

Hebrew Sheltering Home
Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest Archives
Prepared by Jill Hershorin (June 2011)

Record Group: 5

Collection Number: 32-93

Creator: Hebrew Sheltering Home

Inclusive Dates: 1950-1985

Extent: 3 cf

Abstract: Assorted materials from Hebrew Sheltering Home

Acquisition information: Acquired by the society in 1993

Preferred Citation: Hebrew Sheltering Home

Access restrictions:

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History:

The Hebrew Sheltering Home or 'Hachnosis Orchim' (Hebrew for Welcoming Guests) was founded in 1874. The purpose of the institution was to serve as a shelter for homeless, traveling salespersons, and those who needed assistance for medical or personal reasons. Newark's Jewish community had a shelter, but the HSH distinguished itself by being under Orthodox auspices.

The Sheltering Home was located in a building at 765 High Street and in 1969 moved to 214 Chancellor Ave. Somewhere in between, they were located at 64 Morton Street. Due to a deteriorating building, dangerous location, and loss of a property caretaker, the home was sold in August 1983 and the proceeds (\$40,000) placed in an investment account. To assure the continuation of the program, the Hebrew Sheltering Home sub-contracted with the Jewish Counseling and Service Agency to provide lodging at a motel in Irvington, kosher meals, transportation and immediate medical care for the needy. Sadly, there is not much history written about this organization.

The former site of the Hebrew Sheltering Home on Chancellor Ave. is a mosque known as the Newark Community Masjid or Masjid Bayt ul-Khaliq.

Scope and Content:

The dates for the bulk of the materials within this collection are mainly from the 1960s to the early 1980s. While this organization was founded in 1874, sadly most of the early documents are not in this collection.

A simple search on the internet gives history of an institution called The Hebrew Orphanage and Sheltering Home, which is a different organization. Please note that the letterhead on the correspondence from 1941-1943 places the address on Morton Street and includes names of board members and officers as well as Ladies Auxiliary officers and trustees.

There are files on the Hebrew Sheltering Home's services being transferred to JCSA as well as allocation files from the JCF are located in the Federation Collection. Please see Series 1000 and 2800. Photocopies of relevant documents have been made and are retained in both collections. Some items in the Federation files include: Women's Auxiliary members list; officers list; relationships with Daughters of Israel Geriatric Center and Jewish Family Service; Board List; emergency cash assistance through HSH fund of Jewish Community Foundation; combined Board of Directors Meeting; Jewish Community Housing Corporation, Jewish Community Development Corporation, DIGS and Jewish Federation Towers; report of HSH services; copies of newspaper clippings; statistics; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); Community Crisis Response Service; N.J. Department of Human Services; assorted activities and related information.

Removals: None

Organization:

Alphabetical, then chronological

This collection is comprised of paper and photographs and is divided into eight series as follows:

- I. Administrative
- II. Artifacts
- III. Events
- IV. Finance
- V. General Subjects
- VI. Legal
- VII. Photographs
- VIII. Press