

## *Don't miss it!*

We are delighted to announce our new website, which can now be accessed at:

**[www.negba.org](http://www.negba.org)**

In keeping with our principles, this website was developed by volunteers.

On the website, you can join our Negba-OSE facebook page, keep abreast of our latest developments and activities for children and teens.

Please feel free to send us your impressions, comments and criticisms of the format, presentation and content of the website. Thanks in advance!

## *Negba-OSE: New Projects*



We have just opened 2 new Houses of Hope in Beer Sheva, which brings our total potential hosting capacity to 250 in 8 Houses. We are also working on opening new Houses in Jerusalem, Beer Sheva, Netivot, and Ofakim. Most will receive joint approval from the Ministry of Education and the Welfare and Social Services Ministry, in recognition of Negba's mission and capabilities in the areas of education and social welfare.

## *Social Activities in the Teen House of Hope (13-15 years old)*



This year the "Marc-Alain Spruch" Teen House program is devoted to neighborhood projects. A whole host of community-oriented activities have been organized with the impoverished elderly to make them feel less alone: cooking and pastry-making workshops, a Hanukah candle lighting party with festive snack, delivery of Purim mishloah manot (baskets of treats).

For Passover, the teens will form 'action squads' to clean up in some of the nearby low-rent housing blocks, and will distribute food boxes to the needy.

In addition, in the near future we will host a round table of teens, parents, group leaders and a specialist on the prevention of juvenile delinquency. It will deal with the dangers of the internet and social networks (facebook, etc...) and on parental responsibility.

This round table will end a series of five encounters between teens and the police department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.



## *Activities for younger children during the holidays (children aged 6-12)*



- For Hanukah, the children went to see a play called "Be Happy with who you are", a title which is perfectly aligned with one of Negba-OSE's key educational messages: restore children's self confidence.

- For Tu Bishvat, we celebrated with platters of traditional dried fruit and then planted trees and flowers around the houses.

- For Purim, in addition to taking an active part in the neighborhood festivities, we plan an outing to see a show.

- For Passover, we are planning a trip for parents and children a week before the holiday. It will include a novel "get rid of all your Hametz" picnic.

## *Educational Activities*



In addition to the teaching of maths and Hebrew by computer, which has been enormously successful, Negba-OSE has set up:

- ✓ Personalized homework help,
- ✓ Private lessons by volunteer teachers to help fill in the gaps of children who particularly need them,
- ✓ A reading workshop...

## *Private Donations that contribute to children's well-being*



Friends of Negba-OSE often wish to fund specific projects. They have helped us to:

- ✓ Install two large libraries (with books, board games, educational games, DVDs...),
- ✓ Install a highly equipped kitchen so that balanced, nourishing meals can be prepared and served instead of canteen food,
- ✓ Create a drawing and sculpture workshop,
- ✓ Create a science experiment workshop, thanks to games donated and brought from France by group of 12th graders.



These experiments are now an integral part of our curriculum and will be expanded. A physics teacher from a Jerusalem school of engineering volunteered to train the instructors.



- ✓ Organize a picnic for parents and children to celebrate the birthday of the granddaughter of one of Negba's longstanding friends.

***You can also contribute to the children's wellbeing in the name of one of your dear ones, or by giving a gift to Negba on birthdays or to celebrate family events (Bar/Bat Mitzva, marriages...). Contact us for a list of projects corresponding to the donation you would like to make.***

*Hag Sameah!*



*This newsletter was prepared in conjunction with Hanna Geissmann, the director general of Negba, and her entire staff.*