The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.

... the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people...
from Patros, and from Cush (Ethiopia), ... and from the islands of the sea.

Isaiah 11:11

1990 ANNUAL REPORT

With 1991 Program Highlights, Including Rescue Efforts for Ethiopian Jewry
ABOUT THE JDC

In August 1914, Henry Morgenthau Sr., then United States Ambassador to Turkey, cabled Jacob Schiff, the New York philanthropist, asking for $50,000 for the relief of Palestinian Jews caught in the agony of World War I. The money was raised within a month, and shortly thereafter, in November, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee was established to channel funds being raised to aid Jews in Europe and Palestine by the Orthodox Central Committee for the Relief of Jews, the American Jewish Relief Committee, and the People's Relief Committee.

Today, more than 75 years later, JDC is still serving as the overseas arm of the American Jewish community, sponsoring programs of relief, rescue, reconstruction, and Jewish education, and fulfilling its commitment to the idea that all Jews are responsible for one another and that "To save one person is to save a world" (Mishna, Sanhedrin 4:5).

The number of people aided by JDC since 1914 reaches into the millions. There has been a JDC presence at one time or another in more than 70 countries on every continent except North America. Since 1939, support for JDC's activities has come primarily from the United Jewish Appeal (UJA), which in turn receives its funds from campaigns conducted in 482 American communities. When men and women contribute to UJA/Federation campaigns in 168 communities and to UJA campaigns in 314 smaller communities, they support humanitarian work at home, in Israel, and around the world. JDC also receives funds from CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.), from Canadian federations via United Israel Appeal of Canada, from the United States government, and from a number of foundations and international organizations.

For over 75 years, JDC has been working to meet Jewish needs around the globe. In Ethiopia this year, JDC helped to sustain the remaining Jewish population as it flooded into Addis Ababa seeking to be reunited with family members already in Israel. In Eastern European countries struggling with vast economic and political changes, JDC today provides life-sustaining assistance to elderly and infirm Holocaust survivors, even as it continues to help young and old renew their Jewish heritage. In the Soviet Union, JDC is helping to rebuild the Jewish communal infrastructure and nourish the quest for Jewish knowledge. In Africa and Asia, JDC helps dwindling Jewish communities maintain essential services for their elderly and provide their children with a Jewish education. In Latin America and in Western Europe, the emphasis is on increasing communal self-sufficiency. In Israel, JDC is helping the country absorb its newest immigrants while continuing to enrich the lives of the disadvantaged and improve the quality of services for the aged, the handicapped, and the disabled. Through the JDC-International Development Program and the "Open Mailbox" campaigns, JDC also enables the American Jewish community to provide non-sectarian disaster and development assistance worldwide.

It was once the dream of JDC's founders that the organization would be able to "go out of business" once the "emergencies" were over. That dream was shattered by the realities of twentieth century Jewish life. JDC today continues to function as a vital instrument of American Jewry, reaching out to Jewish communities in distress and improving the quality of Jewish life around the world.
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With the joyful images of the arrival in Israel of thousands of Ethiopian Jews still fresh in our minds as we write this, it is interesting to consider that despite the many encouraging changes on the world scene that have taken place in recent years, JDC found itself in the last 12 months engaged once again in fulfilling two of its original responsibilities: the relief and rescue of a Jewish community in danger and in distress.

The rapid unfolding and smooth execution of Operation Solomon, which succeeded in airlifting over 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel on May 24-25, 1991, held us all in thrall. Behind the scenes lay months of intense negotiations and detailed planning that brought about Jewish community cooperation, uniting the Government of Israel, the Jewish Agency for Israel, American Jewry and the Ethiopian Jewish community in an historic, life-saving effort in which JDC is proud to have participated.

Critical to the success of this operation was the way the organized American Jewish community came together in a coordinated effort to obtain the support of the U.S. government for a sustained diplomatic initiative to secure the Ethiopian Jewish community's release. The American Association for Ethiopian Jewry and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations played key roles in the ensuing negotiations, along with the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry, the Council of Jewish Federations, the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, the Anti-Defamation League, the American Jewish Committee, and B'nai B'rith. JDC informed all parties of developments and coordinated the activities of the stateside working group. JDC had assumed this coordinating role at the request of Uri Lubrani, the Special Representative of the Prime Minister of Israel, who was appointed by Yitzhak Shamir last October to bring Ethiopian Jewry home.

President George Bush's support and encouragement throughout the months of diplomatic negotiations was decisive in achieving this goal; ultimately, the President's personal intervention enabled this modern-day exodus to take place. We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to President Bush on behalf of the American Jewish community. We would also like to thank Senator Rudy Boschwitz, who went to Ethiopia in April as the President's special envoy, and the dedicated White House and State Department officials who worked so hard to persuade the Ethiopians to let our people go.

JDC's role in marshalling this political coalition and immersing itself so intensely in the diplomatic demarche that followed was atypical. It was, however, a direct consequence of its continued ability to operate within Ethiopia and to quickly establish new programs to meet the urgent and changing needs on the ground. This gave JDC credibility with all the concerned parties and earned it the trust needed to keep the coalition together through difficult times.

A more typical JDC operation was the comprehensive health and welfare program mounted in Addis Ababa over the past 12 months to sustain a weakened and vulnerable Jewish community forced to wait once again for its age-old...
dream of redemption to be fulfilled. These special programs are amply detailed in the pages that follow and they illustrate the adaptability that characterizes the worldwide JDC staff.

As the political-military situation in Ethiopia continued to deteriorate, planning intensified for a one-time rescue effort in which many aspects of JDC’s ongoing programs were mobilized to provide key logistical support. During the actual operation, mounted just hours ahead of an outbreak of violence in Addis that threatened the entire Jewish population, JDC was fortunate to have some of its best staff members working in the field. In cooperation with the Israeli embassy, our staff saw to it that the embassy compound was prepared and supplied with food and fuel, that buses were continually available to transport the people to the waiting planes, that our computerized case files were accessible to speed the progress of the operation, that fuel was provided for airport generators to keep the operation going through the night, and that a pyramidal outreach system was in place—in this city of few telephones or formal addresses—that was able to quickly signal the entire population to gather at the embassy compound as soon as the green light was given that Operation Solomon was under way.

All of JDC’s efforts in Ethiopia, as well as its programs in Israel and in other Jewish communities around the world throughout the past year, were made possible by the support it received from the organized American Jewish community via the United Jewish Appeal (UJA). Supported in turn by campaigns conducted by federations and non-federated communities across the country, the UJA provided JDC with $57.9 million last year toward its 1990 budget total of $96.2 million. Additional amounts were received for various programs from the United States government; from CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.); from Canadian federations via United Israel Appeal of Canada; and from a number of foundations and international organizations. Nevertheless, by the end of December 1990, JDC had an accumulated deficit of $16.4 million, due entirely to the costs incurred in caring for transmigrants.

While a large share of JDC’s attention in 1990 was devoted to keeping alive and securing the rescue of the Jewish population of Ethiopia, major new initiatives were also under way in other critical areas of JDC’s global operations, particularly in Israel, in Central and Eastern Europe, and in the Soviet Union. Efforts were also undertaken by JDC staff to help the local Jewish communities in various countries fulfill their security needs in the months leading
up to and during the Persian Gulf war. Details of these activities as well as the special efforts made by JDC-Israel during the war itself can be found in the respective country sections of this report.

In Israel last year, nearly all of JDC's programs were involved in some way in helping the nation cope with the massive wave of new immigrants from the Soviet Union, despite the fact that JDC did not benefit from the Operation Exodus campaign. By shifting funds and making painful cuts in other program areas in mid-year, we succeeded in adding $3 million to our Israel programs in May 1990. At the same time, we reoriented every phase of JDC-Israel operations to take account of the needs of an aliya whose dimensions and potential effect on Israel's future development constitute an unprecedented challenge and opportunity. We also have a variety of ongoing programs designed to facilitate the absorption and promote the advancement of those who arrived from Ethiopia prior to Operation Solomon, and we are planning to help in the resettlement of the very latest arrivals. We continue to maintain our commitment to and involvement in the improvement of services for the weakest segments of Israeli society, helping to see that their needs are not overlooked in this time of economic difficulty. This is our contribution to the advancement of the Jewish state.

The emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe and their renascent Jewish communities constituted an additional sphere of opportunity last year, and we hastened to take advantage of this, with our involvement in Jewish educational and cultural programming continuing to deepen and expand. We were able to resume operations in Bulgaria in 1990 after a nearly 40-year hiatus, and we are working together with leaders of Jewish communities throughout the Continent to help restructure Jewish communal institutions in the East, using the post-war experience of the Western European and Latin American Jewish communities as a model and guide.

Our ongoing responsibility to the aging Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe continues, even as the economic dislocations and inflationary conditions accompanying their countries' march toward market economies have made their lives more difficult. Keeping up with the rising costs and the increasing impoverishment that will prevail in these countries until their economic situation improves will put additional strain on our own already-overburdened financial resources. Nevertheless, we are determined to see to it that no Jew—in Eastern Europe or anywhere in the world—goes to sleep at night hungry or without shelter.

Despite the unsettled conditions in the Soviet Union, JDC's operations in that vast country continue to develop and expand. Our second Operation Passover was even more successful than the initial 1990 program, with 52 public seders this year conducted in 28 cities from Irkutsk to Volgograd. All of our holiday programs have evolved, as intended, into seminars on Jewish living. Together with our Judaica libraries, newly-prepared resource material, and communal training programs, they are part of our effort to insure that the residual Soviet Jewish community will be able to rebuild the communal infrastructure needed for Jewish continuity.

In Western Europe, we began our planned phase-out of institutional subsidies last year. In that region, as well as in Latin America, we continue our efforts to strengthen communal struc-
tures and encourage community self-sufficiency. Elsewhere in the far-flung Jewish world, JDC continues today to sustain Jews in Morocco, Tunisia, and other Moslem countries, and it provides a variety of assistance to the Jews of India.

Throughout the past year, the JDC International Development Program provided the American Jewish community with a channel for responding to the victims of the natural and manmade disasters that beset us. IDP’s many development projects utilize American and Israeli expertise in innovative ways. They have garnered extensive support from a variety of outside donors as well as major funding from the U.S. government for new projects in Hungary and Czechoslovakia and for the children’s rehabilitation center that is now under construction in Armenia.

We are grateful to the officers and members of the JDC Board; they have given unstintingly of their time and talent throughout this difficult year, providing help at critical moments whenever they were called upon. We are particularly grateful to the JDC Review Committee members who spent much time and effort helping us analyze JDC priorities and chart our course into the twenty-first century. Some of the recommendations made in their just-completed report have already been implemented, and the committee’s examination of JDC’s relations with other organizations should prove particularly useful as we work together to continue to meet global Jewish needs.

Last month’s Operation Solomon involved so many of the things that JDC represents: cooperation among major Jewish organizations; the availability of seasoned field staff capable of carrying out a difficult operation in a hostile environment; and, of course, the ultimate objective, the saving of Jewish lives. When all is said and done, JDC’s three “R’s”—Rescue, Relief, and Reconstruction—are as relevant today as they were when formulated by our founders, and rescue, long recognized as central to the JDC mission, remains our most fundamental function.

We hope that an important result of our review process will be to enhance our ability to instill a sense of participation and active involvement in JDC’s worldwide programs in local federations nationwide. We at JDC will continue to serve as advocates for the thousands upon thousands of Jews overseas who depend on us. We will neither abandon nor forget them, whether they are living in remote villages in Gondar—where at least another few thousand remain—or in Poland, Romania, or Syria. We are confident that the American Jewish community stands behind us in this commitment, and that it will continue its strong support for the regular campaign that sustains our efforts. In doing so, community members will affirm once again what recent events have made abundantly clear: that we are indeed a people whose responsibility for one another is one of the touchstones of our faith.
One of JDC's primary focuses in the past year has been on efforts to assure the safety and wellbeing of the remaining Jewish population of Ethiopia, most of which was concentrated in Addis Ababa, and to assist in the negotiation and planning of that community's rescue. Fast-changing events in this war-torn country made this an enormously complicated and sensitive endeavor whose successful outcome was Operation Solomon: the massive airlift on May 24 and 25, 1991 of over 14,000 Ethiopian Jews from Addis Ababa to Tel Aviv.

For much of the past decade, JDC has been authorized to operate a nonsectarian recovery and development program in Ethiopia. Program activities have included a multi-year agricultural development project; the establishment of a clinic and local health center, health worker training programs, immunization, and medical outreach efforts; improving the local water supply and village electrification; wood conservation and reforestation programs; and the construction of new grain-grinding mills. Based largely in Gondar Province, the projects have benefited the general population as well as the large number of Jews heretofore concentrated in one area of that province. As part of this program, JDC was also able to distribute relief supplies to the needy in Gondar, build and restore synagogues, and distribute religious and holiday supplies. A series of small-scale development projects incorporated within the synagogue construction program helped generate income for the poorest villagers.

These efforts have been funded each year by regular JDC budget appropriations, as well as by contributions to JDC's open mailbox assistance campaigns and grants from the U.S. Agency for
International Development (U.S. A.I.D.) and from a variety of international donors. Over the past few years, various program components have been turned over, as planned, to the local population. Others continue under JDC's aegis, although some are operating on a reduced scale and others are currently in abeyance because of the war situation, as a result of which JDC no longer had access to this area of the country.

In November 1989, Ethiopia and Israel restored diplomatic relations, and Israel re-opened its embassy in Addis Ababa in February 1990. This created new prospects for Ethiopian Jews longing to be reunited with family members already in Israel. When access to Addis from Gondar and the surrounding areas was restored in the late spring of 1990, Jews began flooding into the city from the north for what they thought would be a very brief stop on their journey to the Promised Land. Over 15,000 Jews arrived in the capital in a massive movement of only a few weeks' duration.

Although the Ethiopian government had agreed to allow Jewish emigration on the basis of family reunification, the rate of actual departures ebbed and flowed throughout the year and never came close to keeping up with the rapid increase in the number of prospective emigres.

After selling all their meager possessions to finance their journey, the Jews had arrived in Addis impoverished and malnourished, with many seriously ill or weakened by travel, and with no means of financial support. When their hopes of immediate departure for Israel proved false, they found themselves in desperate straits. Forced to find places to live and ways to feed their families in overcrowded Addis, they paid exorbitant rents for tiny rooms in fetid slums and quickly became prey to disease and despair in an unfamiliar urban environment.

The credibility JDC had achieved in Ethiopia through its successful non-sectarian operations facilitated last summer's effort to establish a series of programs to sustain the Jewish community during its sojourn in Addis and help alleviate its wretched living conditions.

Diverting funds already budgeted for other geographic areas of operation, JDC established an emergency relief program that sought to minimize the creation of new infrastructure and maximize the use of community manpower in carrying out its various operations.

A care and maintenance program provided monthly cash allotments to each family according to a fixed scale, with a total of approximately 24,000 individuals, or 4,500 families, assisted at the height of the program. Blankets and clothing, either
shipped from abroad or purchased locally, were distributed as needed. To ensure that efforts to improve the health and well-being of the community were being effectively utilized, monthly remittances were paid only after confirming that each family had undergone a medical check-up and was adequately clothed.

Using local workers from the community, periodic distributions were made of essential foodstuffs supplied mostly by U.S. A.I.D.; these included wheat, cooking oil, and lentils. Special shops were also established where basic supplies could be purchased at prices equal to those prevailing in the government-subsidized shops open only to the permanent local population. A lodgings committee was set up to check on living conditions and help those families found to be living in the most adverse circumstances.

To address the severe deterioration of health that manifested itself almost immediately among the uprooted Jewish population, JDC established a comprehensive medical care program organized by a dedicated American consultant who had been working with Ethiopia's Jewish population for many years. A medical treatment center was set up that soon provided all but the most specialized medical care to about 200 patients each day. Staffed by local doctors, nurses, and health assistants, and a rotating team of Israeli physicians, the center's daily operations were supervised by a devoted Amharic-speaking American physician. A follow-up program was maintained for each patient to assure that treatment was completed and a medical history file provided for use later in Israel.

Over 100 community members trained as health facilitators by JDC staff were employed in an outreach program, with each one visiting 50 families twice each week to alert the medical team to cases of illness and other conditions requiring attention. An extensive immunization program was implemented in coordination with the Ethiopian and Israeli Ministries of Health, and a special effort was made to detect and treat those suffering from tuberculosis. Approximately 629 patients benefited from a six-month course of treatment that included daily medication, with outreach workers tracking down dropouts and support groups organized to bolster resolve.

Children were a particular focus of clinic attention, benefiting from a compre-
hensive health-care operation that included preventive, nutritional, and pre- and postnatal care. Mothers of underweight infants and children were shown how to prepare faffa, a supplementary food, and how to treat often fatal diarrhea, while instruction in preventive health care and proper nutrition was given by the staff to all those awaiting treatment. A laboratory headed by a lab technician and a pharmacy headed by a nurse were included in the treatment center. Medications were provided by JDC, with the Scheuer Foundation of New York contributing $100,000 toward their purchase.

With an expected mortality rate for a population this size of 44 per month based on the national figures, and an actual figure of 39 deaths recorded for July 1990, the aggressive attack on medical problems represented by this program succeeded in reducing the mortality figure to 14 in December. By March 1991 it was down to four, and there were only three deaths recorded in April among the Ethiopian Jews.

In addition to employing community members to carry out these health and welfare programs, JDC initiated several cottage industry projects. Using empty grain sacks, hefty mattresses were produced and sold to the community at nominal prices; agricultural tools were crafted at a newly-opened workshop; and those with weaving skills were encouraged to produce decorative baskets and reed plates. These employment schemes were intended to raise morale and preclude the development of a welfare mentality in a community used to working in an agricultural society where each family member had a defined, productive role.

Community workers were also mobilized by JDC to construct a synagogue within the Israeli embassy compound, as well as the 20 tukuls (huts) that comprised the community center. Daily programs were provided at the center for youngsters between the ages of 6 and 18, with some 4,500 youngsters a week coming in shifts every other day for classes in Amharic, Hebrew, math, and health education.

In addition to promoting literacy and helping to prepare the youngsters for their future lives, the center helped assure that the children were fed, clothed, and cared for. Each child received an egg, a potato, a bread roll baked at the kitchen built on the premises, and a piece of fruit to supplement their family diets. They were also able to shower and have their clothes laundered once a week. JDC provided guidance for and monitored the operation of the educational program, which was supported by the Pincus Fund with an additional contribution from the Rich Foundation.

The students at what became, in effect, the world’s largest Jewish day school were eager to learn about customs and holidays new to their tradition, making menorahs from street scraps and practicing for their first Purim play. Above all, they wanted to learn everything they could about how things were done in Israel, so eager were they to be able to fit right in when they finally reached the Promised Land. By May 25, 1991, they had.
Throughout 1990, the entire Jewish world endeavored to meet the historic challenge posed by the massive wave of aliya (immigration) to Israel. Over 181,000 arrivals from the Soviet Union, approximately 4,000 from Ethiopia, and an increased number of Jews from Argentina combined to bring 1990’s total number of olim (immigrants) to over 200,000. By the end of April 1991, more than 50,000 additional olim had arrived from the Soviet Union, and about 4,600 Ethiopians reached Israel between January 1 and May 22. By May 25, over 14,000 more Ethiopian Jews—almost the entire remaining population—had been airlifted to Israel in "Operation Solomon." This massive influx of newcomers affects all aspects of Israeli life.

JDC-Israel works with the Jewish Agency, government ministries, and local authorities to implement an array of activities for olim. Klita (absorption) projects address issues of job training and placement, social absorption, and the increased need for service provision to the elderly and the handicapped. JDC-Israel places special emphasis on the unique needs of olim from Ethiopia, building on existing successful programs and designing new ways to ease the absorption process for this population.

JDC was not a beneficiary of Operation Exodus in 1990. To finance its absorption projects, JDC transferred $3 million from other geographic areas to the JDC-Israel budget. In addition, JDC-Israel reoriented its priorities to devote additional resources to absorption.

While attending to the needs of olim became a high priority in 1990, JDC-Israel retained its commitment to serve disadvantaged populations within Israeli
society: the elderly, the physically and mentally handicapped, marginal youth, and children-at-risk. IDC's fulfillment of its ongoing obligations to the weakest segments of the Israeli population is particularly vital at this time, since these are the groups most likely to suffer from Israel's current budget constraints and economic difficulties. Moreover, all the systems that provide basic health and social services are being strained to the limit, having to address the needs of the olim along with those of the veteran population.

The war in the Persian Gulf, preceded by the long period of tension and punctuated by Scud missile attacks, put additional pressures on Israel's society and economy. During the war, JDC-Israel played its part, particularly for those most in need of support in time of stress. Supplying Israel's deaf and hearing-impaired population with beeper-feedback systems hooked into the emergency alert network, mobilizing student volunteers to help those in homes for the aged to put their gas masks on properly during alerts, organizing visits by childcare workers to families kept at home with young children, conducting training workshops for emergency center staffs, and creating a mental health hotline for Soviet immigrants are some examples of the assistance JDC provided to Israel's population during this crisis.

EMPLOYMENT

JDC-Israel has concentrated its klita efforts in several specific areas. Because employment is a critical factor in successful absorption, a significant number of JDC activities are aimed at enhancing vocational training and job placement. Throughout 1990, JDC worked with various ministries and voluntary organizations to tailor programs to meet the specific needs of olim. JDC-Israel encourages the cooperation of the public and private sectors in creating on-the-job training programs and providing job placement services as an integral part of the training process. Model programs have been developed with the Israel Manufacturers' Association and the Israel Chamber of Commerce to match immigrants with available job openings throughout the country.

Different types of job-training courses for Soviet olim were developed by JDC in 1990 for implementation by a variety of training organizations. Refresher courses enable olim to update and improve the level of their professional and vocational skills so they can compete in the demanding Israeli job market. Sovi-
et computer programmers, for example, were taught the computer languages currently used in Israel. Retraining courses for professionals whose skills are not marketable in Israel helped olim adapt their talents and train for jobs in new or related fields where openings do exist. For instance, a course for engineers and computer experts has helped them qualify as high school mathematics and science teachers. Some immigrants are learning health and social service-related subjects, and some are becoming skilled construction workers.

On-the-job training programs developed in cooperation with the printing and insurance industries provided olim with new careers and guaranteed jobs at the end of the training period. Job-search workshops were developed by JDC-Israel to provide the tools needed to look for and secure a job in a Western-style labor market.

In accordance with JDC-Israel's traditional approach, these courses and workshops were developed as models for a small target population. If successful, the programs can then be implemented on a larger scale by the government and the private sector.

To encourage those olim wishing to start their own businesses, an entrepreneurial training course developed by JDC got under way toward the close of the year. Special counseling centers have also opened in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem to provide technical guidance and support to potential entrepreneurs, helping them to plan and to mobilize the resources needed to get a small business off the ground.

Throughout the past year, involvement continued in a variety of activities designed to advance the absorption and foster the wellbeing of the existing Ethiopian population and to help the latest arrivals. Significant resources will continue to be dedicated to this effort in 1991. This two-pronged attempt will provide programs for the newcomers while affording a second chance to those Ethiopians who have yet to be effectively absorbed into Israeli society.

Veteran Ethiopian olim are helping the recent arrivals join JDC's vocational training, educational, and social activities. Job training and placement programs have been initiated by JDC for olim just completing their ulpan course (Hebrew language studies) and for veteran Ethiopian immigrants who need a second chance. Social programs are conducted through community centers for those who have moved from absorption centers into permanent housing. These include parenting classes for mothers with young children, home maintenance courses, and after-school activities for the youngsters. To facilitate the Ethiopians' absorption into Israeli society, special attention was paid during the year to developing new social programs for elderly members of the community, for teenagers home on visits from their boarding schools, and for single-parent families.

JDC’s scholarship and enrichment programs continue to provide assistance to students in universities, colleges, and other post-high school institutions as part of its ongoing effort to create a cadre of professional, educational, spiritual, and lay leaders from among the Ethiopian community.

The Center for Counseling on Family Issues expanded its activities last year, training the additional professionals needed to work with the newest olim, publishing professional handbooks, and mediating family disputes.

Since a significant and increasing proportion of the Israeli population is now over the age of 75, JDC-Israel is seeking to narrow the gap between available services for the elderly and growing needs. ESHEL, The Association for the Planning and Development of Services for the Aged in Israel, is supported by JDC and the Israeli government. Improving the quality of existing services and supporting innovative programs are two of the goals which ESHEL serves through its activities in five major fields: community-based services, institutional services, sheltered housing, professional train-
Reflecting the fact that 12.4 percent of Israel's new immigrants in 1990 were 65 years of age or older, JDC-Israel is devoting a major share of its klita activities to programs for elderly olim. JDC was instrumental in the development of a national program to meet the dramatic increase in the need for institutional beds stemming from this aliyah. In addition, efforts were begun to develop a range of innovative housing alternatives for the elderly olim, including shared housing and the construction of sheltered housing above or next to existing senior citizen day centers. ESHEL began a new program to facilitate these immigrants' social absorption, with clubs for the elderly either opened or planned in 15 locations. The clubs provide educational and social programs, as well as Hebrew language instruction and access to JDC's Russian-language Judaica libraries.

Another major thrust of ESHEL's program for 1991 is on health promotion. Efforts in the field include nutrition, road safety, oral hygiene, and the prevention of accidents in the home. In 1991, ESHEL plans to intensify its ties to voluntary organizations and to encourage voluntarism among the elderly in an attempt to mobilize this important resource. It will also focus on programs for the mentally frail and continue its efforts to develop services for Israel's elderly Arab citizens.

SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED

ALMOG, The Association for the Development and Improvement of Services for the Handicapped and Retarded in Israel, was established by JDC-Israel to help organizations strengthen the services they provide and create new services when the need arises. It is recognized today as a leading professional agency for planning and establishing support services for the disabled and their families in both community and residential settings. Through its support for legislative and regulatory efforts and for training programs for field workers, ALMOG is raising national standards for the quality of services in this area.

Throughout the past year, ALMOG continued to encourage the development of family- and community-based alternatives to institutionalization and to urge municipalities and neighborhood self-help groups to assume greater responsibility for the handicapped and the retarded.

High on ALMOG's current agenda are the needs of the olim, since Israeli treatment methods differ from those in the Soviet Union and virtually no services for the handicapped were available in Ethiopia. ALMOG is involved in the establish-
ment of a diagnostic intake center for handicapped immigrants and in the reinforcement of self-help groups. Together with the Jewish Agency and government ministries, ALMOG is working to develop a general plan for the absorption of handicapped olim.

MENTAL HEALTH

The Trust Fund for the Development of Mental Health Services in Israel was established by JDC-Israel to initiate, plan, and develop services and training programs in mental health. Its comprehensive programs are currently concentrated in the fields of children-at-risk, psycho-geriatrics, and community-based rehabilitation of the chronically mentally ill. In the past year, the Trust Fund has also begun to provide services for new immigrants, including a reorientation course for Soviet nurses seeking to become psychiatric nurses and a mental health hotline that was maintained during the Persian Gulf war.

The Falk Institute for Mental Health and Behavioral Studies is the research arm of JDC-Israel in mental health. In addition to its longitudinal studies of children- and adolescents-at-risk and its mental health services research, it has now begun research in the field of Soviet immigrant mental health.

COMMUNITY CENTERS

JDC-Israel is moving into a new phase in its relationship with the community center movement it helped establish. While no longer providing institutional support for the centers, JDC continues to assist in the development of the centers' staff and to support innovative projects through them.

Among the community center programs that JDC supported are the development of models to encourage parental involvement in early childhood education, the establishment of local youth organizations in disadvantaged neighborhoods, and efforts to develop community schools that link the educational system with the needs of the larger community.

With the community centers positioned to play a role in the social absorption of the olim, JDC-Israel has helped plan and put in place a number of center-based programs. Learning centers for immigrant children, job clubs for their parents, Hebrew classes for children and adults, and "Youth Absorbing Youth," a special program to bring teenagers together, are some examples. Many of these programs seek to develop connections between olim and veteran Israelis, integrate the immigrants into ongoing community activities, and channel those newcomers with special needs into existing networks and self-help groups. Other projects strengthen the new immigrants' sense of pride and independence by providing them with opportunities to contribute to as well as benefit from the community. JDC's Russian-language Judaica libraries—with books and tapes on Israel, Judaism, and Jewish history—have been donated to some 30 community centers. The study of Israel and Jewish culture is an important part of center-based programs.
MARGINAL YOUTH

The past year marked the completion of JDC-Israel's development of the MIFNE program, a model intervention program for marginal youth, the 7 to 8.5 percent of the adolescent population who have dropped out of school and are not working. MIFNE's innovative learning environment is characterized by a reliance on specially-designed computer software and other technologically advanced tools as well as by the warmth and attention provided by staff to each student. The individualized study programs and vigorous placement efforts serve to motivate the youth, interest them in learning, and help them to achieve a “turn around” (mifne) in their lives. The concepts and materials developed at the MIFNE Center in Jerusalem have now been disseminated to over 35 institutions across the country. Efforts to disseminate the materials will continue while new programs are being developed for specific target groups (for example, delinquent girls).

CHILDREN-AT-RISK

Approximately 100,000 of the 1.4 million Israeli children aged 14 and under are categorized “at risk” as a result of disruption in the structure of their nuclear families. About 7,500 of these children live in institutional settings; an additional 30,000 receive treatment through community-based programs. Early attention to these children's special needs will improve the likelihood of their successful integration into society and lessen their need for continued social services throughout their lifetimes.

Children-at-risk activities took several forms in 1990. An architectural competition provided new design ideas for children's homes; formal and informal curriculum projects were begun to upgrade the education of children in institutions; enrichment materials like computers were placed in homes to increase the stimuli available to the children growing up there; and capital improvements were made in a variety of institutions to improve the quality of life. The development of a computerized data system, a survey of voluntary organizations serving children, a follow-up study of institutional graduates, and the implementation of a big brother program with a concomitant study of its effects all contributed to the advancement of knowledge in the field. Work progressed on the concretization of models for a community institution and a comprehensive urban center for children-at-risk.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

JDC-Israel continues to work to improve the professional and policy-making skills of Israel's senior public service personnel, particularly those responsible for the social services. JDC's training programs are implemented through ELKA, the Association for the Development and Advancement of Manpower in Social Services in Israel. In line with their practical nature, the programs stress the acquisition of new skills and competencies rather than formal academic credentials. ELKA's programs also seek to improve the flow of information and raise the level of cooperation among ministerial agencies. Current training efforts are concentrated on senior management.

MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INFORMATION UNITS

The Municipal Planning Units (MPU's) project that was developed by JDC-Israel to improve the planning and decision-making process at the local level has recently advanced to a new stage. Local authorities and the Interior Ministry have assumed almost full responsibility for operation of the planning units, while JDC is currently engaged in creating a formal training program and support system to promote their enhanced effectiveness.

Many of the 15 MPU's currently in operation around the country have become an integral part of the direct absorption process, helping municipal officials plan housing and jobs for the olim. For example, an information center/clearinghouse was established early last year in Netanya, and a manual on direct absorption was recently published.
The voluntary sector is a major partner working with JDC to address Israel's social challenges. In addition to cooperating on a variety of specific program initiatives, JDC has created an umbrella organization to strengthen the functioning of this sector through coalition building, information exchange, and common efforts. The Association of the Voluntary and Non-Profit Sector has been operating for five years and has developed a strong tradition of cooperative action. Special emphasis is being placed in 1991 on the creation of an organizational development advisory service, an initiative that emerged from a survey of member agencies' needs. The Self-help Clearinghouse provides support for a variety of self-help groups.

**THE THOUSAND FAMILIES CENTER (TKA YATED)**

The system of direct absorption places on the *olim* the major responsibility for integrating themselves into Israeli society.

A model currently being explored by JDC to ease this transitional phase for the *olim* involves the encouragement of new immigrant voluntary associations and self-help efforts. Sensitive to the needs of their members, new immigrant associations can become crucial vehicles for facilitating absorption by serving as go-betweens with the authorities and as sources of initiative and mutual support.

The Thousand Families Center, a newly-created immigrant association, attempts to address the housing, employment, and social absorption needs of its 4,000 current family members, and is already serving as a model for other groups.

JDC is helping the association establish a solid professional and administrative infrastructure and linking it with relevant ministries and agencies. Special emphasis is placed on involving the *olim* in the construction of their own homes, with training provided by JDC.

Together with the Zionist Forum, JDC has initiated a series of workshops for over ten immigrant associations in an attempt to strengthen their professional staffs.

**ALLEVIATING SOCIAL TENSIONS**

In the hope that personal contact between Arab and Jewish youth at an early stage of life will help break down stereotypes and group prejudice, JDC provides professional and financial assistance to a group called “Youth Who Sing a Different Song.” Since it was formed by Arab and Jewish teens in 1985, 5,000 young people
have taken part in the organization's activities. The main focus is on weekend seminars, with intensive discussions led by Arab and Jewish professionals trained in cross-cultural work.

**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

With most of Israel's population concentrated in the center of the country, JDC has supported a number of educational projects, like Operation North Star in the Galilee and its current program for gifted children in Eilat, geared to promoting the development of “peripheral” areas. Using these experiences as a guide, JDC-Israel is developing new models to facilitate regional cooperation and growth, with the particular aim of increasing the attractiveness of these “peripheral” areas to new immigrants. The olim can make a significant contribution to the economic and social development of these areas.

**RELIGIOUS/CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS (YESHIVOT)**

One of the most interesting aspects of the current ingathering of Jews from the Soviet Union has been the desire of many of these new olim, both men and women, to gain a more intensive exposure to traditional Jewish knowledge and culture by enrolling in yeshivot. JDC's Department of Yeshivot has sponsored a number of pilot programs providing tutorial services and special personnel to help the newcomers effect a smooth transition to yeshiva life. As additional numbers of applicants threaten to overwhelm the absorptive capacities of many schools, JDC is continuing to help yeshivot expand existing programs while encouraging other schools to launch additional initiatives. Many new Ethiopian olim are also benefiting from specially-designed model programs developed with JDC support that seek to facilitate their integration into regular yeshiva classes within a year of their arrival in Israel.

Experience gained over the past few years has shown that JDC is able to achieve more in this general program area if it concentrates its efforts on student-centered projects that help enhance the educational process and upgrade the living conditions in various yeshivot. Accordingly, 1990 was the final year in which traditional per capita subventions were granted to Torah institutions on a regular non-emergency basis, as this shift in emphasis to funding for specific projects was completed.

Projects include the provision of equipment and technical assistance to improve the level of nutrition, health, and hygiene services for yeshiva students, as well as efforts to facilitate and support the purchase of proper laboratories, computer learning aids, and the modern equipment needed for up-to-date vocational training programs in selected yeshivot. An important aspect of these programs is the training of religious functionaries and their placement in communities in Israel and throughout the Jewish world.

Encouraged by the success of JDC's recent initiative to improve yeshiva administration through the introduction of computers and management training seminars, 32 yeshivot participated in this ongoing program in 1990. Particular emphasis has also been put by JDC on developing special yeshivot with creative programs for slow learners and the handicapped. Five such schools, with different curricula and objectives, have been set up in recent years, with JDC providing professional advice.

JDC has also encouraged the development of informal educational outreach programs conducted by senior yeshiva students at army bases and in mosbatim, kibbutzim, and development towns in various areas of the country. The 40 such programs conducted last year did more than provide learning opportunities for the general population. They also helped to build bridges between the religious and non-religious communities, while outreach programs in the Negev have become a catalyst for self-help social and communal efforts for thousands of families. In 1990, many of these outreach programs took on a new dimension as they sought to embrace Soviet olim of all ages living in various Israeli communities. JDC also continued its support for a religious rehabili-
tation program conducted by yeshiva faculty and students in nine Israeli prisons. This effort has won acclaim for greatly reducing recidivism among program "alumni." A new study center opened in 1990 in the central prison of Ayalon.

Throughout the past year, JDC’s Department of Yeshivot continued to provide critical support for JDC’s global programs by helping to train rabbis and other religious functionaries and by arranging the purchase and shipping of kosher foods and religious supplies to Jewish communities in different areas of the world.

THE CENTER FOR SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES IN ISRAEL

Established in Jerusalem in 1982 and funded mainly by JDC, the Center is an independent, non-profit, and non-partisan institution. By means of research and education in social policy issues, it aims to contribute to public awareness of and participation in the formation of government policy and to make social policy more responsive to the needs of Israel’s citizens. The Center provides both policymakers and the public with an explanation of the key questions involved in a given issue and the economic and social implications of proposed solutions. While it maintains a neutral position on the issues studied, it may raise and develop alternative solutions for public debate and decision by the Knesset (Parliament) and Cabinet.

In 1990, the Center completed several studies and was involved in policy analysis in a variety of areas, including its annual analysis of the allocation of government and national resources for the social services, a study of the cash income transfer between generations implicit in the country’s pension system, and an analysis of the impact of Israel’s tax policies on the country’s non-profit sector. Other studies dealt with the educational system, with one analyzing parental involvement in financing supplemental education for their children, another evaluating measurements of system “results,” and a third examining the proposal to extend the school day. A major series of studies examined demographic trends and their impact on different regions of the country, with a particular focus on the need for and availability of human services and the capacity for absorption in each region. Special studies of health policy emphasizing the needs of new Soviet and Ethiopian olim have also recently been initiated.

A basic operating principle of the Institute is to focus on major national issues addressed on a comprehensive multi-year basis. This is viewed as one of the preconditions for achieving a significant impact on public policy and professional practice.

Among the areas being addressed in the program on aging are the development of control systems to regulate the quality of care for the elderly; a comprehensive review of the roles of the public, private, and voluntary sectors; the development of effective approaches that emphasize health promotion and preventive care; and an examination of efforts to provide the elderly...
with meaningful opportunities for fulfillment in the workplace and in the voluntary sector. An integral part of each of these efforts is the Institute's continued promotion of the education and training necessary to meet the needs of an aging society.

Since its establishment, the scope of the Institute's activities has expanded. The Institute serves as a center for international collaborative efforts in the area of aging in the Jewish world. It also serves as JDC's research arm in developing its program in Israel and in its other areas of operation worldwide.

In addition to hosting a variety of foreign scholars and researchers, the Institute cooperates extensively with international agencies like the World Health Organization, the International Institute on Aging of the United Nations, and the Pan American Health Organization. Recent international projects include those conducted in collaboration with the state of Florida and with research teams in Sweden and in Los Angeles.

The Institute's work increasingly serves as a model for the application of knowledge to the process of service development in additional areas, and the significance of the Institute's research for the health and social services is becoming an important program focus.

In cooperation with JDC-Israel, the Institute has initiated a new health policy research program, the thrust of which will focus on the reform of the health system in Israel. Throughout the past year, the health policy research unit created by the Institute in 1989 continued to assist those involved in ongoing efforts to reform the country's health system and improve the quality of care provided to Israel's citizens. These efforts intensified with the publication of the report of a national commission that recommended sweeping reforms in the health system and the initiation of efforts to implement the recommendations. The Institute's work also contributed to a major reform in health care finance that was implemented early in 1991. An international advisory committee of experts and scholars has been established by the Institute to help with this endeavor.

The dramatic change in the projected and actual levels of immigration to Israel, particularly from the Soviet Union, has prompted a major review of the Institute's program priorities, and studies have been initiated to contribute to Israel's ability to meet this challenge. A major report on the implications of the aliya for the health and social services was issued in the beginning of 1991 and is serving as an important basis for planning.

The Institute is expanding its areas of cooperation with JDC-Israel in 1991 and is beginning to address the research and evaluation needs of the children-at-risk program and of the JDC programs on immigrant absorption.
SOVIET UNION

Jewish Population:
Official census figure: 1.5 million
Estimate: 2 - 4 million

JDC Appropriation $3,000,000

RIT PROGRAM*
JDC Appropriation: $7,590,000

* RIT is the designation for activities initiated four decades ago to bring vitally needed items to Jews in Eastern Europe. These funds are now being used primarily in the Soviet Union for various program efforts described in this section.

Against a background of increasing economic adversity and disorganization, with ethnic tensions rising and political and national conflicts exerting ever greater centrifugal pressures, a massive and exciting revival of Jewish life remains under way in the Soviet Union. JDC is helping to facilitate and encourage this revival through programs that were conducted last year on a scale far beyond the expectations held when the organization was first allowed to return to the Soviet Union in October 1988.

The operating strategy underlying JDC's efforts takes into consideration a global Jewish agenda that seeks to achieve the maximum possible emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union and to promote their successful absorption in Israel, although knowing that some will go elsewhere. At the same time, recognizing that not all Soviet Jews will leave, and that a substantial number of those planning to leave will remain in the country for some time to come, world Jewry is committed to help re-establish Jewish communal life in the Soviet Union through the provision of knowledge, both Jewish and Zionist, through the rebuilding of infrastructure, and through the attainment of communal self-sufficiency.

In the course of the past year, efforts were made to limit duplication of activities among the "key" players in this massive undertaking. In addition to JDC, these include the Jewish Agency for Israel, Azriel (which is funded by JDC through the RIT program), the Government of Israel, and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Other organizations actively involved in Soviet programming have been encouraged to join in coordinating their activities.
in pursuit of common goals.

Soviet Jewry today is clearly in a state of flux, faced with deteriorating economic conditions and increasing political turmoil, and with new and less-guarded manifestations of an endemic anti-Semitism. In every city with a sizeable Jewish population, there are many Jews who are planning to emigrate or are in the process of leaving, thus creating dramatic changes in the social and demographic structure of the community. Within this context, the revival of Jewish life continues, as Soviet Jews seek to reverse a seven-decade loss of Jewish knowledge, community property, and organizational structure that resulted in a nearly complete devastation of Jewish communal life. JDC, seeking to utilize current opportunities to the fullest, has embarked on a variety of programs to help Soviet Jewry re-establish itself as a viable, self-sufficient Jewish society, equipped with the basic elements of Jewish identity, knowledge, and organizational structure that will be needed for communal survival.

One of the most exciting facets of JDC’s program efforts in 1990 revolved around massive public holiday celebrations organized in April, September, and December. Operation Passover was the inaugural effort, made possible by the cooperation of the Soviet Council on Religious Affairs. At 26 public seders held in 22 cities throughout the length and breadth of the Soviet Union, over 10,000 Soviet Jews celebrated the Passover festival, many for the very first time. They were gently guided through the age-old rituals by specially-trained couples sent from Israel for the occasion. In a triumph of complex logistics that was months in the planning, JDC provided Israeli matzah, Passover wine, meat, fish, and the symbolic ingredients of the seder plate for seder tables in cities as far apart at Kiev and Astrakhan, or Riga and Tashkent. Hebrew and Russian-language *haggadot*, other religious articles, and specially-prepared tapes and other instructional material were also provided, as were 10,000 individual seder kits for family celebrations.

An even more complicated endeavor was undertaken in the fall, when 32 Israeli couples sent by JDC turned the September-October holiday period into a living learning laboratory on Jewish life for tens of thousands of Soviet Jews seeking to reclaim their Jewish heritage. In addition to presiding over Rosh Hashana celebrations and Yom Kippur services, the couples helped build communal *sukkot*, holding public holiday celebrations and educational seminars in the festive booths and organizing Simchat Torah festivities. They also conducted over 3,000 bar and bat mitzvah celebrations for adolescents eager to mark this rite of passage into Jewish adulthood. Each participant received a special kit containing a Jewish calendar, a Russian-Hebrew dictionary, a *tallit* or set of candlesticks, and a special certificate to mark the occasion. All religious and holiday needs were again shipped into the country beforehand, including honey, kosher food and wine, and *sukkot* building materials. This time, nearly 94,000 Soviet Jews in 30 cities took part in some aspect of these holiday celebrations or community events, in addition to the massive crowds taking part in the general holiday celebrations in Moscow, who were simply deemed too numerous to count.

In December, Israeli emissaries were sent to help Soviet Jews celebrate Chanukah. They organized candle-lighting ceremonies and holiday celebrations in ten cities, with dreidels for the children and festive foods for all. Public wedding ceremonies were performed for Jewish couples, and each community visited was provided with the requisite chuppah (wedding canopy). Planning was also
well under way for Operation Passover 1991.

Meanwhile, as reports of a growing breakdown in the food supply system, particularly in Leningrad, circulated abroad, JDC took immediate action to assist those most threatened: elderly individuals living on meager pensions, who are without the Soviet citizen's usual access to food through the workplace and are too infirm to stand for hours in food lines. In mid-December, as a test of its ability to respond on a wider scale, should that prove necessary, JDC organized the shipment and distribution to elderly Jews in Leningrad of 3,500 packages of kosher holiday foods. Packages included matzah, flour, pasta, lentils, tea, coffee, dried fruits, vitamins, and other goods in short supply. Packages were also distributed to non-Jews at a children's hospital and a hospital for the mentally handicapped. A number of Jewish communal organizations identified individuals and institutions in need and helped with the distribution, mobilizing teams of enthusiastic young students who brought food and a reminder that they are not forgotten to the homebound elderly.

Last year also saw the successful completion of Phase I of JDC's Judaic Libraries Program. This program was established in addition to the thousands of pieces of religious and cultural material, as well as other vitally-needed items, that JDC has been sending into the Soviet Union each year. Throughout 1990, JDC systematically furnished Judaic libraries of varying sizes to Jewish communities and groups throughout the country, with 100 libraries currently in place. Each library may include up to four copies of the approximately 500 Russian-language books on Jewish topics listed in a JDC catalogue printed in Israel last spring. Those groups who requested libraries from JDC had to agree to provide appropriate space, furnishings, and staff, and to make the materials available to all Jews in the community. Many of the libraries are also equipped with a video playback system and have been supplied with Russian-language films on Israel and other Jewish subjects.

One of JDC's aims in establishing this program was to use the library facilities as a potential meeting place that could facilitate local community development. In Phase II of this program, JDC has begun to help individual communities expand their library facilities into fledgling community centers that will offer a variety of educational and cultural activities for different age groups. Initiating programs for children is an important step in this evolutionary process, as it will help attract entire families to each center. But with virtually no Russian-language
material on Jewish subjects suitable for young children currently available, JDC has been preparing a Russian-language edition of *Rechov Sumsum*, the Israeli version of the Educational Television Workshop's acclaimed program, *Sesame Street*. JDC sees this as a valuable Jewish educational tool that will be an important addition to the JDC libraries and an exciting way for thousands of Soviet Jewish children to learn about life in Israel today.

JDC began a massive new educational effort in 1990 in cooperation with Everyman's University, the highly successful Open University of Israel. Courses are being developed in Hebrew and Yiddish language and literature, and in Jewish history, philosophy, and religion for a new program that will be part of the Open University of Russia. Through the courses, which will be open to the general public throughout the country, JDC can offer immediate access to Jewish knowledge to Jews living even in the most remote areas of this vast nation. This will be of enormous assistance in educating potential Jewish communal workers. Academic credits earned through the program will be recognized in Israel, which will be of great benefit to those subsequently making aliyah.

JDC also continued its support last year for Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz' *Mekor Chaim* Judaic Studies Center in Moscow. The Center was established as a Department of the Academy of World Civilizations, which is under the auspices of the World Laboratory and the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and has quickly become a respected institute for training Jewish scholars. It also serves as an advisor on *kashrut* and Jewish law for the entire country. Staffed largely by a rotating team of visiting professors and rabbis from Israel, the United States, and Western Europe, the center had approximately 50 matriculated students who received official Soviet post-graduate student status and stipends last year. About 400 others participated in the Center's part-time day and evening study programs; the make-up of both groups continually changes as students make aliyah.

Other key educational projects sponsored by JDC in 1990 included the Jewish components of Moscow's annual International Book Fair and a special exhibition of Israeli books and educational resource material that went on display in Moscow in June, with satellite exhibits in six other Soviet cities. JDC funds also supported a variety of Hebrew classes and Judaic courses taught by teachers sent from Israel last year; these teachers have reached out to Jews throughout the Soviet Union, many of whom have had little or no contact with the rest of world Jewry. JDC involvement in other Jewish educational and cultural activities last year included support for the establishment of Jewish youth groups and summer camps, in coordination with local Jewish cultural associations. Thousands of youngsters and young adults took part in these programs, with expansion plans already under way.
JDC’s Moscow Cantorial Academy completed its first full year of operations in 1990, with cantorial trainees coming from communities as diverse as those of Leningrad, Kiev, Tashkent, Grodno, Odessa, Dnipropetrovsk, and Kaliningrad. Formally known as the Moscow Academy of Jewish Music, the program made its official debut with a gala concert at Moscow’s Choral Synagogue last February given by the Synagogue’s new permanent choir, which was also established with JDC support.

Cantor Joseph Malovany, Cantor of New York’s Fifth Avenue Synagogue and Distinguished Professor of Liturgical Music at Yeshiva University, serves as Dean of the Academy, with Choral Synagogue Cantor Vladimir Pliss serving as Resident Director. Visiting faculty members include top cantorial professionals from the United States and Israel.

The cantorial students have been meeting in intensive two-week sessions held periodically during the year. They also have the opportunity to study other Jewish subjects under the direction of teachers at the Steinsaltz Center so that they will be able to fulfill a variety of religious needs in their local communities. When a last-minute faculty problem threatened to cancel the December session, AT&T arranged a special international phone hook-up that enabled Cantor Malovany to conduct the class seated at the keyboard in his New York apartment, with an open line to the 15 students assembled in the Choral Synagogue in Moscow. These newly-trained cantors are helping to renew a Jewish liturgical tradition with proud roots in Russian Jewish history. Together with the choir, they are thrilling audiences throughout the country who have never before experienced the exquisite melodies that are such an important part of the Jewish tradition.

This program is part of JDC’s efforts to provide local Jewish communities with the manpower needed to sustain day-to-day Jewish life. Participants in newly-developed training programs will study in Israel and return to serve their home communities, able to lead prayer services, supervise *kasrut*, and conduct Jewish life cycle events like *brit milah*, weddings and funerals. Meanwhile, JDC is providing individual training for Jewish leaders on an as needed basis, with four Soviet Jewish educators invited to participate in a major U.S. edu-
To help individual communities develop sources of local financial support, JDC is encouraging the establishment of a variety of local enterprises, and will supply technical expertise and seed money to modernize matzah wide organizations. The National Council of Synagogues includes representatives from 120 synagogues across the country; it deals with religious life and the distribution of religious supplies. The Va'ad, the Congress of Jewish Organizations and Communities in the Soviet Union, represents over 200 cultural associations, synagogues, and Ashkenazic and Sephardic populations to rebuild and strengthen their community structures. JDC staff will expand their territory, both geographically and functionally, in the year ahead, with longer and more frequent visits that will deepen their involvement with particular communities. Early in 1991, a JDC representative took up residence in Odessa, the factories, to produce kosher wines, or to reprint and sell Jewish books and other religious items. JDC continues to support Agromir, a joint venture to transfer agricultural techniques between Israel and the Soviet Union, although its participation is specifically limited to that part of the program concerned with the production of kosher food.

JDC also provided support last year to two newly-formed national, country-teachers' associations. It is dedicated to strengthening Jewish cultural and communal life and to promoting Soviet Jewish rights, including the right to emigrate.

One of the most valuable services provided by JDC in 1990 was the technical and communal expertise and encouragement of its multi-disciplinary program staff. Soviet team members have been reaching out to both near and distant communities and assisting both first of three resident representatives scheduled to open JDC offices in different cities this year if circumstances allow. The ability to maintain a permanent presence in the Soviet Union—something JDC has not been allowed to do for over 50 years—should enable JDC to further strengthen its ties with the local Jewish communities and allow it to respond with the utmost flexibility to Soviet Jewry's varied and changing needs.
Despite the revolutionary events that transpired in Romania in December 1989, little progress was made last year in the country's transition to a market economy. Continuing political instability and ethnic strife made it difficult to set forth and implement a clear economic program that could ultimately improve life for the Romanian people. By the end of 1990, only a trickle of new investments had been made by foreign businessmen. Meanwhile, industrial output fell 28 percent in the first nine months of the year, and the situation for the average consumer continued to be among the worst in Eastern Europe. Sobered by its economic free fall, the government devalued the currency by almost 50 percent on November 1 (on top of an earlier, similar devaluation) and eliminated many wage and price controls. This led to a new round of inflation, with soaring prices for all but certain basic necessities.

The post-revolutionary freeze on food exports had brought some short-term relief to Romania's citizens early in 1990, but continuing instability, low agricultural productivity, and a poor distribution system foreclosed the possibility of achieving more than a marginal improvement in the overall situation. Food scarcities were the prevailing norm in most areas of the country, with basic goods largely unavailable at reasonable
prices in the government food shops. Private markets did spring up with needed food and other items for sale, but at prices beyond the means of most Romanians and especially elderly retirees living on minimal fixed incomes.

Chronically ill, elderly, and poor members of the Jewish community—50 percent of whom are now over the age of 60—remained as reliant as ever for their daily survival on the social assistance programs maintained by the Federation of Jewish Communities of Romania (FEDROM) with JDC support. Indeed, without the safety net provided by the FEDROM programs, many of these assistees literally would not have had food to eat or clothing to wear in these difficult times. Throughout the year, the increasing value of the dollar relative to the Romanian leu provided JDC with an important element of flexibility, enabling it to continue to meet the most critical needs of the Romanian community despite growing financial exigencies in other areas of operation.

The size of Romania's Jewish community is steadily diminishing as age takes its toll and aliyah—mostly by young adults—continues at a yearly rate of about 1,500 individuals. Nearly all beneficiaries of JDC-supported programs are aging Holocaust survivors with no families to help them and minimal or no government pensions. In addition to cash grants to 1,330 assistees, 2,619 individuals received special assistance from FEDROM last year to help with heating and utility costs and to purchase food and clothing. Scarcely basic food items were distributed to 3,260 individuals via periodic packages, and a network of 11 kosher canteens provided both physical and emotional sustenance to the lonely elderly. More than 17 residents to more modern facilities in Bucharest. A comprehensive homecare and health monitoring program initiated by JDC has been helping to postpone the need for institutionalization for many of the elderly, with 3,718 individuals benefiting from this assis-

![Image of elderly people around a table](https://example.com/image.png)
teen, and 11 small communities hired part-time physicians at a minimal cost to make medical care available for the first time to those living beyond the reach of FEDROM’s 24 clinics. Quantities of donated and purchased medications were sent to remote areas where supply problems were most acute, and two social workers were dispatched from Bucharest on a regular basis to help with assistees’ problems. JDC and FEDROM experts conducted in-service training programs in 1990 for 30 physicians from the provinces and 20 from Bucharest in order to update their knowledge of geriatric care.

Special Passover packages and cash allowances were provided to over 3,000 of the neediest cases last year, while matzah was once again shipped from Israel and distributed to Jews throughout the country. JDC also continued to provide the community with the services of a shochet (ritual slaughterer) and a kashrut supervisor, with all other religious, educational, and cultural needs taken care of by the community itself.

The structure of the Jewish community and its leadership remained intact in the post-revolutionary period, although the many changes in the government and in the supply system placed FEDROM’s management under strain.

In the early days of the year, JDC, in partnership with CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.), had provided the Romanian people with five tons of critically-needed powdered milk from Israel and 22 tons of medical equipment and food for children. JDC followed up on this humanitarian assistance by agreeing to help the Ministry of Health improve general health services. It offered to bring in Israeli community health experts for consultations with ministry staff and to send two groups of senior officials abroad to study ways to improve the delivery of health care to the general population. Implementation of this project is expected in 1991.

**HUNGARY**

While Hungary pioneered the regional drive toward a free market economy and leads its neighbors in attracting Western investment, it remained reluctant in 1990 to take the more painful steps needed to implement fundamental economic change. Instead, it has been easing its way with cautious policies that, while avoiding the hyperinflation besetting some of its neighbors, have nevertheless brought in their wake increasing economic difficulties.

Both the 35 percent inflation rate and the steady increase in unemployment had an adverse effect on the Jewish community last year,
with various organizations struggling to meet government-mandated salary increases and the increase in costs of needed items. Program needs also expanded as the number of elderly community members living at the poverty level continued to increase and the request for new cash relief grants grew from 15 to 30-40 a month.

In the course of the past few years, as opportunities for involvement in Jewish educational and community development activities have grown, JDC has shifted its focus in Hungary from one concentrating almost exclusively on social welfare activities to a more balanced program with important emphasis on education and youth activities and on efforts to strengthen this most viable of central European Jewish communities. Along with this change, JDC has attempted to cap the growth of its involvement in health and welfare programs, taking care not to jeopardize the physical well-being of those dependent on JDC aid. An increase in the level of inflation will substantially reduce the purchasing power of JDC’s social assistance budget in the coming year, despite the recent 15 percent devaluation in the value of the Hungarian forint. The community will need to increase local funding in order to maintain existing service levels and meet expanding social needs.

Increasing local community participation and responsibility have long been primary JDC goals. In Hungary, as elsewhere, it seeks to renew and revitalize the communal structure and help the community develop the tools to efficiently handle its own social services and its educational and religious needs.

In August 1990, a JDC country director took up residence in Budapest to help foster cooperation and coordination with community leaders. Community-building objectives are being further advanced by the basic reorganization of communal structures currently under way, with democratic elections organized to choose the Council of Hungarian Jews. The KSB, which had been the official arm of the community providing regular social services financed by JDC, was reorganized in November as an independent entity, the Hungarian Jewish Social Help Foundation, MZSSZ. The foundation has its own board of directors, which JDC hopes will take on increasing responsibility for local affairs.

Meanwhile, regular monthly grants were provided to approximately 2,000 people in 1990, with emergency assistance extended to another 1,500 facing temporary crises exacerbated by the deteriorating economy. Supplementary help was also granted to cope with ever-higher heating costs during the winter months. Other JDC-supported programs include the Budapest Central Kitchen, which provided approximately 300,000 kosher meals last year, including those delivered through the meals-on-wheels program; the Orthodox community’s feeding program at the Hanna Restaurant; and several kosher kitchens in Szeged, Miskolc, and Debrecen that together provided...
about 36,000 meals last year. Support also continued for a homemaker service for the elderly, while approximately 200 more mobile seniors were regular participants in the programs of the Pava Dining Room and Day Care Center. JDC also continued to help finance the operating costs of two homes for the aged in Budapest and a nursing home in Szeged.

At the other end of the age spectrum, a new JDC-supported Jewish kindergarten opened in Budapest last fall with 55 children enrolled; it is part of the Yavneh school, one of two new Jewish primary schools that opened their doors in 1990. JDC also continued to support the Orthodox community's Talmud Torah and kindergarten. JDC had worked with the founders of the new primary schools in the various stages leading to their establishment, and it has been providing advice and guidance in coping with the schools' serious financial needs. JDC continued to provide operating support last year for the Anne Frank Gymnasium (high school). Its efforts to enhance the high school's facilities and curriculum have succeeded in attracting additional students each year; the current enrollment of 150 students compares to 23 in 1985. JDC has also been instrumental in the establishment of a teacher training course in Jewish studies within the framework of the Rabbinical Seminary; the two-year program will produce its first graduates next year.

Two years ago, JDC initiated an effort to encourage the founding of a university students organization that would be affiliated with the European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS). The resulting Union of Jewish Students of Hungary now has an active membership of 90 and opened its own offices and club in November; it is publishing a monthly newspaper and has become a factor in Jewish political life. Last April, JDC sponsored a public seder organized by the Union that provided most of the 100 students participating with their very first Passover experience.

In 1985, JDC began its support for a summer camp that would bring together Jewish youngsters from Budapest and the provinces and give them their first in-depth experience of Jewish life. The first year's two-week session had 27 participants; by 1989 enrollment had grown to 450, and it was clear that new facilities were needed to accommodate the demand. Last year, the Lauder Foundation complet-
ed its generous purchase of a new campsite at Szarvas whose expanded and much improved facilities accommodated 900 youngsters in six-week sessions, including groups from five other Eastern European countries and 75 children from the Soviet Union. JDC organizes and manages the camp and for the past two years has been able to invite the Jewish Agency to send representatives to run the educational program. At the close of the 1990 season, EUJS ran its Summer University at the camp, with 450 young Jews from across the continent participating. A training program for 65 Hungarian Jewish youngsters and adults is currently preparing camp counselors and supervisory staff for the 1991 season, in order to maximize the involvement of the local community in meeting its own needs.

With so many Hungarians identifying themselves for the first time as Jews and seeking a concrete means of expressing that identity, the community’s social, cultural, and educational institutions have all come under increasing pressure; they are benefiting from JDC’s professional assistance as they attempt to develop new patterns of Jewish life. JDC also continues to subsidize the Rabbinical Seminary’s operating costs and provides stipends for rabbinical and cantorial students.

Last year, JDC sponsored the publication of a Passover Haggadah with the first modern Hungarian translation that was greeted with great enthusiasm. Religious supplies not available locally continued to be purchased abroad, as well as textbooks for use at the camp and in the Talmud Torahs. JDC also provided modest financial support for a number of cultural and youth associations. It is also involved in serving the needs of the existing Jewish schools and the various youth movements and cultural organizations. During her tenure in Budapest, last year’s Ralph Goldman Fellow played an important role in helping to advance the flowering of Jewish activities that characterized Hungarian Jewry in 1990.

### Poland

On January 1, 1990, Poland embarked on a crash program of economic reforms, removing practically all price controls, ending almost all subsidies to industry and consumers, and eliminating its huge budget deficit. This overnight leap from centralized control to a market economy has been painful: Industrial output fell 12 percent and wages declined by one-fifth, inflation initially soared 200 percent, unemployment was rising toward a predicted one million plus, and living standards dropped sharply. By the end of the year, the currency and rate of inflation had stabilized, but the transformation to capitalism was only half complete, with the successful privatization of state-owned farms and factories still to be accomplished and a settlement needed on reducing Poland’s $48.5 billion total foreign debt. In contrast to previous years, store shelves were full and waiting lines had disappeared, largely because most Poles, with incomes devastated by recession and wage controls, simply did not have the money to buy what was now available.

The year’s economic shocks had a cumulative impact on JDC’s client population: elderly Holocaust survivors who are able to live out their lives simply but with dignity because of JDC’s financial and medical help. Assistees were especially hard hit by the 75 percent decrease in the purchasing power of their modest dollar relief payments. This meant they could buy only one-fourth the food and other necessities that they’d been able to purchase with those same dollar allotments in previous years.

An increase in relief payments was arranged in mid-year to provide partial compensation for this loss in purchasing power, while taking JDC’s other financial exigencies into account.

Local branches of the newly-renamed Central Jewish Welfare Committee also instituted a review and verification of the JDC caseload, which last year consisted of 2,000 couples and individuals who received from two to six transfer payments at periodic intervals. JDC continued to fund the purchase of needed medications from a foreign wholesaler, with approximately 1,500 prescriptions approved and filled last year. A number of individuals and couples who had somehow managed to subsist until now on their
own meager pensions were driven by last year's hyper-inflation and recent economic developments to turn to the Jewish community for assistance. This is one of the factors keeping the caseload fairly steady despite the high mortality rate, although the acceptance of some new cases has been temporarily delayed by JDC budget cuts.

In 1990, JDC continued to finance the activities of the Union of Jewish Religious Congregations, whose programs include the maintenance of synagogues and cemeteries, the provision of religious supplies, kosher food, and matzah and wine for Passover, and the organization of Jewish holiday and Shabbat celebrations. JDC also enables the community to publish a richly-illustrated Jewish calendar-yearbook and to organize monthly concerts of Jewish liturgical music in the Warsaw synagogue that draw a mixed audience of Jews and non-Jews.

Through the Congregation, JDC has also been supporting the operation of eight kosher canteens in different localities that have been providing approximately 75,000 hot kosher meals a year. Originally established immediately after World War II, these canteens were at that time of tremendous importance to Poland's remaining Jews, both as a source of sustenance and as a place to meet fellow Jews. With the number of Jews coming to the various canteens decreasing substantially from year to year, more efficient ways can be found to provide meals to the needy while saving the substantial costs incurred in running each canteen. JDC therefore suggested to the Congregation last year that it begin closing the smallest and least utilized facilities; the first of these was closed in the fall of 1990, with up to three more closures planned for 1991.

Last year, JDC also continued to finance the cultural activities of the Jewish Kulturverband (TSKZ), which serves as an umbrella organization for 15 social and cultural centers in localities throughout Poland. Weekly Jewish cultural programs presented at the centers are well-attended and include performances by members of the Yiddish theater, lectures, Yiddish films, and musical presentations. With government subsidies for ethnic organizations like the TSKZ eliminated in 1990, JDC also provided a small grant to help the Kulturverband meet its organizational expenses.

Since 1987, JDC has actively supported activities for a younger generation seeking to rediscover its Jewish roots; these programs have now expanded far beyond original expectations. In addition to intensive cultural activities for children and young adults, Hebrew classes, and Jewish holiday celebrations in various local branches of the TSKZ, last year's activities included monthly weekend retreats for about 50 young adults, a winter retreat for 80, a summer camp for 100 youth, and a children's summer camp program for 60, all at the same campsite in Srodborow. Twenty-six other youngsters attended a summer seminar in Israel with the help of the Lauder Foundation, 21 attended the new camp in Szarvas, Hungary, and ten spent their summer at the Jewish camp in Yugoslavia. The first group of ten young volunteer workers left for Israel in 1990, with more to follow. Last year also saw the beginning of an emigration and aliyah movement among the small number of young people identifying with the Jewish community that
could prove to be proportionately quite substantial.

### YUGOSLAVIA

Throughout the past year, the Jewish community of Yugoslavia grappled with two national crises, both of which have intensified since the beginning of 1991. The increasing separatist tensions, and JDC helped the Federation cope with the deteriorating economic situation. A year-end devaluation of the dinar still left the dollar worth only half its previous value, thus cutting deeply into the purchasing power of JDC program allocations. Adjustments were made by JDC to compensate for part of this loss in purchasing power and to enable the Federation to deal with the triple-digit domestic inflation that has accompanied it. Despite the severe difficulties, the Federation and the communities are pressing ahead with ambitious projects at every level. JDC's direct and indirect support is an important component of this effort, and its increased financial commitment for 1991 is an important source of encouragement for this embattled community.

Those living on fixed incomes have been the ones most severely hurt by prevailing conditions, and cash assistance grants for the approximately 170 dependent elderly, chronically ill, or economically disadvantaged individuals on the community caseload were recently increased to help the recipients cope. JDC also provides the bulk of support for the Svarc Jewish...
Old Age Home in Zagreb, where 75 Holocaust survivors, whose average age is 80-85, can live out their lives in caring surroundings. Despite a substantial mid-year increase in JDC funds to cover a steep rise in operating costs, reserve funds had to be used to cover the home's inflation-driven deficit. Meanwhile, JDC budget constraints precluded its financial involvement in the capital improvements and expansion needed to enable the home to accommodate the more than 20 octogenarians currently awaiting admission.

With unprecedented opportunities available to respond to pressing demands for a country-wide expansion in Jewish cultural and educational programs, JDC has put together a working budget for the coming year that should enable the various cultural committees, women's groups, and youth organizations to embark on the kinds of activities they are ready and eager to undertake. Funding is included in this budget for the Jewish kindergarten established by the Zagreb community in the fall of 1989 with the help of JDC and CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.). While providing the children with a program strong in Jewish content, the kindergarten has also succeeded in drawing the children's parents closer to the Jewish community. In addition to providing financial support, JDC helped develop the curriculum, train personnel, and obtain appropriate teaching materials for the kindergarten, which went from an initial half-day program for four to eight children to a full day of activity for 15-20 youngsters in 1990.

JDC also continued to support the Jewish summer camp at Pirovac, which last summer ran six two-week sessions for children, young adults, young families, and the aged. Ethnic tensions in the surrounding region caused the number of participants to drop, and concern is being voiced for the future of a camp that has been the unifying social experience for generations of Yugoslav Jews. A chronic water shortage created additional major difficulties and must be remedied if the camp is to remain in operation.

To further its goal of helping the Yugoslav communities develop professional and religious leadership, JDC has been sponsoring the training in Israel of a new rabbinical candidate for Belgrade. A young man from Sarajevo was sent for an intensive two-month summer training program in Israel; he is now the sole cantor and teacher of Hebrew and other Jewish subjects in this third largest of the country's Jewish communities. Two youth and cultural workers from Belgrade and Novi Sad completed their training in Israel
through the JDC-Buncher Program for Leaders of Small Communities, and with JDC support, the rabbi in Belgrade has trained a number of lay cantors to conduct services around the country.

Last fall, at the invitation of the Belgrade community, the President and Executive Vice-President of JDC participated in the moving dedication of Belgrade's first Holocaust memorial—a sculptured menorah in flames. Earlier in the year, Dr. Lavoslav Kadelburg, the long-time President of the Federation of Jewish Communities, led a JDC team on a visit to Sofia to negotiate the renewal of JDC activities in Bulgaria. This was a continuation, and in many ways a culmination, of the historic role that he and Yugoslav Jewry have played in serving as a bridge between JDC and the Jewish communities of Eastern Europe.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In the year following Czechoslovakia's "velvet revolution," free elections and disputes over Slovak autonomy delayed government efforts to concentrate on economic reform, as did the desire to fashion the most painless transformation possible. Nevertheless, the programs implemented at the start of 1991 to begin the transition to a market economy were expected to bring increased unemployment and economic hardship and further lower the living standards in a nation already hard-pressed to meet its citizens' basic needs.

For years the Jews of Czechoslovakia have been organized as two separate communities with separate organizational structures that had been authorized to represent each community only on a purely religious basis: the Council of Jewish Communities for Bohemia and Moravia and the Federation of Jewish Communities in Slovakia. In the past year, a variety of secular Jewish organizations have sprung up, and on the eve of Council President Dr. Desider Galsky's tragic death last fall, the two communities were poised to come together in a roof organization that was to represent the two federations to the outside world. Meanwhile, free elections in many localities have brought a new generation of communal leaders to the fore, many of whom had not dared to identify themselves openly as Jews before the revolution.

The first concern of many of the new leaders was to care for the often badly neglected physical assets of the community and to utilize newly-passed legislation to seek restitution of communal properties that had been confiscated by the state. The Prague community has been particularly successful in securing the return of rentable income-producing property. This enabled the community to become financially independent of JDC on January 1, 1991 with respect to cash relief programs and support costs. JDC staff will continue working with the community to develop services for the elderly, provide leadership training, encourage Jewish education, and sup-
ply a variety of goods and services from abroad.

Throughout the country, great interest has also been shown in renewing Jewish cultural and educational activities, with students often outpacing the knowledge of their Hebrew teachers and a clear need for more instructors and additional teaching materials for Hebrew courses and other Jewish subjects.

The communist regime had severely restricted the activities of the Jewish community throughout the post-war period, just as it had severely limited the operations of the JDC, permitting it to return to the country in 1980 only as a strictly distributory body, providing cash assistance, pharmaceuticals, kosher food, and religious materials through the two communal organizations. Even when JDC was able to expand its programs in other Eastern European countries, the political climate in Czechoslovakia severely impeded the development of new community-building activities. JDC's first priority in the year since the revolution has been to develop a full understanding of the community and its needs and to establish sound working relationships with the newly-elected leadership. With this in hand, it has begun to develop the kind of programs needed to promote new communal growth and independence: Jewish cultural and educational activities, leadership development programs, and the training of lay leaders and professional staff.

For the first time last year, JDC was able to undertake a series of initiatives involving youth. A partial subsidy was provided for a bar-mitzvah program in Israel for 35 youngsters organized by the Holocaust Children's Memorial Foundation for Jewish Education, as well as for a special summer program in Israel for a group of 15 students. Thirty youngsters from Slovakia were enabled to attend the new JDC-Lauder camp at Szarvas in Hungary, and with the help of CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.) and the Rich Foundation, two young dancers from Slovakia were sent to an Israel Folk Dance Association training seminar in England. They are now teaching Israeli folk dancing regularly in Bratislava and other communities.

JDC staff encouraged young leaders in Prague to organize a weekend retreat to follow up on the summer's programs. Held in a small Moravian town last November, the four-day seminar attracted 50 young adults from different parts of the country, with seven representatives from the European Union of Jewish Students participating in the program. One outgrowth of the seminar was the formation of the Czechoslovakian Union of Jewish Youth. The Union is now sending its own representatives to take part in various European Jewish youth programs and has been planning a second community-wide retreat.

While these new initiatives were being pursued, all existing JDC distribution programs were reviewed and revised to insure professional management and control while strengthening the decision-making bodies of the community. The number of mostly aged or chronically ill Holocaust survivors receiving direct assistance was increased on the basis of objective criteria and allotments were raised to reflect current needs, while other types of payments that now seemed inappropriate were eliminated. Despite JDC's financial difficulties, the budget for Czechoslovakia was increased for 1991 so that advantage might be taken of the new opportunity, after years of repression, to provide for pent-up needs and help reconstitute the most dynamic Jewish life possible for these reviving Jewish communities.
BULGARIA

After an absence of nearly 40 years' duration, JDC was invited to return to Bulgaria in 1990 to work with the community in developing cultural and educational activities and assisting with social welfare needs. A JDC leadership delegation journeyed to Sofia in August and held a series of meetings with the leadership of the Jewish social and cultural organization "Shalom," the newly-organized umbrella organization for the 11 local Jewish communities in Bulgaria. A JDC-donated Judaica library was dedicated in Sofia, and plans were laid for a program of assistance to begin in 1991.

A social assistance program will be established in concert with the community to aid those primarily elderly community members with meager pensions who preliminary data indicate are living well below the poverty line. Their living conditions have grown substantially worse in the face of Bulgaria's severe economic difficulties. Recent government moves to scrap subsidies on many basic goods have led to enormous increases in food, heating, and electricity costs, with all consumers fighting a losing battle to make ends meet in the face of icy winter conditions and chronic shortages of food and fuel. Adjustments to wages and pensions were insufficient to cover only 30 - 40 percent of the most recent rise in the cost of living, and the fall in real income is hitting hardest at those least able to absorb the blow.

JDC is also helping the community continue the remarkable rejuvenation of Jewish life that has been taking place since November 1989, with lectures and Hebrew classes oversubscribed, enthusiastic Jewish holiday celebrations, new theatrical and cultural presentations, and newly-organized activities for Jewish youth, including a Jewish Sunday school for 70 children in Sofia. Youngsters from Bulgaria were able to participate last year in the JDC camp program in Hungary, and assistance is being provided in organizing a similar program in Bulgaria itself. A shipment of heretofore unavailable religious articles arranged by JDC-Israel is currently on its way to Bulgaria, and arrangements were made for 1991 Passover celebrations for over 2,000 participants.

As government control of communal activities has diminished, so too have government subsidies, particularly in light of the current state of the national economy. A number of commercial ventures have been developed in Sofia and in some of the smaller towns that are tied to or indirectly owned by the local Jewish community; the profits earned by these small firms are intended to support the community's various activities. What has been done until now has been done on a very small scale, with the process—and Bulgaria's transition to a market economy—still in its infancy. There is a strong desire within the community to expand these ventures further, and JDC has been asked to help support their financial development. Intrigued by this means of developing communal self-sufficiency, JDC is considering having volunteer experts examine the overall situation and assess the feasibility of these ventures and the advisability of providing some form of support.
In keeping with the area strategy it adopted in 1987, JDC has been concentrating on ways to encourage communal self-sufficiency in Western Europe by enhancing leadership development and expanding community fundraising. Other targeted areas include student and youth activities and efforts to strengthen small and vulnerable communities to help them maintain their viability. Earmarked funding for specific programs in keeping with these objectives has been replacing institutional subsidies, with JDC's involvement limited to a fixed time period and a gradually diminishing financial stake.

In FRANCE in 1990, JDC completed the first year of its three-year phase-out of institutional subventions to the Fonds Social Juif Unifié (FSJU) and the three French Jewish school systems (Alliance, Lubavitch, and Ozar Hatorah). This phase-out is scheduled for completion by the end of December 1992.

JDC continued to encourage individual French communities and national organizations to assume increasing financial responsibility for all Jewish educational, cultural, and religious activities, with JDC devoting its energies to a small number of fixed-term projects in line with its area objectives. A much-needed project initiated in 1989 to improve the quality of Jewish kindergarten education continued last year, with Jewish educational materials and special equipment provided to schools across the country, and a training program for kindergarten teachers was established that has proved to be a great success. Ultimately, JDC's role in France will be limited to providing planning assistance and technical guidance to community-supported programs.

Encouraging interaction among national communities in dealing with mutual concerns has long been a JDC goal. In the fall of 1990, an exploration was begun of ways to link JDC and various larger Western European communities together in a coordinated effort to provide much-needed developmental assistance to Jewish communities in Central and Eastern Europe. At a November meeting in Paris of JDC and European Jewish leaders, it was recognized that much might be gained by drawing on the experience shared by the Western European communities in the course of their own recovery from World War II. Efforts are now underway to put together programs built along these lines.

The EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF JEWISH COMMUNAL SERVICES is one possible vehicle for these new assistance efforts. Established in 1960, and supported by JDC, CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.), and the constituent communities, the Council today operates in 19 countries, providing a variety of programs and services to the small European Jewish communities that it links together. Throughout the past year, JDC has been working with the leadership of the European Council on a re-evaluation of the Council's structure and function in order to increase its effectiveness in serving community needs.

Council programs funded in part by JDC in 1990 included: a summer seminar in Israel for Eastern European youngsters, a training seminar for counselors for the Jewish summer camps in various European countries, seminars for Jewish educators and social workers, educational consultation projects, and seminars on a host of Jewish topics that were held in Amsterdam, Stockholm, Antwerp, and Brussels.
The EUROPEAN UNION OF JEWISH STUDENTS (EUJS) continued to receive funds from JDC in 1990. EUJS organizes local and regional Jewish student unions and holds periodic conferences and seminars on Jewish subjects that attract students from across the continent. JDC also provides subsidies to conference participants, with additional funds requested for this aspect of the program in 1991 in order to facilitate the involvement of students from Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union in EUJS activities.

In SPAIN, JDC provided cash assistance and medical care, through the Barcelona Jewish community, to seven elderly Holocaust survivors to enable them to live out their lives with dignity.

TRANSMIGRANTS

JDC began planning a phase-down of its transmigrant programs in Italy and Austria in the latter part of 1989. This was in keeping with new U.S. immigration procedures instituted that October that provided for direct processing in the Soviet Union of all U.S.-bound Soviet emigres, thus obviating the need for costly stays near Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) processing centers in Vienna and Rome.

Ironically, even as plans for the phase-down were being completed, JDC’s actual Soviet transmigrant caseload was at its peak. Record numbers of Soviet Jewish transmigrants poured into Vienna and Rome late in 1989 in order to beat the direct processing deadline, necessitating a rapid, albeit temporary, expansion of JDC facilities. By the first of January 1990, JDC was caring for more than 28,000 transmigrants. The last major group of Soviet transmigrants arrived in Vienna on January 15, reaching Rome one month later. As in previous years, substantial reimbursement was provided to JDC by the United States government for the costs of providing care and maintenance to U.S.-bound Soviet emigres; $26.3 million was received from the United States Refugee Program (USRP) for this purpose in calendar year 1990. Some funds were also received from government and community sources for Soviet emigres bound for Australia and Canada.

Beginning in March, the Soviet caseload began to drop at an increasingly rapid pace, causing JDC to switch gears and begin to contract and consolidate its transmigrant operations as expeditiously as possible.

The modular way in which the transmigrant program staff had been assembled greatly facilitated this transition. The dismantling of the program was able to proceed in a measured and orderly manner as the need for housing, financial support, and basic medical, social, and educational services continued to diminish.

By the end of June, INS had completed its review of the 2,000 cases in Italy originally denied U.S. visas; in all but two cases, the denials were overturned and refugee visas eventually granted. By the end of October 1990, all U.S.-bound Soviet transmigrants (amounting to 95 percent of the caseload) had left Italy. By year’s end, all JDC transmigrant facilities in Italy had been closed, except for part of the Rome office and the Ladispoli community center, and the program staff had been drastically reduced.

A small residual caseload of Soviet emigres bound for Australia and Canada was joined in Italy at year’s end by the first new Jewish emigres from Albania, a group of ten families headed for reunification with other family members in the United States. A small number of Albanian Jews were also assisted by JDC’s Athens office as were Jews from other Eastern European countries.

Throughout the past year, in Rome and Vienna, JDC also continued to assist small numbers of transmigrants from Eastern Europe and from other parts of the world. Most of these transmigrants were self-supporting or were receiving financial help from families already living in the United States. JDC assistance was limited to technical support—providing housing and medical referrals, emergency assistance, social services, and appropriate medical care for critical cases. Educational and cultural programming continued to prepare transmigrants for their new lives and broaden their understanding of their Jewish heritage.
### AFRICA & ASIA

#### MOSLEM COUNTRIES

**MOROCCO**
- Jewish Population: 7,500
- JDC Appropriation: $2,193,400

**TUNISIA**
- Jewish Population: 2,000
- JDC Appropriation: $475,000

**EGYPT**
- Jewish Population: 265
- JDC Appropriation: $70,500

**CEUTA AND MELILIA**
- Jewish Population: 2,000
- JDC Appropriation: $21,000

**ALGERIA**
- Jewish Population: 200
- JDC Appropriation: $13,900

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**MOROCCO**

A two-day street riot in Fez in mid-December that resulted in over 30 deaths illustrated the explosive potential of a Moroccan population deeply frustrated by continuing economic hardships. A high rate of unemployment and economic austerity policies mandated by international monetary authorities have contributed to dissatisfaction with the status quo. Throughout the fall, political tensions had been rising as the situation in the Persian Gulf moved toward war and protests against Moroccan involvement in the U.N. coalition against Iraq became more strident. In early February 1991, at the height of the air war, over 300,000 demonstrators took to the streets in a massive demonstration against the actions being taken by coalition forces against Iraq. JDC staff devoted much attention in the final months of 1990 and the beginning of 1991 to helping community leaders coordinate their efforts, in cooperation with local authorities, to safeguard the members of the Jewish community and secure their potential options in this situation.

Meanwhile, JDC's ongoing program efforts continued in 1990 to address the social, medical, educational, cultural, and religious needs of this dwindling community, helping local leaders sustain the institutions needed for a viable Jewish communal life. With the very young and the aged comprising an increasing proportion of the current Jewish population, social service needs have already exceeded available funds and personnel.

Given the economic sit-
Together with Ozar Hatorab and Lubavitch, JDC has developed two clubs that the elderly are encouraged to visit on a daily basis, and an estimated 200 people participate in the programs. JDC also continued its support last year for a two-week vacation colony at the Immouzer campsite that provides a welcome summer respite for 50 senior citizens.

At the other end of the age spectrum, JDC provided subsidies last year to the Itti-bad (AIU), ORT, Ozar Hatorab, and Lubavitch schools, with a total enrollment of over 1,500 students. It also maintained an educational development fund for in-service training programs and curriculum enhancement. Stipends were also provided by JDC for teachers participating in the Kollel and Mikhala, advanced Jewish study and teacher-training programs for 80 men and women.

JDC continues to contribute to the support of the Lubavitch youth programs in Casablanca and Meknes; these programs offer a variety of sports, cultural events, and informal Jewish educational activities that benefit 400 youngsters. Funding for a re-organized DEJJ youth program was also resumed last year, as JDC continued to encourage this organization to increase its emphasis on Jewish cultural programming. JDC also helped Lubavitch, Ozar Hatorab, DEJJ, and Aide Scolaire run summer camps at Immouzer last summer for a total of 500 children, with much-needed renovations to this key campsite completed by JDC in 1990.

Unfortunately, JDC's budget difficulties have forced cuts to be made in its support for all of these formal and informal educational programs in 1991, which will undoubtedly affect the quality and quantity of activities important to Morocco's Jewish youth.

Throughout the Persian Gulf crisis, JDC staff in Tunisia and in France worked with community leaders to safeguard the welfare of this small community. They were supported in their efforts by strong statements made and actions taken by Tunisia's President upholding and protecting minority rights. This, despite the President's equally strong stance against any intervention by non-Arab countries in the Gulf, a sentiment widely shared by the general population.

It is still too early to analyze how recent events may affect this shrinking Jewish community, perhaps by putting its continued viability even more in doubt. What has been clear to JDC for quite a while is that the Jews of Tunis have become more and more dependent not only on JDC funds, but also on JDC staff for direct managerial aid to see to the proper functioning and maintenance of community institutions. Hit by unavoidable JDC cuts in its budget for 1991, these Jews are now being thrown back on their own resources even as their
diminishing number means that fewer contributions are being made to the community each year and that those resources, too, grow smaller and smaller.

In 1990, nearly 200 indigent Jews who had no local family members to turn to for support received cash grants from their communities, courtesy of JDC, for food, rent, and utilities. JDC also provided funds to purchase clothing and basic furnishings—blankets, utensils, etc.—for the assistees and for those living on the edge of poverty, but in 1991, such funds will be available only for emergency cases.

JDC continued to fund medical care last year for 160 needy and aged individuals throughout the country. The medical service is under the aegis of the Tunis community, and the costs of treatment have been escalating sharply, along with general inflation. JDC also continued to support two small foyers for the aged in Tunis that provide institutional care for 55 individuals. One foyer was completely repainted last year and kitchen sanitary facilities were improved in order to maintain the property at an adequate level. In the other home, new fans have made the torrid summer more bearable for the elderly. Unfortunately, in 1991, funds will be available for emergency repairs only.

There are about 300 Jewish children remaining in the country, almost all of whom attend Jewish schools at least half-time. JDC funded 70 percent of the Lubavitch organization’s total school budget last year; it is the only Jewish educational organization remaining in Tunis and has 92 children aged 3 to 16 enrolled in its school. JDC funds also support two schools in Jerba, with varied curriculums, that together enroll nearly 200 boys and girls, as well as a one-room school in Zarzis and Talmud Torah classes in Hara Sghirira. Last year, with help from JDC and various British donors, including CBF World Jewish Relief and Jewish Child’s Day, the boys’ yeshiva in Jerba was completely refurbished, the girls’ school got a new roof and a sprucing-up, and the kindergarten got a new playground. In 1991, repairs will be limited to emergency needs.

JDC funds for Passover supplies for the needy and for salary supplements to encourage the community’s two shochtim (ritual slaughterers) to remain in Tunisia must also be cut back drastically in the coming year. The Tunis community is expected to assume a greater share of the costs of providing these necessities of Jewish life, while remaining JDC funds for this program category will be directed largely to assisting smaller Jewish communities.

**EGYPT**

Since 1982, when JDC was first authorized to resume its social assistance efforts in Egypt, it has been helping the remnant Jewish communities of Cairo and Alexandria to care for the aged and indigent among the 265 Jews who remain in that country. These local communities do not have the means to provide the welfare assistance that will enable these elderly Jews to live out their lives with dignity. They must therefore rely on the continuing help and increasing support of the JDC to provide cash grants to a total of approximately 62 individuals.

JDC also continues to provide funds for medications, doctors’ visits, and hospitalization for those in need, again in partnership with the local communities. Support was also provided to the homes for the aged in Cairo and Alexandria, which together house 11 residents. To encourage additional elderly to take advantage of the residential services avail-
able to them, JDC has been attempting to put some vitality into the programs offered at the homes, with more group activities and collective holiday celebrations.

Widows predominate in both of these communities, and with the aging of the leadership an obvious issue, JDC seeks to encourage the most able among the remaining community members to take on leadership roles. Both communities continue to rely on JDC to fulfill the increasingly difficult task of providing them with cantors willing to celebrate the Jewish High Holidays in this "hardship" post. This, combined with the Passover supplies and other kosher holiday foods provided by JDC, enables Egypt's Jews to remain secure in the knowledge that they have not abandoned their proud heritage, nor have they been forgotten by their Jewish brothers and sisters in other lands.

**OTHER MOSLEM COUNTRIES**

In the Spanish enclaves of CEUTA and MELILLA, JDC is encouraging each community's desire to be as self-sufficient as possible. The Melilla community hopes ultimately to become totally self-sufficient if general economic conditions do not deteriorate. It has already begun moving in that direction, having informed JDC that it did not need all of its 1990 allocation since it was able to apply a one-time special grant received from the city government toward general community expenses.

JDC has been subsidizing the kindergarten and Jewish studies program of the Melilla Jewish school, components not funded by the Spanish government, and it provides a modest educational development fund to subsidize teacher training and the acquisition of new learning materials. The kindergarten was itself initiated by JDC to create a base for the Jewish school, which has a current enrollment of 120 children. A small subsidy is also provided for the community's social welfare program, which aided approximately 18 families in 1990. In Ceuta, JDC helps only to support the community's Hebrew classes, which are attended by 40 children twice weekly.

In ALGERIA, JDC provides assistance to 12 elderly and often ill Jews who live mainly in Algiers and its suburbs. These Jews depend on JDC's cash allotments to supplement their meager retirement stipends. The Little Sisters of the Poor, a Catholic religious charity, very kindly and efficiently provides hospital care when needed, with reimbursement in cash or in kind from JDC. Elsewhere in the Middle East in 1990, JDC funds again provided for the health, welfare, and educational needs of various Jewish communities in other Moslem countries.
Growing religious, ethnic, and political conflicts led to periodic outbreaks of violence in various regions of the Indian subcontinent in 1990, with overall tensions continuing to rise in the months preceding the onset of the Persian Gulf War.

The past year was an active one for JDC-India and culminated in the celebration, very early in 1991, of the 30th anniversary of JDC/ORT collaboration in India. JDC President Sylvia Hassenfeld journeyed to India to visit the JDC program and participate in the anniversary celebration.

Since 1960, JDC has been financing a feeding program for students in the two ORT schools, and it pays for all the expenses incurred in running the ORT Boys’ Hostel. The hostel currently houses 25 ORT students whose families live outside Bombay. An extra-budgetary grant received by JDC enabled a much-needed repair and renovation program to get under way at the hostel last year.

Monthly cash grants were provided by JDC in 1990 to approximately 200 individuals living mostly in Bombay and the surrounding areas. Budgetary constraints have made it necessary to admit to the relief rolls only those who are truly destitute, most of whom are elderly, or ill and unemployed. Assistance is also provided for medical expenses. In 1990, the JDC relief program was extended to include 22 individuals living in six villages along the Konkan Coast about 100-150 kilometers from Bombay.

Many of the Jewish farmers who work on rice and vegetable farms in the area earn a seasonal, subsistence level income dependent on the harsh vicissitudes of nature; most have at least one member of their extended families who needs JDC help.

In Bombay itself, nine elderly and indigent Jews who formerly slept in synagogues or on the streets were given shelter this past year when JDC opened three rebuilt rooms in what was formerly the Bene Israel Home for Orphans and Indigents. The occupants of
these rooms also receive meals and medical care at JDC expense and are, for the first time in many years, enjoying a modicum of security. Three elderly individuals spend their days at a JDC-supported Day Center, where they are joined by 14 other seniors who come for meals and tea. The center also houses the JDC-India office.

Over the past few years, JDC has been helping to restore the community campsite at the Matheran Hill Station. A new dormitory, kitchen, and dining hall were constructed in 1990 with an extra-budgetary grant from CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.). This should enhance the attraction of this camp as a retreat site and center for cultural, educational, and recreational activities for community members of all ages.

Throughout the past year, two sets of very dedicated JDC Jewish Service Corps volunteers helped to enhance the community’s Jewish educational programs and cultural activities in Bombay and the surrounding area, participating in summer camps, after-school programs, and weekend retreats, and teaching classes in Hebrew and in Jewish learning, customs, and values to a variety of age groups. Working with youth groups in three localities, and equally at home with the elderly, these volunteers, whether arranging informal “sings” or lively Jewish holiday celebrations, have done much to enrich and help strengthen Jewish life in India today.

CHINA AND MYANMAR (FORMERLY BURMA)

JDC first began operating in China during World War II, with a major refugee relief effort centered in Shanghai. In 1990, JDC provided relief grants to four individuals and made pension payments to two others via quarterly remittances transferred with the approval of the Chinese authorities.

In Myanmar, ten members of the remnant Jewish community, all of whom reside in Rangoon, were assisted in 1990. JDC began its operation in Myanmar in 1984, after the Jewish community requested help in caring for its indigent members.
LATIN AMERICA

ARGENTINA
Jewish Population: 250,000
JDC Appropriation: $281,800

BRAZIL
Jewish Population: 130,000
JDC Appropriation: $58,200

CHILE
Jewish Population: 15-20,000
JDC Appropriation: $61,800

URUGUAY
Jewish Population: 25,000
JDC Appropriation: $34,100

OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES
JDC Appropriation: $24,300

ARGENTINA

Two rounds of hyper-inflation and structural weaknesses in the economy added to the feelings of instability that prevailed in Argentina throughout the past year. While the largely middle class Jewish population generally managed to cope with the economic difficulties, many faced increasing impoverishment, and those at the lower end of the economic spectrum fell even further behind. With inflation exceeding 1,000 percent in 1990, more people were forced to turn to the community for assistance in dealing with the increase in basic living costs; for the first time young families joined the elderly in seeking support. The rate of aliyah increased substantially last year, particularly among young Argentinian Jews seeking a better future in Israel.

JDC does not provide social welfare assistance in Argentina, and it has been phasing out its subsidies to various institutional projects according to an agreed-upon schedule. The steady decline in the purchasing power of the dollar in Argentina last year combined with the inflationary situation to cause a further diminution in JDC's financial input. In Argentina, and indeed throughout Latin America, JDC works in partnership with central community institutions to promote communal self-sufficiency and strengthen the community infrastructure. Educational and technical assistance projects undertaken by JDC aim to help mobilize local resources by enhancing fundraising capabilities and expanding manpower training programs for lay and professional leaders.

In this connection, 1990 saw the inauguration of a series of regular monthly workshops in financial and human resource development that were attended by 30 Argentinian professional and lay leaders. Lectures offered by visiting experts from various Jewish communities in the United States contributed greatly to the success of the series. The project—called Toward Self-Sufficiency—has gained the enthusiastic support of all the participating institutions.

LEATID, a multi-functional manpower development and training center for Latin America that was inaugurated in 1988, consolidated its activities last year and completed the first phase in its implementation of courses for future executive directors. In addition to its training programs for community professionals and volunteers, LEATID sponsored its first international seminar last year, while its board of directors and development committee have become prototypes for other community organizations seeking to attract volunteers and financial support.

Throughout the year, JDC worked with the local community to help provide student programs and unique training experiences abroad for lay leaders and professionals. Representatives of both these groups visited Israel and North America last year to participate in conferences, share experiences and techniques, and develop a network of relationships among Jewish communities. In a new initiative established last year in conjunction with the Rabbinical Seminary and the Rich Foundation, lectures on contemporary Judaism and Jewish thought were offered to community leaders to broaden their understanding of their Jewish heritage.
In partnership with the Vaad Hakebillot (Board of the Interior), JDC continued its support for the outreach programs that have been revitalizing Jewish life in small and distant communities throughout the Argentine Interior, concentrating last year on organizing training seminars for youth directors and other community professionals.

The development of additional Mechonet Noar, informal Jewish educational programs based at temples, community centers, and public schools throughout the country, continues to be a JDC priority. At this time of economic hardship, with enrollment in the private Jewish day schools down 20 percent, alternative activities such as these are particularly needed as a way of transmitting Jewish culture to youngsters whose parents can no longer afford to send them to Jewish schools.

Progress was also made last year in reaching out to college-age students who have not been associated with organized Jewish life. JDC succeeded in getting the different community organizations to work together to coordinate Jewish programming targeted to the university audience and helped develop new ways to encourage student involvement in communal life.

BRAZIL

A drastic inflation-fighting program was instituted by the new Brazilian government in March 1990 that froze two-thirds of the money supply and much of the country's wealth. Nevertheless, wages and prices continued their upward spiral throughout the year, and the country suffered from its worst recession in a decade. The government's new economic policy put each of the three major Brazilian Jewish communities—in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Porto Alegre—under heavy financial pressure, with JDC providing technical support
and professional expertise to help cope with the crisis situation.

Particular pressure was felt by the Keren Chinuch, the new Jewish Education Fund set up by the Rio federation with JDC help, whose fundraising activities had met with such success in 1989. Nevertheless, motivated lay leaders persisted in their efforts, and the Jewish school system was able to operate at near normal levels last year. JDC will continue to help each of the communities develop its own fundraising strategy for Jewish education and will assist the Jewish Board of Education in Rio to publish teaching materials in Portuguese and share its knowledge and technical expertise. Teacher training workshops and exchange visits are planned for 1991 as a way to bring the different communities closer together and help overcome the organizational problems still facing Jewish education in Brazil.

Recognizing that there is a real dearth of communal professionals and young lay leaders in the various Brazilian Jewish communities, JDC is supporting the recruitment and training efforts that have been consolidated under the aegis of MEIDA, the applied research center based in Sao Paulo's Hebraica, the largest community center in Latin America. JDC last year also helped the Confederation of Brazilian Macabian Centers develop counselors and professionals for the smaller and isolated communities in the Brazilian Interior. This is part of a continuing outreach program that has succeeded in using key, central Jewish community centers as a base of support for the surrounding region.

CHILE

The political situation in Chile stabilized in 1990 as the consolidation of the democratic process was helped by a stronger economy. The various Jewish communal institutions in the capital city of Santiago—where most Chilean Jews reside—made considerable progress in their efforts to secure a more stable future, with JDC continuing to encourage their potential for self-sufficiency. Community development workshops were expanded in 1990, with new projects added for couples and young adults. Local LEATID graduate students are being used to upgrade professional and lay leadership skills, and the leadership boards of institutions serving key community needs are being encouraged to assume full responsibility for programs and budgets.

JDC provided the Santiago community last year with technical assistance to help it put together an integrated program of day care services for its increasing number of elderly Jewish poor. The community will be assuming full support in 1991 for a bi-weekly program of cultural and recreational activities for 100 senior citizens offered at the Social Assistance Service's central location.

To bring Jewish culture to children and adolescents who are not part of the Jewish school system, JDC helped the Circulo Israelita develop its Machon Noar program of informal Jewish educational activities and will facilitate the transmission of this model to other community institutions interested in investing in this type of activity in the coming year. JDC also continued its support for the Santiago community's outreach activities in the smaller communities of Concepcion, Valdiva, Temuco, Vina del Mar, and Valparaiso.

URUGUAY

The Jewish community of Uruguay, which is based predominantly in Montevideo, consists of four distinct groupings—Ashkenazi, Sephardi, German, and Hungarian—whom JDC has been helping to bring together in order to strengthen the community as a whole. The community benefited in 1990 from an economic situation that was much more stable than that which prevailed in neighboring Argentina.

Key leaders of the community participated in a successful leadership development program last year that was conducted by LEATID. An important training seminar was also held for 30 university student leaders. The seminar focused on long-range planning and proposed the creation of a Young Leadership Center for which the Kebilla, the community's Central Committee, has assumed responsibility. These efforts will help provide future leaders for the community and strengthen its viability.
JDC has been helping the *Kebilla* expand its organizational capacities in order to involve new members in its activities and attract new sources of financial support. In 1990, 500 new members joined the *Kebilla* following a successful marketing campaign conducted by its newly-invigorated Planning Department. Efforts to strengthen and convert the *Hebraica/Maccabi* into a full-fledged community center also continued last year, as did JDC support for the Montevideo community’s outreach program to the 50-family community in Paysandu, the only other Jewish community in Uruguay.

**REGIONAL EVENTS**

In March 1990, the Rio federation initiated and played host to the first regional assembly of Jewish leaders from communities throughout Latin America. Sixty leaders gathered for three days to exchange experiences and discuss ways to strengthen and unify their respective communities.

The success of this inaugural gathering contributed to the enthusiastic participation of a 24-member Latin American delegation in the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) General Assembly in November. Delegates came from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Uruguay. In addition to participating in the general sessions, they met with JDC leaders and took part in events planned especially for them that focused on leadership and resource development and on innovative ways to reach out to the unaffiliated.

A second Latin American regional assembly was held in Guadalajara, Mexico following the CJF GA. This four-day event drew 400 attendees from different Latin American countries who explored their communal needs and mutual concerns in the face of continuing economic and political instability. JDC provided technical assistance and support for these regional gatherings, which have begun to create a sense of integration that is of particular importance to the smaller, more isolated Latin American communities.
In a shift of geographic emphasis that paralleled the opening of Eastern Europe, the JDC-International Development Program in 1990 implemented projects in Czechoslovakia and Hungary and developed proposals for a variety of new endeavors in this region. The opportunity for involvement in the economic transformation and development of Eastern Europe is seen by JDC-IDP as a way of fostering cooperative relationships among the Jewish and non-Jewish communities of a particular country and Israeli technical experts and participating institutions engaged in a common effort to enhance that country’s general welfare.

These efforts received a big boost early in 1991, when JDC-IDP was awarded a $1,649,000 grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (U.S. A.I.D.) for new projects in Hungary and Czechoslovakia. In Hungary, JDC-IDP will help develop a homecare program for the elderly. In Czechoslovakia, a training program for professionals involved in caring for the disabled will be established, along with model community living arrangements for mentally and physically disabled children. Israeli experts will be used to implement all of these projects.

Projects like these are but the most recent illustration of JDC-IDP’s *modus operandi*. Using seed money from JDC’s budget appropriation and contributions to JDC open mailbox campaigns where appropriate, JDC-IDP leverages these funds many times over by seeking financial and in-kind assistance from governmental and international agencies, foundations, and other non-sectarian sources. Projects have also benefited from essential services in architecture, design, structural engineering, dentistry, physical therapy, law, etc. contributed *pro bono* by various members of the Jewish community eager to respond to IDP’s requests for help.

Assistance has been received to date from, among others, U.S. A.I.D.; the U.S. Air Force; the Humanitarian Assistance and Global Affairs Program of the U.S. Department of Defense; The Pew Charitable Trusts; CBF World Jewish Relief (U.K.); USA for Africa; the Alpha Omega Foundation; the Colgate-Palmolive Co.; Oral B Laboratories; the Henry Schein Corp.; Royal Air Maroc; the Rich Foundation; Armenian Earthquake Disaster Aid of Rhode Island (AEDA); the Armenian Assembly of America; the United Armenian Fund; CARE; Oxfam; Save the Children, USA; Urban Substructures, Inc.; Schuman Lichten-
stein Claman Efron, Architects; the Tishman Construction Corp. of New York; A.A. Abdalian, Consulting Engineers; Cosentini Associates; Rehabilitation Plus; the Otto Bock Corp.; the Bernard Van Leer Foundation of the Netherlands; the Dutch Red Cross; the Dutch friends of Magen David Adom; and the Dutch, Italian, Canadian, Moroccan, and Jamaican Jewish communities. For 1990 alone, the total value of JDC-IDP projects was approximately $872,000, with only 19 percent of this coming from JDC funds.

ARmenia

In June 1990, ground was broken for JDC-IDP’s second Armenian earthquake recovery project: construction of the Children’s Rehabilitation Center in Kumairi, formerly called Leninakan, a city 80 percent destroyed in the December 1988 disaster. JDC’s reputation in Armenia was firmly established by the success of its first project in 1989: airlifting 61 quake victims to Israel—via an historic EL AL charter flight—for surgery, prostheses, and therapeutic treatment. Arrangements were made with Project Hope to provide the 61 with follow-up physical therapy in Armenia throughout the past year.

The conception and design of the 15,000 square foot children’s rehabilitation facility was the work of a volunteer team of American Jewish professionals that included architects, engineers, and an occupational therapist. The center will have the capacity to provide a comprehensive program of physical and occupational therapy to about 100 disabled children each week, with the aim of helping the children use their abilities to the fullest and become as self-sufficient as possible. Construction got underway in November, with the first phase of the foundation completed by December.

The project is being supervised by an American Jewish construction engineer whose services have been donated by the Tishman Construction Corporation of New York. Meanwhile, since last summer, teams of Israeli physical and occupational therapists have been serving six week tours of duty in Kumairi. They are providing treatment to local children while training Armenian personnel in the professional therapy techniques they will need to run the completed center, a primary objective of this second recovery project. Mostly nurses, the Armenians will receive nearly a year of training from the Israeli therapists, whose salaries are being paid by JDC, while the Armenian government provides their room and board.

In a related development, a consortium formed by JDC with the American Red Cross, Project Hope, and the Armenian Assembly of America was awarded a $5.7 million grant by U.S. A.I.D. last year for continuing rehabilitation efforts in Armenia. Inasmuch as JDC-IDP’s involvement in the children’s rehabilitation center project was purposely designed to be of limited duration, JDC will receive $503,000 from this grant as a deliberate “junior partner” in the consortium.

CZEChoslovakia

In partnership with Israel’s Volcani Institute and the Irrigation Institute in Bratislava, JDC-IDP is implementing an irrigation project designed to improve greenhouse production of vegetables and flowers. A Slovakian engineer and an agronomist are working together with Israeli experts, visiting Israel to survey ongoing research projects, including the use of advanced mathematical models to simulate biological activity. The Slovaks will also study commercial irrigation equipment used in Israeli agricultural production.

Hungary

Israeli agricultural experts sponsored by JDC-IDP spent two weeks last year at SASAD, a major agricultural cooperative near Budapest, studying the field crops, the fruit orchards, and dairy production in order to identify priority needs. These included improving the herd, the water supply, fertilization techniques, and greenhouse control. Three Israeli dairy experts were subsequently sent to Hungary to teach an on-site course in cattle nutrition, milk production, and the latest methods of herd improvement.

In addition to the U.S. A.I.D.-funded projects in
Czechoslovakia and Hungary described earlier, an agricultural and water purification project is being explored in Szarvas, Hungary, the site of the new JDC-Lauder summer camp for Jewish community children.

**ETHIOPIA**

In June, arrangements were made to ship 3,000 blankets purchased from a Jewish textile manufacturer in Zimbabwe to Addis Ababa for distribution to the thousands of Jews streaming into the city from Gondar. As the Jewish population in Addis continued to mount, an additional 12,000 blankets were shipped to Ethiopia.

**MOROCCO**

In June, the JDC-IDP dental project and its equipment—a city bus that had been converted into a dental hygiene unit and a mobile dental clinic—were officially turned over to the Moroccan Ministry of Health. The project had been conducted in cooperation with Alpha Omega, the international Jewish dental fraternity, the dental faculties of Rabat and Casablanca, and the Ministry of Health. In the course of JDC-IDP's involvement in the project, 60,000 children were taught proper dental hygiene, and more than 5,000 received treatment. Moroccan children will continue to benefit from this project as operations continue under the aegis of the Ministry of Health with support from the Colgate-Palmolive Company.

**UGANDA**

Early in 1990, Israeli experts in early childhood development and nutrition were sent by JDC-IDP to Uganda to develop a day care center project for women living in the Masere slums of Jinja. The project was requested by Shelter Afrique as a follow-up to a similar project successfully developed by JDC-IDP in Nairobi, Kenya.

**MALI**

At the request of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and with UNDP covering all expenses, JDC-IDP sent an Israeli forestry expert to Mali in 1990 to advise on the status of a gum-producing tree project. It was the first time an Israeli had entered the country on an Israeli passport since Mali severed diplomatic relations with Israel.

**NICARAGUA**

Also in 1990, JDC-IDP sent an Israeli agronomist to Nicaragua, again at UNDP's request and expense, to advise government officials there on a sorghum and maize seed drying project.

**TANZANIA**

In a third UNDP-sponsored project, the JDC-IDP Executive Director visited Tanzania in August to advise the government on ways to improve its international conference center. He also used this opportunity to establish key contacts and suggest ways in which Israeli technical assistance might be helpful in addressing some of the enormous problems facing Tanzania.

**FUTURE PROJECTS**

Other projects scheduled to be implemented in 1991 include a comprehensive eye treatment project that is being set up in Zimbabwe by an Israeli ophthalmologist. The doctor selected last year to head the project was unable to participate, but a new candidate was chosen who began working in Zimbabwe this spring. The project is being conducted in cooperation with the country's Agricultural and Rural Development Authority and has been eagerly awaited by the local Jewish community, since Zimbabwe currently has no diplomatic relations with Israel.

Three Israeli instructors had been scheduled to teach a course in run-off agriculture in the Singrali Region of India last year, but the project was deferred because of unsettled conditions in the area. The course was designed to teach Biblical-era rainwater harvesting techniques that have been revived and used successfully in modern Israeli agriculture. Projects in child care and health in India are also under consideration, with the World Bank a potential partner. Early in 1991, JDC-IDP was invited to China by the government to assess the possibility of establishing joint agricultural and community development projects in that country.

All of these projects are
in keeping with JDC-IDP's overall objectives of providing a Jewish presence in Third World and other development efforts, utilizing Israeli technical assistance, cooperating with resident Jewish communities, and demonstrating Jewish humanitarian concerns. In response to natural disasters, an open mailbox is established to undertake recovery and rehabilitation projects, since JDC-IDP is not equipped to provide emergency aid. Open mailboxes were established last year in response to the Romanian situation as well as the earthquake in the Philippines. Early in April of the current year, an open mailbox was established on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of Kurds who fled their homes in Iraq in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf war, with plans being drawn for an international Jewish humanitarian effort to assist these long-suffering people.

The Interfaith Hunger Appeal was founded in 1978 to increase public awareness of the problem of world hunger and to involve unaffiliated members of the general community in the work of IHA's sponsoring agencies. These currently include, in addition to JDC, Catholic Relief Services, Church World Service (Protestant), and Lutheran World Relief.

IHA has been concentrating its work in the past few years on an attempt to make development education a part of the college curriculum nationwide, with a focus on international development efforts that would enhance food security and help alleviate poverty and hunger. The second in a continuing series of workshops for the academic community was held at Notre Dame University in June 1990; it focused on the inter-relationship between the problems of Third World debt and development and the plight of the hungry in the world's poorest nations.

**JEWISH EDUCATION**

In addition to country-by-country allocations for formal and informal programs of Jewish education, JDC has historically made global allocations to the Alliance Israélite Universelle (AIU) and to the Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training (ORT). However, for the past several years, in accordance with a decision of its Board of Directors, JDC has been moving from a system of global subsidies to one of country- and program-specific funding. Accordingly, JDC country budgets for both Morocco and France in 1990 included specific allocations for Alliance schools in those countries. A gradual reduction in the France allocation was in keeping with the JDC Board's three-year phase-out of all institutional subsidies in that country.

In 1990, ORT received $4,450,000 from JDC in support of its worldwide educational and vocational training programs. Last year, 136,453 Jewish students in Israel, Western Europe, North Africa, India, and South America benefited from those programs. The JDC allocation, made through the American ORT Federation, assists the World ORT Union by providing subventions to schools that otherwise would be unable to sustain their operations because they cannot obtain sufficient income from local sources.

The AIU is a French organization that operates schools in eight countries, including France, Morocco, Syria, and Israel. AIU is serving 15,238 students in Israel in the current school year, including 875 new immigrants from the Soviet Union and 150 from Ethiopia. Its 9,391 students in other countries include 1,067 in Morocco and 1,286 in France. JDC's 1990 global allocation to AIU (in addition to its specific assistance for France and Morocco) was $471,500.
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors
The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. as of December 31, 1990, and the related statements of support, revenue and expenses, changes in fund balances, and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the JDC's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. as of December 31, 1990, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ending in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Loeb & Troper

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

March 19, 1991
## The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.

### Balance Sheet

**December 31, 1990 and 1989**

### Current Unrestricted Funds

#### Operating Fund

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash in bank - noninterest-bearing</td>
<td>$103,066</td>
<td>$698,710</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash in bank - interest-bearing</td>
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<td>2,883,599</td>
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<td>Investments - at cost (market value - $1,705,170 in 1990) (Note 5)</td>
<td>1,627,813</td>
<td>1,239,574</td>
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<td>Loans to communities and other receivables (net of allowance for currency losses of $549,027 in 1990 and $496,975 in 1989)</td>
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<td>1,627,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due from employees</td>
<td>530,000</td>
<td>530,000</td>
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<td>Advances on account of future year's programs</td>
<td>254,481</td>
<td>149,676</td>
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<td>Prepaid pension costs (Note 2)</td>
<td>706,191</td>
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<td>Due from Transmigrant Program</td>
<td>13,358,552</td>
<td>13,372,985</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,080,547</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,501,909</strong></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unpaid appropriations and accounts payable</td>
<td>$17,383,822</td>
<td>$15,517,361</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allowance for estimated severance obligations</td>
<td>1,492,617</td>
<td>1,145,446</td>
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<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,876,439</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,662,807</strong></td>
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<td>Fund balance (Exhibit C)</td>
<td>5,204,108</td>
<td>3,839,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,080,547</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,501,909</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Transmigrant Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from communities</td>
<td>$1,044,454</td>
<td>$1,323,893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from U.I.A., Inc.</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from USRP</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances on account of future year's programs</td>
<td>16,044,454</td>
<td>1,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,044,454</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,325,064</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid appropriations and accounts payable</td>
<td>$6,265,684</td>
<td>$6,040,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans payable (Note 3)</td>
<td>18,057,953</td>
<td>20,270,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to General Programs</td>
<td>13,358,552</td>
<td>13,372,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>37,682,189</strong></td>
<td><strong>39,683,710</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balance (deficit) (Exhibit C)</td>
<td>(21,637,735)</td>
<td>(18,358,646)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,044,454</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,325,064</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXHIBIT A
(continued)

CURRENT UNRESTRICTED FUNDS
(continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legacy and Other Funds</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank - noninterest-bearing</td>
<td>$1,372,733</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank - interest-bearing</td>
<td>$3,690,906</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - at cost (market value - $43,696,379 in 1990) (Note 5)</td>
<td>$42,313,748</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and accrued interest receivable</td>
<td>659,230</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgage receivable - 10 1/4%, due 2/1/2000</td>
<td>98,972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$49,859,265</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$168</td>
<td>$168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances (Exhibit C) (Schedule 1)</td>
<td>48,135,421</td>
<td>48,135,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$49,859,265</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CURRENT RESTRICTED FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ASSETS</strong></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank - interest-bearing</td>
<td>$4,033,389</td>
<td>$4,033,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposit with Israeli Treasury - interest-bearing</td>
<td>1,082,170</td>
<td>1,082,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - at cost (market value - $3,786,078 in 1990) (Note 5)</td>
<td>4,297,353</td>
<td>4,297,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest receivable</td>
<td>24,445</td>
<td>24,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$9,437,357</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances (Exhibit C) (Schedule 2)</td>
<td>$9,437,357</td>
<td>$9,437,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$9,437,357</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ASSETS</strong></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank - interest-bearing</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposit with Israeli Treasury - interest-bearing</td>
<td>4,399,992</td>
<td>4,399,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - at cost (market value - $5,367,151 in 1990) (Note 5)</td>
<td>3,182,836</td>
<td>3,182,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$7,932,828</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances (Exhibit C) (Schedule 3)</td>
<td>$7,932,828</td>
<td>$7,932,828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$7,932,828</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See independent auditor's report.
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.
EXHIBIT B

THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1990 (With Comparative Totals for 1989)

**CURRENT FUNDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UNRESTRICTED</th>
<th>Legacy and Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Endowment Funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1989</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Jewish Appeal, Inc.</td>
<td>$59,759,047</td>
<td>$59,759,047</td>
<td>$59,759,047</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$59,759,047</td>
<td>$58,330,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes interest reimbursement of $1,842,047)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Israel Appeal, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government grants</td>
<td>26,300,000</td>
<td>26,300,000</td>
<td>26,300,000</td>
<td>$2,762</td>
<td></td>
<td>26,302,762</td>
<td>$33,465,720</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>122,809</td>
<td>122,809</td>
<td>122,809</td>
<td>3,078,393</td>
<td>$1,940,808</td>
<td>842,572</td>
<td>842,572</td>
<td>1,013,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBF - World Jewish Relief</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(including overseas and Israel)</td>
<td>2,011,317</td>
<td>2,011,317</td>
<td>2,011,317</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,011,317</td>
<td>3,427,009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacies and bequests</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,083,868</td>
<td>1,083,868</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,083,868</td>
<td>1,346,170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total public support</td>
<td>88,193,173</td>
<td>1,083,868</td>
<td>89,277,041</td>
<td>3,923,727</td>
<td>1,940,808</td>
<td>95,141,576</td>
<td>115,646,775</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>511,744</td>
<td>1,869,100</td>
<td>2,380,844</td>
<td>1,565,879</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,946,723</td>
<td>6,113,974</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total public support and revenue</td>
<td>88,704,917</td>
<td>2,952,968</td>
<td>91,657,885</td>
<td>5,489,606</td>
<td>1,940,808</td>
<td>99,088,299</td>
<td>121,760,749</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief and welfare</td>
<td>45,376,208</td>
<td>45,376,208</td>
<td>45,376,208</td>
<td>279,979</td>
<td></td>
<td>45,656,187</td>
<td>76,959,349</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health services</td>
<td>4,265,166</td>
<td>6,639</td>
<td>4,271,805</td>
<td>1,418,096</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,689,901</td>
<td>4,451,221</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services to the aged</td>
<td>6,621,605</td>
<td>6,621,605</td>
<td>6,621,605</td>
<td>1,472,257</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,093,862</td>
<td>5,663,283</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish education and religious</td>
<td>18,567,418</td>
<td>420,741</td>
<td>18,988,159</td>
<td>1,321,241</td>
<td></td>
<td>20,309,400</td>
<td>14,569,839</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced education and manpower development</td>
<td>2,383,209</td>
<td>315,497</td>
<td>2,698,706</td>
<td>541,251</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,239,957</td>
<td>2,178,839</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social development</td>
<td>4,385,131</td>
<td>4,385,131</td>
<td>4,385,131</td>
<td>76,625</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,461,756</td>
<td>4,197,309</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifunctional</td>
<td>2,775,263</td>
<td>2,775,263</td>
<td>2,775,263</td>
<td>14,207</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,789,530</td>
<td>2,905,479</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total program services</td>
<td>84,374,000</td>
<td>742,877</td>
<td>85,116,877</td>
<td>5,123,716</td>
<td></td>
<td>90,240,593</td>
<td>110,925,319</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CURRENT FUNDS

### EXPENSES (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting Services</th>
<th>Legacy and Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Endowment Funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters*</td>
<td>$4,284,800</td>
<td>$171,634</td>
<td>$4,456,434</td>
<td>$4,456,434</td>
<td>$5,876,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas</td>
<td>1,960,200</td>
<td>1,960,200</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,960,200</td>
<td>2,503,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement costs</td>
<td></td>
<td>323,728</td>
<td>323,728</td>
<td></td>
<td>323,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total supporting services</td>
<td>6,245,000</td>
<td>495,362</td>
<td>6,740,362</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,740,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses*</td>
<td>90,619,000</td>
<td>1,238,239</td>
<td>91,857,239</td>
<td>$5,123,716</td>
<td>96,980,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfund transfer</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,947</td>
<td>8,947</td>
<td>(8,947)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Excess (deficiency) of public support and revenue over expenses (Exhibits C and D) **(1,914,083)**

- Includes interest expense of $2,325,000
- Consists of
  - General programs: $1,365,006
  - Transmigrant program: (3,279,089)

** See independent auditor's report.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.
### EXHIBIT C

**CURRENT FUNDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNRESTRICTED</th>
<th>Operating</th>
<th>Legacy and Other</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Endowment Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
<td>Transmigrant</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances (deficit) - beginning of year</td>
<td>$3,839,102</td>
<td>$(18,358,646)</td>
<td>$(14,519,544)</td>
<td>$48,135,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess (deficiency) of public support and revenue over expenses (Exhibit B)</td>
<td>1,365,006</td>
<td>(3,279,089)</td>
<td>(1,914,083)</td>
<td>1,723,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances (deficit) - end of year (Exhibit A)</td>
<td>$5,204,108</td>
<td>$(21,637,735)</td>
<td>$(16,433,627)</td>
<td>$49,859,097</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXHIBIT D

**CURRENT FUNDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNRESTRICTED</th>
<th>Operating</th>
<th>Legacy and Other</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Endowment Funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
<td>Transmigrant</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess (deficiency) of public support and revenue over expenses (Exhibit B)</td>
<td>$1,365,006</td>
<td>(3,279,089)</td>
<td>(1,914,083)</td>
<td>1,723,676</td>
<td>(190,407)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in unpaid appropriations and accounts payable</td>
<td>1,866,461</td>
<td>224,959</td>
<td>2,091,420</td>
<td>2,091,420</td>
<td>2,091,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in allowance for estimated severance obligations</td>
<td>347,171</td>
<td>347,171</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in loans payable</td>
<td>(2,212,047)</td>
<td>(2,212,047)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in loans to communities and other receivables</td>
<td>92,786</td>
<td>279,439</td>
<td>372,225</td>
<td>173,313</td>
<td>545,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease (increase) in advances on account of future year's programs</td>
<td>(104,805)</td>
<td>1,171</td>
<td>(103,634)</td>
<td>(103,634)</td>
<td>(103,634)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in prepaid pension costs</td>
<td>(706,191)</td>
<td>(706,191)</td>
<td>(706,191)</td>
<td>(706,191)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in receivable from USRP</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents, investments and interfunds - beginning of year</td>
<td>18,194,868</td>
<td>(13,372,985)</td>
<td>4,821,883</td>
<td>47,377,387</td>
<td>52,199,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents, investments and interfunds - end of year</td>
<td>$21,055,296</td>
<td>$(13,358,552)</td>
<td>$7,696,744</td>
<td>$49,274,376</td>
<td>$56,971,120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See independent auditor's report.
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.
NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis.
- Appropriations for grants are expensed in the year authorized.
- Marketable securities are reflected at cost or donated value.
- The U.S. dollar equivalents of the local currencies were calculated either at the actual rates of exchange realized or at an average of the rates during the year.

NOTE 2 - PENSION PLAN

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) has a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan covering its New York staff and overseas foreign service personnel. For 1990 and 1989, no pension contributions were required to satisfy the minimum funding requirements of the IRS. Prior service cost has been fully funded. The JDC’s policy is to fund pension cost accrued. As of January 1, 1990, there were 154 participants.

The following table sets forth the plan’s funded status and amounts recognized in the JDC’s balance sheet at December 31, 1990:

- Actuarial present value of benefit obligations:
  - Accumulated benefit obligation, including vested benefits of $6,341,216: $6,555,370
  - Projected benefit obligation for service rendered to date: $6,805,190
  - Plan assets at fair market (primarily marketable securities): $13,869,000
  - Plan assets in excess of projected benefit obligation: $7,063,810
  - Unrecognized net gain from past experience different from that assumed and effects of changes in assumptions: $(1,449,225)
  - Unrecognized net obligation at January 1, 1988 being recognized over 15 years: $(4,908,394)

- Prepaid pension cost: $706,191

The weighted average discount rate and rate of increase in future compensation levels used in determining the actuarial present value of the projected benefit obligation were 7.75% and 5.0%, respectively. The expected long-term rate of return on assets was 7.5%.

NOTE 3 - LOANS PAYABLE

The JDC obtained a revolving credit commitment to exceed $24,000,000 from Chase Manhattan Bank. The JDC will pay interest on the outstanding balance at the prime commercial lending rate. The current rate at December 31, 1990 is 9.61%. The outstanding principal balance at December 31, 1990 is $2,990,000. The JDC has pledged investments held in the Bank Leumi custodian account, totaling approximately $8,000,000.

The JDC has pledged investments totaling approximately $45,000,000 as collateral on their outstanding loans to Chase Manhattan Bank and Bank Leumi Trust Company of New York.

NOTE 4 - LEASE COMMITMENTS

The JDC is committed under a lease for office space, which expires December 31, 2000. Minimum rental commitments under the terms of the lease are $400,860 per annum, subject to adjustments for escalation.

NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS

- Cost or Market
  - Value Value
  - U.S. Government obligations $23,397,041 $23,756,195
  - State of Israel bonds 1,028,000 1,028,000
  - Corporate bonds 1,472,582 1,455,610
  - Common and preferred stocks 12,436,596 14,573,524
  - Cash equivalents 13,650,682 13,650,670
  - Mutual funds 94,876 90,779

- $52,079,777 $54,554,778

- Operating Fund $1,627,813 $1,705,170
- Legacy and Other Funds 41,714,001 43,696,379
- Current Restricted Funds 3,614,349 3,786,078
- Endowment Funds 5,123,644 5,307,151

- $52,079,777 $54,554,778

The JDC has foreign liability coverage of $1 million. No provision for loss in this suit is reflected in these financial statements.

NOTE 6 - CONTINGENCIES

On October 16, 1990, a summons was delivered to The JDC demanding a judgment of $20,500,000 plus related interest and expenditures for injuries suffered by Elnaz Shirazian, a Transmigrant in Austria. The JDC made a motion to dismiss the complaint on the ground of forum non conveniens. The defendants argue that the action has nothing to do with the State of New York, and does not belong in the New York courts. In addition, the position of The JDC is that even if New York law were applicable, the complaint would have to be dismissed for failure to state a cause of action because defendants had no legal duty to ensure the safety of the Shirazians’ daughter while she was not in defendants’ physical custody.

The JDC has foreign liability coverage of $1 million. No provision for loss in this suit is reflected in these financial statements.

NOTE 7 - COMPARATIVE TOTALS

The amounts shown for the year ended December 31, 1989 in the accompanying financial statements are included to provide a basis for comparison with 1990 and present summarized totals only. Accordingly, the 1989 amounts are not intended to present all information necessary for a fair presentation in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

NOTE 8 - TAX STATUS

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is a not-for-profit organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
THE JDC WORLD
(JEWISH POPULATION)

1. U.S.A. (6,000,000)
   New York Headquarters
2. ARGENTINA (250,000)
   Community development
   Manpower development
3. BOLIVIA (1,000)
   Leadership development
4. BRAZIL (130,000)
   Community development
   Manpower development
5. CHILE (15-20,000)
   Relief and welfare
   Services to the aged
6. PARAGUAY (800)
   Leadership development
7. PERU (3,500)
   Leadership development
8. URUGUAY (23,000)
   Jewish education
   Manpower development
9. PANAMA (3,800)
   Leadership development
10. COSTA RICA (2,000)
    Leadership development
11. NICARAGUA
    IDP food production program

* Countries with JDC office or local representative

12. FRANCE (600,000)
    Jewish education
    Manpower development
13. AUSTRIA (6,500)
    Aid to transmigrants
14. BELGIUM (32,000)
    European Union of Jewish Students
15. SWITZERLAND (19,000)
    Liaison
16. GREECE (5,000)
    Aid to transmigrants
17. ITALY (32,000)
    Aid to transmigrants
18. SPAIN (12,000)
    Post-war refugee aid
19. CZECHOSLOVAKIA
    (6-10,000)
    Relief and welfare
    Health services
    Jewish education
    and culture
    Manpower development
    IDP projects
20. HUNGARY (c. 200,000)
    Relief and welfare
    Health services
    Services to the aged
    Jewish education
    Community development
    IDP projects
21. POLAND (4,500)
    Relief and welfare
    Health services
    Youth and cultural programs
22. ROMANIA (18,750)
    Relief and welfare
    Services to the aged
    Health services
    Religious activities
    Non-sectarian assistance
23. SOVIET UNION
    (2-4,000,000)
    Books and religious supplies
    Community development
    Holiday celebrations
24. YUGOSLAVIA
    (6,500)
    Relief and welfare
    Services to the aged
    Jewish education
25. BULGARIA (c. 5,000)
    Relief and welfare
    Jewish education
    Community development
26. ISRAEL
    (4,000,000)
    Services to the aged
    Health services
    Aid to handicapped
    Child development
    Community organization
    Immigrant job training
    and Aliya activities
    Jewish education
    Manpower development
    Youth employment
    Aid to yeshiva
27. EGYPT
    (265)
    Relief and welfare
    Health services
    Services to the aged
    Passover supplies
28. TUNISIA
    (2,000)
    Relief and welfare
    Health services
    Services to the aged
    Jewish education
    Passover supplies
29. ALGERIA
    (200)
    Relief and welfare
30. MOROCCO
    (7,500)
    Relief and welfare
    Health services
    Services to the aged
    Jewish education
    Manpower training
    IDP dental project
31. CEUTA & MELILLA
    (2,000)
    Relief and welfare
    Jewish education
32. ETHIOPIA
    Non-sectarian programs
    Health services
    Food distribution
    Job training
    Relief and welfare
    Cultural programs
33. MYANMAR (BURMA)
    (100)
    Relief and welfare
34. CHINA
    Relief and welfare
35. INDIA
    (c. 6,000)
    Relief and welfare
    Services to the aged
    Jewish education
36. SYRIA
    (3,800)
    Relief and welfare
    Health services
37. MALI
    IDP agricultural program
38. UGANDA
    IDP child care projects
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THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.
1990 ANNUAL REPORT

Written and Edited by Ilana Stern

Designed by Chase/Temkin & Associates, Inc.

Many thanks to JDC's Country and Program Directors for their assistance and to the members of the New York Headquarters staff who helped in the production of this report.

Cover photos:
(Clockwise from left)
In Ethiopia, 1990—Ami Bergman; Childcare Training Course for Ethiopians at Emunah Community College in Jerusalem—Studio Magnes; Retraining Courses for Soviet Computer Programmers in Israel, 1990; Children's Choir in the Soviet Union, 1990.

A Publication of The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.;
Miriam Feldman, Director of Public Information and Project Manager
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