

SHARSHERET UPDATE: APRIL 7, 2003

SHARSHERET HONORS VOLUNTEERS AT ANNIVERSARY GALA

Sharsheret celebrated its first anniversary and marked the occasion by honoring its volunteers at an **Anniversary Reception** held on Tuesday, February 25, 2003. Attendees celebrated the organization's achievements and applauded the volunteers whose efforts drive Sharsheret's programs nationwide. A video presentation highlighted the year in pictures and featured a segment about Sharsheret that aired recently on **CBS News**. We continue to honor our volunteers during **National Volunteer Week**, April 27 – May 3, 2003.

SHARSHERET WELCOMES PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Sharsheret welcomes **Elana Silber**, Program Coordinator, to our growing team. Ms. Silber is a graduate of the Mount Sinai Hospital/CUNY Masters In Business Administration Program. She has worked for several hospitals in New York City, including Lenox Hill Hospital and The Mount Sinai Hospital. Last year, Ms. Silber joined Sharsheret on a volunteer basis. She will now coordinate Sharsheret's outreach efforts with office hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

SHARSHERET TO HOST SYMPOSIUM AT MEMORIAL SLOAN-KETTERING CANCER CENTER ON THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN

Sharsheret will present the symposium, "**How Do We Care For Our Children? Issues for Women and Men Facing Breast Cancer,**" at **Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center** in New York City on Monday, May 19, 2003. A transcript of the event will be available online.

The Symposium will educate patients and healthcare professionals about the effects of breast cancer treatments on children, identify the needs of children of all ages coping with a parent's diagnosis, treatment and post-treatment recovery, and explore the obstacles to open communication with children. The panel of experts presenting at the Symposium will include **Rosalind Kleban** (Department of Social Work, **Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center**), **Peggy Anne Murphy** (Clinical Coordinator of the Children's Program, **Cancer Care**), and **Ingrid Whitaker** (Program Manager of

Noogieland and Initiatives, **Gilda's Club NYC**). A question and answer session will follow the presentations.

The Symposium is sponsored by the **American Cancer Society, the North Jersey Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Gilda's Club, and CancerCare**. For more information about the Symposium, or to reserve a seat, please call (866) 474-2774.

SHARSHERET IN THE HEALTH CARE COMMUNITY

Sharsheret representatives attended the **Third Annual Conference For Young Women Affected By Breast Cancer**, "Living Well Today for the Promise of Tomorrow," held in Philadelphia on February 22, 2003. Sharsheret sponsored an exhibit table at the conference, distributing information to over 500 young women and health care professionals in attendance.

Executive Director Rochelle Shoretz will participate in a women's health symposium presented by the **Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders**. The program, entitled "**New Realities in Women's Health: Choices and Challenges for Young Jewish Women**," will take place at Anshe Emet Synagogue in Chicago on Sunday, June 1, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. For more information, please call (312) 357-4718.

SHARSHERET IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Sharsheret brochures will be distributed at the fourth annual **Women's Health Symposium** to be held at the **92nd Street Y** in New York City on Sunday, April 13, 2003. The symposium will feature seminars on cancer and menopause. To register, please call (212) 415-5500.

Sharsheret volunteer Missy Stein is coordinating the "**Young Jewish Women's Health Forum**," featuring experts addressing health issues of concern to young Jewish women of Ashkenazi descent. The event will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2003, in Marlboro, New Jersey. For more information, or to register for the event, please call (732) 431-5525.

Executive Director Rochelle Shoretz will introduce Sharsheret as the guest speaker at a dinner benefiting the Libby Kolb Chapter of **Emunah**. The event, "**Celebrating Women Who Make a Difference In Our Community**," will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at a location to be announced. For more information, please call Sharsheret at (866) 474-2774.

Sharsheret material will be distributed at the **Annual Conference of the Association of Jewish and Children's Agencies**, to be held in San Diego on May 18-20, 2003.

Sharsheret Health Information packets were distributed at the symposium, “**Taking Care of Our Bodies, Taking Care of Our Souls,**” held at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale on March 16, 2003.

LINKS AND CALLERS

Over **1,100 phone calls** have been made to Sharsheret since the organization was officially launched in December 2001. More than 125 of those calls have come from Jewish women seeking support or looking to support others. Women have called Sharsheret from California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, and St. Thomas (U.S. Virgin Islands).

PUBLICITY

Articles about Sharsheret were published recently in the **Jewish Bulletin of Northern California** (March 2003), **Jewish Star** (February 2003), and **Research News & Opportunities in Science and Theology** (March 2003). Sharsheret will be featured in an article to be published shortly in the **New Jersey Star Ledger**.

Sharsheret is featured currently on the web site of Dr. Susan Love, www.susanlovemd.org. The organization has also been listed as a resource for young women fighting breast cancer in the new book, “**Fighting for Our Future,**” by **Beth Murphy (McGraw-Hill 2002)** and the accompanying documentary.

Sharsheret has also been featured in articles published in the **Wall Street Journal, Jerusalem Post, Baltimore Jewish Times, Washington Jewish Week, Bergen Record, Jewish Forward, Jewish Action, Jewish Press, Jewish Week, Jewish Post of New York, Jewish Standard (NJ), Jewish Community News (NY and NJ), Intermountain Jewish News (CO), Lifestyles Magazine, Emunah Magazine, and Blueprint Magazine.**

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS OF INTEREST TO YOUNG WOMEN

Vital Options International launched the first national **Young Adult Cancer Awareness Week** on Sunday, April 6, 2003. The organization will present a series of young adult-oriented programs featured by The Group Room, a nationally syndicated weekly radio call-in cancer show. For more information, visit www.vitaloptions.org.

The National Infertility and Adoption Conference will feature two cancer and fertility workshops: “**Breast Cancer and Fertility: Fertility Risks & Parenthood Options Throughout the Journey**” and “**Parenthood After Cancer: Options for Men and Women Before, During and After Cancer Treatments.**” The conference will take place on Sunday, April 27, 2003, at the Marriott Marquis in New York City. To register, please call (888) 917-4777 or visit www.americaninfertility.org.

SHARSHERET WELCOMES DONATIONS ONLINE

Donations to Sharsheret can now be made with ease online. Please log on to our web site, www.sharsheret.org and contribute to Sharsheret in honor or in memory of a loved one. 100% of each contribution reaches Sharsheret and supports our programs and services nationwide.

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. Our next events will be held in private homes on Thursday, May 15th in **New York City**, Tuesday, May 20th in **Woodmere, New York**, and Wednesday, June 10th in **Livingston, New Jersey**. If you are interested in attending or hosting a meeting, please call Sharsheret at (973) 438-7800.