

Annual Report 1994 - 1995



United  
Israel  
Appeal  
of  
Canada Inc.

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## **Our Mission**

**S**ince 1967, the United Israel Appeal of Canada (UIA) has been the legally recognized channel for Israel-designated funds raised across Canada through United/Combined Jewish Appeals. UIA is the primary vehicle for fundraising in Canada on behalf of Israel.

Together with Federations in larger centres and smaller unfederated communities, UIA is a member of the Keren Hayesod family - the fundraising arm of the Jewish Agency for Israel in all Diaspora communities except the United States.

UIA's mandate is to:

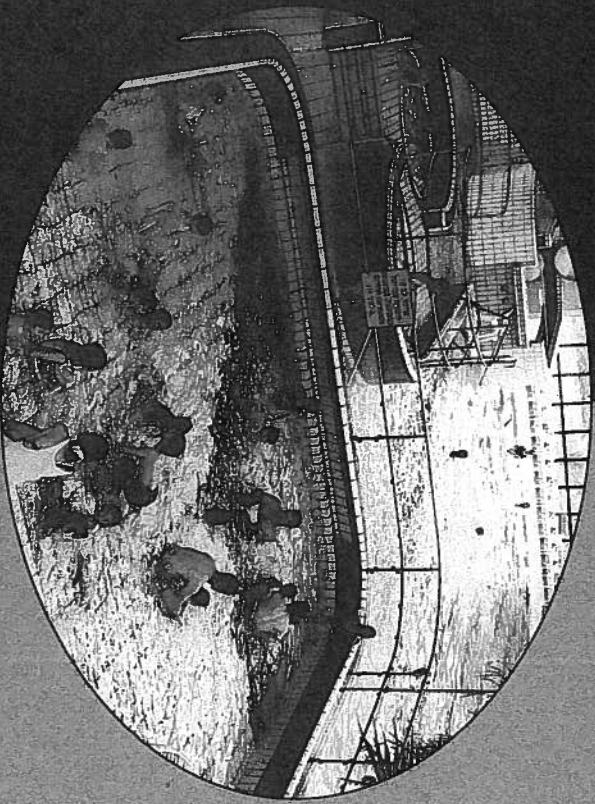
- convey Israel's centrality to Canadian and world Jewry
- directly manage unfederated community campaigns
- direct and transfer funds from Federations
- enhance fundraising for Israel through leadership development, canvasser training and educational programs
- organize national missions to Israel and special Israel awareness programs
- develop, implement and oversee special projects through the UIA office in Jerusalem and the Israel Residents Committee
- document and monitor the transfer of funds to the Jewish Agency and UIA special projects
- ensure accountability for funds received and their effective expenditure
- comply with federal laws and regulations in fulfilling its mission



## **UIA - On Israel's Northern Border**

Israel's northern frontier has always been an insecure corner of the country. The risk of rocket fire is never far from the lives of northern residents. UIA has made a major commitment to Israel's northern region, through an extensive network of projects.

- Canada Centre in Menulla typifies the deep commitment of UIA to the people of Israel. In 1994, more than half a million visitors used Canada Centre's sports and recreation facilities. They include indoor and outdoor pools, a full-sized basketball court and a famous skating rink where Israel's Olympian, Misha Shmerkin trained. **A new, Olympic size rink is now under construction.** Some of the Centre's patrons came from 100 kilometres away. Others crossed the border from Lebanon. Since its completion in 1991, Canada Centre has generated 85 full time jobs.
- The 730 seat Phil Granovsky Family Auditorium in Kiryat Shmona offers a forum for important cultural and educational events.
- At Kibbutz Sassa, the Anne Frank Haven successfully integrates Youth Aliyah children from disadvantaged homes into kibbutz society.
- A bright, modern medical clinic at the Lebanese border kibbutz, Misgav Am, was built by Toronto doctors to provide total health care for young and old.



**The facilities  
built by UIA have  
contributed to  
the Galilee's  
tourist boom.**

Approximately 100,000 Israelis live on the northern border.



## **UIA and Israel The Project Renewal Partnership**

Project Renewal represents a genuine spirit of partnership between Israel and Canada. By twinning with Israeli municipalities requiring support, Canadian Jewish communities are improving lives, and, at the same time, cementing personal ties.

Nine Canadian regions have adopted a dozen Israeli municipalities, and worked closely with them on urban revitalization.

Or Yehuda, assisted by Ontario and Atlantic Canada and Beit Dagan, a Toronto twin, were once economically deprived towns with serious drug problems. Through UIA investment in community facilities and resources, the quality of life in both municipalities has improved so much that outside residents are moving in.

The Early Childhood Education Centre in Beersheva, a Montreal project, is considered Israel's leading facility of its kind. The Centre deals with children and their parents as a full family unit.

Project Renewal has helped to absorb thousands of new immigrants, improving their lives and offering them a future of unlimited hope.

In its 16 years of existence, Project Renewal has received international acclaim for its comprehensive approach to the betterment of socially and economically depressed neighbourhoods.

**More than 250,000 people live in Canadian Project Renewal communities.**



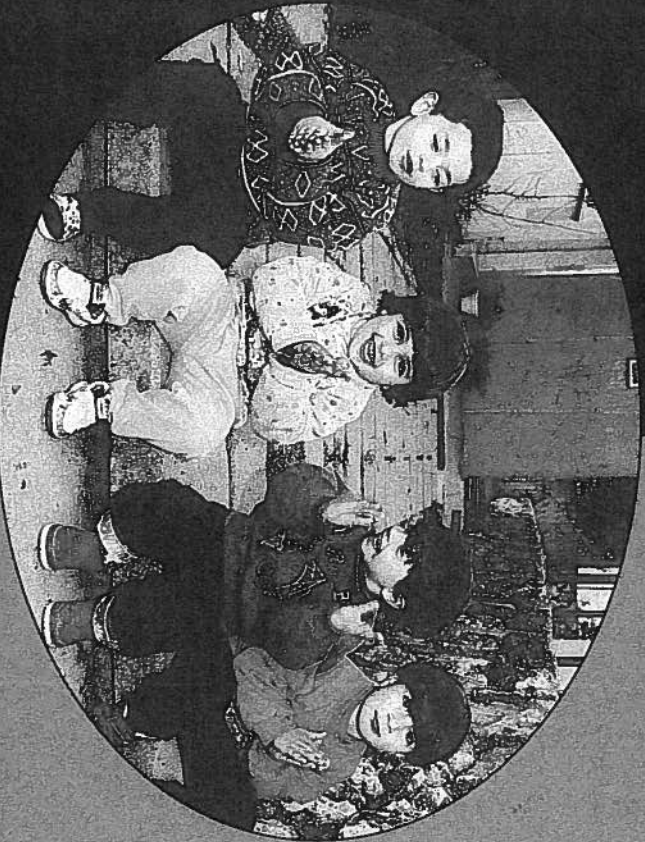
**The mayors of  
Beit Dagan and  
Or Yehuda are  
both products of  
Project Renewal.**



## **UIA and the Jewish World The Jewish Agency Story**



**Daycare and pre-school centres comprise more than a third of UIA supported projects in Israel.**

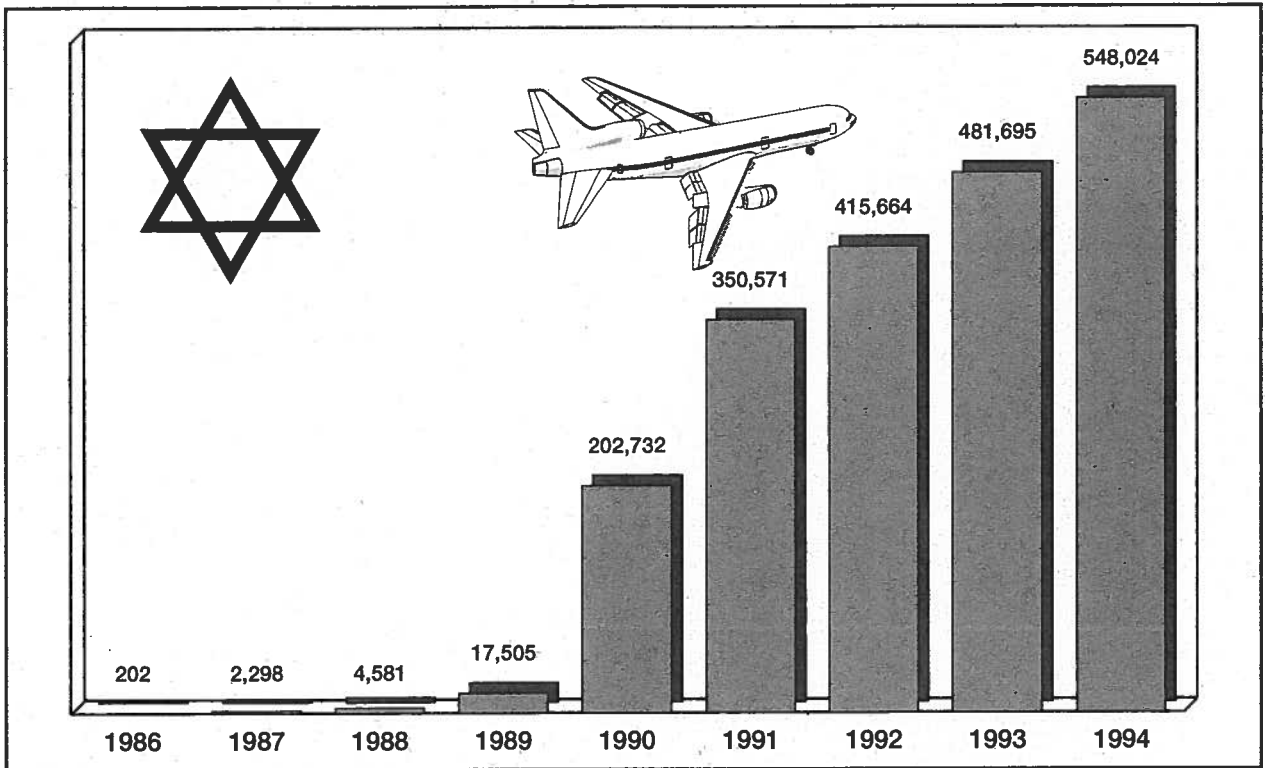


The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) has played a remarkable role in contemporary Jewish history. Since 1989, the Agency has spent \$1.3 billion to rescue over 650,000 men, women and children from their countries of origin and resettle them in Israel.

Over 80% of the Agency's budget comes from campaigns associated with UIA and United Jewish Appeals around the world.

The Jewish Agency spends \$40 million a year in the Ukraine alone for immigration and pre-migration services.

# Cumulative Aliyah from the Former Soviet Union



Data from the Jewish Agency for Israel

## The Jewish Agency Mission

Agency operations are undertaken by four key departments - Immigration and Absorption, Youth Aliyah, Rural and Urban Development and the Jewish-Zionist Education Authority.

### Immigration and Absorption

The Jewish Agency has orchestrated the largest Jewish migration since the Biblical exodus from Egypt. During the past six years, more than 570,000 Jews have left the former Soviet Union (FSU) for Israel. With JAFI's assistance, many escaped war ravaged regions such as Georgia and Chechnya. The Agency, known by its Hebrew name "sochnut", acts as the government of the Jewish people in the FSU. Thousands of youngsters attend sochnut sponsored summer camps and thousands more are taking Agency financed Hebrew lessons. Most importantly, the Agency has invested over \$1 billion dollars since 1989 on the immigration and absorption of FSU Jews.

However, Russia and the former Soviet republics are by no means the only departure points for Israel. Wherever Jews are in danger - Ethiopia, Yemen or Sarajevo - the Jewish Agency has engineered their rescue.

In 1995 alone, the Agency will be spending more than \$235 million on immigration and absorption.

The Jewish Agency's annual total budget is close to \$500 million U.S.

## **UIA, JAFI and the Jewish World**

### **Youth Aliyah**

In 1994, JAFI's Youth Aliyah Department provided a unique educational and living environment for 13,500 youngsters. Youth Aliyah participants are equally divided between Israeli born students from disadvantaged homes and young immigrants. They live and learn together in Youth Aliyah villages, boarding schools, day centres, kibbutzim and moshavim.

One of Youth Aliyah's most promising programs is Na'aleh 16, which brings teenage immigrants to Israel when their parents cannot yet make the move. Many parents of Na'aleh 16 participants eventually settle in Israel as well.

### **The Jewish-Zionist Education Authority**

A joint JAFI/World Zionist Organization project, the Authority strengthens the Jewish-Zionist identity of Diaspora youth through a variety of techniques, including Israel experience programs and educational slichim.

**One of every 9  
Israelis is a new  
immigrant.  
That's  
equivalent  
to New York  
City  
absorbing  
1 million  
new  
residents.**



The annual cost for every Na'aleh 16 participant is close to \$12,000 Cdn.



**UIA funds  
improve the  
quality of life  
for thousands  
of Israelis.**



## **UIA and JAFI Building a Better Life in Israel**

### **Rural and Urban Development**

The Department's newest initiative is Partnership 2000, building "living bridges" between Diaspora communities and geographical regions in the Israeli Negev and Gali. The Department also operates the Amigour Housing Management Company, which owns and manages some 25,000 rental apartment units, primarily in development towns.

### **An Organization for the '90s**

The Jewish Agency has always found funding for responses to contemporary problems. JAFI supports several innovative projects to protect women and children.

Women for Women is a non-profit organization that runs the Haifa Shelter for women and children, who are victims of violent husbands. JAFI also assists other women's shelters across the country.

In order to help children who have been subjected to sexual abuse, the Agency funds an organization called Meital. Its primary purpose is to provide clinical care and treatment for the entire family.

Among other innovative JAFI funded programs in 1994:

- a crisis shelter for youth in distress
- psychological support for young cancer patients
- Dor Le Dor - Foster Grandparents Program
- Judaic Studies for the Deaf

In 1994, JAFI allocated more than \$4 million U.S. to innovative projects and programmes.

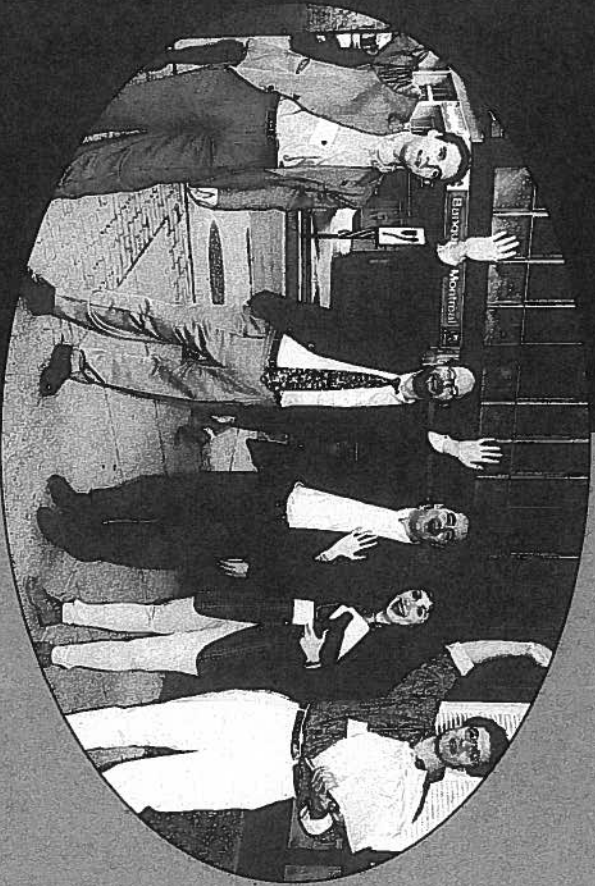
## **UIA and the Next Generation**

United Israel Appeal is an organization clearly focused on the future...and the future depends on building a new generation of leadership.

UIA invests enormous effort into creating affinity for the Jewish people among Jewish youth, sensitizing them to Jewish history and introducing them to Israel.

- The Anguish to Hope mission took Canadian university students to the death camps of Europe, the remnants of the Warsaw ghetto, Israel and Jordan.
- Over 1200 Canadian youth have already participated in the March of the Living. An additional 300 will join the 1996 Canadian delegation.
- Yachdav '95, the International Young Leadership Mission to Israel will include 125 Canadians, mingling with counterparts from Keren Hayesod countries around the world.
- UIA's *Gift of Israel* permits parents to set up a special interest-bearing savings account in their child's name for a future trip to Israel. In some cities, UIA, your local Federation or your synagogue may make a contribution toward your child's vital visit.

The number of participants in this year's Anguish to Hope Mission more than doubled over 1993.



**150 committed participants attended the first national Canadian Young Leadership Conference, sponsored by UIA.**





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