Rachel Ripps University Honors Spring 2013 Kate Haulman, Department of History

Saving Soviet Jewry: The Efforts of the Washington, D.C. Jewish Community, 1968-1991

This capstone project focuses on the efforts of the Jewish community in Washington, D.C. on behalf of Soviet Jewry from 1968 until 1991. An online historical exhibit best illustrates this important period in history through narrative and images. The D.C. movement has largely been by scholars and this capstone project seeks to outline the movement's efforts and draw conclusions about their significance and effectiveness. The conclusions of this project are that the Washington, D.C. Soviet Jewry movement should be remembered in history as the movement that succeeded in drawing widespread and ongoing public attention to the issue of Soviet Jewry and human rights. The real value and success of the Washington, D.C. movement can be seen in the existence of so many former Soviet Jews who maintained their Jewish identity despite the incredible odds. Secondary sources were used for background information but the bulk of research came from primary sources largely from the archives at the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington. The most important sources for this project were memoirs, interviews, photographs, and published materials.

View at http://rmripps.wix.com/saving-soviet-jewry.