

KINDERTRANSPORT ASSOCIATION, INC.



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February 13, 2017

Dear President Trump,

In the months just before the start of World War II, nearly 10,000 children were sent from Nazi Germany, Austria, Poland, and Czechoslovakia to Great Britain. These children's lives – our lives, and our parents' and grandparents' lives – were saved by the Kindertransport movement.

We are a small part of Holocaust history, but an important one. The Kindertransports saved only 10,000 children, a small number compared to the 1.5 million children who were murdered. Yet the children who were saved were able to go to a friendly country not through luck, contacts or subterfuge, but through the will of the British people and their elected leaders. This demonstrates that, even in the worst of times, actions can be taken to save lives.

At a time of global crisis, when there are now more refugees and displaced persons than at any time in recorded history, even more than after World War II, more than 10 million of today's 21 million refugees are children. The Kindertransport children came to this country as refugees, and in the years since have become productive American citizens, including two Nobel Laureates, many successful business people, film and theater professionals, teachers, artists, writers, doctors, and philanthropists. We write to urge you to give other children at risk the same opportunity.

We write to urge you to keep the doors open to refugees. We are particularly concerned about children from the Northern Triangle of Central America. They have fled pervasive violence and persecution and urgently need protection. We ask that you ensure that these children are not placed in detention and have legal representation as they seek asylum in the United States. Those who have parents in the United States should be allowed to join their families here as refugees.

We are also extremely concerned about children fleeing violence in Syria and other countries in the Middle East. The suffering they have endured is staggering. We urge you to ensure that families with children continue to be resettled in the United States. Our country has the ability to provide safety, security, education, and a future to these children, and as the United States is a global leader in refugee protection the world is looking to us

and following our lead.

America has been defined by our generosity towards those who seek safe haven from oppression. Welcoming refugees honors our country's history and reflects the deeply-held American tradition of offering a chance at a new beginning to those who are persecuted.

In the aftermath of World War II, the price for keeping America's doors closed to refugees due to fear was made starkly clear. We are among the very few who were welcomed by a country and its citizens and therefore survived. We have since led successful lives in the United States and many other countries, and have been a benefit to those who have welcomed us.

Today's refugees are no different. They are fleeing unspeakable violence and have lost everything except hope and a desire to be safe and free. In response to today's refugee crisis, thousands of Americans from across the country – through their churches, synagogues, mosques, as individuals and as groups of volunteers – have welcomed refugees. This saves lives and strengthens our communities.

We are grateful every day for the chance we were given to survive and thrive, and urge you to keep the doors open to refugees.

Sincerely,

Abby Abazorius	Diane Castiglione	Susanne Flodstrom
Fred Alexander	Laureen Cohen	Hilda Fogelson
Ellen Alexander	Beth Connally	David Fogelson
Marlene Alt	Diana Conroy	Lisa Fox
Farrin Anello	Alfred Cotton	Sandi Fox
Hilda Anker Fogelson	Daniel Cotton	Jordana Fox
Susi Annes	Ruth Cyzner	Alexandra Fox
Lisa Aronson	Carol Davidson	Ingrid Frank
Gertrude Baron	Hannah Deutch	Jennifer Fuchel
Alfred Batzdorff	Jackie Devries	Terry Furst
Susan Berman	Elfriede Devries	Joseph Garten
David Berman	Jennifer Devries	Valerie Garten
Daniel Berman	Dan Devries	Beth Gendler
Cathy Berman	Olga Drucker	Raphael Gendler
Susan Berman	Jane Drucker	Edith Gerson
Juliana Biro	William Ehrlich	Gail Gibson
Maureen Blotnick	Josef Eisinger	William Gittler
Karl Buchholz	Alison Eisinger	Yvette Gluck
Julia Buchholz Anello	Vivian Elba	Gail Golden
Mark Burin	Trudy Ennis	Ronald Gordon
Susan Camis	Kim Estes-Fradis	Ora Gordon
Ilse Camis	Pauli Evanson	Leah Grabelsky
Jason Camis	Sharon Finegood	David Grace
Carol Caponigro	Terry Fletcher	Debora Grant

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Ariel Greenfield
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Anita Grosz
Emily Hacker
Melissa Hacker
Olivia Hacker-Keating
Gale Halpern
J Hartman
Ruth Heinemann
Brian Herzog
Gerald Holton
Neal Horwitz
Marion House
Peter Jacobs
Eliana Jacobs
Dana Justus
Henry Kandler
Bernice C. Karg
Fred Emil Katz
Robert M Kaufman
Anne Kelemen
Kerri Klugman
Annie Knepler
Elinor Knepler
Liz Knepler
Myrna Knepler
Susan Koelle
David Koelle
Michael Koelle
Lisa Kollisch
Donald Kollisch
Christina Kollisch
Eva Kollisch
Herbert Kornguth
Myra Kovary
Russel Kreitman
Gregory Kreitman
Brandi Kreitman
Rose Kreitman
Gabrielle Kreitman
Liz Kruger
Karen Leitson

Hanny Leitson
Vera Levine
Gail Levine
Beverly Levine
Donna Levinsohn
Miriam Lewin
Karen Lindenbaum
Manfred Lindenbaum
Lauren Lindenbaum
Nina Lindenbaum
Keith Lindenbaum
Leora Lindenbaum
Elan Lindenbaum
Jacob Lindenbaum
Harvey Loeb
Margaret Lowe
Lisbeth Malkin
Barbara Martensson
Antonia Massa-MacLeod
Nelly Mc Burnie
Ilse Melamid
David Meyerhof
Ralph Mollerick
Joshua Obourn
Robin Obourn
Allison Obourn
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Elizabeth Pick
Karen Pliskin
Susi Podgurski
Julie Powsner
Lore Prag
Carol Reichner
Irene Reti
Bev W Rich
Susan Richardson
Frederick Rolf
Jean Roper
Rebecca Ruf
Rosalind Ruf
Erika Rybeck
Ilse Sakheim
Cindy Schick

Ken Schick
Pam Silverstein
Andrew Silverstein
Jake Silverstein
Samantha Silverstein
Milton Sklut
Jeanette Smith
Shoshana Spiegel
Lisa Spira
Toni Spring
Helen Stayna
Karl Stayna
Marina Stretch
Peter Suchmann
Benjamin Terner
Ruth Terner
Paige Tilford
Ruth Ultmann
Michelle Ultmann
Monique Vajifdar
Hedwig Leonore Vajifdar
David Vogelstein
Sarah Wald
Jonathan Wald
Karen Wald (née Pick)
Linda Waldroup
John Wangermann
Helga Weber
Linda Weil Fostet
Marti Weiler
Naomi Weiner
Hans Weinmann
Carol Weiss
Michael Wilde
Karen Wolf
Linda Wolff
Marion Wolff
Karen Wolff
Vera Wurst
Jeffrey Wurst
Eva Yachnes
Gunter Zernik
Michael Zorek