

Hello, my name is ___ and I'm _____. Thank you for coming together in support of Project Keshet.

Project Keshet supports a large grassroots network of Jewish women leaders in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Israeli Russian-speaking communities, as they advocate on behalf of women and girls, the Jewish community, and underserved populations in their region.

Project Keshet-trained activists address local and regional challenges with the full skillset and adaptive strategies of seasoned organizers. With great passion for Tikkun Olam, the Jewish commitment to 'repair the world,' they engage and inspire their community to take action.

Whether pivoting to virtual learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, advocating for resources and legislation to end gender violence, or gathering women across time zones for a virtual Jewish holiday celebration, PK-trained leaders are prepared to assess and adapt to the ever-changing needs in their communities and beyond.

This year, in honor of the 100th anniversary of the first Bat Mitzvah, Project Keshet prepared women and girls in Belarus, Israel, Russia, and Ukraine to become B'not Mitzvah. With war on the horizon, the women of Project Keshet Ukraine refused to cancel their plans for their group Bat Mitzvah. In fact, after discussing emergency and evacuation planning in their staff meeting, the PKU staff set out to travel to Odessa, Ukraine, to prepare for the momentous occasion. Vlada Nedak, Executive Director of PKU shared, "Planning the Bat Mitzvah for the women and girls of Jewish Ukraine was a great distraction and joy during this time. It has kept us focused on the positive and conscious in the present, despite the frightening news reports all around us."

Today, the Project Keshet network is mobilizing globally to support Ukrainian women and families. The Project Keshet Ukraine (PKU) staff is on the ground either sheltering in place or traveling in search of safety. PKU activists have crossed into bordering countries in Europe, many with children and elderly family members depending on them. All the while, Project Keshet leaders in Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, and Israel are fielding requests from Ukrainian women for help with evacuation, support at the border, immigrating to Israel, and accessing emergency support services. Project Keshet is in daily contact with Jewish relief efforts on the ground and in Europe.

Project Keshet is supporting Ukrainian women with emergency cash grants, establishing a charitable fund in Ukraine to vet and process requests and make rapid emergency grants to individuals and grassroots initiatives, promoting the creation of emergency kits for women to include underwear, socks, hygiene products, and emergency contraception, developing an SMS system for compassionate communication with Ukrainian women, and creating a radio show on Ukrainian public radio on mental health and reproductive health realities during war.

What can you do to support Project Keshet Ukraine? Make a donation and share this information with your friends.