

Monday, June 10, 2024

-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

JCC Global Launches Multi-Faceted Program to Strengthen JCCs in Ukraine

Thanks to the generosity of leading North American Jewish charities, JCC Global, the leader of a global network of more than 1,000 JCCs, is offering a comprehensive program to support Jewish Community Centers (JCCs) in Ukraine.

As the Jewish world grapples with the dire consequences of the post-October 7th reality, JCCs in Ukraine continue to spearhead their local Jewish communities amidst the third year of a devastating conflict. These JCCs have successfully served their communities for many years, and their role has become even more critical. No longer focusing on social, recreational, and educational activities, they now provide around-the-clock services, including welfare, medical assistance, physical support, and often a haven for all members of the community. As the war persists, the JCCs exhausted their resources, felt quite isolated and have turned to JCC Global for help.

Since the onset of the war, JCC Global has focused much of its work on assisting the JCCs there. From educational and moral support, to accessing grants and providing online training courses- Hubs. It has educated Jewish communities around the world about the situation in Ukraine and initiated short and long-term partnerships with JCCs in Ukraine.

Thanks to the new grants, JCC Global is now well positioned to offer a new and innovative program that will focus on three interconnected tiers and several content areas:

1. **Local Level-** Providing employment services and mental health support directly to local JCC members in Ukraine.
2. **Regional Level-** Developing a nationwide JCC network in Ukraine, under the auspices of JCC Global, to build organizational capacity and create shared tools/resources for local program delivery.
3. **Global Level-** Establishing three-year partnerships where JCCs in Ukraine are matched with peer JCCs in North America, Israel, Europe, and Latin America. These collaborations will provide mentorship on resource development, capacity building, and facilitate people-to-people joint programming.

The new initiative will augment the ongoing support provided to the JCCs by JDC, World Jewish Relief, and several other organizations that have been working on the ground for many years.

JCC Global would like to thank its long-time partners and donors and the North American Jewish charities that made this program possible:

- The Jewish Federations of North America
- UJA Federation of New York
- The Jack Buncher Foundation
- The Roland S. Roadburg Foundation

The program promises to strengthen Jewish Peoplehood concepts and practices, embodying the principle of "All of Israel are Responsible for One Another". כל ישראל ערבים זה לזה!

For more information, please contact:

Smadar Bar-Akiva, Executive Director

smadar@jccglobal.org