SHARSHERET KNITTING CIRCLE

*Host a knitting circle in-person or virtually and create meaningful hand-made projects while educating and cultivating community.*

**Q: Who can participate?**
A: Anyone can join! Knitting is great for all ages. Whether you are looking to host a one-time event or engage an ongoing group, our staff will help you incorporate Sharsheret into your program.

**Q: How often should the knitting circle convene?**
A: That is entirely up to you. It could be once, weekly, or monthly and people may choose to knit in groups or individually.

**Q: What should we do with the finished project?**
A: If the items are pink and teal (the colors of breast and ovarian cancer awareness), participants can keep the items and wear them to raise awareness, or they can donate them or sell them as part of a fundraiser. To donate, contact your local hospitals or cancer center in advance to see if they will accept donations and if they have any specific requirements.

**Q: What are examples of things we could knit?**
A: Scarves, hats, blanket squares (to be joined together as a blanket), or pick your own project.

**Q: We already have a group that knits regularly, are there any projects that we could do?**
A: For more advanced knitters, or for an on-going opportunity, Sharsheret will connect you with Knitted Knockers to create and donate handmade breast prostheses for women who have undergone mastectomies or other procedures to the breast.

**Q: Where can we get materials?**
A: You might consider locating a single source for materials (a local yarn or craft store or on-line provider). You can share a materials list with your group or pre-purchase materials to have on hand for the event. Of course, people can buy yarn from anywhere - wherever is most convenient for them - keeping in mind the selected project requirements.

**Q: How can we make these circles more meaningful?**
A: You can do something different each time the group convenes. You might want to include a Sharsheret speaker or presentation (p. 11), show an informational video about Sharsheret, share Sharsheret talking points, or recite a prayer for those who are sick.

**Contact us to obtain the following Sharsheret resources to enhance your event:**
- Recommendations for knitting tutorial video links
PLANNING YOUR SHARsheret PROGRAM: 
STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Use these steps to help guide you as you plan your program.

1. Identify the people who will help coordinate. This group of people can help with logistics, spreading the word, and encouraging others to join your program.

2. Develop your program and find speakers. Choose and begin to plan the Sharsheret program for your group (pp. 2 - 10). Get details about how Sharsheret can enhance your efforts and suggestions for identifying speakers for your program (p. 11). We’re always here to help you brainstorm and plan.

3. Choose a date. Select the date of your program for whenever it works best for your organization. Programming is essential all year round, but consider that September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, November is Caregivers’ Awareness Month, and Sharsheret Pink Day is in February (2/10/21). Check your community calendar to select an available date and reserve a location if the event will be in-person.

4. Tell Sharsheret about your program. We will send you free educational resources (PDFs or booklets), talking points, and giveaways. We will also add your event to our website calendar.

5. Invite participants to register for the program. Ask Sharsheret about setting up a registration or fundraising page. We’re happy to do it for you.

6. Recruit participants and promote the program. Visit sharsheret.org/toolkit to download templates and sample language for online and print promotions. Remember to always tag Sharsheret in social media, so we can repost and share. Find us @Sharsheret on Facebook and @Sharsheret1 on Instagram.

7. Facilitate the program and collect contact information. Be sure to introduce the program, explain why you’re doing it, and thank everyone for participating. Collect the contact information for everyone who participated in the event. Sharsheret is launching a national evaluation to understand the longer-term impact of educational programming, and will ask you to contact participants in your program six months after its completion (p. 14).

8. Evaluate your program. Get feedback from program participants about what went well and what could be improved. This will help enhance your future programming.

9. Continue the education. Put a date on the calendar for another event. Sharsheret is here to help.

NOTE: Though not required, many communities include a fundraising component in their program; we can help set this up as part of your registration page. For example, you can ask for a “suggested donation” of $36 for participants at a pink challah bake or yoga class. Some organizations seek community sponsors for their activities and donate any additional funds to Sharsheret.