



Dear Supporter,

This past year, HFBA buried 384 Jewish New Yorkers, most of them indigent and many who had outlived family and friends. When there were survivors, we offered solace, care and supportive services.

HFBA's mission, however, is also an educational one. The Talmud teaches us that burying the dead is a *mitzvah* of the highest kind. We extend our kindness and shelter to those who have left this world, without any possibility that the favor will be repaid.

Our role is to teach these values to the next generation so that the *mitzvah* will be carried on. We are grateful to the 1100 people who came as individuals, or as members of a family or one of the 28 groups who volunteered to help us clean and clear debris from Silver Lake. On Sundays, weekdays

and the Community Chesed Days held in November and April, they represented yeshivot, day schools, synagogues and universities eager to participate in this *mitzvah*. Our volunteer *minyan* continues to grow as these dedicated men try to ensure that a quorum will attend each burial to say the *kaddish* for the deceased.

The new ***tahara facility*** in Mount Richmond Cemetery opened in June 2014 allowing the ritual washing of the deceased to occur on site. The Staten Island ***chevra kadisha*** continues to attract new members for this sacred task. Mount Richmond's "green" solar powered system was, as planned, installed on the roof of this expanded building.

Our major project, the restoration of Silver Lake Cemetery continues. New perimeter fencing was installed around the cemetery. Ground penetrating radar was used to

survey the land and reveal what is beneath the overgrowth and an arborist surveyed the number of invasive trees, with the goal of clearing foliage currently obscuring the gravestones and making the ground safer for visitors. As an archaeologically sensitive site, one within a "special hillside district," special applications are required to remove the trees, the roots of which lift gravestones and create hazardous conditions. All work removing foliage and trees has to be done by hand as heavy equipment cannot be brought onto the 122 year old grounds filled with graves. The work cleaning and grubbing the foliage has already begun to reveal old stone grave markers.

I am very pleased to announce that HFBA has earned the **highest rating, four stars**, from Charity Navigator for the third year in a row. This assures you, our supporters, that this independent evaluator of over 7000 American non-profit organizations, endorses our financial health, accountability and transparency as well as our "commitment to good governance (and) best practices."



Our goal is to ensure that every Jew, no matter how impoverished or isolated from the community, receives a Jewish burial in a marked grave in a dignified, respectful and hospitable setting. As we look back at 2014 and plan for the coming years, we thank you, our dedicated supporters, for recognizing and supporting the important work we perform for the Jewish community.

With much gratitude,

Amy Koplow
HFBA Executive Director



Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2014

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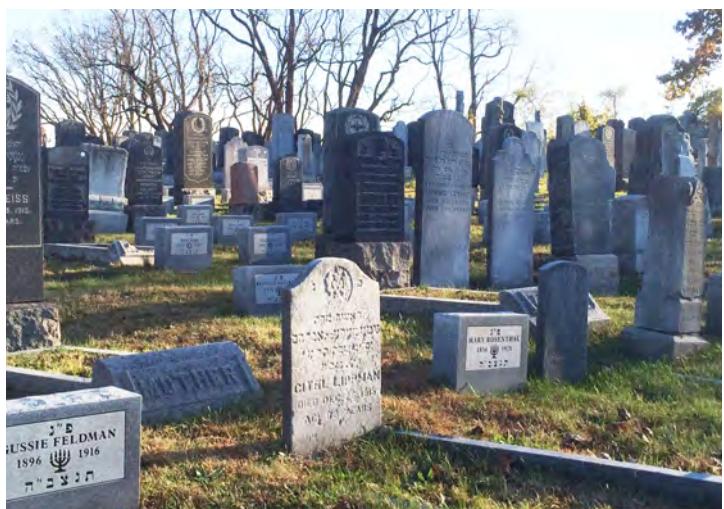
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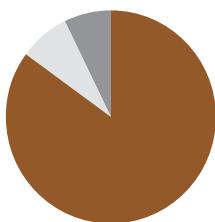
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Mount Richmond Cemetery

- Operating Expenses, 85%
- Fundraising Expenses, 8%
- Administrative Expenses, 7%



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TAHARA FACILITY DEDICATION

2014/5774

Riverdale Community Breakfast

Honoring Dr. Judah and Gail Schorr Chesed Shel Emet Award

Sunday, March 2, 2014
9:30 a.m.
Hebrew Institute of Riverdale
3700 Henry Hudson Parkway

R.S.V.P. (212) 239-1662 or go to www.hebrewfreeburial.org/rr.htm



The Hebrew Free Burial Association has taken care of the needs of the poorest among us for 125 years. Annually we provide nearly 400 indigent Jews with a dignified Jewish funeral and burial in consecrated Jewish earth.

ת'פ'ג

Hebrew Free Burial Association invites you to its Parshat Vayechi

Staten Island Community Breakfast

Recognizing Rabbi Shmuel Plafker

HFBA's Mount Richmond Cemetery Chaplain
For 25 years of service to HFBA

Featured Guest Speaker:
Rabbi Mordechai Becher

Sunday, December 28, 2014 | 9:30-11 AM

YOUNG ISRAEL OF STATEN ISLAND
835 Forest Hill Road, Staten Island, NY 10314

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