Date

Name of Editor

Name of Journal

Dear Editor (name if you have),

I wish to submit an original research article, “Donors and Recipients: Hadassah, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and the ‘Medical Service for the oleh’ 1944–1953” for consideration by the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*.

The submitted article discusses the activity of two American voluntary organizations—Hadassah and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) in the Israeli health system between 1944 and 1953.

The association between immigration and health has been recognized for thousands of years and is described in many studies. This association was apparent in the mass migration of refugees and the mobilization of voluntary organizations that cared for the health and welfare of the many sick, disabled, and handicapped refugees during and after World War II. The activity of American Jewish organizations was particularly outstanding in this context. These organizations mobilized and cared for displaced Jews worldwide, and especially in the State of Israel, driven by the shadow of the Holocaust of European Jewry and faith in the Zionist goal—the establishment of a Jewish state in the Land of Israel.

Hadassah and the JDC founded and managed the health service organizations SHAREL and Malben for immigrants in pre-state Israel. They then converted their voluntary activity into an institutionalized operation in the early days of the State, enabling the absorption of thousands of sick and disabled immigrants into the young, resource-poor country.

The article describes the activities of the organizations and explores the medical management aspects of the two institutions: SHAREL (by Hadassah) for all immigrants between 1944 and 1953, and Malben (by the JDC) between 1950 and 1975. Also examined are the services that were developed and the decisions made, and their impact on the health system and health policy in Israel throughout the first fifty years until the enactment of the National Health Insurance Law in 1994.

I confirm that this work is original and has not been published elsewhere, nor is it currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dr. Dorit Weiss