

# OUR IMPACT

## Overseas Stories:

## Giving a Hand: Helping Holocaust Survivors



Bayla (name changed) was born in Bulgaria. Her father was sent to a concentration camp, where he

died of disease. Bayla was only 8 years old when this happened. During the war, she and her family lived under a strict curfew, with many

prohibitions only because they were Jews. She remembers wearing a yellow star, and tells that she and her mother had to steal food, in order to survive, even after the war. That feeling of helplessness and hunger continue to haunt her to this day.

Today, Bayla and many men and women like her, and try to deal with the daily problems that arise. There

are many Holocaust survivors who live in dire need throughout Israel—not only financial need, but emotional need. Many live alone, some with relatives that try to help them as much as possible, but many families are unable to fully address their plights.

The Jewish Agency for Israel has been helping Holocaust survivors in Israel for over 20 years, with holistic programs like Amigour, providing housing and social work assistance to over 6,000 survivors at 57 sheltered housing projects throughout Israel. In addition to meeting the physical needs of this special population, Amigour provides a wide variety of social and cultural services that enhance residents' the quality of life.

