The first thing you should do as a Town Leader is to create a KehilaLinks website, if one does not already exist. KehilaLinks websites are managed by JewishGen. Bessarabia SIG works cooperatively with KehilaLinks website owners whose towns are in the former Bessarabia Guberniya.

Bessarabia KehilaLinks websites (http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/) can be found under the Romania & Moldova section or under the Ukraine one with the note (B).

Begin by reserving a site for your town. You do this by filling out and sending in a reservation form (http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/documentation/signup.asp). JewishGen’s Susana Leistner Bloch (bloch@mts.net) will contact you. She will give you instructions for filling out and signing JewishGen’s Donor Agreement (http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen-erosity/Form_donor.html), and will provide assistance to get your site up and running.

KehilaLinks websites can contain almost any material the KehilaLinks Owner chooses (with relatively few restrictions imposed by JewishGen), and the materials can be arranged in any way the KehilaLinks Owner chooses. If a KehilaLinks Owner decides not to include some material that is available elsewhere on JewishGen or off-site, that is ok. More information about KehilaLinks is available at (http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/aboutsl.html).

With your agreement, Bessarabia SIG also will list you as a Town Leader for your town. When your new KehilaLinks website is online, we will place a link to it on your Bessarabia SIG Town Page.

Your Bessarabia SIG Town Page is intended to be a portal, or gateway, to all known material for a town. We do not duplicate material that resides elsewhere on JewishGen. Instead, we link to it. We also link to material that is on websites outside of JewishGen.

Our Website provides a uniform structure to make it easier for people interested in your town to find materials related to it, and to go to the location where the material resides. We expect that this will greatly ease their identification and search task. Our Town Pages also list Projects (and their status) that relate to your town. In some cases, similar projects are underway for several towns. For example, Yizkor Book indexing, Ellis Island Database Reindexing (of the unindexed fields), data extractions from Yad Vashem and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, etc. are projects that are town specific but benefit by sharing information across towns. We are trying to make it easier to identify common projects and enhance collaboration.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the board members through our board page (http://www.jewishgen.org/bessarabia/ABT_Board.asp)