

Non-deductible contributions may be sent directly to our address:
 Haifa Women's Center, P.O. Box 44628 Haifa, Israel.

NEW ISRAEL FUND
 P.O. Box 91588
 Washington, D.C. 20090-1588
 U.S.A.
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 40 Dundas Street West
 Suite 231, Box 29
 Toronto, Ontario M5G 2C2
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US & Canadian tax-deductible donations can be made through the:

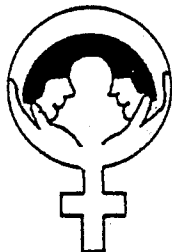
---\$25 ---\$50 ---\$100 ---\$500 Other \$-----

I wish to make a further contribution to support The Haifa
 Women's Center's important work:

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THE HAIFA RAPE
 CRISIS CENTER



ISHA L'ISHA
 THE HAIFA FEMINIST CENTER



THE HAIFA DOMESTIC
 VIOLENCE HOTLINE

THE HAIFA WOMEN'S CENTER


NEWSLETTER 1992

newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92



newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92 newsletter '92

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Outreach to Immigrant Women




Thousands of Soviet women have recently settled in Haifa, and now account for 10% of the city's population. Therefore, the Center has made a concerted effort to develop outreach to these women. It appears that in the Soviet Union, domestic violence is considered a private matter rarely discussed outside the home, and survivors of sexual assault had few resources for help. Upon reaching a foreign land with few resources in terms of language and understanding the service structure, women suffering from violence are that much further from support and aid.




To meet these needs, the Rape Crisis Center and Battered Women's Hotline sponsored a joint course to train Russian-speaking volunteers. Nine Soviet women now staff our hotlines. These new volunteers meet regularly with a veteran volunteer to discuss their work and receive on-going supervision and support.


Another element of our outreach includes Russian-speaking volunteers sharing their knowledge with their communities. They will translate resource materials into Russian, and lead educational workshops with new women immigrants in absorption centers, university programs, and Hebrew classes.





Unemployment in Israel has skyrocketed. Women comprise a disproportionate percentage of unemployment. With language barriers, new Russian-speaking immigrants have particular problems finding work in which to apply their expertise in the fields they were trained in the Soviet Union.



A new immigrant and an Israeli-born woman have teamed up to coordinate Isha L'Isha's Soviet Women's Employment Project. The project assists Soviet single mothers to find work by matching them with veteran Israeli women, established in the same fields, who will serve as mentors.



This partnership program will provide professional and personal support for single mothers entering the workforce in Israel. It will also train veteran Israelis to be career mentors for other women, and enable them to contribute their skills to new immigrants. Modeled after a similar successful project in Jerusalem, the program is a joint effort between Isha L'Isha and the Women's Studies Program at Haifa University.

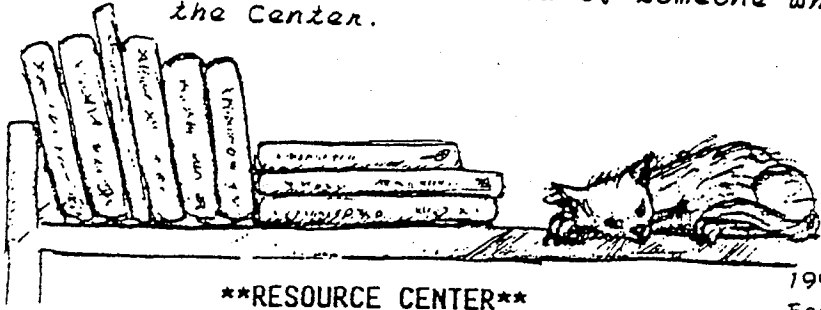


SPOTLIGHT ON MARINA PILATOVSKY

Marina recalls women's organizations in Russia, but claims that they would never call themselves "feminist". In the Russian dictionary, feminism is defined as a "bourgeois movement," so women steered clear! Marina feels that it will take time, but through persistent outreach, we will reach many women immigrants with our services and feminism.

Marina made aliya in September 1990 from Moscow, where she was a practicing engineer for 19 years. Marina began volunteering with the Hotline after the course for Russian speakers in summer '91. Aside from volunteering, Marina coordinates two Center projects: Soviet Anti-Violence Education Project and the Employment Project. Marina praises the Employment Project, saying that it allows native Israeli women to "give a hand" to new immigrants, creating a connection of value for both partners, along with providing a stimulating course.

... this summer we are saying good-bye to three U.S. volunteers who have been active in many areas of the Center. We will sorely miss Diana Selig, Susan Kan, and Bethany Dreyfus. We welcome any women who may be in Israel for a period of time who would like to volunteer at the Center. If you know of someone who this may interest, please contact the Center.



****RESOURCE CENTER****

Thanks to the generosity and inspiration of Judith Raiskin and Ellen Rifkin in Oregon, we have been preparing our library and resources for massive expansion. Students, professors, service professionals, and the general public presently utilize our Resource Center for research and enjoyment. Presently boasting a 600-volume library and resource files on topics from the feminist movement in Israel to violence against women, the Center plans to improve and increase the volume of our Resource Center to serve the growing needs of the community.

Judith Raiskin and Ellen Rifkin have coordinated book donations, and we have contacted many publishers in the U.S., Europe, and locally here in Israel. One of our main goals presently is to expand our Hebrew library and acquire books and periodicals in Arabic and Russian as well.

Marilyn P. Safir, longtime friend and activist at the Haifa Women's Center, recently edited, *Calling the Equality Bluff: Women in Israel* (Athene Press, NY, 1991.) Marilyn is Professor of Psychology and Director of Women's Studies at the University of Haifa.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF FEMINISM!

1991 marked the twentieth year of the Feminist Movement in Israel! Therefore, the National Feminist Conference planned for May of this year will be dedicated to our anniversary. A three-day conference is planned to bring women from all walks of Israeli society together at Givat Haviva, a seminar center, with highlights on the accomplishments of the movement over the past 20 years and our dreams of the future.

****WISH LIST****

Our programs have developed, and, to our advantage, our funding for projects has grown. We now must acknowledge the effect of our expansion upon our facilities and equipment. All of our machines are overused, thus are in ill-repair, or are merely insufficient for our needs. Our one computer is in almost constant use, and many of our machines are old and unreliable.

We are currently looking for donations of new or used office equipment, such as:

- **a personal computer
- **answering machine
- **filing system
- **a fax machine
- **telephone
- **typewriter



With your support, the Haifa Women's Center has been growing to meet the needs of women throughout Northern Israel. Each event and project initiated brings us closer to our common goal: to better the lives of women in Israel. We extend our warmest gratitude to all of you who have kept us going with both financial and moral support:

- ** The New Israel Fund ** Haifa Municipality ** State Bequest Fund
- ** Jewish Agency ** Israeli Ministry of Welfare
- ** U.S./Israel Women-to-Women ** Gimprich Family Foundation
- ** Fox Family Foundation ** Yad Ha Nativ ** ICCO
- ** Bronfman Family Foundation ** Moriah Fund ** Harris Family Fund
- ** Padnos Foundation ** Methodist Church of England
- ** Fainsod/Herz Foundation ** American Friends' Service Committee
- ** Global Fund for Women