# ANNUAL





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## Facts & Figures 2009



# 217 adults & 323 children

217 adults and 323 children take part in NEHEMIA Church services regularly.

## 9.350 Parcels

Children in different institutions like kindergartens, schools, hospitals, etc. in the region of Pogradec and Durrës received Christmas parcels distributed by CHW and NEHEMIA.

## 131 Co-workers

109 full time, 10 part time, 12 foreign co-workers & 32 volunteers work at NEHEMIA.

## 3.856 Home visits

101 families and individuals, especially the elderly and disabled persons were visited regularly.

## 241 Persons

In our soup kitchens we served 44 people with daily hot meals and coffee. In addition, 197 children in our Day Care Centre in Durrës and in Amaro Tan School in Pogradec, are daily provided with lunch.

## 18 Years

Since 1991, missionaries and co-workers from NEHEMIA have been continuously working in Albania.





#### 2009 - crisis?

Every crisis holds a chance, that's what I was told in the beginning of 2009, when everywhere was talk about economic crisis and other problems. I was reminded of a statement of Lothar Späth (former Premier of Baden-Württemberg and successful manager): "Crisis? – Ladies and gentlemen, gold rush fever is in the air! If only I'd be your age again.....

A provocative statement. Now that the new year has started, we can look back and analyze the year 2009:

Economical problems everywhere, here at NEHEMIA constant changes of staff and lack of personnel, a heavy tax burden, authorities who have no understanding for the essence and value of Non-Profit-Organizations, additional responsibilies for the Amaro Tan School, and, to make things worse, very sad news: our invaluable counselor, supporter and friend, Alfred Wenig, passed away! Reason more than enough to lose courage....

However, things look different if we see ourselves firmly knitted into an international network of responsible friends, co-workers and people, whose attitudes are; "Now more than ever". They are aware of our responsibility towards those, who are not articulate, who do not have a voice, who are not heard: the poor, the sick and needy, children and young people whose futures we shape - our "clients".

A network of supporters who recognize their God-given responsibility towards people in need. They utilize crises as chance, mobilizing all their energy.

Therefore we were able to take many steps which had been waiting in line for quite a while.

Steps that led into a completely new phase in our work:

The foundation of "Friends of NEHEMIA Education"; a long time partnership with "Golden Cross Mission" has been deepened and newly defined; the University has formed its profile as a performance and quality oriented small institution of higher learning and started with lessons on Jan. 04,2010; long-term partners have registered their own organizations, taking over responsibility for their work; NEHEMIA's activities have started to expand into other countries in the region; much-needed buildings and facilities have been constructed or will be finished during the coming months.

NEHEMIA Foundation has successfully reached the delegable phase of organizational development. Strong support among others from German politics and business led to the membership in DIHA (Association of German Industry and trade in Albania) and DAW (German-Albanian trade association). Standing up in unity with, among others, German, Swiss, U.S. Diplomatic Missions, raised the awareness for the work of small NGOs, a partial success being the planned abolition of 20% VAT for education.

It's obvious: crises can really turn into opportunities. We want to express our gratitude to all our friends in supported and supporting countries, to friends from churches, business and politics. We're looking forward to a continuing cooperation.

On this note we look ahead with gratitude and go on, with faithfulness and innovative courage, to live our vision: To love the Lord our God and learn to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

Arnold Geiger, Head of Regional Center, NEHEMIA

# Highlights & Challenges 2009



#### Alfred Wenig Chapel

On Saturday, February 21, 2009 we celebrated the commemoration service for the late Alfred Wenig, a faithful friend and substantial supporter of NEHEMIA in Albania.

Among many other projects he initiated and facilitated the construction of NEHEMIA Center in Buçimas. His special attention went to the church as the center and heart of the complex.

Therefore, the chapel has been named after him. A beautiful mosaic in the entrance area of the church of the portrait of Alfred (artist: Anastas Kostandini/Taso) was unveiled by the architect Helmut Hauser.

During the celebration hope seemed to outshine mourning. Alfred Wenig's only goal in life was to serve God and to help people in need. Now his untiring work has come to an end and he can rest and reap the fruit of a life in service for the Living God.

Alfred was well known as the "father" of the NEHEMIA partner organization "Golden Cross Mission". This organization has received the legacy to go on and fulfill his lifework.

Both organizations NEHEMIA Foundation and "Golden Cross Mission" will cooperate more closely in the future.

We will miss Alfred's wise counsel and rich experience in many fields, as well as the blessing of his daily prayers for us.

## Growing together: NEHEMIA Church and Apostolic Church

With the farewell of our former Pastor Gian Paul Ardüser and his family, a new phase started for church life.

With NEHEMIA Church looking for a new Pastor and the Apostolic Church, a long-term NEHEMIA Partner, searching for bigger facilities, a perfect solution showed on the horizon: The unification of both churches. Since August 2009, following many years of informal and harmonious cooperation, we have celebrated services together and organized several joint activities. In February 2010 the final decision on the unification will be made.

## Merge of Local Centers Buçimas and Pogradec I

In order to raise effectiveness of our activities in the Pogradec area, most of the projects have been moved from our traditional center in Pogradec to the premises in Buçimas. This move will leave the spacious facilities available for use by the CfN Bible School and the NEHEMIA Church.

#### **New Rector for NEHEMIA University**

With Professor Alexander von Freyhold as the new Rector of NEHEMIA University we are grateful and honored to have an experienced expert.

During his long career he has been the founding member of 9 institutions of higher education, among them the "Dual University of Mosbach" in Baden-Württemberg, Germany and the first practice-oriented study program in Albania, at the University of Durrës.

#### **NEHEMIA Constructions**

The NEHEMIA Foundation has advanced in the construction of new facilities: The muchneeded high-school building and a beautiful guesthouse taking form on the NEHEMIA compound in Buçimas.

Workers and machinery are working nonstop in order to reach the following ambitious goal: Completion of the buildings by the summer of 2010! Albanian and German coworkers are cooperating closely in this big project.

The new high school building will also be used by NEHEMIA University. Modern, environmentally friendly construction techniques and quality equipment are important features.



## International guest teams at the adidas-NEHEMIA Challenge Cup

In 2009, NEHEMIA welcomed for the first time international teams at the annual tournament. Besides the local teams representing their schools in football, volleyball and basketball, a school-team from Macedonia and an adidasteam from Greece were part of the big tournament.

These teams competed in friendly matches with guest teams from the NEHEMIA Local Centers in the Albanian towns of Gjirokastër, Durrës and Krumë/Has.

Macedonian children were also part of the EUsponsored project "Citizenship in us" organized from our school at the same time in Buçimas.

#### **Independence of Partners**

Three of our Partner organizations have successfully reached the next step in their development.

Having registered as independent foundations they were enabled to leave the NEHEMIA partnership. We are grateful for many years of fruitful cooperation with "Medizinische Nothilfe Albanien e.V." (MNA), "Christ for the Nations" (CfN) and the "Freie Christengemeinde Lörrach e.V." (New Dimensions). We are looking forward to an ongoing cordial relationship with a common vision: To love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul and mind and learn to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

### Challenges

## Farewell of Pastor Gian Paul Ardüser and family

After serving for 13 years as the Pastor of NEHEMIA Church and Head of National Center (HoN) of NEHEMIA Foundation, Gian Paul Ardüser and his family returned to Germany. We are grateful for the highly qualified Albanians, who are ready and able to fill the gap:

Ardi and Herolinda Shkullaku, both long-term church members and highly gifted leaders.

#### **Starting NEHEMIA University**

The opening of NEHEMIA University on January 4th was a big success. However, the small number of only 8 students meeting the admission criteria and willing to study in Pogradec indicates the challenge to convince potential students of the attractive possibilities, system and perspectives of NEHEMIA University in Pogradec.

#### Tax laws

In 2008, changes in the Albanian legislation burdened NEHEMIA Foundation with an unforeseen and extremely challenging problem: Non-profit organizations have to pay a VAT of 20% on income from charitable projects of public utility.

This applies also to the tuition of NEHEMIA Schools, bringing a high financial pressure on the NEHEMIA Schools.

However, there is light on the horizon: Beginning in October 2010, after two years this law is mandated to be revised again.

# Vision, Mission, Values



## **NEHEMIA** Vision

"To love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul and mind and learn to love our neighbors as we love ourselves"

## **NEHEMIA Mission**

"By utilizing our Christian values we will impact, in positive ways, the people and societies of Albania and other Balkan countries"

NEHEMIA Albania shares the conviction that the most effective and sustainable way to reform societies is through the nourishing of the people's minds, bodies and spirits. It is through helping them to create healthy and Biblically-based lifestyles that we transform and build-up lives and nations.



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## **NEHEMIA** Values

Core values of our organization:

Compassion Forgiveness Respect Integrity Honesty Commitment Our values and ethical principles come from the Bible.

The Bible is the foundation of our work.

We believe that in this book God has given his answers and remedies to the many problems the society is going through these days.

In this view, it is essential that our leaders and co-workers respect and act according to the values and standards of our foundation, and that these values become part of their work.



## Centers & Partners





Partners				
Apostolic Church ACH	Christian Relief Association, Wismar CHW			
<b>Global Business Assist</b> (cooperating mission in the USA)	Golden Cross Mission GKM			



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## National & Local Centers

#### Albania (NC AL) and Buçimas (LC PG BC)

National and Lokal Center of the NEHEMIA Foundation in Buçimas at Lake Ohrid consists of eight buildings (two under construction) that are in use for many projects. At the mission house guests and coworkers find a warm welcome.

#### **NEHEMIA University (NC NU)**

On January 4, 2010 NEHEMIA University started its academic programs with the Bachelor of Arts in Business and Economics and soon also the Master in European Studies. The University is located at NEHEMIA Center in Buçimas.

#### Durrës (LC DR)

In this city on the Adriatic coast, NEHEMIA cares mostly for members of the large Gypsy community and for the poor people in the surrounding villages. In addition to the many regular church meetings, humanitarian aid is provided and a day care center for poor children is operating.

#### Gjirokastër (LC GJ)

In this southern city NEHEMIA assists people through church services and various social projects, such as a soup kitchen for the poor, day care and a mobile care service.

#### Has (LC HS)

In the city of Krumë in the district of Has in northern Albania our co-workers run a small physiotherapy room and a consulting office. They also organize different projects for urban development.

#### Amaro Tan (LC-PG II)

The private Christian School Amaro Tan offers education, shelter and care for poor and needy children. The Amaro Tan School is primarily attended by Roma, but also by physically and mentally disabled children.

#### **Bishnica (LC BI)**

In this village about three hours distance from Pogradec the NEHEMIA Partner CHW has been operating for a long time. They are helping the community with spiritual, medical, social help ministries and a dormitory for school children.

#### Peshkëpi (LC PE)

Through a Community Development Project, NEHEMIA has been helping in the village of Peshkëpi since 2002. Various construction and humanitarian aid projects have been implemented there in cooperation with Golden Cross Mission (GKM), one of our partners.

#### **Golden Cross Mission (GKM)**

GKM works closely together with the NEHEMIA Foundation along with others. Together we support community development in Peshkëpi and various construction projects. The cooperation has grown closer and will soon lead to a new and effective structure of cooperation aiming at an international service network.

#### Apostolic Church (ACH)

The Apostolic Church cares mainly for the people of villages near Pogradec. They bring both spiritual help and material aid to people in need. In the village of Stropcka the church building, which will also house social activities, was inaugurated in 2009.

## Christian Relief Association Wismar (CHW)

CHW has formed its work in Bishnica into a NEHEMIA Local Center, running spiritual, social and educational projects.

#### Global Business Assist (GBA)

Cooperating Mission

NEHEMIA closely collaborates with the US business development organization GBA. They support us in the realization of different educational and businessrelated projects.



# **NEHEMIA Structure**



#### Local - National - Regional Centers - the purpose

Establishing different NEHEMIA Local Centers, each with spiritual, social and educational services, is an essential part of the NEHEMIA structure. At the moment, we have Local Centers in Buçimas, Durrës, Gjirokastër, Has, Pogradec, Bishnica and Peshkëpi.

The two National Centers Buçimas and NEHEMIA University (located in Buçimas) coordinate the work on the national level.

A Regional Center forms the basis for impact and growth in the South-East-European region.

#### NEHEMIA Supervisory Board (SuBo)

Kai Uellendahl (Chairman) Christian Vögeli Fabiola Haxhillari Helmut Hauser Frieder Weinhold

## NEHEMIA Executive Board (ExBo) & NEHEMIA University Board (NuBo)

Arnold Geiger Isolde Flessa Herolinda Shkullaku Alexander von Freyhold Alma Vögeli Barbara von Schnurbein Toni Gogu Rob Provost

#### Co-workers (131 in total)

- 109 Albanian co-workers (full time)
- 10 Albanian co-workers (part time)
- 12 Foreign co-workers
- 32 Volunteers





"Structure follows strategy and service."



## **Spiritual Ministries**

NEHEMIA Church is part of the International Pentecostal movement and the Evangelical Alliance in Albania. It is a Protestant church with its doctrine based on the Bible. We believe that in this book God has given His answer and remedies to the many problems society is going through these days.

Spiritual work based on biblical values is the foundation of all our activities. The ministry of the local church includes home groups, prayer meetings, spiritual counseling, support to the poor and people in need, evangelism, etc.

#### **Church Services**

NEHEMIA Church is working in three cities, Pogradec, Durrës and Gjirokastër, and in about 11 villages. There are 217 adults and 323 children who take part in services regularly.

Our partners, Apostolic Church and CHW, are also doing their various spiritual services in Pogradec and surrounding villages.

In addition there are a lot of services for children, women, young people and men organized during the year. These services support the various projects in the fields of welfare and education.

#### **Spiritual Meetings**

Children, youth groups, women, men or home groups; a variety of people is meeting for spiritual growth in the different NEHEMIA Local Centers.

Activities like reading the Bible, worship, prayer, the organizing of creative evenings, games or projects, etc. are typical for this service.

Children meetings

As part of school life, NEHEMIA offers daily devotions at Amaro Tan School and Kindergarten (137 children). During the school week there are voluntary meetings at NEHEMIA School with 165 children as well.



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Regular meetings also take place in other NEHEMIA Centers in Sunday church services. In the centers of our partners, CHW and Apostolic Church, appropriate programs are also held.

The Christian scouts "Royal Rangers" are meeting twice a month in Buçimas.

#### Women meetings

Several meetings were organized in Buçimas village with about 10-15 women participating. Also mothers and clients of our social services are invited to special celebrations several times a year.

#### Home groups and prayer

Home groups are very important for the church as they are like a gym for the personal relation with God and the community. Some of these home groups and additional prayer meetings are held in the different NEHEMIA Centers.

#### Children and youth summer camps

For many children summer camps are the highlight of the year. The following camps took place during 2009:

- Summer camp for children with 55 participants in Durrës
- Summer camp for girls with 20 participants in Durrës
- Summer camp for children with 50 participants in Pogradec
- Royal Rangers summer camp with 50 participants in Bucimas
- Summer camp for children with 70 participants in Gjirokastër
- Summer camp for 6 families in Gjirokastër

#### Seminars

- Unity as a blessing inside the team (NEHEMIA Church, Durrës)
- Relations in marriage, family and community (Walter Rückstei, Switzerland)
- Worship (NEHEMIA Church, Durrës)
- Local and universal ministries in the church (Apostolic Church, Sandro Sardella, Italy)
- Church unity (Apostolic Church, Andrea Thomas, Italy)

### **Facts**

**217** adults and **323** children take part in NEHEMIA Church services regularly.

**165** NEHEMIA School pupils take part in the children's meetings voluntarily at school.

**Daily** devotions are offered during the school week at Amaro Tan for approximately **137** children.

### Facts

## Variety of groups and people for spiritual meetings:

Children, youth groups, women, men and home groups.

#### Activities:

Reading the Bible, worship, prayer, creative evenings, games, projects, excursions etc.

### **NEHEMIA Goal No.1:**

"To plant and nurture self-multiplying and growing Christian churches in Albania and in the whole Balkan region"



### Facts - spiritual ministry

**6** different summer camps were organized, mostly for children.

**5** different seminars took place in 2009.

**50** persons took part in the Royal Rangers' camp, organized for the first time by Albanian leaders.

#### **Other activities**

2009 has been a year full of different spiritual activities in Buçimas, Stropcka, Pogradec, Durrës and Gjirokastër:

- Organization and performance of the musical "The Three Kings" by pupils of NEHEMIA School shown in Buçimas, Pogradec, Peshkëpi and Gjirokastër
- Inauguration of the new Apostolic Church building in Stropcka
- Men's meeting in Gjirokastër, 12 participants
- Creative evening in Buçimas with prayer, worship and the making of handmade Christmas decorations
- Organization of a 4-month course for children by NEHEMIA Church in Gjirokastër.

#### **Royal Rangers**

50 adults and children from Buçimas, Durrës and Elbasan took part in the 2009 Royal Rangers' Camp, organized for the first time by Albanian leaders.

10 young people along with their leader from Macedonia were guests in this camp.

The camp was held on the shore of Lake Ohrid, giving everyone the chance to discover nature and its secrets.

Unity and fellowship were the themes of this camp, brought to life through amazing cooperation among the leaders. In the end everyone left with beautiful impressions and with the promise to be part of it again next year.

Royal Rangers' work is going on in Albania with its center in Buçimas. In Durrës a second outpost is planned to be started in 2010.

Internationally, this Christian Scout organization with outposts in 73 nations aims to instruct, challenge and inspire children and young people in the areas of Bible knowledge, Christian service and moral conduct.





### Social & Medical Help

The little matchstick-man featuring in the NEHEMIA logo symbolizes the core of NEHEMIA philosophy: The cross that has come alive.

A variety of aid projects put this concept into practice, bringing help and support for hundreds of people in need.

There are many different services offered by NEHEMIA Welfare, such as home care visits, help for individuals or institutions, material and financial help, medical services, physiotherapy at home or at the NEHEMIA Clinic, community development, and many more.

#### Home visits

Home visits are a very important part of the welfare project, bringing hope to an increasing number of people in need of care, especially the elderly and disabled persons.

Home visits were made, 3.856 to 101 families and individuals, in Pogradec, Gjirokastër and the surrounding villages.

These visits consist of:

- Encouragement and advice, spiritual counseling and prayers
- Help with cleaning and personal hygiene (taking showers)
- Training for family members on how to take care of people who are ill or have restricted capabilities
- Free medical visits by Albanian and foreign doctors

- Physiotherapy and massage, game therapy and ergo therapy in our physiotherapy and pedagogical rooms, as well as in homes.
- Teaching on cooking, family planning, etc.

#### Help for individuals and families

NEHEMIA has always helped people and families in need both materially and financially. We have helped 119 families and 403 individuals by providing food, clothing, furniture, finances, etc.

9 adults and 15 children were provided with various medicaments.

CHW, one of our partners, is also contributing with social and medical help in the Bishnica village area. They have performed many medical treatments and provided help for families and individuals.



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#### **Soup Kitchen**

A warm meal and a coffee are some things quite normal for most of us, but for many people it is still an everyday challenge.

Therefore since 1992, NEHEMIA has been operating a soup kitchen in Pogradec and later also in Gjirokastra and Peshkëpi, where people in need can have warm food and a coffee every day. They also enjoy fellowship and the respect and affection of NEHEMIA co-workers.

During 2009, we served to 44 adults. In addition, 197 children at the Day Care Centre in Durrës and at Amaro Tan School in Pogradec are provided with a warm meal every day.

#### **Day Care Centers**

Children from the Gipsy community are often heavily discriminated against in the public schools; therefore the support they get at this centre is very important for their lives.

In Nishtulla village, NEHEMIA Durrës has operated a Day Care Centre for these children for many years. About 60 children from preschool to secondary school come regularly, receiving homework assistance, instructions on hygiene, social behavior, school preparation, etc. We assist the children with their homework and provide a daily lunch. There is a 30 minute program everyday to praise and worship God and to learn more about Him and His word with Bible stories, games, etc. The children also get shoes, clothing and school materials for free.

A similar project will start in Gjirokastra with its main focus on children from the Gipsy community. They will receive daily care with a warm meal, assistance with their home work and different activities.

#### Dormitory and sheltered living

Our partner organization, CHW, provides a place to live in Bishnica village (Pogradec) for children from remote mountain villages. In these villages, due to the rugged geographical conditions and the bad infrastructure, it can take several hours on foot to reach the nearest school.

In 2009 five children took benefit of the dormitory and received not just lodging and food, but also help with their homework.

A shelter program has been operating in Bishnica and Pogradec also. Our partner CHW is providing shelter for two persons in Velcan village while in Pogradec two persons had a place to live for free and receive additional support and care by the care teams.



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### **NEHEMIA Goal No.2:**

"To serve by social and medical help."

#### Physiotherapy and medical help

The physiotherapy room in Krumë/Has and the therapy rooms in Bucimas/Pogradec are a very important part of the medical help project.

Physiotherapy treatment established in Krumë/ Has in 2005 serves people who have disabilities. It is the only service of this kind in all of North Albania. 130 patients were treated, 15 of them regularly over a long period. The treatment is free of charge for everyone.

In our therapy room in Buçimas we offered therapeutic treatment to 10 children. With an additional room we will be able to serve more patients in the years to come through physiotherapy and development pedagogy.

Six children have been accompanied to the Rehabilitation and Development Care Centre in Tirana where they are given specialized care.

#### **NEHEMIA Clinic**

On July 7th 2006, the Ministry of Health approved the renewal of the license for NEHEMIA Clinic, in Buçimas, where mostly clients of our

Seminars and medical courses are also organized by our medical staff for:

- Students of NEHEMIA Schools and Universitv
- Parents of Amaro Tan School
- Village communities

About 505 patients were treated at our clinic in 2009, by our staff: one doctor, one nurse, one German nurse, who helped in our clinic for 6 months.

There was also practical assistance for the clinic of our collaborating organization SFI in Spille/Durrës for about three weeks.

#### Seminars

- "Pediatrics, infective diseases and how can we treat it in the house conditions" (Katerina Mamzoridu, Greece)
- "Mentally disabled people, the criteria at the social care project, and hearing disorders" (Rene Biela, Germany)
- "Human health and nutrition" (Eberhard Brachtel, Germany)



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## Community Development & Help for Institutions

During 2009, we have supported several different communes and public institutions. Some of the projects done for community development were:

- High-standard renovation of the Community House in Peshkëpi where many activities took place during this year
- The restoration of the kindergarten in Verdova village, in collaboration with the German Embassy in Tirana and Bucimas Commune
- Donation of a garbage disposal truck to Buçimas Commune
- Donation of medical equipment to Pogradec city hospital
- Didactic materials for children in the Durrës area
- Garbage removal and the employment of two community workers in Peshkëpi village
- Didactic equipment, toys, carpets, etc. for kindergartens in Vranisht and Krumë/Has

#### adidas-NEHEMIA Challenge Cup 2009

This is the third year that Adi Dassler Fund (adidas) and NEHEMIA Foundation have organized the sport event "adidas-NEHEMIA Challenge Cup". The finals took place in October during the German October Festivities at the NEHEMIA Foundation compound in Buçimas. From the commune of Pogradec 32 schools were invited in collaboration with the Local Education Office and the Local Government Units. The semi-final phase took place within the communes in the secondary school system, while the final phase was performed at the NEHEMIA compound, where 340 children were accommodated for three days. About 1400 children took part in the activities.

Values such as fairness, honesty and team play are the focus during the tournament.

In order to qualify for these finals every school also had to implement a project of social aid or public utility. This project had to be presented during the finals. The winners received a special award.

Parallel to the Challenge Cup a friendly championship was played between the guest teams from Gjirokastër, Has, Durrës, Macedonia and Greece.

During the year, some teams got sports equipment, such as balls or volleyball nets, and in some cases, there were donations given to help renovate sports fields.

### Facts - adidas-NEHEMIA Challenge Cup

1400 children took part in the activities.5 guest teams from Gjirokastër, Durrës, Has, Macedonia and Greece.32 schools were invited to this tournament.

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### **NEHEMIA Education**

Sustainable changes in the society can only be achieved by a growing number of well-educated and trained people that will have influence in their own society over time.

Our key focus for education is the young generation from the Kindergarten to University level, including professional training.

#### **NEHEMIA Kindergartens**

NEHEMIA kindergartens offer full didactic materials, safe transport, food and a high standards environment. The children receive a quality education and great attention from our qualified teachers.

The kindergarten aims in its activity:

- To develop the personality of the pre-school child, and to prepare him/her for the school.
- To educate the child with social and collaborative relationships
- To develop the children's personalities according to the values of NEHEMIA Foundation
- To extend the experience, knowledge, feeling abilities, and abilities for acting, talking, thinking, and imagining through defined exercises for every child.
- To teach the child to be responsible for using the common didactic materials

#### NEHEMIA Kindergarten

When NEHEMIA kindergarten started in 1999 only 12 children attended, now the number has grown to 32.

The education program is organized according to the annual program approved by the Ministry of Education and Science.

Additional English language is part of the daily program, as well as Albanian grammar. NEHEMIA kindergarten organizes creative activities with collaboration between teachers, children and parents.

The communication with the parents is regular, every day informing them about their child.

Amaro Tan Kindergarten

Amaro Tan kindergarten has 36 children mainly from the Gipsy community and poor families.

The program applied at Amaro Tan kindergarten is a combination of a Christian curricula and Montessori elements. Amaro Tan is registered as a Protestant Institution.

The children are encouraged to organize social projects, leisure activities and they also develop their talents like: music, singing, painting etc.

Equipped with the necessary materials, children are in classes where they can learn and have fun.

### **NEHEMIA Goal No.3**

"To offer education and qualification"



## **Facts**

**290** pupils in total are attending NEHEMIA School.

**15** pupils from our school have won different regional and national competitions.

At Amaro Tan School **101** pupils from first to ninth grade are registered.



#### **NEHEMIA Schools**

Both of our schools have a rich amount of didactic materials, also physics, chemistry and informatics laboratories. In this way the students can practice what they learn theoretically.

We also have a qualitative sports place and offer safe transport, delicious food and high standard facilities.

#### **NEHEMIA School**

NEHEMIA School started its activity in 1998 with only five classes and now its activity extends to 290 pupils in total.

The school in its activity aims to:

- Provide quality education and upbringing to the students
- Development of the students' personalities according to NEHEMIA Foundation's values
- Incitement and support for the creative, tolerant and critical thought
- Incitement and support for an independent way of thinking and acting
- Education of human, spiritual & moral values, and of social and democratic principles
- Preparation for further high education at NEHEMIA University

The school program equals the curriculum of the Albanian public schools, but also has extra programs:

- English language starts in first grade
- German language lessons from third grade
- Informatics starts in the fifth grade (Lessons and computer classes are done in two groups per class)
- Many other leisure activities are organized like painting, playing piano, drama lessons and sports activities.



First grade students were accepted through a competition and under the evaluation of a German psychologist.

NEHEMIA School encourages the gifts of the talented students and as a result, 15 students have won competitions at the regional or national level during the last school year.

Partnership with foreign schools:

- The school of "Stiftung Landheim Schondorf am Ammersee" in Germany offered two of our best students an invitation to attend lessons for three months. Since Schondorf was established as a Round Square School in 2008, it is possible to involve them in such school partnership projects.
- The school "Orce Nikolov High School" in Macedonia was involved in different projects for the cultural exchange of students. These were carried out successfully during 2008/2009 and financed by EU programs.

#### Amaro Tan School

Amaro Tan School is focused mainly on the integration of children from the Gipsy community and from poor families.

This school is a rescue place for endangered children, saving them from human trafficking, abuse and many social problems.

Amaro Tan is registered as a private Protestant Institution and aims at more than just education. In Gypsy language Amaro Tan means "Our Place", and indeed, for many children it feels like home.

The education program at Amaro Tan is a state approved program with some extra parts like daily devotion and Montessori elements. The following social and spiritual programs are developed to assist children and their families:

- Shower program. Showers are given under the supervision of two adults. 20 children take part twice a week in this program.
- **Discovering talents**. The pupils here have the opportunity to develop their talents in music, singing, painting, drama etc.
- Sewing course. 20 girls from the 3rd to 8th grade attend the sewing course. Two times a week they have the opportunity to advance and become skilled through lessons that last one hour each.
- **Devotion time.** All students take part in the half hour morning devotions held in their classes. The entire kindergarten curriculum speaks of spiritual topics while grades 1-9 have specific subjects which reflect Biblical Christian perspectives.

#### **Evening School**

The evening high school is organized at NEHEMIA Centre in Buçimas. This school gives young people a second chance for a qualified education. For many of them it is impossible to attend a qualified education during the day, because they need to work and earn money for their living. Four students attend evening school.

#### **Further education**

- 2 hairdressing courses
- 1 sewing course
- 1 English language course
- 1 German language course

37 people attended these state approved courses in 2009.



### **NEHEMIA University**

The year 2009 was used for further preparations in order to start the first lectures on January 04, 2010.

From the academic aspect, management and infrastructure, everything was put in place to guarantee an exquisite program of higher learning on West–European level.

#### **The Challenges**

However, unforeseen obstacles had to be overcome: Not many young people in the region proved to meet the academic admission standards required for a German study program.

The dual studies require commitment and discipline, which is not a standard in other Albanian Schools of Higher Learning. A second obstacle was the location of NEHEMIA University in the small town of Pogradec, too far away from the capital, Tirana, for most of the young people's taste.

Finally, the omission of the Albanian Ministry of Education and Science to grant final permission within the legal time frame proved to be another impediment on the way towards a normal functioning university.

In January 2010 the first group of gifted and ambitious students, mostly former students of NEHEMIA School, started the venture of higher learning at NEHEMIA.

#### Activities in 2009

One of the milestones was the appointment of a new Rector, the German Professor Alexander v. Freyhold.

As an initiator of several universities in Germany, Europe and also in Albania, he has a rich experience in starting ambitious projects from scratch and developing them into prestigious and successful institutions of higher learning.

During 2009 we did an analysis and standardization of the curricula and proper documentation for the Ministry of Science and Education. We also invested in infrastructure and technology, creating state-of-the-art facilities for seminars, study and lectures.

A wide range of supporters from all over the world is ready to contribute know-how and expertise. The newly founded association "Friends of NEHEMIA" in Weilheim/Germany coordinates support and help to promote the work.



Performance. Quality.



#### The Program

#### Bachelor of Business and Economics

The "Dual Study Program" follows a concept not yet familiar in Albania: The combination of challenging academic studies with applied practice periods in firms and companies.

Firms and businesses in the region show a growing interest in this concept with the perspective of training their managers of tomorrow within Albania, while enabling them to perform on the globalized international levels of today's economy.

Blended Learning: Master of European Studies (In cooperation with German "Libertas Institut") Start: October 2010 (planned)

International students can do part of the course work online via internet, while presence courses in Pogradec allow for intensive lectures, exchange of ideas and good support and mentoring for the student's academic development.

#### European studies in

- Business and Economics
- Public administration
- Law and NGOs
- International diplomacy and integration

### **Facts**

Highly qualified lecturers from the USA, England, France and Germany

Main study language: English

Dual System: Alternating phases of theory and practice (12 weeks)

Plans for 2010: 2 week study phase in Germany at the end of the 1st semester.

More info online: www.nehemia-uni.org





#### Report on the work of the NEHEMIA Friends in 2009

The year started with an important event. From 25 to 28 February 2009 in Düsseldorf, Germany, the Congress of Christian leaders was held. The Association participated in the exhibition with a stand, where it was presented together with NEHEMIA and the Swiss Foundation (photo). Many good discussions arose and some new contacts were made.

Through the intermediation of the Association for a 10-member ethnic Albanian delegation it was possible to participate as guests in the congress. It was also received by the Mayor, Dr. Strack-Zimmermann in the Town Hall. On this occasion, Toni Gogu presented the work of NEHEMIA Foundation in Albania and handed out information and an Albanian flag.

In several board meetings and the general meeting the conditions for the recognition of the association were created.

A change of law required an extraordinary general assembly to adapt the statute.

Ultimately, all barriers were removed and on November 13th, we were given the provisional recognition as a charitable association. This was quickly followed by the account-opening to allow as many members and friends as possible to take part in the action "triple good deeds".

With an insert sheet in our flyer, we had asked for donations for NEHEMIA because a generous supporter allowed all donations until 31.12.2009 to be tripled.

By the end of December about 9 000 Euro had been received, thanks to all donors very sincerely!

Additionally thanks to the lawyer Mr. Seitz, for all the help with the formalities, and our members who took time for the sessions and were active for the common cause.

info@foerderverein.de www.nehemia-foerderverein.de The main aim of the society is to support the quality development in educational institutions from kindergarten to university, either locally in Albania, or through contacts to schools in Germany and advice by experts.

Another goal for 2010 is to win native German teachers for a quality improvement in German lessons NEHEMIA aims at becoming a school for the German-language Diploma (DSD).

The partnership with the Secondary boarding school Landheim Schondorf am Ammersee (www.landheim-schondorf.de) has proven its value and again in the 2nd half of school year 2009/2010, two NEHEMIA pupils will spend several months there.

Likewise, another two German teachers could participate as guests in June / July in the lessons in Schondorf.

After initial visits by teachers and students from Pogradec, a visit from a group of students from Schondorf to Albania is expected in 2010.

Since Schondorf was established as a Round Square School in 2008 (www.roundsquare.org), it is possible to involve them in school partnership projects here.

The association currently has 17 active members.



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# **Construction Projects**



#### In Buçimas

Two ambitious building projects are under construction in Buçimas: the high school building and a guesthouse with an adjacent facility house.

The buildings meet high standards of construction, featuring beautiful architecture that is earthquake resistant in construction. The buildings are environmentally friendly with economic systems for heating and cooling, and quality equipment that is nice as well as practical.

The architecture firm "hauserpartner" from Egenhausen/Germany, along with NEHEMIA co-workers, volunteers and craftsmen from Weilheim/Germany are forming a professional and highly effective work group.

The high school building, apart from classrooms for the NEHEMIA School, will house dining facilities and a laboratory. One floor will be reserved for the University's lessons.

In the guesthouse 14 rooms and apartments, including one apartment for disabled persons, will house the many guests as well as short- and mid-term co-workers supporting NEHEMIA. Planned date of completion: September 2010.

The existing church building in Buçimas has been fully equipped for use by the University for lectures, events, seminars etc. The building is equipped with high quality equipment for interactive audio and video presentations, lessons via internet, computer studio and much more.

Altogether the NEHEMIA National Center in Buçimas will be comprised of eight buildings within an enclosed compound, including two state-of-the-art sports fields located close to the shores of lake Ohrid. During summer seasons the beautiful facilities can be rented for youth camps, exhibitions, fairs and many other functions.

#### In Peshkëpi

In the framework of our Community Development Projects in the village of Peshkëpi two additional buildings are almost finished: The Mission House and the beautiful Cultural House for the village community. These facilities are already in use housing a soup kitchen and for cultural events, etc.

#### In Stropcka

The NEHEMIA partner "Apostolic Church" has inaugurated a spacious building for spiritual ministry and social aid in the village of Stropcka (Pogradec district). The new church was built according to the proven structure and plans of the church buildings in Buçimas and Pogradec.

#### In Durrës and Pogradec

Repairs have been done on several other NEHEMIA buildings in Durrës, Nishtulla and in Pogradec like Amaro Tan School.

#### Under construction: High School Building



# Internal & External Services



Two departments within the NEHEMIA Structure provide for smooth and professional management of the operative projects, and also offer services to third parties: **Human Resources & Operations and Communication & Relations.** 

## Financial and Human Resources Management and Seminars.

NEHEMIA Human resource management and administration ensures a good base and provides support to the wide range of NEHEMIA activities.

- By Laws and Regulations
- Employment procedures
- Contracts and legal issues
- Financial management and much more

Our special focus is the internal training of our coworkers. In 2009 they were given the opportunity to take part in the following seminars and trainings:

#### Internal trainings:

- NEHEMIA manual training
- NEHEMIA Foundation presentation
- Corporate Identity
- Löhn Method
- Quick Book & Budget

#### Seminars:

- Cooperative Leadership
  (Clauss-Siegfried Grommek)
- Interactive Leadership
  (Paul Donders)
- MS-Project + Mind Map (Sybille Brüggemann)

In 2010 the "NEHEMIA Leadership Academy" in cooperation with x-pand will start offering a wide range of further education to every coworker up to leadership level.

#### Hospitality

We are grateful for the many friends, trainees, volunteers and guests who came to visit us from countries like Germany, Switzerland and the USA.

Most of them found accommodations in the Mission Houses in Buçimas, Durrës, Peshkëpi, and Has.

The number of persons during 2009 was approximately 800. Hospitality is very important to us and we like to create a familiar environment for all of our guests.

Next year with the completion of the Guest House in Buçimas, beautiful facilities of high standards will allow for even better services for our friends.



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#### Facilities

The beautiful facilities at NEHEMIA Center in Buçimas do not only house a multitude of aid and education projects; these facilities can also be booked by other organizations and institutions, especially during the three months vacation period in summer.

#### "Horst Koschmieder" School and High School Building (under construction)

These buildings provide space for summer camps during vacation time. The buildings can be transformed into a suitable environment for groups up to 100 persons. Each offers suitable conditions like accommodations, good hygienic-sanitary conditions, sports fields, meeting rooms etc.

#### "Alfred Wenig" Building

As a multifunctional building, this spacious chapel includes an auditorium used for presentations, meeting rooms or a computer room ideal for seminars, conferences and camps.

The entire building is equipped with wireless internet connection and heating system, variable rooms with interactive presentation boards, projector, audio system and a simultaneous translation system and a library.

It also includes a café for friends, pupils, students etc.

#### The sports fields

Two separate sports fields with high quality tartan and lawn, as well as a race track and flood lights offer ideal conditions for sport activities and recreation on the NEHEMIA compound in Buçimas.

#### Media Office

Our media office is responsible for the production of presentation materials, corporate identity and public relations of the NEHEMIA Foundation. This includes graphical work and layout, video production and web design.

Some of the media products are:

- Annual report publishing
- Brochures, leaflets, posters
- Filming and video editing
- Events organizing
- Information technology solutions
- Branding

"Through giving, we are receiving."



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#### **NEHEMIA Social and Medical Projects**

NEHEMIA medical clinic - License No. 3391, July 7th, 2006 by the Ministry of Health

Services for community care (Pogradec, Bishnica, Durrës, Gjirokastër, Buçimas, Peshkëpi) – License No. LN-0408-10-2009, October 16th, 2009 by the National Licensing Centre

Permission of practicing the profession of nurse – midwife – physiotherapy – Reg. N. 07-17, November 3rd, 2009 by the Albanian Nursery Order (License for an individual person)

#### **NEHEMIA Education**

NEHEMIA Elementary School - License No. 5342 Prot. No. 72, October 10, 1998 by the Ministry of Education and Science

NEHEMIA Kindergarten - License No. 4524 Prot. No. 160, November 23, 1999 by the Ministry of Education and Science

NEHEMIA Middle School - License No. 4088 Prot. No. 300, October 5, 2000 by the Ministry of Education and Science

NEHEMIA High School - License No. 6194 Prot. No. 288, September 14, 2004 by the Ministry of Education and Science

NEHEMIA Evening School - License No. 7001 Prot. No. 383, October 10, 2006 by the Ministry of Education and Science

NEHEMIA University - License, June 4, 2008 by decision No. 2300/1 Prot. No. 830 of the Council of Ministers

AMARO TAN School - License No. 5059, December 3, 2002 by the Ministry of Education and Science

AMARO TAN Middle School - License No. 3132 Prot. No. 173, May 15, 2006 by the Ministry of Education and Science

NEHEMIA Foundation Pogradec, courses - License No. 687, March 26th, 2008 by the Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Chances

#### Registration

NEHEMIA is registered in Albania as a humanitarian non-profit foundation. The founders are the German humanitarian organizations "NEHEMIA Christian Aid Ministries" and "Action Committee for Persecuted Christians, AVC" (Member of the Pentecostal Alliance), both have their centers in Nidda (Germany). NEHEMIA Albania was first registered on February 20, 1992 by the Albanian Ministry of Culture Youth and Sports.

Because of the changes in the law, the NEHEMIA Foundation was re-registered accordingly on May 13, 2002 at the district court of Tirana.

## **Donations & Finances**



As a non-governmental relief and mission organization, NEHEMIA Foundation depends on voluntary financial support and practical assistance from individuals, churches and other organizations. In addition to financial support we also receive:

#### **Spiritual support**

We believe in the power of prayer: That is why we consider intercession and prayers of Christian believers as one of the most effective ways of support for our projects and for the whole country of Albania.

#### **Professional advice**

We are very grateful for competent advisors, who put their rich experience at our disposal: Mission leaders and successful managers, who help us to put our vision into practice by developing long-term strategies and solutions for the daily challenges in our growing projects.

#### **Practical assistance**

Many people support our projects practically through different kinds of activities. In short term outreaches during their holidays, many of our partners from Germany and Switzerland support different projects and/or offer help wherever needed. The majority of our funding is made available through friends and organizations in Germany, led by the GKM and our founding organizations AVC and NEHEMIA in Germany and Switzerland. Different projects are also financed directly by partner organizations who lead the according projects.

Several of our projects contribute to covering part of the financial needs through their own income (for example the NEHEMIA School). Church offerings are used for the spiritual work and to help the poor.

The responsible use of the donations is our rule. We emphasize:

- Regular financial audits by licensed auditors from Albania and other countries.
- Transparency through regular publication of financial and activity reports.
- Continuous internal financial audits.
- Continuous training and further education of our managers and accountants.
- Modern computer programs and techniques for accounting and administration.



# Financial Report 2009



## Audit report

We have audited the attached financial statements of the NEHEMIA Foundation, which include the Balance Sheet on December 31, 2009, the respective Income and Expense Statement, the Change of Equity Statement and the Statement of Cash Flow for the period ending on that date, and a summary of the important accounting methods and other annex notes.

The management is responsible for the genuine preparation and presentation of these financial statements, in accordance with the accounting principles widely accepted in the Republic of Albania.

This responsibility includes: preparation and implementation and keeping of the internal audit, genuine presentation of the financial statements, which are without material anomaly, implementing the proper accounting methods, and also making the accountancy estimation for the proper circumstances.

Our responsibility, based on the executed audit, is to express an opinion over these financial statements.

We executed the audit in accordance to the International Standards of Auditing. These standards require that we implement the ethical requests and also plan and execute our audit, to obtain the logical guarantee that the financial statements do not contain material anomaly. The audit includes procedure achievement to gain audit evidence about the amounts and the given information in the financial statements, based on tests, evidences which support the amounts and the given information in the financial statements.

The audit includes the estimation of the accounting principles performed and of the important evaluation done by the management, furthermore to assess the general presentation of the financial statements.

We believe the audit evidence we have received is sufficient and appropriate to give the basis of our opinion for the audit.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a real and genuine image of the financial situation of NEHEMIA Foundation on December 31, 2009, of the financial result and of the cash flow for the closed period, in accordance with the widely accepted accounting principles in the Republic of Albania.

Pogradec, 28. January 2010 AUDITOR E.K.A. Bashkim KILLO

"Complete financial transparency to ensure donors' satisfaction."



### **Statement of activities**

Statement of activities for the year ended 31 December 2009

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	LEK	EU 130	
DONATIONS	18,249,075	140,378	
DONORS	171,542,957	1,319,561	
MISCELLANEUS INCOME	3,834,526	29,496	
SERVICE INCOME	25,830,220	198,694	
Total Support and Revenue	219,456,778	1,688,129	
EXPENSES			
COMMUNICATION	4,555,557	35,043	
CARS / TRANS & TRAVEL	15,819,831	121,691	
OPERATVE EXPENSES	60,476,947	465,207	
PERSONEL	65,824,727	506,344	
Total Expenses	146,677,062	1,128,285	
OTHER REVENUE AND EXPENSE			
Other Revenue			
HUMANITARIAN ITEMS INCOME	4,730,850	36,391	
IN KIND INCOME	43,747,716	336,521	
OTHER INCOME	15,767,572	121,289	
Total Other Revenue	64,246,138	494,201	
Other Expense			
HUMANITARIAN ITEMS DISBURSED	3,716,850	28,591	
OTHER EXPENSE	0	0	
Total Other Expense	3,716,850	28,591	
Total Other Revenue and Expense	60,529,288	465,610	
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	133,309,003	1,025,454	

The sum in Euro is calculated according to the average exchange rate for 2009. (130 lek/1Euro)



## Statement of financial position

#### Statement of Financial Position on 31 December 2009

	LEK	EU 130
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash Bank	112,018,260	861,679
Cash on Hand	1,451,022	11,162
Accounts Receivable	4,839,744	37,229
Total Current Assets	118,309,027	910,069
Fixed Assets		
Land	81,703,802	628,491
Tools and Machinery	18,465,921	142,046
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-14,491,824	-111,476
Equipment	25,085,649	192,967
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-19,502,164	-150,017
Automobiles	23,298,220	179,217
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-15,986,261	-122,971
Buildings	475,517,389	3,657,826
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-169,066,457	-1,300,511
Total Fixed Assets	405,024,275	3,115,571
TOTAL ASSETS		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Insurance Payable	1,401,969	10,784
Other Tax Payable	480,825	3,699
Accounts Payable	11,615,615	89,351
TOTAL LIABILITIES	13,498,409	103,834
NET ASSETS		
Total Fund Balance	376,525,889	2,896,353
Net Income	133,309,003	1,025,454
TOTAL NET ASSETS	509,834,893	3,921,807
		4,025,641

## Contact



## Visit our website!



#### www.nehemia-al.org

Please visit our website for more information on the Foundation, history, projects etc.

In 2010 the NEHEMIA website will receive a new face, which will be more user friendly and interactive.

The new website will come soon.



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### **Donations**

#### Germany

AVC Commerzbank Münchberg BLZ 780 400 81 Kto: 311 440 200

IBAN: DE27 7804 0081 0311 4402 00 BIC: COBADEFF780

#### **NEHEMIA Friends (Germany)**

VFBN-Nehemia-Förderverein Raiffeisenbank Weilheim BLZ: 701 696 02 Konto Nr.: 150 100

#### "Golden Cross Mission" (GKM, Germany) GKM e.V. Raiffeisenbank Weilheim BLZ: 701 696 02 Konto Nr.: 199 966

IBAN: DE28 7016 9602 0000 1999 66 BIC: GENODEF1WM1

#### Switzerland

AVC Hilfswerk Credit Suisse 2501 Biel Konto 214 992-81 or: Postkonto 25-11156-1

#### Albania

NEHEMIA Found. ProCredit Bank Pogradec Branch/Albania Kto: 55-002422-00-02 Swift: FEFAALTRXXX IBAN: AL03209425530000550024220002

#### USA

For donations from the United States please visit our cooperating mission online: www.gba.org

#### Adresse:

NEHEMIA National Center Rruga Nehemia/ Buçimas, Pogradec, Albania Tel: +355 (0) 868 20004 Fax: +355 (0) 868 20005 E-mail: nehemia@nehemia-al.org





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