Benefactors of life presented at

Living is Giving

Renewal
KIDNEY DONOR RECOGNITION GALA EVENT
July 3, 2013
© Copyright 2013 by Renewal

Book is designed in collaboration of:
Chaim Shmiel Friedman of dafhachaim.org
Stacey Gindi • www.SGindiDesignStudo.com
CENTURY 21 DEPARTMENT STORE
IS PROUD TO SPONSOR
The Renewal Kidney Donor Recognition Gala Event!
Welcome To Renewal

Guidance Through The Maze of Kidney Transplantation

FACT
Over 200 people afflicted with chronic kidney disease are currently on Renewal’s waiting list, hoping and praying for a transplant.

FACT
The average waiting time on the national waiting list is approximately 7 years; only about 1 year with Renewal.

FACT
Eighty percent of dialysis patients do not survive for more than ten years. For those who suffer from this debilitating ailment, these aren’t just facts – these are the facts of life.

Kidneys serve the vital function of filtering impurities and excess fluid from the blood. However, when they fail, patients must endure a rigorous regimen of dialysis for several four-hour treatments per week.

Patients are confined to a chair, as their blood is painstakingly cleansed. Beyond their greatly compromised quality of life is the haunting issue of life itself. How long can they endure?

The ultimate solution for these patients is a kidney transplant.
Along with dramatically increased longevity and reduced pain, kidney transplantation provides significant recovery from the heart conditions, elevated blood pressure and other complication associated with kidney disease.

These patients need the gift of Renewal.
Renewal is a non-profit organization that serves as a comprehensive resource for kidney donors and recipients. Along with arranging matches, they also promote awareness of the pain and difficulties associated with dialysis. Renewal educates people about all that donation entails, takes care of all the logistical arrangements and provides extensive guidance and counseling for everyone involved. Additionally, Renewal covers all ancillary transplant costs including travel, loss of wages, accommodations, and even child care.
Going beyond

Making a difference

Saving a life
MESSAGE FROM THE

Director

MESSAGE FROM THE

Director

Message from the Director

On behalf of Renewal, I welcome you all this evening, to our “Living is Giving” Kidney Donor Recognition Gala Event.

Organizational banquets and functions are generally associated with fundraising and philanthropy. Yet, I believe I speak on behalf of all of us when I say that tonight’s event is different. Whether we are here as patrons of Renewal, volunteers, kidney donors, or transplant recipients, the sentiment is the same. This evening is a milestone of personal celebration for us all.

As we are gathered here in celebration of our triumphs, we are more determined than ever to build upon what we’ve achieved and to broaden our mission.

At a conventional dinner, I would thank the assemblage on behalf of the organization. In this case, I believe, each of you would ask me to thank Renewal on your behalf.

Thank you Renewal for affording us the opportunity to become partners in the heavenly mission granting life. Thank you for allowing us to experience the ultimate joy and nachas of restoring a bright future for so many families.

May we continue in this special partnership so long as there are those who need us.

Best wishes,

Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz
Ordinary faces

Extraordinary people
Everyday heroes

Extraordinary deeds
103,569 people in the United States are currently waiting for a kidney transplant.
At Renewal, we see it as 103,569 opportunities to grant life. With the average wait time for a kidney being over 6 years, unfortunately many of them will never be granted that opportunity.
Renewal has set its goal to facilitate a kidney transplant for every patient on its waiting list, within a six-month period.

Aside from the overwhelming trauma of treatments, recurring infection and susceptibility to disease, the fear and anxiety of the race against time weighs heavily on the family.

Behind each of these individuals there’s a family; Spouses, Parents, Children. Life on dialysis wreaks havoc on the patient’s entire household.
Who are these altruistic benefactors so eager to give away a part of themselves? Who are the special people that Hashem has endowed with the ability to grant life to others? What’s the secret behind their conviction?
The year was 2006. Renewal – an organization some five years in the making - was now officially “open for business.” The ubiquitous “kidney solicitation ads” we’ve become accustomed to seeing today were not commonplace yet. Donating a kidney was not something that crossed most average people’s minds.

At Krias Yam Suf, Klal Yisroel stood hesitantly at the imposing waters of the sea. Who would be the one take the leap of faith? **Nachshon ben Aminadav.**

It takes special character to be a Nachshon.

Chaim Alter Berger – quiet, unassuming, the embodiment of humility – was the Nachshon ben Aminadav of Renewal.

Actually, says Chaim Alter with his trademark modesty, I didn’t know at the time that I was Renewal’s first donor. All that mattered to me was that there was someone out there who needed life and I had the ability to grant it to her.

What prompts a young father of four, at the prime of his life with the demanding career of a salesman, to even consider “going under the knife” for a total stranger?

“When I saw the ad for a type-O donor, it just spoke to me,” says Mr. Berger. “I had family that was on dialysis. I knew the devastation. I clipped the ad almost immediately. The impulse is something I cannot quite explain.”

Were there any doubts following that impulse?

When Reb Chaim Alter called his Rebbe, the Boyaner Rebbe Shlita of Yerushalayim, the Rebbe’s first response was, “One
who entertains such a shaila is already beyond the level of doubt."

Early Wednesday morning, 15 Kislev 5767 at 5:00 AM, Mr. Berger was picked up from his home and personally driven by Renewal to the Montefiore Medical Center. Along with him in the car was his beneficiary – a young wife recently married in Eretz Yisroel. The big day had finally arrived. In the car, the sense of anticipation was palpable – on both ends.

By Motzei Shabbos, he was home. Two weeks later, he was back on his job.

"Perhaps I’m minimizing the whole episode somewhat,” says Chaim Alter. “One thing I cannot minimize though is the role that Renewal has played in all of this. I can say with certainty, that without Renewal I could not have gone through the process. I must also mention the supportiveness and amiability of the entire staff at Montefiore. They went out of their way to make this a most pleasant experience for everyone involved.”

Now, three years later, Reb Chaim Alter maintains the very same active life style with a clean bill of health. “Actually,” he says, “from the perspective of an insurance broker I can say that kidney donors are rated Preferred Plus by insurers.

One can only imagine the “preferred status” of these tzaddikim in Shomayim.

---

**Nachas**

For Lag B’omer of last year, Reb Chaim Alter made a trip to Eretz Yisroel to be at the tziyun of Reb Shimon Bar Yochai, along with tens of thousands of yidden. On the bus ride to Miron his cellphone rings suddenly. The husband of his kidney recipient is on the line. “My wife just gave birth to our bechor and you’re one of the first people we are calling,” he said joyfully.

When Reb Chaim Alter told the new father that he was actually in Eretz Yisroel, he insisted that he come to the hospital so that he can hold his miracle baby in his own hands. Upon returning to Yerushalayim, Mr. Berger went straight to the hospital. Beaming with the pride and joy of a young zeide, he held the baby in his hands as tears of joy flowed freely down the faces of everyone in the room.

---

**In preparation for his transplant, Chaim Alter consulted with his Rav Harav Binyomin Eisenberger Shlit”a, with whom he maintains a very close kesher. Indeed, the Rav had special instructions for the day of the procedure. “You should go to the mikvah and make sure to recite the parsha of the Akeida three times,” said Rav Eisenberger, “because donating a kidney is equivalent to the Akeidah.”**

---

"One who entertains such a shaila is already beyond the level of doubt.”
– The Boyaner Rebbe Shlita

The first is the catalyst. The first blazes the trail for others to follow.
AJ Gindi’s first contact with Renewal is a mystery.

AJ lives with his family in West Long Branch, New Jersey, and serves as executive director of Yeshiva Keter Torah in Eatontown. He is an involved and active member of the community, always seeking opportunities to help others. AJ served as president of his shul, and president and chairman of Sephardic Bikur Holim. He had participated in the bone marrow testing drive in his shul, as part of the Stella Liniado Rainbow Foundation. When Menachem Friedman, program director at Renewal, first got in touch with AJ, he thought it was because of the cotton swab test he had taken in the past.

Menachem asked if he could send AJ a blood test, and he readily agreed. As AJ went through the testing process, he realized he was applying to donate an organ, not the minimally invasive bone marrow donation, as he had originally assumed.

AJ learned about the people afflicted with chronic kidney disease who were on Renewal’s waiting list, hoping and praying for a transplant. When a match was found, AJ did not hesitate at giving the promise of a new life to another Jew, and the surgery was scheduled immediately. AJ went through the rounds of physical and psychological testing, with the support and encouragement of his wife, Joy, by his side.

AJ and Menachem met in person on the morning of his surgery. Renewal was on hand to supervise the entire process, and to provide any assistance he might need. As they were talking about the procedure, AJ commented, “It’s amazing what you can find with just one cotton swab.”

“A cotton swab?” Menachem asked. “But we do blood tests, not testing for tissue types with a Q tip?”

“So how did you find me?” AJ inquired.
They discussed websites and ad campaigns, but could find no reasonable explanation for why AJ was contacted. When the recipient and his family heard about AJ’s circumstances, his wife started to cry, “Hashem has sent us an angel to save my husband.”

AJ doesn’t consider himself a malach, he is just grateful to have had the opportunity to perform this incredible mitzvah. AJ’s recovery was very smooth, Baruch Hashem and he was running and playing racquetball only weeks after his surgery. Although he is fit, healthy and back to himself, AJ says there is something different about him. He has changed in the way he views himself and in his attitudes towards life.

Any healthy person can accomplish the same mitzvah, AJ explains. Patients are burdened with the lifelong condition of kidney disease, and with this generous donation, you can make a huge difference in their lives and the lives of their families.

“You don’t need to look for a man with a cape flying through the sky to find a superhero,” AJ explains, “you can just look in the mirror and find a hero there too.”

The Gift of Daily Living

When Mitch Bornstein goes for a leisurely stroll down the block, he never takes it for granted. Just six months ago, Mitch was unable to climb stairs without gasping for breath, and he could not make it down the block without stopping midway for a rest.

Mitch suffered from chronic kidney disease for several years. Because of his decrease in red blood cells, Mitch was affected with anemia, resulting in feelings of weakness, fatigue and shortness of breath.

“I’m a sixty year old man,” says Mitch, “and I was walking around feeling like I was eighty years old.”

Regular daily activities became a strain for Mitch. He took an extended leave of absence from his job as a financial advisor in order to focus on his health. His stamina was weakened and he was taking a wide variety of pills. “I was at the doctor’s office three times a week,” Mitch recalls.

As Mitch’s condition worsened, he realized that he was running out of options. About six months ago, Mitch’s doctor informed him that he had a choice: He would need to replace his kidneys or he would have to go on dialysis. Mitch sought out Renewal for assistance in finding a kidney donor. After his initial phone call, Renewal was a constant presence throughout Mitch’s ordeal. Mitch is grateful to Hashem that he spent only a short time on dialysis before a kidney donor was found. “I was hooked up to a machine for five hours a day, three days a week. It felt like absolute hell,” Mitch remembers.

Within five months, Renewal located a matching kidney for Mitch. “It was a remarkably short waiting period,” Mitch points out. Patients who are not lucky enough to have Renewal advocating for them often need to rely on cadavers for a matching kidney. The wait time on the national kidney registry can be up to seven years.

“Renewal was wonderful to me,” Mitch says. “They were with me through every step of the process, holding my hand the entire time.” Mitch appreciated Renewal’s guidance and experience, as they were able to answer his questions and facilitate the entire transplant process.

Within three months after his surgery, Mitch is finally feeling like himself again. He is ready to resume his daily activities and looking forward to picking up his active lifestyle.

Mitch just recently met his kidney donor face to face. He describes the meeting, explaining that he had no words to thank this man for his chesed. “You cannot imagine how powerful my feeling of gratitude is. I can’t think of a greater gift on earth than the one which I received – my new kidney.”
His Wife Gave Him the Idea

Zac Gindi credits his wife, Mari, for being the catalyst for his kidney donation, encouraging him with her courage and devotion.

Zac lives with his family in Long Branch, New Jersey. His work in import and exports requires extended traveling. In 2008, he returned from a two week trip to China to find his wife Mari preoccupied with a new idea. When he asked what it was, she said, “We can discuss it tomorrow.” He pressed her for details and Mari confessed, “I’m thinking of donating my kidney.” Exhausted by his trip and too overwhelmed to discuss this life altering decision at the moment, Zac replied, “Yes, we’ll talk tomorrow.”

After Zac rested up from his trip, he discussed the idea with his wife. Mari had seen a Renewal ad for kidney donation in the newspaper, and she was considering the idea; she felt that it was a mitzvah she wanted to do. Mari invited Zac to join her at a presentation for potential donors, run by Montefiore hospital.

At the presentation, the Gindis learned about the suffering of patients on dialysis, where the process consumes multiple hours every single week. And that even this healing measure is not a long term solution. They learned about the patients’ agony of hoping, each day, that maybe today a matching kidney would be found to save their life.

They were deeply touched by the description of a patient’s suffering. And they were inspired to discover that
unlike other life threatening illnesses, here was an opportunity for them to do something that could immediately cure a patient. The Gindis decided to take action.

Since Mari was the initiator, she planned on donating her kidney first, and then once she recovered, Zac would have his turn. But Mari’s intended recipient found a closer option. When a match was found for Zac, he went ahead with the surgery, under Renewal’s expert care and guidance. Mari never had the chance to donate her own kidney, but her zechus was encouraging and supporting her husband through his incredible act of selfless chesed.

Zac’s experience of donating a kidney spurred him to further action to assist suffering patients. He has become a champion for Renewal’s cause, and joined the Board of Directors.

Becoming involved in Renewal’s life-saving work gave Zac the opportunity to donate even more to patients and their families. He is glad to offer his time and expertise to assist in growing the organization which has helped so many others.

Zac says that donating his kidney has affected his life in ways that he could never have imagined. “I set out to donate my kidney, thinking that I was doing this mitzvah to help someone else,” he explains. “But truthfully, the person who gained the most from it was me.” Zac explains that this concept holds true for any person doing a chesed, whether he is donating time, money, or even a kidney—the real beneficiary is the giver.

“Community Magazine cover, April 2013

Community Magazine cover, April 2013
Kidney donor, Steven Hafif with his sister and recipient, Rhonda Tawil the day of their surgeries.
I began getting more information about the donation process by speaking with the people at Renewal.

I was born in 1967, the youngest of 4 kids. My oldest sister, Rhonda, is 8 years older than me. Rhonda was 19 when she was first diagnosed with Lupus, and over the years, it became progressively worse. She was in hospitals repeatedly over the years due to various problems related to her Lupus. In 2009, Rhonda was admitted to the hospital yet again. This time, the doctors diagnosed that Rhonda’s kidneys were finally failing. The only treatment would be dialysis for the rest of her life, or a kidney transplant. When I heard the diagnosis, I said “I’ll give you a kidney.” I was one of many offering to donate a kidney. I never thought of myself as the “organ donor type” before that day, but the words came out of my mouth without much thought. I did not realize then the implications of my offer. That was in November 2009.

I began getting more information about the donation process by speaking with the people at Renewal. In that phone call, I spoke with a kidney donor who worked at Renewal, and I started to realize that giving a kidney wasn’t simply a one way gift. He told me about the rewarding feeling all donors feel from the act of giving a kidney. It was then that I started to look at the process as a two way street. As I investigated the process more, both in terms of physical/medical issues as well as mental/spiritual issues, I gained more and more resolve to donate. When the day finally came, in May 2010, I was very excited. The procedure was over in a few hours. Rhonda and I recovered quickly, and her new kidney began working immediately.

The surprising realization for me was that although I had given a kidney away, I felt like I had received more than I gave. Within a few weeks, I was back to my normal routine, not even thinking about my missing kidney, but I was able to watch Rhonda resume life, untethered to a dialysis machine. We became closer as a result, and we celebrate our kidney anniversary each year. Every time she thanks me, I thank her right back. If I were able to do it a second time, I would in a heartbeat.

By Steven Hafif, Kidney Donor
When I was 18 years old, I was in Israel and a friend of mine who was 19 at the time had kidney failure. He went from being normal, healthy, energized and fun, to a sick, weak, exhausted teenager on dialysis. It was a heart breaking sight to see a friend you know so well change so drastically and be totally helpless. I decided then that I wanted to try and help, I wanted to go for testing to see if I was a match to be able to give him a kidney and bring back the friend I had really known him to be. Fortunately for him, by the hand of Hashem and many things “falling into place,” he was able to get a kidney before I had the chance to go for testing. Before long, he was back! Living life healthy again, hanging out with friends, working, and then Baruch Hashem married. Seeing him go through the stages he did, made me realize how hard kidney disease is for any human being. The thought never left my mind or my heart…I wanted to renew someone’s life, I wanted to donate my kidney and give someone the health they once had, the energy they once had…the life they once had.

A few months ago, a good friend and bowling teammate, AJ Gindi, told me he will not be bowling with us for the next month because he was donating his kidney. I asked many questions. After AJ’s surgery I found out from him about an organization called Renewal that assists Jewish people with kidney failure and connects them with donors. I immediately signed up. Just about two months later I found myself on the operating table donating my kidney and saving a man’s life.

But this is just the beginning of the story.

I recently started a new job and did not want to cause
any problems by missing work to go for testing. I decided to go for the initial tests on the morning I was leaving for Florida for Pesach vacation. After several visits to the hospital for more testing, the hospital called me to schedule surgery and I chose to have the surgery on May 7th so that I would have the weekend and then the following week of Shavuot and Shabbat again to recover. Our Rabbis teach us that we are all Hashem’s puppets and we do exactly what is His will. Hashem has a plan and we carry out the plan precisely as He wishes.

**This story is a perfect example.**

The man I was matched up to donate to was a 65 year old man who had a slow case of kidney failure that began a year ago. He has six children, none of which were able to donate. Two weeks before the surgery, this man went to his doctor to take some tests. The tests revealed that his numbers were extremely low and the doctor informed him that by next week he would have no choice but to go on dialysis. His wife that Shabbat had given a donation to charity and hoped that in that merit all should go well for her husband. That Shabbat she read community magazine and showed her husband the article about AJ Gindi donating his kidney through Renewal, an organization her husband was listed with. Her husband said to her that Hashem will send him his Yeshuah when the time is right. That Monday morning he received a call from the hospital telling him they found a donor and he should come in that day for a pre-op for surgery that will take place the following week, May 7th. That night had major significance to this man. On that night he was scheduled to be honored by the Bais Yaakov of Boro Park for his grandmother who started the yeshivah and had passed away the year before. His wife’s mother who had also passed away had her Yartziet on May 7th this year. His own parents who had past away in the Holocaust had their Yartziet assigned by the Rabbis on the day they went into Auschwitz, because it is unknown when they passed away. That day too was May 7th this year.

I was rushing and making sure the surgery would be done as soon as possible and rushed it to be done on May 7th thinking “I can’t miss work,” but in reality I was only a puppet doing the will of Hashem’s master plan. It wasn’t work that was the reason for the rush, it was that this man was about to go on dialysis, which would have caused more issues for this man in terms of having the transplant.

I was #18 this year for Renewal, and #214 since they started.

One in every nine people in the U.S. have kidney failure. There are over 100,000 people that are in need of a transplant. Sadly, there are only 16,000 kidney transplants done a year. Only about 150 of those 16,000 are donated by people who do not know their recipients. Around twenty-five percent of those come from Renewal. I am #18 this year for Renewal, and #214 since they started the organization in 2006.

For what will turn out to be two weeks of discomfort, I will forever know that I saved a man’s life. Now this man will be able to live the rest of his life in good health and enjoy his wife, his children and grandchildren and Bezrat Hashem great grandchildren all for two weeks of my sacrifice. Unfortunately, after donating a kidney I am unable to donate another, but I am hoping my story inspires others to donate and to renew another Jewish person’s life as well.
An Ordinary Customer Brings About a Life Saving Opportunity

It was Tomer’s job as a printer that first brought him in touch with Renewal, the organization which educates people about kidney donation and provides extensive guidance, counseling and logistical arrangements for kidney transplantation.

One of Tomer’s previous customers contacted him about printing invitations for a Renewal fundraiser, the Herzog Wine and Food Tasting Event at The View on the Hudson in Piermont, NY. Tomer printed the job and was so impressed with the extent of Renewal’s lifesaving work, he decided to donate the printing. Tomer was offered two free tickets to the event, and he attended, along with his wife, Tzivya.

The Naftalis spent the evening learning about Renewal’s efforts with kidney donors and recipients. They heard about patients severely afflicted with kidney disease who were marking time, waiting for a generous donor to end their suffering.

Then, Tomer had an idea. “If I’m healthy,” he thought, “why don’t I donate a kidney?” Tomer approached Menachem Friedman, who told him to contact the office. Once Tzivya saw that her husband was serious, she was completely supportive of his decision. The following morning, Tomer called Renewal for the forms and blood testing kit.

Within two weeks, Tomer’s kidney was matched with Ronen Bokovza, an Israeli young man who suffered from kidney disease. The high antibodies in Ronen’s blood made it very difficult to find a match for him. Against
incredible odds, Ronen survived seventeen years on dialysis until a kidney donor was found for him.

Tomer and Ronen met for the first time on the day of the transplant. Tomer spoke to the other patient, reassuring and comforting him. “I told him that G-d willing everything to be OK.” Tomer relates. “And that this was not just hello and goodbye, I was looking forward to a long relationship with him.” As Tomer gave Ronen Birkat Kohanim (the priestly blessing) there was not a dry eye in the room. The two men embraced and were led into surgery.

Both Ronen and Tomer recovered from surgery, with Renewal’s support, and the assistance of friends and family. Friends volunteered to keep Tomer company for his hospital stay, while his wife shouldered the burden of caring for their children on her own. Tomer rested comfortably while his staff at TNT Design Group ran the office, though it was dinner season, one of the busiest times of the year for printers.

Ronen stayed with friends for a few weeks, and then finally moved back into his own apartment, to begin his new, independent life, free of the machinery and restrictions of dialysis.

Months later, Tomer and Ronen are still in close contact, speaking on the phone and spending time with each other’s friends and families. Ronen is incredibly grateful for Renewal’s services, and for Tomer and his sacrifice. But Tomer doesn’t see his mitzvah that way, he thinks he only gained from the process. “I have a new brother!” Tomer says with a wide smile.

(Revised from Yeshiva World News, Wednesday, November 9th, 2011 and Community Magazine, March 2012)
A Donor Speaks...  

by Victoria Rishty

I was recently blessed by Hashem to have the opportunity to help someone by donating a kidney. But I think I came out with more than I gave. I acquired three new families in the process.

The first family is the Renewal family. I am still awed by the amounts of hesed this organization does. Besides the obvious hesed of finding kidneys for those who need them, Renewal is involved in every step of the process. From the first time I spoke to Rabbi Steinmetz about my decision to donate, Renewal took hold of my hands and did not let go even until today. They never put any pressure on me to donate, and kept assuring me that I could back out at any time. They guided me through the entire process, every step of the way. Renewal is there to make sure that the donor is not inconvenienced at all during the donation, from the initial medical testing through the follow up check-ups afterwards. Esther Noe, Renewal’s Donor Coordinator, called me several times before my surgery to give me encouragement, and share her own story, as she is a donor herself. Rabbi Steinmetz was with us in the hospital at 5:30 a.m. on the day of my surgery, and he did not leave my husband until I was in a room later that day. He or Rabbi Schischa visited me in the hospital every day to make sure everything was going well. When I had to be in the hospital over Shabbat, Rabbi Steinmetz showed up with two full cases of food, drinks and desserts, basically just for my husband, as I could not really eat too much yet. They kept asking me what more they could do for me. Do I need rides to my appointments? Rabbi Friedman actually drove me himself from Deal to Manhattan twice, and when he
If I had another kidney to give, I would do it again in a heartbeat.

A Donor Speaks...

 couldn’t, Renewal paid for the carfare. Do I need meals or extra cleaning help during the recovery? Taken care of. They paid for someone to drive my carpools when I could not. They even insisted that I calculate how much earnings I lost during my recovery period and they reimbursed me for that. They did everything to ensure that my recovery was as short and easy as possible. And just like real family, they shared in my simahot by coming to my daughter’s engagement party, wedding, and even sheva berachot. I am privileged to be a part of such a giving, caring family.

The second family is the family of donors. I now share a bond with people that I may not have had anything to do with before. When I was in the hospital for pre-testing I visited a woman who had donated her kidney just the day before. And the day after my surgery she visited me when she was in the hospital for a post check-up. We were total strangers but we felt like sisters because of our common experience. There was another woman donor who came all the way from Monsey on a Friday morning just to visit me in the hospital because she likes to give encouragement to new donors. And during the recovery process it was a great feeling to talk with other donors who knew exactly what I was feeling. We share something very special and it is an honor to be counted among these wonderful people.

The third, and most special family is that of my recipient. I first met Yonah Rockoff and his wife Elaine on the morning of our surgeries. It was an overwhelming experience for all of us. We were so emotional that we could barely speak. Their three married children visited me in the hospital afterwards, and that was also very emotional. Since then we have kept in touch via email and we have gotten to know each other much better. I was kept up to date on Yonah’s recovery process (which was much longer than mine) and rejoiced with them in his progress. Yonah and Elaine came to my daughter’s wedding just two weeks ago, and I don’t think I was as excited to see anyone else as I was to see them. I am literally a part of a whole new family. It is an extraordinary feeling to know that Hashem has given me the ability to help someone get a new lease on life. I thank Hashem for the opportunity and I continually pray for my recipient’s health and that he should enjoy many, many wonderful years of life together with his family.

Thanks to these three new families, I feel that if I had another kidney to give, I would do it again in a heartbeat.

Kidney recipients celebrate together at the Rishtys’ daughter’s wedding
Imagine you are told that your previously healthy husband is in kidney failure, and if it continues, he will need to be on dialysis for the rest of his life. Before you can even process this bombshell, you begin an endless cycle of referrals, doctors, specialists, special diets, tests and medications. Yet despite the best efforts of everyone, his kidneys keep failing. You learn that dialysis means your husband must have the blood in his body completely removed and cleansed by the dialysis machine at least three times per week, for about four-five hours each time.

His schedule is rigid and cannot be changed for holidays, vacations, or happy or sad occasions. Dialysis would not be a cure, but it would keep him alive.

You also learn that 60% of patients on dialysis do not survive after three years. There is constant danger of infection, and the effects are very temporary. Even the best dialysis machine cannot cleanse the blood the way a live kidney does.

**This Became My Reality**

Then there was another option given to us: my husband, Sam, could have a kidney transplant. There are two kinds: receiving a kidney from a deceased donor, or from a live donor. We learned that Sam would need to be tested and be cleared by a team to be able to be placed on a list for a deceased donor kidney. The waiting time averages six-seven years. There are currently 90,000 people waiting for a kidney in the US today. Sadly, only about 16,000 will get one.

Sam’s doctor told us that the best option would be for him to get a transplant from a live donor. The fact is that we are born with two kidneys and really only need one to live.

A live donor kidney begins to work as soon as it is attached! It has a much longer life expectancy, and the general outcomes
are much better. But the doctor also told us there is no national or local registry for live donors, and the doctors and the hospitals do not assist you in this. The recipient has to bring his own donor.

**Renewal Steps In**

Everyone was praying that the methods we were trying would work, but in the meantime we had to face reality and prepare for the worst. Then a wonderful organization called RENEWAL came into our lives. Their mission is to help people who need a kidney transplant find a live donor, and to support that donor throughout the process in any way they might need. Renewal immediately had me send in Sam’s information and told us that a family donor was the best option. They guided us with detailed information on exactly how to go about doing this. They have relationships with the transplant teams in all the major New York and New Jersey hospitals and know the ins and outs of the testing, matching and transplant process. Since my husband is the youngest in his family, his siblings were no longer eligible. Live donors must be between 18 and 60 years old. Blood type is also a factor. To my great disappointment, I was not a match. The only possibility from our five children was our youngest son, Albert, who was only 19 at the time and away studying in Israel. Without hesitation he immediately flew home to be tested, telling his father that he considered it to be just a part of the mitzvah of Kibud Av va Em!

As a wife I desperately wanted my husband to be well, but as a mother I wanted the best for my son. Renewal stepped in and guided Albert every step of the way. They gave him complete information, put him in touch with a donor to explain the process and assisted him to make a fully informed, independent decision. Renewal told us that the recipient’s insurance pays for all the donor’s medical costs, and that Renewal takes care of everything else. They assured us that in the unlikely event that a kidney donor should need a transplant in the future, he would be moved to the top of the list.

**An Emotional Journey**

When we received the news that Albert was a match, we all cried! Last July 3rd when both my husband and my son were in adjoining operating rooms, Renewal was there for all of us. Baruch Hashem, Sam and Albert are now fully recovered and back to their regular routines. It is truly a miracle. To meet my husband today you would never know he is a kidney recipient. He has resumed work, shul, social life and all the everyday activities we all take for granted.

**Giving the Gift of Life**

To date, Renewal has facilitated over 200 live kidney transplants. Renewal is compiling a local live kidney donor registry to be used to match community kidney patients.

You may think that our son is unique, and while we know he is indeed special, there are many others in our community who have performed this ultimate act of hesed and donated their kidney to someone in need, through Renewal, sometimes to someone they did not even know. It is truly giving a gift of life.
Sharon Langert is constantly looking for inspiration in the world around her. Aside from her full life as wife of Steven Langert, a Lakewood township committeeman, and a busy mother of five, Sharon is a fashion blogger, event planner and designer. She uses her blog, “Fashion-Isha” to promote beautiful and refined inspiration for frum women.

Sharon’s involvement in social media also brought her in contact with an incredible chesed opportunity. She was invited to join a group on Facebook for Leah’s Kidney Transplant and Recovery Group. Although Sharon and Leah lived only a few short blocks away from each other, they hardly saw each other in person. One day, something in Leah’s post caught Sharon’s eye.

Leah wrote: “If more people would understand how horrible the quality of life is while on dialysis, (or that there is NO quality of life on dialysis), possibly more people would consider donating a kidney.” Sharon’s heart went out to her plight; that one sentence turned the proverbial light bulb on over her head and she immediately thought, “I WANT to donate a kidney.”

Sharons’ husband was immediately supportive of the idea. Her new friend Leah already had a donor, but she suggested that Sharon contact Renewal to find out about other opportunities. Renewal worked to arrange all the testing and logistical arrangements around Sharon’s busy schedule. The transplant coordinator asked Sharon if there was a specific person she wanted to donate to and she said that she’d love to help a mother in need. As a busy mother herself, Sharon could only imagine how terrible it must be for a young mother to suffer through
chronic kidney disease and the debilitating treatment, hoping and praying for a transplant. Sharon wanted her kidney to go towards restoring the life of a woman and her family.

After a few months, a young woman named Orly was matched to Sharon’s kidney. Pesach was approaching, and Renewal wanted to schedule the surgery before Yom Tov, so that Orly would not have to go on dialysis over Pesach. Sharon was a little anxious about undergoing surgery during the Erev Yom Tov rush. But after months of anticipation, when the transplant was finally scheduled, Sharon felt relieved and grateful to be worthy of doing this mitzvah.

Sharon viewed her kidney donation as a spiritual journey. “I feel like Hashem gave me this left kidney to hold for Orly for 43 years and now it’s her turn to have it. It belongs to her.” Throughout the procedure, Sharon felt incredibly connected to Hashem. She knew that health is not just a free gift, but a tremendous opportunity.

When Sharon and Orly met in the hospital, their emotions were overwhelming. Orly could barely say the words, Thank you, as they were interrupted by streams of tears. The two women hugged and cried together.

Baruch Hashem, the surgery was a success. Orly recovered fully, and after a few days Sharon felt well enough to post her story on her blog. She enjoyed all the positive feedback and support she received and is excited to have become a tool to publicize Renewal’s vital work, and spread the inspiration and beauty of this fantastic mitzvah.

Lakewood Township Committee honoring Lakewood’s kidney donors, February 7, 2013. Sharon and her husband, Deputy Mayor, Steven Langert are pictured center.
Doctor Yefenof and his wife, Orit, together with his kidney donor, Shlomo Z. Anhang
Giving and Receiving

Dr. Eitan Yefenof has dedicated his professional career to promoting life through the miracles of modern medicine. As Chairman of the Lautenberg Center for Tumor Immunology at Hadassah and one of the foremost pioneering researchers at Hebrew University, Dr. Yefenof has indeed made some significant headway toward eradicating modern society’s most dreaded disease.

Unfortunately, Eitan recently experienced a reversal in his role, so to speak, going from the giving end of miraculous medical breakthroughs, to becoming a beneficiary – reaping the benefits of modern medicine. Having been diagnosed with kidney disease, Eitan was now one of 700 Israelis on a national registry waiting for a transplant.

Fortunately for Eitan, there was Renewal.

Also, fortunately for Eitan, just about the time of his diagnosis, some 6000 miles away in far off Toronto, an individual by the name Shlomo Zalman Anhang was overcome by a sudden inspiration to save a life.

“I looked around at my friends and neighbors,” says Shlomo. “Many are involved in various acts of chesed and worthy causes. Suddenly, it struck me! Boruch Hashem, I’m in perfect health with two perfectly functioning kidneys. One of these can save a life!”

Sounds fairly simple.

Over the next few months, Shlomo learned that giving away a kidney is not so simple, after all. The exhaustive screening and other preparatory procedures required several trips to New York and a good deal of determination. Harav Shlomo Miller Shlit’a, the well-known Rosh Kollel of Toronto stood firmly behind Shlomo’s undertaking, offering him non-stop chizuk and encouragement.

“Fortunately for me,” says Shlomo, “I had Renewal guiding me and coaching me, every step of the way.”

The kidney transplant took place in early December of 2009 at Mount Sinai Medical Center. Following surgery, Dr. Yefenov joked to Shlomo about how he was going to take good care of his kidney. Picking up on the doctor’s humor, Shlomo argued back that a gift constitutes a complete transfer of ownership.

Shlomo Anhang’s selfless act was born out of a desire to give life. When one considers the infinite lives that will ultimately be saved through Dr. Eitan Yefenof’s passionate battle against malignancies, it becomes obvious that Shlomo has actually succeeded beyond his wildest dreams.
Domino Effect

We know that each and every good deed is a catalyst for another. Often, all one needs is a good intention to start the ball rolling.

Leah Schapiro likes to think of herself as “just an ordinary woman from Flatbush.” How do ordinary people rise up to perform extraordinary deeds?

When her mother was suffering from kidney disease, Leah readily offered her own kidney to save her mother’s life. Unfortunately for both of them, by the time the screening process was completed, her mother was no longer considered a candidate for surgery. Ever since, Leah had dreamed of donating a kidney to another woman – perhaps also a mother – in memory of her own mother, Rochel bas Moshe, A”H. “I felt,” says Leah, “that if I couldn’t do it for my own mother, I would at least do it for someone else’s mother or grandmother.”

Meanwhile, in faraway Bnei Brak, Mrs. Aliza Tayri and her husband Rav Shmuel Shlit”a – a respected talmid chochom and marbitz Torah – were growing anxious about her medical prognosis. A victim of kidney failure, they knew well that Aliza’s days were numbered if she would not receive a transplant sometime soon.

Leah and Aliza were a perfect match. But who would put the two together so many thousands of miles apart?

Renewal!

Indeed, thanks to Renewal, Leah and Aliza did meet after all. It was on December 3, 2009, at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York, where the transplant was performed. Both donor and recipient, Boroch Hashem, had a quick recovery.
Within two weeks, Leah was back at work and Aliza had a new lease on life.

But, the story doesn’t end here.

Shortly thereafter, Aliza’s son, Ariel Tayri – who had originally intended to donate his own kidney to his mother but was found incompatible – was inspired to reciprocate this good deed by becoming a kidney donor himself. Naturally, he called Renewal. And sure enough, Renewal had a ready match - all set and waiting. Eli Cohen of Boro Park had been on dialysis for over 10 years and his health was severely deteriorating.

Ariel’s kidney donation took place at Mount Sinai Medical Center, on January 5, 2010, just a little over a month after his mother received hers on the other side of Manhattan.

So how great is the impact of a mitzvah? As they say, one just never knows.

“If I couldn’t do it for my own mother, I would at least do it for someone else’s mother or grandmother”
L-R Rachamim Shaulov, recipient, his son Lazer and Menachem Friedman, Program Director at Renewal
For Moshe Spiro, donating his kidney was more than a spectacular chesed: it was also the chance to perform the special mitzvah of Kibud Av.

Moshe lives in New Jersey with his family, where he studies in Beth Medrash Govoha. Both Moshe and his wife hail from Toronto, Canada and they travel north about three times a year to spend time with their parents.

Moshe’s father, a respected Rebbe and Talmud chochom, became ill with kidney disease. His eight children held a discussion to decide who should be the one to donate a kidney to save their father, and relieve him from his protracted suffering. When the oldest son was found ineligible for surgery, the task fell to Moshe, the second son. Rabbi Spiro senior was on the waiting list for Renewal’s Toronto branch, while Moshe applied for donation in the US. Moshe was not a match for his father, but he offered to donate his kidney for a swap. With Renewal’s assistance, Moshe was able to navigate through the testing, forms and procedures in order to ensure that his father would move further up the list and receive the life saving operation as soon as possible.

Thus Rabbi Spiro’s recovery came about through Renewal coordinating a double operation, Moshe donated his kidney to a Bucharian man from Queens and two days later, his father received a kidney from a frum woman in Toronto.

The recovery was difficult for Moshe; he did not anticipate the pain he would endure for the first few days. But by the week after surgery, Moshe felt better and was back to himself within two weeks. Meanwhile, Rabbi Spiro senior recovered from his surgery, and with the help of his new kidney, was able to reclaim his healthy body and full life as a respected Rebbe, and loving father, and grandfather.

Moshe is honored to have been chosen by Hashem to help his father with this special mitzvah. In addition to kibud Av, Moshe feels exhilarated by the idea that he also assisted in supporting Torah and the perpetuation of his father’s learning.

“Some people may be worried about going through surgery and giving away one of their organs. People don’t realize that donating a kidney does not mean reducing your kidney function,” Moshe relates. Indeed, months after a kidney donation, the donor’s remaining organ takes ups the slack necessary for full kidney function.

“I was thinking about why Hashem gave us two kidneys,” Moshe continues. “We can survive with just one, it must be that I was meant to give one away. Some people may be concerned, and think, ‘What if something goes wrong with my remaining kidney? Won’t I need the back up?’ But if you think about it, we have only one of all our vital organs. One heart, one brain. And the same Hakodosh Baruch Hu whom we rely upon to keep those single organs safe, can be trusted to keep the remaining kidney healthy.”
A Private Zechus

Nachman Weinberger considers himself a private person. He is a Belzer chossid, living and working in Boro Park, occupying himself with his personal pursuits. One evening, he overheard the story of a man named Fishy Karmel who had donated a kidney through Renewal. The recipient’s spouse was then inspired to donate a kidney to another patient.

Nachman was intrigued to discover this new way to perform a chesed. He heard how patients suffering with chronic kidney disease can spend hours each week on dialysis. And even this exacting process, which takes a tremendous toll on the patient’s body, and mind, can only provide short term relief. Kidney transplantation provides significant recovery for those suffering from kidney disease.

Nachman was amazed at the effect of this chesed, that by donating a kidney, you could relieve someone from their lifelong distress. He began to contemplate the idea of kidney donation, thinking that it was something he would like to do, some day.

Although the concept of kidney donation intrigued Nachman, he was hesitant about going under the knife, so he kept pushing it off. “I’ll look into after Yom Tov,” he told himself. And then it was after the summer, and then after the next Yom Tov. It was a weekday evening at 10 pm when the realization hit Nachman that he had run out of excuses, and he should stop delaying.

He needed to take action, but he could not remember the name of the organization to contact. Refusing to push it off, Nachman immediately hurried down to the...
grocery store to pick up a copy of the Hamodia and track down the phone number. Before he could postpone it any further, he made the call.

Nachman received a return phone call from Renewal the next day, and a blood test kit shortly afterwards. After a few months, a match was found for Nachman’s kidney. Aside from the physical tests, Nachman also went through a round of psychological testing. Altruistic kidney donors are put through a series of assessments to make sure they understand the risks involved in the surgery, and that no one is pressuring or paying them to donate an organ. Nachman proved that he was sincere in his intentions, but he did not want to bring a lot of attention to himself. “I had to include two other people in the medical and decision making process, but otherwise, I wanted to keep it quiet.” Renewal held his hand throughout the entire process, guiding Nachman through the maze of kidney donation. Nachman underwent the surgery with as little commotion as possible. He did not meet the recipient until after his surgery, because he wanted to remain focused l’shem mitzvah, and not on the specific person.

The only thing that convinced Nachman to eventually share his story was the possibility of inspiring others. “If another person hears my story and is motivated to donate his kidney, then it will be worth it.”
Roiza Ruchy Braun celebrated TuB’shvat, the holiday of new life and fresh beginnings by donating her kidney to give new life to a fellow Jew.

Roiza Ruchy grew up in Brooklyn and moved to Lakewood with her husband. She works as an interior decorator and is actively involved in many chesed organizations. The idea of donating a kidney did not suddenly occur to Roiza Ruchie and it was not a spur of the moment decision. It’s something she had wanted to do for a very long time.

“In a way” says Roiza Ruchy, “I feel like this is my tafkid.” She spent the day before the procedure in a state of quiet anticipation. “This is the ultimate chesed that I can do for another person,” she says. “And I feel honored to have the zechus of doing such a tremendous mitzvah.”

It took a while for this young wife and mother to convince her husband and children that she was doing the right thing. After all, they were naturally concerned about her well being. “No one wants to see their loved one undergoing surgery,” she explains.

But the more Roiza Ruchy learned about patient’s suffering from chronic kidney disease, the more determined she was to do something to help. She knew there were patients waiting for a transplant, who could only dream of living a long and healthy life. And she had the power to make that dream a reality.

Roize Ruchy explained to her family that there is someone else out there who also has a family. And that patient with kidney disease is surviving by going through the torment of daily sessions of dialysis. And while the treatment may be keeping him alive, it leaves him with no space to live his life.
“There are families who desperately wants their loved one to live.” Roiza Ruchy explained. “If Hakodosh Boruch Hu gave me the gift of health, shouldn’t I share that gift with others?” In the end, Roiza Ruchy’s family came to understand her motives and gave her their blessings. Indeed, some family members were so affected by her inspiration that they are seriously considering donating a kidney themselves one day.

Roiza Ruchy was careful about broadcasting the news of her surgery to friends and family. “I got two distinct reactions,” she says. “It’s either, ‘Wow, you’re so special!’ or it’s ‘You’re crazy!’”

Renewal guided Roiza Ruchy through the entire process. She completed the various testing procedures and Renewal provided her with information to make an educated decision about kidney donation. A Renewal staff member drove her to the hospital at 4:00 AM for surgery and a volunteer spent the night in the hospital with her to ensure that she was comfortable. They also offered to send her to a convalescent home and to provide cleaning help to ease her post-surgery recovery.

Roiza Ruchy is so grateful to Renewal for providing her the opportunity and support to perform this spectacular mitzvah. She is glad that she used the power of her good health to save a suffering patient and his family.

(Revised from YWN article, Wednesday, February 8th, 2012)
If you would meet Molly, a vibrant and active 28 year old woman from Israel, you would never know that she had once suffered from debilitating kidney failure. Instead, you see a healthy young lady with a dazzling smile, a wonderful husband, and an adorable little girl.

But Molly was actually quite ill for seven years, and the constant dialysis treatments that she had to endure didn’t make things any easier. She couldn’t function properly as a wife to her husband or as a mother to her daughter. All things considered, she was way too young to be dealing with a life threatening medical condition. Deep down, she knew that her only hope for a normal life was a kidney transplant. Desperate to find a suitable donor, Molly and her husband Aaron turned to Renewal.

Renewal’s resources are extraordinary. Within four weeks of registering at Columbia, they found a suitable donor for Molly, a young man from Boro Park who was determined to perform this ultimate act of chesed. So Molly and Aaron traveled to America, thanks to the kindness and generosity of a an unknown person willing to donate his kidney to her.

The surgery took place last February, and Boruch Hashem, it was a complete success. Molly feels like a new person. “The surgery,” she says, “changed my life. I’m seeing things that I never saw before and experiencing things I never noticed before.” Her donor, R’Fishel Karmel, is also on a high. “The satisfaction,” he says, “is indescribable. Best of all, a little girl in Givat Ze’ev is thrilled to have a healthy and caring mother once again.”

A Tale of Two Kidneys

Rabbi Binyomin Eisenberger visiting kidney donor, Fischel Karmel
Molly’s story is wonderful, but it gets even better. Her recovery was so remarkable that it prompted her husband Aaron to express his hakoras hatov by offering to donate his own kidney to yet another stranger. “I also want to save a life!” he told the staff at Renewal.

Within a few weeks after Molly’s procedure, while the couple was still in New York, Aaron’s wish was granted. He was found to be a suitable donor for yet another individual on Renewal’s extensive list of patients.

Aaron’s procedure took place shortly thereafter, and he is now also in great spirits. Not only does he have his wife back whole and healthy, he also had the zechus of perpetuating the chesed and allowing another member of Klal Yisroel to have a new lease on life.

Thus did Molly and Aaron travel together back to Eretz Yisroel several weeks later. They may have seemed like just another couple of tourists to those who didn’t know any better. But looks can be deceiving. These two young people are both heroes in every sense of the word. Molly, for having the courage and fortitude to fight for her life. And Aaron for selflessly giving the gift of life to someone else.

Their joy is indescribable, their gratitude to Hashem is beyond words. They came to America dealing with a life threatening medical condition, full of fear of the unknown. They go back home filled with hope and dreams for the future. Their prayers have been answered, and even better, they had the opportunity to answer the prayers of others.

As they say in the fairy tales, ‘and they all lived happily ever after.’
Six-year old Yoeli Rothschild of Williamsburg, Brooklyn is mature beyond his years. Having spent the better part of his day for several months on Peritoneal Dialysis, Yoeli has grown up rather quickly. Peritoneal Dialysis is a procedure that takes up to fourteen hours per day seven days a week.

“Why me?” he would ask his father with pure innocence glowing from his eyes. “Why can’t I go out and play like the other boys?”

Yoeli’s simple wish to live has been granted by Mrs. Sarah Biener of Monroe, New York. Boruch Hashem, Yoel is now free to play and jump together with his friends.

The kidney transplant took place just over two years ago at the Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. Yoel’s first meeting with his gracious benefactor took place shortly after the surgery. Mrs. Beiner asked, “Do you know who I am?”

Yoeli looked at her; “What do you mean? You saved my life!”

Those words, uttered with such simplicity and sincerity, are perhaps the most rewarding prize a donor could ever ask for.
Best Wishes to
Renewal
“Living is Giving”
on your Kidney Donor
Recognition Gala.
Since 1848, the quality of Herzog Wines has been appreciated by royalty as well as those who aspire to it. Located in its new, state-of-the-art winery in Oxnard, California, the Herzog family produces a wide range of wines combining Old World value and New World technology. The “Royal” wines of Baron Herzog win awards and accolades the world over, from connoisseurs as well as those looking for a great kosher wine.
The Recanati/Miller Transplantation Institute and The Zweig Family Center of Living Donation recognizes and appreciates

Renewal

For their dedication in saving and improving the lives of our patients and raising community awareness about organ donation.
SIMPLIFYING CARD PROCESSING GLOBALLY FOR 15 YEARS

GET CLEAR ANSWERS, CALL US TODAY
United States: 1-888-VISA-MAS
Canada: 1-877-MAS-VISA
United Kingdom: 0800 2800 519
sales@fidelitypayment.com | fidelitypayment.com | fidelitypayment.ca

Follow Fidelity

Fidelity is a proud sponsor of Renewal
The NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital’s Kidney & Pancreas Transplant Programs
At the Columbia University Medical Center & Weill Cornell Medical Center

Are pleased to be Partner in Life Sponsors of Renewal

For more information about the transplant programs and services offered at NewYork-Presbyterian visit www.nyptransplant.org
Give thanks to Hashem for He is good for His kindness endures forever (Psalms 136:1).

In honor of

BILLY BEDA

FROM HIS FAMILY & FRIENDS
Blessed is the name of His glorious kingdom
for ever and ever (Mishnah Yoma 3:8).

Full kidney procedure was donated in honor of

TOMER NAFTALI

&

RONEN BOKOVZA

Was kindly donated by their friends at the

YAD YOSEF AVENUE J TORAH CENTER
TO ALL THE ESTEEMED KIDNEY DONORS OF RENEWAL.

To

AJ GINDI,

A SPECIAL THANKS FOR YOUR IN GIVING OUR DEAR FRIEND, MITCHELL BORNSTEIN A NEW CHANCE ON LIFE. AS IT SAYS IN

“任何一个点的善行,即使很小,也能拯救一个国家,哪怕整个世界。"

Whoever rescues a single life earns as much merit as if he had rescued the entire world.
WITH LOVE AND ADMIRATION,
FRIENDS OF MITCHELL BORNSTEIN

Stu and Yvette Beck
Elliot and Tzippy Becker
Larry and Susan Bernstein
Jack and Pearl Beylus
Sana and Rhonda Bloch
Jack and Bosmat Blumner
David and Phyllis Bruder
Sam and Dina Deutscher
Allen and Clarisse Frenkel
Stuart and June Feigenblatt
Jay and Wendy Goldberg
Mitchel and Miriam Greenberg
Steven and Edith Gruen
Saul and Irene Grysman
John and Elaine Halas
Teddy and Ruthie Held
Rabbi Yonoson and Rochelle Hirtz
Stanley and Enid Hyman
Abe and Roberta Katz
Seymour and Linda Korn
Ron and Linda Landau
Rabbi Bert and Gloria Leff
David and Renee Leibowitz
Paul and Judith Leight
Lenny and Shelly Linder
Jim and Kellie Mendonis
Ben and Evelyn Milchman
Ellen Mondrow
Meir Mondrow
Nathan and Suzie Nelson
Mendy and Leora Newmark
Gary and Michele Perl
Harry and Haviva Peters
Barry and Gail Rosenbloom
Stuart and Carol Rosenthal
Sandy and Marsha Schwartz
George and Eva Schwarz
Joel and Jessie Silverman
Gaby and Aviva Sonnenblick
Hank and Bonnie Staiman
Barry and Diane Stark
Lou and Judi Tiger
Judy Twersky
Moshe and Chaya Weinberg
Richie and Leah Zelkowitz
Israel and Agi Zwick

Renewal

With love and admiration,
Friends of Mitchell Bornstein
With thanks and gratitude to

RENEWAL

In honor of all the donors

And in special tribute to

VICTORIA RISHTY

A true Aishes Chayil

ELAINE AND YONAH ROCKOFF
To our dear donor,

Ralph

You may stand six foot tall but to us you are larger than life. Your huge heart has dictated you to give the gift of life to another. Your braveness will forever be engraved in our minds and your giant deed of CHESED has brought us to a level of humbleness.

May this huge MITZVAH accompany you “AD MEAH VAESRIM” together with your supportive wife who stood by your side ever so bravely.

May HAKODOSH BARUCHU repay you forever, because we certainly cannot.

From your new family,

Cheskel & Suri Appel and Family
To our dear son, brother, nephew and grandson

ALBERT B. SUTTON

Who showed us through his actions, the values of generosity, kindness and devotion.

We love you!

THE SUTTON AND COHEN FAMILIES
Words cannot express the gratitude we feel for

AJ GINDI,
THE ENTIRE GINDI FAMILY,
ALL THE DONORS,
AND THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE AT

RENEWAL.

AJ, due to your kindness, and Chesed, I am able to once again enjoy life with my children, grandchildren and my wife and best friend—Molly.

May Hashem grant you and all the other donors all your wishes. You will always be in our prayers.

MOLLY AND MITCHELL BORNESTIN
HIDROCK REALTY PROUDLY SUPPORTS RENEWAL
AND HONORS THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED
THE AYAL AND LEVI FAMILIES
ARE HONORED TO RECOGNIZE
RALPH HANAN
AND ALL OF THE COMMUNITY DONORS
FOR THEIR SELFLESS ACTS OF CHESED
AND
TO SUPPORT
RENEWAL
FOR ITS AMAZING EFFORTS
ON BEHALF OF KIDNEY DONATIONS.
TIZKU L’MITZVOT

SOUTHERN TELECOM

Renewal
He loves all Hashem's creatures

He saved one life and with it an entire world

He chases opportunities of Charity and Kindness

He sacrificed for his fellow Jew

In gratitude, from the members of Mr. Mitchell Bornstein’s family, on behalf of his donor, Mr. Aaron J. Gindi, who is filled with holiness, purity, awe of Heaven, and love for his fellow Jew.

In honor of Renewal
and the esteemed kidney donors

AJ Gindi • Zac Gindi • Steven Hafif
Ralph Hanan • Tomer Naftali
Victoria Rishty • Albert Sutton

by
Jack Saideh
and
Isaac Saideh

ZEIKS®

iHip
In Honor of

AJ Gindi

And all the selfless kidney donors

There are no words to express our gratitude –

We are eternally thankful!

May you and your families be zoche to many years

of health and happiness together!

Nicole and Mark Bornstein
Jennifer and Joshua Bornstein
Barry Bornstein
Renewal

Wishes to thank our board member

Zac Gindi

For his tireless efforts on behalf of Renewal and those suffering from kidney failure

We salute all tonight's honorees

AJ Gindi • Steven Hafif
Ralph Hanan • Tomer Naftali
Victoria Rishty • Albert Sutton

In appreciation to

Lois Sutton & Sharon Langert & all the other volunteers for helping make tonight's event a huge success!
It is with great pride and a sense of gratitude that Renewal announces the inauguration of The Boruch Hollander Donor Assistance Fund, in memory of our esteemed friend and supporter, Reb Boruch ben Avrohom Eiber, Z”L.

To all those who were privileged to know him, Mr. Boruch Hollander was a man whose life’s work and accomplishments personified the ideals of chessed and Torah. A staunch Munkatcher chassid, he contributed greatly to many worthy causes and Torah institutions, yet, a special place in his magnanimous heart was reserved for the life-saving work of Renewal.

Mr. Hollander’s relationship with Renewal took root one year ago, at a crucial juncture, and it was his boundless generosity and support which can be largely credited for our continuity and growth. Mr. Hollander was not merely an ordinary supporter; he truly empathized with our vital work, understanding the ramifications Renewal effected on those suffering from kidney failure. From his initial introduction to the organization through the ensuing friendship, he gave with unparalleled grace and understanding, personally exulting in every one of Renewal’s success stories and triumphs.

In tribute to his memory, Mr. Hollander’s family has graciously allocated the seed money for this extraordinary fund which will cover the expenses incurred by a kidney donor during the process of kidney donation. Its assistance will range from the significant expenses such as the donor’s loss of wages and transportation to the important, but less expensive post transplant help, as well as everything in between. As Mr. Hollander often said, “Renewal is actually granting people life,” therefore, it is most befitting that, in his memory, Renewal will continue bringing hope to others and fulfilling the dreams of those wishing to become kidney donor.

With countless yidden on Renewal’s waiting list, all so desperately in need of a transplant, and B”H many donor matches in progress, this remarkable fund will surely be a tremendous z’chus for Mr. Hollander’s neshama and will serve as a meilitz yosher for his beautiful family as they perpetuate the noble legacy of their father, Reb Boruch ben Avrohom Eiber, Z”L.