

2021



CANADIAN HADASSAH-WIZO

CHW PROJECTS

IMPACT REPORT



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WHAT'S NEW AT CHW



Our valued friends,

Despite the pandemic, the past year has been one of change, growth, and innovation at Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW). The first in a series of exciting transformations began in March with the transition of leadership and with that, CHW's appointment of its first CEO.

Into May, we launched a brand-new national event concept called FASHION BLOOMS, which provided funding for CHW's Neri Bloomfield Academy of Design to fund cutting-edge equipment and new technologies to ensure that the school is a leader in the field of fashion innovation. See pages 14-15.

Summer brought a new inventive fundraising strategy, including a 24-hour crowdfunding campaign called S.O.S Starting Over Safely that empowered victims of domestic violence in Israel. See pages 18-19.

Every initiative that has been launched this year, is strategically intended to move CHW forward in the 21st century. With a focus to empower women both in Israel and here in Canada, promote programs and initiatives that create sustainability and succession, while enabling excellence in healthcare, education, and social services, CHW will engage a new generation of donors to strengthen this powerful organization of women from coast to coast.

As 2021 moves into 2022, fundraising remains online, with a focus on virtual events. In the true spirit of our roots, dedicated volunteers and supporters are preparing for a multitude of

creative virtual programs, collaborating across Canada, to engage our supporters from every corner of the country. Without geographic limitations, we can attract a broader audience and increase awareness of our organization.

The coming year will be exciting, and with it our first Journey 4 Impact, a once in a lifetime adventure to Israel, supporting social impact investing and sustainability (www.chw.ca/journey-4-impact). We are also preparing to launch a modern day CHW virtual Bazaar coming in the fall 2022. We invite you to charge your iPads!

Once the pandemic is safely behind us, the world will be different on so many levels. However, our values and our love for our Canadian community and our Jewish homeland will remain as strong as ever. By providing our valued supporters, volunteers, and donors with a vehicle to effect meaningful change through their philanthropy, CHW enables donors like you to make the world a better place. You remain the constant force that enables positive impact on the women and children we benefit both here and in Israel.

On behalf of all the women, children, and their families, thank you for your steadfast support.

Warmly,

Elayna Latsky
National President

Lisa Colt-Kotler
Chief Executive Officer



OUR IMPACT IS YOUR IMPACT

EDUCATION HEALTHCARE SOCIAL SERVICES



HADASSAH HOSPITAL, MOUNT SCOPUS

Rady Mother and Child Center, Labour & Delivery Department

The Rady Mother and Child Center focuses on what is best for the mother and baby from the moment a woman arrives in the delivery room. Mothers are encouraged to be as active as possible throughout the process, and special emphasis is put on the first hour after delivery to encourage immediate bonding and nursing. Understanding the great significance on the mother-child relationship, the skilled staff do as much as possible to make labour and delivery a positive and empowering experience for each and every woman.

Since 2018, a senior physician is present in the building 24/7, which dramatically improved the standard of care for the delivery rooms. This arrangement contributed to the decreased rate of c-sections done at the hospital yearly, since 2019.

A total of 18 residents, 17 senior staff doctors, and 40 midwives keep the division running efficiently, in addition to many more nurses in all the surrounding departments.

The expansion and upgrades in both the facilities and medical equipment have been a game changer, giving staff the much-needed space and conditions to offer optimal medical care for routine deliveries as well as rare complications.

The new department also offers individualized, culturally sensitive care, treating each woman with a developed understanding of her culture. Due to the unique location of Mount Scopus, the staff are privileged to care for women of many backgrounds and ethnicities, and they tailor the medical care accordingly. For example, the hospital prioritizes vaginal deliveries, even with risk factors, such as giving birth to twins (or multiple babies).

We are very proud to have new and modern facilities that offer two delivery rooms with personal bathtubs. Immersion in warm water has a very calming and soothing affect and also provides significant pain relief during labour. From the experience that we have gained over recent months, we see how just having the option of entering the bath allows a unique ambience and atmosphere throughout the entire labor and delivery process. Water deliveries at Mount Scopus are offered with continuous monitoring with no compromise to maternal and fetal health, even in the most natural settings.

AWARDS/DISTINCTIONS GRANTED TO STAFF

In June 2021, Professor Simcha Yagel received the Ian Donald Gold Medal Award, the most prestigious award in the world in its field. Prof. Yagel received this award in recognition of his significant scientific contribution to the advancement of diagnostic ultrasound in obstetrics and gynecology. He is the first Israeli physician to receive the award, granted by the ISUOG – The International Association of Obstetric Ultrasound and Gynecology.

Prof. Yagel was primarily recognized for his work in fetal echocardiography, using 3D diagnostics, and his contribution to detecting problems in the pelvic floor. The improved method that he developed for assessing the fetal heart is now the established method worldwide – with tens of millions of these exams being done yearly.



NOTABLE RESEARCH IN THE DEPARTMENT

Professor Asnat Walfish, Head of the Department, led a research group that explored the ideal delivery time for c-sections or induced labor, with a focus on the long-term consequences of children born between 37-39 weeks. Women often request a birth date because of non-medical reasons, and it is essential for them to see a full picture of how these decisions may impact their children in the future.

The research was based on a database of roughly a quarter of a million births, occurring between 1991 and 2014, which combined perinatal data and future hospitalizations of the children of all Israeli ethnic groups.

It was found that in both the short- and long-term, these children exhibit health issues similar to those of premature babies. They are hospitalized more frequently due to respiratory, cardiac, and metabolic issues throughout childhood. Obstructive sleep apnea necessitating surgery (such as tonsillectomy) and otitis media (ear infections) are also more common.



5,566

babies were born in the last year

119

sets of twins were born

THREE

international research papers were published on the effects of COVID-19 on pregnancy and fertility

10 +

languages are available for all current services and treatments, including Hebrew, Arabic, Russian, Amharic, English, and French.

ADDITIONAL STUDIES:

PROTECTING THE YET-TO-BE-BORN FROM COVID-19

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

COVID VACCINES DON'T HARM OVARIES AND NEITHER DOES VIRUS

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)





CHW HADASSIM CHILDREN AND YOUTH VILLAGE

CHW Hadassim Children and Youth Village provides an excellent and inclusive educational experience that prepares students for the future. Many achievements have been recognized by The Ministry of Education, who awarded the village several prestigious educational prizes.

CHW Hadassim is home to over **350** children and youth from around the world and Israel. The flagship Na'aleh Program continues to expand with more youth arriving from countries where anti-Semitism is on the rise, and concern for safety is at an all-time high. A total of **197** students are part of the Na'aleh Program this year, the majority arriving from Latin America, the Former Soviet Union, and France. The village has been able to expand its capacity to accommodate more at-risk youth, thanks to CHW renovations and upgrades to the Claudia Goldman Dormitory and Marilyn Libin and Family Dormitory.

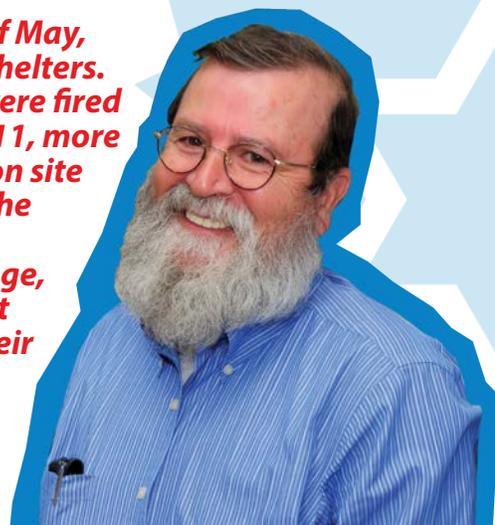
RESILIENCE AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19

CHW Hadassim is a safe-haven for some of the most vulnerable children and youth, from both Israel and Diaspora communities. The village provides shelter for dozens of girls from high-risk backgrounds who receive specialized treatment to help them with their rehabilitation and traumatic past. In addition, two Family Units offer children ages six and up a safe and nurturing home environment after experiencing major neglect or abuse at home.

CHW Hadassim placed great emphasis on building resilience among students and staff throughout every stage of the pandemic. By continuously adapting programs to meet the changing priorities, CHW Hadassim was able to remain a safe home for hundreds of Na'aleh students and at-risk children and youth. Special arrangements and new programs were created to ensure everyone remained safe and healthy throughout the lockdown period, in compliance with all Ministry of Health guidelines.

Building resiliency also means being prepared for every scenario, including the outbreak of war or conflict. Zeev Twito, Director of CHW Hadassim, recounts what took place just days ahead of Operation Guardian of the Walls:

“At the beginning of May, we opened all our shelters. When the rockets were fired from Gaza on May 11, more than 300 students on site quickly reacted to the sirens. Despite the damage to our village, every single student safely made it to their assigned shelter.”



SUPPORTING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Since the pandemic, CHW has prioritized and stepped up support for programs and services that address youth mental health, especially among at-risk and vulnerable youth. All CHW therapeutic programs at CHW Hadassim (Healing Broken Families, Individual Counselling, and Music Therapy) have been renamed The Lea Zev Shilman & Joseph Zunia Shilman Therapeutic Programs, thanks to the generous support of [Rina Shilman Fisher](#) and husband Larry Fisher of the Jaclyn Fisher Foundation. Rina is a Canadian-Israeli who spent her formative years at CHW Hadassim. This transformational gift ensures that **100%** of the youth living at the village can receive ongoing counselling, emotional, and therapeutic support tailored to their specific needs. It also supports a host of specialized therapeutic programs, specifically designed for high-risk youth, together with their families.



THE LEA ZEV SHILMAN & JOSEPH ZUNIA SHILMAN THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS

The program formerly known as the Healing Broken Families Program, which aims to strengthen the communication and relationships between parents and children, continued to evolve throughout the pandemic. The program aims to help parents take an active part in their children's lives, whether the children live at home or at the youth village.

Given the uncertainty, growing tensions, and mental health issues families have been facing, the professional team conducted comprehensive surveys among parents in order to better tailor interventions to the most urgent needs. After careful analysis and consideration, unique support groups were created specifically for parents. The positive impact of this approach was felt immediately as participation rates were close to 100%! The groups, facilitated by a trained social worker and therapeutic professional, were able to direct interventions and conversations in areas that were most pressing for the parents. Increased emphasis was placed on reducing the stigma around mental health and shining a light on how it affects the entire family. The shift to hybrid session, conducted partially in-person and via Zoom, meant that more parents could easily join the support group, especially working parents who live far from the village and single mothers with small children at home.



[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE ABOUT RINA FISHER](#)

Over **75** youth directly benefit from therapeutic music each year. The program is tailored to each participants' special needs, skills, and aspirations. Students learn both music theory and choose from a wide range of instruments, including guitar, piano, drums, and vocals. Emphasis is placed on exposing students to a wide range of musical genres, while also encouraging them to explore and develop music from their home countries.

Several new initiatives were launched since the start of the pandemic, including jam sessions via Zoom and Kabbalat Shabbat, so children at the village could be united and bonded through music. In fact, every activity at the village now incorporates music arranged and performed by students in the program. It is clear the music helped reduce stress and anxiety during difficult periods.

100% OF STUDENTS RECEIVE ONGOING GUIDANCE AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FROM PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLORS AND THERAPISTS

EUNICE MOUCKLEY THERAPEUTIC CENTRE

Now in its fourth year of operations, The Eunice Mouckley Therapeutic Centre treats children and families with severe challenges and dysfunction. The families are referred to the Centre once all other community-based programs have been exhausted and children are at great risk and distress. The professional staff provide comprehensive, in-depth family interventions that rebuild family connections.

The Centre can accommodate up to **40** families, providing around **120** hours of treatment per month. The treatment includes parental coaching, individual, and family group treatments. Throughout the pandemic, the professional team found creative ways to reinvent the delivery of essential programs and continue significant therapeutic processes that were well underway with families via Zoom and in-person sessions.



CHW NAHALAL YOUTH VILLAGE

Once again, CHW Nahalal has been ranked in the top five performing schools in the region and is recognized for its outstanding performance in a number of key areas, including significantly lowering student dropout rates; maintaining a high percentage of graduates who continue on to meaningful army and/or national service; integrating special education students; and a high rate of student eligibility for matriculation exams. While 98% of students serve in the army and 96% go on to meaningful service, the number of female students who become officers is twice the national average in Israel.

Student from the Na'aleh-Anieres program continue to make remarkable achievements. Graduates of the program who continue their studies at the Technion University have become role models for students currently in the program and return to help teach classes in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). The Anieres program is offered exclusively at CHW Nahalal because of the educational vision, high academic standards, educational support, and facilities on offer. This winning combination provides students with all the support and conditions to succeed and achieve their full potential.

300

YOUTH RESIDE AT
CHW NAHALAL
YOUTH VILLAGE

120

YOUTH ARE PART
OF THE NA'ALEH
PROGRAM ARRIVING
FROM OVER 15
COUNTRIES,
INCLUDING BRAZIL,
THE FORMER SOVIET
UNION, PERU,
FRANCE, AND SOUTH
AFRICA

180

ISRAELI YOUTH
FROM DIVERSE
BACKGROUNDS
MOVED TO
THE VILLAGE
SEEKING
GREATER
EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES

1,630

STUDENTS
ATTEND THE
JUNIOR HIGH AND
HIGH SCHOOL
BASED AT THE
VILLAGE

STUDENTS
ENGAGE IN OVER

50,000
COLLECTIVE
HOURS OF
VOLUNTEER
SERVICE THAT
BENEFIT THE
COMMUNITY



EXPANDING PSYCHOSOCIAL PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC

Throughout the pandemic, CHW Nahalal has continuously remained a safe-haven for hundreds of Na'aleh-Anieres students, unable to return to their family abroad due to travel restrictions. Many of the Israeli youth coming from disadvantaged backgrounds and broken homes also remained on site in order to continue their individualized learning and therapeutic programs. New psychosocial initiatives were developed around the Agriculture Track and upgraded CHW facilities which offered students a much needed routine and a sense of purpose. Students stepped in and provided assistance in maintaining the fields, bees, cows, and horses. Experienced staff, including a therapeutic team, helped to ensure that students continued to feel safe and healthy, both physically and mentally. To ease the levels of stress and anxiety, additional hours of therapeutic programs were available to all students, including therapeutic riding at the horse stables and music sessions at the newly upgraded Music and Arts Centre.



THERAPEUTIC HORSE RIDING

The upgraded CHW Horse Stable has become a second home for many students who enjoy the warm and nurturing environment and support provided by professional trainers. The therapeutic riding, together with the daily care for the horses, helps to reinforce the self-confidence and self-esteem of many struggling students and reduces stress and anxiety, which were further exasperated during the pandemic. The much-needed upgrades and renovations of the outdated Horse Stables began over the summer and is expected to provide a more conducive and comfortable therapeutic and educational environment for more students in the years to come.

CHW VENTURE PHILANTHROPY: THE EXPANSION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE DAIRY FARM

The Dairy Farm continues to grow and expand as a key educational and therapeutic facility at CHW Nahalal. The facilities and academic program developed over the past few years has led to an increase in students specializing in the Agricultural Track. There are now over 300 children from CHW Nahalal and hundreds more from nearby communities benefiting from the Dairy Farm.

The Dairy has gained a reputation for being a centre for innovation in Israel. Greater collaboration and exposure across different disciplines has expanded to include students studying Biology, Robotics, Computer Science, and Engineering, who learn about the importance of the industry in Israel and across the world.

The Dairy serves as both a therapeutic and educational facility for dozens of at-risk children, including students with learning and behavior challenges. It also offers a new environment for building life-skills and teaching values. Students gain a stronger work ethic and learn to be a dependable part of a team.

Throughout the pandemic and lockdowns, students took on new and important roles related to the daily operations and maintenance of the dairy while external support staff were unable to be on-site. The new responsibilities gave students who were previously not involved in the dairy farm a new sense of purpose. They greatly enjoyed the dynamic new routine and the guidance they received from the Head of the Dairy Farm, Sarit Yucker. Under her leadership, dozens of new youths were introduced to the rewarding activities on offer: from feeding and naming newborn calves to supplying Tnuva with milk they helped produce.

The Dairy Farm continues to provide an important source of revenue for CHW Nahalal and has been a long-time supplier of milk to Tnuva, Israel's leading dairy company. Over the past few years, the overall quality and milk production has greatly improved with the modernized facilities. The Dairy now operates to the highest standard and has been awarded the rights to produce and sell more milk! CHW Nahalal's reputation as a leader and innovator has been strengthened, especially among Tnuva, which picks up milk daily from the Nahalal Dairy.





HADASSAH ACADEMIC COLLEGE (HAC)

The DAN Department for Creative Human Design

Despite all the challenges and uncertainties brought on by the pandemic, The DAN Department of Creative Human Design continued to provide a nurturing, hybrid learning environment where innovative ideas have a chance to develop to their full potential. 95% of all instructions were safely conducted through frontal learning, providing students with full access to the Fab Lab and state-of-the-art design equipment.

To stay relevant, the design world had to redefine itself within a drastically new reality, providing relevant solutions for a post-pandemic world. Unique to The DAN Department is a focus on social design and providing cutting-edge solutions to better humankind. A total of 31 students graduated from the department and presented their final projects in an online, international conference titled, Make it Count. The conference featured innovative ideas and new concepts, addressing four key areas where designers can Make it Count: healthcare and medicine; education and research; people and communities; and industry. The conference included five world-renowned designer leaders who presented their latest ideas, including

a keynote lecture by Professor Jo-Anne Bichard, from Royal College of Art in London, who spoke about the cross section between design, anthropology, and the building of communities.

INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE

The DAN Department has become an important partner in The Blender – HAC's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Head of the DAN Department, Gideon Dotan, recently presented a workshop there on creative thinking and ideation.

HAC launched The Blender to provide students and graduates with a framework in which to develop ideas that could have practical future applications in business, and in other realms of society. The Blender was founded by Dr. Tali Hadasa-Blank, who is a senior lecturer in the Department of Management.

HAC continues to assist students and graduates to develop a unique career path. The DAN Department launched a unique initiative, together with the Municipality of Jerusalem and its Career Center, to build tools that enable DAN Department graduates to more easily transition and integrate into an exciting career path.

LIFE SAVING INNOVATIONS

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE: YARDEN KALFUS FINAL PROJECT

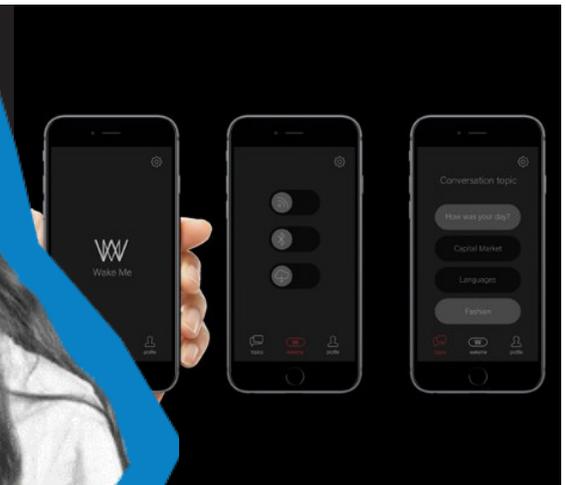
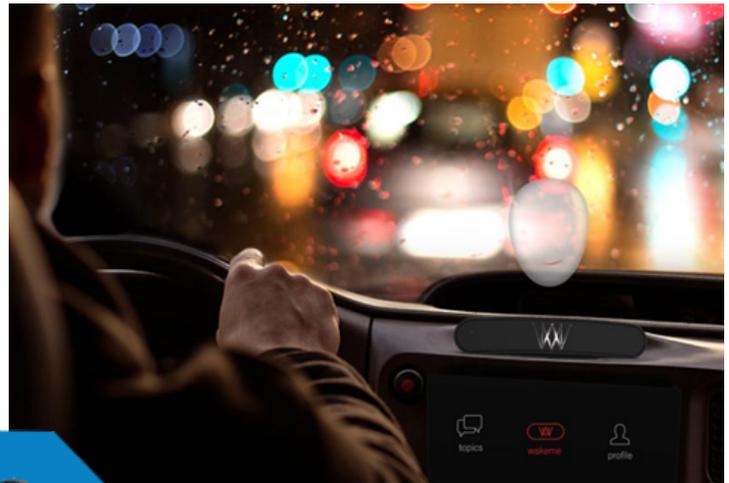
Problem:

Twenty percent of road accidents in Israel and around the world occur from falling asleep while driving. This common fatigue, known as Microsleep, is a very short, but deep sleep that lasts between one to thirty seconds. It's short, but deadly while driving, because of the devastating effects it can have on drivers, passengers, and innocent bystanders.

Solution:

The goal of Yarden's final project is to save lives on the road. Her research led her to discover that one of the most effective ways to prevent fatigue amongst drivers is through conversation. When drivers are engaged in a stimulating conversation, their mind and body become distracted from their feeling of fatigue.

Yarden developed a unique Application and dashboard device that interfaces with the driver and simulates a 'buddy system' or a friend that initiates a stimulating conversation, while checking the driver's level of alertness.



[WATCH VIDEO DEMO OF APP](#)

113

STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED
IN THE DAN DEPARTMENT.

95%

OF ALL INSTRUCTION IS
FRONTAL LEARNING.

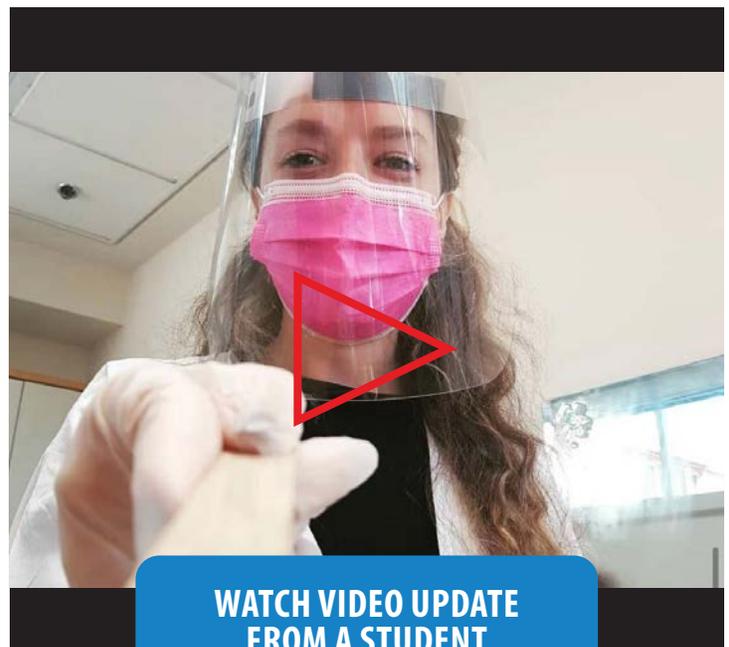
A FIRST

PROF. DINA SHACHAR IS THE FIRST AND ONLY WOMAN IN ISRAEL
TO ACHIEVE A PROFESSOR TITLE IN INDUSTRIAL DESIGN.

The CHW Centre for Clinical Training and Community Care

During the last academic year at HAC, the professional staff in the CHW Centre for Clinical Training & Community Care, together with students, provided some **2,130** treatments for children suffering from speech and language difficulties. A total of **1,900** hearing evaluations were conducted in the Centre's special audiometric testing booths, and hearing aids were adapted and fitted for the many children and adults who needed them.

In addition, third year students in the Department of Communication Disorders from HAC's Haredi campus conducted hearing screenings for **50** seniors living in a nursing home. These students also provided guidance to 40 of the residents who were referred to their doctor for full-hearing evaluations. This outreach effort was particularly critical during COVID-19 restrictions and limitations, when the elderly were hesitant to venture out of their home environments.



[WATCH VIDEO UPDATE FROM A STUDENT](#)



SHAMIR MEDICAL CENTER (SMC)

The Esther Matlow^z1 Ophthalmology Department

The Esther Matlow^z1 Ophthalmology Department at Shamir Medical Centre (SMC) is a state-of-the-art eye care department providing clinical and surgical expertise for all related eye disorders and diseases. The Department is headed by Dr. Eran Pras and includes a team of 30 physicians working in three main areas: Inpatient and Surgical Department; Outpatient Clinics; and Scientific Research.

INPATIENT AND SURGICAL DEPARTMENT

Over 2,500 patients were treated in the Inpatient and Surgical Department in the past year, which includes pre-operative preparation, surgery, post-surgery follow-up and urgent care. However, as new variants and waves of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to unfold, the number of patients treated remains in flux as people are hesitant to go to hospitals when COVID infection rates are high and subsequently postpone their treatments.

OUTPATIENT CLINICS

Over 35,000 visits by patients were handled in the Outpatient Clinics this past year. The clinics provide critical services in a number of disciplines related to the eyes; both ongoing care and urgent treatments. Among the most critical and effective treatments provided at the clinics are the Intravitreal Injections, which combat several retinal diseases and conditions and without which, patients could lose their eyesight and go blind. Most of the patients requiring this treatment are seniors suffering from diabetes and AMD, which also means they are at a higher risk of experiencing COVID-19 complications. Postponing treatment can quickly lead to the deterioration of their eyesight and if left untreated, they could go blind.

IMPACT NUMBERS

2,500 SURGERIES PERFORMED
35,000 OUTPATIENT CLINIC PATIENTS
5,000 INTRAVITREAL INJECTIONS

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

The Department is renowned for being an active and productive centre of scientific innovation. It is ranked as one of the top ophthalmology departments in Israel and a leader in the field of medical research and publications. Thanks to the generous support of the Matlow family, which previously funded an on-site research laboratory, the Department continues to attract leading physicians and students from Tel Aviv University, who are interested in participating in cutting-edge research projects.

The Department is leading the way in research that will greatly improve gene therapy for inherited retinal diseases. As leaders in the field, the Department is advancing gene therapy treatment for a rare type of disorder called LCA (Leber Congenital Amaurosis), which causes severe vision loss and commonly appears within the first six months after birth.

GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH AND TREATMENTS FOR CHILDREN

As part of its mission, The Esther Matlow z'l Ophthalmology Department continues to diagnose and treat children with rare eye disorders. The department recently published groundbreaking research on Keratoglobus, a rare genetic eye disorder that affects children worldwide. Working in close cooperation with families, the professional team identified the molecular and genetic code that causes this rare corneal thinning disorder. The breakthrough study will help international researchers and practitioners better understand and locate the genetic causes of the disorder and offers critical treatment options for children.

The Department has also embarked on a close collaboration with the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at SMC to screen and treat Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), an eye disorder that occurs mainly in premature babies who are born weighing less than three pounds and before week 31 of gestation.

"We developed an outstanding partnership with NICU team at SMC. Our skilled professionals use the most advanced equipment to carefully screen high-risk newborns. We now have the capacity to manage one of the most devastating disorders with cutting-edge treatments and intense follow up. We do everything we can to preserve a newborn's eyesight and overall quality of life."

- Dr. Eran Pras, Department Head



VIRTUAL RETINAL CLINIC

The Department has taken innovative measures to ensure that patients remain safe and protected since the start of the pandemic. The latest initiative is the launch of a Virtual Retinal Clinic, which will better serve thousands of patients treated at the busy Outpatient Clinics. The shift will be particularly important for the most vulnerable patients, including those who are elderly, bedridden, and immunocompromised.

"The pandemic challenged us to think outside of the box. We wanted to be more efficient and safely treat our most vulnerable patients who fear being exposed to COVID-19, while also easing the burden on our medical staff. We carefully analyzed feedback from patients and staff and created a Virtual Retinal Eye Clinic. It's an innovative model that will reduce the average time of a hospital visit from 2.5 hours to just a few minutes," said Dr. Pras.

Patients are invited to The Virtual Retinal Clinic during non-peak hospital hours, including afternoons and Fridays. Trained medical and nursing staff will carry out the initial screening, while an advanced ophthalmic technician will conduct an OCT (optical coherence tomography) retinal image that will be immediately sent for analysis. An off-site group of specialists will then make recommendations and determine the next stages of the treatment process. This transformational change allows for quicker expert review of a higher volume of patients via the Virtual Clinic.

PROJECT STATUS: THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW OPERATING ROOM

The construction of the third operating room in the busy Ophthalmology Department is moving forward at a steady pace without disrupting the regular activities and patient care onsite. The remodeling of the unit, including a new entrance and administrative quarter, is expected to be completed within the first quarter of 2022. The final phase of the project and the opening of the new operating room will be completed by the third quarter of 2022.



SHAMIR MEDICAL CENTER (SMC)

The Marla Dan Stroke and Invasive Neuroradiology Department

The Marla Dan Stroke and Invasive Neuroradiology Department specializes in treating complex stroke patients with the most advanced medical technologies and equipment in the world. The Department provides solutions to all pathologies, such as stroke and aneurysms, and offers unique treatment for the detection and prevention of stroke by inserting stents into the carotid arteries in the neck that prevent the development of a significant stroke and the need for surgery.

The Department significantly expanded the scope of its work in 2021, and is now one of Israel's leading Stroke Centres. The expansion is the result of a number of recent upgrades, including improvements to the neurosurgical division, which has allowed for more catheterizations for aneurysms and vascular anomalies. The expansion of the professional team with specialists on call 24/7 has helped SMC meet the growing demands and emergency cases, particularly among stroke patients.

19,000 PEOPLE IN ISRAEL EXPERIENCE A STROKE. STROKE IS THE THIRD LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN ISRAEL.

60 SECONDS CAN MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE. EVERY MINUTE OF TREATMENT IS CRITICAL, ESPECIALLY AT THE ONSET.

220 PATIENTS WERE TREATED IN THE PAST YEAR. THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED HAS DOUBLED FROM 120 IN 2020.

"Our ultimate goal is to treat hyper-acute illness and also to prevent recurrences. We are here for patients and their families- at all times."
- Dr. Ronen Levite, Director of the Department

A UNIQUE MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

The upgraded facilities and latest equipment have given the Department the unique ability to perform interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary therapies that include treatment for stroke, aneurysms, cerebrovascular and cervical malformations, increased intracranial pressure, and more.

Under the leadership of Dr. Ronen Levite, Director of the Department, closer connections have emerged with the hospital's overall system that begins in the emergency room, and passes through the imaging, intensive care unit, and anesthesia departments: all of which have advanced and leading neuro-capabilities that allow for a variety of brain catheterization treatments.

LIFE SAVING TREATMENTS

Since the start of the year, the Institute has performed more than 203 catheterizations: a dramatic increase from the 120 performed last year. This sharp increase has set SMC as not only a national leader (performing more catheterizations than several other hospitals combined), but also on the international scale. Dr. Levite is among only four specialists in Israel who perform the most complex cerebral brain catheterization: IVM, a procedure which is preformed entirely using the Biplane device.

The Department's professional team cooperates in full synergy with other teams in Israel on best practices and research. Immediate intervention and treatment is the difference between life and death for patients suffering from a stroke. The Department has also stepped up its outreach and training to Magen David Adom (MDA) emergency teams to identify stroke cases, so that they can immediately refer patients for catheterization. The MDA ambulatory teams have also developed a close connection to SMC and often make direct contact with doctors if they need advice about a patient while they are on the way to the hospital for emergency treatment.



CASE STUDY: EVERY MINUTE COUNTS



Ronit,* age 37, arrived from Ashdod to Shamir Medical Centre in a catastrophic state.

On her way to work, she suddenly lost consciousness while on the bus. She had no medical history that placed her at high risk. She had a healthy and active lifestyle, no allergies, and didn't smoke.

Luckily, the bus driver called for help and Ronit was quickly transferred by ambulance to a local hospital. By the time she arrived, she was partially paralyzed, couldn't speak, and didn't remember much. It appeared as though Ronit had experienced a full blown stroke. Recognizing the complexity of her condition, doctors immediately transferred Ronit for treatment at The Marla Dan Stroke and Invasive Neuroradiology Department.

Within minutes of arriving, Dr. Levite and his team discovered rare damages and tears in two of Ronit's arteries, causing severe clots that stopped the circulation of blood flow in her brain. They performed an emergency catheterization, which unblocked the diseased artery, using an innovative balloon device commonly used by the angioplasty department, who they work in close collaboration with.

Every second that the brain does not have oxygen can leave permanent damage. Within six minutes, Dr. Levite and his team skillfully unblocked Ronit's arteries and restored the oxygen flow. Shortly after the procedure Ronit was fully alert and regained her ability to speak. Although she experienced weakness in her hand and leg, her prognosis was good, and she would be able to heal within a few months with intensive rehabilitation.

"Ronit was literally brought back to life. She has two kids and a husband. When you look at their faces, it's clear how relieved they are to have her back with them," said Dr. Levite.

***Name changed for confidentiality purposes**



SHAMIR MEDICAL CENTER (SMC)

The Marla Dan Interventional Radiology Institute

The Marla Dan Interventional Radiology Institute provides cutting-edge and advanced treatments at the highest international standards. Directed by Dr. Alexei Cherniavsky, the Institute places patients at the centre and aligns with the global trend to advance minimally invasive medicine. The Institute performs a wide variety of treatments and operates two catheterization rooms that include advanced systems and recovery areas for patients.

The Institute has become a centre of excellence thanks to the advanced technology, professional team, and general support it has received from the Dan Family. It is a leader and the first to use advanced 3D and CBCT medical imaging techniques, ensuring patient diagnosis and treatment is safe and efficient. The professional team is skilled at performing complex operations, such as stent grafting, angio, abdominal, pelvic, leg, and peripheral catheterizations, which greatly limits the need for surgical operations.

Located south of Tel Aviv, The Institute gives new hope to patients who previously had little or no access to such quality treatment, particularly those from lower socio-economic backgrounds. Rare and complex cases are now being treated in-house and referrals to external hospitals are no longer necessary.

INNOVATIVE CARE

What sets The Marla Dan Radiology Institute apart is the winning combination of cutting-edge equipment and the integration of technological applications with a team dedicated to providing innovative care. The Institute is continually expanding under the management of Dr. Cherniavski. Complex procedures are being performed for the first time at the hospital and pioneering technologies are being employed. All scheduled IR procedures are carefully planned, so that the two catheterization labs can operate at full capacity. The Institute has also trained additional medical staff to improve overall efficiencies. Since embarking on these changes, the Institute has doubled its life-saving activities over the last three years.

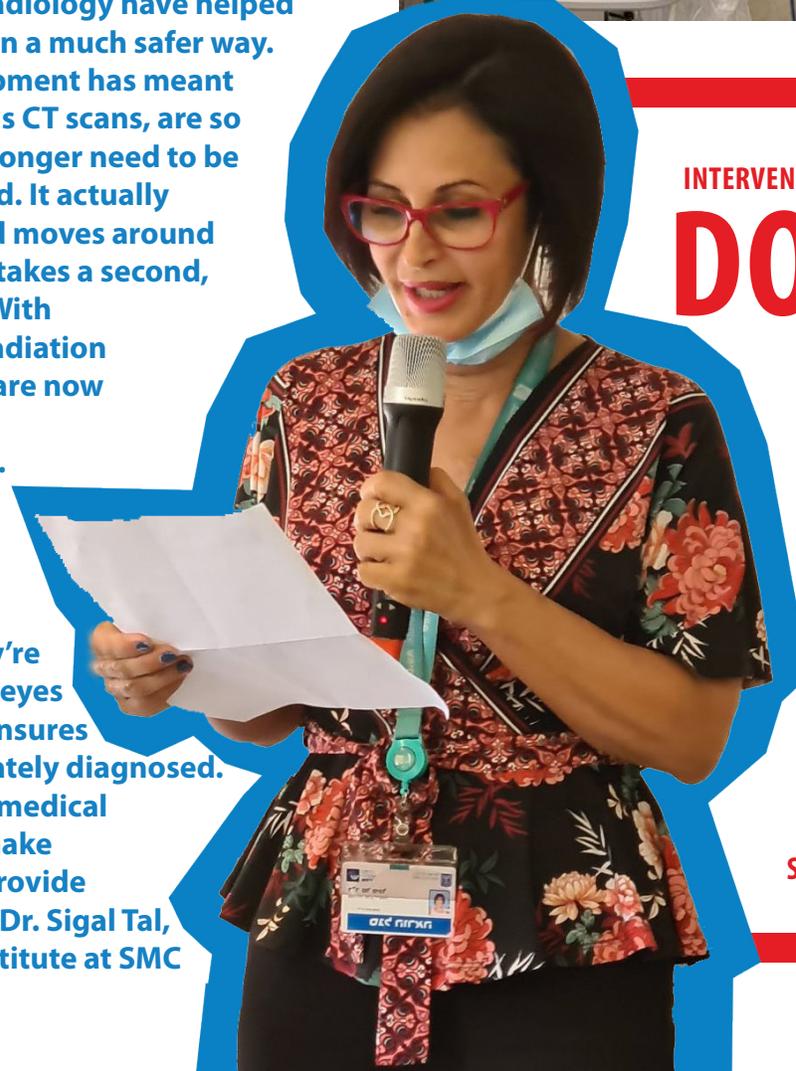
Interventional Radiology offers patients a quicker and less painful alternative to surgery as well as a shorter recovery time.

TREATING CHILDREN

With medical staff on call 24/7, The Marla Dan Interventional Radiology Institute is well equipped to handle all types of emergencies, including rare cases involving children. Abed, a 14-year-old boy from the neighbouring city of Lod, was rushed to Shamir Medical Center after a serious fall. His initial CT revealed extensive internal bleeding from his damaged kidneys. The skilled medical team assessed the best technique to stop the bleeding and prevent permanent damage to the organ. Within 48 hours, Abed was able to make a full recovery. The minimally invasive procedure available at the Institute, guided by medical imaging, offered Abed with a quicker and less painful alternative to surgery. We have also developed a close connection to SMC and often make direct contact with doctors if they need advice about a patient while they are on the way to the hospital for emergency treatment.

“All of the advances we’ve made around medical imaging and radiology have helped us treat more children in a much safer way. Our cutting-edge equipment has meant that procedures, such as CT scans, are so quick that children no longer need to be sedated or anesthetized. It actually doesn’t matter if a child moves around because the screening takes a second, or even a millisecond! With significantly reduced radiation levels, our procedures are now safer for children and even babies in our care.

“The field of medical imaging and radiology does not get a lot of attention, and yet, they’re so crucial. They are the eyes of medicine. Imaging ensures that patients are accurately diagnosed. Without these images, medical professionals cannot make accurate decisions or provide the right treatments.” - Dr. Sigal Tal, Director of Imaging Institute at SMC



INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY (IR) ACTIVITY
DOUBLED
IN THE PAST 3 YEARS

1500+
LONG PROCEDURES PERFORMED

375+
SHORT PROCEDURES PERFORMED



SHAMIR MEDICAL CENTER (SMC)

CHW Debbie Eisenberg and Gary Levene Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)

The CHW Debbie Eisenberg and Gary Levene Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at the Shamir Medical Center (SMC) treats approximately 300 patients annually, from infants as young as two-day-old to children and adolescents up to the age of 18. The newly upgraded PICU, with its cutting-edge facilities and state-of-the-art equipment, has been a game-changer for SMC, ensuring that critically ill children receive the most advanced patient care and life-saving treatments.

The PICU receives children after serious accidents or at acute, life-threatening stages of illness. Patients treated at the multidisciplinary PICU usually suffer from vital body system failures, and require respiratory support, close monitoring, and surveillance of all vital signs and organs.

The newly opened PICU is a game changer that follows 20 years of patchwork renovations in the outdated and overcrowded unit, which contained beds separated by curtains alone and

only one treatment cart. Thanks to the generous support of CHW, the entire PICU was expanded and redesigned to meet the highest international standards. With six fully self-contained private rooms, including a negative pressure isolation room, every patient has the privacy and space to receive treatment with dignity. Each room can now comfortably accommodate family members during such challenging times when young children need the most support. In addition, each room is equipped with state-of-the-art medical and diagnostic equipment as well as its own treatment cart, so staff can effectively tend to each patient, while preventing avoidable cross infections.

Breakdown of Admissions:

- Respiratory 25%**
- Post-Operative 25%**
- Sepsis Conditions 13%**
- Neurosurgical Conditions 7%**
- Cardiovascular Conditions 7%**
- Endocrine Conditions 7%**
- Other 7%**

THE PROFESSIONAL TEAM

The PICU is directed by Professor Ibrahim Abu Kishk, who takes a family-centered approach to caring for patients. The vision of the PICU is to recognize parents as key partners throughout all stages of their child's care. Parents are welcome to stay by their child's side and assist with hospital routines, such as bathing, feeding, weighing, and more. Parents remain constantly updated about their child's condition and test results and are included in all stages of planning for future treatments. Parents receive both practical and emotional support throughout their child's treatment and recovery period.

The PICU's multidisciplinary medical team consists of pediatric intensive care specialists, who supervise pediatricians at various stages of internships, as well as experts from other medical disciplines, such as surgery, infections, neurology, cardiology, pulmonary, nephrology, endocrinology, and gastroenterology. The PICU staff also includes: dietitians who plan personalized diets according to each child's individual needs; a specialized social worker; physiotherapists; respiration experts; and medical equipment technicians.

The PICU is affiliated with Tel Aviv University's Sackler Faculty of Medicine. Each semester, several classes of medical and nursing students rotate within the PICU, to learn first-hand about intensive care and paramedical treatments. The PICU is renowned for its relationships with other leading PICUs around the world, including Australia, Toronto, and Vancouver.

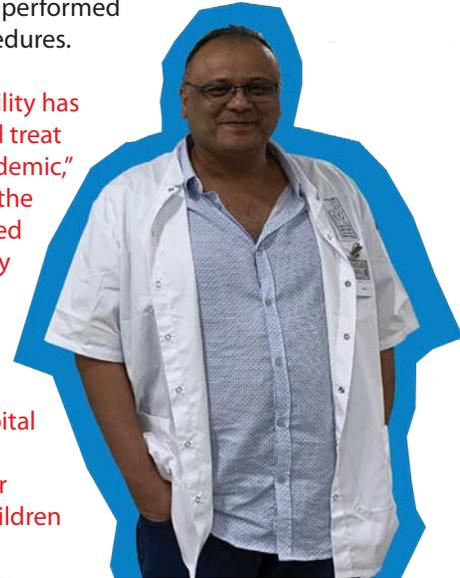
IMPACT OF COVID-19

Throughout the pandemic, the PICU medical team offered their expertise and support to the overall COVID emergency efforts at SMC. During the height of infections, a separate unit was reserved for children who tested positive for COVID-19, staffed on a rotation basis by the PICU medical team. The single

isolation room based in the PICU itself was also used to treat dozens of children in critical condition due to COVID-19.

Several children presented with an alarming new condition identified as Post COVID Syndrome which caused severe inflammations in multiple parts of their body, including their eyes, lungs, kidneys, brain, and heart. The PICU team worked around the clock to stabilize and treat the children with severe breathing complications and performed life-saving neurological procedures.

"Our new state-of-the-art facility has helped us safely navigate and treat children throughout the pandemic," said Professor Kishk. "Having the most technologically advanced equipment gives us the ability to treat several severe cases simultaneously. Even with all the uncertainties, our outstanding staff make every effort to ensure that the hospital experience is as positive as possible for children and their families. Together we help children recover and heal."



RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

As the pandemic continues to unfold, the PICU team is continuing to explore new areas of research, including a study on the significant increase in the number of children with diabetes who needed critical care during lockdown. The team is currently collecting data and analyzing if there is a connection between the increase in diabetes and COVID-19. Another area of research focuses on the willingness of parents to vaccinate children in the context of the pandemic.



IMPACT NUMBERS

24/7 availability to provide emergency medicine and critical care treatments

300 critically ill infants and children received life-saving treatments in the new PICU

FOUR DAYS TO FOUR MONTHS is the range of time patients are treated in the PICU

FIVE innovative research projects underway focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on children

ZERO cross infections among patients since relocating into new facilities



SHAMIR MEDICAL CENTER

The M. Fanny Comprehensive Breast Institute

The M. Fanny Comprehensive Breast Institute at Shamir Medical Centre (SMC) is the first of its kind in Israel, providing comprehensive and compassionate medical care for women, all under one roof.

The experienced multidisciplinary team conducts a full range of diagnostics and therapies, including breast examinations, mammograms, and ultrasounds conducted by top surgeons, radiologists, oncologists, reconstructive surgeons, nurses, X-ray technicians, and social workers.

Individualized treatment programs are tailored to meet the needs of every patient, particularly women with a high-risk for developing cancer, in a warm and supportive environment. The Institute conducts year-round public health campaigns highlighting the importance of early detection.



"It's been another challenging year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. But thanks to Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's continued support, we have the upgrades and equipment needed to make our Institute innovative and cutting-edge. We're proud to offer women the most comprehensive and compassionate medical care."

***-Dr. Tami Karni
Director of the M. Fanny
Comprehensive Breast Institute***

THE ISAAC SINCLAIR BREAST BIOPSY UNIT

Thanks to the generous donation of The Isaac Sinclair Breast Biopsy Unit (pictured left), The M. Fanny Comprehensive Breast Institute at Shamir Medical Centre has significantly improved its ability to provide cutting-edge and compassionate medical care to thousands of patients.

Over 12,000 women are treated and serviced at the Institute annually. In the past year, 350-400 new breast cancer patients received diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up care at the Institute.

Precision in screenings and biopsies has dramatically improved since the installation of the new Tomosynthesis Unit, an advanced mammography that provides multiple images of the breast. These 3D images are critical in the screening and diagnosis of early signs of breast cancer in women with or without clear symptoms. The unit is a game changer for the Institute, advancing pre-biopsy screenings and complex biopsy procedures, including on-the-spot testing of specimens.

Having the most updated and accurate diagnosis has meant that staff are able to better prepare for the surgery and remove all signs of cancer, helping to reduce the risk of recurrence and ultimately save more lives.



12,000+ WOMEN SCREENED, TREATED AND CARED FOR ANNUALLY

4,000+ WOMEN ARE DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER IN ISRAEL EACH YEAR

10% OF ALL NEW BREAST CANCER CASES IN ISRAEL ARE TREATED AT THE INSTITUTE

6+ SURGERIES ARE PERFORMED DAILY, IN FULL COORDINATION WITH PROFESSIONAL TEAM

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021

The M. Fanny Comprehensive Breast Institutes was among the few specialized facilities for women that remained fully operational, and even extended its services, throughout the pandemic. The Institute extended its operating hours, in order to continue screening and treating women, without compromising the health and safety of patients or staff. It quickly became inundated with new patients from across the country who were seeking immediate and urgent medical attention. During this period, medical staff were working around the clock, with morning hours reserved for screenings and afternoons for biopsies. The Institute's top priority has been to increase capacity to treat as many women as possible, and not turn anyone away.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

The Institute launched important research aimed at advancing treatments and support for minority groups in Israel. Given the diverse population treated at Shamir Medical Center, Dr. Tami Karni, Director of the M. Fanny Comprehensive Breast Institute, compared statistics related to the diagnosis of Arab and Jewish women between 2000-2010 and a decade later, between 2010-2020. Dr. Karni presented her initial findings at a medical conference in Nazareth, focused on health in the Arab community.

The results indicated that although both populations received identical screenings and treatments, Arab women presented with more advanced stages of breast cancer, compared to their Jewish peers. The research also highlighted that Arab women are more at risk of developing breast cancer 10 years earlier than their Jewish counterparts.

The important findings were shared with the Ministry of Health and medical experts who are currently reviewing if the recommended age for screenings among Arab women should begin at age 40 instead of 50, the recommendation for the general population.



אפרת יתח
קולקציית גרורות



אדר סרוור
קולקציית FRAGILE

CHW NERI BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY OF DESIGN

Throughout the pandemic, CHW Neri Bloomfield Academy of Design (NBA) created a safe and dynamic learning environment as well as a supportive community, both virtually and on campus. The dedicated professional team worked around the clock to provide hope and encouragement, so students could continue to pursue their dreams.

MODERNIZING EDUCATIONAL SPACES

At the heart of the campus are new facilities established through CHW's support, including the Roslyn Joseph Auditorium and the Marilyn Libin and Jed Gaines Fab Lab and Learning Centre.

The CHW Roslyn Joseph Auditorium provides a much-needed gathering space for large lectures, assemblies, and conferences, and seats close to 150 people. Since the pandemic began, the Auditorium has provided the college with additional space to safely continue in-person classes in small capsule groups, in addition to staff meetings.

The Marilyn Libin and Jed Gaines Fab Lab has been a game-changer for students pursuing innovative and creative design fields. The Fab Lab offers a cutting-edge and innovative

learning environment where students can experiment and design modern solutions for future needs. Highly qualified instructors and industry leaders provide the theoretical and practical skills students need to become leaders in their chosen career path.

The Fab Lab also opened a world of exciting opportunities for students who can now innovate and hone their design thinking and skills with the most advanced technologies. Students have benefited from seeing their design concepts, developed virtually, come to life using 3D software. A special curriculum was developed whereby students from various departments are trained to use all equipment safely and professionally.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

CHW developed a strategic partnership with Neri Bloomfield Academy, as the college beings a new chapter and merger with Haifa University. NBA is set to become a design leader in Israel by promoting innovation and new technologies within key departments, including Fashion Design, Architecture, and Visual Communications. The college is receiving accolades and support from the Minister of Education, Yifat Sasha Biton, who has endorsed the college, emphasizing its importance in the academic world and for the city of Haifa.

FASHION BLOOMS WITH NEW TECHNOLOGIES

The academy is undergoing a complete digital transformation across all faculties, including The Fashion Department. Students in the department are learning critical skills to thrive in a rapidly changing industry and one that is prioritizing the environment and sustainability.

Proceeds from CHW FASHION BLOOMS provide the cutting-edge equipment and new technologies that will help reposition NBA as a leader in the field of fashion innovation. The Department recently incorporated 3D design *VSticher* software into the Natural Resource Course, to demonstrate how the use of digital tools enables designers to cut back on wasteful processes and prototypes. Students heightened their understanding of 3D garment creation, including pattern making, experimentation with colour, and accurate measurements. In the final stages of the course, students created avatars that represent real-life models wearing their final physical garments.

The initial design results have been outstanding, and students are eager to continue creating with new technologies and building upon their skills.



700+ students from diverse backgrounds studying in the heart of Haifa

80%+ students are women and first in their family to pursue higher education

50+ new and cutting-edge technologies accessible to students from all departments



GRADUATING FASHION SHOW AND DESIGN EXHIBITION

For the first time since the pandemic, the much-anticipated Graduating Fashion Show and Design Exhibition was held in-person, in Haifa. Students shared their unique creations with an audience of industry leaders, influencers, the press, and the general public.

The event was endorsed by the Mayor of Haifa, Dr. Einat Kalisch-Rotem, who reaffirmed her commitment to retain young talent in Haifa by providing new jobs and opportunities for graduates to advance their career in the design field.



CHW NETANYA TECHNOLOGICAL HIGH SCHOOL

CHW Netanya Technological High School continues to offer a second chance and practical skills to at-risk and disadvantaged youth who have fallen through the cracks of traditional educational frameworks.

CHW Netanya has received prestigious awards from the Ministry of Education for ranking among the top five schools within the region, for overall outstanding performance. The remarkable achievements were based on the school's success in reducing the drop-out rate of students, increasing opportunities for students with special needs, and increasing the number of students graduating with full Matriculation Exams.

The school was also recognized for instilling important values, which have led to a high rate of students pursuing national and military services upon graduation. This was a huge achievement, given the difficult socio-economic background of many students and the fact that much of the academic year was disrupted due to the outbreak of the COVID-19.

While the pandemic disrupted many lives, the negative impact was disproportionately felt among the most vulnerable students with severe socio-economic challenges at home. Since the start of the pandemic, staff continue to map out the needs

of at-risk students and families. Due to financial difficulties at home, dozens of students received essential items, such as food and hygiene products, and in some cases even a computer (donated, second hand) to ensure students could continue their studies online with dignity.

- 75** 75 students are given a second chance after falling through the cracks of traditional educational frameworks.
- 25** 25 students successfully completed the Patisserie Program with skills and professional networks that help them launch an exciting career in Israel's vibrant culinary industry.
- 20** 20 students successfully complete the Hair and Beauty Program with skills to launch their own business.
- 50** 50 students a year receive entrepreneurial and business development training alongside vocational training
- 10** 10 students successfully launched small online businesses with mentorship from staff specializing in marketing and budgeting.



SUPPORTING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

The Ministry of Education continues to recognize the critical and unique role of teachers and counsellors at CHW Netanya. Key staff were awarded for their dedication, persistence, and for the impact they had on students by helping them reach their potential both academically and personally.

Since the pandemic, the school has focused on supporting youth mental health by offering specialized training to help identify with youth experiencing heightened stress and mental health issues. A variety of new programs were initiated to help students better cope, including Animal Therapy and Movement Therapy sessions held at the CHW upgraded gym.



HAIR & BEAUTY PROGRAM

The Hair and Beauty Track prepares students for a rewarding career in Israel's vibrant Beauty industries. Students learn practical skills through on-site training at a salon, established with the generous support of CHW. Students are equipped with new training equipment and beauty products that meet industry standards.

In addition, a new workshop series gave students the opportunity to learn from, and network with, top professionals. These workshops exposed students to the latest trends, challenges, and opportunities as they embark on their career path.



THE PATISSERIE PROGRAM

Under the leadership of professional pastry chef, Eyal Levy, who heads the flagship Patisserie Program, students are given the emotional support, professional skills, and practical tools needed to succeed in Israel's exciting culinary industry. Further assistance is given to students through a donation of Professional Patisserie Kits provided to each student in their final year. The kits, containing a personalized chef uniform and baking accessories, equip students with everything they need to enter the industry.

With its state-of-the-art facilities, the school has become a centre of excellence and a hub for building bridges. The school initiated a unique culinary and cultural exchange program with counterparts from the Arab town of Tira. The shared passion for the art of baking fostered a meaningful dialogue and deeper connection between Jewish and Arab students and staff alike.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Part of the school's mission is to instill important values, including community service and volunteering. Most weeks and during major holidays, students give back and engage with the local community. Their baked delicacies are shared locally with children and essential service providers, such as firefighters and ambulance volunteers. Students in the Hair and Beauty Program provide complimentary manicures to senior citizens as well as low-cost haircuts.

SAFETY NET AND ESSENTIALS KITS

S.O.S Starting Over Safely Summer Campaign

On August 24, 2021, CHW launched its first ever online crowdfunding campaign to empower victims of domestic violence. In just 24 hours, thanks to the generosity of our supporters and Matching Heroes, we exceeded our goal and raised over \$303,000.

CHW strongly believe that every human being deserves to achieve their full potential, while living in safety and security. Globally, 1 in 3 women experience physical or sexual violence by a partner. In Israel, an estimated 200,000 women are currently living with violence and fear. A recent survey shows that only 30% of women know where to turn to for help. This is a dangerous worldwide trend and has been coined The Shadow Pandemic by the UN. The number of domestic violence complaints in Israel has increased by 800% since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. True to its mission, CHW is leading the way to empower women by stepping up emergency support and services at this critical time.

THE CHW AND WIZO PARTNERSHIP

Due to the increase in domestic violence in Israel, our partnership with, and support of, WIZO is more critical than ever. In response to the rising domestic crisis, WIZO opened a new emergency shelter during the COVID-19 lockdown to support those escaping volatile situations. Women leaving the WIZO emergency shelter with their children require a helping hand to be reintegrated back into a safe community.

There are two aims of a WIZO shelter; to save lives and to provide women with an environment where they can relax, and in turn, feel comfortable enough to be able to make decisions about the rest of their lives. The shelter acts as a safe haven for these women, where they can slowly decide what they want to do with the help of trained professionals. Ultimately, the goal of the shelter is to bring women back to where they were before they entered an abusive relationship, by providing a space for them to regain their lost identity.

CHW supports WIZO Shelters through Essentials Kits and the Safety Net Program – ensuring that women, and their children, have a safe place to turn.

SAFETY NET

The Safety Net Program has nearly 100% success rate to break the cycle of violence and prevent victims from reentering a domestic abusive relationship. The Safety Net Program assists with financial, social and personal support, helping to provide and care for the victims' greatest needs.

ESSENTIALS KITS

Essentials Kits are provided to women leaving a WIZO emergency shelter. The kit provides basic necessities like small electric appliances, clothing, school supplies, linens, kitchen utensils and other household items. The Kits are tailored to the specific needs of each family, to help families launch a fresh start in a new home environment.

IMPACT OF S.O.S CAMPAIGN

- Provided a safe haven for at-risk youth removed from toxic situations.
- Provided mental health support and counselling with the intention of reuniting families in a safe way.
- Provided women and their children with the basic essentials to start over safely.
- Empowered women and their children by providing housing, financial help, social and personal support, employment support, and a network of other women in similar circumstances.



[**CLICK HERE TO READ AN IMPACTFUL STORY ABOUT A WOMAN WHO WAS ABLE TO REMOVE HERSELF AND HER CHILDREN FROM THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE**](#)



**HELP US EMPOWER
VICTIMS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

CLICK THE ABOVE TO WATCH OUR STAR-STUDED TELETHON.



CHW DAYCARE CENTRES (DCC)

Over 500 children are cared for at CHW Daycare Centres across six locations in Israel. The daycares are situated in some of the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, providing much needed affordable, safe, and nurturing childcare for working parents and single mothers.

CHW is proud to be part of a network of six leading agencies in Israel that have been advancing early childhood education for over four decades and developing curriculum and models for operating daycares that ensure each child can reach their potential.

PARENTAL SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC

As Israel enters the fifth wave of the pandemic, all daycare staff are ready to pivot and adapt to the changing health and safety regulations.

To further support children and families, WIZO expanded its Parental Helpline, which has been flooded with calls since the start of the pandemic. WIZO's Parental Helpline offers toll free phone sessions that guide, support, and counsel parents from all sectors. The only one of its kind in Israel, the anonymous

hotline has four centers in Israel. The counselling and advice is given by volunteers, social workers, psychologists, and other qualified professionals who are trained to deal with a variety of issues relating to parenting, healthy coping methods, and building family resilience.

To better serve the community, all services have been tailored to deal with families from minority groups in Israel, including Russian and Amharic speakers and specifically the Arab and Haredi community. Trained Parental Helpline volunteers from the minority communities speak their languages and understand social norms, taboos, and specific problems.

In the shadow of the pandemic, volunteers are providing real-time, practical advice on how to deal with parental stress, behavioral changes, and family breakdown in a time of great uncertainty.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION REFORMS

The first few years of life are critical to a child's cognitive and emotional development, and CHW is proud to partner with WIZO to advance early childhood education in Israel.

For over 100 years, WIZO has paved the way for accessible, safe, and quality childcare in Israel. WIZO has raised the bar for providing excellence in both curriculum and models for operating daycares, which ensure each child can reach their full potential.

The dedicated staff and families at all WIZO Daycare Centres joined a successful national campaign aimed at reforming early childhood education in Israel. With over 180 daycare centres serving 14,000 children, WIZO was instrumental in advocating for more government funding, better wages for caregivers, and professional supervision of early childhood frameworks.

While CHW has historically funded daycare centres across Israel, and provides emergency funding when the need arises, for the purposes of this report we are featuring the Sandy Martin (Alberta) Daycare Centre, which continues to play a pivotal role for children and families in the Ramat Hasharon community it serves. The Daycare is well known for its outstanding services and educational programs, which foster creativity and a love of learning.

The Daycare recently welcomed a new manager, Shirlee Feldesman. Shirlee holds an MA in social work and brings over three decades of practical experience in early childhood development, specializing in both pedagogical and therapeutic aspects. Shirlee has introduced new Psychodrama programs that help children build social skills and learn to express their emotions. The communication techniques learned through play therapy were especially critical during the second year of the pandemic, as they helped children better process and cope with the sudden changes in their routine and additional stress at home.

The Daycare Centre provides nutritious, well balanced meals to children and instills healthy eating habits early on. With over 10% of the children coming from low-income homes, these meals are even more crucial. A large number of working parents and single mothers also depend on the well-balanced meals and services provided to help ease their financial burden.

In close collaboration with local authorities and institutions, The Sandy Martin Daycare also provides crucial paramedical assessments and treatments for children. Psychologists, occupational therapists, and speech therapists are an integral part of the team and conduct routine assessments as well as therapeutic interventions for children who need assistance. The collaboration between the educational and paramedical teams have helped ensure that children are given the best opportunity to grow and develop.



500+

CHILDREN ARE CARED FOR AT SIX CHW DAYCARE CENTRES ACROSS ISRAEL

65+

CHILDREN ATTEND THE SANDY MARTIN DAY CARE CENTRE IN RAMAT HASHARON

5+

PROGRAMS THAT HELP IMPROVE SOCIAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS DURING THE PANDEMIC

THANK YOU



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THANK YOU