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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

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FILE 24

FILE 4 (1/3)



# Yechiel Bar-Chaim

JDC Country Representative for Bosnia-Herzegovina; Croatia; Macedonia; Slovenia; Serbia & Montenegro; the Czech Republic; Algeria; and Tunisia.

# **Biographical Sketch**

Born 15 July 1945 in Washington, D.C. – USA Married with two children Living in Paris since 1991

# **EDUCATION**:

- M.A. Economics with honors from Hebrew University Jerusalem, 1981
- Cours de Langue & Civilisation Française, Sorbonne Paris 1972-73
- A.B. from Harvard College cum laude, 1967

## **MILITARY SERVICE:**

- Press Liaison Officer (reserves), Israel Defense Forces, 1978-1988
- Captain in the U.S. Army serving in the Public Information Division at SHAPE (NATO Military Headquarters in Belgium), 1969-1972.
- U.S. Army military training including most notably Infantry Officers' Candidate School, 1968-1969

# WORK WITH THE JOINT:

- Responsible for JDC programs in:
  - \* Czech Republic, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia & Montenegro -- 1989 present.
  - \* Tunisia 2000 present.
  - \* Algeria 2001 present.
- Coordinates JDC's non-sectarian assistance and emergency relief programs during the Bosnian War; for Serbia and Macedonia following the Kosovo Crisis; in the Czech Republic after the massive flooding in 2002 and now a wide-range of carefully focused peacetime development aid throughout the region thanks to the backing of Dr. Alfred and Isabel Bader of Milwaukee.



• Directed JDC assistance program for Jews coming to Vienna from the then Soviet Union who were immigrating to the United States, 1989-1991.

• Part of the professional staff of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Israel and Europe, since 1986.

## PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT OF NOTE

Deputy Factory Manager for Tadiran in Jerusalem (light bulbs and electric fixtures)

Israel State Comptroller's Office in Jerusalem (performance audit of the Social Security Administration)

Community Organizer for the Jewish Council of Urban Affairs, Chicago (working mostly with the black community on the West Side)

Advisor to Fisk University Student Enterprises in Nashville, Tennessee (a start-up operation to launch student-run businesses at Fisk, one of the leading African –American institutions of higher education)

President, Harvard Student Agencies, Inc., Cambridge, Mass. (the central organization for student entrepreneurship at Harvard)

# **LANGUAGES**

English, French, Hebrew (and a modicum of Spanish)



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## \*\*PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL\*\*

June 6, 2016

Dr. Alfred R. Bader Isabel & Alfred Bader Fund 2961 N. Shepard Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53211

Dear Dr. Bader,

It is our pleasure to acknowledge your contribution of \$27,000.00 in support of our Stateless Infants Program in Israel.

JDC innovates and pilots scalable solutions to address Israel's most pressing social needs. The Government of Israel looks to JDC developing effective social services based on JDC's professional expertise and decades of experience. With your generous support, these innovations contribute to a strong and successful Israel, where more equal opportunity and better quality of life may be provided for all of its citizens. By investing in Israel's most precious resource- its people -JDC helps the county provide for its most vulnerable, foster greater opportunity, leverage its human capital, and strengthen its future as a nation.

As always, we are grateful that you have chosen JDC to be a partner in your philanthropic endeavors. Thank you for your continuing commitment and concern.

Sincerely,

Stanley A. Rabin President

cc: Adina Shapiro

Alan H. Gill Executive Vice President & CEO

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc., dba JDC, EIN#: 13-1656634, is a nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. We acknowledge that no goods or services were provided in consideration for your gift.

 $\label{eq:continuous} \textbf{JDC Global Headquarters} \cdot 711\ \textbf{Third Avenue} \cdot \textbf{New York}, \textbf{NY }10017 - 4014 \cdot \textbf{TEL }212.687.6200 \cdot \textbf{FAX }212.370.5467 \cdot \textbf{\textit{www.JDC.org}}$ 

 $JDC\ is\ primarily\ funded\ through\ the\ Jewish\ Federations\ of\ North\ America.\ Key\ JDC\ funders\ also\ include:\ The\ Harry\ and\ Jeanette\ Weinberg\ includes\ The\ Harry\ and\ The\ Har$ Foundation, the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, the Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation, World Jewish Relief (UK), UIA Federations Canada, and tens of thousands of individual donors.

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# FILE COPY

Dear Yechiel,

In response to your query of today, by all means use \$5,000 to help that great woman.

With fond regards as always, Alfred

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

I left out an important word the first time around. Here is the complete version.

Regards,

Yechiel

----Original Message----

From: Yechiel Bar Chaim [mailto:yechiel@jdcparis.org]

Sent: 31 July 2002 09:11 To: Alfred BADER (E-mail)

Subject: Donation for Gordana Abinun

Dear Alfred,

Thanks for your quick response.

- 1. Orders to NY are on their way so that your donations for the Czech Chemistry Olympiad and the Loschmidt Chair should reach the beneficiaries as soon as possible.
- 2. Will share with you Martina's proposed program and Milena's recommendation as soon as they reach me.
  - 3. Please see below an appeal for help that has just reached me.

You are familiar with the work of La Benevolencija in Sarajevo during and after the Bosnian conflict.

Now Gordana Abinun, a mainstay of the La Benevolencija Free Pharmacy we supplied during the war, who is also the wife of the inimitable Cicko Abinun who kept the Soup Kitchen going in the Community throughout the siege and even now, has become seriously ill. See below.

This couple is at the center of the multi-ethnic La Benevolencija Community that has found its home underneath the rose-colored synagogue in the Jewish Community of Sarajevo. I will be seeking help for Gordana all azimuths. Would you agree that I use some of the discretionary funds you have given in order to help? I was thinking of \$5,000 (which is the equivalent of 10,000 KM --- Bosnian convertible marks).

Will await your response before acting.

# Sincerely yours,

## Yechiel

----Original Message----

From: Dragica Levi [mailto:dragica@open.net.ba]

**Sent:** 30 July 2002 00:27 **To:** yechiel@jdcparis.org

Cc: jakob Finci

Subject: Donation for Gordana Abinun

Dear Yechiel,

Gordana Abinun, Cicko's wife, has beginning of the sclerosis multiplex and to stop this disease she needs interferon therapy in next two years.

Monthly cost is 2000 KM that makes 48.000 for whole period.

Cicko can give 300 KM per month and it is 7.200. La Benevolencija will give amount of 2.000, one this year and second next year. So, in this moment we can count on 9.200KM. The rest of 38.800 I would like to find out with help of our friends, and you, together with JDC, is one of them.

I'll ask help from Benevolencija Germany and Holland and from my NY friend, Jan.

You know how Cicko was and is important for our Community and how Goga suffered in recent war, she lost her daughter during the siege and shelling and she never stopped to work and help in our pharmacy.

I am sure that JDC will give some financial help and if you have any suggestion to help me in raising money I'll appreciate that. Hope to hear from you soon, we have no time to wait. Best regards,

Dragica



Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:15:10 +0100

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred.

I left out an important word the first time around. Here is the complete version.

Regards,

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# CLINICAL CENTER UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO NEUROLOGY DEPARTMENT Head of department -

Mrs. GORDANA ABINUN 1959

Date of admittance – 24. 06. 2002. Date of discharge – 29. 06. 2002.

Dg. encephalomyelitis disseminata (sclerosis multiplex)

Code – G 35

Previous history -

Corrective operative treatment on urinary bladder in 1999. (due to the fact that she was not able to hold urine in case of rising of intraabdominal pressure). During the operation was found urethral anatomical anomaly.

Within the 2000. occurred temporary problem of vision on the left eye, which last for two days. During the March of this year appeared again problems with vision, first on the right eye, and then again on the left eye. In April 2002 she was checked in our outpatient department when were found discrete weakness on a left side, and dissymmetric of the right hand. MRI (on outpatient basis service) showed multiple zones (areas) with changed density of signal in para and supraventriculary areas deeply in white mass – findings, which are associated with multiple sclerosis. Enlarge venues liquor spaces will correspondent to incipient atrophy.

All other laboratory findings were normal, including cardiology exam and chest X-ray.

Somatically normal finding.

Neurological finding – unclear vision on left eye. Discrete left side weakness. Dissymmetry and dyspraxy on left side.

Mute left foot.

Intention tremor on left side.

She stayed in a hospital 6 days. During the hospital treatment patient received pulse therapy without side effects.

Neurological findings on a day of discharge were without significant changes.

We are recommending following therapy:

C vitamin -3x1 per day

E vitamin 2x1 per day

It is indicated to start with Interferon therapy (1A or 1B) in period of 2 years every second day.

Next control in 1 month.

Ward doctor Alajbegović A. MD Ward chief Prof. Tarik Zukić MD PhD



Subject: Donation for Gordana Abinun

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:11:19 +0100

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

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Ward doctor Alajbegović A. MD Ward chief Prof. Tarik Zukić MD PhD





## Dr. Alfred Bader

924 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 Phone: 414/277-0730 Fax: 414/277-0709 E-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

A Chemist Helping Chemists

April 11, 2002

Mrs. Tzivia Bieler The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. 711 Third Avenue New York, NY 10017-4014

Dear Tzivia.

Enclosed please find my check for \$15,000 to be passed to the Observatory Science Centre in England. I sent quite a bit of material to Yechiel, who replied that the Joint can transfer the money and I enclose copy of his confirmation and of the details of that Science Centre.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader

AB/az

Enc. - ck. \$15,000

Science Centre par E-mail confirmatio

C: Yechiel Bar-Chaim Daniel Bader

	A STATE OF THE STA
DR. ALFRED BADER 2961 N. SHEPARD AVE. MILWAUKEE, WI 53211	12-1117 750 555780539 DATE AN : 2 11 0 2
PAY TO THE ORDER OF Steen Rous a	1) ista Com: \$ 15000,00 ma and xx DOLLARS 1 Securit Fallow Pocket
BANK ONE, Bank One, Wasconsin Milwautee, Wesconsin 53202 www.bankons.com MEMO W55,	Juna Baon MP





## Dr. Alfred Bader

924 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 Phone: 414/277-0730 Fax: 414/277-0709 E-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

A Chemist Helping Chemists

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Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az
Enc. – ck. \$15,000
Science Centre particulars
E-mail confirmation and reply

C: Yechiel Bar-Chaim by e-mail Daniel Bader



Subject: Re: Welcome Back

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts <baderfa@execpc.com>

Date: Thu, 11 Apr 2002 15:25:10 -0500

**To:** Yechiel Bar Chaim < yechiel@jdcparis.org>

Dear Yechiel,

Thank you for your e-mail of today which I will try to answer paragraph by paragraph.

Your first question is the easiest to answer. I met Isabel on July 14, 1949, proposed to her 9 days later and of course wrote my first will when I got back to Harvard.

All of your suggestions about meeting times, title for the talk, etc. are fine.

 ${\tt I}$  am immediately sending my check for \$15,000 to the Joint to Tzivia Bieler, together with the details about the Observatory Science Centre.

Israel is made up of Israeli citizens, of whom 80% are Jewish and 20% Arab. Despite Israel being a democratic country, the Arabs in Israel have not always been treated fairly. Most of my gifts were to help the understanding between Arabs and Jews in Israel.

I have many scores of letters, faxes and e-mails to answer and while sending you a list of the checks totaling \$367,000 would be easy, explaining the goals of the recipients will be difficult and time-consuming. Please have patience.

With fond regards I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

Please find my letter to you attached.

Yechiel

AJDC Paris Office 5 avenue Matignon F-75008 Paris, France
Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989

yechiel@jdcparis.org



Dear Alfred.

I am glad to hear that you and Isabel are back safely. Actually Fleur told me, after we tried to put things in motion, that she would be away for Passover, and I didn't know how to reach you to make alternative connections.

Sorry a meeting with my colleagues didn't materialize. They would have enjoyed meeting you and you them I am sure. A pleasing thought to be with you in Jerusalem! If you find the time, I would love to hear more about your impressions from what you saw and heard on your trip.

Accept your decision about the dedication and look forward to our talk. You have intrigued me by what you write about your will of October 1949 (as a young and single man you prepared a will?) and I will hold off now on any such initiatives until we see each other.

Meanwhile I have revised the title of your talk to read "Rembrandt and the Jews: the Bible Through Dutch Eyes." You're the one with experience in marketing, I know, but wouldn't you agree with me that "Rembrandt and the Jews" has an appealing concreteness and directness about it? More in the spirit of "Please Bother Us," don't you think?

Incidentally I agree with you entirely about 7 p.m. The change is now settled. (What is this about Central Europeans needing to be home so early?)

Our appointment with Ambassador Craig Stapleton is confirmed for 1030 on Thursday morning the 13th at the American Embassy. Trust we will arrange to go together. The Education Officer, Christopher Midura, will be there to escort us from the entry.

The special gathering of the Art Historians is set for Thursday evening. I have asked Milena Bartlova to send a precise schedule.

Given Professor Paleta's preference for seeing you on Wednesday the 13th, I have asked now for our session with Nadace Via to be at 1100 on Friday. Would that be agreeable?

The format I am thinking of would be first for them to present the achievements of the programs for Roma that you are supporting and then let their remarks lead into some thoughts you would share about your own approach to philanthropy. Total time of presentations and discussions: an hour to an hour and a half followed by lunch. Do you like this approach?



I can confirm that the JOINT will accept your check and gladly transfer \$15,000 to the Observatory Science Centre in accord with your instructions. Please copy me on any letter so that I can expedite matters as much as possible.

Out of personal curiosity I would indeed like to see the list of the gifts you made in Israel to help Arab/Israeli and Jewish/Israeli understanding. Not incidentally, what exactly is meant by the term "Jewish/Israeli understanding"?

I will have to ask to see the (falling) statements of the Abeyance Account. My father always told me to stay out of the stock market, and --- like a broken watch --- at least sometimes he was right.

Terribly troubled by what is going on now in Israel and anxious about what the future portends. Yet we soldier on.

Paris is wonderful in the spring. This city is one passion I fear you are missing. Will you think on it?

Warmest regards to you and Isabel,

Shalom u'vracha

Yechiel





## THE OBSERVATORY SCIENCE CENTRE

Dr. Alfred Bader 2961 N.Shepard Avenue Milwaukee W1 53211 USA 21 March 2002

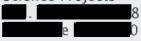
Dear Dr Bader,

Thank you for your fax and your support.

Here are our bank details as requested;

Science Projects

(20 St James Street, London W6 9RW, UK)



Barclays Business Accounts
Barclays Business Centre Branch
Hammersmith Group
King Street
Hammersmith
London W6 9HY
UK

I enclose for your interest details of an event we organised for the National Science Clubs Network which was very successful and is part of our campaign to establish the Observatory as a regional centre for informal learning.

Also work is progressing with our Heritage Lottery funded work, initially building and electrical renovations and servicing the dome rotation and shutter mechanisms. Once this is completed work will begin on the telescopes themselves – exciting times indeed.

April . Type

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Pizzey



# THE DESERVATORY SCIENCE CENTRE

# **PRESS NOTICE**

'REACH FOR THE STARS' EVENT AT HERSTMONCEUX

The Science Discovery Clubs Network (SDCN) have invited junior astronomy and science clubs to come to a day of exploration at The Observatory Science Centre at Herstmonceux, East Sussex on the 20th March. BBC TV's Blue Peter astronomer, Anton Vamplew, will be explaining what can be seen in the night sky in his engagingly-titled talk 'What's that through my telescope?. Other highlights will include the release of helium balloons at 1.30pm, in a nationwide meteorology experiment, telescope-making workshops, plus the chance to explore the hands-on exhibits. For night owls, there will also be an evening session of night sky viewing, using everything from the naked eye, to the large tele**scopes at the Observatory.** For further details please contact Pat Isteed, tel:01323 832731 email: info@the-observatory.org





# Centar <sub>Ia</sub> Samopouzdanje



Center for Self Reliance is a BiH nongovernmental organization dedicated to bringing people with limited physical ability out of isolation and placing them into the mainstream society, thereby improving their lives and enriching the community at the same time. In 2001, the Center established a workshop in Mojmilo, Sarajevo with a training program in applied arts for people with special needs.

Centar za Samopouzdanje je BiH nevladina organizacija. Naš rad je okrenut prema ljudima sa ograničenim fizičkim sposobnostima koje želimo izvesti iz izolacije i uključiti u sve tokove društva, poboljšavajući tako njihove živote i obogačujući zajednicu u isto vrijeme. U 2001. Centar je pokrenuo radionicu na Mojmilu sa programom edukacije u sferi primjenjenih umjetnosti za osobe s posebnim potrebama.

# Center for Self Reliance - Centar za Samopouzdanje

Olimpijska 30, Sarajevo, BiH Tel: (033) 766-260, Fax: (033) 766-261/262 www.scsr.com.ba; scsr@bih.net.ba

# pader Ves

# PROJECT SUPPORTERS DR. ALFRED AND ISABEL BADER

Dr. Alfred and Isabel Bader, in collaboration with La Benevolencija and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, have supported the Sarajevo Center for Self-Reliance in producing this line of vests for donation throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

U saradnji sa La Benevolencijom i JDC - The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, dr Alfred i Isabel Bader su donirali sredstva Centru za Samopouzdanje neophodna za izradu kolekcije pulovera koji će biti distribuirani širom Bosne i Hercegovine.





### PROJECT SUPPORTERS - POKROVITELIX PROJEKTA

### DR. ALFRED AND ISABEL BADER

Dr. Alfred Bader fled Vienna as a refugee of 14 years old in 1938. Held during the war in an internment camp by the British, he went on to complete brilliant university studies in chemistry. He then built the premier research chemical company in the world, Aldrich Chemicals, now Sigma-Aldrich. Today Dr. Bader and his wife Isabel devote half their income to helping the most needy through philanthropic projects carried out around the world.

Dr Alfred Bader je bio prisiljen napustiti Beč 1938. kada mu je bilo 14 godina. Nakon što je proveo rat u Britanskom izbjegličkom kampu, nastavio je i vrlo uspješno završio univerzitetski studij iz hemije. Ta la je pokrenuo istaknutu svjetsku istraživačku hemijsku kompaniju, Aldrich Chemicals, sada poznatu kao Sigma-Aldrich. Danas dr Bader i njegova supruga Isabel ulažu polovicu svojih primanja u raznovrsne filantropske projekte koji se realiziraju širom svijeta.

# JDC - THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

JDC - The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is the main organization of the Jews of North America for providing humanitarian aid overseas. Since 1914 it has served as a lifeline for Jewish communities in distress and for the societies in which they live.

JDC - The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee glavna je organizacija Sjeverno-američkih Jevreja koja pruža humanitarnu pomoć na međunarodnoj razini. već od 1914. godine, JDC predstavlja važan izvor potrebne pomoći jevrejskim zajednicama u nevolji kao i društvima u kojima te zajednice žive.

### PROJECT SUPPORTERS - POKROVITELJI PROJEKTA





La Benevolencija is the first Jewish cultural-educational and humanitarian society established in Sarajevo, in 1892. Begun primarily as a welfare society to organize aid and support for the poor and needy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it was also involved in education and cultural activities for the Jewish people.

During the 1992-1995 War in Bosnia and Herzegovina it played a valuable role in humanitarian efforts, distributing medicine in besieged Sarajevo, operating a soup kitchen and providing medical services and home care for citizens, regardless of their ethnicity or religion.

La Benevoiencija je prvo kulturno - prosvjetno i humanitarno društvo ljudi s područja Bosne i Hercegovine koje su Jevreji uspostavili 1892. godine u Sarajevu. Društvo je prvobitno formirano u cilju staranja o socijalno ugroženoj populaciji, da bi kasnije radilo na polju obrazovanja mladih kao i na promociji jevrejske kulturne baštine.

Tokom rata 1992-1995. godine, La Benevolencija igra važnu ulogu u pružanju humanitarne pomoći, distribuciji lijekova u opkoljenom Sarajevu, vođenju javne kuhinje, brige o starima i obezbjeđenju medicinskih usluga stanovnicima Sarajeva, bez obzira na njihovu nacionalnu i vjersku pripadnost.

# Jewish cultural- educational and humanitarian society - "La Benevolencija"

Hamdije Kreševljakovića 59, 71000 Sarajevo, BiH Tel/Fax: +387 33 663 472/473 E-mail: la bene@open.net.ba,

www.open.net.ba/~la\_bene/

# Centar 10 Samopouzdanje





Centar za Samopouzdanje je BiH nevladina organizacija.

Naš rad je okrenut prema ljudima sa ograničenim fizičkim sposobnostima koje želimo izvesti iz izolacije i uključiti u sve tokove društva, poboljšavajući tako njihove živote i obogačujući zajednicu u isto vrijeme. U 2001. Centar je pokrenuo radionicu na Mojmilu sa programom edukacije u sferi primjenjenih umjetnosti za osobe s posebnim potrebama.

# Centar za Samopouzdanje

Olimpijska 30, Sarajevo, BiH
Tel: (033) 766-260, Fax: (033) 766-261/262
www.scsr.com.ba; scsr@bih.net.ba

# Bader Vest

## FINANSIJSKA PODRŠKA PROJEKTA DR ALFRED I ISABEL BADER

U saradnji sa La Benevolencijom i JDC - The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, dr Alfred i Isabel Bader su donirali sredstva Centru za Samopouzdanje neophodna za izradu kolekcije pulovera koji će biti distribuirani širom Bosne i Hercegovine.





### POKROVITELJ PROJEKTA

### **POKROVITELJ PROJEKTA**

### DR ALFRED I ISABEL BADER

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### LA BENEVOLENCIJA

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# Jewish cultural- educational and humanitarian society - "La Benevolencija"

Hamdije Kreševljakovića 59, 71000 Sarajevo, BiH
Tel/Fax: +387 33 663 472 /473
E-mail: la\_bene@open.net.ba,
www.open.net.ba/~la\_bene/



7 . . /

Dr. Alfred Bader

924 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 Phone: 414/277-0730 Fax: 414/277-0709 E-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

A Chemist Helping Chemists

August 11, 1999

Mr. Michael Schneider Executive Vice-President The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. 711 Third Avenue New York, NY 10017-4014

Dear Michael,

Naturally the first thing I did when I arrived in Prague in June is to inquire at the Jewish Community Center whether Yechiel Bar-Chaim was in Prague. Unfortunately, he was not there but in Paris. But then when I visited Vivienne Lewis in London she gave me a photograph of herself with Mr. Bar-Chaim, copy enclosed. I very much look forward to meeting him.

While in Prague I did meet the head of the Jewish community, Mr. Tomas Kraus. He is a pleasant man but he refused to give us an accounting on the funds coming into the Jewish community in Prague. Of course, realistically, I had no business to ask for it, but it would have been interesting to see how the millions of dollars coming in from tourists are spent. Certainly little is given to smaller communities outside Prague. Incidentally, Mr. Kraus told Isabel and me that he had some disagreements with the Joint, for the very same reason!

Isabel and I will be in England the last week of this month and then again in November and December. I much hope to have an opportunity to talk to Mr. Bar-Chaim about the Joint helping with the distribution of our gifts, which up until now were given through the Foundation for a Civil Society.

Vivienne Lewis and Jonathan Joseph in London urged us to contribute to helping in the Ukraine, but I don't think this is really for us. I would much rather give to help very focused efforts, like the orphanage in Odessa.





Mr. Michael Schneider August 11, 1999 Page Two

Of course I have also carefully considered helping your efforts in Kosovo; thank you for the video.

Really the Kosovars have been treated horribly by the Serbs, but now they are retaliating, and surely a great deal of help will come to them from NATO. What discourages me most about the Kosovars is how badly they are now treating the gypsies.

I hope you will understand.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader AB/az Enc. C: Daniel Bader





LENDING a helping hand: (*left to right*) Vivienne Lewis, executive director of WJR, Yechiel Bar-Chaim, American Joint Distribution committee's country director for former Yugoslavia, and Jonathan Joseph, chairman of WJR

# New WJR strategy is to focus on Ukraine

### By JAMES KAYE

WORLD Jewish Relief's newly-elected chairman has launched the organisation's new three-year strategic plan at a breakfast briefing held at the Royal Institute of British Architects

Jonathan Joseph outlined the project's aims, which will focus on 10 Jewish community centres in Western Ukraine. A fund-raising increase of 10 per cent each year is needed to finance welfare provision in the country as well as an extra £1.5 million to fund community centres.

Mr Joseph said: "If jt/ls to be successful, it is increasingly important for a non-profit organisation to have a business-like approach - that's why we have developed our strategic plan. We have identified what we need to do and how we will achieve it. It

means we are focused, with goals to work towards

WJR has also declared its intention to help rebuild Jewish life in the former Soviet Union and assist the plight of poverty-stricken elderly Jews in Western Ukraine

Mr Joseph said: "The economic and political situation in the Western Ukraine, where most of our overseas work takes place, is in a state of flux WJR is a very flexible organisation and, while we have to look to the future, we know that it is not feasible to plan for more than three years ahead The Strategic Plan will be WJR's blueprint for the

However, Mr Joseph was also quick to emphasise the importance of partnership, working in co-operation with other Jewish organisations who have specific expertise in different areas



Dear Yechiel.

Thank you for your e-mail of today and of course for all your help.

I was delighted particularly to learn about Gwen Albert.

Of course we so look forward to seeing you at Waterloo Station at about 10:30 on Monday morning, March 22nd. By that time I will know a good deal more about the Loschmidt professorship.

Fond regards, Alfred

# Yechiel Bar-Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

I met in Prague last week both with Tana Hlavata of Nadace Via and the delightful  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Gwen}}$  Albert.

With Tana I pressed to strengthen the orientation of the grants for Roma Development towards meeting adult needs for vocational training and health. (Please know that through a particularly dynamic colleague I have resumed negotiations in Sutu Orizeri, the Roma-led township within Skopje, for just such a program there as well.)

Gwen Albert explained to me the focus of her organization and how they work. She also helped me afterwards by translating the request of a blind singer of Yiddish and Ladino music with whom I met as well.

The money should go out to Nadace Via this week.

Also met with Simon Panek and his colleague Igor Blasevic of People in Need who were delighted with your new gift and then went to congratulate a beaming Martina Soskova on her marriage last fall to her partner of many years (a future dental surgeon it seems). Milena Bartlova and I also met to discuss future plans.

Please know that your donations to the British Quakers and Beit Shalom have also been transfered. The first \$36,000\$ for Sue Read was just sent yesterday due to a mix-up over banking instructions. The second <math>\$10,000\$ will soon follow.

Monday morning March 22 around 1030 should be a good time for us to meet at Waterloo Station.

Will patiently await to receive your schedule for June.

My assistant Germaine Keil has been out for a month with a serious illness and still faces another operation. Of course I was first sick myself and then traveling, so please accept my apologies for any temporary delays.

Best regards,

vechiel



- P.S. Separately I am sending you a story written by a journalist of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency about an exhibition we opened at the National Library in Prague. In the various speeches non-sectarian projects took pride of place and Tana, Gwen, Igor, and Milena were all present as well.
- P.P.S. In response to your remark when we met in London I have learned that the Jewish Center being developed in Cracow by World Jewish Relief is actually at the initiative of Prince Charles. It gives a new meaning to the phrase "noblesse oblige."
- P.P.P.S I was thinking that perhaps Isabel could help me translate an apparently frightful quotation found on the wall of one of the oldest restaurants in Prague. No one at the restaurant knew what it meant and no one in my vicinity has any command of Latin whatsoever. It seems to read as Hierundo Maleficus Euoltat but I might have misread one or more of the Gothic letters.

----Original Message----

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts [mailto:baderfa@execpc.com]

Sent: 22 January 2004 20:30

To: Yechiel Bar-Chaim

Subject: Re: Not A Long E-Mail This Time

Dear Yechiel,

In response to your e-mail of today we certainly plan to be in the Czech Republic sometime in the week of June 14th and I will send you our final schedule shortly. Regarding our meeting in March, how about meeting at Waterloo Station on Monday morning, March 22nd? Please let me know what time the train arrives.

Has the money for Gwen Albert been turned over to Nadace Via and can I now close that file? I will do so by wishing her good luck and thanking Alan Levy.

All the best, Alfred

Yechiel Bar-Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

My recommendation is to stay the course if we can.

 $\,$  Jiri Damborsky will be visiting you in March and we can consult afterwards in London.

Dr. Gelnar should know that we expect him to ensure a durable arrangement if he wants the Loschmidt Chair to continue.

For March I let you decide exactly which day is best.

Meanwhile I would like to begin to check what might be feasible during the week of the 14th in the Czech Republic and will make sure the Loschmidt Chair is not charged for any celebration.



Just to get an idea of a possible time framework, are we looking at something like

14 June Brno

(afternoon and evening event)

15 June Pardubice

16 June Prague (evening event)

18 June Return to London

Best regards,

Yechiel

----Original Message----

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts [mailto:baderfa@execpc.com]

Sent: 21 January 2004 17:06

To: Yechiel Bar Chaim Subject: Your e-mail

Dear Yechiel,

Thank you for your long e-mail of today.

Isabel and I could meet you in London on Monday morning, March 22nd, or Tuesday morning, March 23rd.

Isabel's 55th reunion in Toronto will take place from June 3rd - 6th and we will not fly to Heathrow until the 8th and then probably to Vienna on the 10th. We have not made our final plans yet but we will probably be in the Czech Republic the week of June 14th.

But we certainly do not want any celebration for my 80th birthday in Brno, nor even lunch served for us there if the Loschmidt Chair is going to be charged for the expenses.

Looking over your report it is pretty clear to me that the Masaryk University academics who signed the Agreement with us are so close to dishonest that I really cannot tell the diff erence.

Should we seriously consider trying to move the Loschmidt Chair with Professor Damborsky from the Masaryk University to the Charles University?

Bottom line: Damborsky is very good, a brilliant biochemist, and trying very hard to learn about and promote the memory of Loschmidt. He is also, I believe, a very good human being. I would not be surprised if he was a recipient of the Lieben Prize before very long.

With fond regards as always, Alfred



This message scanned for viruses by CoreComm



Subject: Loschmidt Chair Clarifications

From: "Yechiel Bar-Chaim" < yechiel@jdcparis.org>

Date: Wed, 21 Jan 2004 09:22:15 -0000

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred,

Although my inquiries concerning the various questions that emerged from my visit to Brno still continue, I know you are eager to know what I have learned by now --- and in fact there is some chance that you have not yet gone to sleep and will appreciate receiving this e-mail even in the wee hours of the morning.

Attached then is my summary analysis of the current situation of the Loschmidt Chair. Besides my discussions in Brno, it has benefited from extensive contact --- in person, by phone, and by e-mail ---- with Jiri Damborsky. Dean Gelnar spoke by phone as well and he has written to give his explicit approval to the attached formulation.

In my opinion we can rely on Jiri Damborsky to forcefully present his needs and ambitions within the Masaryk University context. Dean Gelnar, who has come up with an admittedly improvised solution for now, promises to work out a more durable solution in the most responsible and sensitive manner. All the others ---- Dr. Potacek and Dr. Koca --- have promised their full cooperation.

As to the size of the grant. It is true that the decline of the dollar has been devastating. In my humble opinion this is a factor you will want to sunsider "across the board," at least for your fixed annual gifts in Europe.

In this particular case, however, my understanding is that the research grant under which Jiri Damborsky was working until December 2003 covered at least part of his salary. Therefore the change to \$25,000 would only be required for the 2004/2005 school year. As I wrote before the question of a "replacement" is a moot one --- even though there is one at least until June at the National Centre for Biomolecular Research.

The big questions now concern your travel plans.

I could meet you in London if you like in the morning or over lunch on Monday, March 22 or Tuesday, March 23rd.

Your friends and I would like to organize some events in your honor (80th Birthday of course) in June. Would you and Isabel agree to an event in Brno on Wednesday June 9th and an evening affair in Prague on the 10th?

Best regards,

Yechiel

P.S. I spoke with Ralph Emanuel and all is in order.

A J D C - Paris Office - 5 Avenue Matignon - F-75008 Paris, France Phone +33-1-56 59 79 79 -- Fax +33-1-56 59 79 89 -- yechiel@jdcparis.org



# The Loschmidt Chair at Masaryk University in Brno

### An Analysis of the Current Situation

On 14 January I met in Brno for a joint discussion with

Dr. Skursky;

Dr. Potacek, the Head of the Chemistry Section (Department);

Dr. Koca (Director of the National Centre for Biomolecular Research;

and Dr. Damborsky, the Loschmidt Chair

Dean Gelnar was called to Prague for that day. Although we made plans to meet there the following day, I was unable to do so.

On Monday 19 January I also spoke by telephone with Dr. Damborsky who then sent me in translation the Dean's announcement of 8 December referred to below.

Here is what I have learned then from the various discussions

# A. A Basic Question of Structure

For the explanation that follows it is important to keep in mind the structure of the Faculty of Science. This faculty comprises many different units. One of them is the Chemistry Section (Department). Another unit is the National Centre for Biomolecular Research. This Centre is also a part of the Faculty of Science at Masaryk University, but it is completely independent of the Chemistry Section.

Following a decision by the Dean that was announced 9 December 2003, at the present moment the Loschmidt Chair falls within the Faculty of Science as a quasi-independent unit. It is not currently a part of the Chemistry Section --- although the Head of the Chemistry Section is to review his work annually. Nor does it belong to Dr. Damborsky's employer until now, the National Centre for Biomolecular Research --- although for now Dr. Damborsky's lab facilities remain there. (See below)

### B. The Original Agreement

The original agreement signed with Dr. Bader was to establish the Loschmidt Chair in the "Department of Organic Chemistry" of the Faculty of Science. The intention, as I understand it, was to strengthen the program of teaching and research at Masaryk University in the field of physical organic chemistry.



The Loschmidt Chair, essentially an endowed professorship, is an innovation in the Czech university system. Special attention and arrangements are required to introduce this new element successfully.

What complicates matters further is that the rights and responsibilities of different "Sections" in Masaryk University are not directly comparable to what characterizes a Department in an American university. Even persons outside the Chemistry Section can offer chemistry courses and supervise chemistry students, I am told.

# C. How We Got To Where We Are Now

It is in my view useful to have a chronological perspective:

- 1. Attempts to recruit a suitably qualified senior professor from outside Masaryk University to assume the Loschmidt Chair did not succeed.
- 2. Subsequent attempts to recruit extremely able but nonetheless more junior chemists from outside the University similarly came to naught.
- 3. At this point a new candidate was identified from within the Faculty of Science of Masaryk University. Dr. Jiri Damborsky, a very able, young, bio-organic (or bio-molecular) chemist --- until then engaged in basic research and giving occasional lectures at the National Centre for Biomolecular Research on a time-limited grant --- was named to the Loschmidt Chair.

### D. What Actually Is the Problem?

- 1. I came to Brno thinking that the problem was if and when the Faculty of Science was going to employ a replacement for Dr. Damborsky at his previous job. In fact Dr. Damborsky was employed on a time-limited grant due to end in 2004. Since he did not have a secure position within the Faculty of Science, (let alone the Chemistry Section), it is probably a misconception to think that it is necessary to replace him in order to strengthen teaching and research in the desired subject areas.
- 2. The basic question now --- as I understand it ---- is how should the Loschmidt Chair be organized within the framework of Masaryk University.
- 3. The Loschmidt Chair has not been incorporated into the Chemistry Section as would seem to be required by the original agreement.



- 4. At the same time Dr. Damborsky continues to work in the research laboratories that are a part of the National Centre for Biomolecular Research.
- 5. The issue of where the Loschmidt Chair belongs within the Faculty of Science and what facilities will be available for the use of the holder of the Chair becomes even more important because everything is about to change. The Faculty is planning to move to a new campus in 2005. Rooms and laboratories are all being assigned and prepared accordingly. What will be the place of the Loschmidt Chair.

# E. Conclusions

As everyone learns sooner or later, reality can often confounds our best intentions. Both in the search process for the Loschmidt Professor and now in the aftermath of his appointment, certain contradictions have come up.

Should the Loschmidt Chair be incorporated into the Chemistry Section for all intents and purposes, as the original agreement would appear to require? Or would Dr. Bader's goals be better served by keeping the Chair as a quasi-independent entity, but one equipped with its own laboratory and office space?

Clearly the proper authorities of the Faculty of Science need to continue to weigh these questions carefully and explore their practical implications.

Whatever their conclusion, I suggest that they explain precisely the arrangements they prefer to Dr. Bader and amend the initial agreement accordingly if that is what is required.

# F. Post-scriptum

I learned from the discussions in Brno that there are also a number of other issues ---- and I would say more sensitive ones ---- growing out of the process as it has unfolded until now. These I prefer to discuss personally with Dr. Bader.



Dear Yechiel.

Thank you for your long e-mail of today.

Isabel and I could meet you in London on Monday morning, March 22nd, or Tuesday morning, March 23rd.

Isabel's 55th reunion in Toronto will take place from June 3rd - 6th and we will not fly to Heathrow until the 8th and then probably to Vienna on the 10th. We have not made our final plans yet but we will probably be in the Czech Republic the week of June 14th.

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Bottom line: Damborsky is very good, a brilliant biochemist, and trying very hard to learn about and promote the memory of Loschmidt. He is also, I believe, a very good human being. I would not be surprised if he was a recipient of the Lieben Prize before very long.

With fond regards as always, Alfred



FAX FROM:

Dr. Alfred Bader 2A Holmesdale Road Bexhill-on-Sea East Sussex TN39 3QE Tel./Fax: 01424-22223

To:

M. Jerhice Bar Chaim Fax #: Pours

Date: Nov 1999

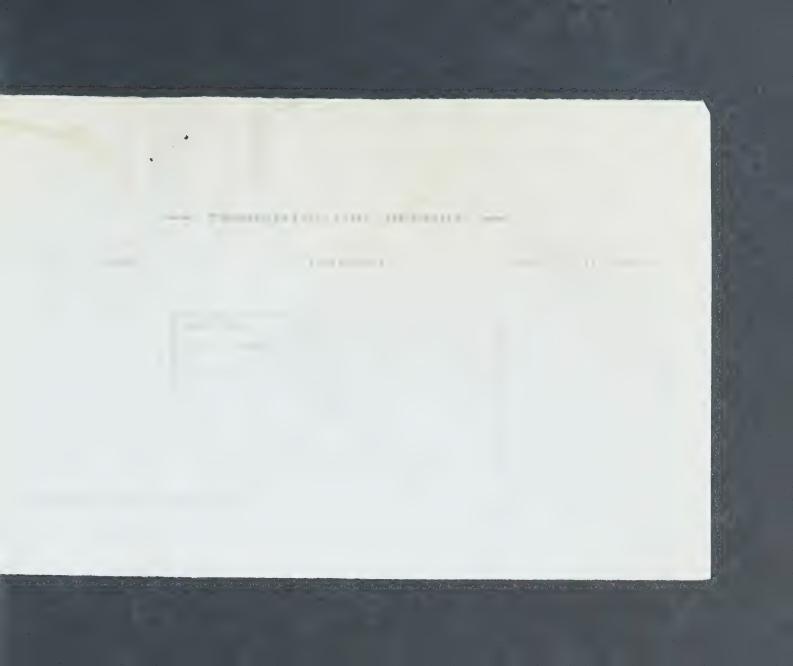
0033156597989

Near Mr. Bar Chain Lorry to learn from the WJR Kar you will not come to Landon nekt week. No you have firm plans to come in Jecember?

Kext with

Gua Bace







# The World Jewish Relief Innual Tinner



11th October 1999

Lincoln's Inn, London W62 Wednesday 1st December 1999

Dr and Dr Alfred Bader 2a Holmsdale Road Bexhill-On-Sea T439 3QE

Please ade is if you want to go or hot and i've fire in reply and accordingly.

I have pleasure in enclosing an invitation to this year's Din

I have pleasure in enclosing an invitation to this year's Dinner, which will take place on Wednesday, 1st December in the elegant setting of Lincoln's Inn. The annual Dinner is our major fundraising event, and we are delighted and honoured that Prof. Dr Daniel Libeskind, the world-renowned architect and designer of the Berlin Holocaust Museum, has agreed to be our guest speaker.

It would be easy to be daunted by the sheer scale of the challenge facing World Jewish Relief, if it were not for the fact that those we are helping need us so desperately. When literally thousands of Jews, both old and young are relying on us for their very survival, we have no option but to redouble our efforts. In the Ukraine, for example, welfare and community centres are the hub of communal life, with services spreading out to the periphery. For the first time, those living in isolation in remote shtetls are receiving food, drugs and medical equipment. With this aid, comes the realisation that they are no longer alone, that other Jews care what becomes of them.

I am sure that you would wish to be associated with our efforts to provide for those living in such desperate circumstances and hope that you will be able to join us on Wednesday 1st December 1999.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Jonathan Joseph Chairman Sar Chraim

fax 0033156597989

You see! A proper
invitation! This will be a

very intersting evening. I

hope you can join us.

Womest regards.

Council Chairman: Jonathan Joseph Dinner Committee

Annette & Derck Rose • Pat & Busil Saunders • Kathryn & Stuart Sanders • Arline & Charles Teacher

World Jewish Relief, Drayton House, 30 Gordon Street, London WC1HOA. \(\begin{align\*}\)

Jel: +44(0)1713873925 • Fax +44(0)1713834810 • Email: wjr1@wjr.org.uk









Dr. Alfred Bader 2961 North Shepard Avenue Milwaukee Wisconsin 53211

March 5, 1999

Dear Dr. Bader,

Thank you very much for your letter of February 26. I am very much looking forward to meet you and your wife Isabel in Prague. We all admired the set of stamps on the envelope. The butterflies and Red Cloud brought a piece of nature and Indian tranquility into our hectic city life

I was also very sorry that Dwayne has left the Foundation. He was a great colleague and we developed mutually very supportive cooperation over the two years. I hope that he has found an interesting new job which will allow him to travel to Prague from time to time.

We have received duly all the money for 1998 Roma Initiative second installments from FCS, contacted the grantees over the phone to explain them our new role in the program and made all the transfers. The deadline for the 1999 grant round is scheduled for May 31, the peer panel meeting for mid June and we plan to have all contracts concluded and first installments disbursed before the summer school holidays, i.e. by the end of June.

The announcement of the Bader-Kaneb Roma Iniciative will appear in the two existing Roma periodicals and in two journals for the NGO sector in April. We shall also inform about your grants program through the channels of the Governmental Committee for Minorities and on our web site (<a href="https://www.nadacevia.cz">www.nadacevia.cz</a>).

Thanks to your generous support Nadace VIA has been invited to be one of the partners in all important meetings organized by various Roma associations, the Government and/or Parliament. This opportunity gives us further insight into the problems that the Roma community is currently facing. At a recent meeting of Roma community leaders with Members of Parliament and the state and local government representatives they strongly supported your decision to focus on Roma children education. The session declared the three main problematic areas to be 1) education, 2) access to employment and 3) housing. All participants also agreed that education is a prerequisite for solving the other two challenges.



Nadace VIA established lasting relationships with many Roma organizations during implementation of the USAID funded Democracy Network Program. Roma rights and equal opportunity has been always among the priorities of US Ambassadors in Prague. Your support gives us a wonderful opportunity to continue in our work for the Roma.

Thank you also for sending me copies of your correspondence with Mr. Nazerali. I shall be meeting with him and Ms. Martha Tulejová to discuss his problem and to try to find some solution. I also have contacts on all other parties involved in the Kolín School of Social Work (the Evangelical Academy, FACIA and Ministry of Education). I hope I shall be able to save you from all the confusing details and present you with brief and clear solutions

I am really looking forward to meet you again (you might remember we met once briefly with Hannah Evans two years ago). Please let me know if you would like to arrange a visit to some of the grantees and/or have tickets to the opera, hints for interesting arts exhibitions or meetings with "chemically" oriented people.

Yours sincerely,

Tana Hlavatá





June 26, 1999

Dear Doctor and Ms. Bader,

Welcome to Prague. I hope that your journey was a pleasant one and that you will find some time to meet with me for an update on the Roma Initiative Program.

But to give you a quick overview. The program areas and deadline for applications (May 31, 1999) were announced in two NGO periodicals (ICN bulletin, Grant), two Roma journals (Amaro Gendalos, Romano Hangos), through the information channels of the Council on National Minorities, at a Senate session devoted to Roma issues and on Nadace VIA web pages. A simple grant request form was designed, asking for applicants contact information and a brief outline of the project and a budget (intoduction of the organization, description of the problem to be addressed by the project, target audience, methods, who will implement the project and his/her qualification, partners involved in the implementation). As a result, Nadace VIA received 77 applications from across the Czech Republic, many of them from Roma-run associations. The Nadace VIA Program Officer also conducted over 30 consultations on project writing.

The program's evaluation committee is composed of 4 people:

Ms. Monika Horáková, Roma Member of the Parliament

Mr. Milan Pospíšil, Council for National Minorities of the Czech Government

Mr. Jaroslav Balvín, former Director of Roma Studies Institute and, at present, Director of The Educational Department of the City of Prague

Mr. Radek Jiránek, Department for Prevention of Criminality, Ministry of Interior.

All the members have a deep insight into the problems facing Roma community in the Czech Republic and knowledge of other support programs for the Roma.

The Evaluation Committee session took place on June 25. The members received all projects for evaluation 3 weeks in advance of this date, along with evaluation criteria and tables. The point results of individual projects from all evaluators were compiled up and, on the basis of this information, the staff prepared a list of the projects that ranges from the strongest to the weakest. At the meeting, each project was discussed and the committee voted as to whether the request for a grant should be awarded as well as what amount should be provided. I will be pleased to provide you with the results of this process during our meeting.

Due to the Roma Initiative Program, Nadace VIA has been invited to become a member of the Donors Forum Roma Group which is composed of all institutions running Roma support programs (e.g. Council on Minorities of the Czech Government, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labor, Canadian, British, Dutch and US Embasies, Open Society Fund, European Union foundation and other NGOs). This group meets every two



months to discuss projects that have been received by the various funders in this field, to monitor the progress of Roma projects that have received funding from multiple sources, and/or to negotiate matching funds for outstanding projects.

My phone number home in Prague is 90035977. Please do not hesitate to call as we could meet any time during the weekend or on Monday (all day) or Tuesday afternoon-evening.

I am also enclosing some materials on the program and a letter which I sent to you on March 5, 1999. I hope that you received it, but just in case. I look forward to seeing you again.

Sincerely,

Tame Hamle Tana Hlavatá

P.S. I was contacted by Mrs. Vida Neuwirthová from the Prague Jewish Community and asked to pass her greetings and phone numbers which are: 3113701 or 33321244.





#### **ROMA INITIATIVE**

A program made possible through the generous support of Mr. Albert J. and Diane E. Kaneb,
The Boston Foundation,
and
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bader

#### A SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IN 1998

In November 1998, and after consultation with the program's funders, The Foundation for a Civil Society and Nadace VIA agreed upon the transfer of the ROMA INITIATIVE program to Nadace VIA for 1999.

Based on the Letter of Agreement signed by both parties on January 1999, Nadace VIA was disbursed the remaining 23,600 USD in second grant installments to recipients of grants in the 1998 grants round. The installments were transferred to the following grantees upon receipt and review of interim reports for the funded projects:

Grantee	Grant Amount (in CZK)	
Nadace Nová škola, Prague	52,500	
Škola P. Pittera, Ostrava	193,000	
Začít spolu, Plzeň	75,000	
Děti Země, Děčín	50,000	
Společně-Jekhetane, Ostrava	100,000	
Salesiánské středisko, Ostrava	25,000	
Občanské sdružení IQ Servis, Brno	22,500	
Romské středisko, Pardubice	30,000	
Škola Havlíčkovo nám., Prague	139,000	

# **Summaries of Awarded Projects**

### Nadace Nová škola (New School Foundation), Prague

The Project: Pedagogical Certification Course for Roma Assistant Teachers

The purpose of the grant is to help finance a pedagogical minimum course (PMC) for Roma assistant teachers. The New School Foundation has received accreditation from the Ministry of Education of the Czech Republic to provide these training courses to professionals who wish to expand their knowledge of this field. Upon successfully completing both parts of the course, the assistants receive



official certification that permits them to work in the classroom as an official assistant teacher. These assistants help to facilitate the educational process for Roma children and, when necessary, mediate contacts with childrens' families.

**Progress report:** The first part of the PMC took place in Ostrava from April 20. – 24, 1998. In this section, 35 Roma assistant teachers were introduced to a variety of subjects, including pedagogy, psychology and teaching techniques, Roma history and language and communication skills. The second part of the course was held in Prague from October 4 – 10, 1998 and was attended by 41 Roma assistant teachers. As a result of the courses, 32 of the Roma assistant teachers that took part in the course have been employed in elementary schools throughout the Czech Republic.

# Základní škola P. Pittra (P. Pitter Elementary School), Ostrava

#### The Project: Social Work in School

The aim of the project is to continue implementing a model approach to classes with a majority of Roma children. This not-for-profit, private school is the leader in designing and implementing effective ways of bridging gaps between children coming from socially and economically disadvantaged Roma families and children from the majority population through the operation of a Roma community Center. The school employs six pedagogical and social assistants who work very closely with the families of the Roma children. Their role is to create an educationally supportive milieu within the family context and prevent a loss of confidence and motivation among these children due to their initial difficulties in school. Social assistants also aid Roma families in orientating themselves in the complex state social security system and with regards to various legal issues as well as mediate contacts between the Roma population and the state agencies.

*Progress report:* The first grant installment covered the salaries and benefits of six assistants from September through December 1998. In addition to working with school children during the day, these assistants began running a series of three new courses for Roma adults, a course on literacy (2 hours a week for 10 participants), a course on social orientation (how to write requests, fill out forms, banking slips, etc.) and a practical courses for unemployed Roma mothers.

# Začít spolu (Starting Together), Plzeň

#### The Project: Center for Family

The aim of the project is primary prevention of criminality in a socially and ethnically mixed section of Pilsen. In the early 1990s, several Roma families were moved from the city center into this low-income housing project. Which offered very limited possibilities for leisure-time activities for children. A team of volunteers recruited from among the families of the children, teachers from a local school, and trained street-workers started a community center with the methodological guidance of the Lets Start Together civic association. They adapted eight basement rooms in the house to serve as a club room, gym, and workshops which offer educational programs for mothers with preschool children, and children attending elementary school. The Center also serves as a site for regular, *probono* consultations with a psychologist and provides counseling and crisis intervention services to the local Roma community.

*Progress report*: The Center was officially opened in March 1998. At present, the Center is fully operational, offers eight afternoon programs of different types for various age groups and has organized several trips for children to the mountains, to Prague and to other places of interest. The Center cooperates with other NGOs in Pilsen and has succeeded in presenting its activities in the local press, on the radio and at an NGO fair held in the City Hall. Its operating costs are supported by Open Society Fund.



# Děti Země (Children of the Earth), Děčín

The Project: The Radost (Happiness) Club

The target audience of this project are abandoned Roma children from the local state children's home. Its principal goal is to integrate these children into the local community through various programs that brings them together with children from the local school and children from a local home for the mentally handicapped. These programs also give children from functional families insight into the less fortunate life of some of their peers and offers them a *practical* and *positively oriented* opportunity to interact with Roma children. Such an experience is very important in breaking down prejudices and building mutual tolerance among these children. The club organizes regular weekend activities such as workshops in applied arts and environmental education, trips to social events in the neighborhood, etc.

<u>Progress report</u>: The association organized nine weekends for children with a rich program, including sport contests, barbecues, historical fencing, a traditional two-day music and theatre festival called Olešská Kramle and aimed at the integration of marginalized groups into society, archeological excavations for older children, participation in the country-wide Week for Mental Health????, a weekend devoted to a reconstruction of the Castle of Tolštejn, a contest for the most inventive drawing of alternative traffic means on the occasion of a national "Day Without Cars" event. All these activities were realized in cooperation with the local children's home, the elementary school in Povrly and the home for mentally handicapped children. Part of the project was also supported by another of Nadace VIA's grant programs, the UNDP-funded "Support for Local Initiatives" program.

# Společně-Jekhetane ("Together" in the Czech and Roma languages), Ostrava

The Project: The "Star" Center for Community Prevention

The aim of the project is to provide a program of leisure-time and educational activities to ca. 40 children from disadvantaged Roma families in the industrial city of Ostrava. This civic association was established to promote new trends in education of children from minority groups, to cooperate and exchange information with governmental and non-governmental institutions dealing with similar topics, to initiate and support common cultural activities between Roma and non-Roma groups and to help Roma children and adults to obtain full elementary, secondary and/or higher education.

*Progress report:* Since its establishment in February 1998, the association has succeeded in opening and running an asylum home for Roma school children in distress and an information and educational center for adults. To date, the Center has organized lectures in Roma studies for representatives of district Offices of Labor and Social Services, the police and teachers. Members of the association are also engaged in helping Roma students to prepare for high school entrance exams and to overcome their initial learning difficulties at school. It is led by experienced group of people affiliated with the P. Pitter School. The project is supported also by the Open Society Fund and the British Embassy.

### Salesianské středisko mládeže (Salesian Center for Youth), Ostrava

The Project: Education Towards Tolerance and Against Racism

The aim of the project is to provide leisure time opportunities for youth-at-risk from socially marginalized Roma and non-Roma families and to assist adolescents in achieving better results at school. The Center organizes various afternoon sporting activities (including 3 football teams, 4 teams of table tennis, floorball, bicycling, skiing, swimming, hiking) and cultural activities (including a children's choir, 5 music groups, music lessons, photography, and painting). Evening activities consist of film and video projections, music and dance programs, lectures for youth on drug, alcoholism, gambling prevention and training seminars for volunteers from the Pedagogical Faculty (of the University of Ostrava) in effective peer program methods. In cooperation with students from the Ostrava Bishops High School, the Center organizes weekend and summer holiday programs during which the students are given practical experience with social work.



<u>Progress report:</u> The Center has organized a series of one week summer trips for both Roma and non-Roma soccer players, for cyclists, table tennis players, and four short-term camps focusing on hiking, theatre activities, and the restoration of historical monuments. Students from a high school and Teachers University also participated in these programs which offered them a unique opportunity to obtain practical experience working with children.

# 10 Roma Service Civic Association, Brno

The Project: Spreading Multicultural Approaches and Tolerance Among Youth

The aim of the project is to spread understanding of multiculturalism and tolerance among elementary and high school students in twelve schools in Brno. The project involves various steps, training a pool of volunteers, contacting schools, and providing lectures on the subject. The children will first be asked to prepare essays on these subjects and answer questions, such as, What is your opinion of other races and minorities? and Have you had any personal contacts with members of other racial groups? Based on these essays, a classroom discussion will be held, to be followed up by a lecture by specially trained volunteers (usually one white Czech and a representative of a minority group). During these lectures, the representative of the minority group will give his/her perspective on the issue of race and minorities. These essays and seminars will then be evaluated to gain information about the state of children's understanding of these topics. This model was successfully tested in Prague by another organization in 1997.

**Progress Report:** As of the progress report, the IQ Service civic association has completed training of its pool of volunteers and has consulted with the Prague-based organization that implemented a similar program in 1997. At present, the first schools are being contacted to organize the essay component and the lectures.

# Klub Hura Kamarád (The "Hurrah, A Friend" Club), Pardubice

The Project: Activities of the Roma Center

The Hurrah, a Friend civic association assists a local Roma Center by helping them identify sources of funding and placing volunteers to run its various programs. The Center offers leisure-time activities for children aged 4 to 15 daily from 2 to 6 pm. The volunteers, among other things, organize courses in areas like music, dance, theater, as well as tutoring programs and drug and alcohol prevention programs. The Center is often the only place where Pardubice youth can go in times of crisis, and has assisted many in resolving difficult family and life situations.

*Progress Report:* The volunteers have organized four weekend stays for 20 children and two public meetings on the topic "The Roma: Our Neighbors and Friends". Unfortunately, these meetings only served to demonstrate the extent of the problem, because they were attended only by those who have no problems of co-existence with the local Roma population. The Center also showed the film "Gypsies Go to Heaven" twice and these events were well attended by both Roma and non-Roma youth.

# Škola Havlíčkovo nám. (The Havličkovo Square School), Prague

The Project: Establishment of a Special Class for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

The task of this special class – taught by specially trained primary school teachers - is to offer help not only to children with specific learning disabilities, but also to those with learning difficulties who need special support. It is intended to resolve the problems faced by these children through individualized attention, with the goal of returning them to regular classes within a limited period of time. In many cases it prevents serious cases of failure and early departure from school, especially among Roma children



*Progress Report:* The project began in September 1998 with the hiring of a special teacher who works individually with approximately 15 children (divided into groups of 2 to 3 children) in the morning and with parents of these children and other teachers in the afternoon. The initial results of this work appear to be positive and will be assessed in more detail in the final report. The school has also secured matching funds in the amount of 139,000 Kc for the project from the District Office of Education.



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**Subject:** Koved Chaperei or Deserved Recognition? **From:** "Yechiel Bar-Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

Date: Tue, 24 Feb 2004 10:43:47 -0000

To: "'Alfred Bader Fine Arts'" <baderfa@execpc.com>

To Marie Boss

Dear Alfred,

I have just now re-emerged from a second bout of flu this winter and of course have questions to share with you.

Accept of course your decision about the Training Center near Skopje. Please though can you advance my education in this respect? How do you define Koved Chaperei and how is it to be distinguished from accepting deserved recognition?

In Prague Gwen Albert helped translate for me during a meeting with a blind singer of Jewish songs whom I have tried to help over the years. Now Kateryna is set to be one of the featured performers at a concert Gwen is setting up to raise funds for her organization's campaign against domestic violence in the Czech Republic.

Just sent my colleague to Bosnia-Herzegovina to do the initial work on the women's breast cancer project we've been planning for some time. She reports terrific response and cooperation.

Any word from David about his possibly joining me for a trip there during the summer? (Will he be in London on the  $22\mathrm{nd}$ ?) Will be in touch with Ralph Emanuel soonest.

Warmest regards,

#### Yechiel

P.S. I have some wonderful ideas for two dinners in Prague. Any chance that Dr. Radl could settle soon on either June 15th or the 17th for his evening out with you?

----Original Message----

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts [mailto:baderfa@execpc.com]

Sent: 10 February 2004 18:12

To: Yechiel Bar-Chaim

Subject: Re: A Vocational Training Center for Roma in Macedonia

Dear Yechiel,

In response to your e-mail of today, is the expression KOVED CHAPERAI known in Paris? It seems to me that the vocational training center should be called "The Joint Vocational Training Center".

We will certainly be free in Brno on Monday evening, June 14th, but please don't fill up the other three evenings yet. Usually we get together with one very good chemist friend, Dr. Stan Radl, and he hasn't told me yet which evening he will be free.

I so look forward to seeing you on Monday morning, March 22nd and I have asked Ralph Emanuel to join us. He may not be able to because Muriel is very sick.

With fond regards, Alfred



Yechiel Bar-Chaim wrote:

10 February 2004

Dear Alfred,

Out of the discretionary funds, I am planning to begin a very important Roma development project in Macedonia.

A very effective colleague of mine, Eli Eliezri, --- the same man who organized the renovation of the school in the Roma/Albanian neighborhood of Skopje ---, has again responded promptly to my call for assistance. On my behalf he has successfully negotiated with the Roma Mayor of Sutu Orizeri (part of Skopje) to create a vocational training program for Roma.

The Municipality (the only Roma-led municipality in the world) is donating a very suitable space. An Israeli engineer has volunteered to come to set up and supervise the program based on his experience in Kosovo. The Center will be located in the same school where some years back we organized a "Back to School" program for Roma street kids in the neighborhood. I know the principal very well and look forward to working with him again..

Alfred, it would give me great personal pleasure if you would agree for us

to name this vitally important center the "Alfred Bader Vocational Training Center". I hope you will agree.

Best regards,

#### Yechiel

P.S. Germaine Keil and I will try to make the arrangements with the Hotel Ungelt. If we prove unable to match your negotiating skills, we will turn back to you.

 ${\hbox{P.P.S.}}$  Do I have your permission and Isabel's to plan a few evenings for you during the Czech Republic trip?

A J D C - Paris Office - 5 Avenue Matignon - F-75008 Paris, France Phone +33-1-56 59 79 79 -- Fax +33-1-56 59 79 89 -- yechiel@jdcparis.org

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#### Dear Rabbi Mendel,

Above appears the e-mail address of Yechiel Bar-Chaim. Please work with him to try and set up a meeting with the Lubavitch rabbi in Prague. June 15th is filled to overflowing, Mr. Bar-Chaim will know best the schedule for Alfred and Isabel on the 16th and 17th. Late afternoon of the 17th is impossible due to a dinner appointment and on the 18th they leave for Munich.

I hope this information is somewhat helpful in your planning.

Best regards, Ann

#### Rabbi Mendel Shmotkin wrote:

Dear Dr. Bader,

I somehow (I'm not sure how I got on this email list) got this email outlining Simon Alperovitch's side of the story. As I said when we spoke, I'm sure there is another version to all of this, however, either way if somehow we could arrange a sit-down with the leaders of Chabad in Lithuania and the Joint to help them through this we would at least be fulfilling the commandment of Lo-Sa'amod Al Dam Rai'Echa.

I am trying to arrange on the 15th or 16th a meeting in Prague with you, some Lubavitch Leaders in Vilna and Yechiel Bar Chaim. I will keep you posted.

Mendel

Rabbi Mendel Shmotkin
Lubavitch of Wisconsin
rabbimendel@milwaukeechabad.com
3109 N. Lake Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53211
tel: 414.961.6100
www.milwaukeechabad.com

----Original Message---From: mark specter [mailto:markspecter@gmx.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2004 12:17 PM
To: rabbimendel@milwaukeechabad.com
Subject:

Dear Rabbi Shmotkin: You must have surely received the mendacious letter that is being circulated by Rabbi Krinsky's assistant regarding the disgraceful events that took place in Vilna. The attached documents - including the account of independent eyewitnesses - tell the true story of what happened in Vilna. Best Regards.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Sie haben neue Mails!" - Die GMX Toolbar informiert Sie beim



Surfen! Jetzt aktivieren unter http://www.gmx.net/info

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Subject:

Date: Thu, 20 Sep 2001 16:25:01 +0100

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" < yechiel@jdcparis.org>

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" < baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred,

I am humbled by your confidence and great generosity.

Todah.

The Refugee Camp for Kosovar Roma near Skopje

Overwhelmed by the announcement of your support, I traveled the next day t. Skopje to see the Gypsy camps. On the outskirts of the Roma neighborhood where we have been working (Sutu Orizeri) stands a ramshackle refugee camp for 1160 Roma refugees from Kosovo. Nearly 250 are children under 5 years of age.

As everyone admits, the camp run by the Macedonian Red Cross but funded by UNHCR was poorly designed to begin with. The sanitary facilities (such as they are) are located on the high ground, and at the start there was even a communal kitchen just below it. I needn't describe what this downhill proximity means under such conditions.

When the communal kitchen was removed, a few classrooms were put there. Under the auspices of UNICEF, refugee children of different ages are crowded together in these small boxes which serve only grades 1 to 4 in two shifts. These classrooms are also located smack against the crudely constructed till shacks in which the refugees live, so the classes are regularly disrupted by the life of the refugees and any music they may be listening to.

The water supply in the camp is erratic, I was told. The hot water boiler is always on the blink. The pathways on which people trod back and forth are not paved. So the camp fills with mud when it rains. What can I say, Alfred, the only decent buildings were built by the German Red Cross. We always knew the Germans were skilled at this sort of thing.

The refugees have absolutely nothing to do. Two years after being chased out of Kosovo by the returning Albanian refugees, they have no prospects of going anywhere --- although they clamor for refuge in a third country. (Later I heard that indeed Canada may be ready to help a little).

Further Schooling for the Roma Refugee Children

I met with some of the men. Their bitterness and dissatisfaction know no bounds. I had a hard time getting them to focus on the one issue where I thought we could help: further education for the children.

The Director of the Camp had told me that the Roma were not interested in sending their children to school. The story I heard from the refugees was quite different. They cursed their fate and could only hope for the future of their children. They told me that the children who might study beyond grade 4 don't go to school in the neighborhood for the following reasons:

They have no suitable clothes or shoes or school bags,

They have no transport

The local children taunt them (especially at the nearby pred Albanian-speaking school)



If they went to school they would miss breakfast at the camp have no money to pay for lunch at school

Viktor Mizrahi, the President of the Jewish Community of Skopje and the leader of the Jewish humanitarian aid association we put together Dobra Volja (La Benevolencija-Skopje), was with me. On the basis of the men's promise to recruit and organize the children, we outlined with the Camp Director how we wanted to approach this issue --- providing answers to the obstacles mentioned above and then sending the children to the second (predominantly Roma) school in the neighborhood where we have worked before.

The next day I met with IRC (our partners in the earlier Roma schooling program) to sure up their cooperation and also extend our joint reproductive health program to include the women in this camp..

So despite the steady, sporadically-violent, and still alas unchecked disintegration of Macedonia on the one hand (the general context) and the heavy atmosphere of neglect and resignation on the part of the authorities when it comes to the Roma (the specific one), we hope to be able to use your earlier donation to achieve something of value..

A Visit to an IDP (Internally Displaced Persons') Camp

I want to share with you one other experience.

The following day Viktor and I went to a predominantly Roma camp for internally displaced persons. 160 persons live in Chichino Selo (which means Rich Uncle in Macedonian), most of them driven out of/evacuated from the northern village of Radusa two months ago during the fighting there between Albanian rebels and Macedonian forces, The setting is bucolic: a large green area surrounded by trees, a small river flowing nearby. The idp's (as they are called in humanitarian aid jargon) live in large barracks. We saw them washing down their living areas and congregating leisurely outside. One boy was fishing and had two fish barely larger than sardines to show for his efforts.

A certain languor hung over the camp. By common accord there didn't seem to be much to do, either for the heavy-set director or for the residents themselves. No hard evidence of bitterness or despair either. The people lost their homes two months ago and have no prospects of returning, but no one seemed agitated --- outwardly.

Viktor and I met privately with two Roma men, one Albanian, and one Maredonian woman. They confirmed that there wasn't much interest let alone any internal pressure to send the kids to school, nor to do anything much. The atmosphere of laisse-aller made both of us uncomfortable.

Nevenka Sretenovic, a heavy set blond woman divorced with four kids, told us she was a hairdresser by profession. With the kind of children's scissors you can buy in any shop she still cut her own hair and took care of her friends in the camp. After checking with the Camp Director, I asked her would she be ready to become the hairdresser for everyone in the camp for free if we bought her proper equipment. She sprung out of her chair in excitement. The pent-up frustrations all seemed to burst out of her at the camp in a constant of the proper equipment with her hands raised in a constant of the const

Viktor will now take her into Skopje so that she can buy what she needs. That and purchasing a television set to bring people together in the common room was all I could think of doing at the moment.

What does one do when faced with such misery among people with no real



prospects for the future? All I know is to isolate some act that looks to me sound and worthwhile and to try to do it. And I also remember the pitation from Pirke Avot that my friend Eliezer Papo once sent to me for comfort from Jerusalem, "It is not up to you to complete the task, but neither are you free to turn aside from it."

I will try to write you further in the coming days about the larger programs we are striving to put together. The projects for Israeli Arabs you requested are also being readied by Fleur Hassan.

My most fond regards

P.S. We have indeed only recently made the transfer to the Great. Chemical Society. Payment delayed first by my travels in July, then the long vacation of the Society's secretary in August, and finally some confusion over a change in the Swift Code for their bank.

For your information we have also completed the payment to Masaryk University and to La Benevolencija-Subotica for the children's meals and medical clinic in Northern Yugoslavia. Following the end of her vacation, Milena Bartlova and I are also corresponding concerning all the arrangements and precisions concerning the Bader Art History Fellowship for Ms. Soskova due to begin in June 2002.

I will be writing to your further concerning action on your other donations for Yugoslavia now well underway.

AJDC Faris Office 5 avenue Matignon F-75008 Paris, France Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989 yechiel@jdcparis.org



# Dear Yechiel,

Thank you so much for your detailed e-mail of October 17th and for your telling me that you will be in London on December 10-11. So will I, and surely we will be able to arrange to meet.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred Bader

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred

I know that JDC sent WJR a check for \$90,000 last week. I also informed Vivienne Lewis of WJR, who returned from vacation on Monday, that the check was on its way. Vivienne assured me that WJR would be as forthcoming as they know how to be.

Actually I had earlier tried to speed things up by having JDC and WJR balance off mutual debts and credit, but the bookkeepers are never swift enough and everyone has different procedures.

Meanwhile I am doing my best to help Sue reach the people she needs in the various communities.

I am sorry that you end up needing to send us reminders.

Best regards,

Yechiel

P.S. Here is a brief update on some of the other projects you have so generously funded.

#### 1. Michelle Foundation

My assistant, Germaine Keil, has been in touch with the Michelle Foundation and has an appointment to meet your friend Mr. Noortman next Monday afternoon. We will report on this meeting as soon as Germaine is back in Paris and I return from a short trip early next week. A check for \$300,000 has already been sent to the Foundation by my colleague Tzivia Beiler on 12 October.

#### 2. Roma Women and Children in Macedonia:

With some funds from your earlier donation for the Roma in Macedonia we just bought school textbooks for about 15 Roma children from the Cicino Selo camp for internally displaced persons. The children had been attending school nearby but had no books for lack of means. The television set for the camp is in place and the latest word is that the hairdresser from the



camp will be finally equipped and "in business" tomorrow. I should have pictures to show you when we meet.

# 3. Non-Sectarian Hot Meals in Yugoslavia:

We are busy finalizing the provision of non-sectarian meals to be served in the Jewish Community of Novi Sad as part of an Ecumenical Coalition in this town, the capital of Yugoslavia's Northern region of Vojvodina. Our share of the costs should come to \$.25-.30 per meal. The total cost of each meal will be \$1.00-\$1.10. Thus your donation will enable the Community to help provide up to 40,000 meals to very needy persons and refugees identified by this multi-religious venture.

## 4. Aid to Refugee Children and Orphanages in Yugoslavia:

The clothing, shoes and infant food for refugee children from Kosovo living in host families in Serbia has now been purchased and should be distributed in the coming weeks. Approximately 1200 children will receive these special supplies. The parallel aid to orphanages is also at the point of implementation.

# 5. Entrepreneurship Training in Yugoslavia:

We are currently planning a special nationwide training seminar for women in cooperation with the League of Jewish Women.

#### 6. Programs in the Czech Republic:

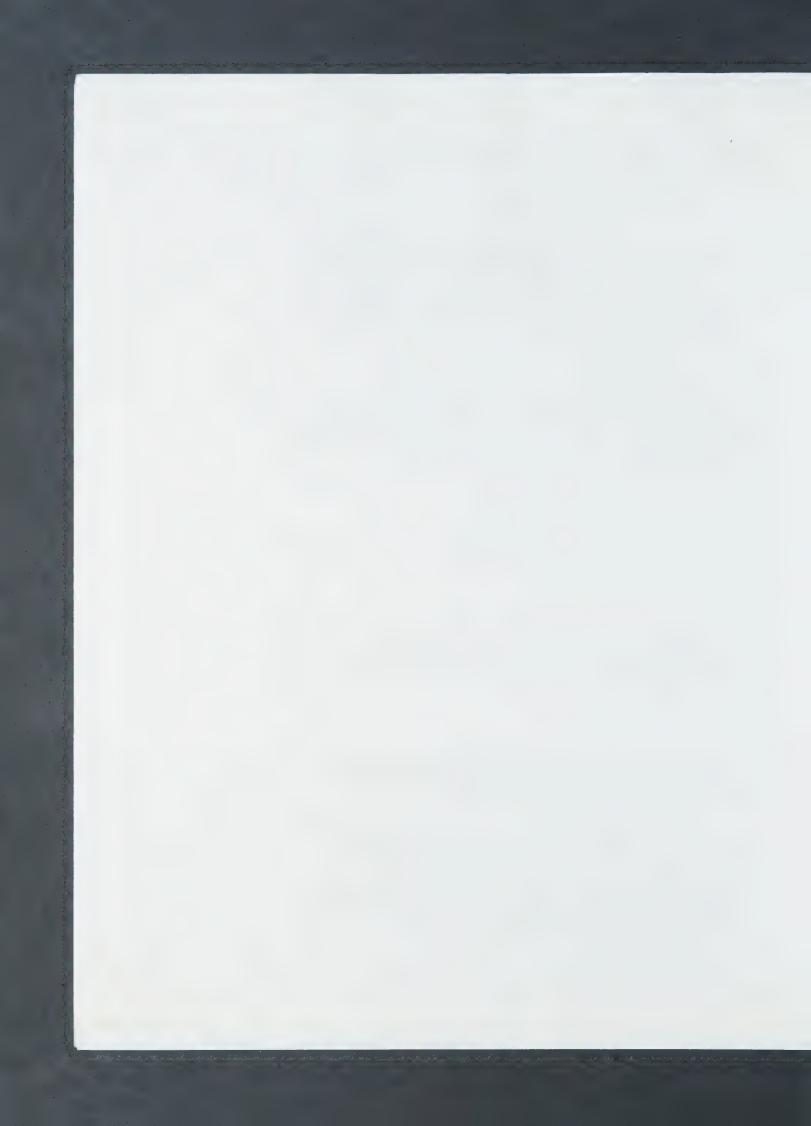
Meanwhile I am hoping to meet both Tanya Hlavata and Milena Bartlova in Prague in ten day's time. Tanya is very satisfied with some of the proposals submitted under the new terms for the Roma program in the Czech Republic. Had hoped to go to Brno this time but Peter Weber whom you know so well won't be there.

## 7. Your Latest Gift of \$100,000:

As to the new grant of \$100,000 I am still absorbing this tremendous expression of your confidence. As befits such a magnificent gesture, I am reflecting carefully on the best way to use the funds.

My headquarters is urging me to consider applying an important part to assist Jewish welfare programs in the Former Soviet Union which are apparently seriously under-funded for 2002. I am due to meet soon the people in charge to discuss. In the meantime am juggling in my mind the various needs in the countries I regularly deal with and preparing to plug holes in our welfare net there. Also hope to underwrite a few irresistible (but very modest) pet projects on the side.

### 8. Programs for Israeli Arabs:



As you requested I will have a few interesting projects to discuss with you when we meet.

----Original Message----

From: Bader Fine Arts [mailto:baderfa@execpc.com]

Sent: 16 October 2001 21:43 To: Yechiel Bar Chaim

Subject: Re: Michelle Foundation

Dear Yechiel,

Please help: you know what a good person Sue Read is and she was hoping to start filming this month, but can't really do much until she receives the \$90,000 which I sent to the Joint in New York by check 4199 on September 11th.

That check was for \$190,000, \$90,000 for Sue and \$100,000 for you. Have you also not received that?

Thanks and best regards, Alfred



Subject: Return of the Native

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

Date: Tue, 19 Feb 2002 12:54:43 -0000

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred,

Just returned from a trip to Yugoslavia to find your notes.

Glad you liked the Karl May books. We had a lot of fun finding them for you.

Also pleased to see that you and Milena settled on dates for the seminar. May I confess something, though? To tell the truth the reason I had told her not on Friday is not so much related to any questions of religious observance of the Shabbat. It's just that I would very much like to attend the special occasion in your honor in Prague and then return to be home with my family (for Shabbat) on Friday. It seems, however, that considerations surrounding the Czech elections now take precedence in any event.

Your son Daniel just sent me the Tenth Anniversary Report for the Helen Bader Foundation. Deeply impressed by the range of the grants and also by the presentation of the program. I will be writing to him.

In Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, I learned that our ecumenical partners for the soup kitchen have run out of money. Since your donation last year for this purpose was more than ample, (our now-broke partners had picked up much more of the bill than I had anticipated) I agreed to renew immediately the meals given to 86 poor people (all non-Jews) at the Jewish Community out of the balance of your donation. In the meantime our partners will be looking to their sponsors for more help.

The second round of your help for the orphanages is having a very close and personal impact.. The former President of the Jewish Community who works as a volunteer English teacher in one of these homes has described a small project we agreed upon as follows:

1. Home for orphans and children with useless parents "Jovan Jovanovic-Zmaj"

It hosts some 120 children, both girls and boys, of school age, both primary and secondary. It is situated on the outskirts of Belgrade, in a building built for that purpose, but rather badly maintained. There are no Jewish kids there (no Jewish kids anywhere in such or similar homes in Yu, to my knowledge). The children live there until they are 18 or 19. After that age, a network of social institutions is supposed to be taking care of them, if necessary.

Some time ago I was told that there is no warm water in the bathrooms. However, the home received some financial humanitarian aid, which was used for necessary boiler repairs. Now warm water is available, but installations in the bathrooms need repairs. Besides, the place looks gloomy. For that reason the kids do not take care of it, and the looks of it all spiral downwards.

The idea is to buy some paint, tools, floor tiles, upholstery fabrics, lamps and light bulbs, and have the kids do the improvements themselves — in the part of the home where eldest kids live. That might create the feeling among the kids that it is their own place, and perhaps set an example for the rest of the place.

I have more to report, but I have vowed to keep these e-mails bite-size.



Warmest

regards to you and Isabel

Yechiel

P.S. Did you receive my 25 January attachment concerning needs in Argentina? Eager to know your reaction.

P.P.P.S. As perhaps you too have experienced, one meets organic chemists in the strangest places. We had a staff meeting in St. Petersburg recently and the initiator of the Jewish Museum in process there called "Petersburg Judaica," a man by the name of Valery Dymshits, was, until recently, working as a specialist on organic crystals and the cultivation of micro-organisms.

AJDC Paris Office 5 avenue Matignon F-75008 Paris, France Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989 yechiel@jdcparis.org



Subject: Re: Return of the Native

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts <baderfa@execpc.com>

Date: Tue, 19 Feb 2002 14:22:29 -0600

To: Yechiel Bar Chaim <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

CC: Daniel Bader <dan@hbf.org>

Dear Yechiel,

Thank you for your long e-mail of today.

We are very happy that we can help so many needy people in the Balkans.

I think you know my reaction to the requests from Argentina. The country as a whole is in terrible trouble because of long standing corruption, graft and fraud. Are many Argentinean Jews moving to Israel? In any case, let me discuss this with you when I see you next.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred Bader

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

Just returned from a trip to Yugoslavia to find your notes.

Glad you liked the Karl May books. We had a lot of fun finding them for you.

Also pleased to see that you and Milena settled on dates for the seminar. May I confess something, though? To tell the truth the reason I had told her not on Friday is not so much related to any questions of religious observance of the Shabbat. It's just that I would very much like to attend the special occasion in your honor in Prague and then return to be home with my family (for Shabbat) on Friday. It seems, however, that considerations surrounding the Czech elections now take precedence in any event.

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The idea is to buy some paint, tools, floor tiles, upholstery fabrics, lamps and light bulbs, and have the kids do the improvements themselves — in the part of the home where eldest kids live. That might create the feeling among the kids that it is their own place, and perhaps set an example for the rest of the place.

I have more to report, but I have vowed to keep these e-mails bite-size.

Warmest regards to you and Isabel

#### Yechiel

- P.S. Did you receive my 25 January attachment concerning needs in Argentina? Eager to know your reaction.
- P.P.P.S. As perhaps you too have experienced, one meets organic chemists in the strangest places. We had a staff meeting in St. Petersburg recently and the initiator of the Jewish Museum in process there called "Petersburg Judaica," a man by the name of Valery Dymshits, was, until recently, working as a specialist on organic crystals and the cultivation of micro-organisms.

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Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989
yechiel@jdcparis.org



Dear Yechiel.

Thank you for your e-mails of today.

Once, in the Chemistry Department of the University of North Carolina, I was asked to give four talks. That was one too many. I have often given two to three talks in one day, and that is fine.

We plan to be in Brno on Monday, June 10th, in Vienna from the May 30th until June 9th, and in Prague from the 12th to the 16th of June.

By all means call Muriel Emanuel. Her telephone number is 44 207 435 9969.

Tom Cori was married to an attorney and they had two children, I believe sons. He then divorced and married a stockbroker and divorced again. He cannot be all bad because his first wife then married him again. She died of cancer two or three years ago. Tom Cori can go both ways, and I do not know what kind of a problem he has now. I understand that he did not visit Sigma even once in 2001.

There are some scientists who are also good businessmen, but not many.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred Bader

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

Now Mrs. Bailey just sent me her husband's book. So no trade at all. She seems like such a fine woman; I expect we will become friends.

Delighted to see your response to Milena. I will coordinate with her and the various organizations interested in having you lecture. Is it OK to keep you busy? Or rather how busy can we keep you? Do you know now when you plan to be in Brno? in Vienna?

Fascinated to hear that Muriel Emanuel has written about Nicholas Winton. As you will see in Men of Vision there is something of a sticky wicket in the story that I would like to understand better. I would like to call Mrs. Emanuel to discuss the matter.

Please find attached my letter to you about Argentina. Of course I will not do anything in this respect without receiving your guidance ahead of time.

As to Tom Cori I will resist the temptation to ask --- after seeing what you quote from him --- what has transpired in his family life.

A different question intrigues me though: how many top-rate chemists have the kind of business acumen one needs to sit on a Board of Directors? Are you yourself perhaps an exception to the rule? In the mind of financiers I



imagine "the place of the chemist is in the laboratory" (like the old Viennese expression --- please help me with the German --- "the place of a Jew is in a Kaffeehaus"

Be that as it may..... Shabbat Shalom

Warmest regards to you and Isabel

#### Yechiel

P.S. I should be on the road this coming week, but my assistant will forward to me any communications

----Original Message----

From: Bader Fine Arts [mailto:baderfa@execpc.com]

Sent: 24 January 2002 19:26 To: Yechiel Bar Chaim

Subject: Re: Rescue Then and Relief Now

Dear Yechiel,

Thank you so much for your e-mail of Tuesday.

Please don't send me the German version of Mrs. Bailey's father's book. I will be happy to trade it with her husband's English book, which is also in Bexhill.

I would be happy to give lectures arranged by Nadace Via and Milena Bartlova, but not in December.

As you will see by my e-mail to Dr. Bartlova, I have suggested a conference of scholarship recipients in Prague on June 13th or 14th, and could also give a talk arranged by the Nadace Via.

I will be happy to talk to you about Argentina, but in the meantime, please do not spend any of my funds there.

Muriel Emanuel has co-authored a book on Nicholas Winton's work and I have ordered 10 copies, one of them for you.

I learned second-hand that there was one hell of a fight at the Board of Directors late in 2000, when Tom Cori was asked to leave. He was then given an obituary like farewell, much like that he had prepared for me, given on p. 161 of my autobiography. The reasons for his leaving were all the ones you mentioned.

Now three of the worst Directors, all of them in Cori's pocket, David



Kipnis, Andrew Newman and Thomas Urban, have also left the Company.

David Harvey has replaced them with three financial experts, and I wish he would pick really good chemists.

Tom Cori is very able, one of the most materialistic persons I have ever known, and can't be all bad. Both of his parents received the Nobel Prize and are reported to have been kind people. Also, Czech. He was their only child and they didn't hug him enough.

Cori often faulted me, saying that my worst trait is that I want to be liked or even loved. And I trust too many people. One of his favorite sayings was "I don't trust anyone. Everyone can be bought and sold and that includes my wife and children."

I look forward to your personal and confidential letter.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred Bader

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

- > Dear Alfred,
- >
- > I have asked World Jewish Relief to mail you Men of Vision., Shall I send
- > you Ein Quaker-Ehepaar in Nazi-Deutschland, Leonhard Friedrich uberlebt > Buchenwald?. Mrs. Bailey told me she had revised some of the text in
- > with comments she had received..

>

- > In the meantime Sue Read has promised me her English version of Mrs.
- > Bailey's book. So might I then see the book by Mrs. Bailey's husband of > which I know little?

>

- > Just today received from Nadace Via a packet of information and suggestions
- > about a lecture they would like to invite you to give --- although the date
- > they are suggesting is in December 2002. I will send the material on to you
- > by snail mail.

>

> Everyone here is deeply concerned about the plight of the Jews and in



```
> Argentina and their non-Jewish friends, especially those who have tried to
> help the Community in the aftermath of the bombings there. The JOINT is
> leading an international coalition to help. I would like to find a way to
> open a dialogue with you about such needs.
>
       Next week I am supposed to go to St. Petersburg for a staff
meeting and to
> see our welfare programs there. I will be presenting to my colleagues a
new
> documentary film on Kindertransports from Czechoslovakia ("The Power of
> Good," the Nicholas Winton Story). What is amazing is to see original
> footage of children boarding the train in Prague's Wilson Station and even
> singing the Czechoslovak national anthem as they cross the English
Channel.
> Among the words of the song, "Home, oh where is my home?"
>
       My best wishes to you and Isabel.
>
>
Sincerely yours,
Yechiel
> P.S. Now Alfred you have aroused my curiosity about Tom Cori and what
> brought about his downfall. Was it indeed related to his mistreatment of
> others? his self-proclaimed egotism? his cronyism in making personnel
> appointments? his (overloaded at the top) notions of executive
compensation?
> or his aversion to building long-term partnerships of trust and
cooperation?
> or all of the above? Please do not leave me in suspense.
> P.P.S.
              In addition I have learned something that perhaps is best
shared
> with you in a personal and confidential letter. Please expect to receive
> one from me in the mail. It is not a cause for worry.
> AJDC Paris Office ---- 5 avenue Matignon --- F-75008 Paris, France
> Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989 --- EMAIL
<yechiel@jdcparis.org>
```



**Subject: The Missing Attachment** 

Date: Fri, 25 Jan 2002 13:05:14 -0000

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" < yechiel@jdcparis.org>

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" < baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred

Please find attached my appeal to you concerning Argentina

AJDC Paris Office 5 avenue Matignon F-75008 Paris, France Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989 yechiel@jdcparis.org

Appeal for Argentina.doc

Name: Appeal for Argentina.doc

**Type:** Winword File (application/msword)

**Encoding:** base64



Dear Alfred,

When we first broached the subject of aid for the Jews of Argentina, you rightly pointed to the collapse of the Jewish banks there a few years ago and the presumed corruption of these bankers/leaders. It is true that many Jewish institutions lost their reserves by trusting in such a rotten system.

Now the entire population of Argentina is suffering from the disintegration of the country's economy. This time it is leaders of the national government who are alleged to have sold off state assets for personal and party benefit on a scale heretofore unimagined.

Just as when you and I discussed the possibility of aid for Yugoslavia, we face once more the dilemma: how and why to help individuals who are suffering badly for reasons not of their own making?

May I put before you a suggestion to adopt the same response that you chose for Yugoslavia? Do I paraphrase it properly? "The hell with the leaders; our concern is with the forgotten little man."

Thus in Yugoslavia you identified three broad channels of assistance that would assist the victims without taking away in the slightest from your outrage and condemnation of the perpetrators:

Aid to the homeless (refugees)

Help for orphanages

Feeding programs for the desperately poor

My good friend in JOINT, Alberto Senderey, is running himself ragged drumming up support for Argentina, negotiating aid projects, and rallying his overtaxed staff in Buenos Aires. He tells me that 15-20% of the general population now lives in severe poverty; 25,000 in the Jewish Community alone. 1,700 Jews have lost their homes and are now in temporary housing, mostly in unsavoury neighborhoods, alas.

Everyone is frightened by the mounting calls for assistance, and the efforts to help proceed at a feverish pace as in wartime. At the same time that it is desperately trying to care for its own, the Jewish Community is also reaching out to help others struck by this national catastrophe.

Would you authorize me to explore possible projects that would address these same categories of need? Anything we would undertake would be implemented or supervised by my very capable JOINT colleagues.

Best regards,

Yechiel



Subject: New Year's Wishes

Date: Sun, 30 Dec 2001 15:23:22 -0000

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" < baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred and Isabel

The orphans from the Children's Home "Mladost" in Kragujevac, Yugoslavia send to you and to all your family the following greetings and blessings for the New Year:

"It is nice to live encircled by those who are making our New Years happier and our lives more carefree."  $\ensuremath{\text{^{1}}}$ 

"You are giving us gifts and we are giving you smiles and hearts full of love."  $\begin{tabular}{ll} \hline \end{tabular}$ 

"Thank you for bringing back to us the faith in human kindness and love."

To which I can only add my own warm wishes to you for a Happy New Year,

AJDC Paris Office 5 avenue Matignon F-75008 Paris, France Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989 yechiel@jdcparis.org

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Subject: Warmth in Winter

Date: Thu, 27 Dec 2001 12:36:55 +0100

From: "Yechiel Bar-Chaim" <ybc@jdcparis.org>

To: "Alfred Bader (E-mail)" < baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred

Still glowing from our time together in London. Really pleased to have a chance to meet David too (whom I knew before only from your book).

Meanwhile I have been to Sarajevo and Zagreb and back. It was bitter cold there and the Russians were about to shut down the heating in Sarajevo because Bosnia hasn't paid its debts for natural gas. Of course everyone in the country would suffer but immediately I though of the 540 sick and poor elderly without family whom we look after in the Home Care Program you support. Might we buy electic heaters if necessary and then subsidize the electricity bill, I asked? Fortunately I have just learned that an agreement has been reached with the Russians and the heat will stay on until March.

Since we're talking about suffering from the cold, let me share with you an an e-mail sent to me by the rebbitsin in Belgrade (a wonderful Jewish girl from Philadelphia about to give birth to her first child). She wrote to say how important it was that you had decided to give another \$10,000 to help the orphanages there. We had just finished distributing food and clothing and toys for the New Year and a dough-preparation machine at the first orphanage and now she told me that at another orphanage (where the former president of the Belgrade Jewish Community volunteers to teach English) there is no hot water for the children to wash themselves. They have to shower in cold water if at all because the boilers are kaput. I asked for immediate estimates what it would take to give the children warm water to bathe in. (Only afterwards did I read again about your ordeal as a child without hot water at home).

Reading the story of Joseph and thinking about what we're doing together in these troubled times, it strikes me that he had the advantage of knowing just how many years will be good ones and then how many lean years will follow. We don't know. But I am reminded of a saying attributed to the late Rabbi Rosen of Romania: "This year was a typical year (for Romania): Worse than last year better than the next one." I'm convinced that black humor is an occupational hazard for anyone working in the Balkans.

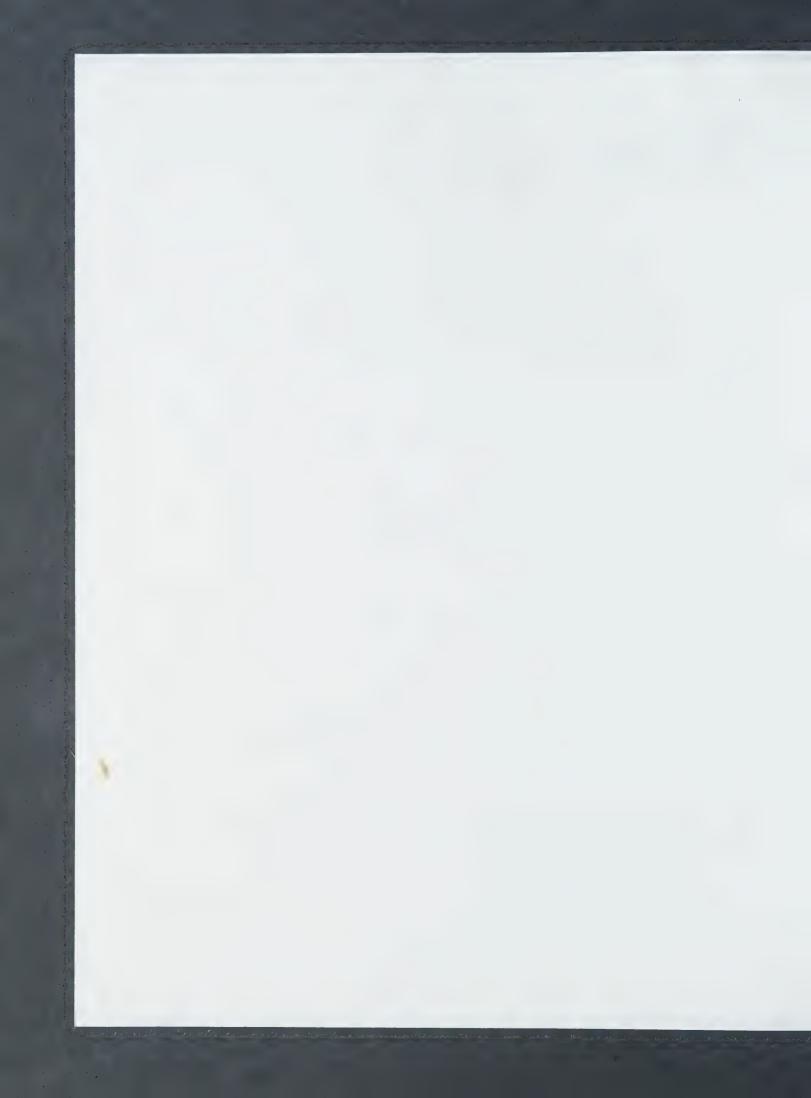
Once I saw the draft of the Fund Agreement I was finally glad ----after all these years of supposedly missing out on fulfilling a childhood ambition---- that I never became a lawyer. Couldn't budge the lawyers on the ording ---- it's all the fault of the IRS they say ---- but from Zagreb worked with my colleagues (who are very decent people I assure you) so that at least the cover letter would be friendly and I hope reflect what you want to achieve. Forgive us our trespasses.

Received the list of lecture subjects. There are two that especially appeal to me: "Rembrandt and the Jews" and "A Jewish View of the Messiah" Hope to be in Prague and Brno the week of 7 January and will see about possible venues then. You don't by any chance have your dates yet for a June visit?

Best regards to you and Isabel and to all your family.

Happy New Ye

Yech



#### Warmth in Winter

• F.S. In the end Adina Shapiro and I spoke by telephone. Her schedule kept her busy until too late on Friday for a face-to-face visit. I am trying to get her together with Fleur and other JDC colleagues and friends she would enjoy meeting I am sure in Jerusalem.



Dear Yechiel,

Many thanks for the two books by Karl May which you found for me.

The first of these, *Durchs wilde Kurdistan*, I last read in 1937; the second, *Ich-Karl May*, I have never seen and it looks most interesting.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred Bader





# The American Joint Distribution Committee

5 Avenue Matignon, F-75008 Paris, France – Tel. 33 1 56 59 79 79 – Fax 33 1 56 59 79 89 E-Mail yechiel@jdcparis.org

Eugene Ribakoff
President

Michael Schneider Executive Vice-President Alberto Senderey
Director Community
Development

8 February 2002

Dr. Alfred Bader 824 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-277-0709 (Fax)

Dear Alfred,

My colleagues and I found these for you.

Thought you might enjoy them for Presidents' Day.

fachiel

Warm regards,

Encls.

- "Durchs wilde Kurdistan"
- "Ich Karl May"



Dear Mr. Bar Chaim.

Please keep the time of the lecture tentative. As you know, both Isabel and Alfred are in Jerusalem for Passover and will return on April 10th. Yesterday I received an e-mail that the Prince cannot receive them because he will be traveling. Alfred does not yet know this and I hesitate to finalize the timing of the lecture until he has an opportunity to make other arrangements to visit with the Prince. So, please allow us until the 10th when we know what these arrangements will be.

Happy Passover!

Best regards, Ann Zuehlke, Gallery Manager

# Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

Your session with Prince Lobkowicz on 12 June and the time you might need to conclude a successful deal and then come safely to Prague has been on my mind.

So I have now arranged with the Museum Education Center to schedule your talk on "Rembrandt and the Jews" an hour later at what for them is the exceptionally late time of 1900. Do you think we are safe to go ahead?

Best wishes,

#### Yechiel

P.S. The American Ambassador to the Czech Republic Craig Stapleton would like to meet you on either Thursday or Friday, the 13th or the 14th (He is a former classmate of mine at Harvard but I don't think we know each other). Would you and Isabel agree to meet him? Do you have any time commitments then I don't know about (like with the Chemists)?

P.P.S. Well-stamped letter with the information about Herstmonceux and your photographs has arrived. Included is a letter from the Observatory Science Centre with bank details. Should I understand that you want the JOINT to send the \$15,000 you mentioned before to the Centre at the bank in London? Please confirm



Dear Yechiel.

Isabel and I returned from a tremendously busy two weeks in Israel yesterday and have not quite caught up with time yet. Hence, please do not mind that I will respond to you in bits and pieces.

First of all, I very much appreciate your suggestion of dedicating the Slovenian Hagada to my mother and great aunt, but please do not do this. They had no connection with Slovenia whatsoever and my memory of my grandmother's sister is really very blurred. Sometime something major might come up in the Czech Republic and that would be an occasion to dedicate that effort to Gisela Bader Reich. Please do understand. When next we meet I will show you my first Will, written in October 1949, and that will add to my explanation.

My talk on *Rembrandt and the Jews*, a talk better known as *The Bible Through Dutch Eyes*, at 7 PM on Wednesday, June 12th, will be fine. Actually, I may not have the meeting planned with Prince Lobkowicz after all, but I much prefer the talk at 7 PM than 6 PM.

I would like the Joint to send \$15,000 to the Observatory Science Centre but I would not like you to take that \$15,000 from my Abeyance Account in New York but rather have me send a separate check from here to New York as soon as I hear from you that you can transmit it.

At the moment I would not like to touch the Abeyance Account, which now is somewhere over \$800,000. I was disappointed to see from the last two statements that the amount has decreased every month, undoubtedly because of investment decisions. Hopefully that will not continue.

I would very much liked to have seen Fleur Hassan at the Joint in Jerusalem, but she was not there. I also would have so appreciated your help, but clearly neither of us can be in two places at the same time. We were able to make various gifts totaling \$367,000. Most of that was to help Arab/Israeli and Jewish/Israeli understanding, but only one check, for \$18,000, went to the Joint, for an organization called Ajeec which helps Bedouins.

If you are interested, I will happily send you a list of all the gifts.

Of course we would be happy to meet the American Ambassador. Generally we do not go out of our way to meet American Ambassadors who do not need our help. But if you think that such a meeting might be useful, fine. I do not know when the Symposium of Art Historians will be held on the Thursday and it might well be that the chemists will want to have lunch with us either on the 13th or the 14th. In either case, meeting the Ambassador mid-morning or mid-afternoon of either day would be fine.

With all good wishes and fond regards I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred,

Your session with Prince Lobkowicz on 12 June and the time you might need to conclude a successful deal and then come safely to Prague has been on my mind.



So I have now arranged with the Museum Education Center to schedule your talk on "Rembrandt and the Jews" an hour later at what for them is the exceptionally late time of 1900. Do you think we are safe to go ahead?

Best wishes,

### Yechiel

- P.S. The American Ambassador to the Czech Republic Craig Stapleton would like to meet you on either Thursday or Friday, the 13th or the 14th (He is a former classmate of mine at Harvard but I don't think we know each other). Would you and Isabel agree to meet him? Do you have any time commitments then I don't know about (like with the Chemists)?
- P.P.S. Well-stamped letter with the information about Herstmonceux and your photographs has arrived. Included is a letter from the Observatory Science Centre with bank details. Should I understand that you want the JOINT to send the \$15,000 you mentioned before to the Centre at the bank in London? Please confirm



### Dear Yechiel.

Isabel and I will arrive in England on Monday morning, May 20th, and then leave for Amsterdam on Thursday, May 23rd. Also, we will come back from Switzerland on June 23rd, but June 26th and 27th I am very busy because there is an auction on the 26th and one of our good friends, the President of Old Dominion University is coming to visit us on the 27th.

However, we will spend several days with you from June 12th until the 15th. Though those days will be busy, we should have time to chat.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred

# Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

Dear Alfred.

I am planning to come to England on 20-21 May. You and Isabel won't be there yet, will you? How about on 26-27 June; will you be back then?

Not so incidentally, others have heard of the projects that you are supporting, and they have asked to join in. Among the most recent additions to our network:

### Bosnia-Herzegovina

The French Government -- the outgoing one -- has granted \$24,500 to enable La Benevolencija to purchase a vehicle for the home visits of doctors and nurses in the Homecare program you support.

### Czech Republic

Thanks to the friend of a friend, a donation from an anonymous legacy in Belgium will go to Nadace Via to support the Roma Projects you are backing. The sum is not large--- $\varepsilon$ 2,500--- but the intentions are.

We are not the only ones placing our confidence in Nadace Via, moreover. As Tana Hlavata just wrote to  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{me}}$ 

Yesterday we were announced that a project of Nadace VIA won in a tender for 3,1 million dollars for the next three years!!!

It is a farewell investment into the Czech NGO sector from 5 private US foundations (Ford, Rockefeller, Soros, Mott, German Marshall Fund). The money should be used to develop three areas:

1. To contribute to a supportive legal, fiscal and political environment in which civil society can flourish;

2. To strengthen the nonprofit sector through institutional capacity building;

3. To enhance the long-term financial sustainability of key nonprofit organizations.

# Yugoslavia

The French Government has granted the sum of \$29,000 to purchase medicines for the free pharmacy we operate in Belgrade and which you supported with a special grant too. Last year more than 24,000 prescriptions were filled,



the vast majority to older persons whose government-paid pensions were just cut, local inflation to the contrary notwithstanding.

Hope you and Isabel are enjoying the spring.

Shalom,

Yechiel



Subject: Telephones, Trips, and the Loschmidt Professorship

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

**Date:** Fri, 17 May 2002 16:08:38 +0100

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred,

Glad to know your trip plans. If I need to reach you by phone in Brno and Prague, where can I reach you?

I am in Paris just between trips and so obliged to work (a little) even on a holiday. Just back from Croatia --- Dubrovnik, Split, and Zagreb --- and as you know supposed to come to London on Monday --- also to speak to WJR.

In response to your question I have not asked that the additional \$20,000 be sent to Masaryk University for the Loschmidt Professorship.

My understanding was that you had designated these funds to pay a salary. When you informed me already in March that Masaryk University had not found someone to fill the chair as yet, I understood that the grant would be on hold at least for the time being. Was I mistaken?

If I recall correctly, the University is also required by the terms of your agreement with them to send me a report on how they spent the first grant. Before turning to anyone there in this regard, however, I would like to receive your instructions.

Meanwhile the headlines here are of a Paris art thief who stole over the year \$1.4 billion dollars worth of Old Masters over the years and simply dumped them into the canal. --- Bruegel; Cranach..... No one understands.

Wishing you a safe trip on Sunday.

Warmest

regards to you and Isabel,

Yechiel





Dear Yechiel.

Thank you for your beautiful e-mail of today.

I read your e-mail of March 8th but frankly I have so much work piled up I simply have not been able to respond to everything paragraph by paragraph. Let me just say that I am truly happy with your work and that was one of the reasons why I doubled my contribution to the Fund.

I sent you a copy of an e-mail that I just received from my good friend, Vladimir Matous in Pardubice, who has been arranging our travel schedules in the Czech Republic for a number of years. In Prague we will be staying in a comfortable apartment in the Husova 18, right above the place exchanging money. Of course we never use that because I get a better rate of exchange at American Express.

We are not likely to arrive in Prague until fairly late on the afternoon of June 12th bat I would like to try very hard to persuade Prince Lobkowicz to sell us a very fine painting. Business is business.

Of course I will be happy to meet with the staff of the Nadace Via for an informal discussion on the 13th.

Also I will be happy to give that talk about the Messiah on the Friday evening.

Isabel and I are leaving from Chicago via El Al on Sunday, March 24th, and returning on April 9th. David and his family will spend Passover in Italy and Daniel is staying at home.

Two able second year students from the Masaryk University are now at Herstmonceux, to study English, history, etc. We met them a few days ago and both are doing very well. I sent you photographs along with the details of a Science Centre at Herstmonceux Castle which is doing excellent work indeed teaching hands-on physics to youngsters. I would like to ask the Joint to send them \$15,000 but before you do so I have to receive their response whether the cheque should be sent to Herstmonceux or to London.

We really look forward to our trip to Israel which includes two talks; one of these is at the Technion on the History of Aldrich and the other on The Bible Through Dutch Eyes in Jerusalem.

Have a good and safe Passover!

With fond regards, Alfred

Yechiel Bar Chaim wrote:

### Dear Alfred,

Welcome back from your holiday! If you read your mail like I do --- today's mail first and previous days only gradually --- you will also eventually find my e-mail from 8 March.

Thank you for letting me know your plans for Brno and scheduled arrival in Prague.



Wednesday the 12th we'll begin then with your lecture on "Rembrandt and the Jews." The fact that almost no one came the last time means to me that your potential audience is still intact and ready to be drawn in (let us hope). I will see what I can do about advance publicity. In my experience the public for lectures at the Center is unpredictable. (Mostly we have to hope that it doesn't rain) I know the Center has one screen and slide projector. Will see about borrowing a second set for the occasion.

I leave aside the idea of a visit to Terezin.

Instead of a formal talk about your philanthropic role, would you be prepared to sit down with the staff of Via Nadace for an informal discussion? If you like I could share some of the responsibility --- by presenting the principles distilled from your pattern of giving as we discussed in London? We could schedule such a session sometime during the day on the 13th depending on other elements in your schedule. Alfred, I find the representatives of Nadace Via remarkably sincere and capable, and I would like them to get to know you a little. Please let me know what you think.

Arrangements with the Chemists I leave to you for the 14th.

The congregation for Friday night, Beit Simcha, is actually a reform synagogue, the only one in Prague. The synagogue space is an underground vault restored in fact by the members themselves by their own volunteer labor. They do have an overhead projector for transparencies (I used them once to speak about soup kitchens for the Jews of Yugoslavia --- now Serbia and Montenegro). So if you agree, let's keep "A Jewish View of the Messiah" in the program.

Are you and Isabel all set as far as hotels and local transport are concerned? Is there anything I can do to help in this regard? When I am on my own I usually stay in a small Art Nouveau walk-up in the Center. There is also the modest but spacious apartment hotel near the Center belonging to the Community --- Hotel Ungelt --- to which I sometimes bring guests.

So you and Isabel are traveling to Israel to spend Pesach THIS YEAR in Jerusalem! Will your sons and their families be with you by any chance? Your description of the Seders in Vienna was for me one of the most evocative parts of your autobiography.

In the Balkans we've never organized so many communal Seders before. This year they are dotting the map from Split on the Dalmatian Coast to Skopje in the landlocked South and from Sarajevo (where its famous illuminated Haggada recently restored will again be on display) to Novi Sad in Vojvodina (Northern Serbia).

For the Seder in Ljubljana (Slovenia) a Chabad rabbi will come from Trieste. If it comes off the presses on time, the first Haggada ever published in Hebrew and Slovenian will be used for the occasion.

In the recently revived Jewish Community of Zrenjanin (Northern Serbia) a



middle-aged man whom JDC has been helping to study part-time at the Neologue Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest will lead the first communal Seder in many, many years.

In Paris we join a somewhat distantly related but still close family group together for the Seder including one cousin born in Tsarist Russia who now lives in England. Then during Chol Ha-Moed I hope to make a working swing through Ljubljana, Zagreb, Banja Luka, and Sarajevo. So the way I figure it, you and I should both be back in place at about the same time.

Hope you and Isabel have a safe trip and a wonderful Pesach.

Best regards,

Yechiel

- P.S. I didn't realize that students from the Czech Republic were attending programs at Herstmonceux Castle. An interesting interconnection. In what fields?
- P.P.S. If you agree, please send me one or more photos that could be used in an article about your forthcoming visit. The article would appear in a new Czech-language Jewish magazine in Prague that I have been encouraging in different ways.



Subject: A Short E-Mail

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

Date: Fri, 8 Mar 2002 10:38:38 -0000

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred,

## A New Gift

My NY colleagues have just informed me that you are making another substantial donation of stocks to the special Bader Philanthropic Fund at JDC. Can I say that my initial surprise at your generosity is now giving way to a deeper sense of appreciation? I think I begin to see what kind of man you are.

# 2. More HomeCare for Needy Elderly

Knowing that you wouldn't want to see anyone waiting for care, I am pleased to inform you that together with our partners we have been able to add another 80 non-Jewish poor, sick, lonely and elderly persons to the number of those receiving HomeCare in Sarajevo. The total now reaches 620 individuals. A donation from the Swiss Friends of La Benevolencija underwrote this expansion.

In addition, thanks to Holocaust compensation funds received from the Spanish Government through the Claims Conference we are now able to extend the program to include Jewish survivors in five outlying communities. And the French Government has also responded to our request and will apparently give as a one-time grant @ \$25,000 in Holocaust-related assistance to pay for the purchase and operation of a mini-van to serve the HomeCare Program in Sarajevo.

# 3 A Proposed Lecture in Prague

Concerning your June trip to the Czech Republic, Tana Hlavata would be delighted if you could give a lecture during the day on the 12th to members of the Via Nadace Board and Staff plus representatives of the Czech Donors Forum. She writes,

"The topic of the lecture could be e.g. personal experience of Dr. Bader in philanthropy, how and why he started to donate money, how he selects causes for support, individual philanthropy in the US"

Do vou accept?

### 4. Off to Macedonia

Due to leave Sunday for Macedonia and expect to concentrate there on how to use your donations to help Roma women and children and also internal refugees displaced by the recent fighting. The local Jewish Community, which marks the massive deportations of March 1943, is very definitely a part of these efforts.

My best regards to you and Isabel.

Shabbat Shalom,

Yechiel



### Yechiel

### UNQUOTE

P.S. If you have any comments on Yechiel's note above, please don't hesitate to respond to his usual email address.

I will forward your messages to him in Belgrade. Sincerely yours,

Germaine Keil, Assistant

1

----Original Message-----

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts [mailto:baderfa@execpc.com]

Sent: 16 April 2002 19:15 To: Yechiel Bar Chaim Subject: Prague visit

Dear Yechiel.

I attach Milena Bartlova's e-mail of April 15th. From that you will see that I will not be able to meet with the American Ambassador that Thursday morning. As I do not really know why I should meet him anyway, that may be no great loss.

I must talk to Professor Oldrich Paleta, with whom I had originally planned to have lunch that Thursday noon. I don't really think that I could fit that lunch in between the art historical lectures and so I have just sent a fax to Professor Paleta inquiring whether we could meet in our apartment in the Husova 18 for coffee fairly early on the Thursday or Friday morning.

We will never have had days in Prague quite so busy, and hope that we can manage all those talks and meetings.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely, Alfred

Dear Alfred.

the symposium of the Bader Scholars is to be held at the Educational Center of the Jewish Museum, on Thursday JUne 13th, 10-12,30 a.m. and 2-4,30 p.m. The precise timing will depend on the number of participants, the list is not complete yet.

According to the suggestion of Mr. Bar-Chaim, in the evening of the same day there should follow a dinner where you and Isabel could meet both the participants and the prominent Czech Baroque art historians.



Looking forward to seeing you in Prague, Milena

----Original Message----

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts [ mailto:baderfa@execpc.com ]

Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2002 9:58 PM

To: Milena Bartlova

Subject: Re: Bader Scholarship Symposium in PRague

Dear Milena,

Could you please tell us exactly when and where the Symposium will be?

Best wishes, Alfred

Milena Bartlova wrote:

Thanks & looking forward to seeing you again Milena

----Original Message----

From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts [ mailto:baderfa@execpc.com ]

Sent: Friday, February 15, 2002 5:48 PM

To: Milena Bartlova

Subject: Re: Bader Scholarship Symposium in PRague

Dear Milena,

Thank you for your e-mail.

We look forward to the symposium on June 13th and then meeting with you on Saturday afternoon or evening.

With all good wishes, Alfred

Milena Bartlova wrote:

Dear Alfred,
Mr. Bar-Chaim did not want the symposium held on
Friday because of the
Shabbat. Besides, Friday afternoon (June 14th)
and the next day morning
(Saturday 15th) there will be general elections
held in Czech Republic and
out-of-Prague participants might have problems
because they can vote only in
their home towns.
I personally will certainly meet you on
Saturday, just that the symposium
would be held without me.
Sincerely,
Milena



----Original Message---From: Alfred Bader Fine Arts
[mailto:baderfa@execpc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 8:36 PM
To: Milena Bartlova
Subject: Re: Bader Scholarship Symposium in PRague

Dear Milena,

The symposium on Thursday, June 13th, would of course be fine with us, but it would be much more pleasant if you could be there also. Hence, could it not be held on

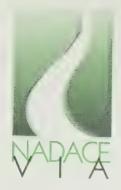
F rida y, June 14th? Or, would Saturday afternoon, the 15th, be possible?

With best regards, Alfred Bader

Milena Bartlova wrote:

Please, read the attached message
Milena Bartlová







Jelení 200/3 118 00 Praha 1 Czech Republic

tel.: +420 2 33 11 33 70 fax: +420 2 33 11 33 80

e-mail: via@nadacevia.cz www.nadacevia.cz

# **ROMA INITIATIVE 1998 - 2002**

A program made possible through the generous support of

Dr. and Mrs. Alfred and Isabel Bader



# A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The seriousness of the problem connected with the Roma community comes primarily from the fact that a significant portion of the Roma minority belongs to the lowest social level, with high unemployment (estimated at 70-90%, while total unemployment figures fluctuate between 7-9%), a low level of education, and, compared to the total population, a disproportionately high crime rate. In addition, the proportion of the Roma population is increasing, and this group has difficulty fitting into the social processes which are standard for the majority of Czceh society.

It must be noted however, that a substantial number of the Roma community remain unaffected by the positive social changes in Czech society; their standard of living and education level are generally far below average. This is partially due to their past history and their lack of prerequisites to adapt to the rapidly transforming economic and social conditions. They become frequent victims of racially motivated attacks and the majority population (including the police and judges) often consider racially motivated attacks simply brawls or personal fights. As a result of these problems, Roma lose confidence in the police and state authorities, often do not report attacks and sometimes even act on their own to take revenge. Instances where the Roma have been barred from entry into restaurants and other public areas are a clear example of racial discrimination. According to practical experience and results of public opinion polls majority of the Czech non-Roma population perceives the Roma minority in a global way, as a group of people with inclinations towards criminal acts, disinterest in education and in being legally employed, and unable to observe standard norms for living.

The social exclusion of the Roma minority in the Czech Republic continues to be a matter of concern to the European Union, the Government of the United States and many individuals both inside and outside of the Czech Republic.

Education level ramain low and Roma still make up some 70 % of children sent to special schools for the mentally handicapped; out of 100 preparatory schools set up in 1998 to prepare Roma children for mainstream primary schools, around a third are reported to have actually been set up in the schools for the mentally handicapped.

The EU Report on the situation of Roma minority in the Czech Republic concludes that "The greater attention paid by the government to the conditions of the Roma needs to be translated to comprehensive long-term policy to fight discrimination and social exclusion. This policy must be backed by adequate financial support and on implementation at the local level".

# **Focus**

This program supports projects focused on alleviating adverse social conditions of Roma families in specific communities. A research conducted by the Negotiation and Conflict Resolution Center in 2000 identified the following major issues both inside the Roma community as well as arising from the coexistence with the majority population:

- <u>Housing</u>: inadequate hygienic conditions, neglected homes and neighborhoods, due rent and services payments, small flats, obscure tenant contracts, problems in negotiating with owners/ a tendency among private as well as municipal building owners to evict Roma families, no place to go for families which have been moved out of their homes;
- <u>Unemployment</u>: much of the Roma community lack job skills and experiences to compete on the current job-market, thus often exhibiting low motivation and poor work ethics, which prevent the maintenance of an employment. As a result, the Roma community has become dependent on social benefits;



- <u>Social Isolation</u>: many Roma have experienced breakdowns in communicating with state institutions;
- <u>Social Pathology</u>: Roma communities are marked by a high incidence of gambling, drugs use, bullying in schools, usury, unofficial pawnshops, excessive noise, lack of unity, quarrels, and unhealthy competitiveness among neighbors; and
- <u>Citizenship</u>: the legislation in effect has disqualified much of the Roma community from receiving Czech citizenship and legalizing their residence in the Czech Republic.

Most of the issues mentioned above are systemic in nature and can be addressed only by combining large-scale state intervention with a case-by-case, community-based approach. Assistance to individual families in need is usually most effective when it is based on solid awareness of challenges in a given locality, and when it combines direct humanitarian assistance with advisory services and problem solving. This problem solving should actively engage concerned families and/or the Roma community in a manner that empowers all of its members and improves the interaction among all individual stakeholders. Another important prerequisite to solving these issues is the capacity of the assistance provider to earn the trust and respect of the Roma community and his or her capacity to teach the Roma community to negotiate with local authorities.

The long-term support of Dr. Bader of VIA's efforts to address these problems on a "bottom up" community level has been very important, since it reached concrete Roma families and helped them in their struggle towards decent living conditions. It serves as an excellent example of an individuals' donor long-term committment to address sensitive issue of racial discrimination in the Czech Republic.



# **ROMA INITIATIVE 1998 - 2002**

# A program made possible through the generous support of Dr. and Mrs. Alfred and Isabel Bader

# TABLE OF GRANTS AWARDED IN 1998

Grantee	Grant Amount (in CZK)	
The New School Foundation, Prague	52 ,500	
The P. Pitter Elementary School, Ostrava	193,000	
Starting Together, Plzeň	75,000	
Children of the Earth, Děčín	50,000	
Together-Jekhetane, Ostrava	100,000	
Salesian Center for Youth, Ostrava	25,000	
IQ Roma Servis, Brno	22,500	
The "Hurrah, A Friend" Club, Pardubice	30,000	
The Havličkovo Square School, Prague	139,000	
TOTAL AWARDED IN GRANTS	548,139 CZK	

# **Summaries of Awarded Projects**

# The New School Foundation, Prague

# The Project: Pedagogical Certification Course for Roma Assistant Teachers

The purpose of the grant is to help finance a pedagogical minimum course (PMC) for Roma assistant teachers. The New School Foundation has received accreditation from the Ministry of Education of the Czech Republic to provide these training courses to professionals who wish to expand their knowledge of this field. Upon successfully completing both parts of the course, the assistants receive official certification that permits them to work in the classroom as an official assistant teacher. These assistants help to facilitate the educational process for Roma children and, when necessary, mediate contacts with childrens' families.

The first part of the PMC took place in Ostrava from April 20. - 24, 1998. In this section, 35 Roma assistant teachers were introduced to a variety of subjects, including pedagogy, psychology and teaching techniques, Roma history and language and communication skills. The second part of the course was held in Prague from October 4 - 10, 1998 and was attended by 41 Roma assistant teachers. As a result of the courses, 32 of the Roma assistant teachers that took part in the course have been employed in elementary schools throughout the Czech Republic.



# P. Pitter Elementary School, Ostrava

# The Project: Social Work in School

The aim of the project is to continue implementing a model approach to classes with a majority of Roma children. This not-for-profit, private school is the leader in designing and implementing effective ways of bridging gaps between children coming from socially and economically disadvantaged Roma families and children from the majority population through the operation of a Roma community Center. The school employs six pedagogical and social assistants who work very closely with the families of the Roma children. Their role is to create an educationally supportive milieu within the family context and prevent a loss of confidence and motivation among these children due to their initial difficulties in school. Social assistants also aid Roma families in orientating themselves in the complex state social security system and with regards to various legal issues as well as mediate contacts between the Roma population and the state agencies.

The grant covered the salaries and benefits of six assistants from September through June 1999. In addition to working with school children during the day, these assistants began running a series of three new courses for Roma adults, a course on literacy (2 hours a week for 10 participants), a course on social orientation (how to write requests, fill out forms, banking slips, etc.) and a practical courses for unemployed Roma mothers.

# Starting Together, Plzeň

# The Project: Center for Family

The aim of the project is primary prevention of criminality in a socially and ethnically mixed section of Pilsen. In the early 1990s, several Roma families were moved from the city center into this low-income housing project. Which offered very limited possibilities for leisure-time activities for children. A team of volunteers recruited from among the families of the children, teachers from a local school, and trained street-workers started a community center with the methodological guidance of the Lets Start Together civic association. They adapted eight basement rooms in the house to serve as a club room, gym, and workshops which offer educational programs for mothers with preschool children, and children attending elementary school. The Center also serves as a site for regular, *pro bono* consultations with a psychologist and provides counseling and crisis intervention services to the local Roma community.

The Center was officially opened in March 1998 At present, the Center is fully operational, offers eight afternoon programs of different types for various age groups and has organized several trips for children to the mountains, to Prague and to other places of interest. The Center cooperates with other NGOs in Pilsen and has succeeded in presenting its activities in the local press, on the radio and at an NGO fair held in the City Hall. Its operating costs are supported by Open Society Fund.

# Children of the Earth, Děčín

# The Project: The Radost (Happiness) Club

The target audience of this project are abandoned Roma children from the local state children's home. Its principal goal is to integrate these children into the local community through various programs that brings them together with children from the local school and children from a local home for the mentally handicapped. These programs also give children from functional families insight into the less fortunate life of some of their peers and offers them a *practical* and *positively oriented* opportunity to interact with Roma children. Such an experience is very important in breaking down prejudices and building mutual tolerance among these children. The club organizes regular weekend activities such as workshops in applied arts and environmental education, trips to social events in the neighborhood, etc. The association organized nine weekends for children with a rich program, including sport contests, barbecues, historical fencing, a traditional two-day music and theatre festival called Olešská Kramle and aimed at the integration of marginalized groups into society, archeological excavations for older



children, participation in the country-wide Week for Mental Health, a weekend devoted to a reconstruction of the Castle of Tolštejn, a contest for the most inventive drawing of alternative traffic means on the occasion of a national "Day Without Cars" event. All these activities were realized in cooperation with the local children's home, the elementary school in Povrly and the home for mentally handicapped children. Part of the project was also supported by another of Nadace VIA's grant programs, the UNDP-funded "Support for Local Initiatives" program.

# "Together" in the Czech and Roma languages, Ostrava

The Project: The "Star" Center for Community Prevention

The aim of the project is to provide a program of leisure-time and educational activities to ca. 40 children from disadvantaged Roma families in the industrial city of Ostrava. This civic association was established to promote new trends in education of children from minority groups, to cooperate and exchange information with governmental and non-governmental institutions dealing with similar topics, to initiate and support common cultural activities between Roma and non-Roma groups and to help Roma children and adults to obtain full elementary, secondary and/or higher education.

Since its establishment in February 1998, the association has succeeded in opening and running an asylum home for Roma school children in distress and an information and educational center for adults. To date, the Center has organized lectures in Roma studies for representatives of district Offices of Labor and Social Services, the police and teachers. Members of the association are also engaged in helping Roma students to prepare for high school entrance exams and to overcome their initial learning difficulties at school. It is led by experienced group of people affiliated with the P. Pitter School. The project is supported also by the Open Society Fund and the British Embassy.

## Salesian Center for Youth, Ostrava

The Project: Education Towards Tolerance and Against Racism

The aim of the project is to provide leisure time opportunities for youth-at-risk from socially marginalized Roma and non-Roma families and to assist adolescents in achieving better results at school. The Center organizes various afternoon sporting activities (including 3 football teams, 4 teams of table tennis, floorball, bicycling, skiing, swimming, hiking) and cultural activities (including a children's choir, 5 music groups, music lessons, photography, and painting). Evening activities consist of film and video projections, music and dance programs, lectures for youth on drug, alcoholism, gambling prevention and training seminars for volunteers from the Pedagogical Faculty (of the University of Ostrava) in effective peer program methods. In cooperation with students from the Ostrava Bishops High School, the Center organizes weekend and summer holiday programs during which the students are given practical experience with social work.

The Center has organized a series of one week summer trips for both Roma and non-Roma soccer players, for cyclists, table tennis players, and four short-term camps focusing on hiking, theatre activities, and the restoration of historical monuments. Students from a high school and Teachers University also participated in these programs which offered them a unique opportunity to obtain practical experience working with children.

# IQ Roma Service Civic Association, Brno

The Project: Spreading Multicultural Approaches and Tolerance Among Youth

The aim of the project is to spread understanding of multiculturalism and tolerance among elementary and high school students in twelve schools in Brno. The project involves various steps, training a pool of volunteers, contacting schools, and providing lectures on the subject. The children will first be asked to prepare essays on these subjects and answer questions, such as, What is your opinion of other races and minorities? and Have you had any personal contacts with members of other racial groups?



Based on these essays, a classroom discussion will be held, to be followed up by a lecture by specially trained volunteers (usually one white Czech and a representative of a minority group). During these lectures, the representative of the minority group will give his/her perspective on the issue of race and minorities. These essays and seminars will then be evaluated to gain information about the state of children's understanding of these topics. This model was successfully tested in Prague by another organization in 1997.

The IQ Service civic association has completed training of its pool of volunteers and has consulted with the Prague-based organization that implemented a similar program in 1997. At present, the first schools are being contacted to organize the essay component and the lectures.

# The "Hurrah, A Friend" Club, Pardubice

#### The Project: Activities of the Roma Center

The Hurrah, a Friend civic association assists a local Roma Center by helping them identify sources of funding and placing volunteers to run its various programs. The Center offers leisure-time activities for children aged 4 to 15 daily from 2 to 6 pm. The volunteers, among other things, organize courses in areas like music, dance, theater, as well as tutoring programs and drug and alcohol prevention programs. The Center is often the only place where Pardubice youth can go in times of crisis, and has assisted many in resolving difficult family and life situations.

The volunteers have organized four weekend stays for 20 children and two public meetings on the topic "The Roma: Our Neighbors and Friends". Unfortunately, these meetings only served to demonstrate the extent of the problem, because they were attended only by those who have no problems of co-existence with the local Roma population. The Center also showed the film "Gypsies Go to Heaven" twice and these events were well attended by both Roma and non-Roma youth.

# The Havličkovo Square School, Prague

### The Project: Establishment of a Special Class for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

The task of this special class – taught by specially trained primary school teachers - is to offer help not only to children with specific learning disabilities, but also to those with learning difficulties who need special support. It is intended to resolve the problems faced by these children through individualized attention, with the goal of returning them to regular classes within a limited period of time. In many cases it prevents serious cases of failure and early departure from school, especially among Roma children.

The project began in September 1998 with the hiring of a special teacher who works individually with approximately 15 children (divided into groups of 2 to 3 children) in the morning and with parents of these children and other teachers in the afternoon. The initial results of this work appear to be positive and will be assessed in more detail in the final report. The school has also secured matching funds in the amount of 139,000 Kc for the project from the District Office of Education.

Financial reports for the projects were part of the reports and, to date, there appear to be no problems with the use of funds among grantees.



## **ROMA INITIATIVE 1999**

### **TABLE OF GRANTS AWARDED IN 1999**

Grantee	Grant Amount (in CZK)
Civic Association of Roma Citizens, Lysá nad Labem	110 000
Czech Association for Nature Preservation, Prague 3	83 000
Romano Jílo, Chomutov	30 000
Roudnice Parish Charity	50 000
Center for Foster Family Care	140 000
Dotyk Civic Association	100 000
Association for Development of Roma Youth	57 000
Arch-Diocesean Charity of Olomouc	80 000
Regional Charity of Český Těšín	100 000
Assistance Center for Endangered Children, Kladno	150 000
Let's Start Together Civic Association, Broumov	50 000
Drom-cesta Civic Association, Český Krumlov	70 000
The Crossroads Foundation, Brno	25 000
The New School Foundation, Prague	150 000
Mutual Coexistence Civic Foundation, Ostrava-Poruba	65 000
Live Hope Civic Association, Ostrava 1	120 000
Secondary Health School, Karviná	15 000
TOTAL AWARDED IN GRANTS	1,395,000 CZK

## **Summaries of Awarded Projects**

# Civic Association of Roma Citizens, Lysá nad Labem, Milovice

## The Project: "Active approach to life" education center

The civic association formed in 1998 and helps support and develop pedagogical-psychological education methods directed at improving Roma children's potential to succeed when they enter grammar school. The association also offers leisure time activities for children, mothers, families with children, and families with social problems. The association opened a club in space it received from the Municipality of Lysá nad Labem and runs various activities for children, adults, and families with children there. Activities include special hobby groups, cultural and sporting events, children's co-ed summer camps, and local history excursions on various themes as well as activities for adults including social get-togethers, legal and social advisory services, and education courses such as child rearing, handiwork, sewing, and cooking.

On February 24 the association opened newly reconstructed space for a children's club. The festive opening served as an occassion for inviting members of the local government, parish, local teachers and the District Office consultant for Roma issues. The association prepared a series of educational activities for children, youth and adults. It also plans to open a Roma Community Center in the nearby town of Nymburk. During the grant period the educational center organized discussions with the Police and Roma youth on drugs and criminality and run regular courses in arts, dancing and music and domestic works for girls. Local childrens'dancing group Khosnoro attended three folk festivals in the Central Bohemian Region. The center also serves as a Roma civic advice bureau on social and employment problems, gives courses in computer work and prepares a summer camp for children.



## Czech Association for Nature Preservation, Prague 3

The Project: Wandering with King Miroslav

The project goal is to create conditions that will lead to co-operation between children from various ethnic, social, and interest groups and to break down social barriers by giving such children the opportunity to get to know and learn about one another. The leadership of the young nature preservationist group of Prague 9 - Klánovic and the Division for Prevention of Social Problems of the Prague West District Authority work together to systematically help Roma children from these areas and jointly hold weekend socio-therapeutic events for Roma children from the Prague West District and members of the children's division of the nature preservationist group.

Children (mainly from a Roma community in Libčice) spent ten days in an ecological summer school in Moravia where they could try out traditional crafts. During holidays several children received extra courses in mathematics to be able to pass to the higher class. The organizers also secured a high school stipend for a talented Roma student from a poor social background. Since the beginning of the school year the association organized numerous weekend trips and coordinated its educational and leisure time activities with the Prague-West District Office. Their activities received local media coverage.

# Romano Jílo, Chomutov

The Project: History and special characteristics of the Roma ethnicity

The project goal is to hold professional lectures on themes relating to the history and special characteristics of the Roma ethnicity for government and Chomutov District Authority employees, representatives of non-profit organizations that address Roma issues, the Roma public (Roma activists, school assistants, representatives of Roma civic associations) and Roma advisors in Northern Bohemia. The lectures are held once a month (12 lectures in all) and are specially designed for each target group. The organization requested postponing the implementation of the funded project (courses in Roma history for local state administration, elected government people and NGOs dealing with Roma issues) due to a prolongation of their work on experimental monitoring of Roma community in the district of Chomutov (number of Roma, age structure, number of children attending special schools for mentally retarded, number of unemployed, Roma families housing conditions, etc.). The project (all 12 lectures) was completed a year later.

# Roudnice nad Labem Parish Charity

The Project: Incorporating Roma citizens into our society

The parish charity in Roudnice nad Labem has been working with the local Roma community for a number of years. The charity established a club and day care center for Roma children that runs various programs for children and their parents. Activities include tutoring, hobby clubs, a morning pre-school with an emphasis on improving Czech language skills prior to beginning grammar school, etc. The charity's activities have been well received by the Roma public, which has involved itself in organizing joint cultural, sporting, and social events.

The club offering Roma children leisure time activities and aid in preparation for school classes continues its regular work. It is contributing to preventing conflicts between the majority and minority population in Roudnice and the work of Charita receives support from the local government. However, their approach to Roma children does not give much space for their natural temperaments or wishes. It

seems that the programs are done "for them", not "with them".



## Center for Foster Family Care

## The Project: Placement of abandoned Roma children into Roma families

The association works on placing orphan children into foster families. Sixty percent of those living in children's homes today are Roma children that cannot be raised by their own families. These children are disadvantaged during placement into foster families in the Czech Republic because of their origin and despite interest shown by potential adoptive parents from other countries, existing legislation does not allow them to be adopted by foreign families. The project goal is to map the current situation and address potential foster and adoptive parents from Roma or enlightened non-Roma families with the help of 15 to 20 Roma assistants trained in social work in Roma communities.

In November 1999 the organization held the first seminar in which the project was introduced to 42 Roma assistants out of which 14 agreed with active cooperation. The seminar informed about legal aspects of foster family care, difficulties with placing Roma children, experience with Roma children in white families, and inquired into Roma attitudes and possibilities for foster family care. Recently the organization held a second seminar for state social workers in charge of foster family care. The aim of the seminar was to reach an agreement that the situation of Roma families wishing to receive a child would be evaluated individually, on case by case basis, instead of applying generally strict criteria on family social status. In the course of the project, three Roma children were placed with white families and assistance is provided to two Roma families ready to receive Roma children.

## Dotyk Civic Association, Mladá Boleslav

### The Project: Roma center in Mladá Boleslav

The Dotyk civic association is in its second year of running a Roma club in the Congregation of the Czech Unity of Brethen's facility in Mladá Boleslav. The Congregation is the only organization in this city that works with Roma youth on a professional level. Currently the Congregation hopes to complete construction and furnishing of a permanent center in which children and youth from two separate ethnic groups would meet under the guidance of a professional staff person and volunteers who will implement a program of special interest and educational activities.

The Roma Center continues to organize its activities consisting in bi-weekly arts club, girls club and once a week music, drama and dance club. Besides these regular activities the children were taken for weekend trips to various events every month, participated in Christmas and Easter performances and exhibited results of their works in the arts club. Number of children attending the center increased from 30 to 50 during the grant period.

## Association for Development of Roma Youth

#### The Project: Culture and leisure time

The association runs hobby groups for a group of 17 children with social problems from the Dubická Special Needs School in Česká Lípa. The children come from families that were moved into low-standard apartments and their social setting is very problematic. These children have already become involved in an artistic club led by Mr. Kraus, an artist. This fall the association and the municipal authority will hold exhibits and compile a catalog of the club's work. The association also offers other programs such as dancing and singing groups, trips to the theater and cinema, and swimming.

The first installment was used for purchasing sports equipment and music instruments for a group of 17 children aged 4-15 years who come from extremely socially disadvantaged families. The association is run by a Roma assistant who regularly visits the families and tries to persuade them to allow their children to enroll in vocational schools. The arts group is led by a professional sculpturer who organized an exhibition and issued a catalogue of childrens works. The approach to children is very individualistic, children in the club gain support and understanding which helps them to



overcome their problems in a relatively hostile atmosphere of their school. Workers of the association often interact with the school to motivate both the teachers and the children in better communication.

# Archdiocese Charity of Olomouc

## The Project: Small community center in central Olomouc

The small community center in central Olomouc has tied into the work of the Khamoro pre-school. It is expanding the activities offered by the pre-school and works with entire families in their natural home environments. It maps families' social situations and tries to find appropriate means of helping them in areas such as housing, employment, dealing with administrative requirements, etc. The center prepares educational and leisure time activities for children with the help of eight university student volunteers that work with the children. The center has developed positive personal contacts and relationships with Roma families, which helps to integrate these families into society.

The organization was urged to submit verbal interim report with relevant accounting. The accounting, showed that the money was used to take the children to the theatre, swimming pool, cinema and whole-day trips and to buy school and leisure time equipment. \$ 260 were spent for a salary of a coordinator in charge of organizing university students volunteers who work with the children, their families and help with providing advice on social issues of the Roma families.

# Český Těšín Regional Charity

### The Project: "Roklusák" Roma sport and culture club

On the request of the city council, the Český Těšín Regional Charity established a crime prevention facility that the Ministry of the Interior of the CR evaluated as one of the best in the CR. The facility sought out and contacted Roma family, children, and youth with the help of social workers in the field and motivated them to become involved in the club's sport and leisure time activities. The Roklusák Roma sport and culture club is founded on respect towards the Romas' ethnic distinctness and nurturing tolerance between different ethnic groups. The project directly serves 50 active club members and approximately another 100 people who participate in individual events. The club addresses the issue of finding appropriate leisure time activities for local Roma youth who are threatened by unemployment, drugs, and so on. The club organized a local Roma soccer team and special interest activities are gradually expanding into other sports and opportunities to participate in dance and musical groups.

Project was terminated and the second installment of \$ 1,315 witheld due to unclear legal and personal changes in the organization. The accounting received does not comply with the planned project activities, however, it provides evidence that it was used for regular leisure time activities carried out by the Charity and for the benefit of Roma children. The sports part of activities which was under the auspices of Roma themselves, never took place. Reports were submitted after numerous interventions from the VIA Foundation.

# Assistance Center for Threatened Children, Kladno

## The Project: Care for ethnically disadvantaged children

The project goal is to identify Roma families with pre-school age children and stimulate them through home visits by a consultant. An individual plan will be prepared for each child with the help of a psychologist, a special pedagogue, and a home consultant who will visit the family once a week. The consultant will try to offer the parents appropriate activities to enhance their child's overall personality development and direct them towards enrolling their children in pre-school. The Center currently works with 25 to 30 families that live on the outskirts of Kladno or in low-standard apratments and also intensively assists a group of 12 children.



The Center identified 15 new children from 8 families for individual assistance during the grant period. At the present the Center provides aid to 15 families and intensively works with 26 children. Each child obtains individual learning plan and an assistant—who regularly visits the family and supervises the children. The Association also provides a room for children who have no conditions for learning in their homes. In September the town of Kladno will provide the Center with new and larger space for its activities. Volunteers of the Center also devote their time to 16 pre-school children from problematic families.

# Let's Start Together Civic Association, Broumov

### The Project: Broumov community center

The project goal is to create a community center in Broumov that will serve to involve entire Roma families in a variety of activities focused on addressing unemployment, requalification, and quality leisure time activities for Roma children and youth. These activities will evolve from the Romas' lifestyle, value system, and will to retain their own identity. The community center will offer a daily program and will enable Roma children, youth, and adults to become involved in sport, educational, practical, and cultural activities.

The organization succeeded in securing all the necessary funding for a complex project involving reconstruction of a building half a year later than they planned. At the present reconstructions of an old restaurant into a community center are under way, most of it being done on a voluntary basis. The grant from Roma Initiative was originally allocated for buying two computers to start computer classes for children in the new center. Due to the delay in finishing the new premises, the organization bought only one computer and asked for change in the budget, which was accepted, to be able to match the grant from OSF for purchasing music instruments for a local Roma music band. The computer is used both for the organization and by the children. History and results of the Let's Start Together rank them among model indigenous Roma organizations. Our visit in Broumov and repeated contacts gave evidence of their growing professionalism

# Drom-cesta Civic Association, Český Krumlov

#### The Project: Requalification for young Romas

The project is oriented towards young, unemployed Romas ages twenty and younger. Fifteen youth were identified in Český Krumlov that are interested in a 34-week requalification course. The participants will first be familiarized with individual professions, work sites, and work norms and regulations through excursions and social events. Each participant will then choose the profession which most interested him/her and for which he/she has an appropriate background. Each week participants will attend one day of theoretical education and four days of practical training at a work site. The parents of the young Romas will be invited to attend the first sessions of the course to help ensure that their children attend regularly and complete their theoretical assignments and work site tasks.

The organization received the first installment of \$ 920 to their account at the Moravia Bank. Several weeks later the Bank went under the National Bank supervision to prevent bancrupcy. The money has been frozen and the organization will receive only 85% of the original sum. Meanwhile, the project was financed and realized by the District Office and in June first 10 Roma young people passed requalification exams. Further use of the Roma Initiative grant will be negotiated after we receive copies of the Bank docummentation and additional information about possible use of the grant money for the same purpose.



## The Crossroads Foundation, Brno

### The Project: Together

The project aims to support tolerance and to fight against xenophobia and racism. The Foundation will hold two roundtable discussions in fall 1999 and spring 2000 on the theme of how minorities and the majority population can live together without conflict. Representatives of the Brno city council, authorities of Brno city districts, non-profit organizations, the Brno Chamber of Commerce, grammar and high schools, and the media will attend the roundtables. The Foundation is also organizing two performances of 8 to 10 grammar and high school groups whose preparation is being guided by JAMU (Drama University) students.

In April the foundation organized one round table on Roma issues in Brno, a two day festival of ethnic Roma music combined with school choirs and dance troups and a special session on which the Brno Roma Museum introduced their unique tape collection documenting vanishing Vlax (Olah) songs. During the festival four workshops (drama, dance, music, visual arts) led by Academy of Arts students were held. The event was attended by over 100 Roma and non-Roma people. Festival will be repeated in Autumn.

## The New School Foundation, Prague

### The Project: Supplemental education for Roma pedagogical assistants

The project addresses supplemental education for Roma pedagogical assistants through a one-year correspondence course for 15 to 20 participants. The course will consist of 14 lecture and consultation days and will conclude with an exam and a thesis. The course's content and scope is in accordance with the MŠMT accreditation for supplemental education for pedagogical assistants. Project partners include the Evangelic Academy – Secondary Social-Legal Professional School and the Secondary Social Work School in the Prague 4 District. This educational project will serve as a pilot project for institutionalized degree-oriented secondary school education for Roma pedagogical assistants and as a model project for educating pedagogical assistants from other ethnic minorities.

In August and September 1999 preparatory phase of the project was started by hiring lecturers and supervisors, defining optimum content of seminars and logistics with partner organization — the Evangelic Academy of Prague. Within the following months the students received altogether 24 hours of lectures, 12 hours of practical training with supervision in selected schools with a progressive approach to Roma children education and a list of titles for individual study plan. The courses were attended by 20 participants out of which four did not finish the curiculum. However, additional four participants were included after going through individual training with the teachers and supervisors.

## Mutual Coexistence Civic Association, Ostrava-Poruba

## The Project: Support of leisure time activities for children from Liščina and Zárubek

The project seeks to secure quality leisure time activities for children from families that were moved from Ostrava into temporary housing units in Liščina and Zárubek after the floods of 1997. Activities will include all-day trips, excursions, and the opportunity to join in a dance and musical group. In addition the association along with Ostrava university students helps the children with tutoring and preparation for entrance exams, holds integrated swimming sessions for handicapped Roma children, runs the Mušketýr riding group, etc. The association has already succeeded in helping three children transfer from the special needs school to a regular grammar school and tries to organize opportunities for Roma and non-Roma people to meet in unofficial, relaxed settings.

The association works with Roma children and families who were moved to very poor conditions of temporary housing after the floods in 1997 and remained there since. The community was joined by an Indian man living in the Czech Republic, Mr. Kumar Vishwanathan, who devoted all his time to social work with the families. His charismatic personality and approach prevented many conflicts and gained support of numerous volunteers, mainly students, who help in organizing various activities and advocate for the Roma at relevant institutions. By the end of 1999, besides their regular work, the



association organized over 16 full day trips for children and serves as a model example of continual good work with and for the Roma minority.

## Live Hope Civic Association, Ostrava District 1

The Project: Integrated care for the Roma population with active participation of Roma families

The City of Ostrava granted the association rent-free use of a building that was repaired using funds from the Ministry of the Interior of the CR. The association is now establishing a club for children and youth there. The club currently operates in an alternate building and runs morning and afternoon groups for pre-school and school children with the help of parents and Roma students that work as volunteers. The club also has a speech therapist, a psychologist, and a social field worker who is available to advise parents. The club offers tutoring, English language lessons, and special interest groups including art, music, dance, film, and cultural event groups. The goal of the association's work is to lead children to be responsible and to enjoy their work as a way of decreasing situations that lead to socially pathological behavior.

After numerous phone calls urging the interim report we received very general description of the project achievements on September 28, without accounting documents. Although the clippings from the local press give evidence that the organization works with local Roma community quite intensively, the project manager seems to be rather problematic.

## Secondary Health School, Karviná

The Project: Secondary Health School student participation in the International Competition

The project enables Secondary Health School student from Karvina to participate in the International Competition in Philadelphia where she will present her term project – promoting secondary school education among Roma youth.

## **ROMA INITIATIVE 2000**

### TABLE OF GRANTS AWARDED IN 2000

Grantee	Grant Amount (in CZK)
The Association of Roma Citizens, Lysá nad Labem	76,000 Kč
The R-Mosty Civic Association	36,000 Kč
The Protestant Church Parish in Nové Město pod Smrkem	109,350 Kč
The Church Charity in Rumburk	50,000 Kč
The Roztoč Parent Association	75,250 Kč
Etnikum – Association for Assistance to Minorities	100,000 Kč
Naděje (The Hope), Česká Třebová	18,900 Kč
The "Start Together" Association, Plzeň	75,000 Kč
District Charity Jihlava	96,122 Kč
The "Start Together" Association, Broumov	100,000 Kč
The Child and the Horse Association, Kutná Hora	100,000 Kč
The Salvator Charity Home in Krnov	70,000 Kč
The "Mutual Coexistence" Association, Ostrava	150,000 Kč
Emauzy, Rychnov nad Kněžnou	150,000 Kč
Vudud, Prague	150,000 Kč
Charity Roma Kindergarden, Olomouc	100,000 Kč
Local Charity, Třebíč	145,000 Kč
TOTAL AWARDED IN GRANTS	1,795,772 CZK



## **Summaries of Awarded Projects**

## The Association of Roma Citizens Lysá nad Labem, Milovice

The Project: The "Active Approach to Life" Educational Center

The project is the continuation of a project which was awarded a grant in 1999. The project aims to broaden the activities of a fully functioning education center which, during the two years of its existence, was able to implement and fund all its projects. The main goal of the project is to work with children who are to begin their primary school studies, help schoolchildren at school as well as during afternoon activities (the association received funds from the Czech Ministry of Education to pay art classes for interested children), help children, their mothers and whole families to better use their leisure time and to support socially disadvantaged families. The center offers cultural and music classes as well as sports; it organizes sightseeing tours in the Czech Republic, summer camps for Roma and non-Roma children, lectures for adolescents and adults, training courses, social and legal counseling etc. At present about 50 children and 80 adults participate in the center's activities. Grassroot members have meetings every three months, the executive committee meets once a month. The Association of Roma Citizens in Lysá nad Labem was founded in 1998. It leased space from the local government to start the educational center. The reconstruction was carried out by volunteers and funded by the Know How Fund (Great Britain) and Mr. Horváth, a Roma businessman. After two years more space was added, so there is now room for seminars for adults as well. The association hired a Roma coordinator. The association plans to turn some of the space into showers and a background for socially disadvantaged families; it is now installing facilities for cooking courses to be offered to young girls and mothers. The association also takes part in public works together with local councils in Lysá nad Labem and Milovice.

## The R-Mosty Civic Association

The project: Summer Camp for Children from the Roma Center

The project aims to organize a summer camp for children as the culmination of a full year of work with children and adolescents at the Prague 5 Roma Center. It offers children an alternative to spending their leisure time in the nature and stresses education and health. As far as sports are concerned, the aim of the project is to teach the children swimming.

The R-Mosty Civic Association was founded in 1992. Its members comprise professionals who are experienced in dealing with Roma issues. Since 1993 the association carried out activities aimed at eliminating tension between the white majority and the Roma minority, promoting education and leisure time activities of both the children and the adults. In 1994, within the Co-existence Project, a Roma center was founded in Prague 5, which became the center of various activities, a place open for discussions and the exchange of experience between those who wish to contribute to the frictionless coexistence between the two groups. The R-Mosty Civic Association has implemented the following projects and programs: "Co-existence of White Majority and Roma Minority in Prague 5 and 13", "Promoting Tolerance and Fighting Racism among the Prague Schoolchildren", "Analyzing the Roots, Current Situation and Possible Solutions of the Problems of the Matiční Street Inhabitants" and a "Roma Center" hosting a Club of Street Children and an Educational and Integration Program.

# The Protestant Church Parish in Nové Město pod Smrkem

The project: Roma Community Center in Nové Město pod Smrkem

The project is a follow-up to the Roma community centers implemented by the "People in Need" association. The project focuses on the work of a streetworker for the Roma community in Nové Město pod Smrkem. The streetworker has been working there since 1999 and his main task is to try to solve common social problems in Roma families such as the drug addiction of children and the youth,



unemployment, distribution of social benefits etc. A new part of the project aims to involve the Roma population in solving their own problems and cooperating with them in these activities. Another important part of the project represents the cooperation with other organizations in providing leisure time programs for children. A Roma children folk group was founded, together with local primary schools, which can be seen performing during cultural events and holidays. The long-term goal of the project is to develop an independent and well-functioning Roma community in the town.

The Protestant Church Parish in Nové Město pod Smrkem provides programs in the social field in response to current, concrete needs of socially disadvantaged citizens and disabled people. It also tries to fight prejudices between the Roma and non-Roma populations in the North of the Czech Republic.

# The Church Charity in Rumburk

## The project: Living Together

About the project: The town of Rumburk lies at the border with Germany. At present the town has a high degree of unemployment, which especially affects the Roma population. There are many socially disadvantaged families; many children attend special schools for retarded and socially disadvantaged children. There are not enough vocational training centers for those leaving these special schools as well as ordinary basic schools and many families cannot afford to pay for commuting to schools in neighbor towns. Thus children and youngsters end up in the streets without further perspective.

The project aims at creating a center for troubled Roma adolescents who are unemployed and living in the streets. The center shall help its clients in the following ways:

1. Counseling and crime prevention - social workers shall help their clients deal with public authorities, find jobs (there has been an agreement with the local council concerning cooperation on public works); the center shall organize lectures on motherhood, family life, AIDS, drugs etc.

2. Organizing leisure and sport activities as well as trips. An important aspect of the project is the need to encourage the children and adolescents to participate actively in the programs and to be self-reliant in their activities.

In February 2000 the Church Charity in Rumburk started to implement the project focused on troubled adolescents, especially the Roma ones. 90% of Roma and 10% of non-Roma population represents the customers of the center. The center targets especially troubled 14-18 year old youngsters, but younger children take part in the center's activities as well. In addition, cooperation has been established with their families.

# The Roztoč Parent Association

### The project: Kolotoč (Merry-Go-Round)

The project aims at integrating Roma children from Libčice nad Vltavou into the activities of the association. Last year the association was regularly taking Roma children for weekend activities. Good relations and cooperation with their families have been established as well as friendship between Roma and non-Roma children. Cooperation has also been established with the Manuša Roma Association and a Roma assistant from Libčice nad Vltavou who participate in the project. The project shall build on acquired experience and, led by Roma school assistants, it shall offer new leisure activities promoting Roma culture, customs and history. (These activities shall include: art, drama, wire - art, ceramics, music, dance, cooking and clothes making). These one-day weekend activities shall take place in Libčice, information shall be spread among the general public and these mutual contacts (e.g. over common meals) should help to improve communication between the majority and minority populations.

The Roztoč Parent Association focuses on educating children especially in their leisure time. The association organizes theatre performances with and for pre-school and schoolchildren and tries to bring back folk traditions related to the region. It offers the possibility of informal meetings of teachers, parents and their children.



# Etnikum - civic association for the assistance to minorities, Č. Budějovice

The project: Bringing up a New Young Generation

The project aims at offering leisure time activities to socially disadvantaged Roma children and adolescents even during weekends and school vacations. The project targets children of various age groups and their parents who shall take part in these activities. Parents receive information concerning their children activities, workers of the association visit families, confidence and friendship is established. Children can choose from music, dance or art classes or a hiking group, they can learn how to use the computer, typing machine or how to sew or cook. They are taught the basics of financial management, child caring, or can play the flute, guitar and organ. Classes to catch up with school curriculum are offered too under the tutoring of an experienced teacher. At the same time, the parents who take part in the activities become potential collaborators - leaders. In the future they may work independently in the Roma community. There are about 30 children and 50 adults participating in the activities.

The Etnikum Civic Association focuses on assisting children and adolescents from national minorities (Roma, Ukrainians, Vietnamese) living in the Czech Republic in the process of integrating into the society. It tries to help Roma adolescents by offering leisure time programs. In cooperation with the Labor Office it created two jobs for Roma workers.

# Naděje (The Hope) - the Česká Třebová branch

### The project: The David Club

The aim of the project is to enlarge the program in the David Club. The club was open last year in provisional space in one block of flats in Česká Třebová. There are several houses where socially disadvantaged and inadaptable inhabitants were moved, some of them of Roma origin. The houses are run by the Naděje workers who, helped by children, have changed the basement into a clubroom. The club is open daily, the children may do their homework there or attend afternoon activities. Their parents volunteer to lead such activities. The Naděje staff organizes summer camps for children as the culmination of the all-year work.

The Naděje Civic Association was founded in 1990. Its branch in Česká Třebová focuses mainly on leisure time activities of children and adolescents and their training and education in mutual tolerance. It also provides legal services in cooperation with professional lawyers. The Naděje branch signed a contract with the local council in 1997 to provide social and caretaker services for those living in the houses formerly inhabited by the Soviet Army into which socially disadvantaged and inadaptable people were moved. The Naděje workers take turns there for the whole of 24 hours every day and they strive to integrate inadaptable citizens and their children into the society. The houses run by Naděje do not end destroyed by the inhabitants, on the contrary, they could serve as an example to other blocks of flats. None of the Roma citizens showed interest in emigrating from the Czech Republic.

# The "Start Together" Civic Association, Plzeň

### The project: The Klubko Project

The Klubko Project targets primarily Roma children from basic schools and schools for the retarded and socially disadvantaged attending the Community Family Center. It aims at promoting the importance of education among Roma children through mentors - primary students who can gain confidence of children and their families. Each child participating in the program has its own mentor. Students of local secondary schools and universities may volunteer for mentors, as well as any adult who is able to gain confidence of the children, their parents and the program coordinator. These mentors come to see the families and establish contacts with the child's teacher. The center provides



space for teaching as well as school aids and other materials. These educational activities also comprise trips, cultural and sport events, excursions and joined weekends.

The "Start Together" Civic Association was founded in 1996 with the aim to help the inhabitants of one Plzeň housing estate to put forward their interests and needs, seek ways to improve relations between neighbors and take active part in a healthy up-bringing of children living in the town. At present the association runs a community center for the family in which the community workers offer leisure time activities for Roma children, adolescents and their families, as well as consulting, social help and educational activities.

## District Charity in Jihlava

### The project: A Clubroom for Roma Children and the Youth

The project continues with the activities of the clubroom already five years of existence. The clubroom offers a variety of leisure time activities to children, adolescents and their families, such as: sports, music, dancing, the Romany language, art, a journal editing, kung-fu, lectures on the nature, cooking, trips, weekend events and summer camps. About 50 children attend these activities daily. Students from the local High School of Social Affairs and interested parents volunteer to help in the clubroom. The project represents a unique activity in the whole district. One of the goals of the organizer is to integrate the project into the social program of the town of Jihlava within two years.

The District Charity in Jihlava was founded in 1992 as a volunteer activity of individuals interested in helping other people regardless of race, nationality or religion. The clubroom for Roma children has been operating for 5 years and it is a classic example of a functioning community center.

## The "Start Together" Civic Association, Broumov

### The project: Leisure Activities in the Broumov Community Center

The project aims at a gradual building-up of a network for children, adolescents and their parents. They themselves came up with the proposal of concrete activities for leisure time. The NROS Foundation and Open Society Fund, Prague supported the creation and equipment of the community center. The center shall offer the following activities on a daily basis: sports, dancing and art classes, tennis, computer training and there is a plan to open a fitness center. Roma volunteers, members of the association, lead these activities. Besides these regular activities the association organizes trips, campfires, summer camps etc. In 1999 the association organized Days of Romany Culture and they even presented the organization in a life TV show.

The association was founded in 1998. In 1999 the association, helped by VIA and OSF and using the work of volunteers, succeeded in turning a waste dump into a children playground. Since the last year it has been reconstructing a former pub into a community center.

## "The Child and the Horse" Civic Association

### The project: Hipotherapy for Roma Children and Adolescents

The association aims at gradually involving Roma children into its activities using their natural love for horses. Due to their difficult social and economic situation Roma families cannot afford to pay for horseback riding classes. The association wishes to focus on therapeutical as well as pedagogical ways of horseback riding which stresses emotional contacts between the animal and the human being, better communication, experiences, motivation. During the children's stay at the farm the children should not only ride the horses, but also care after them and help around the farm. All these activities require persistence, self-discipline and teamwork. The children may also volunteer to help at other association's activities such as special events for children, events for the general public etc.



The association was founded in 1994 with the aim of providing hipotherapy in the districts of Kutná Hora and Kolín. Gradually it has developed its activities into promoting hippotherapy throughout the whole Czech Republic. Since 1997 it has been renting a farm in Březová where it can realize its objectives. Since 1994 the association has been gaining experience in working with Roma children in cooperation with special schools for retarded and socially disadvantaged children in Kutná Hora and Zbraslavice.

# Charity Ostrava - the Salvator Charity Home in Krnov

### The project: A Clubroom for Roma Children

The project intends to help Roma children to do their homework regularly. The program targets children aged 6 – 11 from local primary school, but older children and children from the school for the retarded and socially disadvantaged may attend the clubroom too. About 20 children come here every day. The clubroom is equipped with all kinds of school aids, 8 volunteers come to help every day. The charity rented the premises in a predominantly Roma quarter from the local council for a symbolic sum. The Apex Real Estate Agency helped with the reconstruction. Starting from the next September, one worker shall come to work systematically, together with the volunteers, with individual children. The club shall still be regarded as an experiment for one more school year and then shall become a professional facility opened also during mornings to pre-school children and in the evening to youngsters and their parents.

In 1998 the Salvator Charity Home in Krnov initiated a one year pre-school program for socially disadvantaged children. The charity, in cooperation with the Krnov Roma League, also contacted the parents of these children and provided free transportation and snacks. This year, 14 children take part in this program. The charity decided to help the children who had already finished the program and entered regular school. For this reason the clubroom was opened in September 1999.

## The "Mutual Coexistence" Civic Association, Ostrava

### The project: Summer Camp for Children from Socially Disadvantaged Families

The aim of the project is to organize a summer camp for Roma as well as non-Roma children from socially disadvantaged families living in poor Ostrava areas. The project is a part of a long-term community social work being done by the organization in these locations. The project stresses the involvement of community members by presenting their own ideas and themes during the organization of the camp. The camp can accommodate 80 children in two tours including young Roma camp leaders from the community. The program shall offer all kinds of leisure time activities as well as socially psychological games stressing individual activity, non-confict behavior and the ability to communicate.

The "Mutual Coexistence" Civic Association was founded in 1998 in reaction to the situation of Roma families afflicted by the flood. At that time Sri Kumar Vishwanathana, a teacher from India, came to live with the families which houses were torn down by the flood and they were moved into small concrete blocks. He and other volunteers were helping the children with schoolwork, organized leisure time activities for them, helped to mitigate conflicts among families living in overcrowded dwellings, served as go-betweens between these families and local authorities etc.

At present, the association helps the socially disadvantaged to integrate into social activities using the methods of streetwork and community work. The association engages in the area of education, counseling, human rights, leisure time activities both for children and adults. One of the main goals of the association is to eliminate animosities between Roma and non-Roma populations.

The association currently runs two community centers in Roma quarters. It also takes part in various republic-wide programs. To accomplish its tasks it uses the help of volunteers, mainly University students or community members.



# Emauzy ČR, Rychnov nad Kněžnou

## The project: Help to Young Romanies

The project aims at helping young Romanies who are leaving foster-homes, penitentiaries, prisons or other establishments and have no place to go. The organization provides them with basic background such as housing, clothes, food and, in cooperation with Labor Office and local entrepreneurs, tries to find them jobs at public works. The organization also runs three farms providing food for their facilities (bread, cheese and meat) and provides social and legal counseling to its customers. Through developing positive personal, social and working habits it tries to bring these people back to normal life.

The "Emauzy ČR" Organization was established in 1991 in reaction to a sudden need to take care after homeless people. Gradually it began to offer aid to people living on the margins of the society including the Roma minority. It provides help to the homeless, ex-prisoners and adolescents leaving foster-homes. Together with Labor Bureaus it tries to find jobs to inadaptable clients and provides them with basic food and clothes. At present it runs four homes as well as four farms.

## Vudud o.p.s., Praha

# The project: Preparing Those Attending the Schools for the Retarded and Socially Disadvantaged for Further Studies

The aim of the project is to work systematically with children in their last year of special basic schools to prepare them for entrance examinations to secondary schools or vocational training facilities. Adults interested to complete their education are welcome as well. The project shall start next school year in 5 regions and shall comprise 10 children (or adults) from each region. They will either follow the 9<sup>th</sup> grade of the special basic school or a special course to complete their basic education. In January, each participant shall be offered advice on the most suitable secondary school or vocational training facility. The project is the follow-up of the currently runing project funded by Phare.

Vudud was founded in 1998 as an organization consisting of Roma individuals and specialists in Roma problematic with the aim to work together on educational projects. However, the organization targets not only the Roma population, but the non-Roma majority. The organization presses for Roma studies to become an independent discipline of University studies, to include a general course on Roma issues into compulsory courses of every future teacher etc. Current projects comprise the course of Roma studies for teachers and the general public, Seven Days of Roma History - an exhibition of Roma history, a competition in Romany for children and the youth and the project of completing basic education for those leaving special basic schools.

# Olomouc Charity

#### The project: The Khamoro Kindergarten

The Khamoro Kindergarten was founded by Olomouc Charity in September 1995 to prepare preschool children for school attendance. It is located in the area with a large Roma population. Through the children the charity workers enter into daily contacts with Roma families. It has a positive impact on involving parents in seeking solutions to arising problems. After leaving the kindergarten the children may attend afternoon activities of the Khamoro Small Community Center which also organizes outings and holiday camps. Their parents may take part in these activities too.

Olomouc Charity is a non-profit, non-governmental organization developing its activities in the Olomouc region. It focuses on unresolved problems in the society and provides social services for the needy. It runs 8 social establishments, among them the Khamoro Kindergarten, a multicultural center and a clubroom for the unemployed. It also provides humanitarian aid in the CR and abroad. It cooperates with public authorities and the Olomouc local council.



## Třebíč Local Charity

### The project: A Clubroom for Roma Children and the Youth

The project aims at developing the activities of a Roma center presently located in temporary premises. The clubroom was founded in a former school in one part of Třebíč. Roma children and adolescents from this area take part in the activities organized in the clubroom. Into this larger project a smaller project is included focusing on preparing Roma children for school attendance. During summer holidays of this year children shall have the possibility to come to the clubroom everyday and participate in various activities, trips, sport competitions etc. Starting from September the club shall organize programs to prepare pre-school children for basic school, courses to catch up with the curriculum, offer various other activities and evening programs for parents and adolescents.

The charity in Třebíč provides services which are underrepresented or even missing such as geriatric centers, shelters for mothers in need, centers for the drug-addicts, mental asylums etc. The charity works in 12 neighboring villages. The Roma center was created out of the need to help the Roma population in the Třebíč region.

### **ROMA INITIATIVE 2001**

### **TABLE OF GRANTS AWARDED IN 2001**

Grantee	Grant Amount (in CZK)
Living Together Association, Moravská Ostrava	150,000 Kč
Moravian Roma Association, Brno	120,000 Kč
RAMI Association, Ústí nad Labem	199,897 Kč
A Chance for the Region Association, Petrovice-Karviná	168,820 Kč
People in Need, Chomutov	100,000 Kč
Roma Citizens Association, Lysá nad Labem	183,000 Kč
Láčho Lav (Good Word) Association, Karviná	33,000 Kč
TOTAL AWARDED IN GRANTS	954,717 CZK

## **Summaries of Awarded Projects**

# Living Together Civic Association, Moravská Ostrava

### The Project: Free Social and Legal Advisory Services to Roma Residents of Ostrava

The aim of the project is to continue providing complex assistance to Ostrava Roma residents through community work methods. The association offers:

- Free advisory services, information and assistance in applying them (legislation, filing complaints and lawsuits, information service regarding housing and asylum accommodation);
- Support in enforcing the rights and interests of Roma residents (assistance in filing and enumerating social benefits, assistance in procuring an apartment);
- Presence in clients' dealings with authorities, facilitation in discussions with the other party in dispute, telephone and correspondence services, negotiations on behalf of the client, assistance in court proceedings;
- Advisory services for people returning from residential facilities (orphanages and homes for children and teenagers, prisons), support to the extended family of the client, social guarantees or bails in court, identification of job opportunities for the client;



- Streetwork, sheltered employment, training workshops focused on human rights of Roma activists and association staff members/volunteers;
- Financial counseling (loan settlement, negotiation of payment schedule with gas and power suppliers and house owners, interest-free loans for families in need;
- Humanitarian aid (clothes, diapers, furniture, asylum accommodation);
- Crisis intervention services for clients; and
- Advocacy of user-friendly social policies on the part of local governments and state authorities.

The social and legal advisory center as well as the network of community centers offer assistance predominantly to people trapped by social isolation and poverty who do not usually seek assistance, have had negative experiences in dealing with authorities, lack information on whom to turn to, have been victimized by violence or crime, are single mothers supporting their families or have lost their homes. More than five hundred clients from Ostrava and the vicinity seek the assistance of the social advisory center annually. Streetwork and humanitarian aid annually assist over two thousand people. Both the advisory as well as the community centers are open on a daily basis.

The grant covers operational costs (such as rent, utilities, phone, mail, office supplies, specialized social and legal magazines, staff training to enhance qualification, and so forth). Funding for salaries and expenses were not requested.

This association assists in integrating the Roma minority through street and community work: it provides social and legal advisory services, interest-free loans and humanitarian aid to individuals and families in need. It was established in 1997 by Mr. Kumar Vishwanatan, an Indian English language teacher in Ostrava, with the aim of providing humanitarian aid to Roma victims of the floods in Ostrava. The association operates three community centers with thirteen Roma and twelve non-Roma staff members and volunteers. It cooperates with local authorities and other entities (for instance with the Town Hall, the Employment Office, the Regional Hygiene Office, Ostrava University social work students who serve as volunteers, the Citizenship Advisory Bureau, the Human Rights Government Council and the Office of the Ombudsman). So far, the association has been awarded three prizes for its activities.

# Moravian Roma Association, Brno

### The Project: Social and Legal Advisory Services

The objective of this project is to ensure the operation of a social and legal advisory center in Brno, which has provided free assistance to Roma residents from 1992. Two Roma employees deliver these services: an expert on Roma social issues with many years of experience and numerous contacts with respective state and local authorities and a Roma lawyer who works 250 hours each quarter at an hourly rate of CZK 200 (i.e. USD 5.50, the lowest standard lawyer's fee being CZK 500 per hour – USD 10.10). The social and legal advisory center serves five clients daily on average.

The grant covers fees for the lawyer and the social worker for one year.

Thes organization was established in 1991 with the aim of becoming a trusted and equal partner representing the Moravian Roma community in negotiating with local, regional and state authorities. Its activities cover two major fields: the first focuses on specific integration programs, leisure time education of Roma children, placement of Roma assistants in schools, support of Roma art groups and community work; the second is concerned with international cooperation with Roma organizations in other countries (European Roma Rights Center, British Know-How Fund, Phare EU, European Dialogue in London), advocacy regarding human rights and publication of the Roma biweekly Romano Hangos magazine which has just marked three years of successful publication. The association has established seven regional branches in major Moravian cities.



# RAMI Civic Association, Ústí nad Labem

The Project: Pilot Project of the Matiční Community Development Workshop

The aim of the project is to alleviate long-term unemployment of local Roma residents and to address issues related to new sustainable job opportunities. In January/February 2002 RAMI plans to establish and to equip a special woodworking workshop that would employ four to eight full time employees (in cooperation with the Employment Office which provides subsidies for newly established workplaces) and ten to fifteen people on a contract basis for specific projects. In the near vicinity, there are several woodworking workshops in which employees with practice from the special workshop could find regular employment in the future, thus opening their position in the special workshop to others. Local people are currently apathetic and resigned; children have no positive models in their families. Employment could bring local people out of this vicious circle. The workshop anticipates becoming 75% self-sufficient during the first year. The project was designed and will be supervised by an economist from the Spolchemic Corporation of Ústí nad Labem (a major producer of organic and inorganic chemicals, paints, pigments, etc.) and by a local community worker. The grant will pay for part of the workshop coordinator's salary and for the workshop equipment (various types of saws, drills, planes, sanding machines and other production material, including wood).

This organization has been active since 1998. Its activities aim primarily to alter societal and institutional attitudes and approaches to solving minority issues and supporting the integration of minority groups. The RAMI Association is located in a house in the Roma "ghetto", which was procured for Roma community programs by the People in Need Foundation. This house is near the infamous Matiční Street where a wall separating Roma from non-Roma residents was erected and later torn down. The house serves as a center for community programs, offering streetwork, social counseling, assistance in approaching institutions and education of new Roma assistants in schools. The organization offers employment and job training for four local Roma neighborhoods and strives to involve as many people as possible into the center's activities. At the same time, a network of volunteers of university students and local active residents is being formed around the center. The site thus invites external stimuli - active involvement of local people and volunteers becoming both the method of work as well as the objective of the organization.

# A Chance for the Region Association, Petrovice by Karviná

The Project: Turning Assistants into Qualified and Self-assured Employees

The association enables Roma students to take part in extracurricular training courses of welding and bar-tending, enhancing their qualification as well as chances to compete on the job market. This approach is based in the experience that it is nearly impossible to convince entrepreneurs to employ inexperienced graduates (regardless of the state subsidy for offering a job to fresh graduates). Employers argue that graduates have no experience, often calling for a higher specialization. On the other hand, after school follow-up training or retraining is rather an exception among Roma youth. This is why the association offers extracurricular specialization concurrently with obligatory school education. This project targets twenty Roma apprentices: ten students of construction, machinery and forestry specialization will attend a welding training course of three hundred and sixty hours and ten students of gastronomy specialization will attend a bar-tending training course of two hundred and forty hours. Both training courses close with a final exam and participants receive a certificate attesting to their successful completion of the course. Courses will take place from November to June and will consist of regular training, a weeklong workshop including practical demonstrations and preparation for the final exam. The certificate enhances students' self-assurance, while, on the other hand, the association pays great attention to seeking suitable job opportunities. Placement of graduates is monitored and evaluated over the course of the two following years.

The grant will partly cover the tuition, materials and issuance of a health certificate for students (20% of the overall cost has been provided for by the school).

This association was founded in 1998 at the Petrovice high school. It focuses on preventing pathological phenomena encountered among pupils as well as on integrating socially handicapped



Roma graduates from the apprentice school. For over four years, it has been assisting Roma graduates in finding employment in companies operating within the region. Fifty percent of the graduates were successfully placed during the first year and seventy six percent in the course of the second year (the difference is due to the males leaving for a year of army service between the first and second years). In seeking job opportunities for their graduates, the association has succeeded in gathering resources from both majority and minority groups. The association has two hundred members, of which twenty adults and fifty-five young people are of Roma origin.

# People in Need Association

# The Project: Streetwork and Social Assistance in the Town of Chomutov

The principle objective of this project is to assist Roma families in addressing various problems, which most commonly involve housing, procuring Czech citizenship, payment of social benefits, children's school attendance, health and hygiene conditions, issues related to teenage drug-use, usury in Roma communities, employment opportunities and peaceful coexistence with non-Roma neighbors. This project focuses on the Chomutov community of one hundred and fifty Roma residents living in five buildings. Most of them owe rent and live in a state of total lethargy, unwilling to take any action to change this situation. An on-site consultant of the Foundation strives to address and to solve their problems with them, challenging them to seize opportunities to engage in matters that concern them. Over the course of the past two years, issues related to procuring Czech citizenship and social benefits payments have been successfully resolved thanks to the assistance of this Roma on-site consultant. Children's school attendance has improved significantly as well as communication of clients with state authorities, which has been positively influenced by the presence of the on-site consultant during individual meetings. The People in Need Foundation was supported from the Roma Initiative Program in 1999 and 2000.

The grant will pay the salary for the Roma on-site consultant for one year and a small part of the supervision thereof (CZK 20,000).

This organization operates a wide range of activities at both national and international levels. It provides assistance and humanitarian aid to people in crisis areas (currently for instance in Afghanistan), implements humanitarian and development projects, promotes public interest in foreign affairs, supports democracy activists around the globe and advocates protection of basic human rights. Since September 1998, the People in Need Foundation has been implementing a nationwide project aimed at alleviating the oppressive conditions of the Roma minority in 18 localities throughout the Czech Republic, and addressing social issues, such as Roma children's low school attendance or drug addiction among Roma youth. The Foundation applies community-based approaches in achieving a change within a given locality, i.e. empowering local people who are most familiar with the state of local affairs, assisting them in finding solutions and helping them to develop partnerships with other community stakeholders.

# Roma Citizens Association, Lysá nad Labem

#### The Project: The Route to Knowledge and Understanding

Each month the association organizes practical workshops: the Job Market (information on available positions in the region and seeking suitable applicants from amongst local Roma residents in cooperation with the Employment office), Simple Accounting, Starting a Business, Marketing and Market Sales, Typing, Working on a PC, What Can a Streetworker Help Us With? and so forth. From the beginning, a Roma part time employee, monitoring issues in the Roma community and addressing them together with individual families, has coordinated the association's activities. A large portion of her work consists of visiting families whose children do not regularly attend school, assisting in managing social benefits and facilitating contacts with authorities. Over the past four years, representatives of the association have earned respect and authority both within the Roma community as well as in the eyes of Lysá nad Labem authorities. The Roma Citizens Association was supported from the Roma Initiative Program in 1999 and 2000.



The grant will pay the salary of the coordinator and cover rent and utilities of the center, office supplies and one scanner for PC work training events. This association was established four years ago by Milan Horvát, a Roma entrepreneur and Town Assembly member. It associates over one hundred adults and dozens of children, to whom it offers organized leisure time activities. Mr. Horvát regards as most important that he has become a Town Assembly member, enhancing his chances to assert Roma interests. His construction company contributes to solving local Roma unemployment issues by employing over 40 Roma construction workers.

The association, which is located in premises provided by the municipality and reconstructed free of charge by Mr. Horvát's construction company, provides the local Roma community of Lysá nad Labem and near surroundings with guidance on issues of concern, assistance in dealing with authorities, training courses for pregnant mothers concerned with child and household care, dance and singing courses, and several showers to be used free of charge by families living in poor hygiene conditions. The association has succeeded in resolving housing problems for fifteen families and in finding jobs for thirty members that now do publicly beneficial work. It has become a model for Roma residents as well as for other municipal governments within the region. Thanks to the association's operation, signs of racial discrimination in the town of Lysá nad Labem have declined significantly—no Roma resident from this region applied to be relocated into the UK. For his activities and material aid, Mr. Horvát was awarded the VIA Bona prize which he received from the hands of the US Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Mr. Stapleton, in September 2001.

# Láčho Lav Association (Good Word Association), Karviná-Nové Město

# The Project: Information and Advisory Center for Roma Residents of Karviná

The advisory center provides services three times a week from 3 to 6 p.m., serving fifteen people a week on average.

This complementary grant (the residual amount from the budget for Roma projects) covers the salary of Mr. Malík, while other expenses are provided for by grants from other organizations.

This association was founded in 1999 by Mr. Igor Malík, a Roma graduate of the Higher School of Social and Legal Work, as a response to the growing tension between the Roma minority and the majority population in an extremely poor neighborhood of Karviná, where Roma and non-Roma families of the lowest social class live. It focuses in particular on assistance and legal counseling to often half-illiterate older Roma residents as well as on designing and offering programs for the "children of the street."



**Subject:** La Benevolencija Home Care for the Elderly --- Non-Sectarian Aid in Bosnia-Herzegovina **From:** "Yechiel Bar Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

**Date:** Thu, 8 Aug 2002 14:46:31 +0100

 $\textbf{To: "Alfred BADER \ (E-mail \)" < baderfa@execpc.com}{>}$ 

Dear Alfred,

FYI please see attached report on the Homecare you are so generously supporting for poor, sick, and lonely elderly in Bosnia-Herzegovina for the period January-June 2002

Warmest regards,

Yechiel.

AJDC Paris Office 5 avenue Matignon F-75008 Paris, France Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989 yechiel@jdcparis.org



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PRESIDENT Eugene J. Ribakoff

Executive Vice-President Steven Schwager

June 27, 2002

Dr. Alfred Bader 924 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alfred,

I hope that you and Isabel are well and enjoying the summer.

Tammy Barnea in our Israel office has asked that I forward the enclosed two Project COPE reports to you.

This also gives me the opportunity to share with you the news — if Daniel or Yechiel have not already told you — that Michael has stepped down as JDC's Chief Professional Officer. After fifteen years as the Executive Vice-President and ten years before that as the director of various JDC offices throughout the world, he felt very strongly that it was the right time to step aside. Fortunately, he is continuing to serve as one of JDC's senior professionals and will focus his attention only on specific projects.

The role of Executive Vice-President, with all that the title encompasses, has been passed into the extremely capable hands of Steve Schwager who, as JDC's Associate Executive Vice-President, has been Michael's colleague and partner for the past thirteen years. The transition was almost immediate and we have all moved comfortably into our proper places.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Tzivia Bieler

/tb Enclosure

cc: Daniel Bader
Yechiel Bar-Chaim
Tammy Barnea
Nadine Habousha
Matthew Holmon

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ISRAEL ENDOWMENT FUNDS INC.

79th ANNUAL REPORT 2001



## A RECIPROCAL PARTNERSHIP

#### BY ZVI FEINE

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ISRAEL

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Over the past 79 years donors through the PEF have contributed generously to a wide range of projects in Israel to help resolve significant societal problems. PEF donors and the North American Jewish community will materially and spiritually benefit from a stronger Israeli community. This reciprocal partnership strengthens both societies in multiple ways, both now and in the future.

Besides contributing towards social justice by engaging in activities of Tikun Olam (repairing the world) in Israel, PEF donors have been helping Israelis build their own, independent society. Without the PEF, many of the most effective direct social and educational services in Israel would not exist today. The bonds forged between US based donors and programs that address Israel's most pressing needs through the responsible mediation and accountability afforded by PEF, engenders mutually beneficial partnerships between donors and recipients.

Building up the Israeli society's capacity for self-sufficiency is a process which takes generations. During a period of crisis and external threats, societal strains and needs are even greater, making the PEF donor-directed contributions even more important. Strengthening and encouraging the development of the non-profit sector enables Israeli society, through governmental and other public efforts, to progressively meet its own needs. PEF has been a driving force in these efforts for decades.

While contributing significantly to this process, PEF additionally creates its own unique niche in Israel by establishing mutually beneficial partnerships within the Israeli community. According to the sage Rabbi Yehoshua Ben Levi, "More than the proprietor does for the poor- the poor does for the proprietor." Donors help solve specific Israeli societal challenges while building the capacity of Israel's non-profit organizations to address those problems. PEF donors consistently derive deep satisfaction through this process of building up Israeli societal capability to help its needy. PEF is a critical vehicle for making this happen with both communities benefiting from the reciprocal partnership

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### PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.

Selected Information Taken from the Financial Report For the Year Ended November 30, 2001 as audited by Greenfield & Fortuna, LLP, Certified Public Accountants.

Revenue		November 30, 2001
	Interest and Dividends	\$3,239,972
	Net Gain from Investments	3,055,175
	Contributions and Bequests	42,576,008
	Total Revenue	\$48,871,155
Expenses		
	Grants	\$49,959,708
	General and Administrative Expenses	
	General Fund 5 - Allocable	470,089
	Incurred by Individual Funds	3,983
	Depreciation	12,012
	Total Expenses	\$50,445,792
	Excess of Expenses over Revenue	(\$1,574,637)
Net Worth		
	Cash (Including Liquid Assets Funds an Time Deposits in US and in Isra	
	Receivable from Brokers, etc.	4,975,413
	Marketable Securities (Market Value)	71,442,990
	Other Assests	1,620,310
	Fund Balance at Market	\$88,893,075

# PEF has made grants this year to 813 charities in Israel. Below is a representative sample.

Ahavah

A children's village in Kiryat Bialik.

AKIM: Assn Rehabilitation of Mentally Handicapped

Alut - Israel Society for Autistic Children

Alyn Orthopaedic Hospital and Rehabilitation Center

Alzheimer's Association of Israel

AMIT: Jerusalem Voluntary Association for Mutual Assistance

Amuta L'Yahadut Mithadeshet

Works on behalf of Reconstructionist Movement in Israel. Outreach to secular Israelis.

Amutah L'Chinuch U'Ltarbut M.E. Beer Tuviah

Advances cultural and educational needs in Beer Tuviah.

Amutat Bet Sefer RE'UT

A religious pluralistic high school within the regular school system with young people from all socio-economic strata as well as from different ethnic groups. The curriculum is within the parameters of Halacha while being open to learning from other streams of Judaism.

Amutat L'Sovah

Soup kitchen for needy in the Shapiro neighborhood, near the old Central Bus Station of Tel-Aviv.

Arava Institute for Environmental Studies

Ashkelon Foundation

Assn Advancement Technological Education Amal

Assn for Advancement of Community Centers in Israel

Assn for Advancement of Conductive Education in Israel

Assists children with motor dysfunction utilizing the Peto method.

Assn for Advancement of the Ethiopian Family and Child

Assn for Civil Rights in Israel

Assn for Jewish Academics from Iraq

Assn for Music in Abu Gosh

Association for Victims of Sexual Assault

Association for the Welfare of Soldiers in Israel

Association for Victims of Sexual Assault

Association of Friends of Classical Ballet in Israel

Association of Trustees and Friends of Agricultural Research

Association for Prevention of Domestic Abuse

ASTA -Aged Soviet Teachers Assn

ATTAD Aid to the Aged

B'Yachad Democratic Jewish Society

Babylonian Jewry Heritage Center

Bar-Ilan University

Bat-Dor Studios of Dance

Batsheva Dance Company

Bayit Lepletot - Girls Town Jerusalem

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Be'er Sova

Soup kitchen in Be'er Sheva. Provides meals for the elderly and the needy, delivering meals to shut-ins and three nurseries.

Beit Haggai Children and Youth Village

Beit Halochem - Zahal Disabled Veterans Fund

Beit Knesset Caesarea

Beit Knesset Mitpze Ramot

Beit Lohamei Haghetaot

A museum of the Holocaust.

Beit Morasha of Jerusalem

Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Bet Ashanti

Shelter for troubled street youth.

Bet Haknesset Emek Refaim

Beth Hatefutsoth Museum

Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design

Bible Lands Museum

Big Brothers Jerusalem

Bikur Cholim Hospital

Bnei Arazim

A diagnostic and treatment center for children with special needs. Provides early intervention for infants with health and psychological risks.

Boys Town Jerusalem

Care for the Needy - Jerusalem Soc. For Social Rehabilitation

Casa Shalom

The Inst. of Marrano-Anusim Studies. Visitors who are from families of hidden Jewish backgrounds come to learn more about their heritage. They assist with genealogical studies and promote research.

Center for Special Studies

Memorializes those who were members of the Israeli intelligence community.

Central Archives For the History of the Jewish People

Central Charitable Fund of Israel

Chaim Sheba Medical Center

Chevruta Bet Medrash L'Talmidei HaUniversita

Offers "Chevruta" studies as well as lectures in Judaism at Hebrew University.

Chimes Israel

Provides services to people of all ages with mental retardation and related disabilities.

Committee for Ethiopian Jews in Safed

Committee of Voluntary Organizations for Immigrant Absorption

Crisis Center for Religious Women

Links with community services: police, health, education, law, and social services.

Dental Volunteers for Israel

Maintains a fully equipped clinic providing free treatment and prevention programs.

Devorah Foundation for Jerusalem

Promotes educational, cultural, social, and health projects and events

Eliya

School with advanced techniques for blind and visually impaired children.

Elul

An educational institute trying to bridge the gap between orthodox and non-orthodox Jews. Aims to revitalize Jewish learning, mutual understanding and cooperation among Jews in Israel.

Emet Torah V'Mada B'Zmaneinu

Publishes scientific religious material to be distributed to religious, Haredi and secular populations.

Emunah: National Religious Women's Organization

Engineering College of Jerusalem

Enosh: Israel Mental Health Association

Eretz Hemdah Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies

Eretz Israel Museum

ESRA Immigrant Fund Association

Ezrat Holim

FIDEL Assn. for Education and Social Integration

Focuses on a social and educational mediator training program for Ethiopian immigrants.

Foundation for Children at High Risk

Nurseries for autistic children.

Friends of Edith Wolfson Hospital

Friends of Kfar Idud

Supports a residential facility in Netanya for 180 young adults suffering from minimal brain dysfunction who are unable to function independently.

Friends of the Israel Sinfonietta

Friends of the Neurim Home for the Mentally Handicapped

Friends of Poriya Hospital

Fund for Aid to the Druze in Israel

Fund for Needy Immigrants

Located in Beer Sheva, makes grants for the household needs of immigrants, for medical aid, eye glasses, and educational needs.

Galili Center for Defense Studies

Group for New Music

Organizes musical performances and concerts throughout Israel. Its main focus is the Terezin Music Memorial Project. Activities include producing CD's documenting the surviving repertoire of original and arranged compositions produced in the Terezin concentration camp.

Haamutah L'Maan Hakashish Hanizkak B'Merhavim

Assist elderly needy and disabled in Merchavim in south Israel. Operates 2 day care centers and daily programs.

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Hadassah Hospital Haifa Big Brothers

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Haifa Rape Crisis Center

Haifa Women's Crisis Shelter

Hassadna-The Jerusalem School for Music and Arts

Hatzolah Yehuda and Shomron

Volunteers respond to scenes of accidents or terror attacks at any time of day or night. There are 45 trained volunteers who provide first aid and medical attention and transfer the victims to hospitals.

Havatselet Culture and Education Institute

Health and Community Services Center (Casper-Plitnick)

Provides dental, eye care, and nutrition services. The PEF Children's Dental Care Program provides free dental care, including follow-up treatments for children in need.

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership Devoted to developing leadership for the environmental movement in Israel.

Hitachdut Yotzei Turkiya B'Yisrael

Holon Academic Institute of Technology

IDF Widows and Orphans Organization

Igud Leparshanut HaTalmud

Established to prepare a new edition of the Babylonian Talmud with commentary based upon scholarly standards and appealing to a broader readership.

Ilana Goor Museum

Supports interchange between Arab and Jewish students.

Sponsors bi-monthly visits to the museum for meetings of 30 students ages 13-14.

Innovative Teaching Fund

Institute for Science and Halacha

Inst for the Advancement of Education in Jaffa

Israel Association for Child Protection

Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews

Israel Association of Baseball

Israel Cancer Association

Israel Exploration Society

Projects include the excavation of Hazor, Zeppiri Dor, and Megiddo, and publications in English and Hebrew.

Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children

Israel Free-Loan Association

Pre-eminent institution providing interest-free loans.

Israel Goldstein Youth Village

Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind

Provides blind individuals with guide dogs and appropriate training in the use of dogs.

Israel Multiple Sclerosis Society

Israel Museum

Israel Ohr Torah Institutions

An educational complex located in Efrat. Includes high school for boys and girls, rabbinical studies.

Israel Public Council for Soviet Jewry

Israel Society for Coping with Bereavement

Israel Softball Association

Israel Union for Environmental Defense

Israeli Center for Libraries

Israel's Media Watch

A non-partisan civics rights group committed to reviewing the media's performance and acting in the furtherance of public values and law.

Jabotinsky Institute in Israel

Jaffe Welfare and Education Projects Fund

Jerusalem Chesed Hospitality Project

Jerusalem College of Technology

A school dedicated to forging a synthesis of Torah and advanced technology. Students' days are divided between a \_ day of religious studies and \_ day of scientific studies.

Jerusalem Foundation

Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies

Jerusalem Post Toy Fund

Jerusalem Rubin Academy of Music and Dance

Jewish National and University Library

Jewish Student Information Centers

Provides information about and hosts Jewish programs, classes and special events in Israel for Jewish students.

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation in Israel

Kagan Trust

A youth center designed to prevent juvenile delinquency by providing classes and social activities.

Keren Keshet

Keren Klita Committee

An all-volunteer group, has an adoption program for newly arrived Russian immigrants, provides dental and emergency assistance grants.

Keren Matana

Furthers a wide variety of religious, cultural, educational, and scientific purposes.

Keren Or, Inc.

Kishorit

Communal neighborhood village for people with learning, functional, and adaptive disabilities.

KOLOT

Formed to initiate dialogue between Jews in Israel and in the Diasporato develop pluralistic Jewish Israeli leadership.

Laniado Hospital

Latet Humanitarian Organization

Seeks to provide support to populations in distress within Israel and other parts of the world to promote solidarity and tolerance.

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Supplies services to needy families in the Ramat Beit Shemesh neighborhood, including food coupons, food packages, subsidized dental treatment, legal advice, medical counseling and patient advocacy.

#### **LESHEM**

Assn for the Adv of Higher Education for Dyslexic Students. Promotes public awareness of the need to enable dyslexic students to pursue higher education.

#### Lev Malka

Provides blood units to those about to have surgery. Their Larger than Life project provides trips for youngsters afflicted with cancer.

#### Lev U'Neshama

Helps special needs children function according to their highest potential and successfully integrate into the community.

#### Life-Line for the Old

Workshops for the elderly in cooperation with youth, providing a social and occupational therapy framework.

#### Light of the World

Loans medical equipment to the ill, invalid, and elderly who require it during their rehabilitation, illness or for medical exams.

#### Linda Feldman Rape Crisis Center

LO-Combating Violence Against Women

Maintains shelters in Herzlia and Hadera for battered women.

Ma'aneh Naot Terror Victims Assistance Project

#### Machanayim

Yeshiva and cultural center for new Russian immigrants. Publishes books in Russian.

#### Magen David Adom

Make a Wish Foundation Israel

#### Marpeh Lanefesh

Works with emotionally disturbed individuals when they are released from the hospital.

#### Mavoi Satum

Dedicated to alleviating difficulties arising from Agunot. Provides financial, emotional, and legal relief for women denied a religious divorce by their husbands.

#### Mei Mabuah

Seeks to create a center committed to ecological living and Jewish values.

#### Meir Hospital

Melabev: Community Clubs for Impaired Elderly

Located in Jerusalem, provides services, guidance and activities for the mentally impaired elderly.

#### Memorial Site Givat Hatachmoshet

#### Mercaz Haredi L'Hachshara Miktzoit

Helps Kollel students train in technological studies, as well as continue their education at Kollel.

Mercaz Harmony

Nursery school for both handicapped and non-handicapped children.

Mercaz Tamar

Provides free legal support to women who have been victims of violence and have elected to initiate litigation.

Micha Society for Deaf Children

Middle East Children Association

Promotes the well being of children through peace education and children's rights awareness, including awareness of human rights in general.

Moshav Zekenim United Home for the Aged

Mother and Baby Convalescent Home'

Mother to Mother

Movement of Masorti Judaism in Israel

NATAL

Provides therapeutic support for victims of terrorist attacks, injured soldiers and those doing reserve duty and their families.

National Council for the Well Being of Children

Negev Bar-Kayyama

Seeks to formulate a policy framework to promote sustainable development in the Negev. Performs public outreach to encourage awareness of environmental issues.

New Israel Fund

New Israel Opera

One in Nine for Women with Cancer

One Israel Fund - Yesha Heartland Campaign

Open University

Oranim - Division of University of Haifa

Organization for the Sake of Justice

Organization to Help Agunot

Helps women who can't obtain a religious divorce due to the disappearance or refusal of their husbands.

Orr Shalom Village for Children and Youth

Provides residences for children unable to live at home. Offers psychological consultation, vocational training, and special educational assistance.

Paratroops' Heritage Association

Pardes Foundation for Jewish Education

Parents' Circle

Founded by parents whose children were killed in terrorist attacks or wars in Israel, to teach tolerance, democracy and Judaism.

PEF Secondary School Scholarships

PEF Scholarships including Baranan, Pressler,

Rothchild, Thurnauer grants

Howard J. Kumin Scholarships

Pelech Orthodox Secondary School for Girls

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President's Fund for Community Service

Public Dental Clinic

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Rambam Hospital

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Reali School of Haifa Religious Women's Forum

Encourages educational frameworks for women. Seeks to raise awareness of women's status within the religious community and its leadership.

Religious Zionist Forum

Rivka Ziv Hospital School of Nursing

Rochlin General Home for the Whole Community

Romem Keren David

Provides help for the underprivileged. They provide hot meals every day as well as social events.

Rose Institute

Works with disadvantaged and at risk English-speaking youth in Israel. Social work and day treatments available.

Safed English Library

Seminary of Judaic Studies

Shaare Zedek Hospital

SHAI Society Rehabilitation of Disabled Children

Shalom Hartman Institute

Shalva

("Peace of Mind") is a center for mentally and physically handicapped children. Daily after school program provides educational and recreational activities.

Shikma-Society for Advancement of Educational and Cultural Projects

Shilo Pregnancy Advisory Service

Shiluv Institute for Family and Couple Therapy

Shir L'Shlomo: Shlomo Carlebach Foundation

Shohre Gilat

A project that seeks by non-traditional means to enable normal development of children in high-risk conditions.

Sikkuy-Assn for the Advancement of Equal Opportunity

Provides civil and advocacy services. Also publishes a newsletter and other publications.

Snunit

Develops educational programs for the internet.

Society for Patients' Rights in Israel

Society for the Blind and Prevention of Blindness

Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel

Has activities in a number of spheres: field study center, education and community activity centers in development towns.

Solidaritatswerk

Supports old age homes in Jerusalem, Haifa, and Tel-Aviv.

Soroka Medical Center

#### Sulam

An early intervention therapeutic day care center that provides a full day program for developmentally delayed and mentally handicapped children.

Tal Haim Community Center

Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Teder

Founded to assist emotionally disturbed individuals integrate into the community.

Tel Aviv Foundation

Tel Aviv Museum

Tel Aviv University

Tel-Hai Rodman Regional College

Tiferet Shalom Institute of Jewish Studies

Tikvah Vocational Training Village

Tlalim

Educational support for children who are unable to attend school due to severe illness.

Tnuat HaTzimchanim V'Hativonim B'Yisrael

Central organization for vegetarians and naturalists in Israel.

Tom Vocational High School

UKM Special Projects Fund United Kibbutz Movement

Ulpana Girls Academy

Residential vocational and academic junior and senior high schools, both leading to matriculation. Schools aim to instill a love for Judaism and Zionism.

United Ethiopian Jewish Organization

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

University of Haifa

V'Nishmartem - Traffic Safety

Amutah dedicated to traffic accident prevention.

Vocational Schools Chabad

We Power

Works for advancement of women's leadership in Israel.

Weizmann Institute of Science

Wingate Institute for Physical Education and Sports

Woman to Woman

Battered women's shelter in Jerusalem.

Women for Women

Haifa battered women's shelter.

Women's Institute for Torah Studies

Provides an adult curriculum that includes study of Torah with commentaries and Talmud.

Women's Support Center

Provides services for abused women in the Negev.

World Jewish Bible Society

Yad Eliezer

Provides food for needy individuals and families.

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Yad Kenny

Provides needy families with material and spiritual assistance.

Yad Sarah Organization for the Sick

Services include providing transportation for the disabled, day rehab centers, Meals on Wheels for the elderly, and medical equipment for the needy, elderly, and handicapped throughout Israel.

Yad Vashem

Yakar

A cultural and educational community center within an authentic Jewish environment that provides a meeting place for all beliefs and opinions.

Yedid Association for Community Empowerment

Yemin Orde - The Orde Wingate Children's Village

Yeshiva Gevoha Ramat Gan

Yeshivat Har Etzion

Yeshivat Ponivez Alumni

Yesodot Center Study of Torah and Democracy

Yetsira L'Kidum U'Pituach Mitzpe Hoshaya

A meals on wheels program established to meet the needs of elderly and needy. 600 meals are prepared weekly. Staffed by volunteers of all ages who prepare, pack, and deliver meals to central delivery points.

Yiddish Theater of Israel

Young Person's Institute for Promotion of Arts and Sciences

Yozma Modi'in

A reform congregation and community center in Modi'in and the surrounding settlements of the region.

Zahavi-Assn for Rights of Large Families in Israel

Zechut Aryeh

A free loan and grant association for needy individuals. Priorities include medical treatment, business loans, simchas, building and education.

Zichron Menachem

Works with children and their families who are victims of cancer. Zion Orphanage

# **Special Funds**

PEF has established special funds of \$100,000 and over from gifts and bequests and from which income and/or principal is disbursed. There are currently 74 funds as of November 30, 2001.

Louis D. Brandeis and Julian W. Mack Funds (among the earliest established by PEF)

A.C. Fund

Naomi Ruth Adir Education Fund

Solomon and Florence Baroway Memorial Fund

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Fund for the Integration of Needy Ethiopians

and Other Olim

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In Israel: Judith Rubin, Director of Israel Office

Shimoni 1 92 623 Jerusalem Tel. 02-563-1193 Fax: 02-563-1326 Wednesday, January 03, 2001

Dr Alfred Bader 924 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee Wisconsin 53202 U S A



Many thanks for sending me a copy of your letter to Tzivia. I note that you have sent \$100 000 in support of the work in Eastern Europe. As usual, this is an incredibly generous donation made even more so by the fact that it is to be spent at Michael Schneider's discretion.

As a family you do so much good and it is truly appreciated. As you know I have had the privilege of travelling a great deal in the past two years in Eastern Europe and FSU and have seen at first hand a great need. Gifts such as yours can, in fact, change lives.

Coincidentally, I had e-mailed Michael yesterday concerning the audit. I too feel that it is important that they undertake this and, like you, will await their findings.

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to meet Dr Bader and you and I very much hope that it will not be too long before we meet again.

I appreciate that you have seen members of WJR staff come and go, but I am still here and hope this will suffice for continuity!

With all good wishes to you both for a very happy, healthy and successful 2001.

Ymrs sucevely Divience Vivienne Lewis

**Executive Director** 



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FROM:

FAX NO. :442088704743 19 Jan. 2001 14:52 P1

72 Galveston Road, Putney, London, \$W15 2SA. Phone: 020 88/0 6816 Fax: 020 8870 4243.

January 19th 2001

Dear Alfred & Isobel,

Thank you so much for your help. I did as you suggested and used you as a 'shoe horn' and I have managed to raise another £3,500 plus the £4,000 you have offered and we can add the final small amount from the kitty, we can now go ahead and have the international version of the film ready for foreign language sales. The sales to the US are not a problem, they are English speaking but other countries want to add subtitles or put on their own language commentary. The profit from these sales will go to help students at The German Jewish Institute and The Wiener Library

I have spoken to Vivienne Lewis at WJR and she is perfectly happy for you to send the money through them as before. Please ona you let me know when it had gone through.

Thank you both once again for this and all your other financial help with this project and of course your continued encouragement and understanding of the importance of education.

With fondest best wishes,

Sue Read





#### Dr. Alfred Bader

924 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 Phone: 414/277-0730 Fax: 414/277-0709

E-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

A Chemist Helping Chemists

P

February 25, 2002

Dr. Arnold Thackray, President Chemical Heritage Foundation 315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106-2702

Dear Arnold.

On October 12<sup>th</sup> I sent you a letter, copy enclosed, with my check in payment of the appraisal of books and with three copies of Form 8283 which I asked you to sign in Part IV and return to me. Perhaps you forgot or perhaps the letter was lost in the mail.

In any case, I enclose three more forms and would like to ask you to sign these and return them to me. I really do need them for my tax return.

I do have your acknowledgements for the cash gifts I sent you.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader AB/az Enc. – Letter of 10/12/01 Form 8283 (3 copies)





#### Dr. Alfred Bader

924 East Juneau, Suite 622 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 Phone: 414/277-0730 Fax: 414/277-0709 E-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

A Chemist Helping Chemists

October 12, 2001

Dr. Arnold Thackray, President Chemical Heritage Foundation 315 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106-2702

Dear Arnold,

Thank you for your help with the appraisal of those 31 books which I had acquired from Professor Tadeus Reichstein.

Please sign the Donee Acknowledgements on the enclosed three forms and pay Jonathan Hill for the appraisal. My check to the CHF is enclosed.

I am so glad to know that my old friend Professor Reichstein's books will now be in such good hands.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

BOOKS \$54,950 = CHF 2,083 = (appr.)

Alfred Bader AB/az Enc. – ck. \$2083.00 Form 8283 (3 copies)



Subject: A New Partner for Non-Sectarian Aid

From: "Yechiel Bar Chaim" < yechiel@jdcparis.org>

Date: Wed, 20 Feb 2002 12:00:33 -0000

To: "Alfred BADER \(E-mail\)" < baderfa@execpc.com>

Dear Alfred

I am pleased to be able to share with you the news that we now have a new partner for non-sectarian aid to refugees in Yugoslavia.

I just received a letter and a check (for 164.74 Euros) from the International Bilingual School in Bassano Del Grappa in Northern Italy.

William Roche, my son's former school principal in Paris, is now there. He read to the junior high schoolers my earlier report on a visit to the Roma camps in Macedonia and also showed them the video you saw in London about our help to Kosovar refugees in Southern Serbia.

They have asked that the funds go to provide medical assistance to these refugees. We will be able to do so immediately through the Jewish Pharmacy that you also support in Belgrade. I will be adding to the amount from the discretionary funds you so generously provided.

Please find attached a very moving letter received from one of the seventh graders involved: Eirin Strickland

Best regards,

Yechiel

AJDC Paris Office 5 avenue Matignon F-75008 Paris, France Ph. 33 1 5659 7979 - Fax 33 1 5659 7989 yechiel@jdcparis.org



Date: 2002-02-07

From: International Bilingual school in Bassano Del Grappa

To: The AJDC in Paris

Dear Yechiel.

Last Thursday's assembly we read through the report you gave William in December on the two refugee camps. Although we were shocked by knowing the conditions in which people are forced to live, we are glad that we know and not pretending that it does not exist.

Our class has raised 164.74 Euros in a small school market for the cause, which we all supported. As William read us the letter I think that everyone was on the verge of tears (not only from how bad the situation is, but also from how noble the things you people at AJDC are doing). I have just come from our Thursday morning assembly, where we spent 20 minutes deciding what we could do to make a difference with the modest amount of money we made. After much debating of the subject we (the class of Grade 7) have decided that the money should be spent on Medicine for the people in the Refugee camps in the video.

If possible, we would be extremely happy to do something like this again as soon as possible. We feel great pleasure to be able to take part in such honourable deeds and we support your every (I would say step but I'm an optimist so...) leap of the way.

Sincerely,

Class of grade 7

By: Eirin Strickland



### Mendel Shmotkin

From:

Sent:

jewcom@a-teleport.com Tuesday, March 06, 2001 11:18 AM Mendel Shmotkin Re[2]:

To: Subject:



.doc



6 Adar 5761 March 1, 2001

Dear Dr. Bader,

This is to confirm receipt of your generous gift of \$20,000 on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, for the boys and girls Orphanages in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine. As requested these funds will be used exclusively to allow new children to enter these institutions and begin rebuilding their lives.

Your generosity allows us to expand our program of helping Jews in need – with all of their needs, material and spiritual alike. As Jews we know how essential it is to address all areas of the Human condition, first the physical and then the spiritual. To bring food to a mouth and a roof overhead, are our first concerns. To bring hope to the soul and warmth to the heart follow closely after. With your help we can continue this crucial mission of mercy.

The Talmud states, "He who saves a single life it is as if he saved the entire world." How much more so when one saves so many lives. May the opportunities you've created, and the worlds you saved, be your reward for this great mitzvah. Surely, this will stand in good stead for you and your family for all time.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Shmuel Kaminetsky Chief Rabbi Dnepropetrovsk

PS. Rabbi Kaminetsky is currently out of town. When returns we will send a signed receipt via regular mail.



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President Jonathan W. Kolker EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT Michael Schneider

January 30, 2001

Ms. Fleur Hassan Campaign Director World Jewish Relief The Forum 74/80 Camden St. London NW1 OEG, England

Dear Ms. Hassan.

Enclosed please find our check #0011369 made out to World Jewish Relief in the amount of \$6,000.

This check represents a gift from Dr. Alfred Bader which has been designated for Sue Read's Kindertransport film project. I understand that Ms. Read is anxious to receive the funds as soon as possible. I would, therefore, appreciate your expediting the process through which she receives the money.

Thank you, as always, for your assistance.

Bet regards Juna

Tzivia Bieler

Sincerely

Director, Executive Office

/tb

Dr. Alfred Bader Linda G. Levi

Post-jit Fax Note 7671	Date /20 # of pages ▶ / /
To yu tead	From Curria Daver
Col/Dept.	Co //
Phone #	Phone #
Fax# 44 4208870 4243	Fax #414-277-0704







TACH : ADR

PHONE NO. : 212 765 3867

Jul. 25 2981 04:98AM Pl

3

# American Fund for Czechoslovak Relief, Inc. Telephone: (212) 265-1919

1776 Broadway Suite 701 New York, NY 10019

#### FAX COMMUNICATION

Date: 7/2/01

Number of pages: 2

From: Vojtech Jerabek

President/CEO

To : Mr. Michael Luhan

PEOPLE IN NEED

FAX No: 420 2 6113 4137

Dear Mr. Luhan:

Today I have received your letter of 6/21/01 together with Dr. Alfred Bader's check for \$10,000.00.

Due to the urgency, I deposited the check today and, at the same time, instructed Merrill Lynch to wire-transfer the money - without waiting for the check to clear (see enclosure).

I have a request for you:

We have received a request for financial assistance from the

## MILAN ŠIMECKA FOUNDATION (Nadácia Milana Šimečku), Bratislava,

in support for their project "Facing ROMA Problem and Ourselves". I would greatly appreciate any information you might have (or secure), and your opinion, concerning the value of this foundation's activity for Slovak Roma population.

Many thanks in advance.

Sincerely, (

Vojtech Jerabek

P.S.: We'll have to try to get together on your next visit to NYC.

Enclosure



## HILLEL in the FSU

out

The years young adults spend in higher education are crucial in defining the direction of their lives, in terms both of their future careers and of their personal identities. It is thus particularly important that Jewish students in the FSU, many of whom grew up unaware that they were Jewish and who have no knowledge of Judaism, have the opportunity to examine their Jewish identity and socialize with other Jews.

In cooperation with Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, JDC introduced Hillel into the FSU in order to meet this need. And since the first Hillel Center opened in Moscow in September 1994, Hillel centers or smaller clubs have been established in a total of 22 communities, from Kishinev to Khabarovsk and from St. Petersburg to Tbilisi. Over 8000 students take part in activities on a regular basis, while many more join for holiday programs and special events.

The Hillel centers offer Jewish students an environment in which they can meet for a variety of educational and social activities, both Jewish and general. Activities range from computer clubs and theater workshops, to lectures, Shabbat programs and Hebrew classes. Students are encouraged to develop and organize many of the programs themselves. In fact, it was students who provided both the impetus and the commitment that led to the establishment of some of the smaller Hillel clubs.

Hillel often provides the setting in which Jewish students gain their first experience of Jewish activism and leadership. For example, every year Hillel trains hundreds of students to lead Pesach *seders* in communities throughout the FSU, learning an important lesson in communal responsibility. In 1999, Hillel further utilized this enthusiasm by creating the Hanukah program, whereby hundreds of students lead celebrations throughout the festival in some 200 communities across the FSU. Likewise, large numbers of students are applying their leadership skills as staff members at JDC family retreats.

In this way, Hillel is preparing students for future leadership roles within the Jewish community. Hillel has proven to be an outstanding vehicle through which university students may become involved in Jewish life on campus as well as in the wider Jewish community.

- 1. Generous support for the Hillel centers is provided by the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, the Steinhardt Family Foundation, the Benjamin and Esther Rosenbloom Foundation, and the UJA Federation of Bergen County and North Hudson.
- A special focus of Hillel is the *Pesach* project, in which students are trained to lead communal *seders* throughout the FSU, offering many participants their first encounter with the traditional *seder* customs and prayers.
  - ♦ In 2000, some 850 students fanned out to lead *sedarim* for a total of 28,500 people in 400 communities across the FSU up from some 20 students and 20 communities when the program began five years ago.
  - As part of "Project Elijah," the students visited hundreds of homebound elderly



during the holiday, distributing food packages and celebrating an abbreviated version of the *seder*.

- ♦ The local students were joined by groups of Jewish students from North America.
- ◆ The local students were trained in 17 weeklong regional pre-Passover training seminars, led by other Hillel members with experience in running Passover seders.
- In September, students led High Holiday services in 20 communities for a total of more than 7,000 participants, many of whom had never attended a synagogue service before.
   In Moscow alone, some 2000 people packed the hall to overflowing. Services included traditional prayers as well as songs and stories. A special holiday prayer book was produced and distributed by Hillel.
- Hundreds of Hillel students distributed 5,000 menorahs supplied by JDC and led holiday celebrations in schools, synagogues and the homes of elderly Jews in some 200 communities across the FSU.
- The Jewish Renaissance Fellows program (referred to by its acronym "Giraffe") supports the efforts of a select number of student leaders in reaching out to other, as yet unaffiliated, Jewish students. The program currently encompasses seven student leaders, each in a different city.
- To date, over 200 students from across the FSU visited Israel as part of the new Birthright program.
- The Lerhaus Program recruits and trains Jewish students to teach classes in basic Judaism to other Jewish students. The program, launched in October 1999, is presently offered in 20 Hillels.







JDC-FSU джойнт

# Memorandum

To: FSU Area Committee Members

Chairmen's Committee Members

From: Steve Schwager

Re: JDC Hillel programs in the FSU

Underlying all of JDC's work in the FSU is the belief that the renewal of Jewish life depends on providing the Jews who live there with the skills and tools to take their Jewish destinies into their own hands.

The attached report describes how the Hillel centers JDC has helped establish on major campuses in the FSU are not only drawing students back to Judaism, but are involving them in bringing Jewish life to thousands of others. The leadership of these young people holds out great hope for the Jewish future that JDC is committed to helping them build for their communities. I hope you find their work as inspiring as I do.



A Hillel student leads a Passover seder in the central Russian city of Ekaterinburg. This year, a special JDC renewal grant also enabled hundreds of students to bring the beauty of Chanukah to thousands of Jews across the FSU.



#### Shadows of Yesterday; Hope for Tomorrow

The very mention of the town of Khmelnistsky evokes the darkest shadows of the Jewish past. The town is named for the Ukrainian national hero who murdered hundreds of thousands of Jews between 1648 and 1656, and it lies in the heart of the Pale of Settlement, the region where Jewish life again flourished under the Russian tsars, only to be decimated once more by Hitler, and then smothered by Communism. Today, only about 1,500 mostly poor and elderly Jews remain, in a city that has become a symbol of Jewish suffering through the ages.

But this *Chanukah*, a child of the community helped fight back, against the suffering, against the shadows. A young student at the city's university, Sveta Shvartsman, participated in a new JDC-supported Hillel training program designed to enable Jewish students to bring the festival of lights to Jews in communities across the FSU. So when, on the first night of *Chanukah*, Sveta climbed aboard a JDC *Hesed* Mobile with *menorahs* and boxes of candles – she was prepared for the task ahead of her. In home after home, Sveta lit candles for dozens of the Jewish elderly that the JDC *Hesed* program serves in Khmelnistsky – beating back with the candles' light the terrible darkness that has hung over the city for hundreds of years.

"I had to tell these people how beautiful it is to be a Jew," Sveta said, "to show them that, after so much suffering, our Jewish people has survived. Maybe knowing that will help make the terrible things they have suffered a little easier to accept."

#### Background

For Jews of the FSU, as for Jews throughout history, the pursuit of knowledge and learning has a special place in their lives. And though the official anti-Semitism of the Soviet years placed many hurdles in their path, Jews were well represented in the intelligentsia.

But while Soviet Jews were raised to pursue knowledge, one major avenue of study was closed to them – the study of their own history, heritage and culture. Not only were there no Jewish studies programs at Soviet universities in which Jews could enroll – Jews were forbidden to gather and study among themselves, or even to associate together in explicitly Jewish groups.

Today, as in generations past, Jewish youth are entering the universities and colleges of the FSU in large numbers in the deeply ingrained pursuit of learning. Many, though, come to their academic studies knowing little if anything of their own heritage: they have only questions and the desire to answer them. Helping them find those answers, in the company and fellowship of other Jews, is one of the great challenges – indeed, one of the great opportunities – facing us.

### Learning to Lead; Making a Difference

JDC stepped into the Jewish void the Soviet Union left in its wake to help meet this desire, this thirst for Jewish knowledge and Jewish community that burns in so many young Jews.

Beginning in 1994 when the first Hillel student center opened in Moscow, JDC has worked to build a network of Hillels in the FSU, with support from the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation and in partnership with Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life. And over time, the 20 Hillels now in place have become more than simply a



#### JDC-FSU: Students and Community

place where the 7,000 Jewish students involved in them can socialize with other Jews: they have become key sources of outreach and leadership for entire communities.

The Jewish holidays form one of the cornerstones of reconnecting these Jewish students with their people and community. One of the most successful programs is the Hillel *Pesach* Project which teaches students the traditions, songs, and practices of Passover, so that they in turn can lead *sedarim* of their own – and even teach other students how to lead them. When the project began four years ago, some 20 students led *sedarim* in 20 locations. This year, the project mobilized over 700 students who fanned out to 35 communities to lead *sedarim* for over 25,000 people.

In an important addition to this project, Hillel and JDC have trained visiting North American students to participate in and help lead the *sedarim*. The Americans' involvement allows them to contribute to the Jewish renaissance in the FSU while reinforcing their own feeling of connectedness to Jews overseas. One student, reflecting on her experience and on the *seder*'s impact on a lonely old lady who had attended, said: "I felt that I had done the greatest *mitzvah* I could ever do."

#### Jewish Students and the Light of Renewal

With the *Pesach* Project's success both in energizing Jewish student leaders and in bringing thousands their first taste of Jewish life, JDC is working to take advantage of the students' drive and evolving leadership abilities.

Earlier this year, FSU Hillel students took the lead in organizing student and community High Holiday services that drew over 7,000 people in 17 cities. And this month, for the first time, the concept of reaching out to the community, born in the *Pesach* Project, helped thousands of Jews celebrate *Chanukah*, the festival of lights and itself a celebration of ancient Jewish renewal and independence. To prepare for the task, 80 Jewish students from communities across the FSU gathered in Kiev and Moscow for seminars to learn about the holiday, its traditions, songs and observances. They in turn trained some 500 others, preparing them for the task of bringing *Chanukah* lights and light to thousands of Jews in their communities.

Beginning with the first candle, the students braved the snow armed with 5,000 menorahs and the 220,000 candles needed for the eight-day holiday. In community after community, the students ventured out to schools, synagogues and the homes of dozens of elderly Jews served by JDC's Hesed welfare centers. At every stop, they marked the lighting of each night's candles with special readings, some about the holiday's importance in Jewish tradition, and others – such as Natan Scharansky's account of a Chanukah spent in the Siberian gulag – about its continuing significance to Jews everywhere.

#### JDC and Hillel: Building a Jewish Future

Through Hillel, JDC is able to reach out to young Jews at a pivotal time in their lives. During their student years, their identities are still forming and their curiosity is still strong. Yet, filled with the energy of youth, they can – and do – move eagerly to give practical expression to their newfound commitment to their heritage. And with that commitment, they are helping ensure a Jewish present and a Jewish future for Jews throughout the FSU.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like some additional information about Hillels or any other aspect of JDC's work in the FSU. I can be reached by phone at 972-2-655-7155, or by e-mail: steve@jdc.org.il



#### Subject: HOME CARE PROGRAM - SARAJEVO

Date: Tue, 23 Jan 2001 17:05:43 +0100

From: "Yechiel Bar-Chaim" <yechiel@jdcparis.org>

To: "Alfred BADER (E-mail)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

23 January 2001

Dear Alfred,

 $1/\,$  Our friends in Sarajevo are hiring five new workers and promise to include the 70 elderly as of 1st of February 2001.

Per your request, I will follow through with the Chajes School in Vienna.

Best regards,

Yechiel Bar-Chaim



FAX FROM:



Dr. Alfred Bader 924 East Juneau Avenue Astor Hotel -Suite 622 Milwaukee, WI 53202 Ph: (414) 277-0730 Fax: (414) 277-0709

e-mail: <u>baderfa@execpc.com</u>

#### A Chemist Helping Chemists

March 19, 2001

TO:

Mrs. Tzivia Bieler

Page 1 of \_1\_

American Joint Jewish Distribution Committee

FAX #:

212 / 682-7262

Dear Tzivia,

Thank you so much for your letter of March 13<sup>th</sup> acknowledging my check for \$60,000 for the two orphanages in the Ukraine. No doubt they will receive the funds soon and there is really no need for you to confirm the date.

However, your letter did not enclose the report on Bulgaria, and I am inclined not to renew it this year.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader

AB/az



