



SHARSHERET UPDATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2004

SHARSHERET PRESENTS GENETICS SYMPOSIUM IN DENVER

Sharsheret presented the medical symposium, **“Women at Risk: Genetic Susceptibility to Breast Cancer,”** at **Rose Medical Center** in Denver, Colorado on January 14, 2004. The event was sponsored by **Rose Women’s Organization** and **Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers**. Speakers included oncologist Dr. Ruth Oratz, genetic counselor Lisa Mullineaux, and Sharsheret’s Executive Director Rochelle Shoretz. The symposium addressed the latest research in the field of breast cancer genetics and the impact of genetics on the lives of women affected by breast cancer. A transcript of the event will be available on Sharsheret’s website, www.sharsheret.org.

SHARSHERET LAUNCHES BUSY BOX PROGRAM

Sharsheret has launched the **Busy Box Program** for parents of young children participating in Sharsheret’s Link Program. Each Busy Box includes resource materials, books, and a video to educate parents about the impact of breast cancer on their children. In addition, the kit includes a transcript of Sharsheret’s recent symposium, **“How Do We Care For Our Children? Issues for Women and Men Facing Breast Cancer,”** presented at **Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center**. The **Busy Box** also features a starter kit of games and activities to occupy children while their mother is at the doctor or resting after treatment. This program was made possible by contributions from Toys “R” Us, xuppa.com, Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, American Cancer Society, and the Treetops Foundation. For more information about the Busy Box Program, please call Sharsheret toll-free at (866) 474-2774.

SAVE THE DATE

Please join Sharsheret on Sunday, May 2, 2004, for a **Benefit Brunch** honoring the women who have touched our lives. Share the day with your mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends at an event that will feature acclaimed author Tova Mirvis (*“The Ladies Auxiliary”*). The Benefit will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Englewood, New Jersey, and proceeds will support Sharsheret’s programs and services nationwide. To learn more about the Benefit and sponsorship opportunities that are still available, please call Sharsheret toll-free at (866) 474-2774.

SHARSHERET IN THE HEALTH CARE COMMUNITY

Sharsheret will exhibit at the **4th Annual Conference for Young Women Affected by Breast Cancer**, sponsored by Living Beyond Breast Cancer and Young Survival

Coalition. The conference will be held on February 21, 2004 at the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing. For more information, please call (610) 645-4567.

Sharsheret brochures were distributed at St. Vincent's Comprehensive Breast Center lecture, "**When Young Women Get Breast Cancer: Prognosis, Treatment and Fertility Issues,**" held in New York City on January 28, 2004. For more information about the Breast Health Update lecture series, please call (888) 442-2623.

SHARSHERET IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

The First Women's Health and Halacha Day presented by Nishmat: The Jerusalem Center for Advanced Jewish Study for Women will feature a workshop entitled "**Cancer and the Jewish Woman.**" The conference will be presented on Sunday, February 22, 2004 in New York City. For more information, please call (212) 749-5150.

Sharsheret materials will be distributed at the **Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies' 32nd Annual Conference** in Cincinnati, Ohio on April 18, 2004, and at the **Women's Health Fair** sponsored by Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley in Edison, New Jersey on February 29, 2004.

The Jewish Educational Services of the UJA Federation of Bergen County and North Hudson named Sharsheret the recipient of funds raised through the Tzedakah Project at its annual **Early Childhood Conference**, to be held on March 16, 2004 in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. For more information about the conference, please call (201) 391-0801.

Sharsheret materials were distributed at Rockland County Bikur Cholim's Cancer information seminar, "**Breast Cancer: Current Treatment Options and Other Frequently Asked Questions,**" presented on January 15, 2004 in Monsey, New York.

OF INTEREST TO YOUNG WOMEN

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center will present "**Parenthood After Cancer: Today's Options and Tomorrow's Hopes,**" March 5 – 7, 2004 in Houston, Texas. Workshops will address fertility preservation in cancer patients, the impact of breast cancer treatment on fertility, and the health of cancer survivors' children. For more information about the conference, please call (713) 792-2222.

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center will present "**Genetics and Cancer: What You Should Know About Prevention, Screening, and Counseling,**" March 15, 2004, at Memorial Sloan-Kettering's Rockefeller Research Laboratories in New York City.

CancerCare will present a free telephone education conference, "**The Second Annual Cancer Survivorship Series: Living With, Through, and Beyond Cancer,**" on March 10, April 14, and May 19, 2004, 1:00-2:00 p.m. (EST). Workshop topics include "Living With Uncertainty," "Talking About Cancer with Children of All Ages," and "Turning Research Into Action." For more information, please call (800) 813-HOPE.

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 event was 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 (866) 474-2774 or e-mail info@sharsheret.org.

SHARSHERET IN THE NEWS

An article about Sharsheret was recently published in the **Jewish Journal of South Palm Beach Florida** (January 27, 2004), and Sharsheret will soon be featured in an article to be published in **Hem/Onc Today**. Since the organization's founding in November 2001, Sharsheret has been featured in over 35 publications nationwide, including the **Jerusalem Post, USA Today, and the Wall Street Journal**.