2012 Highlights

- **3,000th** Child
- **286** Children treated from **17** developing countries
- **600** Children screened
- **15** medical personnel trained
- **6,000** students and young professionals visitors and **200** volunteers
- **270** group visits and delegations from around the world
- **160** Events in Israel, Canada, the US, the UK, Australia, Switzerland, Holland
- **80** media stories in Israel and around the world in newspapers, radio, TV shows and internet websites
- **368** profiles of children including **142** follow up profiles
- Opened the new Legacy Heritage Children’s Home of Save a Child’s Heart in Memory of Dr. Ami Cohen
- Produced **8** Medical Publications and Research papers
- Total Income of **NIS 14,714,666** including reaching the $1 M milestone raised in the Climb Your Heart Out Kilimanjaro campaign
- Signed an official partnership agreement with the Palestinian Ministry of Health
- **Secured Funding** for the EU Heart of the Matter Project from the European Union and the Israeli Ministry for Regional Cooperation
- **Received The Israeli Presidential Award for Volunteerism, Israel’s most prestigious award in the field of volunteerism**
**Children Treated**

In 2012 SACH treated 286 children from 17 countries; Angola, Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Iraq, Kosovo, Nigeria, the Palestinian Authority, the Philippines, Romania, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe; more children than in any other year.

As part of its activity with medical partners in the developing world, SACH continued in 2012 to work with: Kinderhilfe Zanzibar; Jonathan Miles and Shevet Achim with the treatment of children from Iraq and Gaza; 1 New Heart with the treatment of children from the West Bank; Mitrelli Group, which sponsors all the children from Angola; Professor Abraham Haileamlak Mitike from the University Hospital of Jimma, Ethiopia; The Bugando Medical Center in Mwanza, Tanzania; Gift of Life, which sponsored children from Kosovo and Uganda; Mending Kids International; and Save a Child’s Heart Ghana.

**Since 1996, SACH has treated a total of 3,104 children from 44 developing countries.**

**SACH Outreach Training Program**

SACH trained 15 medical personnel at the Wolfson Medical Center, as follows:

**Pediatric Cardiac Surgery** - Dr. Godwin Godfrey from Tanzania, Dr. Ejigu Yayehiyirad Mekonnen from Ethiopia and Dr. Adas Abed ElKarim from the Palestinian Authority.

**Pediatric Cardiology** – Dr. Naizihijwa Joel Mnong’one and Dr. Godfrey Baltazar Mbawala from Tanzania and Dr. Georgiana Russo from Romania.

**Cardiac Anesthesia** - Dr. Wafiq Othman, Dr. Akra Haitham, Dr. Mahmoud Kdimat, Dr. Samir Nasralla and Dr. Natur Halel from the Palestinian Authority; Dr. Benard Kenemo from Tanzania, Dr. Muhabat Solieva and Dr. Galiya Ibragimova from Uzbekistan and Dr. Lee Kigera Ngugi from Kenya.

* In September 2012 Dr. Sagi Assa, an Israeli pediatric cardiologist started a two year training program in advanced interventional catheterization at the Deutsches Heart Center in Berlin, Germany. Dr Assa is part of the SACH cardiology team, and upon his return to Israel he will rejoin the Pediatric Cardiology Unit at the Wolfson medical Center.
Cardiology Clinics

The Free Weekly Clinic for Palestinian Children

In 2012, 380 Palestinian children from the West Bank and Gaza were screened during the weekly cardiology clinics every Tuesday at the Wolfson Medical Center.

The children were referred to the SACH program on a regular basis by a dozen cardiologists from Gaza and the West Bank through the Palestinian Ministry of Health referral committee. The children arriving at the cardiology clinic are examined and evaluated, prepared for surgery and are followed-up post-surgery.

This cardiology clinic is part of The Heart of the Matter Project funded by the European Union that brings together Palestinians and Israelis by providing cardiac care to Palestinian children and outreach training programs for physicians from the Palestinian Authority.

Since 1995, more than 6,000 Palestinian children have been examined at the weekly cardiology clinic.
Zanzibar, Tanzania – During the first week of February 2012, a team of Save a Child’s Heart’s doctors and staff traveled to Zanzibar, Tanzania for another medical mission. The team was comprised of Dr. Akiva Tamir, Head of the Pediatric Cardiology Unit at the Wolfson Medical Center; Dr. Livia Kapusta, senior cardiologist at the Wolfson Medical Center and Yifat Brosh, Pediatric Echocardiography Technician at Wolfson Medical Center. Joining SACH’s team in Zanzibar were Dr. Ulrike Doll, cardiologist, and nurse Ashtrid Koeniger, from the Klinikum Muenchen in Germany. **In total 217 patients were screened**, among them 100 new patients and 117 children who were treated by SACH in the past and underwent a follow up examination. Those past patients were interviewed by SACH Marketing Manager Sara Mucznik and were included in the SACH follow up project. During the week in Zanzibar, the SACH medical team visited a number of medical facilities and held discussions with Ministry of Health representatives in Zanzibar to explore the possibility of conducting research designed to create a rheumatic fever prevention program in Zanzibar in order to reduce the number of children with heart problems caused by rheumatic fever.

Iasi, Romania - On October 16, 2012 Dr. Akiva Tamir, Chief Pediatric Cardiologist, and Dr. Ilan Cohen, Deputy Director of Pediatric Intensive Care, traveled to Iasi, Romania, to screen children in need of heart surgery. Immediately after their flight landed, they arrived at the hospital where **40 children were already waiting to be screened**.

The following day, after completing all of the screenings, the mission was over and they had found 20 small candidates to come to Israel for their life saving heart surgery.

In addition to the screening mission, Dr. Tamir and Dr. Cohen followed up on past patients, one who is now healthy and enjoying life, and one who might need additional treatment.

SACH’s activities in Romania are co-sponsored by the Botnar Foundation in Switzerland. This clinic was organized with Magda Iorga, a social worker and Rotarian, in Iasi, Romania.

The treatment by SACH of children from Romania and the facilitation of cardiology clinics is done in cooperation with Rotary Israel and with Rotary Club of Romania and Republic of Moldova.
Centers of Competence

**Tanzania**

Our current focus is on Mwanza in Tanzania. With an estimated population of 42,746,620, there are no pediatric intensive care specialists or pediatric cardiologists. There are 150,000 Tanzanian children diagnosed with heart disease waiting for life-saving surgery. It is estimated that there are many more, since most of the children do not visit the hospital and are therefore not diagnosed.

Tanzania has four major hospitals. During the past 4 years, SACH has been working together with the Bugando Medical Centre, in Mwanza, Tanzania.

**Treatment of Tanzanian Children** – SACH has treated 41 children from Tanzania suffering from heart disease, 12 of them in 2012. 12 other children were treated during a teaching and surgery mission held in August 2011 at the Bugando Medical Center. The children were treated by the SACH medical personnel together with the local medical team. The Tanzanian Ministry of Health met with SACH representatives and approved the SACH activities in Tanzania.

**Capacity Building** – Currently there are 4 Tanzanian physicians training in pediatric cardiac care at the WMC, an affiliate of the Sackler School of Medicine at the Tel Aviv University. Dr. Godwin Sharau Godfrey is currently in the last year of a 5-year training fellowship in pediatric cardiac surgery; Dr. Naizihijwa Joel Mnong’one and Dr. Godfrey Baltazar Mbawala are in their first year of training in pediatric cardiology, and Dr. Benard Kenemo is in the first year of training in Anesthesiology. The Pratt Foundation of Australia is sponsoring the outreach training of four physicians from Tanzania for three years.

In October 2013, Dr. Godwin will return to the Bugando Medical Center to apply the knowledge he acquired and to operate a pediatric cardiac center, including pediatric cardiology and cardiac surgery and act as the SACH medical partner there. Dr. Godfrey will have the knowledge and expertise to perform 85% of the pediatric cardiac surgeries required by the children of Tanzania. Dr. Godfrey will not only serve as a pediatric cardiac surgeon, but also as the intensive care specialist responsible for all of the post-operation care. He will continue to refer the children he cannot treat to the SACH program in Israel as well as continue to visit the WMC for short fellowships. In order to assist in the development of the capacity of the technical and nursing disciplines in Tanzania, SACH also plans to train at the WMC heart-lung technicians, operating room nurses and pediatric intensive care nurses from Bugando Medical Center in 2013.

**Ethiopia**

Our current focus is on Jimma in Ethiopia. Ethiopia has only cardiologists and no pediatric heart surgeons for an entire population of over 40 million children under the age of 18. Most of the physicians in Ethiopia have either left to practice medicine out of the country or are working in governmental positions of public health, and therefore there are very few practicing physicians.

In Jimma SACH works with Professor Abraham Haileamlak Mitike, a pediatrician from the Jimma University Hospital, who has trained for one year under the SACH training program in pediatric cardiology at the WMC. The Jimma University Hospital is located in the city of Jimma, Ethiopia and is a 200-bed hospital serving a population of 10 million. It is one of the oldest medical schools in Ethiopia. The hospital has only one intensive care unit with 6 beds serving both pediatric and adult cases.
Professor Mitike is in charge of constructing a new hospital, which will include the first pediatric cardiac center in Jimma.

The newly constructed center will be fully equipped for the performance of pediatric cardiac surgery. SACH is assisting this center and is training a full surgery team including OR nurses, anesthesiologists, intensive care specialists, cardiologists and perfusion specialists who will return to Jimma and be able to perform pediatric cardiac surgeries independently.

Currently, one physician from Jimma, Ethiopia is in his first year of training under the 5-year pediatric cardiac surgery training program. Upon his return to Ethiopia, Dr. Yayehyirad will be the country’s first pediatric heart surgeon. Dr. Yayehyirad’s initial two years of training are sponsored by Save a Child’s Heart Foundation Canada.
The Heart of the Matter Project

The Heart of the Matter Project brings together Palestinians and Israelis by providing cardiac care to Palestinian children and outreach training programs for physicians from the Palestinian Authority (PA).

In 2012 – 182 Palestinian children from the West Bank and Gaza were treated by SACH at the Wolfson Medical Center and 380 Palestinian children were screened during the weekly cardiology clinics.

Since 1996 - over 6000 Palestinian children were examined and over 1,500 Palestinian children treated at the Wolfson Medical Center. SACH conducted five medical seminars and conferences for hundreds of Israeli and Palestinian physicians and thirteen Palestinian physicians participated in the various SACH training programs.

Since 2005, SACH received funding for four programs from the European Union Partnership for Peace Program. Since 2010 The Israeli Ministry for Regional Cooperation, headed by Vice Prime Minister Silvan Shalom, funded lifesaving heart surgery for children from the Palestinian Authority and Iraq.

The European Union Partnership for Peace Program and the Israeli Ministry for Regional Cooperation are continuing their support in 2013.

2012 is a breakthrough year for SACH and cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Health

SACH’s Heart of the Matter Project began in 1995 as an initiative to bring together Palestinians and Israelis by providing outreach training programs for physicians from the PA and cardiac care to Palestinian children while building bridges of peace between both sides. The program began with the collaboration between SACH physicians and various pediatricians and cardiologists from throughout the West Bank and Gaza. In the past couple of years, SACH strove to collaborate on a hospital-to-hospital basis. This year, SACH has advanced greatly in its effort to create a relationship between the Palestinian and Israeli healthcare systems, not only on a physician-to-physician level but also on a hospital level (WMC-Rafidia), and received recognition from the Palestinian Ministry of Health (PMOH). In 2012, the PMOH decided to become an active partner in the program. On February 13, 2012, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the PMOH and SACH. The MOU provides the SACH activities with official Palestinian recognition, as well as co-sponsorship by the PMOH for pediatric cardiac treatment. It
clarifies both parties’ interests in advancing the facilities of the PA’s hospitals and the skills and knowledge of its medical professionals in providing cardiac medical care to children suffering from heart disease in the most efficient and transparent manner. The MOU serves as a mechanism to encourage cooperation while also guaranteeing that the PMOH will have positions for all Palestinian medical personnel training at SACH and that these personnel will stay in the PA following their training program.
SACH Research

In 2012 two important articles were published:

1. **Right ventricular outflow tract strategies for repair of tetralogy of Fallot: effect of monocusp valve reconstruction.** The article was published in the “EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF CARDIO-THORACIC SURGERY” and was presented at the annual cardiology conference in Israel where it received very positive feedback.
   
   Link to the article -
   [http://ejcts.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/02/10/ejcts.ezs479.full.pdf?keytype=ref&jikey=GIdV6trHce0zaP9](http://ejcts.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/02/10/ejcts.ezs479.full.pdf?keytype=ref&jikey=GIdV6trHce0zaP9)

2. **Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in pediatric patients: our experience in the last ten years.** The article was published in “The Israel Medical Association Journal (IMAJ)”. After this publication, the SACH research team was asked to cooperate with the national Ecmo patient’s database in cooperation with Schneider Hospital. Link to the article – [http://www.ima.org.il/IMAJ/ViewArticle.aspx?aid=1426](http://www.ima.org.il/IMAJ/ViewArticle.aspx?aid=1426)

Activities of the SACH medical team in 2012 include:
- Data collection and improving the SACH database for future cases.
- In 2012, the SACH team continued to collect the data using the CARDOACCESS program (at the same time the data was also collected in the previous data base system at the hospital for back up).
- The results and data of 2011 were sent for statistical analysis compared to the results of pediatric heart surgeries around the world.
- Creating presentations and posters for different medical conferences.
- During the SACH medical mission to Zanzibar in February 2012, the SACH medical team checked the possibility of conducting research aimed to create a rheumatic fever prevention program in Zanzibar in order to reduce the number of children with heart problems caused by rheumatic fever. Upon return to Israel, the SACH the team faced difficulties due to lack of cooperation from the authorities in Zanzibar. In 2013, the team plans to pursue this idea in the mainland of Tanzania.

Research done in 2012 that is still being worked on:
- Analyses of Vitamin D levels and its effects on post pediatric heart surgery
- Continuation of monitoring of the brain
- Fixing of AP WINDOW
- Evaluation of the pulmonary valve after it is implanted with MRI (this is done in cooperation with Tel Hashomer Hospital)
- Long term implications of the fixing of mitral valves of children with rheumatic heart disease
- Writing a research article summarizing the SACH medical activity since 1995 until today (this is done in cooperation with SACH Canada chairman, Professor Bernie Goldman and will be a continuation of Dr. Ami Cohen’s article).
In February 2012, SACH moved into the new children’s home – The Legacy Heritage Children’s Home of Save a Child’s Heart located at 16 Haviva Reik Street in Holon.

**During 2012 78 children, 55 mothers, 11 escorting nurses, 7 doctors, 12 interns and 30 volunteers from around the world lived in the SACH children’s home.**

The new Children’s Home of Save A Child’s Heart is perfectly suited to SACH’s needs and was constructed according to high building standards. The home may house up to 60 residents at any given time. It contains 23 bedrooms for children, escorts, volunteers and physicians; a large living room, a playroom, dining room, large playground and offices for 10 employees. The children’s home also has a 5-bedroom physicians’ wing, benefiting the numerous physicians and medical personnel from developing countries who train at the Wolfson Medical Center under the SACH program. Each of these bedrooms has a bathroom and there is a joint living area and kitchenette for the physicians. The new home also enables SACH to host thousands of students and youths, both Jewish and non-Jewish, that visit the children’s home to learn of Israel’s humanity first hand each year.

The main wall at the entrance of the children’s home is dedicated to SACH founder, the late Dr. Ami Cohen. Ami’s parents, who still live today in Maryland, USA, were among the donors for the new home. The wall has shelves covered by glass doors. On the shelves there are pictures of SACH children from different countries, and the Presidential award for voluntarism that SACH received in 2012 from President Peres is also displayed behind the glass doors.
In September 2012, the wall of the playroom at the house was covered by wallpaper with Webkinz characters and graphics. This was done in addition to the playground of the house, which was all designed with a Webkinz theme. Webkinz is the flag product of the Canadian Ganz Family foundation, which donated the playground and the playroom wall to SACH.
SACH's long-term goal is to establish a worldwide center of competence in Israel, with international recognition in the area of pediatric cardiac treatment, training and research that will serve as a model for constructing centers of competence in other developing countries.

The Center will be a state of the art, child oriented, medical facility housing all infrastructure and equipment necessary to perform up to 300 pediatric heart surgeries per year and provide all relevant pre and post-operative care. Upon completion, it will contain 1400 sqm (15,070 square feet) per floor on five floors as follows and include a two floor atrium lobby.

Current facilities available to SACH at the WMC are approximately 1,390 square meters (14,962 square feet). The existing facilities are undedicated and spread throughout the hospital and existing infrastructure and equipment are far below the standard necessary for SACH to carry out its work at maximum effectiveness. This Center would enable SACH to carry out its medical mission for at least the next 20 years, and, in addition, allow the WMC to far better serve its local catchment population. Currently, the WMC does not have a dedicated pediatric center and existing pediatric heart facilities, scattered throughout the hospital are not able to effectively treat more than 400 children, including only up to 150 pediatric heart surgeries per year at maximum effectiveness. Existing facilities therefore are stretched to the limit and beyond by the more than 200 surgeries performed by SACH personnel each year and which, under these conditions, are possible due only to expertise and dedication of its medical and other health care and support staff.

Given the existing internationally recognized expertise of the SACH medical staff in the field of pediatric cardiac surgery and the unique international patient pool drawn from four continents and 44 countries, this Center will become a world-class, internationally recognized pediatric heart center providing lifesaving care to both Israeli children as well as children from developing countries throughout the world. It is currently estimated that over 5.5 million children from around the world need and cannot obtain corrective heart surgery.

The total cost of completing the construction and equipping of the Center is estimated at $25.3 million. The first phase is estimated at $9.2 million. The first phase would include the ground floor pediatric ICU and lobby; basement shell for the operating rooms; mechanical room, family resting rooms and atrium entrance lobby on the first and second floors; as well as landscaping for the overall Center, which would yield to the public eye a complete and fully functioning facility.

SACH has already begun working on this capital project, both by commencing raising funds for the project and by commencing the planning phase.

SACH has hired Herszage & Sternberg Architects (who have successfully planned the SACH Children’s Home) together with I. Gavrieli Architects to plan and oversee this capital project. In 2012, the architects completed the detailed planning of the Center, including implementing...
the specific plans of all of the required external consultants. The plans were approved by the Wolfson Medical Center and the Israeli Ministry of Health. The detailed plans were submitted to the Municipality of Holon and were principally approved. Currently, the architects are working together with the Holon Municipality in order to receive approval of the various departments, providing changes and certifications from the external consultants when needed. It is estimated that the project will receive the building permit by the Municipality of Holon by June 2013.

SACH has continued to fundraise for the project, and has thus far received commitments from both local ($2 million) and international donors ($2 million) in the aggregate of $6 million. SACH is currently seeking supporters for this project and naming opportunities are open for discussion.
The Young Leadership Program

Achievements for 2012:

❤️ Hosted 6,000 (160 groups) students and young professionals from North America, South America, South Africa, Australia, the UK, Italy, France, Sweden, Belgium, and Israel.

❤️ Enjoyed the help of over 200 volunteers at the SACH home and in the Wolfson Hospital

❤️ Had 15 medical interns from the US, Canada, Belgium, Sweden, and Israel

❤️ Organized 130 events in Israel, Canada, the US, the UK, and Australia, exposing 40 additional individuals to the work of SACH in each event

❤️ $80,463 was raised in the annual “Give Your Heart Out” Valentine’s Day Campaign

❤️ Raised over $300,000 and contributed to saving the lives of 30 more children

The SACH Young Leadership Program involves students around the world and follows them into their young professional years. The program empowers students and young professionals to engage in wide-ranging meaningful programming at SACH in Israel, on campus and in their community. During the past five years, SACH has partnered with Hillel, the Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, in Israel and in North America, to promote awareness and involvement of students around the globe.

Jamie from the US and Marina from Australia

SACH volunteer Sara from Belgium
SACH Young Leadership Director Randi Weiss during a group visit at the children’s home. In 2012 group visits included Hillel, Amazing, Stand with Us, Canada Israel Experience, AUJS, CIC, Israel Experience, Aish HaTorah, Young Judea, Rhodes Scholar Groups, Hasbara and more.
The Follow Up project

The objective of the Follow Up project is to provide updated profiles on as many children as possible out of the more than 3,000 children treated thus far and to serve as a marketing tool to promote the activity of SACH. In the past 3 years, 520 follow up profiles were created. The project was developed and implemented by SACH staff members who were responsible for following up on each one of these children and assembling an updated report on the child’s medical condition and social aspects of the child’s life.

In 2012 SACH created profiles for 129 children from China, Congo, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iraq, Nigeria, Palestinian Authority, Romania, Senegal, Somaliland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Vietnam and Zanzibar.

SACH collaborated with its partners in the children’s home countries in order to receive the required information. For example, in February 2012, SACH travelled on a medical mission to Zanzibar. During this mission, children who were treated by Save a Child’s Heart came to the hospital for medical and social follow up. In other cases, the children were examined by the local physicians and SACH received updated reports from them.

Another method of finding children or their relatives is through the internet. The SACH team members contacted the children and families through Facebook or via email.

Children from the Palestinian Authority were invited to the weekly free Palestinian cardiology clinic held at the WMC. At this clinic, staff member Fatma Sarsour, together with volunteers, interviewed all the children who came for the follow-up examinations.
Kawther Fara
Gaza

On December 4, 2012, staff members, volunteers and doctors of SACH were at the Wolfson Medical Center, anxiously waiting for Kawther Fara, whom none of us had seen since her surgery 12 years ago. Everyone was curious to meet this 12-year-old teenager who was last here in 2000, when she was only 9 months old.

11:00 am rolled around and the children from Gaza finally arrived at the weekly free cardiology clinic for Palestinians, but at first there was no sign of Kawther! We were all disappointed – so much waiting and we wouldn’t even meet her? Finally, in walked Kawther, a beautiful, fashionable pre-teen with a fantastic smile. She arrived with her father, Hussain, and they were both very kind and open.

Kawther is now 12 years old and dreams about becoming an Arabic teacher one day. She has no symptoms of her previous heart disease and can run and play like any other child her age. She studies at Al-Hayat Junior High School, where she loves to spend time with her girlfriends and she mostly enjoys her reading class. Kawther loves to read and feels it gives her a glimpse of the world she wants to travel one day.

As most children her age, Kawther also loves to watch TV – her favorite channel is the Arabic kids channel "Toyor Al-Janna" (Birds of Heaven). After school, and only after doing her homework, Kawther’s mother Asmaa allows her to watch it while eating snacks – her favorite food.

Kawther has a huge smile that she gives away easily, and she is very conscious of the fact that she received a second chance at life, showing gratitude at every opportunity.

Since her surgery, Kawther never returned for follow up. Not only because she felt healthy but mainly because of economic reasons.

Kawther is the fourth of six children – five girls and one boy! Her father supports the family by owning and running a fruit and vegetable stand in Khan Yunis, Gaza. Almost two years ago the family was struck with tragedy when a gas pipe in the house blew up, burning Kawther’s father, mother and two of her sisters.

Kawther might need a valve replacement in the future and if so, SACH will welcome her with open arms.

- This is a direct link to see the movie about Kawther which was done by the family of SACH donor Felice Jaffe who passed away in August, 2012 – http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRRtNUEZgE8&list=UUwk8FIFDpzlMyQQI5MtZFpA&index=3
Social Media

During 2012, SACH was very active on Social Media. Regarding Facebook there was an average of 5 posts a week, and an average of 6200 people reached per week. There were 1300 new ‘likes’ and a lot of posts (pictures, movies, events, etc…) posted by the 9 administrators of the page (staff and volunteers). As our Facebook account is connected to our Twitter account, every single post on Facebook also goes on Twitter as a ‘tweet’. During 2012, we also updated our Youtube page, adding over 45 videos to it.
**SACH News and Events**

**January 2012**

_Hockey Marathon at the American School_ – January 27th marked the official 39th Hockey Marathon at the American School in Kfar Yona, Israel. An opening ceremony took place to celebrate the festivities. Over 800 people attended, including students, faculty, parents, SACH’s Young Leadership Director, Dr. Godwin Godfrey, and 6 children from Angola, Tanzania and Uganda, that are all recovering from heart surgery. The hockey marathon is a 33-hour event where students stay in the gymnasium and compete against one another as they play around the clock hockey. The American School and SACH have a lifelong partnership and as in the previous year, all proceeds of the event go directly to SACH.

**SACH and eBay partner up** - eBay partnered with SACH U.S. in February and featured SACH during a special Valentine’s Day promotion and also held SACH’s first celebrity auction on eBay - a day with Food Network superstar, Duff Goldman.

SACH is the only Israeli charity that eBay has partnered with, and the promotion raised tens of thousands of dollars for SACH. The promotion also resulted in thousands of eBay members auctioning items on behalf of SACH.

**February 2012**

_Fashionable Philanthropy: SACH Canada joins eBay_ – In February 2012, SACH Canada joined eBay and launched a campaign of selling necklaces and other gifts through eBay.

**SACH veteran patient from Ethiopia raises funds** – Ethiopian Yared Wolde, who was saved by SACH as a child, raised enough funds for the flight tickets for a group of children from Jimma, Ethiopia, through his network of donors in Australia. The group from Jimma arrived in Israel on February 8, 2012, together with Odeta Davidson, an Australian volunteer from Sydney, who was volunteering at Yared’s school in Ethiopia. After many attempts by our office, Dr. Abraham, Yared and Odeta secured a donation of the flight tickets from Ethiopian Airlines. Odeta reached out to her family and friends in Australia to fund the group of children, mothers and nurse. She spent a week with Save a Child’s Heart and helped three children having surgery. This is yet another wonderful story of a past patient of SACH doing good for others and expanding the SACH network.
Palestinian Health Ministry Delegation – A delegation from the Palestinian Ministry of Health visited SACH at the Wolfson Medical Center on February 7, 2012. The visitors, Dr. Naim Sabra, Director in Charge of Hospitals in the Palestinian Health ministry, Dr. Khaled Asleh, Director of Rafidia Hospital and Dr. Wael Sadaka, Deputy Director of Rafidia Hospital, came to discuss a future partnership between the Rafidia Hospital and the Wolfson Medical Center to benefit both communities.

SACH treats its 2800th child – Fourteen month old Ali from Jericho is the 2,800 child treated by Save a Child’s Heart.

Ali was admitted to the Wolfson Hospital through Save a Child’s Heart on January 2012.

During the month of January, he underwent one surgery and one catheterization, and at the beginning of February 2012, Ali underwent his final lifesaving heart surgery. A week after his surgery he returned home, feeling well and healthy, to Jericho.

March 2012

Visits at SACH – During the month of March 2012, a number of VIP visits took place. The British Ambassador, Mathew Gould, visited the project. Ambassador Gould toured the hospital and the children’s home. He was very impressed and announced at the end of the visit that he wants to assist SACH and said he is willing to host an event at his residency for the project. A couple of weeks before the ambassador’s visit, his wife, Mrs. Celia Gould and the wife of the US Ambassador to Israel, Mrs. Julie Fisher, also visited SACH. Other visitors during the month of March were the Ambassador of Honduras, Jose Herrera, a delegation of Christians United for Israel headed by John Somerville, and a delegation of the Jewish Federation from San Francisco.
**SACH Switzerland Event** - Save a Child’s Heart

Switzerland held a successful event in Geneva on March 8, 2012 to celebrate SACH receiving special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. The reception was held in the UN building in conjunction with the Human Rights Council sessions and its discussions on the rights of the child. Guests included members of Geneva’s diplomatic corps, various Ambassadors to the United Nations, representatives of the UN system, the Presidents of the Jewish Community in Geneva and the B’nai Brith, current and potential donors as well as many friends and supporters of SACH. Yael Dayan, Chairperson of the City Council of Tel Aviv Yafo and SACH Israel Board Member, together with Dr. Sion Houri, Head of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at the Wolfson Medical Center, and Yoram Cohen, SACH Israel’s Chairman, made the trip over to Geneva for the event.

**A medical Miracle at the Wolfson Medical Center** - SACH doctors were able to save the life of Elisa, a 14-year-old girl from Angola after they took out a 14 cm tumor that was pressing on her heart and was threatening her life. The tumor weighed half a kilo and it pushed her heart to the side, under her arm. There only exist a few known cases like this in the entire world. Elisa Manuel Antonio was first diagnosed during the SACH medical mission in Angola in October 2011. Senior cardiologist Dr. Alona Raucher, in who had never seen such a large tumor in her career, examined Elisa. Elisa was brought to Israel by SACH. On March 19, 2012, after hours of complicated surgery, the SACH team managed to take out the tumor from Elisa’s chest and save her life.

**April 2012**

**April 2012 - Nicholas Cotton paddles 125 miles for SACH** - On April 7th, Nicholas Cotton from the UK paddled his canoe from Devizes near the source of the River Thames to Westminster Bridge; 125 miles in just 24 hours. Nicholas paddled in order to fundraise for two charities, one of which was Save a Child's Heart.
Dr. Godfrey in Canada - SACH Canada hosted Dr. Godwin Godfrey in Toronto for one week in April 2012. During the visit, Dr. Godfrey was in his 4th year as a Senior Surgical Fellow at Wolfson Medical Center under the Save a Child's Heart Medical Outreach Training Program. When he completes his training, Dr. Godfrey will be the first pediatric cardiac surgeon in Tanzania. Dr. Godfrey had the opportunity to speak to a wide range of SACH friends including a group of doctors at the Hospital for Sick Children, several large groups of long-standing supporters, new friends, as well as a group of high school students. All audiences were inspired by Dr. Godfrey’s level of dedication towards improving the lives of children from his country of Tanzania.

Yom Haatzmaut Celebration in LA- on April 26, the Consulate General of Israel in Los Angeles held an event to celebrate Israel’s 64th year of Independence. SACH’s Lead Surgeon, Dr. Lior Sasson attended the event and spoke to an audience of more than 1000 people about the work of Save a Child’s Heart.

May 2012

The Vice President of Zanzibar visits SACH- The Vice President of Zanzibar, Mr. Balozi Seif Ali Iddi, visited Save a Child's Heart on May 8, 2012. The Vice President came accompanied by his wife and a delegation of ministers and media people from Zanzibar. The visit was coordinated by Mr. Kasbian Chirich, Honorary Consul of Tanzania in Israel. The Vice President met the Deputy Director of Wolfson Medical Center, Dr. Zehavit Zivner, the dedicated medical team of Save a Child's Heart and two doctors from Tanzania, who were taking part in the Save a Child's Heart training program. The highlight of the visit was meeting children from Zanzibar and Tanzania who were brought by Save a Child's Heart to Israel. The Vice President and his wife spoke to the children and mothers, heard about their journey and encouraged them. The wife of the Vice President was especially interested in little Suliman from Zanzibar, who is in Israel without his mother and apparently lives very close to the President.

Visits at SACH - Mrs. Chloe Shorten, wife of Australian Minister Bill Shorten, visited SACH with a delegation of women from Australia on May 5, 2012. The visitors came to the SACH children’s home, met children and mothers as well as our volunteers from around the world. Other visits during the month of May were a delegation of parliament members from Portugal, a Rotary delegation from Florida and Los Altos Congregation from the USA.
**June 2012**

*Benefit Concert in Holland* - On Tuesday, June 11th, SACH was the focus of an exciting evening at the Royal Theatre Carré in Amsterdam. Well-known Dutch and Israeli performers took part in this special evening, donating all their proceeds to SACH. The Dutch performers included Wende Snijders, Alain Clark and Jan Jaap Van der Wal. The Israeli artists performing were Noa, David Broza, Shlomi Shaban, and Mira Awad. The initiator and organizer of the event was Mr Robert Baruch, a longtime supporter of SACH who has organized in the past a number of very successful events for SACH in Holland. 1,600 people came to see the show and at the end of the evening enough money was raised for Save a Child’s Heart to purchase a new echo machine for the medical team of the Wolfson Medical Center.

*Swiss ambassador holds event in honor of SACH* - On Thursday, June 21, the Swiss Ambassador to Israel, Walter Haffner, hosted a cocktail reception to celebrate Save a Child's Heart and bid farewell as he prepares to begin his new position in Riga. The reception, which took place at Ambassador Haffner's residence, incorporated a beautiful display of donated artworks (some of which Mr. Haffner painted himself) that were sold to support SACH's life-saving work. Over 100 people were invited to the reception, among them ambassadors, donors, board members from Israel and abroad and Wolfson Hospital management.

**July 2012**

*Visit from the King of Ghana’s Ashanti Kingdom* - On July 19, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, the King of Ghana’s Ashanti Kingdom, the largest Kingdom in Ghana, visited the SACH children’s home in Holon. During his visit, the king heard about SACH’s activity for the benefit of children with heart diseases from developing countries and had the opportunity to meet children from Angola, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe. The King took extra time to speak personally with Aminatu from Ghana and encouraged her and her aunt to be strong. The king, escorted by a delegation of 9 people from Ghana, was in Israel as a guest of Vital Capital Fund headed by Mr Eitan Stibbe and Mitrely Group headed by Mr Haim Taib. Vital Capital Fund together with Mitrely Group are working in close cooperation with Save a Child's Heart to save children with heart diseases from Angola.
Event with Ambassador Prosor in NY - On Tuesday, July 10, the SACH YLG Executive Board was honored to have Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations, Ron Prosor, join them to celebrate SACH receiving this year's Israeli Presidential Award for Volunteerism, as well as the one-year anniversary of SACH receiving consultative status at the United Nations. Over 150 supporters, including SACH donors and Young Leadership Board members welcomed the Ambassador. Ambassador Prosor spoke about the life-saving work of SACH, the incredible moment when the Palestinian Delegation to the UN spoke out on behalf of SACH’s bid to the UN ECOSOC council, and the importance of young leadership in paving the way for many more successes for SACH in the years to come. SACH members were honored to be joined by a number of dignitaries, including Efraim Sneh, former Deputy Minister of Defense in Israel, and David Weprin, New York State Assemblyman, as well as Kelly Razzouk, from the office of US Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice.

Our first child from Burundi – On July 26th, Clairia Irangabiye, our first child from Burundi, which is our 43rd country, arrived at the SACH house. Clairia was one and a half when she arrived, and came to Israel with her mother to receive treatment for her heart disease.

Although Clairia and her mother did not speak any of the languages spoken at the SACH house, they managed to win everyone’s hearts through sign language and smiles.

Important visitors – During the month of July we were visited by a delegation of Australian Members of Parliament, a delegation of Members of Parliament from Canada and a group of employees of Freedenzon, an Israeli company that helped save the life of little Feysal from Ethiopia.

Chitima Takudzwa from Zimbabwe was saved thanks to SACH South Africa – On July 15, 2012, eighteen-month-old Takudzwa underwent lifesaving heart surgery at the Wolfson Medical Center. Although he was very sick when he arrived and his operation was complicated, Takudzwa recovered nicely. His life saving operation was sponsored by Save a Child’s Heart South Africa.
September 2012

SACH receives the Israeli Presidential Award for Volunteerism –

On September 4th 2012, Save a Child's Heart was honored to receive the Israeli Presidential Award for Volunteerism, Israel’s most prestigious award in the field of volunteerism. Eight individuals and 5 organizations received the award in a ceremony that took place at the President's Residence in Jerusalem. The awards were delivered by President Shimon Peres himself. Over 1000 people attended the event, 100 of whom were Board volunteers, supporters, doctors, nurses, board members and staff of Save a Child's Heart and the Wolfson Medical Center. The Presidential award was given to SACH this year in recognition and gratitude to all volunteers - the medical team, board members, volunteers in the hospital and in the children’s home, and people active in their communities - who dedicate so much of their lives to Save a Child's Heart.

October 2012

Tislam Concert for SACH – On October 21, 2012, Israeli renowned rock band Tislam performed at Zappa Herzliya, and delighted over 300 guests with their timeless songs. The concert was in honor of Save a Child's Heart and thanks to its success, we were able to save one more child. We would like give a special thanks to Abigail Ezri, a resident doctor at the Wolfson Medical Center, for her fabulous work in putting this concert together.
**Climb Your Heart Out: Mount Kilimanjaro 2012** - During October 2012 a delegation of climbers, led by Alex Waisslitz and the Friends of Save a Child's Heart in Melbourne, Australia, climbed again to the summit of Africa. The campaign this year was another great success, thanks to the climbers who have not only climbed the highest mountain in Africa, but also raised funds for Save a Child's Heart.

With over $180,000 raised, thanks to the climbers we were able to save the lives of 18 more children.

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**SACH reaches the milestone of treating the 3,000 child** – Maria is a 10-year-old girl from Luanda, Angola and is the 3000th child treated by Save a Child's Heart. Maria’s lifesaving operation was sponsored by the Mitrelli Group, which is sponsoring all our children from Angola. Maria’s story was covered by the international news agency, AP, which distributed the story to dozens of TV networks around the world.

Maria, the SACH 3,000 child, after her surgery

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**Prof. Bernard Goldman visits SACH Israel**- During the last week of October, Prof. Bernard Goldman, Chairman of Save a Child's Heart Canada, traveled from Toronto to visit SACH in Israel. Prof. Goldman has taken upon himself the task of writing a book about Dr. Ami Cohen and Save a Child's Heart, in which he focuses on the work of SACH in the fields of International Humanitarian Aid and the modern aspects of Global Health Care. Prof. Goldman spent a week interviewing and spending time with everyone at the office and at the Wolfson Medical Center (WMC). At the WMC, Prof. Goldman, himself a cardiac surgeon, went into the OR to scrub in and spend time with the medical team. As part of the book's interviews, Prof. Goldman also met with past volunteers and members who were involved with SACH since its beginning.
November 2012

**Concert in Geneva** - SACH Switzerland organized a fund raising event in Geneva on November 29, 2012, to celebrate the 2012 Israel Presidential Award for Volunteerism, which was given to SACH this year. The event was held in the form of a concert and reception hosted by the Liberal Synagogue of Geneva in their newly built synagogue. The guests were prestigious members of the Geneva and Lausanne communities; his Excellency, Mr. Eviatar Manor, Ambassador of Israel to the UN in Geneva, sponsored the event. Dr. Sion Houri, Head of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at the Wolfson Medical Center, flew to Geneva especially to join Dr. Jacques Metzger, cardiologist and SACH Switzerland Board Member, in presenting SACH’s humanitarian work.

**Reception in Los Angeles** – David and Judy Shore hosted a fundraising reception in their home in Los Angeles for Professor Arie Schachner. David is the producer/creator of the TV show, HOUSE. Judy is the president of the new Los Angeles Chapter of SACH. Consul General David Siegel also spoke at the event.

December 2012

**SACH receives grant from the EU Commission** – In December 2012, SACH signed an agreement with the EU Commission for a grant for EURO 500,000 for the years 2013/2014. The grant is earmarked for the SACH Heart of the Matter Program under the EU Partnership for Peace Program.
SACH in the Media

**The Jerusalem Post**

💖 Jpost - **Saving a child’s heart– and hearing**

**Herald Sun**

💖 Melbourne Herald Sun - **Going up in the world can save a child’s life**

💖 IsraelUncensored - **Let us Save a child’s heart** (Arabic)

Read the translation to English [here](#).

💖 ISRAEL21c - **The children given life in the midst of war**

Local Bat Yam - **Palestinian Children treated at 'Wolfson'** (Hebrew)

💖 Australian Jewish News - Teen Conquers Kilimanjaro

💖 Gal Gefen (local news Holon) - Running from the Heart (Hebrew)
Local Bat Yam - Marathon for Save a Child's Heart (Hebrew)

The Jerusalem Post

The Jerusalem Post - Israelis, Jews climb Kilimanjaro for charity

Diva International

Diva International - The Heart of the Matter

The Heart of the Matter

Jewish Women's Renaissance Project

Jewish Women's Renaissance Project

Ynet

Ynet - Ori Pfeffer reaches the summit (Hebrew)

The beautiful Israel: Children arrive from all over the world to undergo lifesaving heart surgery (Hebrew)

The Jerusalem Post

Jpost

Jpost - Health Scan: New family drugs without side effects

The Jerusalem Post
Everest hero gets special citation from president

Save a Child’s Heart, based at the Wolfson Medical Center, receives Israeli President Award (Hebrew)

Save a Child’s Heart, based at the Wolfson Medical Center, receives Israeli President Award (Hebrew)

Show Me the Money: Raising Awareness and Funds

Saving Hearts of Palestinian Children (Hebrew)

Who doubts a child’s heart (English)

Save a Child’s Heart volunteer learns valuable world lessons
**Zman Holon (The Times of Holon) - Big Heart (Hebrew)**

**Jpost** - **A wardrobe fit for a king and a president**

**local**

**Local Bat Yam - King from Ghana visits SACH (Hebrew)**

**Rinunim** - **King from Ghana visits SACH (Hebrew)**

**Alumni**

**American University • Washington, DC**

Alumna celebrated 30th birthday by raising ten thousand dollars for charity

**The Globe and Mail**

**The Globe and Mail - How a Tanzanian doctor epitomizes hope**

**Africa Investor**

**African Bank Governors seek ties with Israel**

**Telavivi.net** - **Swiss Ambassador hosts cocktail fro SACH (Hebrew)**
Local Bat Yam - Swiss Ambassador hosts cocktail fro SACH (Hebrew)

Ynetnews - Swiss ambassador holds auction to help sick kids

New Vision - African Bank Governors seek ties with Israel

onlinePRmedia - Author Wendy Lewis Will Be A Featured Speaker At The 47th American Jewish Libraries Convention

Washington Jewish Week - For more than 36 years, a spiritual leader

HarShalom - The Tablet - A Heartwarming Story

Jpost - Hand on Heart

Jpost - Israel is the Heart of the World

Newsmax - How Israeli Chutzpah Will Save the World

Megafon - Israeli Presidential Award (Hebrew)
Presidential Award (Hebrew)

Names of the people and organizations who will be receiving the Presidential Award this year were published

Saving lives one glass at a time

Photo exhibit helps promote SACH

Free Heart Surgery for Palestinian Children at 'Wolfson'

Directly to the heart

Charity Spotlight: Save a Child’s Heart

Heavy Hearts

Tanzanian surgeon with a 500,000-child waiting list
500,000 children wait for Tanzania's only surgeon

From the heart of Africa

Israel Stops Traffic In West L.A. As It Celebrates Its 64th

Nearly 500,000 children waiting for Tanzania's only surgeon, Dr Godfrey

Nearly 500,000 children waiting for Tanzania’s only surgeon

Free heart surgeries in Israel save babies’ lives

10 Reasons Americans Should Celebrate Israel’s Independence Day
AJN - Israel to the rescue

Focus Taiwan - Taiwanese woman rediscovers herself while volunteering in Israel

Yedihot Holon (Holon Local News) - Waiting for a new life

Qzone - SACH / Herszage & Sternberg Architects

Focus Taiwan - Photo Exhibit highlights pediatric care in Israel

ArchSo

Archiname - SACH - Herszage & Sternberg Architects (Chinese)

The Jerusalem Post - An extraordinary state

The Israel Project - Ambassadors Join TIP for Israeli-Palestinian Cooperation Tour

Alondon - Israel's Medical Marvel
Notable - Save a Child’s Heart

ArchDaily - SACH - Herszage & Sternberg Architects

Yediot Acharonot (Latest News) - A Heart was Moved (Hebrew)

Baltimore Jewish Life - A Heartwarming Tale of the New Middle East

Alpha Epsilon Pi Hosts Fundraiser For Save A Child’s Heart

Ma’ariv Business (local news) - British Ambassador at Wolfson (Hebrew)

Gather the Jews - Save a Child’s Heart Gala A Success

UJA Federation of Hamilton - Heart to Heart
Israel Today - Wolfson presents: a new Middle East

News from Jerusalem - A medical miracle at the Wolfson Hospital

Haifa Diary

Haifa Diary - Another Medical Miracle at the Wolfson Medical Center

Yediot Acharonot (Latest News) - 2800 Children Aren't Wrong (Hebrew)

Daily Graphic

Daily Graphic - Save a Child’s Heart assists Miriam

Radical Something Benefit Concert For Save A Child’s Heart

Now News - Save a Child’s Heart (Chinese)

News e2 - SACH Photo Exhibition (Chinese)

The United Nations in the Heart of Europe
Yedihot Holon (Holon Local News) - Save a Child’s Heart in its new house (Hebrew)

WashingtonJewishWeek - Israel Peace, Israel Apartheid weeks on campuses

J-Wire - Politicians report on Israel visit

The College Conservative - Happy Valentine’s Day from Israel

eBay has a special place in its heart – and its auctions – for one Israeli charity

Hasbara Fellowships - Save a Child’s Heart Campaign Kicks Off at Tufts University

Jewish Telegraph - Charity is wonderful tool to showcase best of Israel

The Jerusalem Post - If it wasn’t for Israel you might not be alive