

THE Pulse

MARCH 2023

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Magen David Adom 2022 IN NUMBERS

2 ADVANCED
LIFE-SUPPORT
MEDEVAC
HELICOPTERS




1,301,780
MDA EMERGENCY
VEHICLES WERE
DEPLOYED — ONE
EVERY 24 SECONDS



800,000
PATIENTS & CASUALTIES
TREATED AND TRANSFERRED TO HOSPITALS



262,149
UNITS OF BLOOD
WERE COLLECTED
AND PROCESSED



2,898,816
EMERGENCY CALLS
WERE RECEIVED
EVERY
10.8
SECONDS



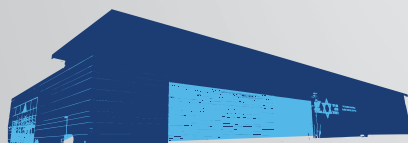
200 AMBULANCE
STATIONS
NATIONWIDE



30,000
VOLUNTEERS
ISRAEL'S LARGEST VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION




1,300
AMBULANCES & MICUs
IN ACTIVE SERVICE

1 BLOOD
SERVICES
CENTER

983
BABIES DELIVERED BY
MDA TEAMS AT HOME OR ON
WAY TO THE HOSPITAL



AMERICAN FRIENDS OF
MAGEN
DAVID
ADOM  מִגֵּן דָּוִד
אֶדוֹם

Saving lives. It's in our blood.

afmda.org

MDA responds to devastating Turkey earthquake.

When a 7.8 magnitude earthquake rocked south-central Turkey on February 6, killing more than 45,000 people, injuring tens of thousands, and sending shockwaves felt as far away as Israel, Magen David Adom immediately prepared to help.

In its role as a member of the international Red Cross movement, MDA was the only Israeli emergency medical service organization participating in Israel's Home Front Command search and rescue team, coordinated with the Turkish Red Cross and the Israeli and Turkish governments. Additionally, 15 MDA paramedics were sent to help staff Israel's dedicated field hospital that treated some 412 people wounded by the quake in the first week.

Felix Lotan, a senior paramedic and manager of disaster response for MDA, was a member of the Israeli rescue delegation. In his first few hours, he rescued a 12-year-old boy and a 23-year-old woman who had been under the rubble for nearly 48 hours.



Felix Lotan, senior paramedic and manager of disaster response for MDA, in Kahramanmaraş, Turkey.



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu flanked by Felix Lotan and MDA Director-General Eli Bin with MDA members of the rescue team.

"The boy only spoke Turkish, but we had an interpreter with us who said he was all right," said Lotan. "He was inside an air pocket, and therefore he survived. When he came out, he was in shock, and you could see in his face that he was happy and relieved. Unfortunately, we don't know what happened to his family."

Lotan and the team rescued 19 people in total from the rubble. The Home Front Command issued a statement saying this was an unprecedented number of rescues compared to previous rescue missions.

After eight days, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu welcomed the 160-member delegation back to Israel at a reception at Ben-Gurion Airport. "The entire people of Israel followed your rescue operation with great emotion," he said.

"You went on behalf of the country, and you brought great honor to the State of Israel. We saw you in action in the cold, in difficult conditions around the clock, in the most sacred work a person can do — saving the lives of others."

"It is not my first time in disaster areas after earthquakes," said Lotan. "For many years, I served as deputy commander of the IDF's medical corps, and I was part of the rescue delegation to Nepal, as well as others. But I don't remember a disaster of such magnitude."

Magen David Adom and U.S.-based Hatzolah Air partner to provide Medevac services in Israel.

Magen David Adom and Hatzolah Air, an American aviation organization that provides emergency medical air transport, have formed a partnership that will put MDA's flight paramedics aboard Hatzolah Air and MDA helicopters to provide medical evacuations in Israel.

Hatzolah Air, headquartered in New York, operates a fleet of Medevac aircraft and receives dozens of requests each month for aviation rescues in the U.S., Israel, and many other countries. MDA has provided Medevac services in Israel for more than 15 years.

"This partnership will ensure that seriously injured and critically ill Israelis who find themselves far from medical facilities will get the lifesaving care they need," said Eli Bin, director-general of Magen David Adom. "And it is another connection between MDA and the American Hatzolah movement, strengthening the cooperative relationship we've long had."

"The relationship between MDA and Hatzolah goes back decades," said Eli Rowe, president of Hatzolah Air. "When Israel has been under rocket attack or reeling from terrorist bombings, Hatzolah divisions from across America sent teams of doctors, paramedics, and EMTs to provide Israel with additional resources in their hour of need."

Likewise, MDA regularly provides American and international Hatzolah members with high-level training conducted in the U.S. and Israel and, more recently, has made its cutting-edge dispatch technology available to its American counterparts.

MDA provides Medevac flights out of Tiberius in Israel's north and near Be'er Sheva in the south, providing

nationwide coverage for people critically ill and injured and far from hospitals or the specialized medical care their conditions require.

Ever since MDA established Medevac services in Israel more than 15 years ago, it's contracted with Lahak Aviation to provide the helicopters and pilots, while medical crews comprise MDA paramedics.

This new initiative will take effect before the contract with Lahak expires in March, providing a brief overlap to

ensure continuous and uninterrupted Medevac services. Under the agreement, pilots will be provided by Israel-based Brook Aviation, and all medical crews will be made up of MDA paramedics, as has been the case since the program's formation.

"Previously, we have successfully partnered

with Hatzolah Air on medical evacuations," said MDA's Eli Bin. "This has included single patients and, in the case of our recent work transporting Ukrainians to Israel, many injured refugees, patients, and Holocaust survivors. We look forward to Hatzolah Air upgrading and expanding MDA's airborne medical evacuation capabilities."

Since Hatzolah Air is exclusively dedicated to providing emergency medical flights, using both helicopters and jets, their partnership with MDA provides both organizations the potential for expanded medical flight services, including transporting patients to or from Israel for specialized surgeries and providing international relief flights in times of natural disasters.

"Strengthening the partnership between Hatzolah Air — and all the Hatzolah chapters — is ultimately all about achieving one goal," Hatzolah Air's Eli Rowe said. "It's about saving more lives."



Seven killed, several wounded, in two Shabbat Jerusalem terror attacks.



The quiet of Shabbat in Jerusalem was shattered by gunfire when a terrorist opened fire on passersby on the street, including a motorcyclist and people outside a synagogue in the Neve Yaakov neighborhood on Friday, January 27. On Saturday morning, another shooter shot two men in the City of David.

On Friday night, seven people were killed and several others were critically wounded and treated by Magen David Adom at the scene and evacuated to area hospitals.

Arab-Israeli paramedic says MDA is a model for coexistence.

Fadi Dekaidk, 38, is a 20-year veteran of Magen David Adom. He started at age 17 as a youth volunteer and became a paramedic after his father had a heart attack. He is just one of many Arab-Israelis who are part of MDA's 33,000 EMTs, paramedics, and youth volunteers.

During the Shabbat terror attacks in Jerusalem that took place in January, he also happened to be the first on the scene at both attacks. His home in the Arab town of Beit Hanina was just a couple of miles away.

"Arriving first, seeing those sights and immediately getting to work, is not easy," Dekaidk said. "The only thing that matters is saving lives.

"That night, when I got back to my home, I still felt terrible and couldn't sleep," he says. "When you see a lot of bodies and multiple victims with blood all over them, it's not easy."

Dekaidk regularly teaches first aid and CPR to east Jerusalem teenagers. "There are some 80 young

"When we arrived, we saw a woman and four men lying on the road," said MDA paramedic Fadi Dekaidk, an East Jerusalem Arab resident who was first on the scene.

"They suffered gunshot wounds and showed no signs of life, and we had to declare their deaths. Three others injured, including a 70-year-old woman in critical condition, were conveyed to Hadassah Hospital."

The elderly woman was ultimately pronounced dead at the hospital, as was a 14-year-old boy.

In less than 24 hours, on Shabbat morning, a father and his adult son were shot and seriously injured by a 13-year-old gunman. Fadi Dekaidk was again first on the scene and recognized one of the wounded as an MDA volunteer. He and other MDA paramedics treated the men and evacuated them to Shaare Zedek Medical Center.

Israel has experienced an increase in red alert sirens as Hamas revs up rocket attacks and threats. Magen David Adom paramedics and EMTs remain on high alert as terrorist attacks become more frequent and are ready to respond, no matter what emergencies arise.



volunteers already, and some 250 Arabs who have learned it as well and save lives with MDA," he said. He supervises about 300 volunteers, workers, and ambulance drivers from Beit Hanina and other Arab communities in Jerusalem.

"I'm sure you and the public all know that MDA is a state all its own for coexistence. Jews save Arabs. Arabs save Jews. I think it's an example for the whole world," he told news reporters following the terrorist attacks.

MDA's Sussman Milk Bank hosts conference on breast milk accessibility.



Dr. Sharron Bransburg-Zabary pasteurizing donated breast milk for neonatal unit delivery.

“For premature infants, breast milk is medicine. It’s not a luxury ... it’s a necessity.”

Magen David Adom, in partnership with the Israeli Health Ministry, convened a conference for 200 medical professionals on the accessibility and provision of breast milk for newborns in need. The conference was led by MDA's Sussman Family Foundation Milk Bank, located at its new headquarters in the Marcus National Blood Services Center in Ramla, Israel.

The goal of the conference, which took place in the Mark D. Lebow Convening Center, was to raise awareness among hospital administrators and religious leaders about the importance of providing breast milk to premature infants.

“For premature infants, breast milk is medicine,” said Dr. Sharron Bransburg-Zabary, head of the Sussman Milk Bank. It’s not a luxury for hospitals to supply; it’s a necessity, she explained.

Doctors and paramedics from around the world join MDA's International Unit.

Magen David Adom's International Unit, established in 2007, includes hundreds of doctors and paramedics from a number of countries who voluntarily come to Israel to receive emergency service training. This enables them to return to Israel in times of need to volunteer for MDA.

For the first time since the pandemic began, MDA held the International Emergency Response Seminar for a new cohort of 31 doctors and paramedics. The medical professionals came from the United States, Canada, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Sweden.



Doctors and paramedics from North America and Europe participate in training drill with MDA and the IDF.

MDA's paramedics receive advanced training in cutting-edge simulation center.



Even for veteran paramedics, few scenarios are as daunting as encountering medical emergencies they rarely see or executing new techniques in the field.

But now, senior paramedics with Magen David Adom are practicing more situations thanks to a state-of-the-art

simulation center at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev that closely replicates real-world conditions.

“Our training in the simulation center is designed to provide paramedics and EMTs with an environment where they can learn new diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and gain hands-on experience before having to apply them to a patient whose life is actually in danger,” said Dr. Refael Strugo, medical director of Magen David Adom.

The training courses using high-tech medical mannequins include the use of ultrasound as a tool for diagnosing cardiac arrest and establishing IV access, high-performance CPR, childbirth, trauma damage control resuscitation (which aims to resuscitate trauma patients while stemming blood loss), and delayed sequence intubation (a technique used to intubate patients more safely).

Ultrasound technology on MICUs will save more lives.

MDA has started unveiling ultrasound technology aboard its advanced life support Medevac helicopters and its Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) ambulances, marking the first time ultrasound is used in Israel in pre-hospital emergency care.

Initially, the ultrasound is being used to view the hearts of patients in suspected cardiac arrest, and to help paramedics establish IV lines in patients with hard-to-detect veins, an important consideration when getting potentially lifesaving medications into patients quickly.

The use of the ultrasound equipment is potentially a game changer in treating a critical cardiac condition known as pseudo-PSA (pulseless electrical activity), in which the patient has no palpable pulse but ultrasound reveals the presence of ventricular contractility, the semblance of a heartbeat.

“In these cases, rather than initiate electric shocks from a defibrillator or provide chest compressions, the protocol



would be to administer fluids and adrenaline in order to raise the patient's blood pressure to promote more productive beats,” said Dr. Shafir Botner, director of paramedic training for MDA.

With additional training, MDA paramedics will eventually use the ultrasound to detect other conditions, such as tension pneumothorax, in which the patient's lungs leech air into the chest cavity, a potentially fatal condition that can prevent the patient from breathing.

Dr. Irvin Pretsky Honors His Family by Sponsoring an Ambulance



AFMDA celebrated Dr. Irvin Pretsky's gift of a Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) ambulance in November at Temple Beth Am in Los Angeles. Dr. Pretsky was inspired to make this commitment after attending a friend's ambulance dedication earlier in the year. He immediately recognized the urgency for the ambulance and utilized his IRA distribution to fulfill the pledge within weeks.

Dr. Pretsky sponsored this MICU in memory of his late wife, Esther Pretsky, z"l; his parents, Jake and Dora Pretsky, z"l; and his son, Dr. Aaron Ben Pretsky, z"l. He also honors the

next generation by listing his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren on the ambulance doors. He hopes to inspire others through his public ceremony, which included MDA Senior Paramedic Aryeh Myers, who shared his experiences in the field with attendees. Beth Jacob Congregation's Senior Rabbi Kalman Topp and Temple Beth Am Senior Rabbi Adam Kligfeld delivered remarks.

Surprised that MDA depends on philanthropy for its vehicles, equipment, and daily operations, Dr. Pretsky has made MDA a top priority. "I am deeply comforted knowing that my charitable gifts are directly helping in the most effective way. AFMDA is

such a vehicle, pun intended, that fulfills that premise," he said.

A first-generation American, Dr. Pretsky was born and raised in St. Louis, Mo., and moved to California to earn his medical degree from the University of California, Irvine. He is a retired, UCLA-trained anesthesiologist who was in private practice for 35 years.

The Rosen/Wiener Family's Generational Commitment to Israel and MDA



Since making their first gift of sponsoring a MICU for MDA, the Rosen/Wiener family has sponsored two Medicycles to honor and remember loved ones.

The Rosen/Wiener family attributes their long-standing tradition of philanthropy to the late Bruce Rosen's strong belief that those who are fortunate must give back. He and his wife, Rosalie, created the Bruce H. and Rosalie N. Rosen Family Foundation with the goal of teaching future generations about the importance of *tzedakah*, both here and in Israel.

In 2015, their children, Julie and Marty Wiener, were attending a wedding in Israel and experienced firsthand MDA's response to a call for help. At a prenuptial dinner party, the mother of the bride passed out. MDA was called, and a Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) ambulance with a paramedic team arrived quickly. They

took care of the mother of the bride so that she and her guests could continue their celebration. Julie and Marty

were so impressed, they decided to sponsor a MICU so that others could benefit from MDA's highly professional pre-hospitalization services.

Since then, the Rosen/Wiener family has generously sponsored two Medicycles, which are especially useful in navigating high-traffic cities and reaching remote areas. The first Medicycle was sponsored in celebration of Rosalie's 80th birthday, and the most recent one was sponsored in loving memory of Bruce.

Julie and Marty share MDA's ambulance and Medicycle activity reports with their children to show them the benefits of their donation, to instill within them an affection for Israel, and to teach them that the results of philanthropy go far beyond just writing a check. The Wieners take great pride in their connection to MDA and Israel, believing both are everlasting components of their Jewish identity.

The Rozencweigs: Giving a Gift of Life Reflects Their Values



The Rozencweig family celebrates their ambulance dedication with a ribbon cutting.

Hana, a midwife, and Dr. Marcel Rozencweig of Princeton, New Jersey, were married in Tel Aviv and subsequently lived in Belgium. On their first visit back to Israel, they stayed with Hana's parents. Hana's mother was very proud that her son-in-law was a doctor and made sure everyone in the building was aware of their visit.

In the middle of the night, there was a knock on the door. A man in the building was having a heart attack, and Marcel

and Hana rushed to help. They rode in an MDA ambulance to the hospital and found themselves at 4:00 a.m. in their pajamas, barefoot, with no papers or money. Fortunately, they were graciously offered a ride back home in the ambulance.

The Rozencweigs have felt gratitude to MDA for 50 years, and now they are giving back by sponsoring a Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) ambulance. They are proud to have a direct impact on first response — helping people in need of urgent medical care and saving lives using the most recent cutting-edge technologies.

This gift is symbolic of their values, reflecting the importance of the Jewish concept expressed in the Talmud that “whoever saves a single life, saves the world entire.”

Marcel said, “I guess that's why when Jews are toasting, raising their glass in honor of someone or something, they say ‘*L'chaim*’ — To life.”



Elyse and Lawrence Benenson — New York, N.Y.

Elyse and Lawrence Benenson dedicated a Life Support Ambulance in honor of their son, Walter.



Henry Blumner and Dorothy Goodman — Atlantic Beach, N.Y.

Henry Blumner and Dorothy Goodman dedicated a Life Support Ambulance in memory of their parents.



Dr. Jerome and Barbara Cohen — Delray Beach, Fla.

Along with family, friends, and fellow congregants, Dr. Jerome and Barbara Cohen dedicated their second ambulance at Temple Anshei Shalom.

The Covid-19 pandemic not only temporarily postpone vehicle manufacturing due to the worldwide shortage in parts, but it also allowed us to celebrate the more than 20 vehicle dedications that took place in 2021 to normalize. We are grateful to our devoted supporters who have made this possible for loved ones and special milestones.



Edwards/Brenner families — Teaneck, N.J.

The Edwards/Brenner families sponsored three Medicycles in honor of their children's weddings: Jamie Edwards to Ilan Elkobi, Byron Edwards to Tali Lefkowitz, and Amanda Edwards to Moti Haberman.



Miriam Einhorn — Boynton Beach, Fla.

Along with nearly 100 family members and friends, Miriam Einhorn dedicated a Mobile Intensive Care Unit ambulance at Cascades.

and public ceremonies and events, but it also shut down semiconductor production. AFMDA is delighted to take place in the last few months as production begins for those who sponsored vehicles in honor and/or in memory



Thomas Guttman — Boca Raton, Fla.

Thomas Guttman recently dedicated his first of three Mobile Intensive Care Units at a private dedication with family and friends.



Seymour Feldstein — Aventura, Fla.

Seymour Feldstein and his daughter, Banai, dedicated their second Mobile Intensive Care Unit ambulance at Temple Beth Torah in memory of Miriam Feldstein, z"l.



Widdy Ho — Brookline, Mass.

Widdy Ho gathered with friends to dedicate a Life Support Ambulance in memory of her beloved husband, Dr. Laurence S. Moss.



The Friedman Brothers — Florida

David, Bruce, and Howard Friedman sponsored a Medicycle in honor of their parents, Dr. Joseph and Sylvia Friedman, in celebration of Dr. Friedman's 104th birthday.



Albert and Manda Kalimian — Locust Valley, N.Y.

New National Board member Albert Kalimian and his wife, Manda, dedicated their second Mobile Intensive Care Unit ambulance in honor of their children, Sabrina and Daniel.



Joan Davidson Kaplan and Joel Kaplan — New City, N.Y.

Joan Davidson Kaplan and Joel Kaplan dedicated a Mobile Intensive Care Unit ambulance in honor of their grandchildren with more than 50 friends and family members attending.



Rosalie Klein — Los Angeles, Cali.

Rosalie Klein dedicated a Mobile Intensive Care Unit ambulance in memory of her parents, Dvora and Mordechai Klein, z"l, and husband, Morrie Flaster, z"l.



Steve Labensky — Washington, D.C.

Steve Labensky celebrated a special birthday, in Israel, by dedicating a Life Support Ambulance he sponsored in memory of his parents and brother.



Lois Pope — Lantana, Fla.

Lois Pope dedicated her 15th Mobile Intensive Care Unit ambulance in honor of her dear friend, Tova Leidesdorf.



Milton Richter, z"l — Sarasota, Fla.

Just weeks before his passing, Milton Richter dedicated his second Mobile Intensive Care Unit with family and friends at Temple Sinai.



Robert and Beverly Rosenfeld — West Bloomfield, Mich.

Robert and Beverly Rosenfeld recently dedicated their second Life Support Ambulance. The event took place at Temple Israel and was donated in honor of and in memory of many family members.



Santa Barbara Community — California

On December 18, the Santa Barbara community dedicated a Medicycle. Some 200 people celebrated this special gift with a lighting of the first candle on Chanukah by Sam Shnaidman.



Sidney Ross — Lake Worth, Fla.

Two years after sponsoring her first vehicle, Sidney Ross dedicated her second lifesaving vehicle with family and friends in memory of her son, Russell Ross, z"l.



Dana and Michael Werner — Bal Harbour, Fla.

Dana and Michael Werner paid tribute to Dana's mother, Tzivia Yeffet, z"l, as they dedicated their second ambulance in her memory.



Elliot Rothstein — Boca Raton, Fla.

Elliot Rothstein and 50 of his closest friends gathered for brunch at Addison Reserve Country Club to celebrate his 85th birthday and to dedicate his gift of a Medicycle.

NORTHEAST REGION



Members of the Schwartz family visit the Marcus National Blood Services Center during the 2022 AFMDA Israel Mission.

Three generations sponsor room at Marcus Blood Center in memory of beloved family member.

Edgar Schwartz, Susan Schwartz, Beth Schwartz, and family members from New York, Maryland, and New Jersey, gathered virtually to dedicate the Blood Donations Supervisor Room at the Marcus National Blood Services Center. They sponsored the room in memory of their beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, Leila Schwartz. Joining from Israel were Liat Tzion, MDA blood donations supervisor, who will occupy the office; Professor Eilat Shinar, director of MDA's Blood Services Division; and Moshe Noyovich, AFMDA senior Israel representative. By sponsoring medical supplies, Medicycles, a Life Support Ambulance, and a 4x4 ambulance, the Schwartz family has made an indelible imprint on every facet of MDA and on the people of Israel for years to come.

MDA visits Western Massachusetts.

In November, Suze and Marc Goldman hosted MDA Senior Paramedic Aryeh Myers at their home in Longmeadow, Mass. Community members, along with board members from the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, gathered for an intimate conversation to learn about MDA's lifesaving work. Aryeh shared personal stories from the field and the importance of supporting Israel through Magen David Adom. AFMDA is grateful to the Goldmans for their commitment to Israel and for hosting this special evening.



Suze Goldman (center) and Aryeh Myers (far left) with community leaders.

MIDWEST REGION

MDA builds bridges in Israel and around the world.

Metro Detroiters gathered to hear former U.S. Ambassador to Israel Daniel B. Shapiro and MDA Deputy Director-General Uri Shacham at the home of Sandy and Jim Danto in Bloomfield Hills. The ambassador, currently a distinguished fellow at the Atlantic Council, gave a firsthand account of his diplomatic experience in Israel and his current work in the post-Abraham Accords era. Uri Shacham shared how MDA builds bridges among people of all faiths in Israel and around the world.



Jim and Sandy Danto flanked by Uri Shacham and Ambassador Daniel Shapiro.



MDA's disaster-response training comes back to Chicago.

In partnership with the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest, AFMDA sponsored a First 7 Minutes training session in December for leaders in Chicago's Black community. The program, developed and taught by MDA paramedic instructors, teaches communities what to do after a violent incident in the seven minutes it typically takes for medical services to arrive. Several communities in Chicagoland received the training in September, and prior to the pandemic, the program was launched in Milwaukee.

SOUTHEAST REGION

Palm Beach Speaker Series

Nearly 300 members of Frenchman's Creek Beach & Country Club packed the house on November 6 to hear Bret Stephens, a journalist and opinion columnist for The New York Times, share why "as a Jewish community, we always have to lend our support to Israel."



Lunch and Learn in Toscana

Ben Anthony, an EMT with MDA and a former IDF sergeant, addressed 50 Toscana residents. He shared his moving story of emigrating from England due to anti-Semitism and discussed his heroic work in service to Israel in the IDF and now as an EMT.

From left: Yishai Mizrahi, director of major gifts, with committee members Jill Solomon, Henri Galel, Heni Galel, Sandy Listokin, Roberta Palestine, Sandy Meyer, and Marilyn Rosenberg.

Porto Vita Annual Celebration of Life Dinner

More than 150 members of the Porto Vita and Aventura communities came together to celebrate the lifesaving work of Magen David Adom and honor the life and legacy of Barry Goldstein, z"l. Barry chaired this annual dinner for more than 14 years, resulting in 15 ambulances being sent to Israel and more than \$1 million in donations. Ambassador Gilad Erdan headlined the event and reminded us all how crucial Magen David Adom is to Israel. "While our brave soldiers work day and night defending Israel from threats, when tragedy strikes, the first teams on the ground — the teams that literally save lives — are the Magen David Adom volunteers," he said. Another highlight of the evening was a stimulating drum and light show. Very special thanks to Event Chairs Patty Goldstein and Lauren and Adam Weider, and the entire host committee.



From left: Uri Shacham, MDA chief of staff, with host committee members Adam and Lauren Weider (chairs), Harvey Rothstein, Leon Hertz, Wendy Rothstein, Linda Hertz, Linda Gomberg, Darlene Wagner, Patty Goldstein (chair), Steven Wagner, Sharon Watson, Evelyn Aimis, and Eli Bin, MDA director-general.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit afmda.org/events for details.

Boca-Delray Community Event

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Palm Beach Gala at The Breakers

Sunday, April 16, 2023

Featuring Howie Mandel

WESTERN REGION

MDA senior paramedic visits Los Angeles.

Los Angeles welcomed MDA Senior Paramedic Aryeh Myers of MDA's International Relations and Fundraising Department for several speaking engagements in November. Aryeh addressed congregants at Nessah Synagogue in Beverly Hills and participated in the Excellence in Leadership Seminar at YULA High School for the boys' 11th-grade class. He was interviewed for StandWithUs by Roz Rothstein, its founder and chief executive officer, and by Shirin Yadegar, founder of LA Mom Magazine. Aryeh also spoke at an ambulance dedication at Temple Beth Am.



A behind-the-scenes photo of Roz Rothstein's interview with Aryeh Myers.



Top left: Barak Raviv, Mark Collons, and Mike Dreyer. Bottom left: Mike Dreyer, Ron Mehrdad, Moshe Noyovich, Marion Zola, Janet Morgan (AFMDA's director of strategic philanthropy for the Western Region), and Anoosheh Bostani. Right: Anoosheh Bostani and Mike Dreyer.

Philanthropy award bestowed upon Alfred E. Mann Charities.

Barak and Indre Raviv hosted a dinner in their beautiful home for several Los Angeles MDA supporters. Anoosheh Bostani and Mike Dreyer, trustees of Alfred E. Mann Charities, were presented with the David Wiener Lifetime Philanthropy Award in recognition of the foundation's generous gifts in support of the Marcus National Blood Services Center in Israel. This annual award celebrates philanthropic leadership in Los Angeles and Israel. Guests included Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest Dr. Hillel Newman; Moshe Noyovich, senior Israel representative, AFMDA; Aryeh Myers, MDA; Mark Collons; Jodi Levine; Marion Zola; Ron Mehrdad; and Hannah An.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit afmda.org/events for details.

**Phoenix Women's Division
Leadership Tea with Lizzy Savetsky**
Sunday, April 23, 2023



Great Vest Side Club of Chicago

Making an Everlasting Impact for MDA and Israel

The Great Vest Side Club of Chicago began in the early 1990s with a dozen or so old high school classmates meeting monthly for lunch. There was no agenda, no minutes, nothing formal, except that it was only open to Chicago Westsiders. Many GVS members were children of immigrants — the

inspiration for “vest” instead of “west,” because their parents were unable to pronounce the letter “W.”

As time went on and word spread, GVS grew to more than 500 members, and get-togethers went from monthly lunches to dinners twice a year. Men who grew up and graduated from high school in the 1940s or ’50s share friendships that started in classrooms, playgrounds, and basketball courts. Later, women became involved. Members have a shared history that has cemented an unbreakable connection.

As the years went by and GVS grew, this “greatest generation” decided to use their influence to make a positive impact in the world. And for more than 20 years, support for Magen David Adom has been a major priority.

Members have sponsored 15 ambulances, a Medicycle, and an AED (automatic external defibrillator) kiosk. They have provided MDA teams with bulletproof flak jackets and helmets, and other much-needed equipment.

And now, to ensure their commitment to saving lives in Israel lasts for generations to come, they’ve launched the Great Vest Side Legacy Fund. Proceeds from the fund will be used to sponsor ambulances for MDA in perpetuity. Members can participate with gifts from their retirement funds, gifts of life insurance, charitable gift annuities, or by including AFMDA in their will.

For information on how you can create a legacy, visit legacy.afmda.org or call Marilyn Stern Emas at 212.757.1627.

Security for you today. A brighter future for Israel tomorrow.

AGE	RATE
60	4.9%
65	5.4%
70	5.9%
75	6.6%
80	7.6%
85	8.7%
90+	9.7%

Our charitable gift annuities are now at their highest rates in more than 10 years!

Creating a gift annuity is easy. Fund one by transferring cash or property to us and create lifetime payments for yourself, for you and another person, or as a gift for someone special.

Other benefits of a charitable gift annuity include:

- Income tax savings
- Capital gains tax avoidance
- Possible tax-free payments

Now is the right time to lock in your payout rate with a gift to fund an AFMDA charitable gift annuity.



For a detailed, no-obligation illustration of your gift annuity payment and tax benefits, or to discuss other ways to create your MDA legacy, please contact Marilyn Stern Emas, director of planned giving and estates, at msternemas@afmda.org or 212.757.1627.



Contact Us

Magen David Adom is Israel's national paramedic and Red Cross service. A leader in mass-casualty response and in EMS technology, Magen David Adom treats and transports nearly 1 million people to hospitals every year; collects, safety-tests, and distributes blood to Israel's hospitals; and, through its affiliation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, responds to disasters around the world.

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MISSION TO ISRAEL

October 27 - November 2

Optional extension to Istanbul · November 3-5

2023

