

CENTRAL KENTUCKY JEWISH FEDERATION

VOLUME XI, NO. 1

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One People One Destiny

The Central Kentucky Jewish Federation Campaign Chairpeople announce a campaign goal of \$425,000! This is the most challenging financial objective our community has ever set. But we shall reach it. The members of CKJF acknowledge increased needs of our fellow Jews the world over. Equally important is our recognition of the spiralling cost to CJF and its beneficiaries of increased collaboration in secular, multicultural, and interreligious social, humanitarian, and relief efforts.

Our unity has many dimensions. We Jews are one people, regardless of the ways we practice our religion. Beyond our unity as a people, we have a oneness with others in this world. We know our responsibilities as members of the Jewish community and, as ever, are prepared to meet the inherent costs.



Leon Cooper

Men's Division Chair



Gloria Katz Campaign Chair



Marilyn Gall Women's Division Chair

Sue Ezrine and Austin Cantor Super Sunday Co-Chairpeople

WHY THE UMBRELLA OF THE CKJF/UJA CAMPAIGN

An umbrella symbolizes not only protection or shelter but also a multidimensional range, 360° to be exact, of endeavors. And that is an accurate description of what the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation and the United Jewish Appeal are all about. A major focus of their joint campaign and their individual and joint ventures is to protect and shelter Jews, and, with increasing frequency, members of non-Jewish communities the world over. In addition. these organizations facilitate communications within the Jewish community and between the Jewish community and the diverse social. ethnic, economic, political, cultural, educational, and service groups among whom we exist. Let us explore just a few local, national, and international examples.

Locally, the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation maintains committees designed to service its members and beneficiaries. The assistance provided by the Social Services Committee is wide and varied. Last year it included endeavors such as finding volunteers who were willing to become legal guardians for an elderly Jew who was too ill to make competent legal or personal decisions, making interest-free loans, providing a multiplicity of counseling services. referring people to community resources for aid that could be better provided by those agencies, awarding "camperships" so that our young people could attend non-profit Jewish camps, and making a number of other painful and difficult decisions that impacted the social well-being of members of this community. The National Association of Jewish Family and Children's Service Agencies, of which we are a member, joined in community wide rehabilitation efforts after the hurricane disasters in Florida, Louisiana, and Hawaii. We wanted to be able to respond in full measure to every request, but we did not have the financial means to do so.

The Community Relations Committee participated in or coordinated activities that advanced positive relationships within this Jewish community and between the Jews of Central Kentucky and local Jewish and non-Jewish groups. Also, as a member of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory

Committee, we participated in efforts that promoted social justice at the national and international levels; for example, the relocation of people in Sarajevo - Jews, Christians, an Muslims - to places of safety and the feeding and relocation of starving Somalis.

Members of our Community Activities Committee were responsible for the success of Camp Shalom, a number of pre-school programs, and the Yom Ha'atzmeut celebration. Forum activities were in hiatus following the triumphant, but costly, appearance of Theodore Bikel.

The Russian Resettlement Committee has done an outstanding job of facilitating the resettlement of new Americans from the former Soviet Union. Assistance takes many forms, not the least of which is substantial financial subsidy for their first three months in this country. They also are provided with help getting jobs, learning English, obtaining health care, enrolling in educational programs, and the many other aspects of daily living that require adaptation as one integrates into a new social order.

This is but a small fraction of what the CKJF/UJA Campaign tries to accomplish. And we have not even mentioned the scope of our operations in Israel; operations which are completely divorced from political control or dedication. These responsibilities, and they are, in fact, responsibilities, would require more time and space than can be spared here and now. Suffice it to say that the people of Israel need the same assistance required by the residents of Central Kentucky. Just as we are ready to extend a helping hand to our fellow Jews locally, so must we extend our generosity to Jews in Eretz Yisroel.

In view of the enormity of our responsibilities, one can readily understand how attainment of these worthy undertakings depends upon the success of the Campaign Committee. None of our work, by any other committee, at any level, could be done without the invaluable contributions of time and labor by committed volunteers. But the services themselves cost money. Purely and simply put the provision of human services is the WHY OF THE CENTRAL KENTUCKY JEWISH FEDERATION/UJA CAMPAIGN.

COMMITMENT; WHAT CAMPAIGN IS ALL ABOUT.

A new fiscal year is upon us, and, once again, each member of our Federation will be asked to make a financial commitment to the CKJF/UJA Campaign. As in the past, when solicitors approach prospective contributors, they will hear such challenges as "I cannot give because I do not support the policies of the Israeli government", or "The country may be coming out of a recession, but things are still tough for me. I am sorry but I will have to cut my contribution this year." Another rejoinder is "Let's not waste time. Just put me down for what I gave last year." Occasionally they will be rewarded with, "It will be difficult, but I will increase my pledge." There is validity to all of these responses. However, because this is a service organization that depends upon the generosity of its constituents for its existence, please allow me to try and convince you to think twice about your response and of the need for more of us to select the option of an increased pledge.

First, let me reinforce the fact that Campaign is apolitical! Money <u>may not</u> be used to support any government, political movement, or military organization. Your contributions to Campaign are dedicated to assisting people in Central Kentucky, in the United States, and around the world.

Although it may be redundant to many, indulge me as I explain briefly what happens to the money contributed to the annual campaign conducted by the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation and the United Jewish Appeal. The founders of CKJF determined that, of the total pledged and contributed, we would deduct campaign costs and the funds designated for local use or Israel only first. Then, contributions ear-marked for special enterprises such as Project Renewal or Operation Exodus are directed to those respective endeavors. What is left in the General Campaign is divided. Thirty percent (30%) is retained in Central Kentucky to pay administrative costs not ncluded in campaign expenses and for the benefits that derive from the work of our Community Activities, Community Relations, and Social Services Committees. The larger

amount, 70%, is sent to national to provide services to Jews the world over. Examples of educational and vocational retraining programs in Israel, caring for destitute elders in the United States and Europe, purchasing basic essentials for impoverished Jews in North Africa and Latin America, providing assistive devices to Jews with disabilities, and counseling Israeli families so that their children will remain in school.

The work of our Community Activities, Community Relations, and Social Services Committees is vital. There is hard evidence that there is an increased need for the services provided by each of them. The level of services these committees can provide is contingent upon the level of giving to Campaign. I urge everyone to consider this reality and to respond as generously as possible.

LOAN GUARANTEES: A MAJOR REASON FOR GIVING

One of the major philanthropies of the Council of Jewish Federations is participation in a \$900 million Loan Guarantee Program. This program, unrelated to loan guarantees by the U.S. government to the government of Israel, is a response to the challenge to Israel's economy by the massive influx of up to a million Jews from the former Soviet Union. This program is a guarantee to Israeli banks (Bank Leumi, Bank Mizrachi, and Bank Hapoalim) of direct loans of up to \$1,250.00 made to newcomers who need assistance in meeting the costs of resettlement.

As of 30 November, loans totaling \$96,233,780 have been authorized to 123,832 individuals. Because borrowers have 10 months in which to convert their loan authorizations into actual loans, only 89,500 cash loans totaling \$69,548,385 have been negotiated.

* Please note that CJF is but one participant in this undertaking. Because such a financial obligation would be impossible for one organization alone, indemnification of the \$900 million is a joint venture of CJF, Keren Hayesod, the United Jewish Appeal/Canada, the United Jewish Appeal, the United Israel Appeal, and the Jewish Agency for Israel. Thus, we have a tangible effort by Jews the world over to help new Israelis become self sufficient and self reliant. Truly, the highest level of Tzedakah.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Reflecting upon this new stage in my career and upon a new home for my family produces the natural anxiety that such change necessitates. It also produces a feeling of welcome and warmth. From the interview process through my first day in the office, everyone has been so accepting and outgoing. Each and every one that I have come into contact with has made me feel at home; so many people have gone out of their way to be of assistance. I thank you all deeply.

There are many goals and challenges ahead of us as a community and as Jews. I have ideas and experience from other communities; each Board member has ideas and experiences and I am sure that you too have ideas. But ideas can only turn into realities if they are expressed and placed in motion. Thus, I urge you to share your thoughts; you are the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation. Without you, there is no Federation, no Jewish community. I would welcome the opportunity to meet you and to listen to your thoughts and ideas. I know that each and every member of the Board of Directors feels the same way. Please - bend our ears! Stop into your Federation office and let us know your thoughts.

Today, the American Jewish community is facing the problems of assimilation and a negative birth rate. At the same time, the Israeli population is expanding. Our success after years of yelling "let our people go" is now seeing the fruits of our efforts. These factors lead to increasing needs to both strengthen the local community and to provide greater assistance to Israel. Israel depends upon a strong American Jewish community. We must continue to assure that strength.

These last sentences sum up my personal philosophy and goals -- assure the strength of the local community which will, in turn, assure the strength of Israel.

I look forward to working with you in the years ahead.

-- Howard L. Ross

SUCCESS

"Coming together is a beginning... keeping together is progress... working together is success."

--author unknown

For the past several months you have afforded me the privilege of serving as interim Director of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation. It has been a wonderful and rewarding job; an opportunity for which I thank each of you effusively. If I needed assistance or advice, I had but to ask and it was there. You forgave my ignorance and mistakes, and helped me learn how to avoid future errors. This experience reinforced my appreciation of the unique solidarity and support that characterize our community. We come together, readily and whole-heartedly, whenever the best interests of Jews or Judaism are at stake.

Keeping together is more tenuous. Staying the course requires us to give of ourselves to a greater extent; to acknowledge our differences of opinion and belief; and to reach consensus. Staying together is critical a we confront issues that confront our community -- e.g. poverty in the Jewish world, building bridges with the community at large, getting Jews out of lands of oppression, maintaining our identity as Jews, etc. I truly believe that Federation is the best way for us to keep together. We have our congregations and organizations to deal with our diversities. For matters of importance to us as a society, we need to stand under the umbrella of our Federation.

But keeping together, while progress in and of itself, does not mean we will attain our goals. For that we must work together. One person does not make a committee. We cannot expect the office staff or some other member of the community to do it all. Working together means that everyone will continue to respond, in ever increasing numbers, to the requests of our new Director for active participation in the activities of this community. Success mandates that each of us commit come time and effort the well-being of all of us.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity of a lifetime! In particular, I must credit Kim Nye, Sharyn Sharer, the CKJF Board, and our (cont.)

FEDERATION DELEGATES ADOPT RESOLUTION ON BOSNIA/HERZEGOVINA, SOMALIA AND HAITIAN REFUGEES.

Federation delegates to the 61st General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations have unanimously adopted a resolution on the "Tragedy in Bosnia and Herzegovina" calling for "urgent action by the United States and European governments and the United Nations to provide safe havens and to prevent further deaths" of the Bosnian people.

"We are deeply pained by the brutal and gross abuse of human rights in Bosnia-Herzegovina this year, committed under the Serbian policy of 'ethnic cleansing,' " the resolution begins. "Repeated massacres and other atrocities have resulted in the deaths of thousands of Bosnian Moslems. As Jews, our memory is seared by our own experiences of 50 years ago."

The resolution further states that "the advent of winter threatens to intensify the suffering of the Bosnian people. It should be made clear to those responsible that they will be held accountable under international law for their crimes against humanity."

The wide-ranging resolution also called for "the international community to provide massive assistance on an unprecedented scale in order to avert continuation of the catastrophe" in Somalia, where "massive starvation" is taking place, and urged "a halt to the forced repatriation of Haitian refugees, a halt to interdiction and support for the granting of Temporary Protected Status to Haitians until the situation in Haiti is stable and there is assurance that they will not be threatened by persecution."

"The turning away of the Haitians is grimly reminiscent of Jews being turned away from our shores during the Second World War," the resolution states. A 'lesson' has been learned that should not be soon forgotten: Our country must be a safe haven for those whose lives are in danger. We urge Congress to be responsive to the needs of Haitian refugees and to enact legislation to provide refuge to Haitian refugees fleeing political persecution."

In addition resolutions dealing with the

Middle East, Soviet Jewry, Anti-Semitism in Europe, and Public Policy and Human Needs, among others were adopted.

RESCUE FROM THE MIDST OF CIVIL WAR

As battles for territory and political power spread throughout the former Soviet Union, the Jewish Agency is rescuing Jews from civil war and flying them to safety in Israel.

Hundreds of Jews from Abkhazia, the breakaway region of the Repbulic of Georgia, have reached Israel on freedom flights funded by UJA/Federation Operation Exodus. Most recently, 54 Jewish refugees from Sukhumi, capital of Abkhazia, arrived in Israel on a special Jewish Agency flight.

In Tajikistan, the Moslem republic bordering Afghanistan, civil war has erupted between the communist government and the anti-communist "democratic" forces who have formed a coalition with the Moslem fundamentalists. The situation in Tajikistan has been described as total chaos. With Operation Exodus funding, the Jewish Agency is rescuing hundreds of Jews from Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan.

(continued from p.4)

Rabbis for their positive assistance over these past months. I ask that everyone extend to our new Executive Director, Howard Ross, the support and warmth you have given to me. We are a great community, capable of progress and success. Let us make it so!

-- Evelyn Dantzic Geller



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The National Conference Brotherhood/Sisterhood Awards Dinner will be held Thursday, March 11. This year we would like to put together a table representing Central Kentucky Jewish Federation. Our visibility as an organized Jewish Community is important. If you are planning to attend, join us at a CKJF table.

If you have never attended, this dinner is truly an uplifting experience. Tickets are \$75.00 per person. For more information or to reserve a spot at the CKJF table, please call the office at 268-0672 or 268-0775.

KOL HA'KAVOD

Jerry and Rose Rita Wurmser will be recognized as nominees for the annual award by the Volunteer Center of the Bluegrass to Lexington's Outstanding Volunteer. Rose Rita and Jerry were nominated for this honor by the CKJF in concert with Temple Adath Israel and with support from Habitat for Humanity and SCORE. The Wurmsers' contributions of time and effort represent the highest form of Tsedakah, that of giving selflessly and without acclaim so that others may become self-sufficient and self-reliant. We are grateful and proud that they are members of our community.

Laura Loventhal was selected to participate in the Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition to attending the scheduled learning experiences of the conference, Laura was a guest at the swearing-in ceremonies for Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore. Our heartiest congratulations to you Laura for this prestigious acknowledgement.

Marvin Hayman has been elected to the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of Lexington. Our sincerest wishes for success in this benevolent undertaking.

CAMPERSHIPS

Once again, the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation is able to offer camperships to youngsters in the Jewish community who plan to attend non-profit Jewish camps, including our own Camp Shalom, in the summer of 1993. Last year the campership committee, whose members are anonymous, had requests which exceeded their resources. So, get your application in well before the deadline of March 15, 1993. Despite the fact that the Camp Shalom brochures may not be out before this deadline, we will welcome Camp Shalom campership applications.

The major criterion for camperships is financial need. However, financial need is relative; limited income is only one variable. Other factors taken into consideration are family expenses. So do not hesitate to apply. If your child wants to attend a Jewish camp, go for it. All inquiries and applications are kept confidential.

In addition, we can again offer scholarship assistance to young people who want to participate in Israeli educational programs. These programs range from a few weeks in the summer to year course opportunities. These applications must be accompanied by information that validates the educational nature of your program.

These scholarships are allotted on a first come - first served basis. So get your application in soon. Once again, applications are held in confidence.

Another stipend we offer is merited scholarship assistance to those wishing to participate in Anytown, a one week leadership program sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. If your interest is in involvement in interfaith activities, this is your opportunity.

To apply for any of these grants, write to the Campership/Scholarship Committee, Central Kentucky Jewish Federation, 340 Romany Road, Lexington, KY 40502. Be certain to mark the envelope "Confidential".

CAMP SHALOM

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!

The 1992-1993 Camp Shalom will be held June 7th - June 25th 1993. This year's Camp Shalom will be held at Woodman of the World Campground. The camp is located on Tates Creek Road approximately eight miles south from New Circle Road, just past Spears, Kentucky. The camp facilities include: a lodge. a dining hall, small stage, a pavilion with tables, water fountains, swimming pool, campfire site, small lake, volleyball and basketball court. The third week of camp will be held at the Temple.

Sarah Hoffman has been chosen for the 1993 Camp Shalom Director. Camp Shalom is open to ages 4 - 9 years and camp will be from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for all age groups. For more information call the Federation at 268-0672 or Jessica Ross at 273-4231.

PROGRAM

This year's University of Kentucky Multicultural Diversity Program will be held on February 17 and 18, and once again Sharyn Sharer has represented CKJF ably in both planning and staffing our contribution. We hope everyone will attend some part of the program and will take time to visit the exhibits.

But, and that always is the clincher, Sharyn cannot do it all on her own. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to staff our booth on Wednesday, February 17, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and on Thursday, February 18, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Please call Sharyn or Kim at 268-0672 or 268-0775 and let us know the hours you can contribute - and any number will be great - on either day.

VOLUNTEERS BRING SMILES!

New Dialogue Series to Begin in February

A new series of the popular Interfaith Dialogue will be held each Tuesday from February 2 through March 9, 1993.

Gail Cohen and Vernon Wiehe will co-lead the six structured meetings, which provide a congenial atmosphere to share interfaith understanding and misunderstanding.

Gail, serving her second term on The National Conference Board of

Directors, is past president of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation, a member of Ohavay Zion Synagogue, and of Lexington Havurah. She is a research associate at the Sanders-Brown Center

Vernon has served 10 years with The National Conference, six as a board member, and four as a national trustee. Vernon is a professor of social work in February 2, 9, 16, 23, and the graduate school of the University of

a well-received book on family violence. He is a member ecumenical Walnut Hill Church.

Meetings will be at 7:30 p.m. the nights of March 2 and 9. The first

Kentucky College of meeting will be at Vernon Social Work. Heauthored Wiehe's home, 3114 Lamar Drive

Persons interested in of the the series may fill out and return the form below, or call 277-4434 for more information.

am interested in participating	g in the Interfaith Dialogue:	
Name(s)		
\ddress		
City	State	Zip Code
Phones: Day	Ev	rening
Religious Affiliation		



גבול לפניך FRONTIER AHEAD



גבול לפניך FRONTIER AHEAD



גבול לפניך FRONTIER AHEAD



Jews rescued by the Jewish Agency from ethnic civil war in Sukhumi, Georgia, in the former Soviet Union, on arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Israel. The rescue was made possible thanks to Operation Exodus.





COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CKJF/FEBRUARY 1993

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Super Sun. Mtg. 7:30 pm CKJF office	2	Hadassah Women's Mtg. Discussion group program	Russian Resettlement Committee 7pm - CKJF office	5	6
7	8	9 Hadassah Bd. Meeting	Community Relations Committee 7:30 pm CKJF -office	Hadassah Moms'Tots 2-4pm Havurah Mtg. at K. Grossman's	12	13
14	President's Day Observed	16 OZS Sisterhood Mtg. (Green Circle) CKJF Exec. Committee Mtg.	U.K. Diversity Day	18 U.K. Diversity Day President's Conference Mtg., 7:45 pm CKJF - office	19	20
21 Sisterhood/ Brotherhood 10:00 am TAI Hadassah Moms/Tots 2-4 pm	22	23	24 Hadassah Moms/Tots 2-4 pm CKJF Board Mtg. at OZS 7:30 pm	25	26	27
28 Super Sunday Campaign SS Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at OZS						

Call the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation for Calendar information 268-0672 or 268-0775.

TEMPLE TOUR OFFERED

Temple Adath Israel invites you to join Rabbi and Mrs. Jon Adland on a private tour of Israel that starts on July 19, 1993 and returns on August 2, 1993.

This unique and exclusive tour offers opportunities that extend from a boat trip on Kinneret to a cable carride to Massada; from AshKelon to the Golan; and from shopping excursions to an archeological dig!

For complete information call Rabbi Jon Adland at the Temple (269-2979) or Lee Knight at the Lexington Travel Center (266-3151).

TAI LEISURE CLUB

COME JOIN THE FUN!

WHEN: February 24, 1993

WHERE: Temple Adath Israel

WHAT: Movie & Brown Bag Lunch (Drink & Dessert provided)

RSVP TO TAI AT 269-2979.

OFIAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE

PURIM BAZAAR

ON

Sunday, March 7, 1993

11:00 am - 300 pm

at Ohavay Zion Synagogue 2048 Edgewater Ct.

GAMES, PRIZES, FOOD !!

ALL ARE WELCOME!



CENTRAL KENTUCKY JEWISH FEDERATION

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