



# Elder Care

## Meet the People We Help...

### **Problem**

German-born Lida was one of the thousands of Jewish children who survived the Holocaust in a series of rescue efforts called Kindertransport that brought her in a convoy from Nazi Germany to Great Britain early in the war. Decades later, as an aging widow, Lida became legally blind and could no longer stay safely and comfortably in her home by herself or even perform daily living tasks on her own like paying her bills or grocery shopping. Isolated by her physical disability, she grew anxious and depressed—feelings intensified by the suffering and loss she experienced during the Holocaust.

### **Solution**

Case workers from the Holocaust Survivors Program began to visit Lida free of charge at least once a week to help go through her mail, write her checks, and make her medical appointments. They helped to arrange travel to the store, to visit friends, and to doctor's offices when necessary. They also taught her to use a cane and a talking computer for communicating better with her children and grandchildren. A therapist made home visits to help Lida cope with her psychological issues stemming from the trauma she experienced as a small child. In addition, she received assistance in filing claims each year for reparations being paid out to victims of Nazi atrocities.

### **Outcome**

Lida continues to live independently in her home and feel socially connected thanks to the services she receives through the Holocaust Survivors Program. JF&CS staff keeps a watchful eye on her physical and emotional health as she faces the new challenges of her disability and aging. "Whenever Lida needs someone, we are there for her," the case workers say. "It's the least we can do given the tragedies she has suffered."