

August 16, 2000

Judah Gribetz Richards and O'Neil 885 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022 Via Fax: 212-750-9022

Re: Addendum to August 8 proposal

Vaad Hanochos Hatmimim 788 Eastern Parkway Suite 303 Brooklyn NY 11213-3409 (718) 774-6418 Fax: (718) 774-7FAX

Dear Mr. Gribetz,

As an addendum to our proposal dated August 8<sup>th</sup> for the Preservation of Yiddish and Yiddishkeit, this fund is under the auspices of Vaad Hanochos Hatmimim, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation founded in New York in 1982.

Sincerely,

Simon Jacobson

Director

SJ/ho

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## PROTECTING YIDDISH AND YIDDISH CULTURE: BRIDGING GENERATIONS

## **NEED**

Jews throughout the United States and the world have of late thrown their fears about the Jewish future into a single word: continuity.

For nearly three decades, the Algemeiner Journal has been the source of continuity for the Yiddish speaking survivor community. The Algemeiner has been the newspaper transmitting the culture of those who died at the hands of Nazis in Europe and those who survived, committed to the ideal that Yiddish culture and Judaism should not die.

The destruction of our culture would give victory to the anti-Semites and their supporters. The Algemeiner is not a relic. It is a living, breathing source of news that binds the survivors and their children – through the addition of English pages to the weekly newspaper – to the richness of Yiddish culture and Yiddishkeit.

The Algemeiner is nor merely a newspaper. It is an institution – a dynamic international force, uniting generations and all segments of the diverse and often conflicted Jewish world, functioning through good times and bad times, with a clear and successful message.

Now that mission is endangered. Simple economics – increased costs of operating, need for new technology, upgrading to serve current needs – make publication of the Algemeiner more difficult. However, in spite of those problems – faced by publications throughout the world – the Algemeiner has continued, its task too important, the mission unchanged, and the challenge greater than it has ever been.

## **METHOD**

To ensure the continued success of the paper's mission, and to further ensure that future generations benefit from the written transmission of Yiddish culture and Yiddishkeit, with the practical coverage of Jewish issues that the Algemeiner is uniquely capable of continuing, our foundation is requesting funding to fulfill the objective of preserving and disseminating our culture, utilizing the Algemeiner and a range of programs and activities.

The hoped for grant will be used to preserve the existing organs and to continue to raise sufficient funds on an on-going basis to ensure that this vital work goes on forever.

The preservation of Jewish culture has always been through language, through words. The soul of Judaism is the word. The word of poets, scholars, and

newspapers, words that capture the imagination, the spirit, and the dynamic growing interest in Jewish culture.

The Algemeiner and all the related programs are a platform of Yiddish soul-words – of everything that Yiddishkeit means to Jews of all backgrounds. Not merely words of Jews written in Yiddish, but Yiddish words – capturing the joys, the agonies, the very guts of Yiddishkeit. We propose to harness the power and experience of the Algemeiner into an instrument and mechanism for carrying these words – the flaming soul of Yiddishkeit – to our next generation.

The Foundation will serve as a bridge between the past and the future, between the survivors and the next generation – a beacon of light that will illuminate and give strength and direction to the Jewish community facing the new challenges of the 21st century. Combining an intimate appreciation of our rich past and an understanding of the issues of tomorrow, the foundation will utilize all means of modern technology to educate, inform and inspire Jews of all backgrounds with the power of our heritage, Yiddish and Yiddishkeit. It will serve as a wise and soothing mentor and friend to our people as we forge ahead in these momentous times.

We propose to recreate the Algemeiner, and while preserving its integrity, transform it into an exciting channel to reach all types of Jews, Yiddish and English speaking.

The Foundation would also engage in a series of programmatic activities including: creation of a web site, weekly internet transmissions, the hiring of experienced program staff to extend the study of the Yiddish language and Yiddish culture, regularly scheduled seminars targeting younger generations, modernization of existing plants, publication of Algemeiner Journal editorials, writings, and cartoons in book form, speaking tours, and a host of other activities.

All of our efforts will be directed toward one goal: the preservation of our culture. What other entity is so qualified to take on this task? The Algemeiner Journal – and each of the Foundation programs – is not a memorial to our tragedies. Nor has it ever been. The Algemeiner Journal is living proof that our culture is alive, breathing, communicating. It brings memory to life and transmits the beauty and pain of that memory to generations. It is essential that this role continue.

## **COSTS**

Annual Budget

Personnel \$1,023,000 Production \$ 378,000 Office \$ 120,000

TOTAL \$1,521,000 annually