

RONT ERUSHAL

"...My wife had gone from a healthy and devoted mother to a woman with a cancerous tumor in her colon. RCCS came through as a beacon in the darkness throughout the ordeal...in the zechus of RCCS, she is now cancer-free and was able to celebrate the birth of her first grandchild."

CCS is the premier organization servicing cancer patients and their families, providing hope and healing to to thousands of people across the globe. Recently, a delegation of Askanim, led by Rofeh Cholim Cancer Society (RCCS) founder and president, R' Hershel Kohn, R' Reuven Braun, Menahel of RCCS Israel branch and R' Aron Steier, RCCS Regional Director, spent a few days in Toronto, visiting with community leaders to discuss the RCCS's work in Israel in enhancing the lives of hundreds of our ill brethren in the holy land.

A Little History

RCCS began two decades ago when Rabbi Hershel Kohn, a New York businessman, came to the financial aid of cancer patients on his own. When the expenses became too much for one man to bear on his own, the Bobover Rav, Rav Shlomo Halberstam and Rav Avrohom Pam Zichronam L'Vracha asked him to create RCCS. RCCS is wholly funded by benevolent donors in the USA, Canada and around the world; no government funds are received.

RCCS provides financial aid, insurance advocacy and referrals, and appointment procurement, among many other vital services. RCCS donations are used to pay cancer patients' insurance premiums, which translate into millions of dollars paid by insurance companies for the patients' treatment and care.

RCCS Yerushalayim Branch

Families in Israel are often much more financially stressed than families in Canada and the USA. This is especially true when a family is dealing with a cancer diagnosis. Because of Israel's complex healthcare system, Israeli patients often find it nearly impossible to get treatment locally, and assume that they need to travel overseas to obtain medical attention. In truth, Israeli medical centers are highly capable of treating cancer patients; the RCCS Israel branch was opened at the behest of leading physicians and communal leaders, to avoid Israeli patients having to travel abroad without insurance for treatments.

The Israeli government does not cover many cancer medications, and many patients cannot afford these life-saving drugs on their own. Due to their tremendous cost, the Israel branch of RCCS has a much larger budget than originally anticipated. Close to \$1.3 Million was spent on Israeli patients in the last year, a large part of that directly covering life-saving medications. Unfortunately, RCCS was unable to fully cover the cost of all patients' medications, and many patients had to rely on gemachs or even door-to-door collecting for the remainder of the cost of medications that were unable to be covered by RCCS simply due to a lack of funds.

As one RCCS patient in Jerusalem put it, "Being sick in Israel is a full time job. Dealing with the bureaucratic Kupath Cholim is extremely difficult. RCCS accompanied us to the Kupath office to expedite the process, and helped us every step of the way. I shudder when I think of what would have happened if not for them..."

RCCS Visits Toronto

One of the main objectives of RCCS's recent trip to Toronto was to raise funds for

RCCS accompanied us to the Kupath office to expedite the process, and helped us every step of the way. I shudder when I think of what could've happened if not for them...

immediately needed medications not covered by the Israeli Kupath Cholim's Sal Habriyuth. Many philanthropists pledged their support for this extremely worthy cause and urged the delegation to keep them involved in the long term. Toronto has always had a reputation as a benevolent city filled with Jews who understand how to share in the troubles of their brothers and sisters; this trip has certainly solidified that well-deserved reputation, and has widened the hope for scores of cancer patients who currently await their salvation.

One of the highlights of the trip was a well-attended meeting at the home of noted community leader, R' Shimshi Gross, at which many community members demonstrated their support for RCCS in general and for the Israeli patients in particular. Many local Rabbonim also met with the RCCS delegation, and all were duly impressed by the breadth of the work done by RCCS on a daily basis, in the USA as well as in Israel and around the world. Even the Rabbonim who were already familiar with RCCS were amazed to learn some of the intricate details of the never-ending work being done on behalf of patients and their families.

RCCS helps patients from across the globe, including Toronto patients who need second opinions from the USA, as well as those who travel to the USA for treatments. The Toronto Rabbonim have expressed that helping RCCS, both with patients in Toronto, as well as those in Eretz Yisroel, is a blessing to community members to merit health and joy in their own homes.





RCCS Yerushalayim Services at a Glance

Medical Referrals

RCCS helps patients explore top specialists and treatment options and ultimately ensures that a patient receives the highest standard of care.

International Second **Opinions**

RCCS assists patients in obtaining second opinions from an international network of specialists.

Advocacy and expediting medical services

RCCS advocates for patients when Kupath Cholim denies necessary medical services, as well as advocates with pharmaceutical manufacturers and resources to obtain grants or free drug placements when Kupath Cholim denies a recommended drug.

Financial Subsidies

RCCS helps cover urgent lifesaving medical services not covered by insurance, including private surgeries, private treatments and many experimental, life-saving drugs and tests not yet covered by the Israeli healthcare system.

Bituach Leumi

RCCS provides expert assistance in navigating the bureaucracy related to the application and approval of Bituach Leumi stipends.

Patient Support Services

RCCS provides emotional support throughout the cancer ordeal, with frequent visits providing chizuk, accompaniment to doctor appointments, coordinated meals and transportation, etc.







SPECIAL CALL TO ACTION FOR **RESIDENTS OF TORONTO**

We are coming to bring to your attention the lifesaving work of the holy organization, Rofel Cholim Cancer Society (RCCS), which is renowned for its remarkable work in the United States, both in financially assisting hundreds of cancer patients, as well is with sassiting them in many other ways, which serves as a life-saving beacon of hope for the patients and their families.

It is now four years since our ill brethren in Eretz Visroel have reached out to RCCS for assistance, and a special branch in Yerushalayim was opened specifically to help Israeli patients and their families. This branch is immeasurably helpful in allevisting the strain of cancer patients in the holy land, be it financially, with advice, with referrals and expediting appointments and paying for expensive prescription drugs, and many other areas.

We therefore turn to you, dear residents of our city Toronto, to join in partnership with RCCS and take an tive part in supporting their holy work with generous ms, so that our ill brethren in Eretz Yisroel get the care

In the merit of your support, may you and your families be showered with Heavenly blessing, and may you never experience illenses in your homes. As Chazal teach us "All who take mercy on others merit Heavenly mercy". May you all know no harm or pain, and may you all live long, healthy, fulfilled lives. Amen.

Rav Shlomo Eliyahu Miller Rav Yehoshua Fuhrer

Ray Dovid Hakohen Pam Ray Moshe Mordechai Lowi Rav Yaakov Yechezkiyahu Sofer

It is well known to me the work of the directors of this wonderful organization, RCCS, which literally facilitates Hatzolas Nefashos. It is a Mitzvah to help them in a generous fashion. All who assist and support this organization will be blessed from the source of blessings, with overwhelming Bracha and Hatzlacha and all good things always. Vith reverence and response

KOL KOREH FOR TORONTO ENDORSED BY

בקשה מיוחדת לתושבי עירנו טאראנטא

הנני בזה לעורר את אחב"י בעירנו טאראנטא יצ"ו, לבוא עני בזה לעזר את אחבי" בעיתו מאתנאנט איציו, כזוא לעזר המנסד החשוב החשוב הקדור ליומר את לעזר המנסד החשוב האסיבור בעזר לעשיה משפים בטרול מעשיהם המובים לעזרת חולי אחב"י, וכבר אמתכי מעשיהם הטובים והמפורסמים באחר"ב, הן בתשלומי רמי ביטוח למאות חולים, והן בכל מיני סיוע והדרכה וחיזוק שנחוצים מאוד להחולים מושחפותים מאוד להחולים מושחפותים מאוד להחולים משחפותים משחפותים מאוד להחולים משחפותים מאוד להחולים משחפותים מאוד להחולים משחפותים מאוד להחולים משחפות משחפות משחפותים משחפות משחפות

וזה ארבעה שנים שזעקת אחינו יושבים ארץ הקודש בא אליהם, וייסדו סניף גדול בארץ ישראל בתוככי עיה"ק ירושלים איהם, וייסדו סניף גדול בארץ ישראב מתוככי עיהיק ירושים. תוכביא, מושיטים יד לעון רטע לתפוך לחולי נפו ישראל ינפו ישראל נפו ישראל ינפו ישראל ינפו ישראל כבל מה שצורך, הן צופי רפואה, יעוץ ועוד שיכלו להגיע לרופאים המומחים ולשיפולי רפואה הכי טוב ביותר בס"ד, הון בסיוע בצורכי הבית המתמוטט בחולי הראש המשפחה כירוע רח"ל, ובפרט בתרופות היקרות העולים להריומה שהייביים.

בהיות שבעוה"ר נמצאים כהיום מספר רב של חולי ישראל ומשפחות יקרות אשר עיניהם נשואות לעזרתם, והדבר תלוי בפיקוח נפשות ממש, אשר לא נוכל להתעלם!

ארץ הקודש, כדי שלא ינעלו דלת בפני הרופאים.

בזכות זה יעזור השי"ת שלא תאונה אליכם רעה ונגע לא יקרב באהליכם, וכמאמרם ז"ל "כל המרחם על הבריות מרחמין עלית בהארכים, ותחברכו ממעון הברכה שלא שימע על על הנה הנק עלית מן השמים", תחברכו ממעון הברכה שלא ישמע צער ונזק בקרבכם, ויסיר מהם כל מחלה, לאורך ימים ושנים טובים ברואים וטובים, אכי"ר.

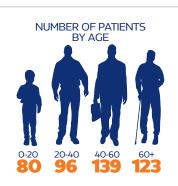
החותמים למען מצות הצלת נפשות חודש כסלו תשע"ו לפ"ק, פה טאראנטא יצ"ו

Try/o . Fl. shi THE GEET MAR NEW JULY old who one בוב הכבן פלא פרוותם הכבינות שו in new to the state of the stat

RAV SHLOMO MILLER • RAV YEHOSHUA FUHRER, RAV DOVID PAM RAV MOSHE MORDECHAI LOWI • RAV YAAKOV YECHEZKIYAHU SOFER SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM RAV CHAIM MENDEL BRODSKY

RCCS ISRAEL by the NUMBERS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS







RCCS SERVICES IN ISRAEL IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS





















