



SHARSHERET UPDATE: DECEMBER 24, 2003

SHARSHERET PRESENTS GENETICS SYMPOSIUM IN DENVER

Sharsheret will present the symposium, “**Women at Risk: Genetic Susceptibility to Breast Cancer,**” on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at **Rose Medical Center** in Denver, Colorado. The symposium is co-sponsored by **Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers** and **Rose Women’s Organization**, a donor-advised fund of Rose Community Foundation. Guest speakers will include oncologist **Dr. Ruth Oratz** of Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers, **Lisa Mullineaux**, Genetic Counselor, and **Rochelle Shoretz**, Executive Director of Sharsheret. The symposium will address the latest research in the field of breast cancer genetics and the impact of genetics on the lives of women affected by breast cancer. Admission to the symposium is free and the event is open to those fighting breast cancer, at increased risk of developing breast cancer, their family members, and health care professionals. For more information, please call Sharsheret toll-free at (866) 474-2774 or e-mail info@sharsheret.org.

SHARSHERET LAUNCHES “TELL TWO” CAMPAIGN

This month, Sharsheret celebrates its **second anniversary** of service to the Jewish community and to those facing breast cancer. It is a time of reflection and celebration as we look back on all that we have accomplished, and a time of determination and resolution as we move forward with new goals and even higher expectations. Join us in celebrating. **Tell two** friends this month about the support services Sharsheret offers Jewish women of all backgrounds facing breast cancer. **Tell two** friends about the outreach and education events Sharsheret coordinates in response to the needs of its callers. **Tell two** friends about the information and resources Sharsheret makes available to those who are fighting breast cancer and to those at increased risk of developing breast cancer. **Tell two** friends, and help us perpetuate the chain – the Sharsheret – that is already bettering the lives of young women across the country.

SHARSHERET HOSTS LINK TRAINING TELECONFERENCE

Sharsheret presented its first **Link Training Teleconference** on December 17, 2003. Women who have volunteered to serve as Sharsheret Links learned about the challenges and joys of serving as a peer supporter from **Lauryn Weiser**, Sharsheret’s Link Coordinator, **Amy Mines**, President of the Board of Directors, and **Susan Rosenthal**, Coordinator at the National Center for Jewish Healing and the New York City Self-Help Center of the Jewish

Board of Family and Children's Services. The teleconference also introduced Sharsheret's newly published **Link Program Manual**, now available upon request. The Manual includes important guidelines for those participating in the Link Program, as well as resources for your women facing breast cancer. Please call Sharsheret toll-free at (866) 474-2774 or e-mail info@sharsheret.org to learn more about the Link Program, request a Manual, or volunteer to serve as a Link.

NEW BREAST CANCER GENETICS STUDY RELEASED

In October, the journal *Science* published the results of the **New York Breast Cancer Study** on hereditary breast cancer. Since the publication of the study, men and women have called Sharsheret to discuss the increased genetic risk of developing breast cancer for Jewish women of Ashkenazi descent and issues surrounding BRCA1 and BRCA2 testing. In response to the concerns of our callers, Sharsheret has prepared a list of frequently asked questions about breast cancer genetics. To request a copy of the document, please call Sharsheret toll-free at (866) 474-2774 or e-mail info@sharsheret.org.

CHICAGO MARATHONER RUNS FOR SHARSHERET

Larry Labow, a resident of Northbrook, Illinois, raised funds and awareness for Sharsheret while training for the **Chicago Marathon**, which he successfully completed on October 12, 2003. Labow was featured in the *Northbrook Star* as a "Runner With a Cause" whose passion for running and important causes has earned him the respect and admiration of friends and colleagues. Labow raised more than \$4,000 to support Sharsheret's national programs for young women facing breast cancer.

SHARSHERET IN THE HEALTH CARE COMMUNITY

Sharsheret Board President Amy Mines and Board Member Naomi Spira represented the organization at the **26th Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium** in San Antonio, Texas this December.

Sharsheret participated as a program collaborator in the presentation of "**Fertility and the Safety of Pregnancy After Breast Cancer**," a teleconference sponsored by Living Beyond Breast Cancer on October 22, 2003. For more information about the event, visit www.lbbc.org.

Sharsheret brochures were distributed at the **Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center** conference for young adults with a history of cancer, "**Celebrating Survivorship**," on October 18, 2003.

SHARSHERET IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Executive Director Rochelle Shoretz delivered the keynote address, "**Jewish Genetics: Knowing Our History, Guarding Our Future**," at **Congregation Orach Chaim** in New York City on December 13, 2003.

Sharsheret brochures were distributed at the **Torah Links/Project Geshet Second Annual Conference for the Jewish Woman** in East Windsor, New Jersey on December 14, 2003.

OF INTEREST TO YOUNG WOMEN

St. Vincent's Comprehensive Breast Center will present "**When Young Women Get Breast Cancer: Prognosis, Treatment and Fertility Issues,**" Wednesday, January 28, 2004, 6-8 p.m. at 325 West 15th Street in New York City. For more information, please call (888) 442-2623.

Living Beyond Breast Cancer will present a free teleconference, "**Medical Update: Advances in Breast Cancer Research and Treatment,**" on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, 12:00-1:30 p.m. (EST). **Dr. Clifford Hudis** of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center will present recent clinical trial findings and discuss the latest developments in breast cancer treatments. For more information, please call (610) 645-4567.

Continuum Cancer Centers of New York Breast Programs will present, "**Genetics of Breast and Ovarian Cancer: Are You At Risk?,**" Tuesday, January 6, 2004, 6-8 p.m., at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City. For more information, please call (212) 523-7082.

OUTREACH EVENTS

Parlor meetings are wonderful opportunities for Sharsheret to reach women in diverse communities and to raise funds to support our outreach efforts. Our most recent events were held in private homes in **New York City** and **Los Angeles**. Our next event will be held in a private home in **Denver, Colorado** on January 13, 2004. If you are interested in attending or hosting a meeting, please call Sharsheret toll-free at (866) 474-2774 or e-mail info@sharsheret.org.

SHARSHERET FOUNDER NAMED WOMAN TO WATCH IN 2003

Jewish Woman Magazine recently named Executive Director Rochelle Shoretz a **Woman to Watch in 2003** for her efforts in addressing the unique needs of young Jewish women facing breast cancer. Shoretz joined 10 women from across the United States and Israel when she was honored on December 8th at the **Sixth Annual Women to Watch Gala Luncheon and Symposium** in Washington, D.C.

SHARSHERET IN THE NEWS

Articles about Sharsheret were recently published in **USA Today** (November 10, 2003) and the **Jewish Standard** (November 28, 2003). Since the organization's founding in November 2001, Sharsheret has been featured in over 35 publications nationwide, including the **Jerusalem Post** and the **Wall Street Journal**.