



February 14, 2007

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor O'Malley:

The U. S. Congress established the Days of Remembrance as our nation's annual commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to those victims. In accordance with its Congressional mandate, the Museum will again lead the nation in the annual Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust. This year's observances will take place from Sunday, April 15 through Sunday, April 22, 2007. The Day of Remembrance, *Yom Hashoah*, is April 15.

The Museum has designated "**Children in Crisis: Voices from the Holocaust**" as the theme for the 2007 Days of Remembrance. When World War II ended in 1945, six million European Jews were dead, including more than one million Jewish children. All Jews were targeted for death, but children were among the most vulnerable victims of the Nazi regime and its collaborators. The very young, like the very old, were often the first victims. The specter of racial hatred has resurfaced again and again in the decades since the Holocaust. The voices of children from the Holocaust serve as a potent reminder that there are dangers in the world today that must be addressed not just to honor past victims but also for the sake of present and future generations.

We respectfully encourage you to commemorate the Days of Remembrance with appropriate ceremonies and programs and to issue, as your office has done in the past, a special Days of Remembrance Proclamation for distribution to your constituents. A sample is enclosed for your consideration along with a background piece on the theme is enclosed. For further information on Days of Remembrance you may wish to visit the Museum's website at www.ushmm.org.

Situated among our national monuments to freedom, the Museum is both a memorial to the past and a living reminder of the moral obligations of individuals and societies. Through educational activities, programs for leaders, and global outreach, the Museum works to ensure that all generations, now and in the future, learn the timely and urgent lessons of the Holocaust.

In today's troubled world the lessons of the Holocaust are more urgent than ever. We are grateful for your leadership and support in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Fred S. Zeidman
Chairman

Sara Bloomfield

Director

Enclosures