

Hillary Rodham Clinton Addresses 1,200 Women at UJA Federations of North America International Lion of Judah Conference

NEW YORK — First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton spoke about her vision for women in the 21st century at the closing program of the three-day International Lion of Judah Conference in Washington, D.C., September 15. The conference was organized by the National Women's Campaign of United Jewish Appeal Federations of North America.

The sold-out conference was chaired by Betty Kane of Southern New Jersey, Immediate Past Chairman of the UJA National Women's Campaign. With 90 percent of the gifts closed, the conference raised \$11.6 million, a 16.4 percent increase over last year's conference and a Lion of Judah Conference record.

"I know that the women's campaign never waits, Lion of Judah women never wait, the UJA never waits, and you never wait. There are older citizens in the former Soviet Union who now have food. And there are victims of family violence from Baltimore to Israel that now have a new start. There are people all over Eastern Europe whose families are reunited and whose lives have been improved. I want to thank you for the work you do every single day," Mrs. Clinton said.

"I am also pleased that for the first time ever, the chair of UJA is a woman, Carole Solomon. I am well aware of how you have been talking about issues over the days of this conference - ones that can no longer be pigeonholed as



Hillary Rodham Clinton greets attendees at UJA Federations of North America's International Lion of Judah Conference, after being introduced by National Women's Campaign Chairman Rebecca Newman.

UJA Federations of North America, a partnership of United Jewish Appeal, the Council of Jewish Federations and United Israel Appeal, unites three premier American Jewish philanthropic organizations: UJA, which since 1939 has raised unequaled sums to save and sustain Jewish lives through the programs of the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and the American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), CJF, which has provided leadership to hundreds of Jewish communities across North America since 1932; and UIA, which oversees the distribution of funds to the Jewish Agency for Israel. ☆

women's issues - for which I am personally very happy," she said. "I wish you a happy new year. I wish that all of you may have the fulfillment that comes from knowing that you have been of service to others. May you all be written into the Book of Life."

The Lion of Judah program represents more than 7,000 women around the world who each give a minimum of \$5,000 to the UJA Federation Annual Campaign. The UJA Federation National Women's Campaign, chaired by Rebecca Newman of San Diego, contributed \$140 million to the 1998 Annual Campaign and has \$180 million in endowment funds.



She also shook hands with many of the 1,200 women attending the conference.

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V.O.T.E. '98 Program a Huge Success

More than 60 members of the Jewish community spent Sunday morning, October 18, at V.O.T.E. '98. The highlight of the four-hour program was a candidates' forum for both at-large and district candidates.

In addition to the forum, two plenary sessions were scheduled. "Charlotte in the 21st Century" featured Ike Heard, Executive Director, Northwest Corridor Community Development Corporation; Pam Syfert, City Manager; David Miller, Retail Partner, Childress Klein; and Rob Walsh, President, City Center Partners. "Growing Up Jewish in Charlotte" featured speakers well-known within the Jewish community: State Senator Leslie Winner; Marcia Simon, Charlotte's 1998 Woman of the Year; Jackie Fishman, a teacher in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System.

Keynote speaker, Lynn Wheeler of the Charlotte City Council, emphasized the importance of

developing uptown Charlotte, a theme that was carried into the "Charlotte in the 21st Century" session.

How Charlotte and North Carolina have radically changed as a place for Jews to live was emphasized in the "Growing Up Jewish in Charlotte" session.

The Candidates' Forum was moderated by WBTV's Mike Cozza. Responses to the questions were completely in line with what

the candidates had previewed for us in their advance responses to questions which was published in last month's Charlotte Jewish News.

Reprints of the candidates' responses are still available from the office of the Jewish Federation, 366-5007. Many thanks to the Women's Political Caucus Committee and to Emily Zimmern for summing up the program so beautifully. ☆



Women's Political Caucus Committee: (left to right) Ruth Goldberg, Izzy Rothchild-Woll, Susan Hirsch, Susan Hader, Ginny Rosenberg, Tammy Goldstein, Cary Bernstein. Not pictured: Lee Bierer, Anne Sinshemer, Emily Vaughn.

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