



### **MEDIA ALERT**

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### **On International Holocaust Day, Queens Holocaust Survivors Gather at “Coffee House” Event at Forest Hills Jewish Center**

**Forest Hills, Queens (June 4, 2025)** – This afternoon, [Selfhelp Community Services](#) marked International Holocaust Survivor Day with a “Coffee House” event for Queens Holocaust Survivors at Forest Hills Jewish Center.

Survivors spent the afternoon connecting over common memories and a shared past, breaking bread over a light lunch program. They were joined by local elected officials and their representatives, including Councilmember Lynn Schulman and representatives from the offices of State Senator Joseph Addabbo and Assemblymembers Andrew Hevesi and Nily Rozic. Local community members and temple staff also participated.

As we mark eighty years since the end of the Holocaust, International Holocaust Survivor Day commemorates the bravery, resilience, and strength of the survivors who are still with us. With each passing year, however, fewer survivors are alive to tell their stories, resulting in ignorance among younger generations – [one in five young Americans believe the Holocaust is a myth](#). Additionally, the survivors who remain face more complex medical needs and deeper social isolation.

Selfhelp’s Coffee House events not only allow survivors to commune and relate their experiences, but also allows participants, community members, and elected officials to hear firsthand accounts of the Holocaust.

“Coffee House socials allow survivors to connect with those who share their experiences and educate others about the stories and lessons of the Holocaust. On International Holocaust Survivor Day, we were proud to host community members and elected officials at our Coffee House,” said **Katie Foley, Managing Director of External Affairs for Selfhelp Community Services**.



Pictured, from left to right: John D'Angelo, Office Manager for Sen. Addabbo; Alexa Arecchi, Chief of Staff for Assmb. Hevesi; NYC Councilmember Lynn Schulman; Diana Rachnaev, Community Outreach Coordinator for Assmb. Rozic; Katie Foley of Selfhelp.

PHOTO CREDIT – Selfhelp Community Services

### **About Selfhelp**

For 89 years Selfhelp Community Services has been serving the most vulnerable among us. Through home care, affordable housing, and social services, we serve over 25,000 older and vulnerable New Yorkers each year while remaining the largest provider of comprehensive services to Holocaust survivors in North America. Our overarching goal is to help our community live with dignity and independence. [www.selfhelp.net](http://www.selfhelp.net)

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