We are people...
and programs...
and services...
turning dollars into food and books...
and turning discomfort and despair into
FORMER SOVIET UNION: TWO SISTERS DELIGHT IN A PASSOVER SNACK BEHIND HEBED MENACHEM IN DNEPROPETROVSK.

hope.
We are volunteers, lay leaders and professionals building communities that rekindle the Jewish spirit.
Bringing care, compassion and...
AFRICA AND ASIA: A RESIDENT OF THE JEWISH OLD AGE HOME IN ISTANBUL, TURKEY.
FORMER SOVIET UNION:
A CLEAN, MODERN CLASSROOM
IN WHICH TO STUDY THE PRAYER
BOOK IN RUSSIA.

help to those who need it most.
We are 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 (JDC) 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, 88 years later, JDC is still serving as the overseas arm of the American Jewish community, sponsoring programs of relief, rescue, and reconstruction, 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 85 countries on every continent. JDC programs are supported primarily by contributions to the annual campaigns of the Jewish community federations throughout the United States in partnership with United Jewish Communities (UJC). When men and women contribute to these campaigns, they support humanitarian work at home, in Israel, and around the world. JDC also receives funds from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, from World Jewish Relief (WJR, UK), from Canadian Jewry, from the United States government, from charitable foundations and philanthropists, and from other governments and international organizations. For 88 years, JDC has been working to meet Jewish needs around the globe. 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 former Soviet Union, JDC is helping to rebuild the Jewish communal infrastructure, revive Jewish traditions, and nourish the quest for Jewish knowledge. It is also providing critically needed aid and helping to establish welfare programs for impoverished elderly Jews. In Africa and Asia, JDC helps small Jewish communities maintain essential services for their elderly and provide their children with a Jewish education. In Latin America and Western Europe, the emphasis has been on community development and technical aid, with an emergency assistance program now in place in Argentina. In Israel, JDC is helping the country respond to the current crisis and absorb its newest immigrants, while continuing to enrich the lives of the disadvantaged and improve the quality of services for children- and teenagers-at-risk, for the elderly, and for 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.

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.
Introduction

FROM THE PRESIDENT
Eugene J. Ribakoff

The difficult and tragic events that have marked the past year, in Israel, here at home, and throughout the JDC world, have fundamentally altered our lives and changed our perspective on world affairs in many significant ways.

What has not changed at all is JDC's unswerving dedication to the welfare of Israel and the well-being of its citizens, especially the weakest and most vulnerable. Mobilizing our resources and our staff, we have been working to ensure that the very groups who have long been the focus of JDC's work in Israel have the support they need to cope with problems brought on by this crisis, including a crisis-related recession, problems that have only magnified the difficulties these individuals already experience in dealing with everyday life.

This past spring, responding to the deepening emergency, JDC worked hand-in-hand with leaders of the UJC/Federation system to fashion an expanded emergency assistance program. Above all, we have been determined to ensure the continuity of critical social service programs in the face of unavoidable government cutbacks, so that help will continue to reach those most in need.

The "Keep Our Children Safe" initiative described by Steve Schwager in his own introduction, below, is a cornerstone of our emergency effort, and its implementation this summer has been made possible by funding from the Israel Emergency Campaign. We have also developed a variety of counseling and coping initiatives for children and parents, and we are seeking to expand civil defense capabilities and provide added safety measures for those with special needs.

I must take a moment here to say something about JDC's staff in Israel, so many of whom I grew to know well in my years as Chairman of our Israel Committee. They have soldiered on throughout these months of crisis, putting together these programs and gamely responding to our every question and need. At the same time, they have been enduring what every family in Israel has been going through. They are acting in the finest tradition of JDC, but that accolade almost seems insufficient. Perhaps the Israeli "kol hakavod" ("all due respect") would be a more appropriate salutation, along with our fervent hope that they, and all of Israel, will be strong, and endure.

Argentina, with its Jewish population of 200,000, has been in a free fall since last year, with its economy shattered, the peso devalued, and sporadic looting and violence in the streets. The "bridge of support" that we have built from our North American Jewish communities has, by necessity, been growing stronger. With the help of the UJC/Federation system and other generous donors, we are currently providing food vouchers and help with shelter and emergency needs to more than 21,000 Jews, while the community itself has been supporting an additional 20,000.

Almost all can be characterized as the "new poor," they are mostly younger people with families who until recently had homes, two jobs, even two cars, but have suddenly been reduced to relying on the community for their most basic needs. Beyond the actual caseload, there are many other community members who need help in the face of the current economic collapse, and it is hard to estimate how much may be needed in emergency aid as the situation continues to deteriorate. We have also expanded our job training, employment, and small business development efforts, and we have been helping to accelerate the merger and restructuring of vital communal institutions.

Meanwhile, our commitments and responsibilities in the former Soviet Union continue. Meeting the needs of desperately poor elderly Jews there is one of our great, ongoing challenges, as is the task of helping to rekindle and renew Jewish life. We cannot take
food away from hungry Jews in Russia to feed hungry Jews in Argentina. We simply have to marshall the resources to continue to do both.

We are mindful of the small vulnerable Jewish communities that JDC has been helping to sustain in different corners of the globe. Understandably, Jewish communities in the Moslem world have been keeping a very low profile. They continue to rely on JDC for help in maintaining basic services, and they rely even more on our ongoing concern for their welfare in these troubled times. In India, too, we have been alert to the situation of this small Jewish community amid recent outbreaks of violence between Hindus and Moslems in Ahmedabad and ongoing tensions over Kashmir. And throughout these regions, as elsewhere in the Jewish world today, the enhanced security measures that have become a necessity are proving to be a heavy drain on scarce and already overburdened community resources.

In this year of change, we have also had a significant change recently within our own JDC family. At our Board meeting on May 6, Steven Schwager officially became JDC’s new Executive Vice-President and Chief Professional Officer, with Michael Schneider moving to a new role as Executive Vice-President for Special Operations. I am pleased to report that the transition has been seamless, due in no small measure to the preparatory work done by Michael in laying the ground for, and training, his successor.

Strategizing—thinking and planning ahead—has always been one of Michael’s greatest talents. I well remember his warning to the JDC Board—back when most leaders were still basking complacently in a post-cold war era glow—that radical Islamists were the next threat that we would have to deal with, in Israel and throughout the democratic world. Indeed, his prescience with regard to the direction of world affairs has been uncanny, enabling him throughout his tenure to mobilize JDC’s professional resources well before the next crisis hit. Under Michael’s leadership, JDC has been well-prepared to deal both with shifting needs and with the radical changes that have taken place in our American Jewish philanthropic system.

Steve Schwager’s 13 years of experience at JDC—particularly his years as director of both JDC-Israel and our FSU programs and, most recently, as our Chief Operating Officer—complement his own managerial talents and skills, making him uniquely qualified for his new position. It is already apparent that he has the vision and strength to lead us perhaps in some new directions and take this well-tested organization to ever greater heights.

That this transition has been working so well is also a testament to the quality of the JDC Board and to the tradition of continued, active involvement in JDC affairs by its past presidents, a tradition which I believe to be unparalleled.

We are in the process of implementing a series of measures designed to engage all of our Board members more actively than ever in JDC’s deliberations, so that we can better utilize their talents as dedicated advocates on behalf of critical world Jewish needs. In the face of the great challenges that are testing the Jewish world today, we should take comfort in knowing that we at JDC are well-prepared to meet those challenges and to provide the North American Jewish community with the means to assist Jews in need—or in danger—overseas, as we have been doing for the past 88 years.
FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
Steven Schwager

JDC has made numerous changes in its operations over the last 88 years. Each time we planned for a period of relative peace and stability, world events forced us to discard our preconceived notions and strategies. Two years ago, as I was finishing my assignment as director of JDC-Israel, all our conversations and planning sessions at JDC were about peace, the exciting possibilities that lay ahead for the region, and the future of the Middle East. Today, sadly, much has changed in the world, and we are witnessing a war for Israel's existence as a nation.

JDC-Israel, while continuing to provide innovative programs for our traditional clients, has shifted its efforts to make dealing with the current crisis its top priority. Thanks to generous additional funding from the Israel Emergency Campaign of UJC and the North American Federations, JDC was able to implement a massive summer camp initiative for over 120,000 of Israel’s youngsters. Called “Keep Our Children Safe,” the program was designed to keep children in a safe and nurturing environment—and off the streets and buses—during the summer months, when school is out of session. Similar programs will be offered in the fall for after-school and evening activities, and JDC will continue to play an important role in helping Israel deal with the crisis.

In Argentina, JDC’s long-term plan called for the provision of technical assistance to this great community of some 200,000 Jews. Here again, world, or in this case, economic events intervened, forcing a change in plans. Our small staff has been expanded as we have ramped up our efforts to help this Jewish community meet its ever increasing welfare needs. Our caseload now includes over 21,000 people, and each day brings new clients and new challenges.

School principals recently reported, for example, that many children were coming to class hungry and their parents, victims of the economic collapse, had no money to provide a lunch meal. JDC immediately stepped in. In addition to food vouchers and medicines for families, we are now funding a daily lunch program for more than 2,100 children and are committed to providing help for every Jewish child in need. Our goal remains that no Jew in the world where JDC operates should go to bed hungry or cold.

In the former Soviet Union (FSU), working with the local communities over the past decade, JDC has made a signal contribution toward the reestablishment of Jewish life. The Hesed (welfare center) network, which now serves over 250,000 needy elderly Jews in more than 2,600 cities and towns, is an outstanding accomplishment. Similarly, the over 180 Jewish community centers that we’ve helped to establish are a joy to behold. With programs for every segment of the local Jewish population, the centers have been reaching out to the unaffiliated and helping Jews find their own personal way to reconnect with our heritage and our traditions.

Yet despite all that has been accomplished in the former Soviet Union, so much more remains to be done. Our Board member, Dr. Spencer (Spike) Foreman, recently completed a study of the nutritional needs of Jewish children in Moldova. He found that between 20 and 40 percent are malnourished and need supplemental food. We have asked Spike to see if the same problem exists in other regions of the FSU. If so, we will need to reconsider our FSU policy of providing welfare assistance only to the elderly.

As you may already have noted, all of the crises facing the JDC world today have had a profound impact on our children. One of the strong suggestions that I will be making to the JDC Board in the months ahead is that we need to make the well-being of our Jewish children, from the perspective both of welfare and of Jewish renewal, a much higher priority for JDC than it is today.
Changes in priorities require additional funding. Over the past decade, JDC has been fortunate to find new partners who have provided funding for earmarked projects. In the former Soviet Union, our primary partner in welfare endeavors is the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. It is the Claims Conference’s funding over the last seven years that has fueled the Hesed system’s remarkable growth. We all mourn the loss of the Conference’s long-term president, Rabbi Israel Miller z”l, and pledge to work closely with his successors.

Our other key partners are the UJC and the North American Federations. Their designated and significant undesignated funding has allowed JDC to react to immediate and urgent Jewish needs in 59 countries throughout the world. JDC must continue to enhance its relationships with individual Federations in order to secure additional funding for critical programs and ensure that Jews throughout North America understand the work being performed by JDC on their behalf.

There are many other individuals and foundations whose gifts have allowed us to perform our mission. They are enumerated in the body of this Annual Report. We truly appreciate the generosity of these donors and look forward to their continued support.

No report on JDC’s past activities would be complete without at least a few words about my friend and partner, Michael Schneider. Michael has decided to step down as the Executive Vice President after 15 years in that role and almost 25 years of service to JDC. His tenure has included a series of pivotal world Jewish events, including the opening of the FSU, the Ethiopian aliya, the exodus of Syrian Jewry, and the invitation from the Cuban government to JDC that has resulted in the remarkable resurgence of that Jewish community. His dedication and devotion to JDC are legendary. I am deeply appreciative of the JDC Board’s decision to have him continue on with JDC, handling special projects such as restitution funding and other important issues, and I am grateful to Michael for agreeing to do so.

It is an awesome responsibility to lead an 88-year-old institution whose reason for being has given it a primary role in the major Jewish events of our time. I feel honored and humbled to succeed Michael Schneider as JDC’s Executive Vice-President. With the help and support of the JDC Board and of North American Jewry, I pledge that JDC will continue to lead the response to Jews in crisis. And during my watch, I will strive to ensure that we continue to fulfill the JDC motto of Rescue, Relief, and Reconstruction—in Israel and throughout the Jewish world.

July 2002
2001 Global Budget

The following table summarizes JDC's annual budget with income provided primarily by the United Jewish Communities and the extent to which additional funds from various sources have been obtained and utilized. In sum, the JDC core budget of $66.9 million has leveraged another $139.3 million for total expenditures on JDC projects of over $206.1 million during 2001.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY OR PROGRAM</th>
<th>JDC DIRECT EXPENSES</th>
<th>ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM PARTNERS</th>
<th>TOTAL EXPENSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALBANIA</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALGERIA</td>
<td>$1,900</td>
<td>$1,900</td>
<td>$1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARGENTINA</td>
<td>$374,000</td>
<td>$1,197,135</td>
<td>$1,571,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALTIC STATES</td>
<td>$265,800</td>
<td>$1,101,787</td>
<td>$1,367,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA</td>
<td>$126,500</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$166,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKDALE</td>
<td>$1,372,200</td>
<td>$4,432,566</td>
<td>$5,805,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULGARIA</td>
<td>$485,700</td>
<td>$177,961</td>
<td>$663,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTER FOR SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES</td>
<td>$706,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$706,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHINA</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CROATIA</td>
<td>$591,800</td>
<td>$470,000</td>
<td>$999,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUBA</td>
<td>$99,900</td>
<td>$13,345</td>
<td>$113,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CZECH REPUBLIC</td>
<td>$73,200</td>
<td>$128,000</td>
<td>$201,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGYPT</td>
<td>$66,000</td>
<td>$28,700</td>
<td>$94,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETHIOPIA</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUNGARY</td>
<td>$1,855,500</td>
<td>$1,380,438</td>
<td>$3,235,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIA</td>
<td>$236,600</td>
<td>$6,004</td>
<td>$242,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISRAEL</td>
<td>$16,288,900</td>
<td>$68,260,150</td>
<td>$84,549,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEWISH COMMUNITY PROPERTY RECLAMATION</td>
<td>$684,200</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$684,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOROCCO</td>
<td>$1,101,200</td>
<td>$2,606,922</td>
<td>$3,708,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MYANMAR</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-SECTARIAN</td>
<td>$455,600</td>
<td>$2,977,279</td>
<td>$3,432,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER EUROPEAN</td>
<td>$828,200</td>
<td>$693,127</td>
<td>$1,521,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER LATIN AMERICA</td>
<td>$1,147,700</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>$1,172,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER MOSLEM</td>
<td>$1,230,800</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,230,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLAND</td>
<td>$1,014,600</td>
<td>$172,408</td>
<td>$1,187,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELIEF IN TRANSIT</td>
<td>$2,692,300</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,692,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROMANIA</td>
<td>$2,317,400</td>
<td>$1,110,903</td>
<td>$3,428,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLOVAKIA</td>
<td>$162,700</td>
<td>$311,708</td>
<td>$474,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSU JEWISH RENEWAL</td>
<td>$8,947,400</td>
<td>$7,397,300</td>
<td>$16,344,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSU WELFARE</td>
<td>$8,419,300</td>
<td>$4,289,390</td>
<td>$12,708,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPAIN</td>
<td>$28,700</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$28,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL GRANTS</td>
<td>$770,400</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$770,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSMIGRANT AUSTRIA</td>
<td>$264,400</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$264,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSMIGRANT GREECE</td>
<td>$14,100</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$14,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUNISIA</td>
<td>$561,200</td>
<td>$158,450</td>
<td>$719,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TURKEY</td>
<td>$49,800</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$49,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YUGOSLAVIA</td>
<td>$283,900</td>
<td>$257,078</td>
<td>$541,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>$9,810,900</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$9,810,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFICIT REDUCTION/LOAN INTEREST</td>
<td>$3,050,800</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,050,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$66,887,100</strong></td>
<td><strong>$139,292,951</strong></td>
<td><strong>$206,180,051</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2001 Budget Distribution

BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Israel 34.0%
Eastern Europe 12.7%
Africa & Asia 7.1%
Latin America 3.0%
Europe Community Development 2.1%
Special Grants 1.4%
International Development 0.8%
Transmigrants 0.5%
Former Soviet Union 38.4%
BY PROGRAM AREA

Social & Community Development 18.4%
Jewish Education 18.9%
Services to the Aged 10.3%
Multifunctional 9.6%
Health Services 7.8%
Religious Activities 5.7%
Manpower Development 3.8%
Relief & Welfare 25.5%
Total Population
6.5 million

Jewish Population
5.3 million

JDC Appropriation
$18,347,600

JDC's Strategic Intervention in Israel

Research
Understanding the most difficult issues challenging Israel's social fabric.

Response
Developing an approach that can solve a specific problem.

Recruitment
Bringing in national and local partners to help develop and test this approach.

Replication
Once an approach is proven, JDC helps its partners apply it nationwide, making it an integral part of Israel's social service system.

Exit
When replication is complete, JDC exits the program and moves on to its next Strategic Intervention.

- Response to emergency situation
- Protection of children and teens
- Care for the elderly
- Aid for absorption of immigrants with special needs
- Research and development of social services
- Promoting philanthropy and volunteerism
- Project management for donors
Strengthening the Ties that Bind

The constant terror attacks and the economic recession that confronted Israeli society in 2001 and 2002 served only to strengthen the bonds between Israel and the Jews of the Diaspora, and to deepen the involvement of American Jewry in efforts to support and sustain the well-being of Israel's citizens. JDC's activities have been helping to alleviate some of the hardships suffered by those of Israel's citizens who find themselves struggling even in the best of times, and to facilitate the ability of both children and adults to deal with a situation of unrelenting tension and anxiety.

JDC's programs in Israel continue to focus on the country's most vulnerable population groups: children and youth-at-risk and their families; struggling immigrant groups trapped on the margins of Israeli society—including olam from Ethiopia and from the Caucasus and Bukhara regions of the former Soviet Union; and the nation's elderly—especially the many lonely and isolated elderly Holocaust survivors and recent immigrants.

While Israel's ongoing crisis has made everyday life stressful and difficult for all of its citizens, JDC's target populations are least able to cope, and they have few social or family resources to draw on for support. They have also been suffering disproportionately from the country's crisis-related recession—which in 2002 drove the unemployment rate beyond 10 percent and the poverty rate to 19 percent—and from the government's unavoidable budget cuts.

Over the past year, JDC developed a variety of new initiatives and expanded and adapted existing programs to assist these most vulnerable groups. These included Emergency Supportive Communities and Warm Homes for the elderly—and now the disabled, a Caring Communities initiative for schoolchildren and special trauma-response training for those working with at-risk children and youth, and Amharic-language news programming to keep Ethiopian-Israelis informed and alert to security concerns.

In response to the deepening of the emergency situation in the spring of 2002, JDC, working in cooperation with the UJC/Federation system, has devised a multi-pronged assistance effort which focuses on carefully pinpointed areas. Keeping Israel's children safe is a primary objective, to be accomplished by subsidizing the participation of 120,000 additional children from low income families in after-school and summer programs that keep them out of harm's way, and by supporting a variety of crisis-intervention, counseling, and coping initiatives for children and parents. Ensuring the continuity of crucial social assistance programs in the face of government cutbacks is another major thrust; it is based on JDC's determination to see that, come what may, help will continue to reach those most in need of assistance. Additional initiatives would enhance civil defense capabilities and provide various safety measures for those with special needs.

Above and beyond current exigencies, strengthening Israel's own capacity to care for its citizens and shoulder the primary responsibility for meeting human service needs remains the essence of JDC's mission, and "Strategic Intervention" is its proven operating approach. Relying on comprehensive research, JDC develops innovative model programs to address the unmet needs of particular population sectors. When a program has proven its effectiveness, JDC phases out its involvement and hands the project over to its Israeli program partners. Through JDC-ELKA, JDC also strives to enhance the effectiveness of existing public services, an effort more valuable than ever in light of recent budget cuts.

The cooperative relationships that JDC has succeeded in nurturing in recent years between Israel and American Jewry have been enriching the lives of communities both in North America and in the Jewish state. These relationships have enabled JDC to bring the experience and professional expertise of American Jewish federations to bear on a variety of human service initiatives undertaken in partnership with Israeli government and voluntary agencies.

Ashalim, which focuses on children-at-risk, is just such a relationship; it has brought together the Israeli government, UJA-Federation of New York, and JDC in a unique three-way partnership. The PACT (Parents and Children Together) program for Ethiopian-Israeli preschoolers is another example, with partnerships established to date with Jewish community federations in Cleveland, Palm Beach, Minneapolis, Detroit, Washington DC, New York, and Boston. Enhanced relationships have also been built with Jewish community federations in Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, and Grand Rapids, for example.

Children-At-Risk: Building a Better Future

Israel's two million children represent the country's future. Yet one in six currently is—or is at-risk of becoming—a victim of abuse or neglect. While the significant rise in reports of child abuse and neglect in recent years can be attributed to enhanced awareness and mandatory reporting laws, widening social gaps, mass immigration, the security situation, economic recession, and recent reductions in government welfare and education budgets threaten to push more and more of those at-risk over the threshold.

Since its establishment in 1998, Ashalim has succeeded in keeping this issue high on the public agenda, and its three constituent agencies—the Israeli government, UJA-Federation of New York, and JDC—recently renewed their partnership agreement until 2004.

Ashalim seeks to improve services for a target population of 100,000 children and youth and their families, guided by the principle that overcoming abuse and neglect involves treating both the child and the parents. The ideal is to remove the risk to the child while preserving the integrity of the family. Ashalim also offers new services to those not yet receiving care, to prevent their situation from deteriorating further.

To strengthen parenting skills in families with young children, Ashalim is working with the Ministry of Health to help public health nurses at Tipat Halav centers (well-baby clinics) become more effective in identify-
ing and reaching out to high-risk families. Comprehensive programs for families-at-risk are now operating in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Bet Shemesh and the Galilee region.

By offering therapeutic programs for the entire family, a network of 20 Parent-Child Centers is enabling children-at-risk to receive the help they need while remaining in their home community. The network was developed with support from Sylvia Hassenfeld and Ellen Block, the Minneapolis Jewish Federation, the Guttmann Foundation, Ron and Marilyn Grossman, and the Harry and Eleanor Schick Foundation. Support for the Parent-Child Center in Kiryat Malachi as well as for the Mother to Another program is being provided by Yaffa Maritz, the UJC West Coast Region’s Women’s Division, and the Palm Springs Jewish Federation.

Ashalim has also developed a continuum of care for children whose only safe option is to be removed from their homes. Its Community Residential Facility (CRF) model assures maximum protection for the child while working with local social service agencies to encourage the maintenance of a positive parent-child relationship. Six CRF programs are currently in operation, including Ma’alot: The Corky Ribakoff Center for Children and Families in Jerusalem, which was made possible by a gift from Eugene J. Ribakoff. The Dorset Foundation has pledged to renovate and upgrade the Community Home for Children-at-Risk in Ashdod.

In 2001, day treatment programs were added in five locations to offer a protective setting for children. An innovative nutrition enrichment program is operating in community-based facilities with generous support from Professor Stanley Mills and Barbara Gordon Green. In Foster Care Clusters, another new model developed by Ashalim, foster parents and therapeutic teams work with the biological parents to facilitate their child’s return. Support for other programs and facilities for children-at-risk was provided by Jackie Woolf and by the Hochberg Family in memory of Barbara Hochberg.

The Schusterman Center for Children and Families, Succat Shalom Jerusalem, has introduced a series of compassion workshops for families-at-risk funded by the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation. Ashalim will soon open a Child Protection Center in Jerusalem, the first in a projected national network. Modeled on the Tulsa Justice Center, the Jerusalem facility will be a one-stop center for investigative and diagnostic services, thereby preventing youngsters from being shunted from one authority to another.

Ashalim’s flagship project for youth is a network of five Business Entrepreneurship programs, which enlist the help of local businessmen in nurturing teenagers’ business and life skills. Ashalim is also developing a number of alternative learning centers for school dropouts, which rely on innovative extra-curricular programs to motivate alienated youth. Its development of the Hafuch-al-Hafuch network of teenage counseling centers was generously supported by Lou and Pat Hoodwin and the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids. As planned, Ashalim phased out its involvement in this program in 2001, transferring full programmatic and financial responsibility to the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare.

Ashalim’s initiatives for youth with special needs are designed to include them in normative frameworks. Young adults with disabilities, for example, are integrated in the National Service program through the Shlavim initiative. Another program mainstreams special needs toddlers into regular day care centers, while the Integration as Partnership program brings youngsters with disabilities who need special schooling together with their elementary school age peers. An integrated campus, the first of its kind, is being developed in the heart of Jerusalem, thanks to a generous gift from Leonore and Larry Zusman.

US-Israel professional exchanges are central to the Ashalim partnership and particularly to UJA-Federation of New York’s role. These exchanges enable professionals in both countries to enhance their effectiveness and gain new insights into services for children-at-risk. Professionals from the Chicago and San Francisco communities will be joining this initiative and focusing on specific program areas.

Mainstreaming Immigrants

JDC has developed a variety of programs to help immigrant groups move closer to the Israeli mainstream. To counter the alienation that frequently occurs between generations, these programs stress the family unit, and they strive to enhance the immigrant community’s pride in its Diaspora traditions. Ethiopian-Israelis have been a primary target of JDC’s endeavors, for, despite enormous efforts by the Israeli government and non-profit organizations, many members of this community are still struggling to adapt to Israel’s advanced technological environment.

In a major new initiative launched in 2001, JDC is working to facilitate the integration of immigrants from the Caucasus and Bukhara regions of the former Soviet Union. Since 1990, Israel has gained 65,000 new immigrants from these remote areas. They joined the 15,000 members of these distinctive Jewish communities who were already living in Israel. Most have been suffering far more severe economic and social distress than their fellow Russian-speaking olim, and they have been struggling to find a place for themselves in modern Israeli life.

While 15 cities will eventually be included in this initiative, four cities—Akk, Kiryat Yam, Or Akiva, and Sderot—with a combined population of 24,000 immigrants from these regions have been selected as pilot locations. Combating high unemployment rates as well as high school dropout rates of some 25 percent are two major thrusts of this JDC effort, which is being supported by the Henrietta Morgan Trust, the Jewish
1. Eshel’s Activity Centers build a sense of friendship and community for Israeli seniors. (Photo: Zion Ozeri)
2. PACT programs involve Ethiopian parents in their children’s education.
3. CSPS presentation to Israeli President Moshe Katsav at the President’s Residence. (Photo: Noy)
4. Underprivileged youth enter and succeed in the military helped by supplemental educational programs.
5. With technical and financial assistance, Caucasus Mountain immigrants find pride and earn a living starting up new businesses in Israel.
Federation of Greater Indianapolis, the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, the Columbus Jewish Federation, and UJA Federation of New York.

The nationwide PACT (Parents and Children Together) program is a long-term effort to promote the integration of the Ethiopian community by giving Ethiopian-Israeli children an all-important vital educational start. It has been undertaken in conjunction with the Coalition for the Advancement of Ethiopian Education, various North American Jewish community federations, and Israeli government ministries, municipalities, foundations, and local lay leaders.

Begun in 1998 as a partnership with the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, PACT today is a comprehensive initiative serving some 5,300 Ethiopian-Israeli preschoolers, hundreds of their parents, and dozens of professionals in eight Israeli cities. PACT now coordinates the various education-related programs developed by JDC in recent years for Ethiopian-Israelis, including early childhood education, after-school centers, Parents as Partners, and in-service training for educators.

Partnerships have been established to date between Beersheva, Kiryat Gat, Kiryat Malachi and the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland; Hadera and the Minneapolis Jewish Federation; Ramla and the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County; Netanya and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit; Rehovot and UJA-Federation of New York; and Afula and the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston will be launching a PACT program in Kiryat Yam this fall. Through PACT, the concept of local lay leadership has been introduced to Israeli cities. The SACTA-RASHI Foundation also provides substantial support for the PACT program.

Other JDC initiatives for immigrant children and youth include Kesherim, an adaptation of the successful New Educational Environment (NEE), which operated in 13 schools last year and will expand to 15 in 2002. Four schools have installed an Alternative Learning Space (ALS) to combat drop-outs, and two more schools will be doing so this year. Through SHAHAM, the Ethiopian Families project undertaken in partnership with the Ministry of Education, young women doing National Service were able to reach over 200 families in 10 cities in 2001, and this year two additional localities will be added. Last year, the Mila Tova program, supported by Alfred Coplan, worked with 300 mothers in 15 groups in six locations to supplement their basic Hebrew language skills, with the project slated to include 25 groups in 2002.

Project GAMLA, an innovative program developed by JDC-ESHEL, recruits retired adults and other volunteers to provide one-on-one tutoring for immigrant students. In 2002, Project GAMLA will expand its reach to some 30 communities and serve over 1,000 immigrant children, including those from the Caucasus and Bukhara regions. The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore is providing generous support for this project, as is the Pittsburgh community.

In partnership with the Weizmann Institute and the Baron de Hirsch Foundation, the Sciences program is introducing Ethiopian-Israeli students in seven schools to advanced science and technology this year. The Hebrew University and the Israel Association of Community Centers cooperated to prepare five groups of Ethiopian-Israeli high school students for matriculation in 2001, with seven such groups being prepared in 2002.
Reshet Bitachon, another JDC initiative for Ethiopian youth, has been fostering a comprehensive approach among the various government, municipal, and voluntary agencies who have been developing programs for Ethiopian youth-at-risk. Reshet Bitachon will extend its activities from three to four cities in 2002, and it will also target youth-at-risk from the Caucasus.

Programs benefiting Ethiopian-Israeli children have been implemented with generous support from Alfred Coplan, Alfred and Gail Engelberg, Edith and Henry Everett, Edythe Roland Grodnick, Myra and Robert Kraft, Judd Malkin, the Henrietta Morgan Trust, Nate Shapiro, Richard and Lois Gunther (in memory of their granddaughter Eva Leah Gunther), the Helen Bader Foundation, the Baron de Hirsch Foundation, the David and Inez Myers Foundation, UJA-Federation of New York, Leslie Bernstein-Armstrong, Thomas Secunda, Sarita Gantz, the Rhoda and Richard Goldman Philanthropic Fund, the Aaron and Lillie Strauss Foundation, Bernard Gottstein, Susi Schletter-Messing, Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston, the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, the Jewish Federation of Waco and Central Texas, and the Pratt Foundation.

JDC has been phasing out its involvement in the Refuah Shlema program, which will be taken over entirely in 2002 by the Ministry of Health. By training Ethiopian-Israeli health liaisons to help doctors and nurses overcome cultural differences and understand their patients' special needs, the program has already benefited over 20,000 Ethiopian immigrants. It has received generous support from the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, the Jewish Venture Philanthropy Fund of Washington DC (under the auspices of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington), and Alfred and Gail Engelberg.

"Through Our Eyes," the Amharic-language TV program funded by JDC, has been providing an important service for the Ethiopian community. The weekly current affairs program is watched by 80 percent of Ethiopian-Israelis and is their principal source of information on current events. Since the start of the intifada, "Through Our Eyes" has become a veritable lifeline for thousands of Ethiopian immigrants, helping to explain breaking events, calm fears and anxieties, and provide vital security information. The Rhoda and Richard Goldman Philanthropic Fund provides generous support for this program.

Through its Aleh leadership development program, JDC has been equipping younger Ethiopian Israelis with the skills they need to become advocates on their community's behalf. Currently operating in 12 cities with more than 300 participants overall, Aleh has created and continues to nurture community leadership at the local level. Many of its members are active in neighborhood and municipal committees, interceding with schools, social services, health plans, and other institutions to help make their community's needs understood. There is also close cooperation between Aleh participants and PACT. This JDC initiative has helped change the way others regard this community—and the way it regards itself.

Employment initiatives for immigrants from Ethiopia and the Caucasus region include programs like Eshet Hayil, which strives to integrate women into the workplace. Operated in partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, this program currently serves 800 women in 12 localities. Reshet, an employment program for Ethiopian immigrants that is supported by the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties, exposes participants to a work environment and provides them with the intensive support they need to secure decent jobs.

The San Francisco Federation is also supporting the prototype employment incubator for unemployed immigrants that JDC has established in Ashdod. With services ranging from language to vocational training, the incubator is designed to ease immigrants back into the job market.

To further the development of immigrant services, JDC is working to establish new partnerships with North American federations and the Israeli government along the lines of the Ashalim model.

Integrating Other Population Groups

In response to a government request, JDC developed a special training program to promote the entry of ultra-Orthodox men and women into the country's work force. This community is one of Israel's poorest, with more than 50 percent of its members living below the poverty line. In partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the ultra-Orthodox community itself, JDC is training 500 students a year for work in high-tech industries and the financial sector. This program is supported by the Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation, Harry Schimmel, and Jackie and Bertram Woolf.

JDC programs for individuals with disabilities aim to maximize their participation in community life. Seven additional cities joined the Accessible Environments program in 2001, for a total of 15, and five more are slated to join this year. Following the path set by the Israel Museum, the Bloomfield Science Museum became accessible to the disabled last year, and the Botanic Gardens in Givat Ram, Jerusalem will follow suit in 2002. Full access to the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and the Leonore and Larry Zusman Visitors and Education Center for People with Special Needs, which opened in 2001, were made possible by a gift from the Zusman family.

To provide added support during this time of crisis, JDC developed an experimental version of its Supportive Communities program for the elderly (see below) to suit the needs of people with disabilities. This project has been generously funded by the Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey.
CoVoS (Continuum of Vocational Services) is a JDC effort to locate employment opportunities for the disabled. Together with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, JDC has set up a national network of information centers. In a joint project with the Education Ministry, JDC is also helping to integrate young women with special needs into the National Service program.

**Improving the Quality of Life for the Elderly**

Over the past 33 years, JDC-ESHEL has transformed strategic thinking in Israel to emphasize community-based services for the elderly rather than institutional care. In partnership with the government and various social agencies, it has pioneered the development of innovative services to help Israel's senior citizens lead more active, self-sufficient lives. It has also helped improve the quality of care in the nation's residential facilities.

These endeavors have received major support from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation. Funding for specific programs has been generously provided by Joseph Glickman, the Joseph Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds, Adele and Isidore Becker, UJA-Federation of New York, Ora Benton and the Monroe Benton Memorial Foundation, Rita Allen, and Milton Gottesman.

The 120 government-funded local voluntary associations for the elderly that JDC-ESHEL helped establish serve as partners for ongoing programs, including 158 day care centers and 33 enriched seniors' clubs. Support for the day care center in Tzfat is provided by the estate of William W. Kapell through the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. These centers and clubs provide many of the services that are enabling more and more of Israel's seniors to remain living in their own homes and communities.

Additional assistance is furnished by the Supportive Communities program developed by JDC-ESHEL. This program provides senior citizens with emergency alarm systems, assistance with errands and domestic repairs, and social activities to ward off loneliness. There were 72 Supportive Communities in place by the end of 2001, with an additional 15 planned for the current year. The Ben N. Teitel Charitable Trust and the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Trust provide generous support for this program.

In response to the recurrent attacks on the Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo that began in the fall of 2000, JDC-ESHEL set up its first Emergency Supportive Community there in partnership with the Jerusalem municipality. In addition to the program's regular services, the emergency model provides special equipment—radios, blankets, heaters, etc.—and staff members with the language and professional skills needed to ease fears and anxieties, especially among elderly new immigrants. Emergency models have subsequently been established within existing Supportive Communities as well as in additional urban and rural locations deemed by the government to be at greatest risk of attack.

UJA-Federation of New York has been supporting the program in Gilo; the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland supports the program in the Bet Shean Valley; and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit is supporting emergency programs in French Hill (Jerusalem), Gilboa, Emek Hefer, Lev Sharon, and Sderot.

The Warm Home (Bayit Cham) program, which has proved so effective in helping elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union, had been implemented in 17 Israeli localities by the end of 2001. Through meetings once or twice a week in the home of a host family, the program functions as a social safety net, enabling groups of elderly new immigrants to fight loneliness, learn about Israel, and get help with individual problems. This program too is being used to help the elderly cope with the emergency situation, with special services and additional program sites being added this year.

The Warm Home program is generously supported by Lorin Silverman. The Molie Rosenthal Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of South Palm Beach County is funding ten emergency Warm Homes, the United Jewish Federation of MetroWest is supporting two, and the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland has pledged to fund one emergency Warm Home in 2002.

Three new locations were added to the Stay-Well program in 2001, for a total of 17. Based on research documenting the benefits of strength training programs for the elderly, fitness rooms have been set up in seven localities and are planned for eight more. Each will have specially certified instructors to supplement the peer-led health education and exercise programs that have been the mainstay of this initiative, with nearly 600 volunteer seniors serving as leaders to date.

In addition to a variety of educational programs, other health-oriented initiatives for the elderly include a screening project for vision problems, with the Goldberg Foundation providing subsidies for those who need, but cannot afford, corrective lenses. The Computers for All Ages program is now operating in more than 80 centers, with volunteers from high school to geriatric age available to help senior citizens acquire or hone their computer skills.

For those in need of institutional care, JDC-ESHEL has developed a model residential facility that includes beds for both physically and mentally frail elderly as well as those needing long-term care. The model has been implemented in a national network of 20 homes for the elderly, including the two newest facilities. A new respite care home is opening this year in Upper Nazareth, and a second home for the aged in the Arab sector is planned for Taibe, with construction to begin in mid-year.

The Milton and Lois Shiffman Home Hospice of the Valleys near Afula began operating two years ago with support from the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit and the Abraham Gertzman Fund; it is currently serving more than 200 patients with terminal illnesses.
INTERACTION KEEPS SENIORS HEALTHIER AND HAPPIER AT JDC-ESHEL ELDER CARE PROGRAMS. (PHOTO: ZION OZERI)

HAREDI VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER IN JERUSALEM. STRICTLY ORTHODOX MEN LEARN MODERN COMPUTER USAGE. (PHOTO: ZION OZERI)

HORTICULTURAL THERAPY PROVIDES SENIORS WITH A SENSE OF PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING. (PHOTO: ZION OZERI)

CAUCASUS MOUNTAIN ENTERTAINERS KEEP THEIR NATIVE CULTURE ALIVE AS THEY INTEGRATE INTO ISRAELI SOCIETY. (PHOTO: ZION OZERI)

PACT HELPS ETHIOPIAN-ISRAELI CHILDREN MAKE A SMOOTHER TRANSITION INTO SOCIETY. (PHOTO: ZION OZERI)

JDC-BROOKDALE PARTICIPANTS JOINED DELEGATES FROM MANY NATIONS AT A WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE IN FRANCE.
The Glickman Center for Education and Training, which was opened in 2001 as part of the National Center for Training and Education in Tel Hashomer, is offering courses to some 2,000 providers of elderly care annually. The Glickman Program for Excellence in Homes for the Aged continues to support the process of certification under way at the Gilad Geriatric Center. To date, 39 physicians have completed the training program for resident geriatric specialists established by JDC-ESHEL and the Ministry of Health, with 22 doctors remaining in the program, and a new professional exchange program is currently being implemented by UJA-Federation of New York and JDC.


With poverty increasing in Israel, JDC-ESHEL will be placing special emphasis on programs to assist the elderly poor and on those dealing with the prevention and treatment of elderly abuse.

Upgrading Public Sector Services

JDC-ELKA works to enhance the management skills of senior professionals and policymakers in the public and non-profit sectors. By improving the efficiency and effectiveness of Israel's social service infrastructure, it hopes to improve the quality of life for Israel's citizens. These efforts are of particular value during the current emergency, when unavoidable cuts in non-defense spending are causing reductions or freezes in human services throughout the country.

JDC-ELKA has reintroduced its course for the directors-general of the Ministries of Labor and Social Welfare, Interior, Justice, and Health as well as Israel's Cabinet Secretary and its State Attorney. Other courses are offered yearly for deputy directors-general and directors of local social service organizations, government institutions, and educational facilities. Participants completed a new course for CEOs of non-profit organizations in 2001, and a second course is being offered this year.

A new course is being introduced in 2002 for 30 mayors and heads of local and regional councils, including several in the Arab sector. This course, organized in tandem with the Interior Ministry, is based on the informal Lyn P. Meyerhoff 21st Century Forum for Mayors, which is a partnership of JDC-ELKA, the Interior Ministry, Sikkuy—the Association for the Advancement of Equal Opportunity, and the Lyn P. Meyerhoff Foundation. A program of forums and customized training was begun last year to help ease tensions between professionals and elected officials in various municipalities. JDC-ELKA has also established a forum for the directors of the 42 Municipal Planning Units it helped put in place throughout the country.

Along with study tours and lectures, annual conferences facilitate ongoing contact among JDC-ELKA's 1,700 graduates. ELKA's eighth annual conference was held in March 2002, with "Public Management In An Era of Crisis" the timely theme. In four regional councils in the northern Negev—bordering Gaza, JDC-ELKA helped initiate a special program—Ma'avarim—to develop employment opportunities through retraining. The program will be extended to other areas along the confrontation line.

JDC has established the Leonore and Larry Zusman-JDC Prize with the intent of singling out individuals or staffs for their excellence, innovation, originality, and initiative in the field of human services in Israel. The Zusman's generous gift will enable three prizes to be awarded annually.

JDC-ELKA has been promoting a joint undertaking of Israeli and Diaspora health professionals to improve health care for Jews in need in the former Soviet Union and neighboring countries. Called Jewish Healthcare International (JHI), the effort is a partnership venture of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Hadassah Medical Organization, and Kupat Holim Clalit Health Fund in Israel, and the Atlanta Jewish Federation, the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, the Greensboro Jewish Federation, the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, and UJA-Federation of New York in the US. Some 60 volunteers from Israel and 60 from the Diaspora have participated to date in the 27 missions that have been sent to Odessa, Kishinev, Minsk, Riga, and Sofia.

As a result of the concerted effort it has made in recent years to develop local philanthropy and volunteerism, JDC has played a leading role in changing the culture of giving in Israel. It helped the Association of the Voluntary and Non-Profit Sector (VNPS) promote nationwide policies favorable to non-governmental organizations, and, as a partner in Operation Social Development, it has been working to raise the social consciousness of business people.

JDC's Center for Lay Leadership promotes the effectiveness of Israel's non-profit agencies by providing training materials and programs for board members. Local community leaders who are participating in partnership programs with North American federations are also being trained. These include leaders in Ramla, Rehovot, Beersheva, Hadera, and Netanya who are involved with the PACT program for Ethiopian-Israeli preschoolers, leaders in Pardes Katz who are working with the Jewish Federation of Tidewater, and the local leaders who are part of the Central Galilee-Detroit-Kiev triangular program, which is funded by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit. In conjunction with Ashalim, local voluntary organizations have been created to aid youth-at-risk, and a Joint Leadership Seminar is bringing together lay leaders from Israel and New York who are devoted to helping these youngsters.
The JDC-Brookdale Institute—a partnership between JDC and the government of Israel—works closely with voluntary organizations, including JDC-Israel, JDC-ESHEL, Ashalim, and the Jewish Agency, as well as with national and local government agencies to improve social service practices and policies by introducing more effective program planning and evaluation.

The Institute also provides a unique way for Jewish lay leaders and government officials to examine critical social issues facing Jewish communities in Israel and around the world. Its work with the Diaspora is expanding: it includes cooperative projects with individual North American federations as well as with UJC and its Overseas Needs Assessment and Distribution Committee (ONAD).

Aging

The Institute has been leading a multi-year initiative, in cooperation with the World Health Organization, to establish international guidelines, especially for developing countries, that could enhance long-term care for disabled individuals of all ages. Under the sponsorship of the Marshall Weinberg Fund for International Collaboration, the Institute convened a group of leading experts from the developing countries in Israel last year, including five representatives from the Moslem countries.

With support from the Claims Conference, the Institute completed a national study of Holocaust survivors to assess their needs and help develop appropriate responses. The results were presented at a Knesset seminar, which was held in April 2001 on Holocaust Memorial Day.

The Institute is helping the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit develop strategies for evaluating the services it provides locally as well as the programs it supports in Israel. In cooperation with Chicago’s Jewish United Fund and Council of Jewish Elderly, the Institute is conducting a comprehensive review of the integration of Ethiopian immigrants into Israeli society, undertaken as part of UJA-Federation of New York’s priority-setting process, is being widely used in Israel and abroad as a basis for program and policy development. The Institute is also conducting an employment study of Ethiopian fathers in early childhood supported by Auerbach Roland Grodnick and an examination of the involvement of Ethiopian fathers in early childhood supported by the Auerbach Family Foundation, this information is facilitating the development of services for Ethiopian-Israelis.

Immigrant Absorption

The Institute’s continuing evaluation of the PACT program for Ethiopian preschoolers described earlier in this Report provides important comparative data on Israeli children of Ethiopian and non-Ethiopian origin. Together with the data gathered in an overview of early childhood intervention strategies for Ethiopian children supported by Edythe Roland Grodnick and an examination of the involvement of Ethiopian fathers in early childhood supported by the Auerbach Family Foundation, this information is facilitating the development of services for Ethiopian-Israelis.

Disability

The Institute is addressing the issue of mainstreaming, or the inclusion of children with disabilities in the regular school system. With support from the Mandell Berman Endowment Fund for Research on Children with Disabilities, it has been mapping and evaluating mainstreaming programs in Jerusalem schools. This case study should help further the development of similar programs throughout the country.

To improve coordination among those providing services for individuals with disabilities, the Institute, with the assistance of the Helen Bader Foundation, has been developing a model of coordinated services in the Arab sector, and it has been conducting a major study in the Negev of Bedouin children with disabilities.

The Institute provided professional support last year for a special government commission formed to address the increase in unemployment and the expansion of welfare rolls throughout the country. Based on the training primary care physicians in women’s health issues as well as leadership training to help Israeli women become more vocal and effective advocates for better health care. The Institute is carrying out a three-year evaluation of this project and continues to serve as a consultant.

Support from the Connie and Bert Rabinowitz Fund for Creative Breakthrough Research is enabling the Institute to continue its study on information and decisionmaking in the Israeli health system. The study is currently exploring how policymakers make use of information and research, and how the links between research and policymaking can be further strengthened.

Immigrant Absorption

The Institute’s continuing evaluation of the PACT program for Ethiopian preschoolers described earlier in this Report provides important comparative data on Israeli children of Ethiopian and non-Ethiopian origin. Together with the data gathered in an overview of early childhood intervention strategies for Ethiopian children supported by Edythe Roland Grodnick and an examination of the involvement of Ethiopian fathers in early childhood supported by the Auerbach Family Foundation, this information is facilitating the development of services for Ethiopian-Israelis.

Disability

The Institute is addressing the issue of mainstreaming, or the inclusion of children with disabilities in the regular school system. With support from the Mandell Berman Endowment Fund for Research on Children with Disabilities, it has been mapping and evaluating mainstreaming programs in Jerusalem schools. This case study should help further the development of similar programs throughout the country.

To improve coordination among those providing services for individuals with disabilities, the Institute, with the assistance of the Helen Bader Foundation, has been developing a model of coordinated services in the Arab sector, and it has been conducting a major study in the Negev of Bedouin children with disabilities.

The Institute provided professional support last year for a special government commission formed to address the increase in unemployment and the expansion of welfare rolls throughout the country. Based on the
commission's findings, the government has approved a major national experiment to reform employment services in Israel, with the Institute responsible for designing the evaluation process and mobilizing the best international expertise.

The Center for Children and Youth To gain a comprehensive view of the well-being and needs of, and the services utilized by, young children and their families from different backgrounds, the Center has been conducting a study, supported by the Bernard van Leer Foundation, of children aged 3 to 5 in Israel and the Palestinian Authority. The van Leer Foundation is also supporting the Center’s effort to improve support services for young children by engaging in a comprehensive communal planning process in three Jewish and three Arab local authorities. This initiative has been undertaken in cooperation with Ashalim and the Community Center Association.

A recently completed study of new ways to organize the child protection system was the subject of a national seminar sponsored by Betsy and Richard Sheerr and their children in honor of their father and grandfather, Eugene J. Ribakoff. Participants included leading Jewish professionals from three North American communities. The Center is currently supporting the development and implementation of the new models suggested by the study.
The findings of a recently completed Center study on the adoption of older children were presented at another national seminar; this one was made possible by generous support from the Gantz Zahler family.

The Center has been conducting the first-ever needs assessment and planning process for Bedouin children and youth in southern Israel with generous support from the Dubroff family and friends and the Bader Foundation.

The Center continues to serve as professional advisor to the Knesset Committee for the Promotion of Children. It is helping the Knesset develop major new legislation to expand services for children-at-risk. The Center is also taking a leading role in developing recommendations for policy measures in the framework of an ad hoc Knesset committee set up to address the needs of dropouts and “hidden” dropouts in the school system.

The Center is conducting a two-year evaluation of a program that provides computer training to disadvantaged youth during their period of army service. The Institute was involved in the development of this innovative project, which is supported by the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland and is being made available to other members of the Israel Defense Forces.

Together with the Health Policy Unit and in cooperation with JDC's FSU department, the Center conducted an assessment of the nutritional, health, and social needs of Jewish children in Moldova. This study was the first of its kind ever conducted in the former Soviet Union.

### The Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel

The Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel (CSPS) helps Israeli policymakers identify strategic social developments and formulate appropriate actions and policies to improve the well-being of Israel’s population. An independent, non-partisan research institute funded primarily by JDC, CSPS has come to occupy an influential position in the social policy arena as both government and opposition leaders turn to it for accurate analyses of policy options in the areas of education, health, personal welfare, and the economy.

The year 2001 saw a steep downturn in the Israeli economy, with contractions in production, employment, and foreign trade, and the situation continued to deteriorate in the first half of 2002. CSPS stays in touch with policymakers to keep them apprised of the social ramifications of all budget decisions. In meetings with Budget Bureau staff, the Center has proposed policy options that attempt to mitigate the negative effects on social services likely to result from the combination of a worsening economy and an increase in defense needs.

### Some Key Findings of CSPS' 2001 Analysis of Israel's Social Expenditures:

- The government is having increased difficulty meeting expanding security demands as well as the rise in social welfare needs created by the economic recession.
- Although life expectancy rates are high and infant mortality levels very low, allocations to the health sector have been declining and there is a worrisome trend toward privatization and increased inequality.
- Public services are having great difficulty meeting increasing needs, particularly in the area of long-term hospitalization. Current provisions for long-term hospitalization are insufficient and high-priced even for the middle class.
- The percentage of 18-year-olds qualifying for matriculation has risen among both Jews and Arabs, although the correlation between low socio-economic level and low educational achievement has not diminished significantly.

The 2001 edition of the Center’s widely respected Annual Analysis of Social Expenditures was presented this past December to policymakers, academicians, and the public at a special forum hosted by Israel’s President, the Hon. Moshe Katsav. Speakers included government ministers, the Governor of the Bank of Israel, and area experts from CSPS’ own staff. The conference’s success led the President to announce his intention to make it a joint annual event. The 2001 analysis included special reports on implementing counter-cyclical policies despite budget limitations, on the semi-privatization of welfare services, and on improving teacher training. It also examined “user” satisfaction through a detailed survey of public preferences in various policy areas.

In February 2002, prominent speakers from the US, Israel, and international institutions took part in a special program held at Washington's Brookings Institution to mark the publication of Sticking Together: The Israeli Experiment in Pluralism. The new volume is the result of a joint research project undertaken by Brookings and CSPS. It examines the major challenges confronting Israeli society and draws lessons that can be used by the US and other pluralistic societies struggling to accommodate the needs of highly diverse populations. The publication and event indicate the prestigious standing that the Center has gained over the years.

The Center's Israel: Social-Economic Review gives Federation and other Jewish community leaders a concise picture of Israel’s social and economic scene, with updated information available online at www.cspso.org.il. Another CSPS publication, Israel—Fast Facts for the Busy Reader, is distributed to every UJC mission participant and has proved to be a handy and popular guide.
The former Soviet Union

COUNTRIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES (CIS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Armenia</th>
<th>Moldova</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Tadikistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JDC's Strategy in the Former Soviet Union

JDC sees immigration to Israel as a primary goal on the global Jewish agenda, the best option for ensuring that the Jews of the former Soviet Union (FSU) do not assimilate. JDC recognizes, though, that many Jews will remain for the foreseeable future, and they need dynamic community organizations to facilitate the revival of Jewish life, to reach out effectively to the uninvolved, and to care for those in desperate need of social services.

It is JDC’s mission to help the Jews of the FSU—the third largest Jewish community in the world—to reclaim their heritage and assist them in providing welfare services to the neediest among them. Jews who have been reconnected to their identity, who understand and feel pride in their Jewishness, may well choose to make aliyah.

To further its mission, JDC works to promote Jewish knowledge, values, and identity in a spirit of religious pluralism and with a commitment to Zionist principles, while encouraging the emergence of local leadership and the development of independent and ultimately self-sufficient Jewish communities.
Facilitating an Historic Jewish Reawakening

The rebirth of the Jewish spirit and Jewish community life that has taken place in the former Soviet Union (FSU) since the fall of Communism almost defies reason, given all that has befallen Jews in the FSU over the past century. Indeed, it will be seen by future generations as one of the great miracles of Jewish history, proving that, although Communism’s all-encompassing control may have succeeded in denying Jews the right to live as Jews, it could not succeed in smothering the flame of Jewish identity embedded deep within each and every Jewish soul.

JDC’s efforts to help fan those flames have met with much success over the past decade. Working in partnership with tens of thousands of the million-plus Jews who remain today—by choice or by circumstance—in the FSU, JDC has been helping to re-establish the fabric of Jewish community life while attempting to alleviate the desperate economic and social circumstances facing so many elderly Jews.

Cultural and welfare, social and spiritual needs have been met by developing Jewish community centers (JCCs), Jewish libraries, kindergartens, Hillel centers, academic institutes and programs, and the all-important Hesed or welfare centers that have now reached over 250,000 destitute and isolated elderly Jews—in a network stretching from Eastern Europe to the Caucasus Mountains and through the Urals and Siberia to the Far East.

In keeping with JDC’s goal of empowering this community and helping it achieve eventual self-sufficiency, JDC training efforts have facilitated the emergence of a new generation of leaders capable of designing communal structures and programs that are truly reflective of local aspirations and needs.

The partnerships JDC has been building with individual North American federations have given them a direct share in this historic mission, so critical to the future not just of Jews in the FSU, but of world Jewry. Major cooperative relationships now join New York and Moscow; Baltimore and Odessa; Boston and Dnepropetrovsk; Cleveland, Palm Beach and St. Petersburg; Detroit, Chicago and Kiev; MetroWest, NJ and Cherkassy; Pittsburgh and Moldova; Tucson and Yekaterinburg; Greensboro and Beltz; Philadelphia, Atlanta and Minsk; and Montreal with the Kiev periphery.

But even though so much has been accomplished over the past decade, there are still hundreds of thousands of Jews in the FSU who have yet to reconnect to Jewish life in any substantial way. If we fail to help them do so, assimilation will soon take its inevitable toll. Their opportunity to affirm their Jewish identity and renew their ties to the Jewish people will be lost forever—and all of world Jewry will be the lesser for it.

JCCs—Reaching the Periphery and Strengthening the Core Cities

JDC has helped to establish Jewish Community Centers (JCCs) across the length and breadth of the FSU, with those set up in the smaller localities and outlying areas meant to serve as hubs for reborn Jewish communities and Jewish renewal efforts. Now that a transcontinental network of about 180 JCCs is well in place, JDC has launched a new Capital Cities Initiative, with the aim of developing major community center facilities for the three largest Jewish communities of the FSU: those of Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Kiev. At the same time, JDC is making physical improvements in JCCs throughout the FSU, and it is emphasizing professional training for JCC staffs to ensure that the centers are run as effectively as possible.

A special Hanukkah celebration was held in Moscow in December 2001 to mark the inauguration of a new center city JCC, which was established with generous support from the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, Fred Richman, UJA-Federation of New York, and the Koret Foundation. Two other major funding partners for this Capital Cities initiative are the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund and Eugene J. Ribakoff. The JCC is located in a converted 19th century mansion and includes a large library, an art gallery, a computer laboratory, and a kosher restaurant. One of the very few in the city, the latter has quickly become a favorite community meeting place.

The new JCC, known as Nikitskaya, already has over 600 regular participants in its activities, which emphasize cultural programs of the highest caliber. They are attracting a highly educated segment of the community, many of whom have not participated in Jewish life in the past. A second central Moscow JCC is being planned.

In St. Petersburg, land has been purchased for the construction of a new JCC to replace that city’s existing rented facility. Planned as a “community campus,” the new JCC will incorporate a family center, Hesed or welfare activities, the local Jewish University, and a Hillel student center. As part of the strong relationship with St. Petersburg that they have developed through JDC, both the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland and the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County are involved in this planning process.

In Kiev, the municipality has made land adjacent to Babi Yar available for the construction of a new JCC that will incorporate a memorial to the Jews massacred there by the Nazis. The Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit is taking an active interest in the development of this JCC, and discussions are under way, as well, with the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago.

Elsewhere, JCCs built expressly as community centers have already been opened in Dnepropetrovsk (with support from Joe Gurwin), in Kharkov (supported by UJA-Federation of New York and the Koret Foundation), and in St. Petersburg, Kazan, Yaroslavl, Kiev, and Minsk, while one in Kishinev is under construction, with support from Irwin and Joan Richman, UJA-Federation of New York, and the Koret Foundation. Two major funding partners for this Capital Cities initiative are the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund and Eugene J. Ribakoff. The JCC is located in a converted 19th century mansion and includes a large library, an art gallery, a computer laboratory, and a kosher restaurant. One of the very few in the city, the latter has quickly become a favorite community meeting place.

The new JCC, known as Nikitskaya, already has over 600 regular participants in its activities, which emphasize cultural programs of the highest caliber. They are attracting a highly educated segment of the community, many of whom have not participated in Jewish life in the past. A second central Moscow JCC is being planned.

In St. Petersburg, land has been purchased for the construction of a new JCC to replace that city’s existing rented facility. Planned as a “community campus,” the new JCC will incorporate a family center, Hesed or welfare activities, the local Jewish University, and a Hillel student center. As part of the strong relationship with St. Petersburg that they have developed through JDC, both the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland and the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County are involved in this planning process.

In Kiev, the municipality has made land adjacent to Babi Yar available for the construction of a new JCC that will incorporate a memorial to the Jews massacred there by the Nazis. The Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit is taking an active interest in the development of this JCC, and discussions are under way, as well, with the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago.

Elsewhere, JCCs built expressly as community centers have already been opened in Dnepropetrovsk (with support from Joe Gurwin), in Kharkov (supported by UJA-Federation of New York and the Koret Foundation), and in St. Petersburg, Kazan, Yaroslavl, Kiev, and Minsk, while one in Kishinev is under construction, with support from Irwin and Joan Richman, UJA-Federation of New York, and the Koret Foundation. Two major funding partners for this Capital Cities initiative are the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund and Eugene J. Ribakoff. The JCC is located in a converted 19th century mansion and includes a large library, an art gallery, a computer laboratory, and a kosher restaurant. One of the very few in the city, the latter has quickly become a favorite community meeting place.

The new JCC, known as Nikitskaya, already has over 600 regular participants in its activities, which emphasize cultural programs of the highest caliber. They are attracting a highly educated segment of the community, many of whom have not participated in Jewish life in the past. A second central Moscow JCC is being planned.

In St. Petersburg, land has been purchased for the construction of a new JCC to replace that city’s existing rented facility. Planned as a “community campus,” the new JCC will incorporate a family center, Hesed or welfare activities, the local Jewish University, and a Hillel student center. As part of the strong relationship with St. Petersburg that they have developed through JDC, both the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland and the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County are involved in this planning process.

In Kiev, the municipality has made land adjacent to Babi Yar available for the construction of a new JCC that will incorporate a memorial to the Jews massacred there by the Nazis. The Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit is taking an active interest in the development of this JCC, and discussions are under way, as well, with the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago.

Elsewhere, JCCs built expressly as community centers have already been opened in Dnepropetrovsk (with support from Joe Gurwin), in Kharkov (supported by UJA-Federation of New York and the Koret Foundation), and in St. Petersburg, Kazan, Yaroslavl, Kiev, and Minsk, while one in Kishinev is under construction, with support from Irwin and Joan Richman, UJA-Federation of New York, and the Koret Foundation. Two major funding partners for this Capital Cities initiative are the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund and Eugene J. Ribakoff. The JCC is located in a converted 19th century mansion and includes a large library, an art gallery, a computer laboratory, and a kosher restaurant. One of the very few in the city, the latter has quickly become a favorite community meeting place.

The new JCC, known as Nikitskaya, already has over 600 regular participants in its activities, which emphasize cultural programs of the highest caliber. They are attracting a highly educated segment of the community, many of whom have not participated in Jewish life in the past. A second central Moscow JCC is being planned.

In St. Petersburg, land has been purchased for the construction of a new JCC to replace that city’s existing rented facility. Planned as a “community campus,” the new JCC will incorporate a family center, Hesed or welfare activities, the local Jewish University, and a Hillel student center. As part of the strong relationship with St. Petersburg that they have developed through JDC, both the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland and the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County are involved in this planning process.

In Kiev, the municipality has made land adjacent to Babi Yar available for the construction of a new JCC that will incorporate a memorial to the Jews massacred there by the Nazis. The Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit is taking an active interest in the development of this JCC, and discussions are under way, as well, with the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago.
Jacobs. A center in Odessa funded by Nancy and Stephen Grand is currently in the planning stages, as is a center in Novosibirsk funded by Joseph Wilf.

JDC has been placing major emphasis on new training courses for JCC directors and staff. The courses will add to their Jewish knowledge and deepen their understanding of the make-up of their respective Jewish communities so that they can better reach out to the unaffiliated. JDC has been nurturing the development of lay leadership in each locality to enable these JCCs to become self-governing, run by boards of local Jewish leaders.

JDC's efforts to help computerize the JCCs have improved administrative efficiency and given both patrons and staff access to Jewish material on the Internet and an enhanced ability to communicate with Jewish communities worldwide. Over 60 JCCs are already online, and computers in 15 of the centers have been made accessible to JCC patrons.

The Association of JCCs in the FSU has its own Web site, issues a newspaper every four months, and will hold its third annual conference in October 2002. The Association interacts with Israel and Diaspora Jewry through the World Confederation of JCCs.

Many North American federations look to the JCCs and their Jewish renewal programs as a way of deepening their cooperative relationships with partner communities in the FSU. In addition to the relationships cited above, the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and the JCC in Kishinev have engaged in a strategic community planning process for Moldova, the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona is developing a multi-year relationship with Yekaterinburg, and Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston has been a major force in the development of the Dnepropetrovsk JCC.

**Outreach Programs Broaden the Community Base**

Family retreats, which feature activities revolving around Shabbat and Jewish life cycle events, are a major and increasingly popular component of JCC outreach campaigns, and young families are their primary target. Some 6,800 family members, more than double the previous year's total, took part in last summer's hectic schedule of 117 retreats, while over 3,000 participated in the 50 retreats held this past winter. Special retreats are organized for single-parent families and for families with special-needs children, and family clubs have been established to enable families who meet at these retreats to stay in touch. Through the Mazel Tov program described in the section on welfare activities below, family centers in 64 localities offer various forms of support to those with very young children.

JDC helped provide staff training and teaching materials for many of the 55 Jewish kindergartens that now exist in the FSU, which have a total enrollment of over 2,000 preschoolers. These kindergartens have proved to be highly effective tools for attracting the unaffiliated to the Jewish community and introducing families to Jewish culture. Jewish kindergartens in Minsk are being supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

The OFEK Jewish Book Festival has become the major event on Jewish community calendars each fall, with local festivals held in 2001 in 123 communities, 25 more than in the previous year. Generous support for this program is provided by the Joseph Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds. Initiated by JDC but managed now by the individual communities, the OFEK festivals strengthen Jewish identity, unite community organizations, and aid in outreach and community building efforts. OFEK also functions as a Jewish cultural showcase for non-Jews. Larger cities have organized OFEK-on-Wheels programs to bring the taste of the festival to smaller communities. Other cultural festivals held in 2001 include the Spring Festival of Jewish Music in Kazan, a Klezfest of klezmer music in St. Petersburg, and the Dnepropetrovsk Fall Festival of Jewish Culture.

The network of Jewish libraries set up by JDC across the FSU is central to community outreach efforts. Five new libraries were opened in 2001, bringing the number established to date to 184, with a total of more than 800,000 books and over 50,000 patrons. Many of the libraries hold Jewish story-telling hours and other programs developed by the FSU's own Jewish Libraries Association. JDC has organized special courses to train librarians who already have the requisite professional skills but are lacking in Jewish knowledge. JDC's library initiative is partly funded by the Joseph Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds and by the Alvin and Fanny Blaustein Thalheimer Foundation.

The House of Jewish Books, which was opened last year in the new Moscow JCC, is serving as a clearinghouse and central library for the entire network. It has online Internet access, as do 10 other Jewish libraries. The Moscow Jewish Research Library, which JDC helped establish in 2001 under the auspices of the National State Library of Russia, offers scholars state-of-the-art research facilities and is producing curricula and bibliographies for use by Jewish studies departments at local universities.

The ETROG Conference for Jewish Educators was held in Kiev last spring, with the next session scheduled for October 2002. Seminars for educators were also held over the past year in Odessa and Samara. A Jewish high school program has been introduced for Jewish students enrolled in prestigious non-Jewish high schools: two seminars held recently in Moscow had 120 participants, and 60 students in St. Petersburg regularly attend extra-curricular programs on Judaism and Jewish philosophy. The Regeneration Project 2000 Technical School in Dnepropetrovsk has received generous support from Russell Berrie.
1. A home care worker brings companionship and food to an elderly shut-in.
2. Free medical checkups are offered to members of the Jewish community at Hesed Avot in Kiev.
3. Two Jewish War Veterans celebrate Shabbat at the New Minsk Jewish Campus.
4. Hillel students are creating a young Jewish community in Western Ukraine.
5. The Hesed's cobbler repairs shoes free of charge for members of the Jewish community.
6. Two young sisters in Voronezh bring Jewish community back home from the local Hesed Kochavi.
Academic Programs Nurture Jewish Renewal

Over 100 academic institutions in the FSU are now offering higher education courses on Jewish topics, and some 1,000 academics are active in the field of Jewish studies. The Chais Center for Jewish Studies at the elite Moscow State University (MGU) exemplifies the prestige now accorded this academic discipline. A joint project of MGU and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Center was established with support from Stanley Chais, the Russian Jewish Congress, and the Israeli government. JDC also supports Jewish studies at other state and Jewish universities, including the Jewish University of Moscow, the St. Petersburg Jewish University, the Russian State University for the Humanities, the International Solomon University of Kiev, and the State Universities of Donetsk, Kazan, Georgia, and Moldova. In 2001, JDC expanded this initiative to the International Solomon University of Kharkov and the State University of Belarus.

Since its founding in 1994 with JDC support, Sefer, the Moscow Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization, has been the central address for Jewish academic activities. It helps initiate new programs and conducts intensive courses to raise the professional level of existing programs. In 2001, these included a winter school in Moscow for 120 students and summer schools in Kharkov and St. Petersburg with a total of 300 participants. Each winter, Sefer’s Interdisciplinary Conference on Jewish Studies brings together some 500 academics and students from the FSU and many other countries. Twenty students were sent by Sefer to Jerusalem last year to participate in the intensive Eshnav Program of Jewish Studies. This effort is co-sponsored by the Jewish Agency and is part of Sefer’s strategic partnership with the Hebrew University.

The number of People’s Universities increased from 17 to 21 in 2001, offering adult Jewish education in a non-academic framework to some 36,000 participants. JDC supports the Association of Public Universities for Jewish Culture, which coordinates these activities and publishes booklets on Jewish subjects; its annual conference was held in Moscow last October and attended by 180 delegates.

Looking to the Future

The opening of new Hillel student centers in Simferopol and Sevastopol in 2001 brought to 28 the number that have been established to date across the FSU. Some 9,000 students take part regularly in Hillel center activities, which include Shabbat programs, lectures, Hebrew classes, computer clubs, and a variety of arts programs. Many additional students participate in Jewish holiday celebrations and special events. The Hillel centers are a cooperative venture of JDC, Hillel: the Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, and the centers’ students. They offer young Jews an environment in which they can meet like-minded students, and they have been attracting and nurturing the young adults from among whom the future Jewish leadership in the FSU will be drawn.

Hillel student centers receive generous support from the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, UJA-Federation of New York, the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, UJA/UJC Federation of Bergen County and North Hudson, the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit, the Ben and Esther Rosenbloom Foundation, and other donors.

Student involvement in organizing and conducting Passover and High Holiday celebrations each year in local communities throughout the FSU has become a highlight of the Hillel centers’ activities. Over 935 students participated in the Passover Project last year, visiting 359 locations to lead communal Passover seders for over 40,000 people, and nearly 15,000 students and other community members took part in special High Holiday services.

The Hillel leadership conference in January 2002 attracted 330 participants, and a summer leadership conference is being supported by the Wexner Foundation of Canada. In December 2001 and January 2002, Hillel, JDC, and Birthright Israel brought over 400 Jewish students to Israel for a 10-day Israel Experience.

Leadership Development and Training

The JDC-Buncher Community Leadership Program has provided over 220 Jewish lay leaders and young activists in the FSU with the technical skills they need to help their communities grow. A primary component of JDC’s community building and leadership development efforts, this Israel-based program is sponsored by the Buncher family through the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh.

In 2001, JDC phased out its support for the Melton Program for Senior Educators from the FSU. Run by the Hebrew University’s Melton Center for Jewish Education, the program had trained 130 educators since its inception.

Major support for JDC’s Jewish renewal initiatives is provided by the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation and the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Foundation.

JDC’s Jewish renewal programs are supported by grants of $100,000 or more from the following federations: the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona; The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore; Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston; the Buncher Family through the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh; the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland; the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit; the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles; the Minneapolis Jewish Federation; UJA-Federation of New York; the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County; the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh; and the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.
Additional support is provided by the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta; the UJA/UJC Federation of Bergen County and North Hudson; the Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay; the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford; the Jacksonville Jewish Federation; the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven; the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia; the Jewish Federation of San Antonio; the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle; UJA/Federation of Westport-Weston-Wilton-Norwalk; and the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.

Additional major gifts were made by Russell Berne; the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund; Irwin and Joan Jacobs; the Koret Foundation; the Joseph Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds; Eugene J. Ribakoff; Fred Richman; Louis Thalheimer; Joseph Wilf; and World Jewish Relief (WJR, UK).

Hesed Centers: Combating Hunger and Isolation while Strengthening Jewish Community Life

Through the 162 Hesed or welfare centers that had been established by the end of 2001 and a fleet of 81 HesedMobiles, JDC, in partnership with the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, has been helping to provide essential welfare services to over 250,000 needy elderly Jews in 2,640 cities, towns, and villages across the length and breadth of the FSU. This is one of the largest and most logistically complex relief campaigns ever waged by the Jewish world. It is furnishing basic assistance—food, home care, winter relief, medical help, and social activities—to impoverished Jews living even in the most isolated locations, many in conditions of extreme poverty almost unimaginable to those of us in the West.

These elderly Jews have suffered time and again during their lifetimes; victims of Soviet anti-Semitism, many are also Holocaust survivors. While the collapse of the Soviet system brought them new freedoms, the FSU’s many imploding economies soon left them in very difficult financial straits. Nearly all are currently living below the poverty line, but unlike other FSU seniors hurt by the changeover to market economies, most elderly Jews have no families to call upon for help. In fact, 40 percent are childless, while emigration has meant that 65 percent of those who do have children no longer live in the same city or country.

The demise of the Soviet Union left few Jewish communal organizations in place with the means or the technical ability to respond to the enormous needs that soon emerged among this older generation. And, used to virulent anti-Semitism, it is a generation that has always hidden its Jewishness and kept very much to itself.

Thus, before the introduction of the Hesed program, most elderly Jews in the FSU were living a life of quiet desperation, suffering from hunger, isolation and loneliness, cultural deprivation, ill health, and winter’s bitter cold. The welfare program has come a long way since 1993, when Abraham and Sonia Rochlin helped establish the first Hesed in St. Petersburg with assistance from Yad Sarah and other Israeli professionals. In 2001 alone, 15 new centers were added, an effort that has received substantial support from the Posner family through the United Jewish...
Proudly holding her fresh box of matza, provided by JDC.

Family camps provide a “Shabbos experience” for children and their parents.

Local teachers trained by JDC build a strong Jewish identity through education.

Holiday festivities at Niesed Menachem in Dnepropetrovsk.

Welcoming the Sabbath at a warm home in Russia.
Federation of Greater Pittsburgh. The program’s success is symbolized by the fact that the word *Hesed* is now officially part of the Russian language, defined, as in Hebrew, as “a charitable deed” or, literally, “an act of loving kindness.”

For the past seven years, the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany has been JDC’s major partner in providing help to impoverished elderly Jews in the FSU. The establishment of a partnership committee has put this cooperative endeavor on a more formal footing. The Claims Conference funds over half the cost of the *Hesed* programs, providing services in those regions where there are a large number of victims of Nazi persecution.

Major ongoing funding for JDC welfare and medicine programs is also provided by the US Court overseeing the Swiss Bank Settlement and by the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, World Jewish Relief (WJR, UK), the Posner family through the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, the Abraham and Sonia Rochlin Foundation, the Austrian National Fund for Victims of National Socialism and the US, Dutch, French, and UK governments through their contributions to the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund. Supplementary funding was also received from federations through United Jewish Communities/ONAD.

JDC’s welfare programs are supported by grants of $100,000 or more from the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta; The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore; Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston; UIA Federations Canada; the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte; the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago; the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston; the Greater Miami Jewish Federation; The United Jewish Federation of MetroWest; the Minneapolis Jewish Federation; FEDERATION CJA Montreal; UJA-Federation of New York; the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County; the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh; the Jewish Federation of St. Louis; the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington; and the Network of Independent Communities.

Support for hunger relief in the FSU was also provided by the UJA/UJC Federation of Bergen County and North Hudson; the Birmingham Jewish Federation; the Columbus Jewish Federation; the Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay; the UJA Federation of Greenwich; the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford; the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis; the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City; the Jewish Community Federation of Louisville; the Milwaukee Jewish Federation; the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans; the Jewish Federation of North Shore; the Jewish Federation of Palm Springs and Desert Area; the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix; the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond; the Savannah Jewish Federation; the Jewish Federation of Greater Springfield; and UJA Jewish Federation Hamilton, Ontario.

Additional major gifts were made by Alfred Bader; the Fritz and Adelaide Kaufmann Foundation; Carol Kaplan; William Marcus; Edward Merrin; Edgar and Sandy Snyder through the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh; Stanley Tuttleman; Elizabeth Varet; and Jeffrey Vinik.

The food program administered by the *Hesed* centers provided more food than ever in 2001 to an increasing number of hungry elderly Jews. Nearly 1.6 million food packages were distributed in over 2,600 towns and villages, and more than 4 million meals-on-wheels were delivered in over 300 localities. In addition, fresh food sets—perishable foods meant for those still able to cook for themselves—were provided to over 12,500 needy elderly Jews in more than 500 locations.

The Warm Home (*Bayit Cham*) program operated last year in 245 cities and towns, with some 850 *Bayit Cham* groups reaching over 11,900 Jewish elderly. The volunteers involved in this program, most of whom are themselves senior citizens, open their homes on a regular basis to small groups of needy elderly Jews. In addition to nutritious meals, the program provides the companionship, social support, and Jewish cultural sustenance needed to overcome the isolation that envelops so many members of this older generation. Similarly, the almost 500 communal dining rooms established throughout the FSU, which served nearly 5 million hot meals in 2001, are helping to make the elderly feel a part of the Jewish community.

The day center programs that have been established in 51 *Hesed* centers throughout the FSU are engaged in a similar effort, offering Jewish social and cultural activities for the elderly in tandem with food and medical assistance. The Pittsburgh Federation is supporting the day center program in Moldova, and FEDERATION CJA Montreal and UIA Federations Canada support welfare initiatives in the Kiev region.

All told, over 130,000 people participated in programs offered by the *Hesed* network in 2001 to help the elderly reconnect with their Jewish heritage. Activities included Shabbat and holiday celebrations and efforts like the Books-on-Wheels program, which brings small Jewish libraries directly to individuals and *Bayit Cham* groups.

With health services in many areas of the FSU deteriorating or non-existent, JDC has introduced new health initiatives to help meet the needs of mostly elderly and impoverished Jews. Volunteer physicians, dentists, and therapists provided more than 56,000 free consultations in 2001 at *Hesed* centers, through home visits, and by accompanying *Hesed* Mobiles on their rounds. Visiting teams of volunteer doctors from the US and Israel have been providing medical consultations, peer instruction, and sometimes new equipment as part of the Jewish Healthcare International program described in the Israel section of this Report. Medicines were distributed at highly subsidized prices to those in need in some 1,900 localities in 2001, benefiting nearly 110,000 *Hesed* clients. The Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County provided support for the provision of basic medicines in St. Petersburg.
Home care continues to be an integral part of the services provided by local Hesed centers, with 28,393 homebound elderly receiving regular visits from caregivers in 2001. Caregivers are paid members of the community who look after, shop, and cook for the elderly. More than 40,700 pieces of equipment, including canes, walkers, and wheelchairs, were distributed last year through the Hesed centers' loan programs, and nearly 80,000 needy elderly received heating and cooking fuel, blankets, assistance with home repairs, and other forms of winter relief.

With some of the worst poverty found among isolated elderly Jews in outlying towns and villages, the use of specially equipped vans called HesedMobiles, manned by teams of professionals and volunteers, has enabled JDC to extend the reach of the Hesed program to those living far from a local center. The number of HesedMobiles increased to 81 during 2001, up from 64 the previous year, and Jews living in 2,082 small communities were served. Generous support from the Posner family through the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, the Thalheimer Foundation, the Jewish Venture Philanthropy Fund of Washington DC, and the Abraham and Sonia Rochlin Foundation made this critically needed expansion possible. JDC was thus able to provide food, fuel, medical, and social assistance as well as Jewish cultural and religious items last year in the remoter regions of the FSU, including Siberia, the Russian Far East, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan.

The Mazel Tov program is a Hesed initiative that has been undertaken in conjunction with the JCCs, and it targets a much younger clientele. The program offers families with children under age six both emotional support and material help, including baby gifts made by the elderly at Hesed day centers. It also provides Jewish activities at the family centers that have now been set up in 64 localities, including the 16 added in 2001. The Mazel Tov program is being supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford.

Nurturing Self-Sufficiency

JDC has developed an intensive training program for communal workers and volunteers to further its goal of creating self-sufficient Jewish communities able to meet their own welfare needs. Launched in 1994 with the opening of the William S. Rosenwald Institute for Jewish and Communal Welfare Workers in St. Petersburg, the program now includes similar institutes in eight additional cities. Nearly 6,000 professionals, lay leaders, and volunteers were trained at these institutes in 2001. The William Rosenwald Family Fund, the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, and the Minneapolis Jewish Federation provide critical support for this program.

The Hesed network could not function without its army of local volunteers, whose ranks swelled to over 14,000 in 2001. Over the past decade, JDC has emphasized and helped to expand the concept of volunteerism, which was considered inappropriate during the Soviet era when all assistance was supposed to be rendered by the state. Jewish community volunteers include schoolchildren, college students, young and middle-aged adults, and large numbers of elderly Hesed clients who are determined to give as well as take. Volunteers play an important role in community building and are helping to bring the different generations together.

JDC has also been working to empower communities and enable them to run their own Hesed centers. A local board of community leaders now manages each Hesed, with board members determining priorities, supervising services, and working with the local authorities and other municipal welfare providers. JDC offers professional advice to two umbrella organizations in the FSU, Idud Hasadim in Russia and Hasdei Ukrema in Ukraine. These organizations coordinate activities at the national level and take part in advocacy campaigns on issues concerning the elderly.

With JDC's help, Hesed centers have transformed Jewish communities in the FSU into welfare and social service providers capable of alleviating the painful poverty that has gripped so many elderly Jews. But with the economies of so many of the nations that once comprised the FSU in such dismal shape, the goal of self-sufficiency remains an ideal. For the foreseeable future, the needs of the Jewish poor are certain to outstrip the local Jewish population's ability to meet them. Indeed, the sheer scale of these needs has compelled JDC to set criteria for assistance in the FSU that are stricter than those applied elsewhere in the Jewish world. And the challenge of providing even that minimal assistance will require the continued involvement and caring commitment of Jews outside the FSU for many years to come.
CLEAN KOSHER KITCHENS PROVIDE NEEDY JEWS WITH NOURISHMENT AND COMPANY. (PHOTO: ZION OZER)
### Eastern Europe

**Romania**
- **Jewish Population:** 14,500
- **JDC Appropriation:** $2,317,400

**Bulgaria**
- **Jewish Population:** 6,000
- **JDC Appropriation:** $485,700

**Hungary**
- **Jewish Population:** 130,000
- **JDC Appropriation:** $1,855,500

**Slovakia**
- **Jewish Population:** 4,000
- **JDC Appropriation:** $162,700

**Poland**
- **Jewish Population:** 10-12,000
- **JDC Appropriation:** $1,014,600

**Czech Republic**
- **Jewish Population:** 3,000
- **JDC Appropriation:** $73,200

**Bosnia-Herzegovina**
- **Jewish Population:** 1,087
- **JDC Appropriation:** $126,500

**Croatia & Slovenia**
- **Jewish Population:** 1,833
- **JDC Appropriation:** $519,800

**Albania**
- **Jewish Population:** 40
- **JDC Appropriation:** $18,000

**Former Yugoslavia**
- **Jewish Population:** 3,585
- **JDC Appropriation:** $263,900

---

**JDC's Objectives in Eastern Europe**

- JDC helps individual communities provide elderly Holocaust survivors with the material assistance they need to live out their lives with dignity as Jews. It encourages the development of additional services to relieve the loneliness of the elderly while meeting their physical needs.

- JDC works to ensure that benefits are provided in a regionally equitable manner, and that those assisted will come as close as possible to having the modest minimum income needed to maintain acceptable living conditions.

- Facilitates the process of Jewish renewal under way in these communities by stimulating the growth of Jewish cultural, religious, educational, and youth activities.

- Helps individual communities organize effectively to provide needed services; it promotes the development and training of lay and professional leaders; and it encourages actions to increase self-sufficiency.

- All these efforts are designed to help ensure, where feasible, a viable and dynamic Jewish life for the future.

- In keeping with its global policy, JDC, in cooperation with the Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel, will respond to emergency situations, helping to rescue and care for Jews in danger or distress.

---

*Figures are approximate.*
Romania

Although the Romanian economy appears to have finally bottomed out, it has done so at a level low enough to make it one of the very weakest in Eastern Europe. Over 60 percent of the people are living in poverty, bills are not being paid, and production in many factories has ground to a halt. With the cost of heat and utilities skyrocketing in recent months, the relief and in-kind assistance—hot meals, food packages, warm clothing, medicines, and medical care—that JDC helps provide to elderly Jewish Holocaust survivors has become more important than ever.

At the same time, major strides forward are being made by the Jewish community in the areas of Jewish education and youth activities, leadership training, and the implementation of new programs for the middle generation, even in towns with only a small nucleus of active Jews. JDC’s field consultants and Jewish Service Corps volunteers have been helping to further these efforts, working with the leaders and senior staff of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Romania (FEDROM). By providing expert advice, administrative aid, and training programs for community presidents and property managers, JDC has also been helping Romanian Jewry derive the maximum possible benefit, in this depressed economy, from the properties that are its main source of income.

FEDROM’s Social Assistance Department is the channel for all JDC-supported aid. Its caseload rose in 2001, despite mortalities, as more elderly Jews in difficult economic straits were forced to turn to the community—their only family—for help.

Substantial grants from the Claims Conference, from the US and Dutch governments’ contributions to the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund (NPRF), and from the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation have enabled JDC to significantly increase the size of its food packages and provide much needed supplemental home care and medications for assistees. These grants have also made it possible to provide food packages, clothing, medicines, and home care to an additional 600 to 650 poor elderly survivors. The United Jewish Federation of Tidewater has provided generous support for hunger relief efforts, while the Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester continues to help JDC and FEDROM meet critical welfare needs in the town of Iasi.

Much attention has been focused recently on improving the living conditions of the approximately 150 residents of the Rosen Home for the Aged in Bucharest. Training programs were held in Israel in 2001 for the director and the senior social worker, and expert consultants are providing on-site guidance in various areas of care. JDC supports the operating costs of the Rosen Home as well as two family-like homes in Transylvania with about 28 residents.

Over the past two years, the Claims Conference has helped fund major improvements at the Rosen Home, including the installation of a new furnace and vital roof repairs. An essential, government-mandated kitchen renovation was completed in August 2001, with help from the Greater Kansas City Federation and the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond. As part of the special partnership it has established with Romanian Jewry, the Kansas City Federation has also been supporting a variety of other projects vital to the community’s development.

FEDROM’s flagship Bucharest Polyclinic was expanded and refurbished last year with a Dutch government NPRF grant channeled through B’nai Brith. Overall, some 2,039 elderly Jews were treated in 2001 at FEDROM’s 19-clinic network, and JDC purchased medications for 1,700 individuals. Soaring prices and decreasing government benefits have led many additional community members to seek help in securing needed medications. Funds from the Weinberg Foundation and the US’ NPRF grant, along with generous in-kind donations from the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey, the Tidewater Federation, and the Kansas City Federation, have enabled JDC to respond to these needs.

Project Vision, an Atlanta-based organization of Jewish ophthalmologists, has provided screening and expert treatment for some 4,000 elderly individuals with serious eye ailments, including many non-Jews. Working through a private clinic with laser and other equipment donated by the Weinberg Foundation, project doctors have helped to restore or significantly improve the sight of over 700 elderly Jews. Many now take part in the Jewish Braille Institute’s thriving clubs for the visually impaired, which have about 300 regular participants in Bucharest and the provinces.

The day care center for the elderly established four years ago in Bucharest with Claims Conference help offers a variety of physical and occupational therapy programs, personal care, and social activities each day, while lonely elderly Jews benefit from the hot meals and companionship provided at the five FSU-type “warm homes” established in other localities.

Working with local leaders, JDC’s Jewish Service Corps volunteers, two last year and four—a record number—in 2001-02, have been playing an active role in a host of vital community development efforts throughout Romania. Two of the current volunteers are based in Bucharest and two in Timisoara; the latter have decided to stay on for a first-ever second year.

The John W. Uhlmann and the Patricia Werthan Uhlmann Foundations; Art and Annie Sandler of Tidewater, VA; the Joseph Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds; Edythe Roland Grodmck of MetroWest, NJ; Dr. Michael and Nancy Levinson of Memphis; Louise Eder of Milwaukee; Jackie Woof of San Diego; Etta Zimmerman of South Palm Beach; the Joseph and Sally Handelman Charitable Foundation; and the Saltzman Fund for Jews of Mures have provided generous support for the volunteers, for Jewish education, youth activities, leadership training, and other development projects, and for many of the welfare initiatives cited above.
1 Face paint updates this young Queen Esther's Purim finery.

2 Sorin Rosen, a JDC representative, prays with the elders and makes sure they are getting the services they need. (Photo: Sharon Faulkner)

3 An elderly Romanian shut-in converses with a neighbor. Many seniors in Eastern Europe have not left their homes in years. JDC home visits provide food and companionship.
A two-week, jam-packed summer learning session on Jewish history and Judaism has become a star attraction for young people from Jewish communities throughout Romania. There were 75 applicants for the 50 places at last summer’s seminar in Cristian—the third held in as many years—with most participants coming this time from towns too small to have Talmud Torahs. This was the first real contact many had ever had with the Jewish community, and their first opportunity to explore their Jewish identity in a substantive way.

Determined to further their involvement in Judaism and community activities, a number of Cristian alumni subsequently took part in November in FEDROM’s first-ever regional youth seminar. Held in Oradea in northern Transylvania, the seminar was designed to give young Jews living in the most isolated communities in the surrounding area a meaningful Jewish learning experience. Eager to replicate this initial success, FEDROM and the JSC volunteers have plans for at least four similar regional seminars in 2002.

Romanian youth have also been participating in the March of the Living, the International Bible and Jewish Identity Contests, and the Machol Hungaria Israeli dance festival. Some 55 youngsters attended the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp at Szarvas, Hungary last summer with funding from the Lauder Foundation, and 80 are expected to participate this year. Planning is underway for a second all-Romanian JDC Buncher Community Leadership Program, beginning in the fall of 2002.

Over 120 Jewish youth took part in 2001 in leadership development seminars, including a national seminar held last April and a series of smaller seminars held in four different communities last fall. The latter were able to focus on the specific needs of each community and give participants the opportunity to seek advice regarding individual programs and activities.

OTER, the Jewish youth organization, through its FEDROM- and JDC-supported youth clubs in ten communities, is working to attract new faces and identify potential young leaders, with successful holiday-centered events recently held in many of the smaller localities.

In Bucharest, the youth club was relocated last June and has quickly become a popular gathering place; located in a newly renovated community facility, its computers and those in the neighboring Pedagogical Center are permanently connected to the Internet. New outreach activities launched by FEDROM in Bucharest early in 2002 have been attracting many heretofore uninvolved young people. Some 80 of the 150 participants at a February event, for example, were new to the Bucharest community, and 70 signed up for the JEM program on the spot.

Over the past two years, JDC has attached high priority to developing programs for the middle generation, an age group heretofore “missing” from—yet critical to the continuity of—community life. In 2001, FEDROM hired a Romanian Buncher graduate to develop outreach efforts and new activities for Jewish adults. It quickly became clear that this initiative was being taken up with alacrity by the communities themselves. By the first quarter of 2002, some 30 local communities, including, surprisingly, some
of the smallest, had significant middle generation activities under way, and a new trend toward inter-generational programming was developing.

In fact, it has become increasingly apparent, especially in Moldavia and Transylvania, that local Jewish communities are displaying a new energy and a clear receptivity to new ideas and programs. They are also proving themselves capable of reaching out to and involving more and more of their younger and middle generation members—the individuals who will determine the future of Jewish communal life in Romania in the years ahead.

Hungary

Analysts believe that about two-thirds of Hungary’s population have yet to benefit from the country’s overall economic growth, while cutbacks in subsidies and social services have left the poorest families and the elderly with no safety net to cushion the impact of market forces. While most of the cash assistance provided by JDC through the Hungarian Jewish Social Support Foundation (HJSSF) was replaced in 1998 by government-funded annuity payments to eligible Holocaust survivors, JDC continues to support various forms of welfare assistance for the most impoverished elderly Jews. Grants from the US and Dutch government’s contributions to the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund (NPRF) helped provide needy Holocaust survivors with food, home care, medical equipment, and other services in 2001.

Over the past few years, HJSSF’s professional social workers have been helping Holocaust survivors meet the precise administrative requirements of the different restitution claims that they have been entitled to file. And JDC’s Hungary office has supported the efforts of local Jewish institutions that have secured grants from various restitution funds to expand their services for aging and increasingly ill survivors.

In keeping with the spirit of the UN’s Year of the Volunteer, the year-round assistance provided to elderly community members by HJSSF’s network of adult and student volunteers was highlighted in 2001 through special Mitzvah Days organized in March and again in November. The presence of the Israeli ambassador and leading community figures gave added significance to what proved to be a valuable new aid to community building that is being continued this year.

HJSSF is engaged in a variety of efforts to aid community members with disabilities and help integrate them into Jewish communal life. It established the Eszter Sewing Workshop with support from Hungarian Social Security, George and Martha Rich, and the late Istvan Somfai, as well as the David Workshop, whose participants package medical aids. Together, the workshops employed some 52 community members in 2001, giving participants both a modest wage and a chance to develop their skills. HJSSF also operates support groups for the mentally disabled, and it has developed a close relationship with the Association of Hungarian Jewish Deaf and Hearing Impaired. A new center for the visually impaired, operated in cooperation with JBI, the Jewish Braille Institute of America, has a large library of talking books and a place for training and medical treatment.

March 2001 brought the opening of the new Hospice Center established by HJSSF and JDC in Budapest’s Jewish hospital with the help of a Luxembourg government NPRF grant and the Hungarian Association of Hospice Services. Working in close cooperation with hospital staff, the hospice team, with its mobile unit, is able to provide both hospital patients and homebound assistees—most of whom are isolated lonely survivors—with the emotional support and palliative care they need to live out their lives with dignity.

The unit’s two leaders were able to study Israeli hospice services in action when they took part last year in the Buncher Community Leadership Program’s Hungarian-language Israel Seminar. Conducting this key seminar in Hungarian has made it possible to widen the circle of participants in this premiere JDC training effort, which also involves local sessions before and after the three-week Israel segment. By the end of 2001, 66 Hungarian Jews, representing communities large and small, had graduated from the program. This includes a new group of 12 who completed their training last fall and held their first weekend follow-up seminar in March 2002.
Buncher alumni also meet regularly at the “Buncher Cafe” held bi-weekly at the Balint Jewish Community Center, and those who have become associated with different Jewish organizations keep close working ties. Buncher graduates have initiated a variety of new grass roots activities, including a club for Jewish educators, a music therapy training group, and a club for Yiddish-speakers. Since 1998, alumni have been holding reunions in conjunction with the Jewish Educators’ Conference held annually at Szarvas, which brings some 200 educators from the Jewish and the public schools together under the sponsorship of JDC and the Jewish Agency.

Over the past eight years, the Balint Jewish Community Center (JCC), with program and operating support from JDC, has become a focal point for Jewish activity in Budapest, offering a wide range of events, clubs, courses, and Jewish cultural programs for all age groups and segments of the community, including those with special needs. In a joint venture with the Hungarian Jewish community made possible by the generosity of the Jacobs family, a sophisticated new fitness center—with a required membership fee—will be constructed at the JCC and is expected to generate significant long-term income.

The Balint JCC’s independent board of directors is also pursuing local funding sources. To aid this and other fundraising efforts and move the community closer to eventual self-sufficiency, JDC organized a full-scale fundraising course last spring for representatives of all the local Jewish organizations.

The Eden Playground and Club for Toddlers and Mothers, the early childhood center established by Balint two years ago in a specially designed room on its top floor, has become a popular community service. It offers day-long care, opportunities for professional consultation, and classes for babies and tots, all in a stimulating Jewish environment. The new Family Day program organized last year has been bringing children, parents, and grandparents together one Sunday each month; it also gives the adults a chance to take part in other JCC activities while their kids keep busy at the club.

JDC continues to provide technical support to Budapest’s Jewish day schools, and all teachers, youth counselors, and students have access to the JDC-initiated and supported Jewish Resource Center at the Balint JCC. JDC had been providing limited funding to the Orthodox community’s Talmud Torah and kindergarten and to the Neolog community’s new high school, but it ceased doing so this year since these institutions no longer require JDC support. For the same reason, JDC is phasing out its commitment to the Budapest Rabbinical Seminary and Pedagogium, which is now part of the Hungarian Federation’s University of Jewish Studies. JDC will continue to support the activities of the Hungarian Union of Jewish Students, and it helped secure generous contributions from Stanley Chais and Chanoch Nissany last year to establish and equip a new headquarters and club for Jewish students in Budapest.

Over 2,000 Jewish campers and counselors took part last year in the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp at Szarvas; they came from 22 countries, including, for the first time, Turkey, France, and India. Elderly survivors from local pensioners’ clubs and homes for the aged interacted with the campers on their special day trips, and for the sixth year, HJSSF coordinated a one-week program for Jewish children and adults with mental disabilities.

A new Jewish educational center established at Szarvas through the generosity of Mrs. Helene Wallace has already enhanced camp activities, making age- and language-appropriate resource materials available through its multimedia work stations. The camp’s Beit David Synagogue and Activity Center, with its beautiful sanctuary, well-stocked library, and computer facilities, continues to be a major attraction. The synagogue was named in memory of David Ben-Rafael, an Israeli diplomat who was killed in the 1992 Israeli embassy bombing in Buenos Aires. Ben-Rafael was the son of Helen and Ralph I. Goldman, JDC’s Honorary Executive Vice-President.

About 50 young leaders from 15 Jewish communities throughout Eastern Europe gathered in Budapest at the end of April 2002 for JDC-Hungary’s latest training seminar for madrichim (youth leaders and counselors). Led by the Szarvas staff, the seminar has become a star attraction for those eager to assume greater responsibility for Jewish programs in their home communities.

The Louise Eder Israeli Folk Dancing Seminar drew close to 100 participants this spring to the fourth edition of this festive event, which was formerly known as Machol Hungaria. The only international Israeli dance seminar organized in Eastern Europe, the seminar was held in Szarvas for the second consecutive year. JDC-Hungary organizers have been taking full advantage of the camp venue to program a non-stop five-day round of activities guaranteed to imbue participants with enough spirit—and technical knowledge—to jump start a whole range of programs in their home communities. In fact, the 2002 seminar, which had “The Mediterranean Spirit” as its theme, included an additional training segment explaining how to use Israeli dance groups and related activities to increase the involvement of both children and adults in Jewish community events and celebrations.

Poland

While JDC continues to assist the aging Holocaust survivors who predomi­nate in this community, it has also been encouraging efforts to attract and sustain the involvement of younger and unaffiliated Jews. In February 2002, it sponsored a visit to Poland by JDC’s religious affairs consultant, who is the acting Chief Rabbi of Romania. The visit was greatly appreciated by the many community members and groups who met with the rabbi, their eagerness for Jewish culture and content readily apparent. And while the rabbi addressed a variety of topics, his underlying message reinforced a key
1 A COMMUNITY DANCE IN POLAND, JDC BOARD MEMBER JUDGE ELLEN HELLER, SHALE STILLER OF THE WEINBERG FOUNDATION, AND DARRELL FRIEDMAN OF THE BALTIMORE FEDERATION JOIN IN THE HORA.

2 SUMMER CAMPS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC PROVIDE A COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR LEARNING ABOUT JEWISH HISTORY AND TRADITIONS.

3 MUSIC ADDS TO THE MERRIMENT AT THE JDC PURIM PARTY IN SOFIA, BULGARIA.

4 TWO JEWISH SENIORS FIND SUPPORT AT A WEEKEND RETREAT NEAR KRAKOW.
IN POLAND:

- OVER 1,300 AGING AND ILL HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS RECEIVED CASH ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS BASED ON NEED THROUGH JDC’S KRAKOW OFFICE IN 2001.

- JDC HELPS FINANCE NINE KOSHER CANTEENS AND PROVIDES PASSOVER FOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY, WITH OVER 67,000 FREE MEALS PROVIDED LAST YEAR TO NEEDY ELDERLY JEWS.

- JDC SUPPORTS THE PURCHASE OF MEDICATIONS TOO COSTLY FOR THOSE LIVING ON MEAGER PENSIONS, AND IT PROVIDED FLU VACCINATIONS IN 2001 FOR MANY OF THE COMMUNITY’S ELDERLY.

JDC theme: how essential it is for Eastern European Jewish communities to remain united even as they adopt a pluralistic approach to Jewish identity and build bridges among their older, middle, and younger generations.

Efforts to enhance the Jewish community’s ability to respond to those with special needs continued last year, with the social work team and Jewish Welfare Commission members paying a study visit to the Romanian community’s comprehensive social assistance program in May 2001. New initiatives in Poland include home care for about 100 individuals, most of whom are 80 or older; winter relief grants; and assistance with minor home repairs, including the installation of simple devices to enhance safety and mobility.

About 70 newly recruited and trained volunteers are providing sorely needed companionship to the many isolated Jewish elderly and accompanying them to doctors appointments and community activities. A new rehabilitation program for a group of Holocaust survivors was initiated last spring at the community campsite in Srodborow.

These efforts to enhance the quality of survivors’ lives were supported last year by grants from the Luxembourg government’s contribution to the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund (NPRF). The JDC senior social worker charged with monitoring and supervising this program has been organizing various training sessions, in Poland and abroad, to help community workers expand and adapt their professional skills to keep up with these new initiatives. And the Jewish Welfare Commission director and two social workers took part last year in the special Buncher Community Leadership Program described below.

The establishment of a club for Jewish seniors in Szczecin in 2001 marked another first for the community’s social services. This pioneering effort, meant to be replicated elsewhere, provides the elderly with a regular meeting place and a calendar of events and outings. In Lodz, the opening of a day care center for the elderly in 2002 is generating much excitement among local assistees and other community members. JDC supervised the implementation of this project, which was funded by generous grants from the Claims Conference and the Luxembourg government’s NPRF contribution. Grants from these same two sources, obtained with JDC’s help, also funded the refurbishment and reequipment last year of some of the kosher canteens.

JDC continues to provide financial assistance and technical support to the Jewish Religious Community of Poland (JRCP), which operates the kosher kitchens, maintains synagogues, and coordinates religious services and holiday celebrations, and to the TSKZ, the Social and Cultural Association of Polish Jews, which operates 18 clubs and the Akiva Kohane Campsite in Srodborow. JDC also provides both financial and programmatic support to other local Jewish organizations, especially the Polish Union of Jewish Students (PUSZ).

In its quest to help this community rebuild itself and move toward greater self-sufficiency in all aspects of communal life, JDC has been working through its resident consultant on Jewish community, education, and culture, and through the Jewish Service Corps volunteers who have served in Poland for seven consecutive years. Last year’s volunteer extended her stay through 2002, the first JSC volunteer in Poland to do so.

The Resource Center for Jewish Education’s new Leadership Development Center is the base for JDC’s training efforts, as well as for many other meetings and community events. Generous support from Joan and Irwin Jacobs and Karen and Warren Kessler have helped JDC expand this facility and upgrade its computers and Web site. The latter (www.jewish.org.pl) allows local Jewish organizations to publicize their activities and has been helping to increase participation in communal life.

A third special Polish session of the JDC Buncher Community Leadership Program in Israel took place in the summer of 2001, with two preliminary seminars and one follow-up session held locally during the course of the year. JDC also organizes various other training seminars for potential community leaders, professionals, and youth group activists. In 2001, it initiated a number of regional seminars, thereby bringing the problems of individual communities into sharper focus. These seminars have also made it easier for a larger and more varied group of people to attend.

The Warsaw Sunday School program that JDC helped establish continues to be immensely popular with both children and parents, all of whom are thirsting for Jewish knowledge. JDC also facilitates Jewish educational programming for all ages at TSKZ’s Akiva Kohane Campsite in Srodborow, which hosts camp sessions and community retreats year round. JDC worked with TSKZ to organize a local summer camp session for children and pre-teens in 2001, while older youth attended the camp organized by the Polish Union of Jewish Students. Thirty youngsters also took part in the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp at Szarvas, Hungary last year with JDC’s help.
In the spring of 2001, JDC conducted a symposium on property management, hosted by JRCP and JDC-Poland, for representatives of all the Eastern European Jewish communities. It was well attended, enthusiastically received, and will hopefully serve as a paradigm for future training sessions on the local level.

JDC continues to provide the Polish Jewish community with financial and technical support for its efforts to retrieve confiscated properties. It facilitated the establishment by the JRCP and the World Jewish Restitution Organization last summer of the Foundation for Jewish Heritage. The Foundation is charged with dealing with the management of returned communal properties located in some territories, and with the ongoing process of reclamation. The latter has proved to be extremely slow, costly, and fraught with difficulties in Poland. Nevertheless, it is a process that must continue if this community is to make further progress toward self-sufficiency and be in a position to fill its members’ increasing, and increasingly varied, needs.

JDC continues to support the activities of the native-born young rabbi who serves as spiritual leader and is teaching a variety of classes in both Yugoslavia and Macedonia. The rabbi initiated the construction of a kosher kitchen and social hall in the Belgrade synagogue building last year, and he helped form a new Sephardic Jewish music group. A fledgling cantor and religious educator who will serve Jewish communities in both Serbia and Montenegro helped form a new Sephardic Jewish music group. A fledgling cantor and religious educator who will serve Jewish communities in both Serbia and Montenegro has been studying in Israel for the past year with JDC’s support. JDC provides funds for the purchase of kosher food and religious items, and it supplied kosher products shipped from Israel in 2001 for Macedonia’s first communal Passover seder.

Several containers of new clothing and essential household supplies were sent last year by JDC and WJR for distribution through SAVEZ.

The special communal pharmacy established in Belgrade a decade ago by SAVEZ, JDC, and WJR continues to supply free medicines to elderly or needy members of Yugoslavia’s Jewish communities. With the help of a supplementary grant from the US government’s contribution to the NPRF, the pharmacy was able to fill 24,520 prescriptions in 2001 for 1,374 individuals; fully 80 percent of these medications were distributed to Holocaust survivors, most of whom are chronically ill.

Backed by a Spanish government NPRF grant made through the Claims Conference, this same tried and true partnership of JDC, WJR, and the Yugoslav federation began a comprehensive health care program for Holocaust survivors last year, including preventive services. With funding from WJR, care is also being extended to other community members in need.

To help prepare for the implementation of this program, JDC drew on the wide range of professional expertise available in Budapest through JDC-Hungary to organize a training seminar last summer for ten social welfare activists from Jewish communities throughout Yugoslavia. And through Leatid Europe and other programs, JDC continues to provide a variety of leadership training opportunities, with top leaders from Belgrade and Novi Sad participating in Leatid seminars in 2001.

Despite the bleak economic situation, Jews throughout the region, in both the larger and smaller communities, continue to maintain the Jewish educational initiatives, cultural activities, youth clubs, women’s associations, and other programs initiated over the past decade with JDC’s help.

JDC is supporting the activities of the native-born young rabbi who serves as spiritual leader and is teaching a variety of classes in both Yugoslavia and Macedonia. The rabbi initiated the construction of a kosher kitchen and social hall in the Belgrade synagogue building last year, and he helped form a new Sephardic Jewish music group. A fledgling cantor and religious educator who will serve Jewish communities in both Serbia and Montenegro has been studying in Israel for the past year with JDC’s support. JDC provides funds for the purchase of kosher food and religious items, and it supplied kosher products shipped from Israel in 2001 for Macedonia’s first communal Passover seder.

Thanks to what has become the traditional backing of WJR, and with added support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City, 136 Jewish campers and counselors from Yugoslavia and Macedonia were able to attend the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp at Sarvaras, Hungary last year. Yugoslav Jewish youth have been among the camp’s most enthusiastic participants. They have also eagerly embraced the opportunities afforded by the special madrichim (youth leaders) training program organized for them by JDC-Hungary and by the all-former Yugoslav youth seminars that JDC has been sponsoring in various local venues since December 2000.
TEACHING PRAYERS AT THE BLACK SEA STUDENT CONFERENCE NEAR SOFIA, BULGARIA.

AT SZARVAS, MANY EUROPEAN JEWS HAVE THEIR FIRST BRUSH WITH ETHIOPIAN ISRAELI TEENS.

JEWISH FOLK DANCING AT THE JDC-SUPPORTED ESPERANZA SEPARDIC FESTIVAL IN BULGARIA.

IN POLAND, BOARD MEMBER GEORGE RICH AND OTHER MISSION PARTICIPANTS VISIT A REHABILITATIVE RETREAT FOR SENIORS AT THE TSKZ'S SRODBOROW/KAJA KORANE CAMP. (PHOTO: JODI GURALNICKI)

YOUNG LEADERS AND OLDER GENERATION WORK ON COMMUNITY PROGRAMS IN EASTERN EUROPE.

JEWISH SENIORS' FOLK DANCE PROGRAM AT THE DAY CARE CENTER IN SOFIA, BULGARIA. (PHOTO: JODI GURALNICKI)
JDC promoted the participation for the first time last year of a significant number of students from throughout the former Yugoslavia in the European Union of Jewish Students’ Summer University. By bringing together Jewish youth who speak the same language but who are now separated by international borders, these youth seminars and other forums help overcome the social isolation felt by many of this region’s young Jews, while providing them with a meaningful Jewish educational and cultural experience.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

In April 2001, Eastern European Area Committee Chairman George Rich led a JDC study mission to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia. The mission retraced the routes JDC used to evacuate Jews during the war in Bosnia and examined how Jewish community life has been sustained there in the years following the 1995 signing of the Dayton peace accord. Board members met with Jewish community leaders from those two countries as well as from Macedonia and Slovenia, and they received an extensive briefing from the US ambassador to Bosnia-Herzegovina on the complex politics of this volatile region.

The Bosnian government cut monthly pensions by 16 percent in January 2001, making the monthly cash assistance provided by JDC to 82 needy Holocaust survivors more critical than ever. JDC also sent in containers of new clothing for distribution to needy Jews and non-Jews.

With help from the JDC Open Mailbox for Bosnia and generous support from Dr. Alfred Bader, JDC has assembled a funding coalition to finance the comprehensive home care program run by La Benevolenci/a, the Jewish humanitarian aid organization of Sarajevo. The program has been providing home support services and outpatient medical care to 540 needy and chronically ill elderly of various ethnic backgrounds, most of whom have no close relatives to help them. A third of the beneficiaries are Holocaust survivors.

With the help of additional donors, the number benefiting from home care services in 2002 has been raised to 620 in Sarajevo. And thanks to a grant from the Claims Conference, the program has now been extended to include 50 elderly members of five other Jewish communities.

The Jewish Sunday School in Sarajevo continues to receive JDC support, and training for youth leaders was provided in 2001 with the help of JDC-Hungary and the Israeli Folk Dance Institute of London. World Jewish Relief helped subsidize the participation of 12 campers and counselors in the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp in Szarvas, Hungary last year, and a young Bosnian Jewish student took part in the March of the Living with JDC’s support.

For the past few years, JDC has been sending Serbo-Croat-speaking individuals to Bosnia to teach and to lead services on key Jewish holidays. This year, two Sarajevo community members were able to assume responsibility for leading weekly Shabbat services. JDC supplies matza and wine for Passover, some of which is used at the special community seder in Sarajevo, which continues to be well attended by national leaders and members of the diplomatic corps in a strong show of broad support.

JDC has established a new initiative to facilitate the revival of smaller, outlying Jewish communities by helping to develop and support their infrastructure. The revival of the Jewish community in Banja Luka is one of the first fruits of this effort, with the community opening its own facilities in 2001 for the first time in decades and celebrating a milestone Passover seder there this past spring.

Croatia and Slovenia

The Zagreb Jewish community used the occasion of the JDC Board’s April 2001 study mission to hold a special ceremony marking the important stride toward self-sufficiency it had taken in 2001. After thanking JDC for its decades of generous support and unveiling a plaque to that effect, the president of the community officially declared that—thanks to the government’s restitution of communal properties—the community was now able to finance its own activities and begin to help support the local Lavoslav Schwarz Jewish Old Age Home.

Thus, in January 2001, JDC had phased out its welfare commitment in Croatia, with the Zagreb community assuming financial responsibility for cash assistance, meals-on-wheels, and home care for elderly Jews throughout the country. JDC continues to provide cash relief and support services for two elderly Holocaust survivors in Slovenia. It also helped secure a Claims Conference grant to expand health and home care services for elderly survivors in Croatia and subsidize the purchase of medicines and medical equipment.

A grant from the Spanish government’s contribution to the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund, channeled through the Claims Conference, will cover the care of elderly Bosnian Jews who fled to Croatia during the war with JDC support and now live in the Lavoslav Schwarz Home. This 80-bed facility in Zagreb is available to Jews from all of former Yugoslavia and has been extensively renovated in recent years with funds from the Claims Conference and World Jewish Relief. While JDC has coordinated a series of initiatives to help ease the Schwarz Home’s financial crisis, it continues to provide operational and technical support.

New classes in Israeli folk dancing (while seated) were begun last year for the residents at JDC’s initiative and have quickly become an eagerly awaited activity. Some Bosnian residents of the Home are also teaching traditional Sephardic dances to Or Shemesh, the young Israeli folk dancing group that represents Croatian Jewry at home and abroad. The residents have also begun publishing their own magazine.
The Zagreb community assumed financial responsibility in January 2001 for the variety of Jewish educational and cultural programs that JDC helped develop and support in Croatia over the past decade, while JDC continues to support the outreach activities of the country’s chief rabbi. In Slovenia, JDC supports informal Jewish educational programs and activities for children and adults in Ljubljana. A notable upsurge was seen in community activity there last year—including the revival of a long-dormant women’s club—thanks to a bevy of dynamic young leaders and the visiting rabbi from Trieste whose activities are supported by JDC.

The Passover seder the rabbi organized in Ljubljana this spring for the third consecutive year featured the first-ever Slovenian translation of the Haggada. This richly illustrated, annotated new work was prepared by a dedicated team of Jewish and non-Jewish academics, and its publication has won support from the Slovenian government and JDC.

In partnership with the Zagreb community, JDC helped achieve a partial renovation of the community campsite at Pirovac last year so that it could once again serve all ages, with summer sessions held in 2001 for children, students, and family groups. In addition to its support for the all-former Yugoslavia youth seminars that were held in Pirovac and Zagreb last year, JDC continues to train young community activists through JDC-Hungary’s seminar for madrichim (youth leaders). It also sent two Jewish youth from Slovenia and Croatia to the March of the Living in 2001.

Or Shemesh, the community’s acclaimed Israeli dance troupe, performed in Slovenia and Italy last spring with JDC’s help. JDC brought the group to Ljubljana for a community Hanukkah celebration in December 2001, and it sponsored performances by a Belgrade singer of Ladino songs in Zagreb and Sarajevo. JDC is eager to bring additional Jewish cultural programs across the region’s new international boundaries in order to reinforce the Jewish communities’ cross-border ties and promote their continued cooperation.

In like manner, JDC continues to subsidize Beyachad, the all-former Yugoslav Jewish festival which takes place each year on a Croatian island in the Adriatic Sea. Some 200 former Yugoslav Jews from around the world came together during the Sukkot holiday last fall for a week of cultural activities, discussions, and reunions. The tone of this Jewish festival is inevitably bittersweet, for it is flavored in equal measure by a sense of historic loss and by feelings of renewal and celebration.

Bulgaria

In the face of Bulgaria’s ongoing economic distress, JDC and Shalom, the Organization of the Jews in Bulgaria, with major support from World Jewish Relief (WJR, UK), continue to provide close to 1,200 impoverished elderly Jews with the assistance they need to maintain modest but decent living conditions. A grant from the Spanish government’s contribution to the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund is enabling JDC and Shalom to provide supplementary cash relief to almost 400 of the neediest cases.

The Sofia day care center attracted almost 30 additional participants last year, for a total of 120, and two shifts had to be organized at lunchtime to serve all clients. In addition to meals, the center provides exercise programs, medical consultations by volunteer doctors, and social and cultural activities. Hot meals are also served daily at the kosher canteens now in place in Plovdiv, Pleven, Varna, Bourgas, and Ruse. These nutritious meals have become a key element in the physical survival of Jewish pensioners living in the provinces, where living conditions have been particularly difficult and the elderly must struggle to find basic foods. And the social opportunity that these meals offer helps relieve the loneliness felt by so many of these isolated Jews.

Bulgarian Jewry continues to reap important benefits and much needed support from its special relationship with the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City, with regard both to welfare services and community development. After federation leaders alerted Heart-to-Heart, a local humanitarian organization, to the community’s needs last year, this nonsectarian agency donated a significant shipment of medicines and medical equipment, which the community has been making available to elderly pensioners who can no longer afford to purchase needed medications. Funding from the Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester enabled JDC to provide winter relief in 2001 to pensioners who were in need of supplemental assistance.

JDC provides staff training and technical assistance for the community’s 25-bed old age home in Sofia, whose opening two years ago was facilitated by grants from the Claims Conference and WJR. JDC also continues to provide professional consultation in the area of property management, working with Shalom to help maximize its income from restored communal properties.

IN BULGARIA:

- JDC and Shalom provided monthly cash relief to almost 1,200 elderly or disabled Jews in 2001.
- With support from WJR, the day care center and canteen at Beit Ha’Am, the Jewish community center in Sofia, provided hot lunches to about 120 elderly Jews a day last year, and 100 pensioners benefited from daily hot meals at the kosher canteens established in five provincial communities.
- With funds from the Sofia municipality and JDC, Shalom provided meals and home care to some 45 homebound elderly in 2001, along with regular visits from medical professionals and a group of young volunteers.
Innovative new programs for the community's middle generation form the cornerstone of JDC's efforts to help Shalom reach out to unaffiliated Jews in Sofia and the countryside. The Family and Middle Generation Club at Beit Ha'am, which was established with important support from the Kansas City Federation, is the focal point for these efforts. Open every evening, the club, which offers a variety of activities and a kosher dairy kitchen, has been attracting about 50 adults each day. Weekend seminars bring families together to learn more about their Jewish identity and traditions, and eagerly attended Jewish holiday celebrations have brought this learning experience enthusiastically to life. Some 300 children and 200 parents, for example, took part in this year's Purim celebration at the Sofia JCC, with equally lively gatherings held in other localities.

All of these programs are helping to forge a new sense of community among the members of a generation essential to the continued strength and vitality of Jewish communal life.

JDC also continues to support special activities and programs for the youngest generation. Iom Sababa, an informal Jewish educational program for seven- to nine-year-olds organized in cooperation with the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation and the Jewish Day School, aims to bring the lively and educationally successful atmosphere of the community's popular summer camp to year-round programming. The 60 youngsters who participate regularly in this extracurricular program have been exploring the Jewish life cycle through interactive exercises and games.

Operating in a similar vein, the Camp on Sunday program at Beit Ha'am continues to attract about 50 youngsters between the ages of nine and 12. It offers workshops in art, science, and computers, along with informal Jewish learning and a lively Hebrew sing-along at lunch. This year, JDC has a new program under way for youngsters of bar and bat mitzvah age, helping them to prepare for and celebrate this essential Jewish milestone.

Activities like these have transformed the face of the Sofia JCC, where each of the three generations now has its own floor. But although spaces have been designed to meet the specific needs of different age groups, there is a lot of interaction and flexibility of use. The computer center is an especially popular place and bridges the generations. Established with generous help from Stanley Mills, the center offers a variety of new classes and training programs.

Once again last summer, two sessions had to be organized at the community camp in Kovacevski to accommodate the 300-plus campers who signed up, and some 60 youngsters attended the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp at Szarvas, Hungary. Two winter camps were held this past year at the Kovacevski site, one for youngsters from Sofia and another for those from the countryside, and a Passover camp held in 2001 for families from the smaller communities duplicated the success of the prior year's Sofia-centered event.

Building on the pensioners' clubs' year-round health and social programs for seniors, three golden age camps were organized last year in Bankia. They brought elderly Jews from around the country together for a summer respite, with fitness exercises, dances, lectures, and a variety of lighthearted activities designed to help them celebrate—at least for the duration of their one-week stay—the joy of life.

The first group of participants in the Hadracha College, a weekly Jewish education and leadership training program for teenagers and young adults, completed their two-year training cycle in 2001 with a culminating visit to Israel. A fundraising project to help pay for the trip was a highlight of the year and an important step in teaching participants of the need to aim for self-sufficiency.

The young Bulgarian rabbinical student whose studies in Israel were supported by JDC has been working in tandem with Bulgaria's Chief Rabbi to expand synagogue-centered activities. He has been helping to attract new people and especially the youngsters—and he now has a waiting list of Jewish youth eager to participate in the Oneg Shabbat programs he has been hosting for them in his home. The study groups he has organized for different age groups are also meeting with much success.

Following on the success of the two previous events, a third Sephardic Jewish festival was organized this year with JDC's aid and support. Held this past April, Esperanza 2002 brought over 800 Jews from communities throughout the region together in a joyous celebration of Jewish culture.

A new group of 20 lay and professional leaders are currently participating in the Buncher Community Leadership Program, and they will be taking part in their two-year training cycle's key Israel seminar in 2002. Along with Bulgaria's previous Buncher graduates, many of whom have already taken on various communal responsibilities, the latest participants will enhance the connection between JDC and the new generation of leaders who have succeeded in moving this Jewish community forward.

Slovakia

Although reductions in state-sponsored health and welfare services continued last year as part of the government's ongoing austerity plan, the Jewish community, with the help of JDC and grants from various restitution funds, was able to maintain much needed social services and communal facilities for aging Holocaust survivors. One-time compensation payments as well as newly granted German pensions have also been helping to ease the blow for some of these needy individuals.
Monthly cash relief was provided to 60 elderly, impoverished, or disabled Jews in 2001, while in Bratislava, Kosice, and Nove Zamky, a home care and medical outreach program funded by JDC and a grant from the US government's contribution to the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund (NPRF) served 320 survivors. This program, which combines visits from professional nurses and local volunteers, is of critical importance to these increasingly frail Jews, most of whom live alone, with no family members left to call on for help.

A generous grant from the Claims Conference has enabled the community to initiate a new social services program called Or Chaim. Over 1,000 survivors benefited from the program in 2001, receiving subsidies for needed medicines, nursing care, glasses, hearing aids, dentures, physiotherapy, and transport services for the homebound. The caseload is expected to increase to 1,370 this year.

Kosher kitchens in Bratislava and Kosice supported by JDC provided daily hot meals last year to some 220 survivors, students, and needy members of the community. In both cities, meals-on-wheels are prepared in these kitchens and delivered to the homebound, and the Bratislava kitchen furnishes meals to the Ohel David Home.

This countrywide Jewish home for the aged, which was opened in December 1998 with funding from the Claims Conference, reached full capacity in 2001, with 34 residents, and the community has assumed responsibility for its operating costs. With promised state funding still pending, the community secured an NPRF grant last year to help it maintain this facility. JDC provided a short-term loan in 2001 to finance needed renovations at the old Jewish hospital building that was recently returned to the community. Rental income from this reclaimed property will eventually go toward the upkeep of the Ohel David Home, and it will help move the community closer to self-sufficiency.

JDC has helped the community to develop cultural, educational, and recreational programming for all age groups, and it continues to support these efforts. Pensioners' clubs for survivors in Bratislava and Kosice, a Club of Generations in Bratislava, and the Hidden Children's Association all cater to the needs of the older generation with a varied menu of social and cultural activities, weekly meetings, and support services. The Kosice community also has a day care center for the elderly, which was opened with Claims Conference support, and Or Chaim has made arrangements for survivors in Bratislava to attend a state day care center.

JDC helps fund the publication of a student newspaper as well as the activities of the Slovak Union of Jewish Students. In addition to Shabbat gatherings, weekend seminars, a summer camp, and sports programs, these included a well-attended Purim Ball last year and a festive Hanukkah celebration. JDC has provided the Union—considered the best in Eastern Europe—with a computer to facilitate its ability to communicate with its 300 members and with other Jewish organizations.

Some 60 children from all over Slovakia have been participating with great enthusiasm in a monthly, full-day Jewish educational workshop developed by the Union for children aged 8 to 14. And once again last summer, JDC enabled 80 Jewish children and counselors from Slovakia to attend the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp in Szarvas, Hungary.

The director of the camp held a young leadership training seminar in Slovakia this March—the first seminar of its kind to be held in that country—with 13 Jewish youth from four local cities taking part. The seminar was designed to prepare new madrichim (youth leaders) for the Szarvas camp and for local Jewish programs.

JDC continues to subsidize the shipment of matza, other kosher foods, and needed religious items, and it helps fund holiday celebrations and rabbinical outreach efforts. With JDC's help, an American-born rabbi has been serving Jews living in Bratislava and the surrounding area, and an Israeli educator was employed by the Kosice community last year to organize informal Jewish educational activities as well as religious services. After a prolonged search, the Jews of Kosice have successfully recruited a new spiritual leader to serve the needs of both young and old members of their increasingly active community.

**Czech Republic**

To an extent unmatched elsewhere in Central and Eastern Europe, the Jews of the Czech Republic, as a result of the return of communal properties, have become financially independent of JDC and largely self-sufficient. JDC helps primarily with technical assistance and planning, community development and outreach efforts, and training opportunities for local personnel, and it finances most of its current activities from extra-budgetary sources.

JDC continues to supervise the implementation of a comprehensive Claims Conference-financed program that subsidizes medical care for aging Holocaust survivors and provides them with essential home safety equipment. Through extra-budgetary support, JDC helped establish activity centers for the elderly in various local communities, and it continues to help fund and provide programming guidance for Jewish cultural initiatives at these centers. A new club for seniors was inaugurated last year in the Bohemian town of Decin by former JDC President Heinz Eppler and his wife Ruthe.
JDC organized a nationwide training seminar last year for those involved in helping the mentally frail; it was led by an Israeli expert and included representatives from the Polish Jewish community. In response to requests from the Prague community, JDC brought in consultants to advise on a strategy for welfare services and on the use of newly enlarged community facilities, and it helped send the Charles Jordan Home’s kitchen director to Israel for special training. JDC also enabled Czech Jewish activists to attend seminars in Hungary focusing on Jewish education and the training of youth leaders.

JDC has worked to facilitate the development of pluralism in Czech Jewish life and to promote cooperation among existing and emerging Jewish groups. It brought its religious affairs consultant to Prague last year to advise on these efforts; he also presented a series of well-attended public lectures. JDC continues to help secure extra-budgetary support for organizations like Bejt Praha (an independent social and cultural organization that has evolved into a Masorti congregation); Beit Simcha, the Reform Jewish synagogue; and Beit Elend, an independent four-day-a-week informal Jewish educational and activity program for youngsters. An additional room is being renovated for this extracurricular program thanks to a gift provided by the Epplers during their visit.

Generous support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City made it possible last year to send more Czech Jewish youngsters than ever before—14 enthusiastic campers and four counselors—to the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp in Szarvas, Hungary. JDC also helped secure extra-budgetary support in 2001 for the Prague Jewish kindergarten.

Machol Czechia, a vibrant Israeli dance festival, continues to benefit from JDC’s help. The annual event provides a capstone to the Israeli folk dancing programs which continue to flourish in Prague, Brno, and other localities. JDC also underwrote a locally initiated series of high-quality evenings of Jewish culture in Prague last year, which were later extended to several outlying communities. Jewish cultural activities like these have succeeded in attracting the unaffiliated, thereby helping to broaden the base of participants in Czech Jewish community life.

Albania

Over the past year, economic conditions in this already impoverished country have continued to worsen, with even basic services like water and electricity now provided on an irregular basis. Consequently, the financial and medical assistance that JDC provides to 10 impoverished elderly members of this tiny Jewish community is critical to their ability to continue to live with dignity. JDC funds are also used to furnish scarce or prohibitively expensive medications to needy elderly Jews.

Jewish holidays are now regularly celebrated by this long isolated community thanks to JDC’s support. These occasions are important events in the lives of Albania’s remaining Jews, bringing them together as a group. In addition to supplying matza for Passover and other holiday items, JDC continues to provide community members with access to the world of Jewish culture, sending in a steady stream of Jewish magazines, books, CDs, and videos.

JDC has been helping to smooth the way for the increasing number of the community’s young people who have decided to continue their studies abroad, especially in Israel. Motivated by the desire to create a sounder economic future for themselves outside Albania and a firmer footing for their Jewish identity, they are very enthusiastic about the new lives they are embarking upon.

JDC’s ongoing reconstruction efforts in nearby Kosovo continued to benefit last year from the professional and technical assistance provided by two members of the Albanian Jewish community.
A WINTER RELIEF CLIENT IN SLOVAKIA. (PHOTO: SHARON FAULKNER)
JDC’S OBJECTIVES IN EUROPE

- JDC’s involvement in Europe today focuses on Community Development, while it continues to maintain relief programs for Holocaust survivors in Central and Eastern Europe.

- Employs an integral approach to Community Development, looking at each community as an intertwined system of organizations, structures, and population groups. In helping individual communities engaged in the process of restructuring, JDC aims for the development of a full Jewish community life through programs that address the needs of different age groups and institutions. Efforts continue to build a more pluralistic environment.

- Provides technical assistance in the areas of leadership training, strategic planning, networking and interchange, and the development of new initiatives to reach out to different age groups within the Jewish population.

- Promotes mutual assistance by linking communities and working with the European Council and other pan-European Jewish bodies to address regional issues. JDC has also been helping East European Jewish communities benefit from the resources and experience of the West European countries.

- In the Baltic countries and Kaliningrad, JDC’s commitment to Relief and Community Development ranges from social welfare programs for the elderly to the cultural, religious, educational, and social activities involved in rebuilding Jewish communal life.

EUROPE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: SPAIN; THE BALTIC COUNTRIES
JDC Appropriation: $1,122,700

TRANSMIGRANTS
JDC Appropriation: $278,500
Europe Community Development: Leadership Training, Community Planning, Networking, West-East Interchange

By strengthening the networking process, promoting the development and interchange of new initiatives and technical expertise, providing new training opportunities for lay and professional leaders, and furnishing professional assistance to communities that request such help, JDC’s Community Development Program has been helping to further communal planning and restructuring efforts, working in partnership with local communities and pan-European organizations.

The European Council of Jewish Communities (ECJC)

With 57 member organizations and communities in 37 countries, the European Council coordinates a vibrant continent-wide program of seminars, encounters, and cultural events and has become a powerful tool for reaching across the old demarcation lines between East and West. This was readily apparent on May 31, 2001 when 721 delegates from 40 countries—representing some 3 million European Jews—gathered in Madrid and Toledo for the second General Assembly (GA) of European Jewry, which was organized by ECJC in collaboration with JDC. In an atmosphere suffused with Jewish history, delegates focused on the full range of communal issues, meeting in plenary and workshop sessions to develop concrete recommendations and seek ways to establish and implement joint programs.

The desire to advance the integration of European Jewry was a main outgrowth of the GA; it received additional impetus this spring at a follow-up meeting in Prague of the presidents of European Jewish communities and at the ECJC General Meeting that took place in Brussels late in April. The latter session was deliberately planned to coincide with the Executive Meeting of the European Jewish Congress so that progress could be made on the effort to build the “unity platform” for European Jewry called for last May in Madrid. This effort has assumed greater importance in recent months in light of the increased tensions among Jewish communities throughout the continent as a result of the recent spate of anti-Semitic attacks.

ECJC is JDC’s partner in community development in Europe, co-sponsoring Leatid and the regional programs described below and serving as a pan-European source of programming ideas and information through consultations, a community databank, and a fax/e-mail bulletin. New programs recently established with JDC’s support include JEDES, the Jewish European Department of Educational Service, which is already serving as a resource for those seeking to improve the quality of Jewish education and helped organize a variety of training seminars last year. Among other activities undertaken in 2001, ECJC’s newly established Social Welfare Committee, in cooperation with JDC staff in Ukraine, organized study visits to Kiev and Paris last year for Jewish communal professionals from Western Europe and Ukraine.

Regional Programs

In association with ECJC and the local communities, JDC has been developing a variety of regional programs to facilitate networking and people-to-people contact and provide small scattered Jewish communities with the critical mass needed to organize events and create a richer Jewish life. The regions link communities which have a common geographic, cultural, language, and/or historic base, and they emphasize integration and cross-fertilization between East and West. The Mediterranean and Central European Regions are now well established, and a Balkan/Black Sea Region is in its initial stages. Programs within regions have proceeded along two tracks, one for community professionals and lay leaders and another for community members with common interests, with activities and gatherings for young adults and singles proving to be particularly successful.

Leatid Europe—The European Center for Jewish Leadership (ECJL)

Almost 400 Jewish leaders from all parts of Europe have taken part to date in Leatid training seminars, including most of the current presidents of European Jewish communities. ECJL’s founding consortium includes the European Council of Jewish Communities, World Jewish Relief (WJR, UK), the World ORT Union, France’s Fonds Social Juif Unifie, and JDC.

The Top Leaders’ Seminar, Leatid’s flagship event, continues to bring heads of Jewish communities from Portugal to Russia together each winter in Venice’s Old Jewish Quarter for sessions on community management and discussions of current Jewish issues. An alumni meeting has been added to provide a refresher course for senior leaders along with an opportunity for policy discussions. This is in keeping with the role Leatid has come to play as a vehicle for networking and a source of ongoing learning and enrichment for Jewish leaders.

The training needs of more junior board members are addressed through a Leaders XXI program, while professionals have been taking part in a newly designed seminar that tackles their changing needs in diverse areas. A generous donor has enabled Leatid to extend its activities in the Baltic countries and neighboring areas, with special programs designed for local leaders and a Baltics-wide training effort organized as a joint undertaking with the Buncher Program. Leatid graduates are regular recipients of
STUDENT GROUP VISITS LOCAL JEWISH CEMETERY. (PHOTO: JULIAN VOLOJ)  
A BUNCHER PROGRAM ENGAGES YOUNG JEWS AND MOLDS THEM INTO LEADERS OF THEIR COMMUNITY. (PHOTO: ED SEROTTA)  
YOUNG LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES ENSURE A STRONG JEWISH FUTURE IN EUROPE.  
AT ECJL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR, TECHNICAL ADVICE ON ORGANIZATIONAL ENGINEERING IS PROVIDED TO MANY JEWISH COMMUNITIES BY JDC EXPERTS.  
PRACTICING ISRAELI FOLK DANCING OUTSIDE THEIR CLASS AT THE JEWISH SCHOOL IN TALLINN, ESTONIA. (PHOTO: ROY MITTELMA)  
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN THE SHA'AR TIKVA SYNAGOGUE IN PORTUGAL.  
BOYS AT THE JEWISH SCHOOL IN TALLINN, ESTONIA POLISH THEIR HEBREW SKILLS. (PHOTO: ROY MITTELMA)
The Buncher Community Leadership Program

Established in 1989 as a partnership of the Buncher Family Foundation, the United Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh, and JDC, the Israel-based Buncher Program, with its all-important Seminar in Israel, is a mainstay of JDC's leadership development and community building efforts.

The Buncher graduates who currently hold leadership positions in Jewish communities throughout the world are the late Jack Buncher's living legacy; they are a testament to the acuity of his vision and to the strength of his determination to see it carried out. His passing early in December 2001 brought forth a torrent of letters of condolence to the family from hundreds of Buncher alumni. All bore witness to the indelible impact that Jack Buncher had on their own lives and Jewish identities and on the long-term efficacy of Jewish organizations and communities in all corners of the globe.

Led by his daughter, Bernita Buncher, the achievements of the Buncher Program continue—and grow stronger. Under her active guidance, several important new programs have been developed in recent years. One has enabled participants with special needs to take part in the Israel Seminar, to the great benefit of the overall Program. And the Buncher Scholarship Fund, which was expanded last year, is enabling students in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union to complete their studies while working for the Jewish community. A seminar focusing on leadership skills was organized in Kiev last year for 20 scholarship recipients, and plans are in the works for the organization of a Buncher Scholarship Club.

In 2001, 250 lay and professional leaders from 107 communities in 14 countries benefited from Buncher Community Leadership Program training, and 24 seminars were conducted.

The Program is concentrating in 2002 on training new participants from the former Soviet Union, India, and Eastern Europe. At Bernita Buncher's suggestion, it has widened its net, directing its attention not just to top management but also to the "second line" of new people who are getting involved in community work. And this year, for the first time, an All-Former Yugoslavia group and a Czech Republic/Slovakia group will be taking part in the Program.

The international association of Buncher graduates, an alumni program established with additional funds from the Buncher Family Foundation and support from the Pincus Fund, continues to expand its activities. A descriptive directory of alumni is available on the Buncher Program's updated Web site (www.buncher.org). This "virtual learning community" includes several new interactive tools that will facilitate networking among graduates and provide them with ongoing training and professional advice from specialists on the Buncher Program staff.

This year, the first event of this type was carried out outside Europe, when the Jewish communities in Johannesburg and Cape Town were involved in this effort.

Internet-based Community Development

Over the past two years, JDC has developed a family of Web sites that will provide resources and tools to lay leaders and professionals in communities of different sizes and different needs. Presented in four languages at www.jewishprograms.org, the Web sites provide access to a huge online database of programming ideas and resource materials, which can be

an online leadership page with special articles and tools, and online forums are being developed that will enable leaders to discuss current issues with the help of expert consultants.

_Leatid_ continues to expand its leadership program for rabbis, and will have trained some 60 participants by the end of the year. This initiative was begun two years ago in cooperation with the Conference of European Rabbis and the different religious streams. _Leatid_'s thematic seminars focus in depth on particular issues, such as fundraising or working with adults, while a special workshop was recently developed to help Jewish leaders improve their negotiating skills. Jewish communities in Glasgow, Helsinki, Manchester, Zagreb, and Tallinn have taken part in _Leatid_'s individually tailored All-City Seminars. These provide local organizations and institutions with a common meeting ground for grappling with specific issues and developing long-term plans for their community as a whole.
customized to fit each user’s specific needs. The Web sites also offer an online consulting section and will actively facilitate networking, which should prove particularly useful to those working in the more isolated Jewish communities.

In 2001, a virtual community of some 8,000 professionals in 28 countries benefited from the first two programs: morim.org (or jewishteachers.org) and madrichim.org (youthcounselors.org). JCCs, Jewish camps, Sunday Schools, youth groups, and other organizations across Europe and Latin America have been putting together Jewish programming using material available on the existing sites, and two new ones are well on the way.

The European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS)

JDC provides EUJS with financial support for its Summer University, which regularly brings together some 300 Jewish students from all parts of Europe. Through L'eatid Europe, JDC also provides EUJS’ leaders with training and professional guidance for various programs. These now include a sleek new Web site (www.eujs.org) designed to promote Jewish identity and inter-community contacts among Jewish youth.

Spain

Through the local Jewish welfare agency, JDC has continued to assist a disabled Holocaust survivor in Barcelona who had been on its World War II era refugee caseload. JDC has also been working with the Spanish Federation of Jewish Communities, which is deeply involved in the regional and pan-European programs described above.

The Baltic Countries: Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and the Kaliningrad Region

Jewish community development has been proceeding apace throughout this part of Europe, and the region’s three main cities—Riga, Vilnius, and Tallinn—have established comprehensive communal frameworks that include social services, Jewish day schools, and Jewish community centers (JCCs). Generous support from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and from Sweden’s Baltic Forum has made it possible to expand needed welfare programs for the region’s elderly and increasingly ailing Holocaust survivors.

A worsening economic situation and the achievement of greater access to outlying areas resulted in a quadrupling of the welfare caseload in recent years, as JDC helped individual communities adapt the Hesed-style welfare organizations it developed in the former Soviet Union to meet local needs. Volunteer networks have been established throughout the region; thousands of food packages are delivered before Jewish holidays; hundreds of hot meals and meals-on-wheels are provided in each locality; and the Warm Home program is helping to reduce the social isolation of many Jewish seniors. Care is taken by all those providing these services to protect the dignity and self-respect of the elderly.

A joint program between the Jewish community and the Riga Jewish Hospital has been providing for the health care needs of the Jewish elderly, with JDC funneling in-kind donations of needed supplies to the hospital. A new initiative with Jewish Healthcare International will furnish the hospital with updated equipment and provide additional training for its medical and social service staff.

The renewal of Jewish education and Jewish studies in cities that once were renowned centers of Jewish learning has been a major focus of JDC’s activities in this region. JDC sponsored a Jewish studies program in Vilnius developed by the local community and Vilnius University, and it helped establish a Center for Jewish Studies at Riga University. Lecturers and teachers from both of these programs have been actively involved in Jewish communal events and activities. A Jewish open university is being established to serve the needs of communities throughout the region.

Jewish libraries have been supplied to the local communities by JDC, and it has helped develop many of the new Jewish kindergartens, day, and Sunday schools. It provides training courses for Jewish teachers and school principals, including regional programs, and it has been working with the schools to create extra-curricular activities with Jewish content that will involve the entire family. JDC recently supported needed renovations at Vilnius’ Jewish school, which has become a model for schools throughout the former Soviet Union.

Jewish children’s clubs are active throughout the region. Vilnius’ Club Ilan provides a year-round schedule of activities for some 150 children; its success has been duplicated by the L'eatid Children’s Club in Riga and a children’s center in Tallinn. Ilan’s programs have also been replicated in smaller towns like Kaunas, Siauliai, and Klaipeda. Youngsters from each of the Baltic countries and the Kaliningrad region have been regular participants in the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp at Szarvas, Hungary.

Regional exchanges and activities have been a key aspect of Baltic Jewish renewal and they continue to be encouraged by JDC. In addition to the Baltic Knesset or General Assembly, a number of regional seminars are conducted annually, along with training programs for youth counselors and a variety of events organized especially for the region’s young adults.
In recent years, many of the Jewish community centers opened in the mid-90s have been renovated and enlarged to accommodate the more inclusive programming that JDC has been helping to develop, with activities for every age group. The Aluf Community Center of Riga, whose renovation was sponsored by Amb. Joseph B. Gildenhorn and his family, JDC, and the local community, is moving full steam ahead, with a steadily growing number of members and programs. Over 600 young adults have been participating in newly organized activities for this age group, and the JCC’s new singles club has even been attracting people from neighboring countries. JDC and ORT embarked on a joint project last year to establish a technological center at the Riga JCC, with similar centers planned for other cities.

In Tallinn, the Dor va Dor Community Center, which was renovated with help from JDC, includes a synagogue, a welfare office, and multi-purpose activity halls. JCC activities are under way in Vilnius even as building renovations go forward, with a new Community Lounge opened last year that is attracting hundreds of visitors. Vilnius is also providing support to the small JCC in Kaunas. JDC has been sending consultants to all these communities to help with program development.

Programs at the new youth center in Riga include Shabbat and holiday celebrations, workshops and training sessions, a job data bank, and summer and winter camps. Virtually all these activities are being run by local graduates of the Buncher Program and Leatid Europe. Many of the young leaders spearheading the JCCs’ revitalization have also been participants in these JDC leadership development initiatives, which are an essential part of its effort to expand each community’s capacity to meet its own needs. JDC has also been encouraging the establishment of local fundraising bodies like the Ezra Fund in Latvia and Estonia’s synagogue renovation campaign. A new group of emerging businessmen has been formed in Riga; many of the members have already become donors and are serving as trustees of various communal institutions.

JDC has been focusing in recent years on some 20 small Jewish communities outside the major cities, helping to design programs that tackle each locality’s particular needs. It has also been enabling local communities to establish new connections via the Internet, with special “cyber-corners” planned for various facilities. The national federations have been strengthened so that they can provide more effective assistance to these smaller communities and to isolated pockets of Jews. The overarching goal is to provide every Jew in this region with the same standard of service, with regard both to welfare programs and to community development activities.

Transmigrants

JDC’s transmigrant caseload is concentrated in Vienna. The caseload traditionally peaks in late summer and early fall—as the approaching end of the US fiscal year limits visa availability—and levels off again after October 1. This year, following the attacks of September 11, there was a long delay in securing executive branch approval of visa numbers for the new fiscal year. As a result, there were almost no departures for the United States during the last quarter of 2001.

Through the first six months of 2002, transmigrants have continued to face a more complex and drawn out approval process for entry into the United States; as a result, their period of stay in Vienna has become much longer than in the past, with an obvious effect on JDC’s active caseload.

Since 1991, JDC has expected all transmigrants to be self-supporting or to receive financial assistance from relatives in the United States or elsewhere. JDC’s assistance is technical in nature, helping clients deal with medical or social problems and encouraging them to maintain proper living conditions, with funds available only for emergency cases.

A modest housing subsidy program, which JDC has been operating in collaboration with HIAS to enable clients to afford a better standard of housing, was used by a slightly higher number of people in 2001. The program is especially important when the need for housing grows due to a rise in the number of arrivals or a slowdown in departures, as is currently the case.

Social and cultural activities continue to be provided to JDC clients, both children and adults, who are awaiting processing. In addition to English classes and special programs for the Jewish holidays organized in cooperation with the Vienna Jewish community and local rabbis, computers with Internet access are available at the JDC office. JDC has also helped clients organize their own social events and excursions, and more programs have recently been conducted in cooperation with the local community. The Vienna office also provides a variety of support for JDC’s programs in Eastern Europe.
### Africa and Asia

**AFRICA AND ASIA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Jewish Population</th>
<th>JDC Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>4,800'</td>
<td>$1,101,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>1,978'</td>
<td>$581,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>90'</td>
<td>$66,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>13'</td>
<td>$1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td></td>
<td>$600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>5,300'</td>
<td>$236,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figures are approximate.*

### JDC’S OBJECTIVES IN AFRICA AND ASIA

- In North African countries where the Jewish populations are slowly but steadily diminishing in size, JDC helps communities maintain the communal institutions necessary for Jewish life.

- Ensures that the children have access to Jewish education wherever possible.

- Provides various forms of social welfare assistance and institutional support to enable the Jewish aged, sick, and poor to live out their lives with dignity. Those in need represent an increasing proportion of these declining populations.

- Encourages the consolidation of facilities and other ways to utilize communal resources to the fullest.

- In communities with sizable populations of young Jews, like India, JDC has been emphasizing cultural and educational activities that strengthen Jewish identity.

- Has helped rescue entire Jewish communities, and continues to work to assure the safety and well-being of all Jews who reside in volatile areas.
Morocco

Local communal fundraising efforts have been considerably diminished or postponed indefinitely over the past year as an outgrowth of Mideast tensions, and Jewish tourism and expatriate visits—another important source of Jewish community income—have diminished. As a result, and reversing the trend of recent years, Morocco’s Jewish communities are now more dependent on JDC’s financial support to maintain much needed health, welfare, and educational programs and services. JDC’s moral support is no less important to them, for they derive a sense of security and reassurance from the direct link to world Jewry that it represents.

With JDC’s help, the Casablanca community was able to extend monthly cash assistance to 290 needy elderly or ill Jews last year to cover their basic needs, and eight smaller communities in the provinces provided cash relief to 86 impoverished individuals. As these provincial communities grow smaller and their resource base shrinks, they look increasingly to JDC to sustain vital services. Special grants were also made in 2001 to individuals and families facing serious financial problems and emergency needs.

With JDC’s help, OSE (Oeuvre Secours aux Enfants), the only medical facility available to Moroccan Jews of limited means, provided medical and dental services to 1,306 individuals—from infants to the elderly—in Casablanca last year and 70 elderly Jews in the provinces. In addition to a health center with clinics for various specialties, health services were provided in the Jewish schools and in the Casablanca old age home, and medicines were furnished free of charge to the needy. Preventive care and early intervention programs have become an increasingly important aspect of OSE’s work, benefiting some 800 people in Casablanca and the provinces last year.

An emergency medical care program funded by JDC, the community, and OSE helps both low and middle income families, and particularly the elderly, cover the costs of hospitalization, surgery, and treatment in private clinics. Rapidly rising costs for private services and the absence of state medical care have left Jews without sufficient means or health insurance totally dependent on this program, with 49 people assisted last year.

The Casablanca community, aided by JDC, maintains a full-service home for the aged, which currently has 69 residents. Together with OSE, the home operates a special convalescence unit, which is helping to reduce the need for private care. The JDC Jewish Service Corps volunteer who served in Morocco in the first half of 2002 worked with the residents at the home, helping to develop new recreational programs and other activities for the elderly there and in the community. JDC also supports the efforts of Ozar Hatorah and Lubavitch to provide religious and social activities for this age group.

In Tangier, where JDC has been helping to fund residential care for elderly Jews without families or resources, the community has finally succumbed to JDC’s encouragement and merged its two small nursing homes. The 33 residents of the remaining facility will benefit from the upgrade in services and renovation of the premises made possible by the move.

JDC subsidizes the three Jewish school networks—Ozar Hatorah, Lubavitch, and Itilhad—which continue to play a vital and central role in this community and are dependent on JDC’s help. In 2001-2002, these schools provided a high quality Jewish and secular education to 946 youngsters aged 5 to 18. Computer studies are now a universal part of the curriculum, with JDC having encouraged and funded the introduction of computer classes in the Ozar Hatorah and Lubavitch schools. The JDC scholarship fund provided tuition support this year for 200 children from hard-pressed families with two or more youngsters, and JDC paid stipends to some 36 teachers who participated in two adult Jewish study programs for men and women.

JDC funding enabled DEJJ (the Departement Educatif de la Jeunesse Juive au Maroc) to sustain its Jewish youth programs this year even though it was unable to hold its annual fundraising event and income from the community was limited. Some 80 Jewish boys and girls have been attending the DEJJ Club on a regular basis, with this Casablanca facility one of the few places where Jewish youth are able to get together in a secure environment. Activities include sports, an Internet club, social and cultural programs, and Jewish holiday celebrations. JDC support also enabled DEJJ to run a summer camp program for 48 children last year.

Tunisia

JDC’s financial support for the Tunisian Jewish communities’ essential institutions and services is as critical as ever, while its ongoing involvement in communal life is an important source of reassurance and a boost to community morale.

Over the past year, JDC helped Jewish community leaders design and implement a more adequate and equitable system of cash relief and medical assistance, which is currently benefiting some 65 elderly Jewish poor in Tunis and in four provincial towns. The number being aided in the provincial communities decreased significantly over the past year with the deaths of some of the oldest assistees. JDC subsidizes medical care for all welfare recipients and for the 45 needy residents of the Jewish Home for the Aged in La Goulette, on the outskirts of Tunis.

By documenting the Holocaust’s impact on the Jews of Tunisia, JDC helped establish their eligibility for help from various restitution funds. As a result, 196 impoverished elderly Jews received assistance payments from
1. Holiday lights are kindled in Bombay, one of the oldest diazpora communities. (Photo: Zion Ozeri)

2. Supplementary feeding programs nourish the Falas Mora in Addis Ababa and Gondar City, Ethiopia.

3. JDC is helping to improve the quality of education in all of Tunisia's Jewish schools. (Photo: Roy Mitelman)

4. Medical relief for the Jewish community of Alibag reduces mortality rates. (Photo: Zion Ozeri)

5. Morocco's three JDC-supported Jewish school networks are a central element in Jewish life.

6. Craig Cohen, a Jewish Service Corps volunteer, teaches youth in Bombay. (Photo: Zion Ozeri)
economic crisis intensified in 2001, causing the failure of many small and
self sufficient for over 500 years, requested, and JDC provided, technical
projects, which are described in the JDC-IDP section of this annual report.

Tunis' only Jewish school is run by the Lubavitch movement and had
an enrollment of 75 youngsters in 2001-02; JDC currently funds 70 percent
of its budget. On the island of Jerba, JDC continues to support two Jewish
schools in Hara Kabira. It provides one-fourth of the budget of the Jerba
Yeshiva, one of the island's major, centuries-old Jewish institutions, which
has an enrollment of about 100 boys. The other school, Torah V' Hinukh, is
funded by JDC and the parent body. It offers both a Jewish and a general
education beginning at the nursery level, with classrooms that have been
filled to bursting in recent years. Some 170 students, primarily girls, were
enrolled this year, most of whom would otherwise go without formal Jewish
schooling. The school also provides many of the Yeshiva students with a
few hours a day of instruction in secular subjects. In the small community
of Zarzis in the south, JDC helps fund the nursery-kindergarten and Jewish
schools for girls and boys, which have a total enrollment of 36 children.

JDC has made a significant effort over the past year to upgrade the
education provided in all of the Jewish schools. It has initiated teacher
training programs, assured higher salaries for teachers, and underwritten
the addition of new classrooms and some much needed reconstruction of
existing facilities. It has also been providing new books and other educa­
tional materials and helping to purchase computers and software as well as
recreational equipment. Generous contributions from London's Jewish
Child's Day and from the Durschlag family of Chicago have made these
improvements possible.

Turkey

JDC, in cooperation with the Jewish community and government agencies,
has been involved in various non-sectarian relief and rehabilitation proj­
ects, which are described in the JDC-IDP section of this annual report.

Over the past decade, the Turkish Jewish community, which has been
self-sufficient for over 500 years, requested, and JDC provided, technical
assistance to help improve various institutions and services. As Turkey's
economic crisis intensified in 2001, causing the failure of many small and
mid-size businesses, it severely affected more and more members of the
Jewish community as well as the vital communal institutions that they sup­
port. JDC has been helping community leaders to address these changing
circumstances. It organized a seminar last year which focused on strategic
planning and the maintenance of communal operations. It also conducted
a fundraising course stressing both internal and external resource devel­
opment, and it provided assistance in formulating grant proposals for
submission to foundations and individual donors. It is currently helping the
community establish an economic unit to provide the financial counseling
and technical support that can help needy families get back on their feet.

A JDC Jewish Service Corps volunteer who began working with the
Izmir community early in 2001 succeeded in involving additional young
people in community functions, reaching out to Jewish youth through the
existing youth club and developing a new club for young married couples.
He organized Jewish holiday celebrations in cooperation with local leaders
and a first-time local summer club for Jewish youth. He also arranged for
a delegation of 31 Jewish youth to attend the Ronald S. Lauder
Foundation/JDC International Summer Camp at Szarvas, Hungary last
summer, the first time Jewish youngsters from Turkey have been able to
take part in this unique Jewish camping experience.

Yemen

Since Yemen has no diplomatic relations and only very limited commu­
ications with Israel, JDC has been serving as the arm of the organized
Jewish world in that country since it first began funding activities there in
1990. It has made departure arrangements for community members,
receiving generous support for these efforts from World Jewish Relief (UK).
Since 1992, some 800 Jews have left Yemen; many were aided by JDC
envoys who made repeated trips into the country to complete the difficult
and complex process of bringing families out. JDC remains responsible for
the welfare of this Jewish community and, in partnership with the Jewish
Agency, for its aliyah. In the spring of 2002, JDC saw to it that the fewer than
300 remaining community members had the items they needed to cele­
brate the Passover holiday.

Other Moslem Countries

In Egypt, JDC, in partnership with the tiny Jewish communities in Cairo and
Alexandria, provides cash assistance to about 35 needy elderly, along with
funds for medical care. It also covers the cost of nursing home care for
three individuals in Alexandria. With the cantor who had been traveling faithfully to Alexandria on JDC’s behalf now too frail to make the journey, JDC has recruited a new chazzan who will be visiting the community on Passover and the High Holidays. JDC also provides Jews in Alexandria and Cairo with Passover supplies and other kosher food for the holidays.

In Algeria, a long-time JDC assistee in Algiers died in 2001, and JDC helped with the burial. Thanks to funds provided by the Consistoire of Algeria (the former Jewish community), JDC continues to provide supplementary financial help to one ailing woman in Oran. She is the surviving remnant of a once vibrant Jewish community in Algeria. In other parts of the Moslem world last year, JDC continued to help remaining Jewish communities meet their health, welfare, and Jewish educational needs.

Ethiopia

Through private clinics that it supervises in Addis Ababa and Gondar City, JDC has been providing humanitarian medical assistance to thousands of Falas Mora who moved from their villages to these two cities to await the processing of their requests to go to Israel. In leaving their villages, the Falas Mora abandoned a self-sufficient agrarian lifestyle and now live under difficult conditions.

In addition to routine examinations and treatment, the services offered at the clinics, which undergo constant reevaluation, include testing labs, TB treatment, health education, and a program for pregnant and nursing women. Health facilitators act as liaisons between the clinic staff and the Falas Mora communities. JDC, through these two clinics, has a supplementary feeding program open to children and adults who are malnourished, pregnant women and nursing mothers who are in need, special social cases, and people with tuberculosis. The clinics have brought the mortality rate among these Falas Mora significantly below that of the general Ethiopian population.

JDC continues to provide all those who are accepted for aliya with up to one month of care and maintenance while they await their departure for Israel.

India

Ed. Note: See the JDC-IDP section of this annual report for an account of relief and reconstruction efforts undertaken following the January 2001 earthquake in Gujurat State.

February 2002 brought the third anniversary celebration of the Evelyn Peters Jewish Community Center (EPJCC) in Mumbai (Bombay), which had been dedicated the previous spring in loving memory of the long-time JDC country director who played such a critical role in its establishment. Almost all Jewish community activities in the Mumbai/Thane area now emanate from the EPJCC, and an average of 520 paying members visit the center in the course of each month for a wide range of classes and programs. Activities on Sunday are oversubscribed, as are the center’s festive Jewish holiday celebrations.

Supported in major part by funds from the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, the center has a board of directors comprised of people of stature within the community who last year took upon themselves the task of raising funds locally for its support. The EPJCC has proved to be a more accessible venue than JDC’s office for the informal Jewish educational programs and activities established over the years by JDC’s Mumbai staff, its expatriate Jewish Service Corps (JSC) volunteers, and its dedicated local community volunteers. An additional location is being sought in the western suburbs so that programs and activities can be brought closer to the Jews living in that area, who have been the focus of stepped-up outreach efforts throughout the past year.

The first Bene Israel rabbi in four decades, a young rabbi from Thane whose studies in Israel were supported by JDC, returned to India early in 2001 to serve the community for a multi-year period. He has already had a strong impact on programming, initiating a new bar and bat mitzvah preparation course that has been well received by both children and parents, and teaching a popular weekly Torah class, special seminars before each Jewish holiday, and a class on the meaning, method, and philosophy of prayer. The rabbi has been leading special Shabbat and holiday celebrations and, for the past two springs, he has overseen the production of Passover matza and the organization of seven communal Passover seders, adding a mock seder for all age groups at the EPJCC this year.

To meet an essential community need, the rabbi has been recruiting students for a new training course for ritual slaughterers that is scheduled to begin in mid-2002. He is also leading a project that is preparing a first-ever Marathi/Hebrew (transliterated) and Marathi/English siddur. This new prayerbook will be used at the many JDC camps and weekend programs scheduled throughout the year.

Since 1990, JDC has sent 18 Jewish Service Corps volunteers to India to work with JDC staff and local volunteers on a variety of Jewish educational and outreach efforts as well as social welfare programs. Their goal has been to teach by example and to train local leaders and activists, and their work has benefited hundreds of community members eager to increase their sense of Jewish identity, particularly the youth.

JDC-India’s intense monthly calendar of activities is a testament to their efforts and their achievements. The breadth of programming represented is quite amazing, including bi-monthly Sunday school classes for children and workshops for their parents; Shabbat and holiday classes and
programs; weekend and vacation camps for all ages, including the elderly, as well as for family groups; day camps; youth groups and programs; beginner and advanced classes in Hebrew and a variety of Jewish subjects; a Rosh Chodesh women’s discussion group; and a new program that aims to bring well retirees together for social and cultural activities.

One of JDC’s Jewish Service Corps volunteers was heavily involved last fall in helping to prepare the song and dance presentations featured at the Khai Fest, an annual fundraising evening organized by the Jewish Youth Pioneers. Some 250 people attended the December event, with the proceeds going to support youth activities as well as JDC’s welfare and medical programs. The Noar Club, a program for teenagers initiated by one of last year’s JSC volunteers, evoked a tremendous response. About a dozen dedicated teenagers have recently been taking part in a new youth leadership training series led by the director of the EPJCC, which will prepare them to help carry out a variety of JDC activities.

Over 500 people are members of the Jewish libraries that JDC helped establish and supports in five cities, with the Mumbai library now housed at the EPJCC. The center’s cyber cafe is one of its most popular features, giving community members access to the large store of Jewish knowledge available via the Internet. Computers at the cafe and in the JCC office were upgraded last year with funds generously donated by Linda Feinstein in memory of Evelyn Peters. Kol India, JDC’s colorful quarterly publication, continues to be read by the majority of Jews in India today; it has become an important vehicle for Jewish education and for strengthening Jewish identity.

About 157 individuals in various communities throughout India received modest monthly stipends from JDC last year, and some 100 were helped to make essential purchases or basic home repairs. The trained social worker who served as one of last year’s JSC volunteers worked with JDC’s social workers to strengthen and expend the social assistance program, with physical improvements made in the housing conditions of the most impoverished.

JDC pays for medical care for the neediest individuals, and it continues to sponsor monthly medical camps—directed by a dedicated volunteer doctor—in Ahbag for those living in the area’s Jewish villages. An additional medical camp was initiated last year by another volunteer doctor who has been seeing patients each month at JDC’s office.

Assistance programs have been adjusted to accommodate the needs of the Baghdadi community in Mumbai after a survey of this population group was completed last year. In January 2002, 13 impoverished elderly Jews began receiving hot kosher meals six days a week on an experimental basis. The meals are prepared at the EPJCC kitchen by three JDC assistees who have been receiving a small salary for their efforts; the aim is to eventually provide them with full-time, gainful employment.

Four Warm Homes have recently been established in various suburbs with high concentrations of Jewish elderly, modeled on the Bayit Cham program developed by JDC in the former Soviet Union, and two help lines have been set up to respond to a variety of needs. One of these operates from the EPJCC, the other from Bayit, the Jewish home for the aged in Manpada, outside Mumbai.

Bayit, a tiny, much acclaimed facility for mobile and non-mobile needy elderly, was opened by JDC in 1996 with generous support from the Weinberg Foundation. Efforts to encourage visits from nearby community members have been successful, and one of last year’s JSC volunteers helped establish weekly social and cultural activities for the residents. They are joined by a group of elderly from Thane who are driven to Manpada in the van purchased for Bayit with Weinberg Foundation help.

The JDC Buncher Community Leadership Program is the linchpin of JDC’s local training efforts, and four new candidates began the training program in Israel in January 2001. Follow-up sessions are regularly organized by JDC to facilitate networking and help alumni add to their professional skills. A reunion seminar for all graduates was held in Mumbai in December 2001, with community leaders and JDC-India staff members taking part in many of the lively discussions.

JDC has also put together a variety of special training programs for local staff. JDC’s country manager visited Israel in November 2001, receiving in-depth briefings on JDC programs both in Israel and in the former Soviet Union. Special emphasis was placed on programs that could be adapted to meet the needs of the Indian community, and the recently implemented programs for the elderly described earlier are a direct result of this visit.

Some 50 representatives from numerous Jewish organizations in six Indian cities took part in December 2001 in the most recent All-India Conference organized by JDC, which has often served as a neutral convener of the disparate groups that comprise the Indian Jewish population. In like manner, JDC’s local Advisory Committee has become very effective in involving local Jews from cities across India in JDC’s programs and policies. Its chairman visited Israel late in 2001 to learn more about JDC’s work there, particularly with regard to JDC-ESHEL and the JDC Center for Lay Leadership. Celebrating its tenth anniversary this year, the JDC Advisory Committee is a well-respected, devoted, and capable group which has been working together for Indian Jewry’s common good.

China and Myanmar

JDC provided assistance payments to three elderly people in China last year, while in Myanmar it aided six indigent members of the tiny Jewish community in Yangon.
### Latin America

#### Argentina
- **Jewish Population:** 200,000*
- **JDC Appropriation:** $1,374,000

#### Cuba
- **Jewish Population:** 1,500*
- **JDC Appropriation:** $99,900

#### General Latin American Programs
- **JDC Appropriation:** $1,147,700

*Figures are approximate.

**JDC'S OBJECTIVES IN LATIN AMERICA**

- JDC promotes regional meetings, cooperative exchange, and coordination among communities. It assists in the development of the smaller communities.
- JDC works to maximize human resources through training programs for lay leaders and professionals, and it is helping to strengthen community organization, planning, and fundraising capabilities.
- In Argentina, JDC has responded to emergency needs by establishing a bridge of support to the community. It is helping those in greatest need; furnishing technical assistance to the communal structures and institutions, welfare centers, and volunteer network established with its support; helping with job training efforts and the development of employment opportunities; and facilitating the merger and restructuring of community institutions.
- In Cuba, JDC is working in partnership with the local community to promote Jewish knowledge, advance the reestablishment of Jewish culture and religion, and rebuild communal structures. It is also helping to meet basic needs for food and medicines.

- As part of its Community Development efforts, JDC aims to strengthen the capacities of the Latin American Jewish communities to address problems that affect them individually or collectively.
- JDC does this by responding to the communities' requests for technical assistance and by helping them to mobilize and make the fullest use possible of their own resources.
Argentina

Traditionally, JDC has provided technical assistance to communities throughout Latin America. Argentina, with a Jewish population of 200,000, represents the largest Jewish community in the region. The decline in the political and economic position of Argentina has had a devastating impact on not only the Jewish community of Argentina but on the economies of other countries as well. Uruguay has already experienced an increase in unemployment and is fearful that the situation in Argentina will soon be replicated in Uruguay.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has expanded activities in Argentina dramatically in the face of the current crisis. Reports this week indicate that nearly one-half of the population in Argentina is now living below the poverty line. The Jewish community has been hit hard by the economic downfall of the country. Seventy percent of small businesses have closed. Many day schools, JCCs, and synagogues have witnessed a dramatic downturn in membership and enrollment. Local Jewish social service agencies are unable to cope with the massive welfare and relief needs of the community.

JDC has expanded its operations and is providing food, clothing, and rent subsidies to nearly 30,000 Jews, double the amount of relief provided in 2001. We have expanded the number of Social Assistance Centers from 34 to 51 during the first half of 2002. Food vouchers are given to all families in need and 2,070 children are receiving meals in 33 schools due to a new lunch program that was launched in partnership with AMIA. In response to a 70 percent increase in need, the Central Community Pharmacy was created to provide much needed medicines to those people who need them most. In May 2002, 1,582 people requested medicine through the community pharmacy.

The Ariel Employment Bureau, which serves as a central service for all members of the community, opened in October 2001 and has helped over 8,000 members of the community who are seeking employment opportunities. Services include resume writing, career counseling, and job networking. JDC is continuing its consulting and assistance in reorganizing the Argentine Jewish Community to ensure short-term stability and long-term viability of local institutions. Several micro-businesses have been opened which provide members of the community with employment in this highly depressed economy. These services include a bakery, a car service company, and home care for the elderly.

Free legal counseling will soon be available in all 51 Social Assistance Centers through a partnership with the Tzedaka Foundation and the CASS-network. This need has come about due to the high levels of eviction, problems with meeting the costs of mortgage, rent, and utility payments, and failing shops.

Special programs for holidays have been arranged. In March of 2002, over 15,000 members of the community came together for Pesaj Boyachad, a JDC-sponsored Passover seder. A generous contribution from JDC Latin America Area Committee Chair Jane Weitzman and her husband, Stuart, allowed this much needed program to take place. Other programs were held on Shavuot, such as a night of study and celebration in 72 different Jewish organizations throughout the country that involved over 13,000 participants. Programs are now planned for the High Holy Days.

The crisis in Argentina has led to a "window of opportunity" to help the community restructure its communal infrastructure. Many organizations that had duplicative functions and missions have merged, and we are working with all local institutions to streamline their administrative costs and operations. Strategies to merge several institutions, including day schools and JCCs, are being developed.

The amount of assistance that JDC will provide in 2002 will be $8.76 million. The economic reality of Argentina will necessitate an expanded effort in 2003 to keep the members of the Jewish community from falling further into poverty. Argentina is the fifth largest community in the Diaspora and must be assisted in this, its hour of need.

Cuba

JDC continues to support a range of programs and activities that over the past decade have brought about a resurgence of Cuban Jewish life. While most Cuban Jews live in Havana, there are small but active communities today in Santiago de Cuba, Guantanamo, Santa Clara, Sancti Spiritu, Cienfuegos, and Camaguey. The challenge is to help them sustain their level of activity as their size continues to diminish.

To help meet community members' humanitarian needs in the face of continuing shortages of basic necessities, JDC has been sending in shipments of kosher food for distribution in conjunction with four Jewish holidays. The Mexican Jewish community, the Canadian Jewish Congress, and others are JDC's partners in this effort. In addition to food packages, medications shipped by JDC or brought by visitors are distributed via the Havana Jewish community to all parts of Cuba. This effort has greatly enhanced the health of community members.

Chicken dinners were provided to community members throughout the island every Friday evening last year, thanks to the generous contributions made by participants in the regular missions to Cuba organized by the North American federations and UJC. In addition to conveying their solidarity and concern, mission members, through the supplemental donations they have been making to this community, have been helping to support social assistance efforts as well as Jewish programming.
Over the past years, JDC has been sending a series of Argentinian communal professionals—experts in community development—to be its resident representatives in Cuba. They have been concentrating on training new community members as needed to take over responsibility for Jewish educational, cultural, and religious activities. In addition to training Jewish teachers and youth counselors, cantors and Torah readers have been tutored by JDC’s representatives to take charge of religious services in various local synagogues.

International Jewish leadership from the US, Mexico, Argentina, and Chile were all present for the rededication ceremony of Havana’s Beth Shalom or “Patronato” Synagogue two years ago, following its complete renovation. The renovation was accomplished with generous support from the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation. Community welfare programs and activities for different age groups are being accommodated with greater ease at the “Patronato” Community Center, whose refurbishment was made possible by the generosity of the Scheck family of Miami, and the Jewish library has been renovated with generous support from Miami’s Zelcer family.

Two other synagogues in Havana have been undergoing restoration, and synagogues have been refurbished and reopened in recent years in Santiago de Cuba and in Camaguey.
Jewish study groups continue to flourish in those three cities, along with the Sunday Schools for youngsters and programs for their parents that have been established there and in Cienfuegos. A senior citizens' group meets throughout the year in Havana, and generous extra-bud-jedetary support has enabled JDC to help organize camp programs for different age groups.

The Jewish youth organization maintains an active schedule of programs and camps, and Israeli dance groups have become increasingly popular in various local communities. In 2001, a group of students from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations joined the community and worked side by side with local youth leaders.

JDC has supplied Hebrew- and Spanish-language books on Jewish topics, prayerbooks and other religious items, and a video library that circulates among the communities. Extra-budgetary contributions have enabled JDC to equip computer centers in Camaguey, Santiago, and Havana. The latter is being used to produce the Havana community's monthly publication, Manoah, as well as the youth group's newsletter, both of which are supported by JDC.

JDC coordinates visits from rabbis and Jewish educators who have enriched local programs of Jewish learning and facilitated the observation of Jewish holidays and life cycle events. Along with the communal holiday celebrations that JDC continues to sponsor, its resident representatives have been helping a small number of families to conduct Passover seders in their own homes.

Regional Programs

Providing technical assistance to help strengthen Jewish community life has long been the foundation for JDC's activities in Latin America. JDC also maintains the capacity to react to emergency situations, like the one described above in Argentina, and it has been monitoring the condition of Jewish communities in other Latin American countries where similar problems may be developing.

In May 2001, the JDC Board voted to extend a five-year interest-free loan to the Jewish community of Lima, Peru, which lost $4 million in communal assets following two bank failures there the previous November. The loan has been helping to provide operational funds for two homes for the aged and facilitate the merger of these two institutions into a single facility.

In the area of technical assistance, JDC has been especially active over the past few years in Central America, helping the smaller Jewish communities there and in neighboring countries with informal Jewish educational programs, religious activities, camp programs for youth and families, training for teachers and counselors, and study and training seminars for Jewish leaders. JDC's professional consultants have been assisting various institutions and several small communities engaged in strategic planning or restructuring efforts, and Leatid Latin America recently completed its first one-year program specifically for Central American lay leaders.

JDC actively uses the Internet to communicate with the more isolated Jewish communities throughout Latin America, offering different forms of "e-learning" and resource materials through its Web site to lay and professional leaders. And, working together with various local and international organizations, JDC continues to be involved in efforts to improve Jewish day schools.

A new generation of lay and professional leaders has been emerging in Latin America, most of whom have benefited from the training provided by JDC through Leatid Latin America. In addition to in-service training in local communities, Leatid's core programs include an Institutional Directors Training Program, the AmiT Training Program for Young Communal Lay Leaders, and the Electronic Forum for Jewish Institutional Leadership. Seventeen top professionals from seven countries in Central and South America recently completed a two-year series of seminars, in the fourth course of this kind to be conducted by Leatid. Leatid was also responsible for recruiting the sixth group of Latin American participants in the Israel-based Buncher Community Leadership Program.

The Latin America Data Bank-Einstein Virtual Campus is a comput-er-based network that brings Jewish graduate students and young professionals together in Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay. Supported by JDC and ORT, the network enables these young adults to introduce themselves and their fields of work to one another via the Jewish community. In addition to exploring job possibilities and exchanging professional information, activities with Jewish content are encouraged. A concerted effort is made to enhance the participants' sense of communal responsibility, with JDC viewing this kind of "virtual community" as a new tool for developing the next generation of Jewish leaders.

Contacto, JDC's quarterly Spanish-language newsletter, continues to be an important source of information on communal programs and events and topics of interest around the Jewish world. It also brings highlights of JDC's work to lay and professional Jewish community leaders.

In helping to develop a solid network of Latin American Jewish communities, JDC has actively encouraged the creation of a regular forum similar to the North American General Assembly or GA. Some 600 lay and professional leaders from 22 countries took part last year in the eighth Latin American GA, which is known locally as the "Leadership Encounter." Held in Rio de Janeiro in October 2001, this latest Encounter gave further impetus to the strong sense of Jewish community that has been emerging in recent years throughout Latin America.
Global Programs

JDC-INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

JDC-International Development Program (JDC-IDP)
JDC Appropriation: $455,600

JDC'S OBJECTIVES FOR NON-SECTARIAN PROJECTS

• JDC-IDP embodies the Jewish principle of “tikkun olam,” the admonition to engage in efforts to alleviate suffering and repair the world’s inequities and imperfections as part of one’s moral responsibilities.

• JDC’s non-sectarian projects provide the American Jewish community with the opportunity to participate in international development efforts, and they involve local Jewish communities wherever feasible.

• JDC does not use UJC/Federation Annual Campaign funds to support its non-sectarian efforts. Rather, it provides a small amount of seed money that it leverages with funding secured from the US and other governments, international agencies, and private foundations and donors.

• JDC’s “Open Mailboxes” provide a mechanism through which the Jewish and general public can participate in emergency responses to disasters overseas.

• JDC coordinates the work of the Jewish Coalition for Disaster Relief, which provides a unified Jewish response to international crises on behalf of its constituent organizations. Comprised at its largest of 45 US and foreign Jewish agencies, the Coalition represents the full spectrum of Jewish life and gives organizations not involved in international work the opportunity to take part in this Jewish response.

• By using Israeli experts, JDC enables developing countries to benefit from Israel’s development experience, technological innovations, and products.

• Training is an essential part of JDC development efforts. It enhances the management capabilities of local partners so that projects continue after JDC's departure. Projects often involve both government agencies and non-governmental organizations to encourage cooperation and ensure the best use of resources.
Bosnia

JDC is continuing its support of a home care project for the elderly run by La Benevolencia, the humanitarian arm of the Sarajevo Jewish community. Over 620 individuals from the city's different ethnic groups, including some 140 Jews, are currently receiving hot meals, home care visits, and medical help. In addition to ensuring the welfare of these needy and often lonely individuals, the project is providing much-needed employment to the 38 social workers—who conduct the home visits.

El Salvador

In response to a series of earthquakes in early 2001, JDC established an "Open Mailbox" that raised over $250,000 to aid the hundreds of thousands left homeless. Immediate assistance was provided to Direct Relief International and Latet, an Israeli NGO (non-governmental organization), to help cover the cost of shipping essential relief supplies. A partnership with Doctors of the World financed the reconstruction of four health posts and training for community health workers. A secondary school in a local town called Jerusalem was rebuilt in partnership with the local Jewish community and the Ministry of Health. The Jewish Coalition for El Salvador Earthquake Assistance convened by JDC has been supporting two local agencies—both former partners in Hurricane Mitch relief efforts—that have built permanent housing, reestablished a local market, and trained mental health workers in the provision of trauma counseling.

India

In January 2001, India suffered its strongest earthquake in over 50 years, with the most severely affected areas in Gujarat State, on India's western coast. Over 350,000 households—homes, apartments, or huts—were destroyed and 873,000 damaged, leaving up to 2 million people homeless and nearly 16 million affected in all. JDC received over $685,000 in contributions for its response.

In the immediate aftermath of the quake, JDC collaborated with the Vagad Medical Relief Trust on an emergency distribution program in the Bhachau area, reaching some 200,000 people. Among the items procured and distributed were medicines and medical supplies, tents, clothing, and basic foodstuffs.

JDC subsequently formed a partnership with the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), a local NGO that advocates for over 200,000 poor women, two-thirds of whom reside in Gujarat, to establish and operate 15 child care centers in hard-hit Kutch, Surendranagar, and Patan. The centers provide meals and health care to children, pregnant women, and nursing mothers, along with child development and recreational activities and trauma counseling by trained personnel. An initiative with Handicap International in Kutch is serving victims with disabilities through a "training of trainers" format that will produce a cadre of trained local experts. Through another partnership with World Vision, "community education centers" are being established in which children and adults can take part in educational, cultural, and civic activities.

The Jewish Coalition for India Earthquake Relief was convened to facilitate a coordinated Jewish response to the crisis. Coalition support to Operation USA and to Direct Relief International helped cover the shipping costs for water purifying tablets and other emergency supplies.

The Coalition subsequently enabled SEWA to construct community water tanks that are being maintained by SEWA members. It also funded the rebuilding of a primary school for 400 students in the remote village of Neelpar.

A Coalition partnership with CRY, a well-respected Indian NGO, led to the establishment of ten "Child Activity Centers" in Gujarat. Navsarjan, a grassroots NGO that focuses on marginalized communities, built 566 one-room houses with Jewish Coalition support. Local men and women received training in masonry and carpentry skills and provided the labor for this initiative.

Kosovo

The American Jewish public's response to the Kosovo refugee crisis was unprecedented. Contributions to JDC's "Open Mailbox," primarily but not exclusively from American Jews, exceeded $5.4 million—the largest "Mailbox" campaign to date—and 42 Jewish organizations joined the JDC-coordinated Jewish Coalition for Kosovo Relief and Assistance, which raised close to $600,000.

A mosque in the town of Shqiponje has been rebuilt with the direct assistance of JDC, the Roman Catholic Church, and the local Moslem community. This inter-faith effort is an example of the long-term development work JDC fosters in response to the devastation caused by natural or man-made disasters.

Indeed, JDC's initial relief efforts in Albania and Macedonia (described in detail in previous Annual Reports) were quickly succeeded by a variety of reconstruction efforts in Kosovo itself as JDC quite literally followed the refugees home. At the request of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, its doctors accompanied thousands of the refugees who were repatriated by train to Kosovo following the cessation of hostilities.
At the request of UNICEF, a coordinating body for reconstruction activities in Kosovo, JDC renovated and rehabilitated over 35 local schools. It also provided winterized tents for use as temporary school facilities; distributed school bags and supplies in schools; furnished 15,000 pairs of winter shoes to orphaned or needy children; provided the local schools with a variety of teaching materials and equipment; and established a youth journal to which all of Pristina's high school students (over 10,000) are invited to contribute.

These school reconstruction efforts have enabled thousands of children to return to school, restoring some measure of normality to their lives and enabling their families to concentrate on regaining their livelihoods. To aid these efforts, JDC, in partnership with the World ORT Union, established vocational training programs and set up computer labs in some of the schools to help adults acquire new, marketable skills. JDC also donated pharmaceuticals, linens, and other supplies to hospitals in Prizren and Pristina, and it is contributing toward the establishment of a Department of Psychology at the University of Pristina.

JDC coordinates the efforts of the Jewish Coalition, whose funds have been allocated to projects established in partnership with, among others, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Mercy Corps International, The Forum, the East-West Management Institute, and Motrat Qiriati, the Albanian-American Women's Association. Project activities have included the rehabilitation or enhancement of additional school facilities and the provision of teaching materials and equipment; the establishment of Women's and Children's Centers and the development of new public health services and preventive care for women, children, and families; trauma relief training and services; and efforts to strengthen local NGOs and facilitate the development of civil society in Kosovo.

**Macedonia**

Following the repatriation of the Kosovo refugees, the health clinic established originally by JDC in partnership with the IRC to aid refugees and their host families was moved to an impoverished community of approximately 40,000 local and refugee Roma. The clinic provides basic medical care as well as support for a public health outreach and education effort. The latter is the purview of ESMA, a Roma women's organization that JDC has been helping.

JDC, in partnership with the IRC, La Benevolencia-Skopje (the welfare arm of Macedonia's Jewish community), and UKJAID, initiated a Back to School program for Roma children who had been identified through the clinic as not attending school. New teachers were hired, desks were bought, and the children were provided with books, clothing, and winter shoes, and screened and treated at the clinic for health and dental problems. Between 70 and 80 percent of these children are now continuing their education.

Most recently, JDC donated hospital linens and uniforms to hospitals across the country.
Middle East Program

The Middle East Program works to improve the lives of citizens of the region and promote regional cooperation by developing new health services, conducting research, and facilitating professional interchange.

A pilot child development project was initiated in the Hebron region to aid the area’s estimated 2,800 Palestinian children under age 6 who have special needs that require early professional evaluation and treatment. The project builds upon an existing effort of the volunteer-supported Palestinian-Israeli Health Care Group and is adapting systems used by Israel’s network of Child Development Centers. Israeli and Palestinian health professionals screen, diagnose, and treat children for a variety of disorders during Child Development Days and train some 50 area professionals during Professional Development Days.

The JDC-Brookdale Institute and Bar-Ilan University, in cooperation with the Gaza Health Services Research Center and Al-Quds University, have been implementing a cross-cultural study designed to promote adolescent health. The study, which is based on the World Health Organization’s Health Behaviors in School-Aged Children survey, stresses the psychosocial determinants of problem behavior. The resulting database will facilitate the planning of more effective programs. JDC received a $1.4 million grant from USAID/MERC to carry out the full survey, the second grant made to this project by USAID.

In partnership with the Israel Association for the Advancement of Women’s Health and the Patient’s Friends Society-Jerusalem, JDC-Israel is bringing together Israeli and Palestinian professionals and women living with breast cancer. Using lessons learned from JDC’s women’s health empowerment project in Israel, the project is introducing concepts of peer support, empowerment, and advocacy, and establishing culturally sensitive support services for those coping with breast cancer.

A grant received from the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs has allowed the addition this year of an American component. Groups of Middle Eastern and American health professionals, NGO representatives, and breast cancer survivors will visit each other’s facilities and organizations to share experiences, introduce programs and services for possible adaptation at new sites, and expand networks for information sharing.

JDC, the Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees, Yad Sarah, and the CRB Foundation have established centers for the loan of medical equipment and assistive devices in the West Bank and Gaza, thereby helping Palestinians with disabilities or chronic illnesses maintain their independence and avoid costly hospitalization. Four centers are now operational.
Rwanda

The “Back to School” project, through which approximately 1,500 orphans from the Kibungo Prefecture are provided with school supplies, and over 200 with assistance for the payment of school fees, continues. This partnership among JDC, the Benishyaka Association (a Rwandan NGO), Israeli school children, and the Israeli Ministry of Education continues to enrich the lives of the participants and their communities.

Turkey

Earthquake Relief and Reconstruction: The American Jewish community responded generously to the victims of the two massive earthquakes that devastated northwestern Turkey in August and November 1999, contributing over $1,400,000 to JDC’s “Open Mailbox.” JDC also convened and coordinated the Jewish Coalition for Turkey Earthquake Relief, comprised of 45 member agencies from North America, South Africa, and the UK.

JDC responded to initial needs by supplying winterized tents, sleeping bags, blankets, and warm clothes, with shipping and distribution accomplished via the Israel Defense Forces, the Turkish military, Turkish Airways, the Red Crescent Society, and the Turkish Jewish community. JDC also flew a number of individuals to Israel for medical care not available in Turkey. These individuals have subsequently returned home. Assistance was provided to the “Israeli Village” in Adapazari, which was established in one of the hardest-hit areas with the help of Israeli government agencies and voluntary organizations.

Allocations from the Jewish Coalition were used to expand children's activities at the “Israeli Village” and to establish partnerships with a number of agencies in support of several health-related projects. These included outreach efforts designed to promote public health and facilitate access to primary care.

In August 2001, members of the JDC Board Mission to Turkey attended the opening ceremony for a new primary school in Adapazari built with the help of “Mailbox” funds. This much-needed school, which is serving some 480 children a year, was constructed through partnerships established by JDC with the Turkish Prime Minister’s Office, the Turkish Ministry of Education, the Israeli Foreign Ministry, the Association of Immigrants from Turkey to Israel, and the Turkish Jewish community.

JDC has sponsored a variety of other activities with long-term impact that were developed in conjunction with the Turkish Jewish community. These include innovative trauma therapy training by experts from Israel’s Kiryat Shmona Emergency Center, and a program that established psychological intervention centers with the participation of the Tel Aviv municipality and Turkey’s Marmara University.

Ukraine

In partnership with PATH, a Seattle-based NGO, JDC is continuing its efforts to assist women affected by breast cancer. Ukrainian breast cancer survivors are developing and strengthening self-help organizations, support mechanisms, and public education efforts that promote early detection. Progress has been rapid and extensive: 11 organizations made up of breast cancer survivors from around the country have already attained legal status, and several newer groups are offering psychosocial support activities and public education.

JDC Jewish Service Corps

Since 1987, JDC’s Jewish Service Corps has put outstanding college graduates and other volunteers to work in Jewish communities around the world. Working for at least one year, carefully selected members of the Jewish Service Corps create and implement programs that help Jewish communities abroad become self-sufficient. These volunteers work tirelessly, galvanizing each Jewish community until it grows in confidence, strength, and enthusiasm, while at the same time enriching their own lives and careers.

A project undertaken in conjunction with Project Hope and various Turkish agencies enabled experts from Israel’s Beit Levenstein Rehabilitation Center and the Schneider Children’s Hospital to train doctors, psychologists, and occupational and physical therapists who work at a new rehabilitation center in Izmit. This center is the only facility of its kind in the area of the 1999 earthquakes.

Working Children’s Project: In Diyarbakir, southeast Turkey, this project continues to improve the quality of life of primary school age children who have been working on the streets at a variety of menial tasks in order to earn small amounts for their impoverished families. JDC, with major funding from the Turkish government and additional support from the International Labor Organization, worked with the Governate of Diyarbakir and Dicle University to provide the children with nutritious meals, health care, counseling, recreational activities, and an opportunity to develop the skills that can save them from a life of continued poverty.
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. ("JDC") as of December 31, 2001, and the related statements of operations and changes in net assets, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of JDC's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The prior year summarized comparative information has been derived from The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.'s December 31, 2000 financial statements and, in our report dated April 19, 2001, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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, 2001, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

June 4, 2002
## Balance Sheet

December 31, 2001

(With Summarized Financial Information for December 31, 2000)

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$9,961,047</td>
<td>$8,699,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time deposit in Israel - interest bearing</td>
<td>3,754,115</td>
<td>4,399,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments (Notes 6 and 13)</td>
<td>$8,332,370</td>
<td>$143,637,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from United Jewish Communities</td>
<td>1,034,914</td>
<td>1,034,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and accrued interest receivable</td>
<td>1,131,544</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable (Note 12)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans to communities, other receivables and other assets (net of allowance for uncollectable accounts of $426,070 in 2001 and 2000)</td>
<td>2,168,826</td>
<td>45,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from employees</td>
<td>296,500</td>
<td>296,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances on accounts of future year's programs</td>
<td>44,955</td>
<td>44,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets (Note 9)</td>
<td>(619,897)</td>
<td>(619,897)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfund receivable (payable) (Note 7)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,218,715</strong></td>
<td><strong>$153,711,209</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$33,081,058</td>
<td>$446,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuity obligation (Note 13)</td>
<td>$33,527,272</td>
<td>$10,978,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans payable (Note 4)</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to Schusterman-JDC Support Foundation (Note 1)</td>
<td>1,890,249</td>
<td>1,890,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>38,081,058</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,336,463</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets (deficit) (Exhibit B) (Note 11)</td>
<td>(16,862,343)</td>
<td>151,374,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,218,715</strong></td>
<td><strong>$153,711,209</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See independent auditor's report. 
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.
### Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

**Year Ended December 31, 2001**

*(With Summarized Financial Information For The Year Ended December 31, 2000)*

#### Revenues, gains and other support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total 2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues, gains and other support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Jewish Communities</td>
<td>$52,643,482</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$3,508,212</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension reversion income adjustment (Note 3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income - exchange gains</td>
<td>102,556</td>
<td>653,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (loss) (includes unrealized losses</td>
<td>(3,330,663)</td>
<td>(1,191,801)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of $16,917,885 and realized gains of $5,042,445 in 2001 (Note 6)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actuarial gains (loss) on annuity obligations (Note 13)</td>
<td>(47,013)</td>
<td>4,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions (Note 11)</td>
<td>87,197,038</td>
<td>(4,491,396)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenues, gains and other support</td>
<td>139,943,075</td>
<td>87,315,360</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expenses (Exhibit C)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total 2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief and welfare</td>
<td>62,948,493</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health services</td>
<td>9,021,970</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services to the aged</td>
<td>12,232,964</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish education and religious</td>
<td>16,378,989</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and manpower development</td>
<td>4,024,774</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social development</td>
<td>24,170,825</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifunctional</td>
<td>10,589,168</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total program services</td>
<td>139,366,783</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Supporting services                                   |            |            |
| Management and general                                | 10,365,631 |            |
| Fund raising                                          | 1,430,769  |            |
| Total supporting services                             | 11,796,400 |            |
| Total expenses                                        | 151,163,183|            |

#### Change in net assets before other changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total 2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets before other changes</td>
<td>(11,220,108)</td>
<td>303,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other changes in net assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer for renovation cost</td>
<td>(920,955)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reclassifications</td>
<td>(662,707)</td>
<td>(234,516)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer for deficit reduction</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>429,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer for operating fund program</td>
<td>5,874,350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in net assets (Exhibit D)</td>
<td>(4,269,713)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets (deficit) - beginning of year</td>
<td>(12,595,620)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets (deficit) - end of year (Exhibit A)</td>
<td>(16,862,343)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net assets (deficit) - end of year (Exhibit A)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total 2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$16,862,343</td>
<td>$920,955</td>
<td>$93,611,638</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### See independent auditor's report.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.
## Statement of Functional Expenses

**Year Ended December 31, 2001**

*(With Summarized Financial Information For The Year Ended December 31, 2000)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RELIEF AND WELFARE</th>
<th>HEALTH SERVICES</th>
<th>SERVICES TO THE AGED</th>
<th>JEWISH EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES</th>
<th>EDUCATION &amp; MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT</th>
<th>SOCIAL FUNCTIONAL</th>
<th>MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL</th>
<th>FUND RAISING</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$ 9,714,815</td>
<td>$ 4,239,781</td>
<td>$ 4,697,563</td>
<td>$ 1,068,809</td>
<td>$ 1,256,250</td>
<td>$ 1,550,156</td>
<td>$ 3,855,970</td>
<td>$ 26,293,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash assistance</td>
<td>3,087,271</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>82,127</td>
<td>3,170,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and clothing</td>
<td>25,600,545</td>
<td>18,736</td>
<td>18,736</td>
<td>33,172</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>131,172</td>
<td>25,802,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care and rehabilitation</td>
<td>896,321</td>
<td>2,396,881</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>364,971</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>88,506</td>
<td>3,876,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical supplies</td>
<td>447,548</td>
<td>520,477</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>5,007</td>
<td>5,062</td>
<td></td>
<td>83,127</td>
<td>1,063,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious, cultural and outreach programs</td>
<td>261,929</td>
<td>44,123</td>
<td>61,182</td>
<td>3,306,998</td>
<td>255,525</td>
<td>563,813</td>
<td>369,516</td>
<td>4,863,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and scholarships</td>
<td>41,896</td>
<td>99,000</td>
<td>2,735,508</td>
<td>308,623</td>
<td>2,212,764</td>
<td></td>
<td>90,922</td>
<td>5,488,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and communal workers</td>
<td>3,222,207</td>
<td>12,786</td>
<td>6,870,141</td>
<td>996,848</td>
<td>3,422,310</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,239,525</td>
<td>16,765,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupancy, warehousing, repairs and equipment (Note 5)</td>
<td>2,668,081</td>
<td>173,770</td>
<td>1,930,480</td>
<td>201,421</td>
<td>485,930</td>
<td>1,902,206</td>
<td>1,983,734</td>
<td>9,215,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency assistance and relief</td>
<td>8,703,093</td>
<td>368,592</td>
<td></td>
<td>454,293</td>
<td>371,495</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,897,473</td>
<td>9,897,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home care and personal assistance</td>
<td>4,363,086</td>
<td>160,991</td>
<td>879,866</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>83,127</td>
<td>5,436,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social, recreation and communal organizations</td>
<td>1,797,159</td>
<td>382,854</td>
<td>3,645,106</td>
<td>99,850</td>
<td>12,178,821</td>
<td>574,245</td>
<td>18,876,075</td>
<td>18,876,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll, employee benefits, and consultants</td>
<td>1,375,202</td>
<td>427,382</td>
<td>574,355</td>
<td>1,381,164</td>
<td>212,026</td>
<td>1,031,572</td>
<td>532,898</td>
<td>12,478,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>191,203</td>
<td>60,812</td>
<td>79,656</td>
<td>192,032</td>
<td>29,479</td>
<td>143,426</td>
<td>74,092</td>
<td>1,291,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone and faxes</td>
<td>66,370</td>
<td>21,109</td>
<td>27,719</td>
<td>66,657</td>
<td>10,233</td>
<td>49,705</td>
<td>267,592</td>
<td>633,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences, media and public relations</td>
<td>68,381</td>
<td>21,748</td>
<td>28,559</td>
<td>60,677</td>
<td>10,543</td>
<td>51,294</td>
<td>275,700</td>
<td>613,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracted services, supplies and other expenses</td>
<td>174,039</td>
<td>55,353</td>
<td>72,688</td>
<td>174,794</td>
<td>26,633</td>
<td>130,551</td>
<td>701,699</td>
<td>2,062,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest expense</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>535,107</td>
<td>535,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>311,244</td>
<td>115,700</td>
<td>75,529</td>
<td>175,626</td>
<td>425,477</td>
<td>111,201</td>
<td>30,042</td>
<td>1,256,819</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total expenses (Exhibit B) $ 62,948,493 $ 9,021,970 $ 12,232,664 $ 16,378,889 $ 4,024,774 $ 24,170,825 $ 10,589,168 $ 139,366,783 $ 10,604,013 $ 1,495,581 $ 151,466,377 $ 146,144,247

See independent auditor's report.
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.
Statement of Cash Flows
Years Ended December 31, 2001 and 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>$(8,605,911)</td>
<td>$(14,134,127)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided (used) by operating activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted investments</td>
<td>$31,099</td>
<td>$(43,170)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized and unrealized losses on investments</td>
<td>$11,875,440</td>
<td>$10,847,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actuarial loss (gain) on annuity obligations</td>
<td>$42,945</td>
<td>$(66,022)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease (increase) in assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from United Jewish Communities</td>
<td>$1,621,887</td>
<td>$(2,656,781)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and accrued interest receivable</td>
<td>$601,990</td>
<td>$(120,662)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable</td>
<td>$(9,429,673)</td>
<td>$(6,138,630)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension reversion income receivable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan to communities, other receivables and other assets</td>
<td>$62,912</td>
<td>$(2,207,177)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from employees</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances on account of future year's programs</td>
<td>$27,415</td>
<td>$60,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase (decrease) in liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$(2,233,592)</td>
<td>$5,291,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to/from Schusterman-JDC Support Foundation</td>
<td>$1,890,249</td>
<td>$(2,700,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided (used) by operating activities</td>
<td>$(8,171,556)</td>
<td>$2,725,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flows from investing activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of investments</td>
<td>$(106,960,145)</td>
<td>$(88,858,300)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds from sale of investments</td>
<td>$106,621,263</td>
<td>$78,990,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchases of fixed assets</td>
<td>$920,955</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided (used) by investing activities</td>
<td>$582,073</td>
<td>$(9,876,135)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flows from financing activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment of loan</td>
<td>$(1,500,000)</td>
<td>$(1,500,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds from loans</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>$18,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted contributions</td>
<td>$31,099</td>
<td>$49,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted investment income</td>
<td>$264,827</td>
<td>$(287,749)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment of annuity obligations</td>
<td>$129,900</td>
<td>$168,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds from investment income subject to annuity obligations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided (used) by financing activities</td>
<td>$3,396,141</td>
<td>$(1,951,222)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net decrease in cash</td>
<td>$(1,193,342)</td>
<td>$(8,701,996)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash - beginning of year</td>
<td>$21,000,098</td>
<td>$29,702,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash - end of year</td>
<td>$19,806,756</td>
<td>$21,000,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash paid during the year for interest</td>
<td>$535,107</td>
<td>$1,050,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See independent auditor's report.
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2001

NOTE 1  NATURE OF ORGANIZATION

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. (JDC) was established in 1914 to channel funds being raised to aid Jews in Europe and Palestine. Today, over 85 years later, JDC is still serving as the overseas arm of the American Jewish Community, sponsoring programs of relief, rescue and reconstruction to meet Jewish needs around the globe.

The JDC is supported primarily by funds from United Jewish Communities and general contributions.

The JDC is related to the International Institute for the Study of Jewish Communities, Schusterman-JDC Support Foundation, the Center for the Advancement of Jewish Civilization, Inc. and the Center for Jewish Community Development Inc. through common board control.

The JDC is a not-for-profit organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

NOTE 2  SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis.

Combined in these financial statements are the following not-for-profit corporations related through a common Board control: The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc., Center for Advancement of Jewish Civilization, Inc. and The Center for Jewish Community Development, Inc.

Appropriations for grants are expensed in the year authorized.

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.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The financial statements include prior-year summarized comparative information in total, but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with JDC's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2000, from which the information was derived.

Investments are stated at fair value, as follows:

Publicly traded securities held by the JDC - Market value
Limited partnership investments which are invested by the limited partnerships in publicly traded securities - Market value

Fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is recorded on the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the length of the lease. Depreciation and amortization are not recorded in the year of acquisition.

The costs of providing services have been summarized on a functional basis. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services for which the costs have been incurred.

Unconditional contributions, including promises to give cash and other assets, are reported at fair value at the date the contribution is received. The gifts are reported as either temporarily or permanently restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified as unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.
NOTE 3 RETIREMENT PLAN

JDC has a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan covering its New York staff and overseas foreign service personnel. Prior service cost has been fully funded. The JDC’s policy is to fund pension cost accrued. As of January 1, 2002, there were 218 participants.

| Benefit obligation | $ (14,256,623) |
| Fair value of plan assets | 12,070,452 |
| Funded status | $ (2,186,171) |
| Accrued pension benefit cost | $ 4,028,957 |
| Employer contribution | $ 1,396,111 |
| Benefits paid | 1,157,827 |
| Net periodic pension cost | 669,087 |

Weighted average assumptions

Discount rate 7.75%
Expected return on plan assets 7.50%
Rate of compensation increase 5.00%

During 2000, $36,667 was refunded to the Pension Plan due to the overestimate of the Pension Reversion income in 1999.

NOTE 4 LOANS PAYABLE

JDC has a credit line with Bank Leumi Trust Company of New York of $10,000,000. JDC will pay interest on the outstanding balance at 0.4% above the LIBOR rate. The outstanding principal balance at December 31, 2001 is $5,000,000.

JDC obtained a $12,000,000 loan on September 14, 1993 from Bank Leumi Trust Company of New York. The loan will be repaid in eight annual installments of $1,500,000 commencing August 30, 1994 and concluding August 31, 2001. The balance of $1,500,000 was repaid in full during 2001.

JDC has a credit line with JP Morgan Chase Manhattan Bank of $17,500,000. JDC will pay interest on the outstanding balance at 0.4% above the LIBOR rate. The outstanding principal balance at December 31, 2001 is $0.

JDC has a revolving credit line with Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fenner and Smith, Inc. JDC will pay interest on the outstanding balance based upon the calculation of overnight federal funds, treasury bills, and libor. During 2001, the interest rate varied between 2.3%–3.8%. The outstanding balance at December 31, 2001 was $0. On January 28, 2002, JDC borrowed approximately $15,000,000.

JDC has pledged unrestricted investments with a market value of approximately $51,000,000 for the above aforementioned loan and lines of credit as collateral.

NOTE 5 LEASE COMMITMENTS

JDC is committed under a lease for office space that will expire December 31, 2010. Minimum rental commitments under the terms of the lease are as follows, subject to adjustments for escalation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Minimum Rental Commitments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>$ 702,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>720,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>720,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>737,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>737,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>755,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>755,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>772,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>772,759</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The rent expense for the year ended December 31, 2001 was $826,420.

NOTE 6 INVESTMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment Type</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Government obligations</td>
<td>$ 50,591,254</td>
<td>$ 83,282,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Israel bonds</td>
<td>3,445,754</td>
<td>3,176,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate bonds</td>
<td>14,751,193</td>
<td>18,364,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common and preferred stocks</td>
<td>70,025,191</td>
<td>58,527,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual funds</td>
<td>90,569,733</td>
<td>99,251,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited partnership investments in publicly traded securities</td>
<td>20,074,930</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 249,462,055</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 262,603,593</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Investment Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment Income</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interested and dividends</td>
<td>$ 7,384,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized loss on investments</td>
<td>(16,917,885)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized gain on investments</td>
<td>5,042,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total investment income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ (4,491,396)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTE 7 INTERFUND RECEIVABLE (PAYABLE)

JDC entered into a $3,000,000 ten-year loan agreement with JDC-Israel Brookdale Institute of Gerontology and Adult Human Development on April 1, 1994. The outstanding balance at December 31, 2001 is $619,897, which includes accrued interest of $19,897. The principal amount of the loan will bear fluctuating interest at a rate of 1% in excess of the highest alternative interest rate that the Brookdale Institute can receive from Israeli banks at the beginning of each month on a compound interest basis. At December 31, 2001, the interest rate is 3.7%. The schedule for payment of the loan and interest will be based on an annual principal reimbursement of $300,000 plus the annual interest calculated at the rate adopted each year. Payment of principal and interest shall be made in U.S. dollars at the end of each year of the period of the loan beginning March 31, 1994.

NOTE 8 CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Financial instruments which potentially subject JDC to a concentration of credit risk are cash accounts with major financial institutions in excess of FDIC insurance limits. These financial institutions have strong credit ratings and management believes that credit risk related to these accounts is minimal.

NOTE 9 FIXED ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
<th>Estimated Useful Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leasehold improvements</td>
<td>$655,249</td>
<td>10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment</td>
<td>$265,706</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$920,955</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001 Carrying Amount</th>
<th>2001 Fair Value</th>
<th>2000 Carrying Amount</th>
<th>2000 Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$19,806,756</td>
<td>$19,806,756</td>
<td>$21,000,098</td>
<td>$21,000,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time deposit in Israel</td>
<td>8,154,107</td>
<td>8,154,107</td>
<td>8,545,720</td>
<td>8,545,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>249,462,055</td>
<td>249,462,055</td>
<td>262,603,593</td>
<td>262,603,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable</td>
<td>15,928,994</td>
<td>15,928,994</td>
<td>6,499,321</td>
<td>6,499,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from employees</td>
<td>296,500</td>
<td>296,500</td>
<td>302,500</td>
<td>302,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuity obligations</td>
<td>1,617,384</td>
<td>1,617,384</td>
<td>1,864,059</td>
<td>1,864,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans payable</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to Schusterman-JDC Support Foundation</td>
<td>1,890,249</td>
<td>1,890,249</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 10 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following methods and assumptions were used by JDC in estimating the fair value of its financial instruments:

- **Cash** The carrying amount reported in the balance sheet approximates fair value because the instrument is liquid in nature.
- **Time deposit in Israel** The carrying amount reported in the balance sheet approximates fair value due to their short-term nature.
- **Investments** The fair value is based upon quoted market prices.
- **Contributions receivable** The fair value is estimated by discounting the future cash flows using a risk-free rate.
- **Due from employees** The carrying amount reported in the balance sheet approximates fair value because the interest rate is similar to rates currently offered.
- **Annuity obligations** The fair value is estimated by discounting future cash flows using rates currently offered.
- **Loans payable** The carrying amount reported in the balance sheet approximates fair value because JDC can obtain similar loans at similar terms.
- **Due to Schusterman-JDC Support Foundation** The carrying amount reported in the balance sheet approximates fair value due to the short-term nature of the obligation.
NOTE 11  TEMPORARILY AND PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets at December 31, 2001 and 2000 are available for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relief and welfare</td>
<td>$16,618,126</td>
<td>$21,358,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health services</td>
<td>5,174,207</td>
<td>4,151,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services to the aged</td>
<td>3,377,063</td>
<td>3,370,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish education and religious</td>
<td>7,482,319</td>
<td>6,984,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and manpower</td>
<td>3,122,489</td>
<td>3,061,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social development</td>
<td>9,551,718</td>
<td>10,852,578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifunctional</td>
<td>44,896,203</td>
<td>40,800,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuity trust agreements</td>
<td>1,389,513</td>
<td>1,864,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$93,611,638</strong></td>
<td><strong>$92,444,687</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 2001 and 2000, temporarily restricted net assets were released from restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the following restricted purposes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relief and welfare</td>
<td>$49,780,645</td>
<td>$41,726,596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health services</td>
<td>4,833,947</td>
<td>5,953,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services to the aged</td>
<td>6,733,091</td>
<td>6,872,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish education and religious</td>
<td>3,153,954</td>
<td>3,584,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and manpower</td>
<td>1,984,579</td>
<td>4,564,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social development</td>
<td>14,293,308</td>
<td>9,500,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifunctional</td>
<td>6,525,836</td>
<td>6,108,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$87,315,360</strong></td>
<td><strong>$78,310,852</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Permanently restricted net assets at December 31, 2001 and 2000 are restricted to investment in perpetuity, the income from which is expendable to support:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relief and welfare</td>
<td>$4,427,362</td>
<td>$4,427,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services to the aged</td>
<td>1,780,737</td>
<td>1,780,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish education and religious</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and manpower</td>
<td>274,149</td>
<td>274,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifunctional</td>
<td>9,932,036</td>
<td>9,900,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>16,514,284</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,483,210</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annuity trust agreements which upon expiration, will become a permanent endowment

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>432,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$16,946,543</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 12  CONTRIBUTIONS RECEivable

All unconditional contributions receivable have been recorded at present value. Those receivables that are due in more than one year have been discounted to their present value using a discount rate of 6%. The receivables are due as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>$11,184,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2,037,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>1,652,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>711,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>435,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thereafter</td>
<td>675,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Less discount to present value (715,935)

Less allowance (50,000)

Present value of contributions receivable $15,928,994

NOTE 13  CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee maintains funds under charitable remainder trusts agreements. For financial statement purposes, the assets have been discounted utilizing a 6% discount rate. The present value of the trusts are allocated to the temporarily and permanently restricted net asset classes as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>$1,389,513</td>
<td>$432,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fair market value of the investements of the trusts totaled $3,439,165 at December 31, 2001.
Officers and Board Members

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Eugene J. Ribakoff

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
Steven Schwager

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Jonathan W. Kolker

CHAIRMAN OF THE JDC INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL
Alan R. Batkin

HONORARY PRESIDENTS
Heinz Eppler
Sylvia Hassenfeld
Donald M. Robinson
Henry Taub
Amb. Milton A. Wolf

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT
Elaine K. Winik

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
Michael Schneider

HONORARY EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
Ralph I. Goldman

TREASURER
Amb. Joseph B. Gildenhorn

HONORARY SECRETARY
Howard Rubin

SECRETARY
Elizabeth R. Varet

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
William Recant

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Alan R. Batkin
Newton D. Becker
Bill L. Berman
Max N. Berry
Ellen Block
Andrea M. Bronfman
Stanley Chais
Geoffrey J. Colvin
Alfred B. Engelberg
Rani Garfinkle
Billie Gold
David Goldberg
Yoine Goldstein
Nancy Grand
Joseph Gurwin
Judge Ellen M. Heller
Alan S. Jaffe
Marvin Josephson
William M. Marcus
David G. Marshall
Rebecca Newman
Robert S. Reitman
George Rich

Alan E. Rothenberg
Art Sandler
Robert Max Schrayer
Lynn Schusterman
Betsy R. Shearr
Dr. Irving A. Smokler
Richard G. Spiegel
Andrew H. Tisch
Patricia Werthan Uhlmann
Caryn Wolf Wechsler
Marshall M. Weinberg
Jane G. Weitzman
Joseph Wilf
Lawrence Zicklin
Lois Zoller

Honorary Executive Committee
Max M. Fisher

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Hon. Victor M. Carter, Los Angeles, CA
Rena A. Cohen, Los Angeles, CA
John C. Colman, Chicago, IL
Melvin Dubinsky, St. Louis, MO
Manuel Dupkin II, Baltimore, MD
Heinz Eppler, Palm Beach, FL
Raymond Epstein, Chicago, IL
Max M. Fisher, Detroit, MI
Patricia Gantz, New York, NY
Murray H. Goodman, W. Palm Beach, FL
Sylvia Hassenfeld, New York, NY
Saul Kagan, New York, NY
Jonathan W. Kolker, Baltimore, MD
Philip M. Meyers, Cincinnati, OH
Bert Rabinowitz, Boston, MA
Esther Leah Ritz, Milwaukee, WI
Donald M. Robinson, Pittsburgh, PA
Samuel Rothberg, Peoria, IL
Howard Rubin, Boston, MA
Henry Taub, Bergen County, NJ
Norman Tilles, Providence, RI
Esther Treitel, New York, NY
Marshall M. Weinberg, New York, NY
Elaine K. Winik, New York, NY
Amb. Milton A. Wolf, Cleveland, OH
Louis I. Zorensky, St. Louis, MO
Lawrence L. Zusman, Dayton, OH
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert Abrams, New York, NY
Madlyn Abramson, Philadelphia, PA
Eliot Aronovitz, Atlanta, GA
Carol Auerbach, New York, NY
Daniel J. Bader, At Large
Alan R. Batin, New York, NY
Newton D. Becker, Los Angeles, CA
Michael Belman, Philadelphia, PA
Lisa Belfer, New York, NY
Helene Berger, Miami, FL
Elaine Berke, Los Angeles, CA
Bill L. Berman, Detroit, MI
Julius Berman, At Large
Max N. Berry, Washington, DC
Ellen Block, Chicago, IL
Penny Blumenthal, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Marion Blumenthal, New York, NY
Arthur Brody, MetroWest, NJ
Andrea M. Bronfman, New York, NY
David Burstein, Pittsburgh, PA
Dr. Sidney N. Busis, Pittsburgh, PA
Elliott Cohen, Atlanta, GA
Melvin S. Cohen, Washington, DC
Geoffrey J. Colvin, New York, NY
Richard Cooper, Philadelphia, PA
Rosanne Diamond, Atlanta, GA
Frieda K. Dow, Houston, TX
Toby Goldberger, At Large
Fran Eizenstat, At Large
Elliott Cohen, Atlanta, GA
Melvin S. Cohen, Washington, DC
Stephen E. Lieberman, Minneapolis, MN
Rani Garfinle, South Palm Beach, FL
Amb. Joseph B. Gildenhorn, Washington, DC
Lawrence E. Glick, Chicago, IL
Billie Gold, New York, NY
David Goldberg, Cleveland, OH
Paul Goldberg, Rochester, NY
Toby Goldberger, Central New Jersey, NJ
Leo Goldfarb, Toronto, Canada
Yone Goldstein, Montreal, Canada
Lawrence Goodman, Chicago, IL
Nancy Grand, Detroit, MI
Alexander Grass, Harrisburg, PA
Betsy L. Green, Milwaukee, WI
Hugh W. Greenberg, Detroit, MI
Harold Grinspoon, Springfield, MA
Edythe Roland Grodnick, MetroWest, NJ
Ronald Grossman, New York, NY
Richard Gunther, Los Angeles, CA
Joseph Gurwin, New York, NY
Judge Ellen M. Heller, Baltimore, MD
Alan S. Jaffe, New York, NY
Michael G. Jesselson, New York, NY
Marvin Josephson, At Large
Betty Kane, South Jersey, NJ
Carol K. Kaplan, Chicago, IL
Edward Kaplan, Washington, DC
Earle W. Kazis, New York, NY
S. Lee Kohrman, Cleveland, OH
Lynn K. Kroll, New York, NY
Hon. Ronald S. Lauder, At Large
Adela Lebersfeld, MetroWest, NJ
Alan Leifer, Boston, MA
Dr. Michael J. Levinson, Memphis, TN
Judith A. Levy, Palm Beach, FL
Leon Levy, New York, NY
Stephen E. Lieberman, Minneapolis, MN
Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, At Large
Robert Mann, Providence, RI
William M. Marcus, Boston, MA
David G. Marshall, Philadelphia, PA
Joseph A. Melamed, Tel Aviv, Israel
Edward Merrin, New York, NY
Mark Metzger, Bergen County, NJ
Tod M. Morgan, Los Angeles, CA
Karen Moss, Columbus, OH
Dr. Theodore M. Myers, At Large
Rebecca Newman, San Diego, CA
Morris Offit, New York, NY
Suzanne Parelman, Naples, FL
Lester Pollack, At Large
Lucy Pruzan, Seattle, WA
Dr. Jehuda Reinharz, At Large
Robert S. Reitman, Cleveland, OH
Eugene J. Ribakoff, Palm Beach, FL
George Rich, MetroWest, NJ
Alan E. Rothenberg, San Francisco, CA
Terry M. Rubenstein, Baltimore, MD
Prof. Carol R. Saizetz, At Large
Art Sandler, Tidewater, VA
George S. Sarlo, San Francisco, CA
Michael Scheck, Miami, FL
Robert Schloss, Indianapolis, IN
Rabbi Arthur Schneier, At Large
Robert Max Schrayer, Chicago, IL
Howard Schultz, Dallas, TX
Lynn Schusterman, Tulsa, OK
Jodi Schwartz, New York, NY
Stephen Selig III, Atlanta, GA
Betsy R. Sheerr, Philadelphia, PA
Paula Sidman, Boston, MA
Linda Singer, New York, NY
Mark Sklar, Phoenix, AZ
Dr. Irving A. Smokier, South Palm Beach, FL
Richard G. Spiegel, Minneapolis, MN
Jack J. Spitzer, Seattle, WA
Penny Steinberg, Hartford, CT
Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, At Large
Morris Sternek, St. Louis, MO
Louis B. Thalheimer, Baltimore, MD
Andrew H. Tisch, New York, NY
James S. Tisch, UJC
Peggy Tishman, New York, NY
Patricia Werthan Uhlmann, Kansas City, MO
Elizabeth R. Varet, New York, NY
Caryn Wolf Wechsler, At Large
Peni Weinberg, Cleveland, OH
Judith Weiss, Cleveland, OH
Jane G. Weitzman, Greenwich, CT
Joseph Wilf, Central NJ
Maurice Wohl, At Large
Jackie Woolf, San Diego, CA
Marvin Woskow, Houston, TX
Karen Gantz Zalmen, New York, NY
Isaac Zelcer, Miami, FL
Lawrence Zicklin, New York, NY
Etta Gross Zimmerman, Boca Raton, FL
Harriet M. Zimmerman, At Large
Harold Zlot, San Francisco, CA
Lois Zoller, Chicago, IL

Ex Officio

Bennet L. Aaron, UIA
Robert Goldberg, UJC
Jonathan Joseph,
World Jewish Relief
Robert Max Schrayer, UJC
Karen Shapira, UJC
James S. Tisch, UJC

JDC 2001 ANNUAL REPORT OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS
### Staff

#### NEW YORK HEADQUARTERS PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**EXECUTIVE STAFF**
- Steven Schwager  
  EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
- Michael Schneider  
  EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
  SPECIAL OPERATIONS
- Zvi Feine  
  CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER
- Eugene Philips  
  CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
- Herbert Block  
  ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Nadine Habousha  
  ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Linda Levi  
  ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- William Recant  
  ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Claire Schultz  
  ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Amir Shaviv  
  ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Merri Ukrainick  
  ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Shlomit Manson  
  EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
- Michael Novick  
  EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

**DIRECTORS**
- Tzivias Bieler  
  DIRECTOR, EXECUTIVE OFFICE
- Allan DeYoung  
  DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
- Vivian Green  
  DIRECTOR OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
- Matthew Holmon  
  DIRECTOR OF PLANNED GIVING
- Sherry Hyman  
  DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES & RECORDS
- Robert Katz  
  DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- Sandra Malek  
  DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
- Neil Malmud  
  DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
- Chaim Motzen  
  ASSISTANT TO EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Marcia Presky  
  DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
- Lilli Weinger  
  SENIOR DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

**PROFESSIONAL STAFF**
- Naftali Dekel  
  CONTROLLER
- Polina Froymovich  
  DESK DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION  
  UKRAINE/BELARUS/MOLDOVA
- Jodi Guralnick  
  DESK DIRECTOR, CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE
- Ilana Kobrin  
  PROGRAM EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
- Jennifer Kraft  
  DIRECTOR OF ISRAEL DESK
- Carmel Kuperman  
  SENIOR AUDITOR
- Scott Richman  
  DESK DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION  
  RUSSIA/CENTRAL ASIA REPUBLICS/CAUCASUS REPUBLICS
- Laina Richter  
  DEPUTY DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
- Robert Socolof  
  PUBLIC INFORMATION
- Linda Tobin  
  DESK DIRECTOR, AFRICA & ASIA  
  DIRECTOR, JEWISH SERVICE CORPS
- Muriel Wasserlauf  
  OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
- Megan Zeller  
  RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

**HONORARY STAFF**
- Ralph I. Goldman  
  HONORARY EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Theodore Comet  
  HONORARY ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Ted Feder  
  MISSIONS & VIP COORDINATOR
OVERSEAS PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Yoram Abargel
REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR MOSCOW, SIBERIA, RUSSIAN FAR EAST

Stanley Abramovitch
DIRECTOR, RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL PROGRAMS
AREA DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION TEAM

Shlomit Amichai
CHAIRMAN, JDC-ELKA

Judy Amit
DIRECTOR OF OVERSEAS JOINT VENTURES
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, INDIA

Yitzhak Averbuch
AREA DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION TEAM

Amos Avgar
DIRECTOR, WORLDWIDE WELFARE PROGRAMS
AREA DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION TEAM

Yechiel Bar-Chaim
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, CZECH REPUBLIC/FORMER YUGOSLAVIA/TUNISIA

Tamara Barnea
DIRECTOR, SPECIAL MIDDLE EAST PROGRAM

Ami Bergman
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, EGYPT/TURKEY

Caroline Biran
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION, JDC-FSU

Sara Bogen
AREA DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION TEAM

Searle Bratman
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM OVERSIGHT, FORMER SOVIET UNION WELFARE PROGRAMS

Yitzhak Brick
DIRECTOR-GENERAL, JDC-ESHEL

Manlio Dell’Ariccia
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, ETHIOPIA/POLOG/ALBANIA/TRANSIMIGRANTS

Jorge Diener
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, BULGARIA

Eli Eliezeri
SPECIAL PROJECTS CONSULTANT

Haim Factor
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, JDC-ISRAEL

Zvi Feine
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, ROMANIA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, JDC-ISRAEL

Marina Fromer
AREA DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION TEAM

Alan Gill
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Jack Habib
DIRECTOR, BROOKDALE INSTITUTE

Richard Hodes
MEDICAL DIRECTOR, ETHIOPIA

Mario Izovich
DIRECTOR, PAN EUROPEAN COUNCIL

Alejandro Kladniew
DIRECTOR, BUENOS AIRES OFFICE

Aliza Kol-Fogeleon
DIRECTOR OF WELFARE PROGRAMS, JDC-FSU

Yaakov Kop
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES

Eli Malki
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS, JDC-FSU

Aron Mantver
DIRECTOR GENERAL, JDC-ISRAEL

Asher Ostrin
DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION PROGRAMS

Danny Pins
DIRECTOR, IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION, EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP, JDC-ISRAEL

Jonathan Porath
AREA DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION TEAM

Beverly Rosen
DIRECTOR, VIENNA OFFICE

Stuart Saffer
DIRECTOR, FORMER SOVIET UNION FIELD OPERATIONS

Jorge Schulman
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, ARGENTINA/LEATID

Israel Sela
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, HUNGARY

Alberto Senderey
DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAMS

Eli Shashua
LEGAL COUNCIL, JDC-ISRAEL

Andres Spokoyny
COUNTRY DIRECTOR, BALTICS

Rami Suliman
DIRECTOR, YOUTH & EDUCATION, JDC-ISRAEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ASHALIM

Yossi Tamir
DIRECTOR, ASHALIM

RESIDENT FORMER SOVIET UNION STAFF

Sam Amiel
Ruth Averbuch
Benjamin Damari
Meir Even
Yaacov Feitelson
Daniel Gechtman
Vladimir Glozman
Joel Golovensky
Arkadi Kovelman
Vera Krizhak
Menachem Lepkivker
Shmuel Levin
Anat Moshe
Ilya Pestrikov
Josef Rabbin
Ahuva Rosen
Yosef Shuster
Leonid Smirnov
Zvika Timberg
Samuel Vaisman
David Weiss
Gregory Zeltzer
Meir Zizov
JDC World Map: Jewish Population
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Programs and Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA (6 million)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Jewish Education, Religious Activities, Non-Sectarian Medical Aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba (1,500)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emergency Relief and Recovery Programs, Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina (c. 200,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Jewish Education, Youth and Cultural Programs, Community Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil (130,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile (15,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Salvador (c. 100)</td>
<td></td>
<td>IDP Relief and Recovery Projects, Community Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru (3,500)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development and Short Term Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uruguay (23,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela (20,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Technical Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico (38,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Technical Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France (600,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Technical Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria (3,500)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aid to Transmigrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium (32,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>European Union of Jewish Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland (19,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Liaison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece (6,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aid to Transmigrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy (32,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain (12,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Post-War Refugee Aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic (c. 3,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jewish and Welfare Services, Youth and Educational Activities, Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia (c. 4,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Health Services, Jewish Education, Youth Activities, Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary (c. 130,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Health Services, Youth Activities, Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland (16-12,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Youth and Cultural Programs, Community Development, Manpower Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania (c. 14,500)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Services to the Aged, Health Services, Religious Activities, Youth and Educational Programs, Manpower Development, Community Development, Non-Sectarian Training Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Former Soviet Union (c. 1.5 million)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Development, Manpower Development, Welfare Programs, Food Packages, Cultural and Educational Programs, Books and Religious Supplies, IDP Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Yugoslavia (6-7,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Sectarian Aid, Relief and Welfare, Services to the Aged, Jewish Education, Manpower Development, IDP Recovery Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria (c. 6,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jewish Education, Youth and Cultural Programs, Community Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania (40)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Cultural Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey (c. 25,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Technical Assistance, Non-Sectarian Aid, IDP Recovery and Child Welfare Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel (5.3 million)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emergency Assistance Programs for Children &amp; Youth, Services to the Aged, Improving Healthcare, Aid to the Disabled, Community Development, Immigrant Job Training Efforts, Aid for Special Absorption Management Training, Vocational Training and Job Placement, Research and Evaluation, IDP Health Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt (c. 90)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Health Services, Services to the Aged, Passover Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia (c. 1,970)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Health Services, Services to the Aged, Jewish Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria (c. 13)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco (c. 4,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare, Health Services, Services to the Aged, Jewish Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relief and Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Health Services, Food Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td></td>
<td>IDP Recovery Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Countries with JDC office or local representative.
+ Includes Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Georgia.
| Includes Slovenia, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Macedonia.
“Close not your heart nor your hand to your needy kinsman”
Deuteronomy, 15:7