

LUBAVITCH NEWS SERVICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LUBAVITCHER REBBE URGES SUMMER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

FOR JEWISH YOUTH

NEW YORK (LNS) - A call to make facilities available for educating Jewish youth during the summer has been issued by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, world leader of the Lubavitcher movement.

"During the summer months many Jewish institutions are closed and teachers are away. In many instances youth are left to roam aimlessly through neighborhood streets, and are often exposed to the lurking danger of degenerate elements. This ominous threat and waste of invaluable time can be transformed into a constructive recreational and educational boon," the Rebbe said.

"The responsibility to implement the necessary changes rests upon Jewish communal leaders," the Rebbe said, "and particularly upon the educators." The Rebbe asked that educational institutions remain open during the summer and special classes scheduled, and that teachers be

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recruited to "fully utilize the potential of the carefree, otherwise empty summer days."

In his appeal the Rebbe also asked that existing overnight summer camps exert special effort to accommodate more children.

"All children who have recently emigrated from countries behind the iron curtain should be given an opportunity to spend the summer in camps which operate under Jewish auspices," the Rebbe said.

The Rebbe said that he would partially subsidize the costs of sending these children to such summer camps.

Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch, the educational arm of the Lubavitcher movement, announced that in accordance with the Rebbe's instructions it has directed its world-wide network of summer camps to undertake emergency expansion measures to accommodate additional campers.

Its regional offices throughout the world will remain open for the entire summer, and will sponsor day camps and various classes for Jewish youth.

Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch has also just established for this purpose a new division called S T E P (Summer Torah Educational Program) which will seek to implement all kinds of summer educational programs in Lubavitcher and any other Jewish educational institutions that wish to avail itself of its free services.

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