

Choms, Wladyslawa

(1891--1966), Pole, nicknamed the "Angel of Lvov," who rescued Jews during the Holocaust. When the Germans occupied Lvov in eastern Poland in June 1941, Choms created a charitable fund for needy Jews. She also gathered around her a group of other devoted rescuers, who helped her provide food, money, and medical care to Jews both inside and outside the ghetto; forge false identity papers for Jews living illegally outside the ghetto; and hide both children and adults in the safe havens of convents and private families. She personally watched over some 60 Jewish children herself.

Choms' husband (an officer in the Polish army) and son had fled to Great Britain and joined the fight against the Nazis from there. In retaliation, the Germans sought to arrest Choms. Thus she was constantly moving from place to place and changing her name.

In November 1942 the *Zegota* (Polish Council for Aid to Jews) asked Choms to set up a local office in Lvov. She continued her rescue activities until the end of 1943, when she was sent to Warsaw by her underground commanders in order to ensure her safety.

After the war, Choms was designated as Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem.