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Magen David Adom Virtual Chanukah Solidarity Event

Sunday, December 13, 2020
Fourth Chanukah Candle



A tribute to
Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks Z"l



by
Sivan Rahav-Meir

Medical Miracle
MDA Life Saving Stories
Candle lighting, Chanukah songs & more!



Picture of the week



Do you have an interesting story?
An exciting news?
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Mobile Vaccination

MDA has dedicated three special vehicles designed for Corona vaccines

Magen David Adom is preparing both for the upcoming winter and for the arrival of corona vaccines. As part of the preparation, three special caravans have been dedicated at the National Operations Center in Kiryat Ono. These caravans allow the vaccines to be brought to the public around the country.

The unique vehicles were manufactured by the Israeli company Caravila, and include two separate entrances, a special refrigerator, a registration station, two sampling / vaccination stations and other medical equipment. The vehicle is air-conditioned, and has solar panels to maintain energy, making it not dependant on the energy grid. Special refrigerators that can hold thousands of vaccines have been placed in the trailer, one operating at minus 23 degrees, as needed to preserve the Moderna vaccines and the other at minus 80 degrees, for the Pfizer vaccines.

Until the vaccines arrive in Israel, it can be used for the flu vaccine and will be used for Corona samples, allowing the person to enter from one door and exit by the other door. The vehicle is six meters long, 2.2 meters wide and weighs about two tons.

Magen David Adom is specializes in the transportation and preservation of medical equipment in the freezer , including plasma units, which are kept refrigerated as part of MDA's routine

activities and there is also the ability to store about half a million Corona vaccines under the required conditions. Since the beginning of the Corona crisis, the organization has been operating special and refrigerated vehicles in order to move the Corona samples test tubes between the test complexes and the laboratories.

MDA Deputy Director General- Operations, Gil Moshkowitz: "The new caravans are dynamic and can be used in a number of ways, depending on the need that arrises in the field - Corona vaccines, Corona samples and more. I thank Yossi Hillel from Carvila for the support and quick assistance and Einat Segal, the director of the automotive department at the Ministry of Transportation and the team of engineers at the ministry for their assistance in the success of the special project. "

MDA Director General Eli Bin: "We continue to develop both technologically and operationally, according to the need in the field, to cut the chain of infection and take care of public health. If the Ministry of Health and the HMOs ask for Magen David Adom's assistance in vaccinating the population, the new caravans can provide a solution and bring Corona vaccines to many places around the country - in order to defeat the virus in the most efficient, fast and professional ways."





Former Defense Minister and Yamina Party Chairman MK Naftali Bennett Visits MDA National Operation Center

“This year was a year in which all the people of Israel saw MDA in its greatness. Thank you on behalf of the citizens of Israel!”

Former Defense Minister and chairman of Yamina party, MK Naftali Bennett, visited the MDA National Operations Center in Kiryat Ono last week and was accompanied by MDA Director General Eli Bin and senior members of the organization. Bennett was given a comprehensive tour of the center and met with EMTs and Paramedics, in order to learn about the activities led by MDA as the national rescue organization and as at the forefront of the fight against the spread of the coronavirus in Israel.

During the tour, MK Bennett got to experience MDA's routine and emergency activities and received an overview of the organization's response to the Corona crisis, the system of tests and samples conducted by MDA in cooperation with the HMOs and the Home Front Command, during which about 3 million people were sampled. Bennett also heard about MDA's blood services activities and the system of plasma donations from Corona patients who recovered in favor of treating patients in a moderate and severe condition, and was exposed to the activities of the National Human Milk Bank.

In addition, MDA officials presented to MK Bennett the “MDA in the Community” project, which is expected to reduce loads in the emergency rooms by about 30%, and presented him with the special vehicles used by MDA, including a unique intensive care bus, MDA helicopters and special trailers that can get everywhere for Corona tests and in the

future they can be used to vaccinate the population for Corona.

MK Bennett toured MDA's 101 emergency center and showed great interest in the many technologies developed by MDA in order to save lives and was greatly impressed by the integration of the ultra-Orthodox sector in the organization, both as part of the civil service as paramedics at 101 and as ultra-Orthodox women programmers who develop the organization's technologies.



Former Defense Minister and Yamina party chairman Naftali Bennett to MDA personnel:

“MDA personnel are the front fighters in the battle against Corona and you are doing a wonderful job. Thanks to your innovation, versatility, speed of action - I consider you a key partner. This year was a year in which all the people of Israel saw MDA in its greatness. Thank you on behalf of the citizens of Israel. “

MDA Director General, Eli Bin: “We were pleased to host MK Bennett and hold a comprehensive tour of the center together and present to him MDA activities during routine and emergency times in Corona. MK Bennett expressed great interest in technological developments and the integration of Haredim in the organization and studied about many projects. We thank him for devoting his time for MDA and coming to the center to get to know the organization's employees and volunteers. “



MK Dr. Ahmad Tibi and MK Sondos Saleh Visit MDA National Operation Center

“You are doing vital and important work”

Members of the Joint List, MK Dr. Ahmad Tibi (Ta'al), Chairman of the Public Health Lobby in the Knesset and MK Sondos Saleh (Ta'al), visited the MDA National Operations Center in Kiryat Ono last Thursday and were accompanied by MDA Director General Eli Bin and senior members of the organization. MKs Tibi and Saleh conducted a comprehensive tour of the center and met with the employees and volunteers to learn about the organization's activities as Israel's national emergency medical and blood services organization.

During their visit, the members of Knesset were given an overview of MDA's response to both routine and emergency situations as well as an overview of the organization's role in the response to the coronavirus crisis. In addition, they were treated to a tour of the intensive care bus and unique vehicles, MDA's

technologies and the “MDA Community” project, all operated by the organization to save lives.

The Knesset members were exposed to the many technologies developed at MDA, including the ability to locate the emergency, initiate video calls and medical guidance provided by medics and paramedics at MDA's 101 hotline in a variety of languages until MDA teams arrive at the event. They heard about MDA Blood Services, the plasma donations from Corona patients who have recovered in favor of treating patients in a moderate and severe condition and the activities of the National Milk Bank.

MK Dr. Ahmad Tibi: “I wanted to come here to say thank you. Thank you for all the effort and immediate response in the first wave of the Corona. At the beginning of the crisis, the rate

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of tests in Arab communities was 2%. Thanks to you, in a short time, the rate of tests in Arab society reached 30% and this caused a change. The heads of the authorities always knew to turn to MDA and I saw MDA's response on the ground. On behalf myself and on behalf of the heads of the authorities and the entire public, we thank you very much, you are doing vital and important work, thank you to all the employees and volunteers and to everyone who helps the public."

MK Sondas Saleh: "I was happy to visit today with my colleague MK Dr. Ahmad Tibi at the National Operation Center that does professional, efficient and life-saving work routinely and especially in times of crisis. I

thank and appreciate the tens of thousands of workers, volunteers in all the localities thanks to whom this is possible. "

MDA Director General, Eli Bin: "I would like to thank MKs Tibi and Saleh, who dedicated their time and work to MDA and came to the center to get to know the organization's employees and volunteers. We welcome collaborations to promote public health and are proud to be an organization in which people from all walks of life operate regardless of religion, race or gender. MDA's goal is to save lives and so we will continue to act in the future. I am full of hope and expectation that together, we will lead moves that will promote public health and help promote it in the Arab sector."





As part of the Mifal HaPays' Defibrillators Project in Collaboration with Magen David Adom- an Advanced Device was Installed in Hatzor HaGlilit

Mifal Hapayis' defibrillators project, in collaboration with Magen David Adom, first reached the Hatzor HaGlilit local council, when the advanced defibrillator was installed in a smart stand on the Mifal HaPays in the council and inaugurated in a special ceremony in the presence of the council chairman, Shimon Suissa and MDA representatives.

Through the smart stand, any citizen who calls the MDA 101 hotline in the event of a medical emergency requiring resuscitation, as part of the telephone instruction and in parallel with the launch of an intensive care unit and MDA first responders on the motorcycles, will be instructed to bring and operate the device in case of cardiac events.

The head of the Hatzor HaGlilit local council, Shimon Suissa: "There is no doubt that this is a life-saving project, of great importance to residents and visitors to Hatzor HaGlilit. I thank MDA and the Mifal HaPays for locating the device in Hatzor and hope for more devices in the future."

Mifal Hapayis CEO, Adv. Beni Dreyfus: "We are proud to lead the defibrillators project together

with our partners in MDA and local authorities throughout the country. Mifal Hapayis leads a series of projects and invests many resources for public health in Israel and there is no higher goal than saving human lives. "I thank our partners at MDA and the head of the council for his hard work in raising awareness and explaining the importance of the issue among the residents of Hatzor HaGlilit. Mifal Hapayis continues to deploy more stands throughout the country and will launch an information campaign for the general public soon."



MDA Yarden region's director Oren

Avitan: "As part of the MDA project to place defibrillators around the country,

we are pleased to inaugurate MDA's first stand in the Hatzor HaGlilit local council, for the benefit of the residents that will further improve the medical response and save lives in emergency events. The position is located in cooperation with and thanks to the Mifal Hapayis, in a central location intended for the use of the city's residents and visitors who visit it. We thank the council and its head for the many years of cooperation and their work for the residents on the issue."



Itai's Miracle

Approximately one year ago, the Rimmel family was stuck by disaster when their family vehicle was involved in a serious car accident on Road 443 near Ofer Junction. The accident claimed the lives of the mother Tzippi and her infant daughter Noam Rachel and left the father, Ephraim and Itai with serious injuries. MDA Paramedic Akiva Polak, who arrived on the scene in an intensive care unit fought for Itai's life, saving him against all odds. One week ago, Akiva was surprised to receive an invitation to Itai's Bar Mitzva.

Itai, who was seriously injured and had a prolonged extrication was treated at the scene by Akiva Polak. Polak treated him at the scene and evacuated him with life threatening injuries to a Jerusalem hospital. Akiva fought for Itai's life and provided him with life saving treatment while in route to the hospital.

On the fight for his life, Akiva recalled: "We arrived at the scene and I immediately realized that this was a very serious accident. We scanned the scene. Tzippi, Itai's mother, was first to be removed from the vehicle and was evacuated while undergoing resuscitation and in critical condition. I had a hand on Itai's chest to make sure he was still breathing. As soon as we could, we put him in an ambulance, performed urgent medical interventions to stabilize his condition and evacuation him to the hospital unconscious and with very serious injuries. I ventilated him

the entire way to the hospital, where the doctors continued to fight for his life.

Akiva continues: "I followed his condition and returned to the hospital two weeks later. When I was told he woke up and was released, I could not believe it. It is a miracle and just amazing."

Last week, Itai celebrated his Bar Mitzva. Akiva, the paramedic who saved his life, was surprised to be invited to the event. He said: "Since the accident, I have prayed for his recovery, as do all of my family and friends. I was very excited to receive the invitation and could not imagine how he had made such a quick recovery. Itai's grandfather hugged me tightly and I could not believe that I saw the boy in front of me who just last year had his life hanging in the balance. Today he was called to the Torah. I told him he gave me strength to continue doing my work. I wish Itai continued success in his rehabilitation and the best of luck."

Ephraim Rimmel, Itai's father, recalled: "When I saw Akiva would be in attendance, I felt the most simple sense of gratitude. It was through Akiva that my son's life was saved. We have the privilege to thank him at the Bar Mitzva. It is a special mitzvah to share our joy and give thanks following the accident that we went through. I want to thank the entire MDA team for the faith, care and concern both on the day of the accident and in the many months following."