

Activity Report: Moldova

January 2008

Contents:

1. January 2008 Activities in Tables

Kishinev Organizations

Regions

Missions

Seminars and conferences

2. *Comments*

3. *February 2008 Planned Activities*

1. January 2007 Activities in Tables

1.1 Kishinev Organizations

#	Event	Organization / Project	Date	People	Comments
1.	Involving to the society	Hesed	16/01	45	A group of visually impaired people was invited to the Hesed Club program "Musical hall" and concert "Green rhapsody". Everybody likes that experiment. Visiting the general programs gives to visually impaired people the opportunity not to feel their helplessness. It's very important that they can feel themselves as a part of society and Jewish Community.
2.	The Snow Queen in the KJJC	JCC "KEDEM"	20/01	323	The first time in 2008 KJJC Theater Hall was full of cheerful faces, emotions, and smiles. Over 280 children from Jewish and non-Jewish schools, kindergartens, participants of KJJC programs and newcomers came to watch a wonderful play "The Snow Queen" staged by Kishinev Drama Youth Theatre by the tale of the world famous writer Hans Christian Andersen (Denmark). For 1.5 hours children followed the story of sister and brother separated by beautiful but evil Snow Queen. Of course, in spite of all troubles, the story finished well to the joy of everybody in the hall. <i>"I knew the story well as I read the book", said 12-year old Sasha. "But the play was very interesting and I liked how the actors performed".</i>
3.	Tu Bi Shvat celebration	JCC "KEDEM", Hesed, NES	22-27/01	58	Tu bi Shvat, the fifteenth day of the month of Shevat (in 2008 it was on January 22), is known as the "New

					<p>Year for Trees." This date determines the end of the "fiscal year" for trees for tithing purposes; in the time of the Temple, fruit that ripened before the fifteenth of Shevat was taxed for the previous year, fruit that ripened later, for the following year.</p> <p>In the KJJC the holiday was celebrated by all the Jewish organizations. Jewish Family Service organized a lecture for children, JCC prepared an entertaining and cognitive program for kids with merry songs and delicious refreshments, while Hesed Yehuda together with JFS conducted a festive meeting of the elderly Day Center clients and physically challenged children. Thus, the holiday got not only its traditional meaning, but also a new one – uniting generations and continuing our traditions in the Kishinev Jacobs Jewish Campus.</p>
4.	Remember to Survive	JCC “KEDEM”	27/01	240	<p>January 27 was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly as International Day of Memory of the Holocaust Victims. American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Branch in Moldova and KJJC Board organized a memorial event dedicated to the Holocaust tragedy. Leaders of the Parliament and Government of Moldova, foreign diplomatic missions (USA, Russia, Poland, Hungary, Ukraine, Belarus) and international NGOs representatives took part in the event together with the heads and members of the Jewish organizations, Holocaust survivors, and participants of the World War II. During the official part of the ceremony Mrs. Maria Postoico, Republic of Moldova Parliament vice speaker, underlined that tragedies happen in the history when society forgets about them.</p> <p>Mr. Victor Stepaniuk, vice prime minister of the Government, told in his speech that it is necessary to make more and more for civil education of the young generations.</p> <p>Professor Belous, one of the Association of Holocaust Survivors’ leaders, called not to disregard misrepresentation of the history. The program included exhibitions of artists’ works, books, photo and video</p>

					<p>materials describing the awful faces of anti-Semitism and antihuman acts of fascism, and premiere of the play “<i>A Shein Meidl</i>” (“<i>Beautiful Girl</i>”) by USA dramatist B. Leibow staged by Kishinev Municipal Youth Drama Theater. The two acts play made people cry and think once again on the unbelievably tragic destinies of those who perished and those who survived after all the terrors and fears of the Holocaust, Catastrophe of the European Jewry.</p> <p>Two national anthems – of Republic of Moldova and the State of Israel – symbolized our hope that humanity, democracy, and friendship between people and governments will overcome intolerance and evil. We must remember to survive.</p>
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Tiraspol

#	Event	Organization/ Project	Date	People	Comments
1.	Winter Family Camp	Hesed	08-13/01	28	<u>See comments on Tiraspol #1</u>
	Tu bi Shvat	JCC	20/01	35	<p>Children likes holiday very much. Mazal Tov coordinator tried to celebrate holiday in a new way. When Mazal Tov participants came to their room for Tu bi Shvat party they didn't recognize it. Instead of their room they saw a “magical garden”. Small feet followed the path to the music and gathered many-coloured flowers. They made bunches. The children plaid. They took away their hands from nettle and put burs to their parents' clothes. Children danced as dandelions when wind is blown. The children, their parents and guests plaid in magic streamlet. Children and parents named plants rose in Israel. The party was finished by song about Tu bi Shvat.</p>

Beltsy:

#	Event	Organization/ Project	Date	People	Comments
1.	Tu Bi Shvat celebration	JCC	20/01	100	Programs coordinators told participants about Tu bi Shvat holiday history and it traditions in Israel. The party participants

					presented the holiday symbols made by themselves. The holiday celebration consists from different stations: sport, intellectual, art and musician. The small participants received small glasses for planted flowers seeds. Youth Club, “Hour of story” and “Mazal Tov” programs participants performed the holiday history. Hesed ensembles sang Tu bi Shvat songs. The party was amusing and joyful.
2.	The inauguration of Musea Pinkenzon’s memorial plaque	Hesed	27/01	200	Beltsy city council gave the permission to rename a street, where Beltsy Hesed is situated, to Musea Pinkenzon street. A lot of guests from Kishinev and Beltsy came to the inauguration of Musea Pinkenzon’s memorial plaque. Mass media paid it attention to that important event. A lot of flowers were put under the plaque. The name of anti-fascist hero Musea Pinkenzon was immortalized. The duty of every person calls to remember that terrible events and people’s heroism.
3.	City Contest of essays “My understanding of Holocaust”	JCC	31/01	65	By the Beltsy Hesed initiative the contest of essays “My understanding of Holocaust” was organized in Beltsy the first time. The contest program includes the sowing a film about Holocaust, Holocaust history, excursion in Jewish museum and the essay. The contest winners received the special prizes from Beltsy Hesed.

Rybnitsa

#	Event	Organization/ Project	Date	People	Comments
1.	Tu Bi Shvat holiday	JCC, Day Center	20-22/01	75	The program of Tu bi Shvat party for children and their parents was very interesting. It included contests, quizzes and games. Most of all children liked musical contest “Almond tree is in blossom”. All participants were divided into two teams “Cedar” and “Cypress”. Everybody showed her musical ability. They remembered all songs about flowers and trees, composed music and lyrics dedicated to Tu bi Shvat holiday. The winners received the prizes made by Day Center clients. The volunteer told Day Center clients how Tu bi Shvat traditions appeared and

					how it is celebrated in Israel and in diasporas.
2.	Holocaust memorial day	JCC, Hesed	27/01	25	In Holocaust memorial day Rybnitsa Jewish Community representatives put flowers to the memorial of Rybnitsa ghetto victims and prisoners. They read the prayer for guiltlessly killed people. The Community members who could not come to the memorial because of their health conditions read the prayer and listened the story about Warsaw ghetto in Day Center.

1.3 Missions

#	Event	Date	Comments

1.4 Seminars and Conferences

#	Event	Organization	Date	People	Comments
1.	Torah for all times	CTPD	13, 20 and 27/01	35	This educational program began in October and takes part every Sunday. The audience learns weekly Torah chapter and its traditional commentary.
2.	Lecture about Tu bi Shvat holiday	CTPD	22/01	20	Lecture about Tu bi Shvat holiday was read for employers of Jewish organizations located in KJJC.
3.	Committee of directors	CTPD	30/01	15	The Committee of directors of Jewish organizations located in KJJC took part in Kishinev JDC office. There were discussed the following questions: the resume of event dedicated to International Day of Memory of the Holocaust Victims, plan of operation for the 1 st quarter of 2008, fundraising, work with BOARDS and others.

Comments:

On Tiraspol #1

The first time Jewish Family Camp for children from Mazal Tov program and their parents was organized by Tiraspol Hesed this winter.

In the miraculous part of winter forest on the Dniester river bank in the comfortable health resort "Dniester daybreak" children and their parents made friends, had rest, realized their skills and learned something new.

The theme of the camp was “Tradition of Jewish families” . Children and their parents learned the traditions in the playing form. Unfortunately, in the everyday life parents should go to work and do housekeeping, they have no enough time to spend with their children. In the camp the parents walked in the winter forest, sledged, play, did sport, drew and did a lot of other interesting things together with their children. The parents observed their children in different situation, noted children’s problem and asked professionals about their solving.

The camp participants met Shabbat as a big friendly Jewish family. They didn’t forget to read the blessing to children. The parents shared their knowledge of Jewish culture and customs with each other. Children and their parents drew the drawings “Shabbat in my home”.

Thanks to that camp a lot of families became friends, some young families were involved to Jewish Community and everybody had a very good time.

Plan of Activities for February 2008

January 17 - Informal Jewish education conference «Hevruta» - Kishinev

January 19-26 - IFCJ mission

January 20 - Discussion for children “One day of soldier from Israel defence army ” - Rybnitsa

Concerts dedicated to the Day of motherland defender - all over the Republic

January 24 – Show of final participants of «Moldova Eurovision-2008» - Kishinev

http://jewish.md/en/index.php?option=com_ponygallery&Itemid=92&func=viewcategory&catid=50