

# INSIDE

**YAD SARAH**  
FALL 2022



**EXPERIENCE  
YAD SARAH**



**FRIENDS OF  
YAD SARAH**

[FriendsOfYadSarah.org](http://FriendsOfYadSarah.org)

# INSIDE

## YAD SARAH

### FALL 2022



#### Branching Out: Repairs Edition

Squeaky wheelchair? Missing crib slat? Come visit our Modi'in equipment repair workshop – and meet the four trailblazing women who run it!



#### Dispatch from the Field

The indomitable spirit of Israel—and the impact of Yad Sarah—can be found everywhere, even in the salad fields of Talmei Yosef, where you can learn about Yad Sarah's role in the medical journeys of 14-year-old Tomer and his mother Ravit.



#### The Yad Sarah Experience

Take an armchair tour through the immersive exhibits of the Yad Sarah Visitors Center – and whet your appetite to come see us in person!

Yad Sarah's impact is wide-ranging, from providing basic and vital health supplies to those living in the periphery to helping elderly and disabled people access medical care. This rating is confirmation that Friends of Yad Sarah supports those services with purpose, trust, and integrity, and demonstrates strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.



Bringing help and hope to the people of Israel.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

FROM ADELE GOLDBERG



Yad Sarah's motto in Hebrew is "Mikol Halev," or "From the heart." And everyone can verify that it's true – whether you only know us through these pages, or you've travelled to our branches or Israel, or you have a friend or family member who relies on our services. Everything Yad Sarah does is overflowing with warmth and care that people remember for years.

Look no further than our article on Yad Sarah's Visitor Center, featuring two indomitable women – Lali and Raizy. They bring tourists, volunteers, and clients together on "The Yad Sarah Experience," a meaningful journey through the Yad Sarah House in Jerusalem. Everyone from foreign dignitaries to Israel's school children to visitors celebrating a Bar or Bat Mitzvah walks away changed and humbled to know more about our range of services, our volunteers, our staff – and our sincerity.

Then take a trip to Modi'in to read about our medical equipment repair volunteers. These women give new meaning to the word "powerhouse." For some, like Chava Chait, this role is an entire second career at age 77. Chava says she's learned from Yad Sarah "that

there are more aspects to life than I thought there were." She deeply enjoys her continuing education – and the clients who benefit from her expert care feel it in every spoke of a wheelchair or fixture on a walker.

Finally, meet Tomer, a 14-year-old who was diagnosed with a form of bone cancer at the same time his mother had breast cancer and his father had to leave his job to care for the family. It was only because of Yad Sarah that Tomer was able to obtain the medical equipment he needed to aid in his recovery.

We are proud to bring you another edition of "INSIDE Yad Sarah." We all know that the "inside" is what really counts – and here, that's a heart overflowing with compassion and action to match. Yad Sarah represents the best of Israel's spirit, mutual support and community. We are grateful to all of you for helping to make this vital work possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adele Goldberg".

**Adele Goldberg**



Visit [FriendsOfYadSarah.org/Planned-Giving](https://www.FriendsOfYadSarah.org/Planned-Giving) to learn about a wide range of options for including Yad Sarah in your will or trust and about establishing a **Friends of Yad Sarah Charitable Gift Annuity**.



# BRANCHING OUT

## REPAIRS EDITION

Yad Sarah's 126 branches, located throughout Israel, are managed and operated entirely by volunteers. These compassionate and hard-working men and women are what keep Yad Sarah **servicing more than 800,000 individuals per year**. Here is a look into the experiences of four medical equipment repair volunteers in Modi'in, including Yad Sarah's only female equipment repair center manager.



**CHAVA CHAIT**  
Director of the Repair  
Center in Modi'in

By profession, I am an electrical engineer. When I sold my electrical engineering business in Jerusalem in 2014, I moved to Modi'in and began volunteering – something that has always been of great importance to my family and me.

When I started volunteering at Yad Sarah, I was the only woman working in the workshop and didn't know the first thing about equipment repair. Little by little, I learned and eventually was asked to do quality control on the repairs. Other women also began to volunteer in the workshop – Ester was first, a champion in repairing cribs, then Orna, who has been here for a year, and last but not least, Miri, who started a few months ago.

**Volunteering at  
Yad Sarah gives me  
a lot of strength.**

I arrive every day early in the morning, tidy up the place, and prepare it for the volunteers. We first repair and clean the equipment that customers have returned. All the volunteers here are professionals, and volunteering at Yad Sarah gives me a lot of strength – it's the perfect combination of work and socializing. While working at Yad Sarah, I've realized that there are more aspects to life than I thought there were and that you can always contribute more.



Modi'in



**ESTI PORAT**  
Modi'in

My husband and I retired at the same time - and as it turns out, spending that much time together started driving us a little crazy. A few of my friends recommended volunteering at Yad Sarah. During our initial visit to the Yad Sarah house in Modi'in, we immediately felt comfortable and at home with the branch manager, Eli Rosenberg.

I began working in the repair workshop with a specialty in repairing baby cribs but happily assist in any area necessary. I even ensure that the kitchenette is clean and well-kept because, to me, the branch is like home.

Volunteering is very different from my career as a high school librarian. In the library, I worked to keep the peace and didn't have much interaction with people. At the Modi'in branch, someone is always around to keep me company. The hum of conversation and activity brings me great joy.

**“ I am proud to be part of the Modi'in branch's team of volunteers. ”**

I am proud to be part of the Modi'in branch's team of volunteers. Everyone finds pure joy in coming together to give back to the community.



**ORNA SHAPIRA**  
Modi'in

My father was one of the first volunteers at the Modi'in branch – back in 1999 – and continued to volunteer until about a year ago when he was no longer able to leave the house. Around the same time, I quit my job and was looking for something more meaningful to do. I came into the Yad Sarah branch in Modi'in more frequently – a continuation of my father's legacy.

I began by volunteering in the medical equipment loan department, but after two short weeks, I decided to volunteer at the workshop as well. I enjoy technical work. During my 30-year career as a physiotherapist, I was known for fixing equipment. I carried a screwdriver in my pocket to make repairs on the spot, and anytime a new patient arrived with an ill-fitting wheelchair, they would call me.

At Yad Sarah, I get to help others and do something I love. One day, a frustrated mother came into the Modi'in branch with a teenage boy who had broken his leg and was attempting to use adult-size crutches. The crutches were much too large for the boy, so he fell every time he tried to use them. I calmed the mother down and said, "Don't worry, you won't leave here without crutches that match your child's size exactly." I took out a few screws, cut a little, and put everything back together. In the end, the child left happy with the crutches that matched his measurements.

Every time I finish a shift at Yad Sarah, I'm on a high. It doesn't matter if I'm volunteering at the loan department or in the workshop, I feel uplifted because I was able to help someone.



**MIRI (MIRIAM)  
MURKEVITZ**  
Modi'in

After a few years of working at the Modi'in municipality in the mental health department, I broke my leg and had a rather lengthy healing process. After fully recovering, I decided to take early retirement and to start volunteering. I found Yad Sarah and tried out different parts of the branch, such as the Exhibition and the Lending Centers – something I would recommend all volunteers do.

While working in the Lending Center, a family came in and asked for a bath chair for their mother, who was disabled. These bath chairs are made of hard plastic and are rather uncomfortable, so, along with the chair, I loaned the woman a seat cushion. The family was filled with joy because I gave them a small extra item they never thought they needed. Seeing the difference I made for someone else provides me with such happiness. As volunteers, we must not only give people what they ask for but also see the big picture and offer them solutions.

Trying out different areas of the branch allowed me to discover what I really wanted to do – where I could give my all. While I enjoyed working in the Lending Center, this wasn't an area where I had much experience. After working with Orna and Chava in the Repair Center, I realized that this is where the action was. I started as an apprentice and learned a great deal about equipment repair. I am constantly learning and believe that there is always more to learn. 🧰

# ?

## DID YOU KNOW?

### **Yad Sarah now operates 126 branches!**

The newest, which opened in September 2022, is located at Shamir Medical Center.

### **Yad Sarah was present at the 21st Maccabiah games**

and helped dozens of athletes injured during competitions by providing orthopedic medical equipment upon request.



**Yad Sarah recently announced** the inauguration of their International Board of Trustees at the President of Israel's residence.

**Yad Sarah won first place** in the non-profit sector at the 2022 Israeli Center for Management competition, for excellence in service and customer experience.

**We have a brand new dental van** thanks to two sisters, Marlyse Korba and Jacqueline Weiss, who donated it in honor of their parents, René and Irène Eudlitz.



Two Yad Sarah volunteers with the newly donated dental van

Left: Ravit Kamer  
Right: Tomer Kamer  
dining with his family  
in Tel Aviv



# DISPATCH FROM THE FIELD

## TOMER'S STORY

**N**ot far from the Gaza border, in a small, remote moshav best known as the “salad trail” for its desert farming, the Kamer family was confronted with serious illness.

Twelve-year-old Tomer Kamer was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer. At Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, a three-hour ride from the Kamers' home in Talmei Yosef, Tomer underwent extensive surgery to replace the bone in his leg with a metal rod and endured rounds of chemotherapy. He received treatments on the weekdays and returned home for Shabbat.

**“ While Tomer was undergoing surgery and chemotherapy, she was receiving surgeries and radiation treatments. ”**

As if the stress of an ill child is not enough, Tomer's mother, Ravit, was diagnosed with breast cancer. While Tomer was undergoing surgery and chemotherapy, she was receiving surgeries and radiation treatments. Tomer's dad left his job to

help care for his family. Periodic rocket fire from Gaza only added to the challenges faced by this family. With each siren, Tomer's parents had to pick him up and rush him into the safe room.

To help Tomer recuperate and manage at home, the family visited the Yad Sarah branch in nearby

Bnei Netzarim. At the branch, the family picked up a wheelchair, a stationary bike, a walker, and crutches, trading each piece of equipment in when



they needed the next – reducing the financial pressure on this young family. As Tomer’s mom, Ravit, said, "In Israel, everything is expensive."

Yad Sarah's Bnei Netzarim branch—one of the organization's 126 branches—is proud to provide access to unique health care support services that make healing at home possible.

Pninat Krasniker, the branch manager, reports that "up until several years ago, the Bnei Netzarim branch's infrastructure was poor and unstable. There wasn't even a telephone line. Today, there is a permanent building adjacent to the health center, and our challenge is to develop the activities at the same rate as the growth of the community."

In June 2022, Tomer—now 14 years old—returned to Ichilov to repair the metal rod in his leg and begin the process of recuperation all over again. Once again, Yad Sarah was available to make his convalescence at home as independent as possible.

**“Yad Sarah was available to make his convalescence at home as independent as possible.”**

Today, Tomer is on track for recovery, receiving a good report from his doctors and anticipating a group trip to Disneyland with other children fighting cancer. Happily, Ravit’s cancer is behind her. She works in the farming industry, while her husband found a temporary job and is looking for full-time, permanent work.

Of the family’s extraordinary courage and spirit, Ravit simply says, "You can't live and be afraid all the time."

The people of Israel are like none other – and Yad Sarah is there for each one of them! 🇮🇱



Tomer in a café in Tel Aviv

# THE YAD SARAH EXPERIENCE

*If the Yad Sarah Visitors Center isn't on your list of must-see locations in Jerusalem... add it!*





The Center is described as a “living museum.” It is a place to show, not tell, visitors about the crucial work Yad Sarah performs for people of all ages, in an interactive and meaningful way.

At the beginning of the tour, a volunteer guide asks, “What do you know about Yad Sarah?” The most common answers are: “They loan medical equipment,” or “I don’t know anything.” Over the hour-and-a-half to two-hour tour, visitors make six stops. At each, they watch a short video about a specific Yad Sarah service – from equipment repair to solutions for the elderly – and then see volunteers performing this service live. The format of this tour provides guests with a deeper understanding of the many services Yad Sarah’s 7,000+ volunteers provide at the 126 branches throughout Israel.



Raizy, Lali, and Shulamit at the Yad Sarah house in Jerusalem

Some individuals also opt for a hands-on option, where – for a small donation – they are given a pair of unassembled crutches to put together and donate to someone in need. This activity gives individuals a glimpse into what it is like to be a Yad Sarah volunteer. “It is a fun and simple activity that introduces people of all ages to the idea of volunteering,” shares Raizy Schlissel, manager of the Yad Sarah Visitors Center.

After 22 years at the Visitors Center, Lali Lupolianski, Director of the Center, has seen a wide array of visitors, from bar and bat mitzvah groups seeking to



Lali at the Yad Sarah house in Jerusalem

bring something meaningful to their simcha, to parents showing their children the value of volunteering, to tourists looking to learn more about Yad Sarah, to doctors or medical students desiring to learn about medical care in Israel. "When people come in for a tour, you never know where it is going to hit them – or you," explained Lali.

Susan Schwell, an *olah* from Woodmere, New York, and volunteer tour guide at the Visitors Center, shared one of the most meaningful tours she led, for the head of a nursing school in Africa and her students. The group was entranced. They took photos of wheelchairs, crutches, hospital beds, and oxygen tanks – exclaiming that their parents, grandparents, or friends could use these items. This immersive nature of the tour – seeing the volunteers in action and hearing personal stories from tour guides – helps visitors really understand the work Yad Sarah does. In addition, "A personal connection helps visitors comprehend the depth of the organization's services and the great benefits it provides Israel," shared Susan.

**“Everyone leaves the tour amazed and speechless.”**

"Everyone leaves the tour amazed and speechless," said Raizy. Many are unaware of the wide range of services Yad Sarah offers to people of all ages. Following the tour, visitors often donate and some even begin volunteering with the organization. "They are all looking for ways to be a part of the organization, and we encourage them to become ambassadors for Yad Sarah – to share the work and values of the organization with their community."

For Elliot Sloyer, an American who toured the Visitors Center in April 2018, the tour was more than informative, it was inspirational. "I have always been fascinated with the concept of a library and thought there must be another great idea out there, like the library, but for something other than books," shared Elliot. At the Visitors Center, Elliot was enthralled by Yad Sarah's Lending Center. He knew he needed to bring this concept back to the United States.

Once home in Stamford, Connecticut, Elliot began creating a program inspired by Yad Sarah. Wheel It Forward has been in operation for two years and allows individuals to donate or borrow durable medical equipment. "We get about 500 calls a month from people who are either looking to borrow or donate equipment and we are proudly able to help almost all of them," said Elliot. "That never would have happened without Yad Sarah."



Raizy volunteering in Jerusalem



Photographed left to right: Dr. Ian Edwards, Secretary Rona Kramer, Adele Goldberg, and Elliot Sloyer, in the Maryland DME Re-Use warehouse

Elliot is not the only American who has brought the concept of equipment lending back to the United States. After a visit to Yad Sarah during a state-sponsored trip to Israel, Maryland Secretary of Aging Rona Kramer created a Durable Medical Equipment Re-Use program that replicates Yad Sarah’s model. In late September, Friends of Yad Sarah’s Executive Director, Adele Goldberg, and Elliot Sloyer took a tour of the DME Re-Use Facility to see the impact of Yad Sarah in Maryland.

“Elliot and Secretary Kramer have both built phenomenal organizations,” said Adele. “It is astounding to see the difference Yad Sarah makes – not only in Israel but around the world.”

Lali and Raizy are thrilled by these developments, but not surprised. Every single visitor, Lali says, “Walks away with a fresh perspective on their life, and gratitude for their abilities.” 🙏



Secretary Kramer and Adele Goldberg

**Tours of the Yad Sarah Visitors Center are available for all individuals aged 12 and up.**  
If you are interested in scheduling a tour, please contact:  
**visitors@yadsarah.org.il** or call **972-02-644-444**

# ALL ABOUT YAD SARAH

Thanks to your continued support, Yad Sarah provides a vital array of compassionate health and home services for people of all ages and backgrounds. As Israel's largest volunteer-staffed organization, Yad Sarah's 7,000 members work around the clock to assist more than 800,000 people in Israel each year.

The people of Israel — and people with special needs traveling to Israel — rely on Yad Sarah to help them remain independent, healthy and at home.

## OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES INCLUDE:

**Medical Equipment Lending Centers:** An inventory of more than 500,000 items to be loaned out at no cost to the borrowers.

**Conversations with the Homebound:** Phone conversations to activate minds and raise morale of people isolated at home.

**Medical Equipment Repairs:** The medical equipment that Yad Sarah lends are repaired and renovated by skilled volunteers and people with disabilities.

**Day Rehabilitation Centers:** Physical and occupational therapy; computer, art, drama and gardening therapy; meals and social events for young and old recovering from strokes, surgery, illness, and injury.

**Emergency Alarm System:** Peace of mind for the elderly and homebound, 24 hours a day, with two-way transmitters connected to Yad Sarah's national computerized system.

**Transportation Services:** Wheelchair-accessible rides to work, school, medical appointments, and social occasions.

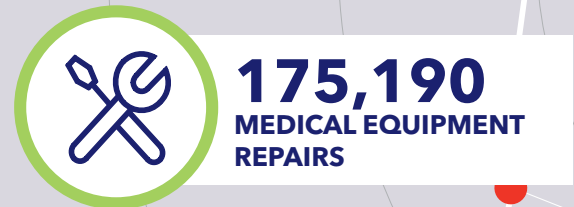
**The Family Center:** Professional therapy to individuals who have experienced trauma due to violence in the home.

**Emergency Medical Center:** Expert doctors in a variety of fields, highly qualified nurses, and top lab technicians provide a first-rate medical response to all.

**Yad Riva Legal Aid:** Legal services, legal counseling, legal representation, and social assistance for the elderly provided by volunteer lawyers.

**Mobile Geriatric Dental Clinic:** A full range of specialized care for the homebound and elderly.

**Home Hospitalization Service:** Lending equipment to create a hospital room at home to allow recuperation among family, avoiding the discomforts and dangers of long-term hospital stays.






**6,340**  
PARTICIPANTS IN THE  
DAY REHABILITATION  
CENTERS



**23,131**  
LOANS OF HOME  
HOSPITAL UNITS



**3,629**  
EVACUATION BY  
AMBULANCE TO HOSPITAL




**1,411**  
GUESTS AT  
HOSPITALITY CENTER




**69,909**  
PHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH  
HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS




**3,311**  
SERVICE RECIPIENTS OF  
LEGAL AID FOR SENIORS



**4,800**  
TREATMENTS AT THE  
FAMILY CENTER FOR THE  
PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE



**5,084**  
TREATMENTS AT HOME BY  
THE MOBILE DENTAL UNIT



**10,539**  
VISITS TO THE EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL CENTER




**787**  
HOISTING DEVICES SENT  
TO ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO  
FELL AT HOME



**4,131**  
SERVICES TO HOMEBOUND  
INDIVIDUALS



**218,759**  
CALLS TO THE  
EMERGENCY HELPLINE



**31,610**  
TRIPS IN  
YAD SARAH VANS

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Providing for **Yad Sarah** is providing for Israel. Improving the lives of more than 800,000 people in Israel in the past year, **Yad Sarah** represents what is best about Israel and its people.



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A **Yad Sarah** Gift Annuity pays a high, fixed-rate, lifetime income for one or two individuals. May we calculate the annuity rate, tax deduction and **tax-free** income portion for you? For many individuals, a gift annuity is an especially valuable retirement planning vehicle.

## A SAMPLE OF YAD SARAH'S HIGH GIFT ANNUITY RATES

| Age | Rate | Tax Free* |
|-----|------|-----------|
| 70  | 6.5  | 65.2%     |
| 75  | 7.1  | 68.8%     |
| 80  | 8.0  | 72.3%     |
| 85  | 9.5  | 77.0%     |
| 90  | 11.3 | 80.2%     |

\*A final calculation of the tax-free portion will be made for the month of the gift, based on IRS rules.

## SUPPORTING YAD SARAH (AND YOURSELF) TODAY AND TOMORROW

Leaving a gift for Yad Sarah in the future - in your will, trust, or through other vehicles - can be quite meaningful to you as a generous donor and Yad Sarah as a grateful beneficiary. However, some long-time supporters of Yad Sarah would like to do this during their lifetime. Consider the capital you may contribute to Yad Sarah through your estate. Think also about how you would like Yad Sarah to use your contribution in the future to carry on its essential work of helping people in need in Israel. Would you like to have your gift recognized during your lifetime while continuing to receive income? Consider a **Yad Sarah Gift Annuity** or a **Yad Sarah Charitable Remainder Trust**. If you use stock to fund these, you will receive substantial tax savings, pay less - if any - in capital gains taxes, generate lifetime income, and be recognized as part of a valuable universe of individuals who make a difference **today and tomorrow**. Become a **Yad Sarah Partner**.



## TO BE A YAD SARAH PARTNER

Please contact Adele Goldberg, the Executive Director of Friends of Yad Sarah, at 1-866-YAD-SARAH or by email at [adele@friendsofyadsarah.org](mailto:adele@friendsofyadsarah.org).

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