


# 6 MILLION JEWS AND 5 MILLION "ENEMIES OF THE STATE"

Eleven million buttons. Some big, some small, some bold, some basic. Close your eyes and imagine each button as a person. Visualize a single person standing before you. Now, try to fathom 11 million lives - mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, husbands, wives, family and friends.

**MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WERE ELIMINATED  
BY THE HOLOCAUST OF WORLD WAR II -  
THE GREATEST SINGLE TRAGEDY CREATED  
AND RECORDED BY MAN.**

The Peoria Holocaust Memorial rebuilding is more than a team effort. It's a universal cause and calling that has affected each of us in profound and poignant ways - whether seeking contributions and information, or counting and cleaning the buttons by hand to show reverence for each life lost.

**THE MEMORIAL ILLUSTRATES THE  
GREATEST FORM OF PHILANTHROPY,  
WHERE IT TRANSFORMS NOT JUST THE  
RECIPIENT, BUT ALSO THOSE WHO GIVE.**



Our greater Peoria community again has the opportunity and responsibility to show that we will not stand by and forget the vital lessons of the past, as we readily accept the need and moral duty to enhance the lives of future generations.

**LET US REMEMBER:  
WHAT HURTS THE  
VICTIM MOST IS NOT  
THE CRUELTY OF THE  
OPPRESSOR, BUT  
THE SILENCE OF THE  
BYSTANDER.**

**- ELIE WEISEL**

The Jewish Federation of Peoria has taken on the responsibility of raising all of the funds needed to rebuild the Memorial at the Riverfront Museum.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
OR TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION**

Jewish Federation of Peoria  
2000 Pioneer Parkway, Suite 10B,  
Peoria, IL 61615

309.689.0063 | [PeoriaHolocaustMemorial.org](http://PeoriaHolocaustMemorial.org)

THE REBIRTH OF THE



# PEORIA HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

A NEW LOCATION ...

**A RENEWED OPPORTUNITY TO  
TEACH ENDURING LESSONS**





## A NEW HOME FOR A TIMELESS PROJECT

Our human minds continually search for creative solutions to new challenges.

The Peoria Holocaust Memorial – a collection of 11 million buttons, 6 million for the Jewish victims of the Holocaust and 5 million for other enemies of the Nazi state – is one of the most unique remembrances of and lessons on this tragic, horrific and cruelest extermination of human life.

After changes at the original location of the Memorial, a conversation began about seeking a new site that would promote ever greater awareness. The search ignited a remarkable discussion about creating the ultimate learning and historic experience in one location.

The Peoria Riverfront Museum was ultimately chosen. The Museum has opened doors for local, national and world audiences engaging in lifelong

learning, and now that mission will grow with the addition of the Peoria Holocaust Memorial. An unused section of the Museum grounds proved to be the perfect size and setting for the relocation of the Memorial – as if it were bashert (destiny) – meant to be.

Many individuals and groups worked on the first memorial to make it a reality, and as a result, hundreds of thousands of visitors saw the unique display of stars and triangles filled with buttons of every size, color and shape, each representing a human life extinguished by the Nazi regime.

Now the “Button Project” idea – conceived in 2001 and delivered in 2003 with the opening of the original Peoria Holocaust Memorial – is preparing for a momentous rebirth.

A new generation is joining the evolved mission to keep the message alive and in front of countless more visitors. The deepened commitment to educating people about the horrific consequences of intolerance, bigotry, hatred and prejudice is even more relevant today in a world that struggles with these issues.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Memorial is a place to learn, share, reflect and remember - and the foundation for furthering knowledge, tolerance and respect, ensuring that a tragedy like the Holocaust never happens again.

**The Jewish Federation of Peoria has taken on the responsibility of raising all of the funds needed to rebuild the Memorial at the Riverfront Museum.**

We need funds for the move and to provide educational materials, updates of visual and written displays, and ongoing maintenance of the exhibit. Your generous, tax-deductible 501(c)(3) donation will help this memorial become an important means of teaching compassion for all human life.

**You will make a difference!**

**YES, I'D LIKE TO DONATE TO THE PEORIA HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL!**

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

**THANK YOU!**

Please make checks payable and send to:

**PEORIA HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL**  
c/o Jewish Federation of Peoria  
2000 Pioneer Parkway, Suite 10B, Peoria, IL 61615

**CONTRIBUTE ONLINE:** [PeoriaHolocaustMemorial.org](http://PeoriaHolocaustMemorial.org)

