



Stand By Me Newsletter

October 24, 2014

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Dear Stand By Me family,
We hope you had a wonderful summer and meaningful high holidays.

In this newsletter, we'd like to update you on some of our recent activities. For more frequent communication please make sure to join our [Facebook page](#).

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

In August, 50 of Stand By Me's volunteers gathered at Bocca Steak-House for our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, an evening to recognize the commitment



and dedication of our volunteers during each day of the year.

Gila Milstein, the President of Stand By Me, said at the event how grateful we all are to have such wonderful people with extraordinary hearts, who give

the gift of their time to listen, to help, to support and to inspire in an effort to make a difference in the life of our patients and their families. She added: "The thank-you letters we receive on an ongoing basis from the patients as well as their families are evidence to the important work that you all do. You, the volunteers, are doing the greatest thing that can be done in volunteering: you are giving patients hope."

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to [Shaul Ivgi](#) for his kindness and generosity, for providing us with a superb evening.

"the smallest act of kindness is worth more than the greatest intention"
~ KHALIL GIBRAN

Watch the new [Stand By Me video](#), which provides a special glance into the organization's important everyday work with the patients and their families.

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

Gila Milstein, President

Gidi Cohen, Treasurer

Arik Chaim, Secretary

Sigal Ankri, Co-Founder

Batya Levy, Office Manager

"Cherish Life" - Stand By Me Annual Gala

Stand By Me annual gala took place in September and was hosted by Gila and Adam Milstein. 160 guests attended the "Cherish Life" celebration, which included dinner, Israeli songs performed by Gilat Rapaport, speeches, and dancing. In attendance were Stand By Me Board members Gidi Cohen and Arik Chaim, Dr.

Miriam and Sheldon Adelson, members and founders of the Israeli American Council (IAC), Rabbi Hershey Ten, founder of "Bikur Cholim", Shai Diamant, co-founder of "Larger than Life" and Stand By Me volunteers and patients.



During the event, a new video of Stand By Me was shown, which provides a special glance into the organization's important everyday work with the patients and their families. You can watch the video [HERE](#).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors for their support that allows us to help people from our community.



(From left to right: Eyal Shemesh, Rinat Shemesh, Rita Goldsmith, Sigal Ankri)



Sukkot Celebration!

Rinat and Eyal Shemesh - we can't thank you enough for graciously opening your hearts and your home for the Stand By Me family. It was an incredibly special afternoon, and everyone is still talking about the fun

Special thanks:

- **Rinat & Eyal Shemesh** for hosting!
- **Etti Moshe**, the party planner who donated her time and talent to the event
- **Michal & Motti Sabag**, for the best shawarma in LA!

time they had. Kol Hakavod V' Yishar Koach. Thanks again for your hospitality.

This Sukkot, we gathered in a Sukka, ate, had conversations, played, and had a pleasant evening with all the people who make the Stand By Me organization our family.

- **Tamar Levaton**, for doing such a great job with entertaining the children!
- **Gil Cohen, Galit Brandt, Eytan Ashur, Edo Ekstein** and **Maya Givati** for volunteering at the event.



(from left to right: Kay, Mazal, Berry, Mazal, Nira, Silvi, Batya)

Making Strides for Breast Cancer with the American Cancer Society

On October 18th, a team of 7 Stand By Me family members participated in the [American Cancer Society's cancer walk in Downtown LA](#).

We walked 3.1 miles, proudly wearing Stand By Me t-shirts, together with 7,000 walkers who were all there in order to show support for breast cancer research, and celebrate survivors.

Thank you to everyone who participated for being such a sport!

'Young at Heart' Made Hats for Our Patients



Thank you to **Ofra Benun**, founder of 'Young at Heart', and her team, for knitting hats for our patients. Many of the hats already found their way to our patients, who loved the colorfulness of the designs!



Happy Birthday!

Mike - 08/23
Shalom - 09/25
Tikva - 09/28
Assael - 10/02

May life's brightest joys illuminate your path,
and may each day's journey bring you closer to
your dreams! Happy Birthday!



Thank You Letter to Stand By Me

written by a patient of Stand By Me

"Dear Gila and the entire staff of this beautiful organization shalom.

A day before Rosh Hashana eve I heard a knock on the door. I was home a lone and wasn't feeling very well. When I opened the door, to my surprised I received a delivery of a hot meal for the holiday, and a beautiful basket filled with good things.

It was a very exciting surprising for me and I don't have the words to express my gratitude... You warmed my heart so much that even now , as I write this letter to you, my eyes are tearing when thinking of this beautiful gesture. The help and support that I receive from you is priceless, especially for someone like me who finds it hard to receive help.

Your volunteers are incredible, with their sensitive and caring approach. Kol Hakavod!

I wish you a good, fruitful year with a blooming continuation to your noble cause. I wish all of the patients of Stand By Me and their families a happy new year with lots of healthy, happiness and peace of mind.

I would like to also personally thank Sigal, Hayuta and Batya for the support, personal care and attention that you give me.

Happy new year and happy holidays, I very much appreciate everything.

With love."

"לגיליה היקרה וכל הצוות של ארגון מהמם שכזה שלום.

יום לפני ערב ראש השנה, שמעתי דפיקה בדלת. הייתי לבד בבית ולא הרגשתי כל כך טוב כאשר פתחתי את הדלת. להפתעתי הרבה הגיע עבורי משלוח של ארוחה חמה לחג וסל מהמם שהיה בו כל טוב.

זו הייתה הפתעה מאד מרגשת עבורי ואין מילים שיכולות להביע את התודה... מאד חממתם את הלב ואפילו כעת שאני כותבת את מכתבי זה אליכם זולגות הדמעות מעיניי לשם המחווה הנפלאה.

העזרה והתמיכה שאני מקבלת מכם אין לה מחיר, במיוחד לאחת כמוני שקשה לה לקבל עזרה. המתנדבים שלכם מהממים עם הגישה הרגישות והאכפתיות שלהם, כל הכבוד!

מאחלת לכם שנה טובה ופורייה עם המשך משגשג במטרה הנאורה הזו. אני מאחלת גם לכל החולים של הארגון ומשפחותיהם שנה טובה עם הרבה בריאות, אושר ושלוה בלב.

מודה גם באופן אישי לכן סיגל, חיותה ובתיה עבור התמיכה, הדאגה האישית ותשומת הלב שאתן מעניקות לי מדי פעם. אז חג שמח ושנה טובה. מעריכה מאוד.

באהבה."

From the Stand By Me Team:

Thank you for taking the time to write this beautiful letter. Even though we could not be more motivated to do what we do, such letters give us strength to keep on going. We love you back and wish you - and all of our patients - good health and happiness.



How Can You Help

Stand By Me is able to provide our services through help from people like you. Here are some ways you can help:

1) Refer a friend in need!

2) Volunteer! Our volunteers help transport patients to and from medical appointments and treatments, cooking hot meals, babysitting, tutoring and many other everyday household chores. Click here to volunteer.

3) Make a donation! Whether giving money or goods, every amount, large or small, makes a difference in the lives of our patients. Click here to make a donation.

Checks should be payable to Stand By Me and emiled to:
15910 Ventura Blvd, Suite 812, Encino, CA 91436

4) Spread the word! Forward this newsletter to friends and like us on Facebook.

Like us on Facebook 

Stand By Me moved to new offices.

Our new address is: 15910 Ventura Blvd, Suite 812, Encino, CA 91436

Our new phone number is: (818) 664-4100

All of us at Stand By Me are so grateful for the support we have received from our friends and donors we are confident that with your continued support we can make a huge difference in the lives of our deserving patients.