

## **Polina Levina With Work Colleagues**



Teachers of the school where I worked until I retired at the annual meeting of teachers and their former pupils. Me, Polina Levina - 4th on the left. This photo was taken in Uzhhorod in 2001.

The only thing that has improved lately is Jewish life. I know what the attitude towards Jews was like in the past and how it has changed. There is a Jewish community in Uzhgorod. They restore Jewish traditions, but not only that. In 1994 my TV caused a big fire at my home. The Jewish community helped me a lot.

In 1999 Hesed was established in Uzhgorod. They improved our life significantly. I rarely take part in the numerous cultural events in Hesed. I don't know traditions or the language, but I read a lot. I recently read about Purim, I read the Torah from time to time. Going out is a problem for me and Hesed sends a car to take me to a cultural event.

My life has become easier since Hesed supports me. Old people receive food packages and single old people have meals delivered to their homes. I've never had any housemaids, but now I have a woman who comes to help me about the house. It is very important, especially after I broke my leg.

Hesed provides big assistance: they provide medications to Jewish people in hospitals and also give us money to buy medications that we need. I've met many kind people in my life, but Hesed is the first organization doing good that I know.