

SHARSHERET UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2002

TEAM SHARSHERET TO MARCH WITH AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Dozens of Sharsheret volunteers, friends, and family members will come together as **Team Sharsheret** to march in the **American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, October 20th**.

The Walk is free and open to men, women, and children. The Walk will begin with an opening ceremony at the 72nd Street Bandshell in Central Park at 9:30 a.m. Team Sharsheret participants will receive a Sharsheret T-Shirt, with our thanks for supporting Sharsheret and the American Cancer Society's efforts on behalf of young women fighting breast cancer.

If you are interested in walking with Team Sharsheret or in sponsoring our Team, please call the Sharsheret office at (973) 438-7800 for registration information.

SHARSHERET WELCOMES NEW ADMINISTRATOR

Sharsheret is pleased to introduce our new office administrator, **Gerry Loeb**. Gerry (pronounced with a hard G) worked in the office of Temple Sholom in River Edge, New Jersey for eight years before joining our organization. We are happy to welcome her as the newest member of our growing team.

SYMPOSIUM ON BREAST CANCER AND FERTILITY

Many Sharsheret callers have phoned with questions about fertility preservation and with concerns about pregnancy post-treatment. To address some of these issues, Sharsheret will co-host its first **symposium on breast cancer and fertility at Cornell Medical Center** during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Sharsheret volunteer **Amy Mines Tadelis** has been planning the symposium with volunteers at **Fertile Hope**, a non-profit organization addressing the issues of fertility and cancer. The symposium will educate patients and healthcare professionals about the effects of breast cancer treatment on fertility, available options for fertility preservation, pregnancy and reproductive options post-treatment, and the avenues of support available for those struggling with cancer and fertility. Renowned experts **Dr. Zev Rosenwaks (Cornell Medical Center)**, **Dr. Kutluk Oktay (Cornell Medical Center)**, and **Dr.**

Ruth Oratz (NYU School of Medicine) will address the fertility concerns foremost on the minds of many young breast cancer patients. Representatives from **American Infertility Association, Resolve, A T.I.M.E. (Torah Infertility Medium of Exchange), Fertile Hope, and Sharsheret** will discuss the support available to young women addressing issues of fertility.

The **American Cancer Society, Hadassah, North Jersey Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation, and Cornell University Weill Medical College** have already agreed to serve as symposium sponsors. If you know of an individual, organization, or corporation interested in sponsoring this most significant event, please call (973) 438-7800 for sponsorship details.

The symposium will take place on October 24, 2002, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. Invitations will be mailed out shortly.

SHARSHERET IN THE HEALTH CARE COMMUNITY

Executive Director **Rochelle Shoretz** introduced Sharsheret to 1,500 guests attending the **American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Kickoff Breakfast** at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York on August 21st. Among those who attended the Breakfast were First Lady of New York **Libby Pataki**, reporter **Stacey Sager of ABC-7 News**, and President of the United Federation of Teachers **Randy Weingarten**.

SHARSHERET IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Sharsheret volunteer **Amy Mines** and Executive Director **Rochelle Shoretz** will present a workshop at the **Fourth International Conference on Feminism and Orthodoxy** entitled "Discovering/Uncovering/Recovering Women in Judaism." The Conference is sponsored by the **Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance (JOFA)**, and the workshop will be held on Sunday, November 10, 2002, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City. For more information, please call Sharsheret at (973) 438-7800.

LINKS AND CALLERS

Over **500 phone calls** have been made to Sharsheret since publicity began seven months ago. More than fifty-five (**55**) of those calls have come from Jewish women seeking support or looking to support others. Women have called Sharsheret from California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, and Wisconsin.

PUBLICITY

An article about Sharsheret and the issues specific to young Jewish women fighting breast cancer was recently published in **Jewish Action**, the magazine of the OU Organization. Sharsheret also merited a mention in the Spring issue of the **Jewish Post**

of New York. Articles about Sharsheret will soon appear in **Lifestyles Magazine**, the **Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles**, and **New York Jewish Week**.

Sharsheret has also been featured in articles published in the **Jerusalem Post**, **Baltimore Jewish Times**, **Bergen Record**, **Jewish Forward**, **Jewish Press**, **Jewish Standard (NJ)**, **Jewish Community News (NY and NJ)**, and **Emunah Magazine**.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Parlor meetings are a wonderful opportunity for Sharsheret to reach women in diverse communities, and to raise funds to support our outreach efforts. We extend deep gratitude to **Patty Borodach** for organizing a fundraising event in Teaneck, New Jersey last month, and to **Chaim and Rachelle Mandelbaum** for opening their home to our organization. If you have friends or family interested in attending or hosting a meeting, please call Sharsheret at (973) 438-7800.

PROJECTS

Sharsheret volunteer **Adina Muehlgay** is coordinating our third national mailing to **wig makers and stylists** across the country. We have already completed mailings to **Mikvaot (ritualariums)** and **Bikur Cholim organizations** across the country.

Sharsheret volunteer and make-up artist **Adina Fand** and graphic artist **Naomi Singer** (the talent behind all of Sharsheret's print materials) have begun designing Sharsheret's **Best Face Forward** program. The program will address some of the cosmetic side effects of chemotherapy treatment by arming young women with make-up application tips specific to those who have suffered hair loss.

Sharsheret volunteer **Esty Gewirtz** has begun work on our first **tri-fold brochure**. The brochure will be distributed to breast cancer organizations, health care professionals, and Jewish organizations across the country.

PILLOWS OF SUPPORT

A generous gift to Sharsheret has enabled us to begin distributing decorative pillows to those Callers who must elevate their arms after surgery. Our thanks to **Dr. Patricia Cayne**, a member of Sharsheret's **Community Advisory Board**, for inspiring and donating our "Pillows of Support."

CONFERENCES OF INTEREST TO YOUNG WOMEN

The Young Survival Coalition will host a teleconference entitled "**Perspectives On Breast Cancer Genetics in Young Women.**" The teleconference will be held on Monday, September 23rd from 8 to 9:30 pm, and will include a question and answer discussion with Oncologist Dr. Minetta Lui and Genetic Counselor Barbara Brogan, both

of Georgetown University. If you are interested in participating in the teleconference, please call (212) 916-7667 for toll-free dial in instructions.

NYU Cancer Institute will host a lecture entitled “**The Effects of Chemotherapy and Taxomifen on Fertility,**” presented by **Dr. Ruth Oratz**, a member of **Sharsheret’s Medical Advisory Board**. The lecture will take place on Wednesday, October 16th, 6:00-7:30 p.m., at NYU Medical Center, 550 First Avenue, in NYC. Please call (212) 263-1400 to register.

SHARSHERET VOLUNTEER MEETING

The next **volunteer meeting** will be held on Wednesday, October 9th, at our office, 294 State Street, Hackensack, New Jersey. Come help us prepare for the activities we are coordinating during Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October). Please call Gerry Loeb at Sharsheret for directions: (973) 438-7800.