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November 2021—Chanuka 5782

Dear Friend (or Potential Friend) of Jewish Heritage in Poland:

Thank you for supporting the **Friends of Jewish Heritage in Poland**. Despite the pandemic, we are pleased to continue with our work. Thanks to one family, we were able to support a thorough clean-up of the Jewish cemetery of Krośniewice. Another family found a two-century old ancestral tombstone in Lublin and enabled us to restore it to like-new. We supported clean-ups at Jewish cemeteries in Goniądz, Kolbuszowa, Krynki, Wysokie Mazowiecki and Zambrów, just to name a few. We partnered with Siedliszcze descendants and a local Polish volunteer organization to clean up the Jewish cemetery and erect and dedicate a major memorial there.

Once again, we co-sponsored a worldwide internet-based conference with Poland's Chief Rabbi Michael Schudrich, along with our partners at the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland (FODŻ) and The Matzevah Foundation. This productive half-day meeting brought together key authorities of the Polish government, the Polish Jewish community, and volunteers from across Poland and the world who are active in Jewish cemetery preservation. A critical participant at the Conference was a new Poland-wide "Coalition of Guardians of Jewish Cemeteries in Poland," whom we support through our core partnership with FODŻ. While the task of preservation remains immense, there was universal agreement that it is a task that rests upon all of us.

In the coming year we will dedicate a new cemetery fence in two towns and clean multiple Jewish cemeteries in other towns. We are erecting signboards at cemeteries to identify those grounds as sacred, so to increase the awareness and respect from locals and from visiting descendants. The Przysucha and Orla synagogues are of great architectural value and we are trying to help FODŻ to preserve them.

Pandemic-permitting we hope again to partner with JewishGen.org and The Matzevah Foundation next summer to offer two formal eight-day trips to Poland combining touring some of the most meaningful sites of Jewish heritage in Poland with light gardening to restore long-neglected Jewish cemeteries. The JewishGen Fellows, sponsored by JewishGen.org, will be college and graduate school age students. There will be a separate trip for working and retired-age generations. Consider joining us on this affordable, life-changing travel adventure! Email us for more information.

Please help us continue this work. We have no endowment and no government support. We have only our donors to ensure this preservation of our ancestors' final resting places. Your contribution to our 501(c)(3) public charity makes that possible. Read more about our work or contribute online by credit card online at jewishheritagepoland.org/donate. If you wish to support work at *your* ancestral cemetery or Jewish historical landmark of interest in Poland, please contact me at the email address below.

On behalf of myself and my fellow volunteer board and honorary board members, I wish you a Happy Chanuka and a Happy 2022.

Sincerely,



Dan A. Oren, M.D.