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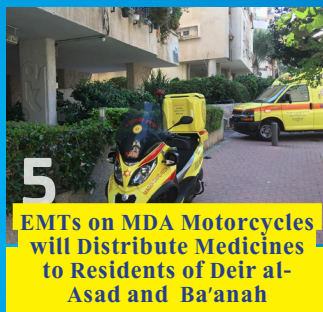
2 Holocaust Memorial Day 2020



3 MDA'S National Human Milk Bank saves a premature infant before its official opening



4 Three Million Surgical Masks Land in Israel and are Transferred to MDA



5 EMTs on MDA Motorcycles will Distribute Medicines to Residents of Deir al-Asad and Ba'anah

Picture of the week



Time to be Responsible and stay at Home



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Holocaust Memorial Day Services were Held this at MDA Stations



In the wake of the fight against the Corona virus, ceremonies were held on Tuesday April 21 at 10:00 to mark Holocaust Memorial Day at the MDA National Operations Center in Kiryat Ono and at MDA stations across the country.

As part of the ceremony at the MDA National Operations Center, the Yizkor prayer was recited and MDA Deputy Director- Community, Dr. Eli Yaffe gave an address.

Photos: Yosef Kurdi MDA Spokesmen



Holocaust Memorial Day 2020

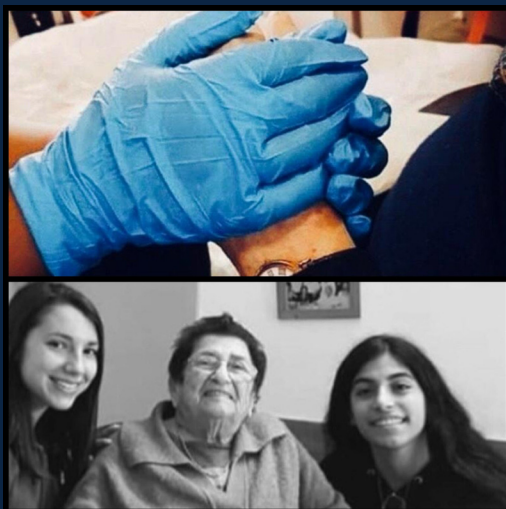
In the past year, a special unit of MDA has been set up to trace and locate more than 100 relatives with whom a connection had been lost during the Holocaust

Alongside the life-saving routine, and now in the wake of the national battle with the Corona virus, MDA also operates a tracing unit for locating relatives, responsible for a large number of exciting family reunions of Holocaust survivors and their families, with their relatives in Israel and around the world.

The unit, which is part of MDA's humanitarian activities, has been active since the late 1940s. Since becoming a full member of the International Red Cross, the unit has expanded its volunteer recruitment, training and activities.

Over the past year many new inquiries were received from citizens from all over the country, and a total of 100 cases or important information about their fate were found in the past year. Thousands of requests for help locating relatives and receiving information were received over the years in the tracing unit. In many cases, relatives or documents were found to indicate the fate of the family members, and in a few cases siblings were reunited, some of whom did not even know about each other.

As part of the unit's activities, it cooperates closely with the ICRC and other entities operating in the field. In addition, the unit works regularly with the Ministry of the Interior and the Yad Vashem Archives, and promotes collaborations with various international agencies involved in locating relatives. MDA's special service is open to anyone who wishes to locate a missing person, and can be contacted by phone at Magen David Adom's office and filling out



the relevant forms for locating relatives.

"Requests for the unit's assistance come mostly from families of Holocaust survivors, who are looking to find their roots abroad," said Susan Edel, a volunteer with the tracing unit. "From the moment we receive the request, we work in a variety of ways, with all agencies and databases to locate relatives around the world. In some cases, we find documents proving where these families were at war and what they went through. This

is very important information for families to close the circle. The satisfaction from this volunteering is tremendous. The feeling that we are able to help someone after so many years is wonderful."

MDA Director General Eli Bin: "At Magen David Adom, we remember the Holocaust every day throughout the year. We set ourselves the goal of trying to make it easier for Holocaust survivors and future generations, and to help them find information about family members who had lost contact with them during the Holocaust. MDA has been able to unite and bring together family members in dozens of cases over the years, and receive information on thousands more cases that have come to us. The tracing unit has greatly contributed to the closure of the circle, facilitating many families whose hopes of getting information have already been lost. The strenuous work of the unit's personnel in MDA deserves much appreciation, and I have no doubt that thanks to their hard work we will have another exciting union. "



In a joint Operation of the Carmel Medical Center and Magen David Adom:

MDA'S National Human Milk Bank Saves a Premature Infant Prior to the Official Opening



Two weeks ago, Magen David Adom's National Human Milk Bank was contacted by Carmel Medical Center in Haifa with the request to urgently supply safe breastmilk for a premature baby; due to the mother's medical condition she could not breastfeed the infant.

Although the operational agreements have not yet been finalized between the Human Milk Bank and the Ministry of Health- the health Ministry, MDA's Deputy Director General of Blood Services and the MDA Director General approved the supplying the needed milk for the premature infant. This is the first baby in Israel to be fed milk from the MDA National Human Milk Bank in an attempt to save lives.

For nearly two weeks, the baby has been fed human milk from the National Milk Bank, donated by several mothers for the purpose of nourishing premature babies. Prior to being distributed, the milk underwent all the required testing and processing by the MDA National Human Milk Bank, and has been kept at a temperature of minus 80 degrees celsius. By feeding the baby with the human milk along with the dedicated treatment from the team at Carmel Medical Center, his condition has significantly improved.

Liraz and Gal Carmeli, the baby's parents, emotionally thanked Carmel Medical Center, Magen David Adom and the milk donors, saying: "Only thanks to the donors, our baby can eat and digest food. We hope our personal story will open a door for more babies to receive milk from the Human Milk Bank, which is so crucial."

"The baby was in a life-threatening condition because he was fed with a formula which he was unable to digest," explained **Dr. Sharron Bransburg-Zabari, who heads the Magen David Adom's National Human Milk Bank**. "The nursing team, by following world-wide medical recommendations, understood that the baby should be provided with human milk. And indeed, after receiving the approval from the Ministry of Health and supplying the milk, there was a remarkable improvement in his condition."

Dr. Ayala Gover, Deputy Director of Carmel Medical Center, added: "When we realized that the baby was seriously deteriorating as he was unable to digest the formula or be breastfed by his mother, it was clear to us that he needed safe human milk. With the help of the National Human Milk Bank of MDA, Dr. Sharron Bransburg-Zabari and the Director of the Mother and Child Health Department of the Ministry of Health, Dr. Dina Zimmerman, we received a generous donation of safe human milk, and to our immense joy, his condition has improved significantly and he is eating and gaining weight."

Director of the NICU at Carmel Medical Center, Prof. Avi Rothschild: "This is the first milk donation supplied by the National Human Bank directly to an infant in need. There was a breakthrough in the "glass ceiling" on human milk donation in Israel. This is due to a combination of Dr. Sharron Bransburg-Zabari's good will, removal of administrative barriers by Dr. Zimmerman along with a neonatal intensive care unit willing to do whatever needed for the well-being of premature babies."

MDA Deputy Director General- Blood Services, Prof. Eilat Shinar: "The National Human Milk Bank was established by MDA almost two years ago, at the request of the Ministry of Health. This is to regulate the supply of milk to premature babies in Israel, to prevent the development of intestinal necrosis, which can cause severe morbidity and even mortality. At the Milk Human Bank, set up at the Magen David Adom station in Jerusalem, with the assistance of the MDA Friends Society in Australia (NSW) and other donations, hundreds of ready-made bottles of milk are ready for premature infants. We are currently waiting to finalize the various agreements that will allow us to start fully operating the bank, to save the lives of premature babies, and preventing serious life long illness."

MDA Director General Eli Bin: "Magen David Adom, as Israel's national emergency medical and blood services organization, works to save lives in a variety of ways.

In this case, even before it was opened, the Magen David Adom National Human Milk Bank provided safe and optimal human milk, donated by mothers who have been through a special approval process. We were excited to hear about the significant improvement in the baby's condition, and we hope we can continue to save the lives of more babies as soon as possible."



Three Million Surgical Masks Land in Israel and are Transferred to Magen David Adom and Other Essential Institutions in Israel



Three million surgical masks, donated by the Milner Foundation, established by renowned tech investor and science philanthropist Yuri Milner, and his wife Julia, landed this evening in Israel. A dedicated El Al cargo flight departed from the international Hongchi Airport in Shanghai in coordination with ICL - Israel Cargo Logistics, which was responsible for leasing the "Jerusalem of Gold" Dreamliner airplane and coordinating the delivery's arrival to Israel. Tomorrow, the masks will be transferred to Magen David Adom, which will distribute them to its emergency services staff, as well as to a range of hospitals, government offices, and national institutions providing essential services to the public. The donation was executed in coordination with the Consul-General of Israel in San Francisco, Mr Shlomi Kofman.

Milner, an Israeli citizen living in Silicon Valley, was an early investor in a range of tech giants that shaped the Internet, including Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, Airbnb and Spotify. Between 2005 and 2010, he even lived in Israel. He posits that "If we want to maintain our way of life, I would urge business leaders to consider adopting this practice even after the current acute phase of the crisis, and to provide their employees with masks for daily use in the office". Milner added that "wearing a mask – covering the mouth and nose – needs to be the new norm when we're outside of our homes. In conjunction with hand-washing, social distancing and other measures, this should be our strategy to get through the current crisis until the scientists come to the rescue, and develop a reliable vaccine or treatment."

Foreign Minister Israel Katz thanked Milner for his donation, noting that he sees in him "a true friend of Israel", and stating that: "During these times, the Foreign Ministry is serving as a central actor, assisting in the acquisition of essential equipment for fighting coronavirus – whether that be acquiring medical equipment, or securing contributions that assist Israel in coping with the crisis".

Director of Magen David Adom, Eli Bin: "The masks are an important tool in ensuring the safety of medics, paramedics and doctors, and no less important, the safety of ill patients that come into close contact with medical staff. I would like to thank Yuri and Julia Milner and the Milner Foundation for their generous and significant contribution to Magen David Adom and to medical personnel across Israel. The donation will assist in the national struggle against the spread of coronavirus.

The Consul-General of Israel in San Francisco, Mr Shlomi Kofman, stated that: "It is moving to see Israelis across the ocean supporting their country during this difficult period, and it is rare to see private foundations operating in this capacity. Thanks to the Milner Foundation's donation, thousands of Israelis, and public servants who are serving the general public during the crisis, will be able to wear masks – an essential and necessary item now in global shortage".

Only last month The Milner Foundation has announced a \$3 million donation to three Israeli institutions leading the 'race against the clock' in preventing the spread of coronavirus in Israel. The donation was split between Magen David Adom, Israel's national emergency medical response organization, which is launching an innovative project to reduce the number of people coming to clinics; Tel Aviv University's Sackler Faculty of Medicine and George S. Wise Life Sciences, which will support research efforts aimed at developing treatments for the virus; and Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Ichilov Hospital, which will directly fund the intensive care unit that is caring for COVID-19 sufferers.

EMTs on MDA Motorcycles will Distribute Medicines to Residents of Deir al-Asad and Ba'anah

Magen David Adom pledged to help providing medicines for the elderly and sick in Deir al-Asad and Ba'anah, following the lockdown of the local councils, which began yesterday morning. Any resident in need of medicines will contact the Deir al-Asad or Ba'anah Welfare Department or the Home Front Command's medical staff, who will forward the request to MDA. MDA EMTs and paramedics on call, driving emergency medi-cycles will collect the medications, and bring them quickly to the resident's home.

Heads of Local Council of Deir al-Asad Ahmad Dabbah and Ba'anah Ali Khalil welcomed the assistance and thanked MDA for also assisted in this matter.

MDA Asher region director Eli Peretz: "When a lockdown was announced on Deir al-Asad and Ba'anah regional councils, we identified the need for assistance in the distribution of medicines, we decided to start working and bringing the medicines to the homes of the elderly and the patients in need. This comes after we recently increased the number of drivers and ambulances in the area allowing us to be prepared in every case, and to give the residents a sense of security. In addition, in recent days, we have carried out numerous samples for residents at the "Drive Thru" mobile site in Deir al-Asad, and another compound will be opened in Ba'anah tomorrow.

MDA Director General Eli Bin: "Following the announcement of the lockdown in Deir al-Asad and Ba'anah, we were prepared as quickly as possible to help distributing medications to patients and the elderly until their homes. This is not a routine service, but now, when it comes to maintaining a critical health issue. The residents and their lives, we had no doubt they we will carry out this mission as well."

