Thirteen years ago, the OU Advocacy Center helped spearhead (together with the Jewish Federations of North America, other coalition partners and bipartisan leaders in Congress) federal legislation to make shuls, Jewish day schools and yeshivas safer places through the creation of the **Nonprofit Security Grant Program** (NSGP). The program enables these and other nonprofits to apply for grants to make their buildings more secure.

Over the years, annual funding for the NSGP has averaged $20 million; in 2017, OU Advocacy succeeded in increasing that amount to $25 million.

But during 2018, anti-Semitic incidents in the United States surged by 57 percent – the largest annual increase in almost 40 years. The OU Advocacy Center advocated doubling the NSGP funding to an unprecedented $50 million - and that was the funding level allocated by Congress for 2018.

**The results of OU Advocacy’s drive to increase safety at schools and shuls didn’t stop there.** For the first time ever, Congress also authorized an additional $10 million in security grants for shuls and schools located outside major metropolitan areas that had previously been ineligible for such grants.

Not only that, **Congress doubled the amount of the individual grants to $150,000.** These funds pay for the acquisition and installation of protective equipment such as fences, lighting, video surveillance, blast-resistant doors and windows and metal detectors. Congress’s record NSGP allocation for 2018 brings the total of nonprofit security grant funding to $269 million since 2005. The majority of the grants have been allocated to Jewish day schools and synagogues.