

2019



# Annual Report

REMEMBERUS.ORG

501(c)(3) public charity

## Message from the President

Dear Friends,

From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of all of the RememberUs.org team I would like to thank you for your continuous support!

The past year, 2019, was a very challenging period in our work. We had ambitious goals, but limited funds. However, I am proud to say that this financial hurdle did not derail us. We successfully completed our original planned activities for the year, and were additionally able to finalize several new initiatives that emerged midyear.



While we were not supported by any Jewish organizations this year, we were supported by you - individual donors. Your personal contributions funded all 2019 RememberUs.org projects! Your contributions allowed us to partner with several organizations (from the Netherland and Ukraine) to build the Holocaust memorial in Bila Tserkva, create a Holocaust museum at a public school in Mirgorod, restore the Holocaust monument in Khorol, plant new metasequoia trees, research and create two web sites, organize commemoration events, educational events, school trips to Holocaust memorials, and much more!

Together we commemorated Jewish victims of the Holocaust and educated the general public to develop a foundation for #NeverAgain.

RememberUs.org has big plans for 2020, and we hope that with strong support of our individual donors, we will continue contributing to the #NeverAgain mission.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Julia Korsunsky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julia Korsunsky,

## Our Mission

***To honor and commemorate those who perished in the Shoah and to educate future generations about the devastating and everlasting consequence of genocide.***

### **WHO – A volunteer-led public charity**

We are a group of volunteers bound by a common goal: to prevent future genocides by honoring and commemorating those who perished in the Shoah.

Six years ago, a single project in Kharkov, Ukraine sparked the genesis of our work. Since then we have expanded swiftly, both in size and in our mission. Today we are dually based in the U.S. and Ukraine and have rolled out a series of ground-breaking projects.

### **WHERE – Operating in the USA, in Ukraine and Israel**

Our work is managed across the globe. The bulk of activity is conducted in Ukraine, where we work directly on Holocaust sites and with both Jewish and non-Jewish communities. We meet with survivors, visit mass graves, and host educational activities directly at sites of massacre.

We bring all the knowledge we have retained back to the United States, where we host educational seminars at schools, senior centers, and summer camps.

### **WHAT – Commemorating victims of the Holocaust and educating people about the everlasting effects of genocide.**

Our unique approach distinguishes us from other organizations because we conduct work directly at the sites where the Holocaust events took place. There is a deep distinction between education in a distant classroom and learning directly on location.

We work with communities to learn their stories, speak with witnesses and families of Holocaust victims, host commemorative ceremonies on the land where killings occurred, and connect stories that we have discovered to their roots to create a profoundly stronger impact.

### **WHY – “If not us, who? If not now, when?” – Hillel the Elder**

The Holocaust was one of the most evil, tragic, and deadly chapters of modern human history. At a juncture where anti-Semitism is on the rise, the last survivors of the Holocaust are fading, and knowledge remains limited, it is our moral responsibility to remember, learn, and pass on stories to future generations.

Education and commemoration are two powerful tools, essential in ensuring that never again will such genocide occur. It is our obligation to uncover these stories, commemorate the innocent victims, and teach all generations across the globe to cement the notion that this history must not repeat itself.

## The Year at a Glance

We continued supporting all initiatives started in previous five years, and we have expanded our support to new locations. Our most memorable projects and events of 2019 include:

### School Museum in Mirgorod 2019 Done ✓

The largest project of 2019 was definitely a school museum in Mirgorod, Ukraine. The new museum inside the school #5 is already a focal point in Mirgorod's Shoah education.

Next year, following our *Last Mile* framework, we plan to organize on-going field trips to the museum and to killing sites in nearby Khorol, Piryatin and Lubny for all the schools in the district.



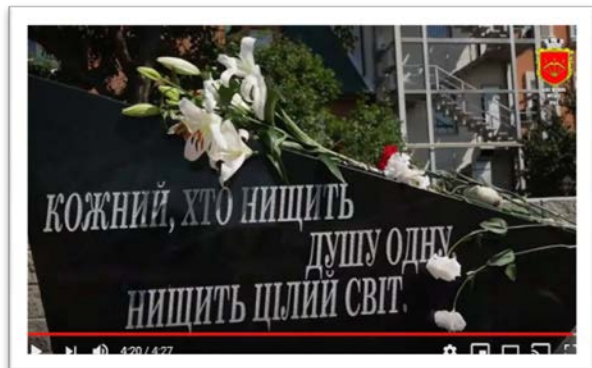
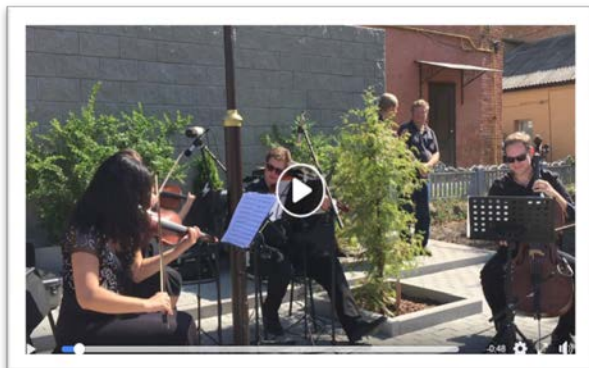
"I always dreamed of telling the story of Holocaust to my countrymen and especially young people of Mirgorod. Over the years I collected a lot of information about the local Holocaust events that transpired in our own backyard. Thanks to RememberUs.org this aspiration became possible through the recently opened new school museum"

- Rutgazer Michail, the Head of the Jewish Community of Mirgorod

## Memorial in Bila Tserkva 2019 Done ✓

Bila Tserkva Massacre took place in August of 1941. Seventy eight years later, in August of 2019 ninety murdered Jewish children were finally commemorated at the newly created Holocaust Memorial for Fallen Jewish Children and Righteous among the Nations.

Several years ago we planted the seed of this project. We helped to manage it and fund it; helped with the city permits and community engagement, helped through implementation and into the opening ceremony. Governor of Kyiv'ska oblast, Chief Rabbi of Ukraine, Chief Rabbi of Holland, state and local officials, pastors and archbishops and hundreds of people attended the opening event.

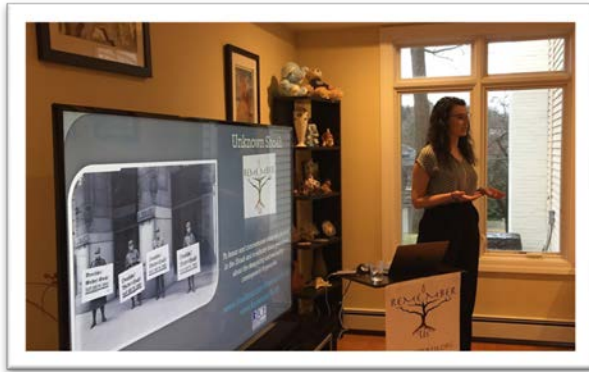


“The subject of Holocaust is difficult and complex. Communications and discussions with RememberUs.org pushed me into researching the Tragedy in my own back yard, in Bila Tserkva. I believe that the Holocaust Memorial Park, created in Bila Tserkva in 2019 with the direct participation and support of RememberUs.org, is a huge contribution to perpetuating the history of the Jews in Bila Tserkva, and commemorating the victims. #NeverAgain.”

- *NatellaAndriushchenko, Director, school “Mitzvah- 613”*

## Education and Commemoration Events

We continued our Boston-area educational events and 2019 was no different.



Each year, we try to organize one large commemoration event at abandoned and/or little known killing site. This year, 2019, first time since the Tragedy, the event was organized near the town of Khorol, Ukraine. Hundreds of people, state and town officials attended, including the Consul of Israel and guests from Germany, Israel and the USA to commemorate Jewish victims.



## Planting Metasequoias

Planting metasequoias at the killing sites is our signature activity, and this year was no different. We planted new trees at the killing site in Khorol and re-planted trees, broken by vandals, at the Holocaust memorial near Lubny and replaced one tree at Babin Yar in Kyiv



## School trips to killing sites

Since our start in 2014, we have fostered educational programs for thousands of teens, young adults, and teachers, allowing them to learn the Holocaust history of their own land. For many, these programs represent the first time they have heard these stories.

This year we continued guided bus trips in Kharkiv, Lubny, Kremenchyk, and expanded the program to Fastiv, Bila Tserkva and Mirgorod.



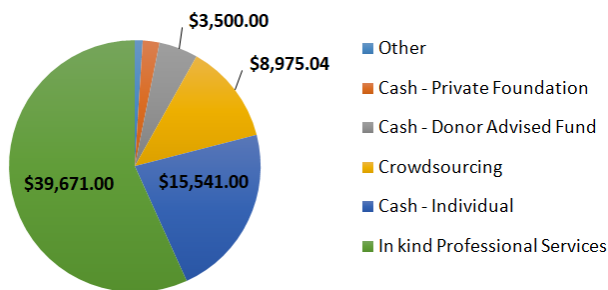
## Financial Summary

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, particularly from our local Boston-area community, RememberUs.org was able to fulfill all of its 2019 commitments. We are lucky to have so many committed and recurring donors, and our pool of volunteers has continued to grow. We continue to be supported by donations from individuals and from several local businesses.

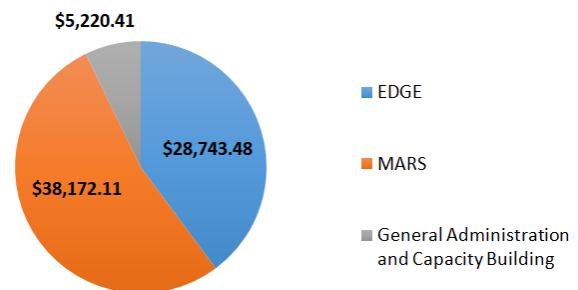
We greatly appreciate every donation, but would like to give special thanks to our top 2019 supporters, in alphabetical order:

- Froim Doriana
- Gauferg Slava
- Korsunsky Julia and Igor
- Levitt David and Kaplan Cinthia
- Raiz Sasha and Leonid
- Reich Christian
- Krayets Julia and Rubinshteyn Anatoliy
- Zhilina Yevgeniya and Mikhail

### 2019 Revenue



### 2019 Expenses



## We need your support

Without the financial support from donors like you we will not be able to continue towards our charitable goal #NeverAgain.

Please donate on line at [www.RememberUs.org](http://www.RememberUs.org) or send checks to:

RememberUs.org  
 P.O. Box 920542  
 Needham, MA 02492, USA