ARYEH RUBIN

January 6, 2004

Greetings:

Attached is a copy of the ad Targum Shlishi ran as part of its sponsorship at the CAJE/Jewish Film Festival in December.

The funding of Jewish education that is facing many Jewish communities across the country is reaching critical levels. Miami and other communities need to address the inadequate resources going to the funding of Jewish day school education. In our community of Dade, the schools that I know of are facing operating deficits of between $500,000 and $2 million, with cumulative deficits that are staggering. Tuitions continue to rise above the means of many of the parents.

With budgets tight, tough decisions need to be made. The elderly need to be housed, the poor fed, and the sick healed. But if we do not allocate sufficient resources to adequately educate our youth, we will exacerbate the already dismal state of Jewish education.

Our parents' generation turned their heads on a host of issues of critical importance. If we do not upset the apple cart, allow the status quo in Jewish education to remain as is and hope for the best, we will contribute to the eventual diminution of American Jewry.

We must take responsibility, and awaken Federation, CAJE and other local communal organizations to the slow demise of the Jewish educational system.

With billions sitting in funds that give to Jewish causes, we must unlock this treasury to unleash the potential of our people.

Best wishes for a Happy Passover,
Aryeh Rubin

http://www.targumshlishi.org/mjff.gif