



# AMCHA Rehovot Centre Renovation

## Background

Many of the nearly 200,000 Holocaust survivors living in Israel today were children during WW2, children who suffered an unimaginable tragedy. After the war, they made every effort to rebuild their shattered lives, but not all succeeded. Many continue to struggle with their traumatic pasts. Over the past years, the number of survivors requesting support continues to grow. As the survivors age and face additional challenges their needs' grow and their support network becomes more limited.

Now, the inherent challenges of old age and the COVID-19 pandemic have reactivated early traumatic Holocaust memories. The importance of this psychosocial support is much greater now, when the survivors cope with the social isolation and anxiety triggered by the pandemic.

AMCHA is The Israeli Center for Psychological Support of the Survivors of the Holocaust and the Second Generation, a registered non-profit organization, established in 1987 by a group of Holocaust survivors and dedicated mental health professionals. AMCHA's mission is to promote the wellbeing with dignity and respect of Israeli Holocaust survivors and their families by offering mental health and psychological support. AMCHA has become a professional leader in trauma, a part of the Israeli Trauma Coalition.

The AMCHA Rehovot location was established 20 years ago, and is led by experienced social workers serving 100 Holocaust survivors. For them, the club is a "second home" and is the most significant source of support, combating depression, anxiety and social isolation.

## Project Need

The AMCHA Rehovot Center is located in an old building that is intended for preservation. It is a large building which is not suited for their therapeutic activities. In addition, because of lack of resources, the appearance of the center is poor: broken tiles, unkept kitchen, unfit elevator, old furniture etc.

Renovation of the facilities is urgently required. Now is the time to help us honour these brave Jewish heroes and ensure their final chapters are filled with support and happiness.

**Donors of \$6,000+ will receive appropriate recognition at the project site.**