ADOPT-A-BUBBE WARM HOUSES PROVIDE FOOD & FRIENDSHIP FOR PESACH SEDERS

Action for Post-Soviet Jewry is now feeding 1,000 pensioners in Eastern Ukraine. Our Adopt-a-Bubbe coordinators receive funds on a regular basis for the purchase of food in a dozen Jewish communities. They seek out those in need and ask what they need. Right now it is usually food—a whole chicken, fish, fresh fruit, and basic cooking supplies. Many Warm Houses meet once a month, and in April that means providing food for a Seder. Adopt-a-Bubbe provides the funds and the participants do the shopping and cooking.

The pensioners who gather tell us that it is one of the most important and enjoyable times for them. Feeding a group is something no one can afford to do any more. They love to cook traditional Jewish foods like chicken soup, roast chicken and gefilte fish.

In Dnipropetrovsk, we now support three Warm House gatherings every month where they share a hot meal and celebrate holidays and birthdays. They become a close knit group of friends who stay in touch all year long.

In addition to providing funds for food, we ship donated clothing and medicine to many Jewish communities in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova. In tough economic times, this is also important.

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Want to travel with our staff to Ukraine or Belarus?
Want to visit and talk with members of our Adopt-a-Bubbe program?
Contact our office for details on upcoming trips
Copies of our trip reports are available on our Website & at our office

Economic Crisis in Ukraine means APSJ Provides More Food
Update on Antisemitism
Dniprodzerzhinsk Clinic

Page 1
Page 2
Page 3
Page 4
INFLATION CONTINUES TO RISE IN UKRAINE
AS APSJ RISES TO THE ECONOMIC EMERGENCY
BY PROVIDING FOOD FOR 1,000 PENSIONERS

Many foods and medicines now cost between 25% - 30% more than they did in February, 2014.

In some cases, the cost of medicine has doubled. The unrest means that imported items are slower to reach Ukraine, and many imports are totally unavailable. Much needed medicine is often out of reach for diabetics and others with the chronic ailments of aging.

Below: typical food packages from Adopt-a-Bubbe

The unrest in Ukraine takes its toll on the economy.

Food and medicine are more expensive. Pensioners are usually one of the most economically disadvantaged parts of society. Although pensions appear to be paid on time, the amount of the stipend is woefully inadequate even under normal circumstances. Food packages from Adopt-a-Bubbe usually contain a good source of protein, fresh fruit and basic cooking supplies.

Many Jewish families are now looking to emigrate to Israel. Before the political turbulence, emigration was pretty much over. Now the Israeli government has responded by adding more personnel and additional Hebrew classes to meet the demand. However, for the isolated elderly, emigration is not really an option.

ACTION FOR POST-SOVIET JEWRY SUPPORTS
MELITOPOL UKRAINE’S KABBALAT SHABBAT

Members of the Melitopol Jewish community celebrate Shabbat on Friday afternoons with a service followed by a hot meal which is funded by Action for Post-Soviet Jewry.

The prayerbook consists of 8 1/2” x 11” pages from several sources. The leader, Sveta Marshak, who is standing in the rear of the photo, also uses a tape recorder for some of the prayers and songs.

Melitopol has a very old synagogue, but it needs extensive and expensive repairs, which render it unsafe and unusable. There is no rabbi in this city.
The following items are part of e-mail messages received on antisemitism in the FSU.

February 6, 2014: Kaliningrad, Russia:
Oleg Bolychev, a legislator from Putin’s ruling party United Russia, stated in parliament that Jews destroyed Russia in 1917 and again in 1991.

February 24, 2014, Zaporozhe, Ukraine:
Firebombs hit the Giymat Rosa Synagogue, which was opened in 2012, causing little damage.

February 28, 2014, Simferopol, Crimea:
The door and façade of the synagogue in Simferopol was painted with antisemitic graffiti with swastikas and the words “Death to Jews.”

March 13, 2014, Kiev, Ukraine:
According to Rabbi Hillel Cohen, a witness, a Jewish couple, Zalman Hetzklovich and his wife escaped a gang of eight men with clubs on a central Kiev street and took cover in a synagogue.

March 18, 2014, Riga, Latvia:
About 1,500 Latvians celebrated Legionnaires Day (which their government abolished in 2000) by paying tribute to World War II veterans who fought alongside Nazi troops. Former Environment Minister Einaras Cilinskis of the right-nationalist and antisemitic Black Hundred, movement, which supported pogroms against Jews.

March 25, 2014, Moscow, Russia:
Evelina Zakamskaya, TV news anchor on a state-owned Russian TV network said that Jews brought on the Holocaust themselves. The statement was made during a interview with writer Aleksandr Prokhanov on the Ukraine crisis. Prokhanov also claimed that Jewish organizations were bringing about “a second Holocaust” by supporting the Maidan protests in Kiev.

April 14, 2014, Donetsk, Ukraine:
On Monday evening as Jews left the synagogue following a Pesach service, masked men handed out official looking flyers purported to be from pro-Russian separatists who had seized a government building and styled themselves as its government. The flyer required Jews to register and pay a $50 fee or risk deportation.
The flyer turned out to be a hoax, but the fear it caused the Jewish community was very real. It is not known who perpetrated the hoax.

April 22, 2014, Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine:
Swastikas were sprayed on the tomb of Dov Ber Schneerson, brother of the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

April 22, 2014, Sebastopol, Ukraine:
A Holocaust memorial and the grave of the late Lubavitcher rebbe were vandalized. The memorial was erected in 2003 at the site where 4,200 Jews were murdered by Nazis on July 12, 1942.

April 28, 2014, Kharkiv, Ukraine:
Jewish Mayor Gennady Kernes of Kharkiv was shot in an attempted assassination leaving him in critical condition. Kernes was shot during a morning jog, allegedly by a sniper who had followed his movements. He was flown to Israel for treatment.

April 28, 2014, Crimea:
Firebombs hit the Giymat Rosa Synagogue at 2:00 A.M. on Saturday morning. One firebomb was thrown at the door and another was lobbed at a window. The synagogue was unoccupied at the time. A person passing with a fire extinguisher immediately put out the fire preventing massive damage.

April 29, 2014, Kharkiv, Ukraine:
A Holocaust memorial and the grave of the late Lubavitcher rebbe were vandalized. The memorial was erected in 2003 at the site where 4,200 Jews were murdered by Nazis on July 12, 1942.

April 29, 2014, Chernivtsi, Ukraine:
A Holocaust memorial and the grave of the late Lubavitcher rebbe were vandalized. The memorial was erected in 2003 at the site where 4,200 Jews were murdered by Nazis on July 12, 1942.

April 30, 2014, Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine:
Swastikas were sprayed on the tomb of Dov Ber Schneerson, brother of the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

April 30, 2014, Kharkiv, Ukraine:
A Holocaust memorial and the grave of the late Lubavitcher rebbe were vandalized. The memorial was erected in 2003 at the site where 4,200 Jews were murdered by Nazis on July 12, 1942.

April 30, 2014, Chernivtsi, Ukraine:
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April 30, 2014, Chernivtsi, Ukraine:
A Holocaust memorial and the grave of the late Lubavitcher rebbe were vandalized. The memorial was erected in 2003 at the site where 4,200 Jews were murdered by Nazis on July 12, 1942.
Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation as allowed by law payable to Action for Post-Soviet Jewry

NAME____________________________
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ZIP CODE __________________
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Please charge my donation to:
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Above: Elena Lyanguzova is a nurse on duty at the Medical Clinic. There is also a physician available.

The Dniprodzerzhinsk Synagogue has opened a Medical Clinic in a house it owns on synagogue property. They offer basic tests and some ambulatory care, so patients are not given inappropriate and dangerous health care at municipal clinics and hospitals.

Action for Post-Soviet Jewry sends medicine to this clinic whenever it is available.

A portion of funding for Adopt-a-Bubbe is made possible by the Combined Jewish Philanthropies and the Dnepropetrovsk Kehillah Project of the JCRC of Greater Boston.