



Volume II Issue 1 Winter 2010

The Hatzilu Rescue Organization provides food, financial aid, social work intervention and assistance, and emotional support to Jews in need in the Nassau County area.

From the Hatzilu Mission Statement

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Joe Sklar

Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Center

Vice-President: Herb Weiss

Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Treasurer: Ivan Ziegler

Beth Torah, Westbury

Secretary: Fred Harber

Temple Emanuel of Great Neck

Manny Bardash

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Mickie Feinstein

Ed Goldenberg

Hank Kasven

Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Ben Schnapper

Farmingdale, Wantagh Jewish Center

Dona Schwab

South Baldwin Jewish Center

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rabbi Michael Katz — Temple Beth Torah, Westbury

Rabbi Rafi Rank — Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Rabbi Howard Stecker —

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Howard Foster — Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Van Frankel — Temple Israel of Great Neck

Ann Goldberg — Congregation Ohav Shalom, Merrick

Ron Greenfield — Temple Israel of Great Neck

Alan Hirsch—Shomrim Society

Denise Miller — Temple Isaiah of Great Neck

Sheldon Polner — Beth Torah, Westbury

Arlene Skolnik — Plainview Jewish Center

Joe Slater — T—OB Chabad, Oyster Bay

Karen Sommers — Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Colette Thaw

Editor—Harriet Blatt

Manetto Hill Jewish Center, Plainview

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ELISSA FRIEDMAN

As we prepare to embark on 2011, I think it is important to reflect back on the past 12 months. This has been a stressful year marked by increasing need for services and decreasing resources. Hatzilu continues to be creative and flexible in our efforts to assist hundreds of individuals each month. Several successful food drives in September assisted us in feeding nearly 100 people each month. The social welfare committee meets each month and continues to assist more than fifty families with cash grants to meet basic living expenses. And what is probably most impressive is that our clients themselves are a generous group. One food recipient called and told me that she had a few boxes of cereal that she was unable to use due to dietary changes and she wanted to donate them to another recipient that would be able to use them. A couple that receives cash assistance from Hatzilu due to their failing health contacted me about a neighbor they had taken in because he was down on his luck and found himself in the shelter system. They were assisting him in locating a free Thanksgiving Dinner. I continue to be inspired by the generosity of our volunteers and donors. Please feel free to contact me at any time with thoughts, comments or questions.

NEW DONOR RECOGNITION

The Hatzilu Rescue Organization is pleased to announce a new "Donor Recognition Program" commencing January 2011. If your annual contribution(s) meets a certain level, it will be our pleasure to have your donation to Hatzilu acknowledged in our newsletter. Your donation need not be made in a single payment. We will total your donations for the calendar year and if they meet or exceed the levels we have established, you will be recognized. For those who prefer to remain anonymous and/or not be listed we will accommodate your wishes.

The levels of contribution are as follows:

Individuals: Bronze-\$250 to \$499; Silver-\$500 to \$999;

Gold-\$1,000--\$4,999; Platinum-\$5,000 and over.

Organizations: Bronze-\$500 to \$999; Silver-\$1,000 to

\$4,999; Gold-\$5,000 to \$9,999; Platinum-\$10,000 and over.

Regardless of your level of giving, Hatzilu appreciates the support of each and every contributor. Thank you for your continued support and loyalty. Your gift means so much to those in need.



THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JOE SKLAR

On the third Wednesday of each month the Social Welfare Committee meets to review the status of all of our clients. This fourteen person committee, chaired by Ann Goldberg, a retired social worker, braces itself to try to deal with a collection of all the misfortunes that can befall people in Nassau County. We are familiar with most of them and have plans in place for dealing with them. So we do not wince when we hear about the single mom with young children who only gets \$25 a month alimony because her husband is in jail, or the family where the mother of two teenage daughters is in hospice. There is an unemployed father very much in the picture who had to stay home to help his sick wife and young family.

We go through all the old cases, deciding how much money to allocate to the family for the next month. It is usually the same as last month unless there is a crisis - the heating unit has stopped working, or the car has broken down and it is needed to get to work. Some of our clients' jobs just don't pay enough even though they live very modestly. We have clients living in garages converted to apartments. Other clients live in senior housing or housing which is government subsidized. Finally we deal with the first new case. The father of a family with a two year old and a four year old has deserted the family. He leaves them with nothing. Not exactly nothing. He leaves them with a house in foreclosure, unpaid utility bills and a fear of him so strong that the mom has been granted an order of protection. We didn't learn of this situation until the father had been out of the house for three months and the electricity was about to be turned off.

What can Hatzilu do? The overdue electric bill is \$2759 but we all agree that Hatzilu can't afford to pay it. Hatzilu can only afford to send the woman a check for \$350 for emergency living expenses and arrange to have food delivered on a regular basis. We refer her to another Jewish agency which will pay one overdue bill. We will speak to the social worker at that agency and do our best to get the bill paid so that the electricity won't be shut off. We will continue to help this family which will probably mean checks of \$350 for as many months as they are in crisis.

If you wish to receive a copy of this newsletter via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to EFriedman@miyjcc.org and note "Hatzilu Newsletter" in the subject line

Visit our Website:
Hatzilurescue.org

REMEMBERING VIVIAN GREENFIELD

MANNY BARDASH

On August 12, 2010 (2 Elul 5770) Vivian Greenfield, who served for many, many years as Hatzilu's Corresponding Secretary, passed away. Vivian was born in 1924 and grew up in Boro Park, Brooklyn. She attended NYU where she studied education and in 1951 married Saul Greenfield who was Hatzilu's first President. Vivian and Saul were regular contributors at Hatzilu meetings for many years, after his term in office ~ 1975 to 1977. In the past, Hatzilu meetings were held monthly at the different synagogues that were the mainstay of our organization. Vivian faithfully sent out reminder postcards advising our members of the upcoming meetings before there were computer generated lists. At each meeting she would make sure that all attendees "signed-in" on her unique attendance sheet which was a manila folder on which she had ruled lines for the rows and columns of information to be entered. Whenever the meeting was held at her Congregation, Temple Israel of Great Neck, Vivian was the hostess who assured that a variety of cakes and cookies were available. May her memory be for a blessing. Her son Ron continues the Greenfield tradition by being an active member of the Hatzilu Board.

HATZILU NEEDS YOU

IVAN ZEIGLER

The last few years have presented many challenges for Hatzilu. Some we have been able to overcome, others continue to plague us. The financial challenges have been the most difficult, but thanks to the support of our donors we continue to help the Jewish needy on Long Island. Our funds are down considerably but we're still around. The most formidable challenge to the future of Hatzilu, however, has not only to do with money; it has to do with people.

Let me explain:

Hatzilu is a completely voluntary organization; run by people who care greatly for the causes that we stand for and who are not paid a cent. Our Executive Committee has remained virtually unchanged for several years, the average age of each member is over 65 years old. Our fund raising committee consists of 1 person (who works full time and has limited time available to help Hatzilu) and very little more. Hatzilu needs more workers to assure its future; without them we will not survive.

Why get involved?

I can tell you from my own personal experience that delivering food to an elderly "client" shut in or to a disabled individual whose family has very little to support themselves can be very satisfying. Seeing the look of gratitude on the faces of people we are helping tells me that we are truly making a difference in the lives of these people. I sleep well at night knowing that my time spent at our food warehouse in Roosevelt, or organizing a Hatzilu walkathon or keeping the books as Treasurer for Hatzilu, is allowing me to say thank you for all the blessings I have enjoyed in my life. If you've never had that feeling, you are truly missing one of the most rewarding experiences life has to offer. The needs of the Jewish poor have never been greater. Hatzilu continues to receive more new requests each month from the Jewish disadvantaged than we can handle. Our funds don't allow us to advertise and we don't have the people power to run fund raising programs. Your help is desperately needed. I'm not only asking for money, I'm asking for your time. Whatever time you can give we welcome. We have the ideas; we don't have the people. Today's new volunteers will be the future leaders Hatzilu needs to assure that our organization will continue its good work in the future. Please help. If you can spare just a few hours a week or a month, you can perform a true "mitzvah". Please contact our Executive Director Elissa Friedman. She can be reached at the Mid Island Y at 516-931-2884.

HIGH HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

HERB WEISS

During the High Holiday season seven Nassau County synagogues participated in collecting food for Hatzilu. The seven synagogues were: Midway Jewish Center (Syosset), Plainview Jewish Center, Temple Isaiah of Great Neck, Temple Israel of Great Neck, Congregation Beth Israel (Hempstead), Temple Avodah (Oceanside) and Temple Am Echad (Lynbrook). Hatzilu extends a heartfelt thanks to these congregations, and their officers and clergy, for their generous and much-needed assistance.

Throughout the years Hatzilu has received the vast majority of its food from regional food banks, in our case, primarily Long Island Cares. Due to the recession, there has been a decrease in funding to and food availability at the food banks, and providers like Hatzilu have found it increasingly difficult to meet the needs of their clients. Of course, with the recession, the number of people needing nutritious food has increased as well. It was particularly gratifying, therefore, to have the participation of these seven synagogues in collecting food. As one who helped to coordinate the food collection efforts, and who assisted as well in delivering the food to our warehouse and sorting it there, it was personally gratifying to see the cooperation that went into this project on so many levels. I hesitate to list all those who helped out for fear of omitting anyone, but I thank them all for generously giving of their time and for helping to make a difference.

Hatzilu also wants you to know that on a trial basis canisters are being left in synagogues for the collection of food. If you see a canister at your synagogue, please help to stock it during the year with nutritious, non-perishable food. If you think your synagogue would be interested in the installation of such a canister, please contact me or our Executive Director for further information.

DID YOU KNOW:

- Applications for assistance increased 20% in 2010
- *Hatzilu Board members have served an average of 10 years*
- *Hatzilu receives donations from individuals from 16 states.*
- Hatzilu is a proud partner of Long Island Cares and Island Harvest
- Hatzilu has given out more than 5.5 million dollars in food and cash grants
- *Do you want to be a food deliverer? We need volunteers*

Thank you to the Knitting Circle of the Plainview-Old Bethpage NNORC for the donation of hand-made scarves.



I DO CARE!

Please make your check payable to HATZILU RESCUE ORGANIZATION

Your donation is tax deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ NY _____ Zip _____

Donations can be made through Paypal. Visit our website.

My donation is _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ NY _____ Zip _____

Please indicate if you do not want donor recognition.

I wish to volunteer _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

My synagogue or temple is _____



Mid-Island Y JCC

45 Manetto Hill Road

Plainview New York 11803

Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Hicksville NY
Permit No. 194

Save the Date!
Annual Meeting
Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at 8 pm