Happy New Year!

2016 was a momentous year for the Program. Several highlights include: expanding the number of cities in which we are operating from 12 to 18; partnering with two dental schools, A.T. Still University Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health and Temple University Maurice H. Kornberg School of Dentistry; receiving an honor from the Kupferberg Holocaust Center at Queensborough Community College for our commitment to treating Holocaust survivors. AO also hosted a Town Hall of 14 AO dental ambassadors, 16 social service agencies, the Claims Conference and the Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care at The Jewish Federations of North America. The objective was to create community and strengthen relationships among social service agencies, Program ambassadors and AO headquarters staff. Ultimately, by fostering a strong network, we seek to increase the number of Holocaust survivors treated by AO dentists.

These achievements are just some of the many Program accomplishments for 2016. I want to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to: Steve Kess and Team Schein members for their expertise and assistance in administering the Program; Dr. Avi Wurman and Dr. Allen Finkelstein for their guidance; the AO dental ambassadors and the AO dentists. You are all an integral part of the Program providing the necessary expert care and compassion in treating the patients. Additional appreciation goes to our program partner labs - Town and Country Dental Studios and Orthodent – and to all the dental labs participating in the Program for donating the necessary prosthetic devices to the patients. Also thanks to the social service agency participants for screening the patients and to our philanthropic partners for their generosity in financing this Program. Kudos go to my AO HQ colleagues: Bev Habada, Sara Bustard, Program Intern Kyliе Yineman, and Ellen Taranto of the AO Foundation. Last, but not least, a special thanks to Heidi Weber, the Fearless Leader of the Alpha Omega Fraternity.

The passion that all stakeholders exhibit is motivating, and I am very excited to open the door to year three.

With sincere gratitude,
Bernice Edelstein, HSP Program Manager

**By the Numbers (Jan. 2016 - December 2016)**

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<tr>
<th>City</th>
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Our Founding Donor Partner – The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation

Since the inception of the Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program in January 2015, we have received generous financial support for the program from the Claire Friedlander Family Foundation. Peter Klein, President of the Foundation, agreed to be interviewed to give background on the Foundation and its decision to support the AO-HSC Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program.

The following is a profile of the Foundation and of its Founder, Claire Friedlander.

About Claire Friedlander

Claire was a New Yorker, a teenager who “landed” in Brooklyn in 1949. She and her parents emigrated from war-torn Poland where her brother Bruno, grandparents, aunts, uncles and hundreds of friends from her village were led away in cattle cars bound for concentration camps and certain death.

While Claire witnessed terrible atrocities at the hands of intolerance and bigotry, she and her parents survived thanks to the kindness and righteousness of a peasant family who did not know them but knew what was right. They put their own lives on the line to help others. Claire never forgot this lesson: that in a sea of hatred, there can be hope and kindness.

About The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation

The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation was established by Claire Friedlander upon her passing. The Foundation, as her legacy agent, frames the focus of giving in the spirit of the grantor and does so with a mindfulness towards impact, effectiveness and sustainability. The Foundation seeks to partner with grantees and fellow philanthropic leaders in a fashion that promotes collaboration and transformation.

Foundation Belief Statement

“We believe that, in its most elegant form, we are investors – investing in the nonprofits we support – and in doing so pay special attention to these ‘investments’ to insure they flourish and achieve their objectives.”

The attributes of the foundation’s work include some of the following:

Collaboration

Working to achieve larger goals in a timely fashion through our network of other philanthropic funders.

Advocacy

Understanding our grantees and their “business models” and assisting them to achieve their goals by spreading the word and advocating for their work.

Grass Roots

We prefer to align with nonprofits that are passionate about their work and the people they serve and do so efficiently (we realize the importance of overhead but never to an excess – efficiency is our lodestar).
**Foundation Grant Making**

The Foundation’s giving represents an eclectic array of interests, areas such as education, performing arts, healthcare, and wildlife and the environment (but not limited to these areas alone).

**INTERVIEW WITH PETER KLEIN**

Mr. Klein, how did you come to be associated with The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation?

I am Managing Director, Partner of Klein Wealth Management at High Tower Advisors. Klein Wealth Management focuses on the intersection of philanthropy and investment management coupled with High Tower Advisors leading investment resources and research. Claire Friedlander took a chance on me as a new broker to be her financial advisor. Little did I know at the time that she was grooming me to be her legacy agent (which I only came to realize at the time of her passing). She was single and over time amassed a fair amount of wealth. It is a weighty responsibility as we look to move the proverbial needle to live her legacy and manage the resources entrusted to the Foundation.

How did the Foundation become a Founding Donor partner in support of the AO-HSC Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program?

The Claire Friedlander Foundation is very interested in Holocaust Remembrance and Holocaust survivors.

Ms. Friedlander also had a keen interest in oral health and followed the latest science on oral health. When we heard through Henry Schein Cares that there was a program starting up that would focus on Holocaust survivors and oral health, it was a “match made in heaven” for us. As her legacy agent, the Foundation made one of its largest funding commitments to date: to support the AO-HSC Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program.

We are about to start year three of the program. Do you have any “words of wisdom” for us as we enter our third year? What would be your philanthropic advice to us at this point in our program history?

I am pleased, and the Foundation board is very pleased with the program and the good work being done. Sometimes non-profits grow their mission too quickly without the funding to back up that growth. For the remaining survivor population who are living at or below the poverty level, there is a need to act with urgency to provide dental care. My advice would be to think boldly and act prudently to broaden the giving base. Continue to focus on the mission knowing that you now have the added value of having a program track record and a great story behind it. You need to get that message out to other funders and your development team should seek additional funders to join in supporting the program.

**Why the Pomegranate?**

Many have asked why we chose to use the pomegranate as the symbol of the Foundation. The origin dates back to a trip to Israel that we took to pay our respects to Claire after she passed. Sitting in a cafe in Jerusalem, we noticed a painting of a pomegranate in a store across the road. We were drawn to it. We learned that the pomegranate is an ancient symbol of good deeds to be done throughout a lifetime, and we knew it was something that Claire would appreciate as a mark of her philanthropic legacy.
Spotlight on Atlanta

The Atlanta group is comprised of the following AO dentists: Ambassador Michael Friedman, Warren Berne, Stan Eisenberg, Cary Goldstein, Bob Israel, Steve Levy, Glenn Maron, Brenda Paulen, Colin Richman, Susan Rifkin, Novy Scheinfeld, Jim Sylvan and Barry Zeitman.

If you are a practicing dentist in the Atlanta area and would like to participate in the program, please contact Bernice Edelstein at bedelstein@ao.org or Ambassador Michael Friedman at mfriedman.dds@gmail.com. If you are not able to volunteer, please consider making a donation to the Program.

HOW TO DONATE

AO US FOUNDATION:
www.aofus.org
ellen.taranto@aofus.org
301-738-6400

AO CANADIAN FOUNDATION:
Marlene Tenenbaum Memorial Tribute Fund
www.aofoundation.ca or info@aofoundation.ca
416-250-7417
Michael Friedman  
_Ambassador, Atlanta_

Dr. Friedman practices dentistry in Atlanta, Georgia at My Atlanta North. He is originally from Long Island, New York. He moved to Atlanta ten years ago after completing his dental training at New York University.

Dr. Friedman is currently president of the Atlanta chapter of AO. He is a sustaining member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, a member of the Advanced Dental Implant Studies Program, The Hinman Dental Society, Seattle Study Club, Academy of General Dentistry, and ADA. He is also a content reviewer for WebMD.

Dr. Friedman lives in Marietta with his wife, two sons and Scotch, their Cavalier King Charles Spaniel.

_How did you come to choose dentistry as a profession?_
Growing up, I spent a lot of time with my Grandfather, who was a dentist. I loved playing with all the instruments in his office. Once in college I knew I wanted to be in the medical field. I spent time with physicians but needed something more hands on. I always loved making things with my hands and dentistry was a perfect fit for me.

_What prompted you to decide to volunteer to be the Ambassador for the Holocaust Oral Health Program for Atlanta?_
I wanted to be able to donate my time and skills to help those that had to suffer through one of the most terrible times for Jewish people.

_What has been your experience leading the Program and AO dentists in the Atlanta area?_
The experience has been great. It is nice to hear how other dentists are able to make a difference for a survivor and the joy that it brings to them.

_What has been your experience providing dental care for Holocaust survivors?_
There is truly something special about the gratitude that you get from helping a survivor. They bring this appreciation to the whole office, and it becomes contagious amongst the other staff as well. The survivors are so appreciative.

_What do you do to relax and unwind? What is your favorite activity outside of work?_
While my two boys take up most of my free time, I enjoy cooking for friends and family and occasionally getting out on a sailboat.

Bob Israel

Bob Israel received his Bachelor of Arts in History from Emory College and Doctorate of Dental Surgery from Emory Dental School. He has practiced family dentistry in the Duluth area since 1983, with an emphasis on preventive, cosmetic, and restorative care. He is a member of the Academy of General Dentistry and the Emory Study Club. He volunteers at the Ben Massell Dental Clinic and served as a Team Leader for Georgia Missions of Mercy Dental (GMOM), a charitable event in which over 1,000 people in need received free dental care provided by local dental professionals.
Dr. Maron was the team Maxillofacial Surgeon for the Atlanta Thrashers Hockey Club for the duration of its franchise, as well as the Atlanta Falcons football team. Presently he is the Maxillofacial Surgeon with the Atlanta Braves baseball team. He also served on the NHL Team Physicians Executive Committee for five years and has been involved in changing the emergency protocols for the NHL. He was the official Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta and treated several athletes from around the world who attended the Olympics.

He is currently President of the Georgia Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and serves on the OMSNIC Advisory Board for Oral Surgeons.

When he is not treating patients or athletes in Atlanta, Dr. Maron also participates in Medical Mission trips to Central and South America with Healing the Children, NE, a non-profit organization.

Glenn Maron

Glenn Maron received his D.D.S. from Emory University School of Dentistry in 1986, followed by five years of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training at Emory University and affiliated hospitals. He completed his residency in 1991. The following year he completed a Reconstructive Surgery fellowship at Emory.

He is currently Chief of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery section of Children’s Healthcare Atlanta, Scottish Rite. Dr. Maron is also a clinical Assistant Professor for the Department of Surgery, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery section at Emory University, Grady Memorial Hospital, and Emory University Hospital-Midtown.

Dr. Israel has lived in the Atlanta area for 35 years where he currently resides with his wife and three children.

When you chose to pursue a health care profession, how did you come to choose dentistry?

I always wanted to go into the health field, and after spending time with my dentist, I decided it was rewarding and would leave me time for family and friends also.

What prompted you to decide to participate in the Program; to provide pro bono dental care to Holocaust survivors?

I am always looking for ways to give back to my community and certainly believe this is a very worthwhile cause for which to use my talents.

What do you do to relax and unwind? What is your favorite activity outside of work?

I enjoy outdoor activities like hiking, biking, running. I also enjoy Yoga, reading and spending time with my family and close friends.

Glenn Maron

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When you chose to pursue a health care profession, how did you come to choose dentistry?

When I was in college, I spent my summers working with an Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon. He was doing incredible surgeries for cleft lip and palate patients, and the dramatic results and benefits for these patients created the initial interest in oral surgery for me.

What prompted you to decide to participate in the Program; to provide pro bono dental care to Holocaust survivors?

Survivors of the Holocaust have been through things that most of us cannot even comprehend. Anything I could do to help them was an easy decision for me. Giving to those in need is important.

What has been your experience working with your Holocaust survivor patients?

The patients have all been so grateful that it has been worth it on so many levels. We are fortunate here in Atlanta to have a great dental community, and many people give back in many different ways. The patients that we treat are all special and deserve the best possible care regardless of their financial status.
Cary Goldstein

Dr. Cary Goldstein completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Georgia in 1980, where he received his B.S. in psychology. He received his D.M.D. from the Medical College of Georgia, followed by post-graduate studies in prosthodontics at the University of Southern California School of Dentistry.

Dr. Goldstein is the senior author of Imaging in Esthetic Dentistry, a textbook on the use of computerized imaging in esthetic dentistry. He lectured frequently on this subject, as well as taught the functional and esthetic aspects of cosmetic dentistry for 17 years.

He has served as an executive board member of the Ben Massell Dental Clinic, which was founded by his grandfather. He has also donated his services to this dental clinic monthly for over 15 years.

As a serial entrepreneur, he runs the Buckhead division of Dental Careers Institute, which teaches dental assisting and front office management. In addition, he is working as a dental consultant for manufacturers and writes a quarterly dental newsletter that is distributed to over 35,000 dentists worldwide.

His interests outside dentistry now center around his wife and children and photography. He and his wife are both avid photographers. For a sample of Dr. Goldstein's photography (found at his photography website: http://www.cegoldsteinphotography.com/).

When you chose to pursue a health care profession, how did you come to choose dentistry?

I chose dentistry because it was in my genes. My dad and grandfather were dentists, and as a kid I was always discussing smiles and esthetics of the face with them. It truly is all I knew as a kid. I knew from a very early age that I had a calling for this profession. Dad had me working at his office during summers, after school, etc. I started doing odd jobs, like stuffing envelopes and filing charts, went on to scheduling, then on to the lab, and finally became a dental assistant, before starting dental school. This training gave me incredible insight into the business of dentistry.

You were instrumental in getting the Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program started in Atlanta. What prompted you to dive-in to get it up and running in Atlanta?

When I was the local chapter president of AO, I got a call asking if I would help to find local dentists to provide care for survivors. I took on the first person asking for help and from there got other AO members in the Atlanta area whom I knew would be just as willing as me to help. I never got a “No” from any of our dentists. I believe they felt like I did, that this was a small task that we could do for someone who had suffered so much on our behalf.

Getting to know some of the survivors and hearing their stories here in Atlanta over the years has taught me about their plight. Who would not help if they were asked? It is an honor to be able to help others less fortunate than ourselves.

Anything else you would like to share about the program?

Probably some of the best aspects of the program are that our teams get to hear some of the stories of these survivors, simply get to be in their presence, and to know first-hand that these people really do exist. We must keep the knowledge of the Holocaust alive in everyone’s mind so that these atrocities cannot happen again.

What do you do to relax and unwind? What is your favorite activity outside of work?

I do not have a hard time relaxing. I always look forward to my weekly golf game, Friday and Saturday nights with our friends, family or a quiet night with Jody. My favorite thing is to travel. I have been fortunate to have been all around the globe, and my next trip is in April to take my 16-year-old daughter to Paris.
Amy Neuman, Program Manager, Holocaust Survivors Services, with Jewish Family & Career Services in Atlanta, was interviewed for this article.

How long has the agency been working with Holocaust survivors?

Jewish Family & Career Services (JF&CS) of Atlanta has been working with Holocaust survivors for over 20 years.

Approximately how many Holocaust survivors are there in the Atlanta Metro area, and what are their needs?

JF&CS has a database of approximately 225 Holocaust survivors in Georgia. We estimate that there are closer to 300 survivors in the state. As Holocaust survivors age, they experience some of the same challenges as older adults in general: health problems, cognitive decline, social isolation, and loss of family and/or friends. However, the trauma that survivors endured can affect physical and mental functioning and the way in which survivors react to life events or health issues. Survivors need services to help them live independently and with dignity. They also need services to be provided by professionals who are sensitive, understanding, and patient.

How many Holocaust survivors receive services from your agency, and what types of services do you provide?

Approximately 150 Holocaust survivors receive some type of service from JF&CS of Atlanta. We take a holistic approach in working with our clients. Each client works with a Case Manager whose job it is to make sure that the survivor receives the services that the individual wants and needs.

Services that we provide, through grants from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany (“Claims Conference”), the Jewish Federations of North America (“JFNA”) and the Holocaust Survivor Support Fund (“HSSF”), include home care, transportation, home-delivered meals, food assistance, dental and medical care, prescription assistance, medical equipment, emergency financial assistance, adult day care, home safety evaluations and modifications, and health and wellness programs and counselling. Additionally, we host social gatherings for survivors every month, and we have a friendly visitor program called One Good Deed, which will match isolated survivors with a community volunteer to decrease loneliness and forge social connections. Mental health
counselling, holiday assistance, and a kosher food pantry are also services provided by JF&CS which benefit survivors.

**What are the greatest needs of the Holocaust survivors in your community?**

Home care, dental care, prescription assistance, and transportation are among the needs of many. Dental care is one of the greatest needs as it impacts survivors’ physical and mental health. Many survivors are living at or below the poverty level and even those above the poverty level struggle financially. Most of them do not have dental insurance and without some type of assistance for dental care, they will forego needed services. While JF&CS operates the Ben Massell Dental Clinic in Atlanta to provide dental care for low-income individuals, this wonderful resource is not a good fit for most Holocaust survivors as patients are seen by different dentists every time they come to the clinic. Based upon survivors’ experiences during the Holocaust, many of them do not trust medical personnel, and visits to the dentist can cause anxiety. It is also very important that they build trust with one provider, rather than being seen by multiple dentists.

**What has been the experience of your agency with the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program?**

We have had a wonderful experience working with the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program.

Our clients who have received dental assistance have been thrilled with the dentists who have provided them care. It has been so nice to hear about our clients who were having trouble eating, experiencing pain or did not want to smile because they were embarrassed by their teeth, and now they are pain-free, eating and smiling again!

We are very appreciative of Dr. Michael Friedman, our current Ambassador, and Dr. Cary Goldstein, our former Ambassador, for devoting their time to this program to ensure that Holocaust survivors in need get crucial dental care. Thank you to all the dentists who have seen patients so far as a part of this wonderful program: Dr. Michael Friedman, Dr. Cary Goldstein, Dr. Novy Scheinfeld, Dr. Brenda Paulen, Dr. Stan Eisenberg, Dr. Bob Israel, Dr. Susan Rifkin, Dr. Glenn Maron and Dr. Warren Berne. You are making a huge difference in the lives of the survivors you have treated!

**What is one of your favorite stories about your work with Holocaust survivors?**

A survivor from the Former Soviet Union (FSU), was fairly new to the JF&CS Holocaust Services program, when the case manager noticed how self-conscious he was about his teeth and mouth. An extremely quiet, reserved individual, he was visibly embarrassed by his few remaining teeth and his old, worn dentures that barely stayed in place. When meeting strangers, he consistently covered his mouth while talking and almost never smiled because he was worried people would notice his mouth. In addition to being embarrassed, he was anxious about the state of his teeth and mouth. He did not have money to go to a dentist and thus JF&CS asked Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares for a referral to an AO dentist.

Based upon his experience in the FSU, he associated a “free” service as something inferior in quality. He was also worried that he would be charged even though he was told the services would be free. He was referred to an AO dentist, and after the first few appointments, he called his case worker worried that there would be a fee for the service. In his mind, there could be no way that he could receive such wonderful service and not have to pay something. The dentist was wonderful though, and she made him feel at ease every step of the way. She even provided him with temporary dentures that he could wear during his grandson’s bar mitzvah, as the permanent dentures were not ready yet.

When the case manager met with him once he had his new dentures, the difference was amazing. Still shy and reserved, he smiled with pride and chatted animatedly about the last visit to the dentist. At a point when he realized perhaps he was talking too much, he stopped talking but did not stop smiling.
New York Meeting with Social Service agencies

On December 16, 2016, Alpha Omega, the Russian American Dental Association (RADA), and The Blue Card hosted a meeting in Manhattan to discuss the AO-HSC Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program with representatives of various social service agencies from the NY metropolitan area. This interdisciplinary discussion between all groups was helpful in laying the foundation for expanding the Program’s presence in the NY area. Presentations were given by NY Ambassador Dr. Rada Sumareva; Ari Kagan, representative for the NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer; Bernice Edelstein, Dr. Allen Finkelstein, The Blue Card (Masha Pearl and Izabella Safiyeva) and Steve Kess of Henry Schein.

Special thanks to Dr. Rada Sumareva, NY dental ambassador and President of RADA, and to Masha Pearl and her Team at The Blue Card for organizing the event. Also, thank you to Lloyd Grauman, spouse of frater Dr. Gail Schupak for the fabulous photos!
The Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program was featured in the December 2016 issue of the Academy of General Dentistry’s (AGD) monthly newsmagazine, AGD Impact, as part of a compilation of stories about volunteerism in general dentistry.

2016 Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity President Wendy Shultz Spektor, DDS, and Bernice Edelstein, Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program manager, spoke with AGD’s editorial staff about the program:

The program is important because “so many people do not realize the percentage of Holocaust survivors living at the poverty level — 25 percent of the population,” Edelstein told AGD Impact. “It is astounding.”

“Treating this population is especially meaningful at Spektor Dental Center [in Bellevue, Washington] because my husband, Michael, a periodontist, is a child of two survivors,” Spektor was quoted as saying in the article. “The patients we have seen were all grateful because we treated them as we do all our patients — with respect and kindness. Many times, their own families do not understand their needs nor their ability to seek or receive care, so it is rewarding to us as providers to know they are cared for.”

In total, more than 300 dentists are participating in the program, which has helped more than 440 Holocaust survivors to date. The program — which launched in nine North American cities, including Boston, Chicago and Detroit — experienced growth in 2016 to include a total of 17 North American cities, including four Canadian cities: Calgary, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg.

If you are an AGD member, go online to Publications & Media section of AGD’s website, www.agd.org, to read the December 2016 AGD Impact article, “Giving the Gift of Dentistry: AGD Members Volunteer Locally and Globally,” in its entirety. The Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program was featured in the section, “Helping Economically Vulnerable Holocaust Survivors.”

(Source: Press release)
Together, we restore smiles and change lives.

We have been dedicated to the dental industry for generations. In addition to our family, we staff an amazing team of dental technicians, many here for over 20 years, including CDT’s and MDT’s.

You, your staff and your patients will appreciate our friendly service and attention to detail on every case.

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