me. I fed him and gave him some food to take with him, even though Germans brutally massacred my family. This is how we Jewish people are.”

We celebrate all of these incredible women, who suffered through the Holocaust’s great difficulties, the cruel loss of many dear people, and yet did not lose their faith in humanity.

**The Survivor Mitzvah Project provides aid to female Holocaust survivors in 9 countries.
88% of the women in our program live alone, with no one to care for them.**



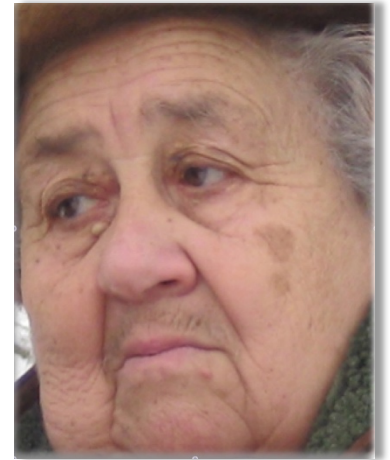
"I am very lonely, and your letters bring me so much joy."

Ginda Olha (left) survived the Pogroms when she was a baby. "Horsemen came from Poland. Mama hid me under the bed. The bandits cut up the feather pillows looking for babies to kill, and Mama prayed that I would not cry. When they left she found me sleeping peacefully. So, I received a second name, *Chai* ('to Live'). And here I am. *Chai Ginda*."

During the War, Ginda was a pilot and aircraft mechanic. She returned home only to find that her father and brothers had perished. "There are no Jews left in the town where I was born... **Your attention and help make it easier for me. Your letters for me are like medicine.**"

Rita Geinikovna (right) was taken to the Pechora Concentration Camp when she was just 5 years old. She is the only one from her entire family who survived.

"After the War I was a roving orphan. I was ill for a long time. I stayed in a lot in hospitals, nobody wanted me. I promised G-d that, if I survived, I would tell everybody about what happened, and I am fulfilling my promise."



Fanya Benjaminovna (left), one of the few survivors of the Vilnius ghetto, ran to the forest at age 17 and became a Partisan, fighting the Nazis, "with guns in our hands. I am so proud to have been among them."

"As long as I can, and even more than I can, I will tell the story of our survival so that what happened to us will never be repeated again - that people will become kinder and more attentive to each other."



**Let's make International Women's Day our day to do what we can
to make a positive difference for the women in our program.**

Donate online at www.survivormitzvah.org
or by check:

The Survivor Mitzvah Project

2658 Griffith Park Blvd., Ste. #299

Los Angeles, CA 90039

800-905-6160 survivormitzvah@gmail.com 213-622-5050

The Survivor Mitzvah Project is a 501c3 non-profit public charity

100% of your donation goes directly into the hands of an elderly Holocaust survivor in desperate need!