ARYEH RUBIN

March 30, 2005

Greetings:

Education is one of the core focus areas at Targum Shlishi. We place such a strong emphasis on Jewish education both because of the primal importance of a quality education and because of the disappointing state of Jewish education today. We seek to have an impact by funding projects that are creative, replicable where possible, and have the potential to lead to positive change. I'm highlighting just a few of several promising projects related to childhood education. A future e-mail will highlight a selection of our adult education projects. As always, I welcome your insights and comments.

CALL FOR A REVOLUTION IN COMMUNAL FUNDING FOR EDUCATION

International Conference on Jewish Education, The Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora at the School of Education of Bar-Ilan University and The Shul of Bal Harbour, Miami

Targum Shlishi helped support the International Conference on Jewish Education, held January 11-13, 2005 in Miami. The conference brought together experts in Jewish education from Israel, throughout the U.S., Canada, and elsewhere. It was inspiring to be among a group of such dedicated professionals, who clearly benefited from the conference by interacting with their peers and receiving much-needed support, advice, training, and, above all, comradery. But it was not enough. We need to change our approach. Please link to my welcoming address, in which I call for a revolution in funding and for thinking outside the box.

Links

Click here for Aryeh Rubin's welcoming address at the conference

Click here for a PDF of the conference program

ARE JEWISH EDUCATED KIDS HAPPIER?

Jewish Day School Education and Quality of Life: An Empirical Investigation of Current Students, Parents, and Schools, The Jewish Day School Consortium of Southern New England, West Hartford, CT

This research project, currently in its preliminary phases, investigates the impact of Jewish day school attendance on the quality of one's adult life. The project addresses two core questions: 1) Do Jewish day schools provide their students with an advantage over their same-age peers not attending Jewish day school?, and 2) Do parents who themselves attended Jewish day school differ from parents who did not in terms of satisfaction with their lives? We feel that this research could positively impact both enrollment and funding of Jewish day schools.

HOW NOT TO BEAT-UP ON SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Multimedia Learning Project, Targum Shlishi, Miami

Targum Shlishi generated the idea for and is organizing and funding the development of a series of high-quality, single-unit multimedia educational materials for middle and high school students to be used with substitute teachers. This project was borne of frustration with the poor quality of education that typically occurs with substitute teachers. We are currently meeting with educators, brainstorming ideas, and developing a prototype and a master plan. Our goal is to develop a model and then attract other foundations to partner with us to fund further development.

BARUCH BUNNY OR RABBI SEUSS ANYONE?

Jewish Children's Books/Sippurim Website, New York

Looking for quality children's books on topics related to Judaism and Israel? We're very excited about this website, being created by the new organization Sippurim, which will include a searchable database to allow people to research books by several criteria including subject (for example, Israel, Rosh Hashana, Jewish identity, Holocaust, etc.), author, title, and age range. The website will also include other valuable information such as links to websites for Jewish families and information about authors of books for Jewish children. This project is in the preliminary stages, with plans to launch the website in the summer 2005.

Sincerely,
Aryeh Rubin
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