

The Honorable Aviv Ezra,  
Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest  
500 W. Madison St.,  
Suite 3100,  
Chicago, IL 60661

Dear Consul General Ezra:

In view of the recent announcement by the **Jewish Agency** to complete the rescue of Ethiopian Jewry, I am writing you to urge the Israeli government to act swiftly and comprehensively with respect to the amelioration of the suffering among the Ethiopian Jews that languish with only minimum health care and minimal levels of nutrition in Ethiopia.

**We urge that these families be reunited as quickly as possible whether under the Law of Family Reunification or the Law of Return.**

These Jews that remain in Ethiopia are awaiting the opportunity to join their first degree blood relatives in Israel.

This humanitarian crisis has lasted more than 13 years by most standards; some would say it has lasted for a much larger span of time going back into the 1990s.

In 2006 the Federations in the United States organized a \$100 million fund for the completion of the absorption of the Ethiopian Jews. The funding however was re-directed to the recovery efforts in Israel that resulted from the destruction suffered by the nation during the Lebanon War. And then in 2015 the Knesset approved the prompt absorption of the Ethiopian Jews; however, the Knesset failed to provide funding for same.

Our Synagogue has decided to make an effort to raise visibility here in the Minneapolis St. Paul Jewish community as to the problem and the need for advocacy to bring this problem to a swift and complete solution.

Please let us know your views on the subject. With *Pesach* approaching, can we do anything less than to join in community based efforts to help complete a modern day Exodus?

Sincerely