



Unconventional Chessed

Annual Report of Achievements | Winter 2011 | Kislev 5772



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**"MY NAME
IS DANIEL"**

See my story on page 13

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Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that it has been just three years.

Three years ago, Achiezer was barely a dream, conceived by a few of our visionary friends who sensed the need for a revolutionary new kind of organization to service our growing and dynamic community.

Three years ago we were hard-pressed to come up with an "elevator pitch" to describe exactly what we set out to accomplish... but we knew that it had to be done. Our community needed an organization like Achiezer.

Three years have passed since then. Achiezer has experienced exponential growth and continues to develop each day. Neighbors from every corner of our community have been positively impacted by our organization. They all know that Achiezer is the first place to turn when they have any sort of need.

It makes no difference what you call it – a crisis, a challenge, an issue, a problem, a request – big or small, we are here to help. Because though you may see a "list of services" on the opposite page, people know that we really provide just one service:

We simply help.

Whatever the need. Whenever the need. We are here to help.

That is what we call "Unconventional Chessed."

Our community is rightfully considered one of the great capitals of chessed in the Jewish world, and in many ways, people look to us as the trendsetters in the art of kindness. We are proud and humbled to play an integral role in that noble effort and invite you to be a partner in this unique form of chessed.

Sincerely,

Boruch Ber Bender

Founder and President; Achiezer

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Facing Crisis *with a friend*

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Standing in the Achiezer office observing the day-to-day operations is an eye-opening experience. A couple is applying for financial assistance in one room. In another, a family is discussing a serious medical situation, and in a third room, parents are consulting with a staff psychologist about options for their learning disabled son. (And I am told that this is a slow day!)

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When I ask how the staff has the fortitude to work in such an intense environment I am told that the answer is simple. Every staff member, every volunteer and even the people who are enlisted to make simple deliveries or run errands are instilled with a passionate appreciation for the value of what they are doing. Each feels that they are an integral part of a much greater picture that is generating a revolution of chessed in our community.

One of the most critical aspects of Achiezer's work, and one that has the most profound and lasting impact, is an area that is often not publicized – the area of Crisis Management.

Crisis is a broad term that can include a host of issues or challenges facing a person or family. The challenge may be financial, educational, emotional, medical or any other difficulty. At Achiezer, they try to address every and any crisis that a person or family may encounter.

Individuals and families have turned to the organization during the most difficult and trying situations, and, with care, sensitivity and ingenuity, Achiezer has responded.

The names and identifying facts of these accounts are changed but the situations and emotions are all true. These are the kinds of situations that Achiezer's staff responds to almost daily.

- ▶ A father from Cedarhurst was rushed to the hospital at 1:00 am on Shabbos in excruciating pain. The rookie resident in the emergency room informed him that he would need immediate emergency surgery to remove his spleen. Terrified at the prospect of having an inexperienced doctor remove a major organ he frantically called Achiezer's 24-hour hotline for help. Within a few hours a seasoned veteran specialist was enlisted to perform the operation, the insurance company approved the procedure though it was out of network, and the surgery was performed successfully... *all in middle of the night!* (And of course, food was delivered directly to the hospital so the family would be able to eat after this difficult ordeal.)
- ▶ A young mother of two was confined to a hospital bed for several weeks due to a serious medical condition. All family responsibilities fell on her husband's shoulders, as he desperately juggled his new 12-hour-a-day job, an apartment in disarray, a car that needed costly repairs, and two young children who needed his constant attention. Achiezer stepped in and within 24 hours he had a loan to purchase a reliable new car, extra cleaning help for his home, a full kitchen pantry, subsidized babysitting for the children, professionals to help him cope, and, above all else, a sense of normalcy in very trying situation.
- ▶ A couple was experiencing difficult shalom bayis issues that affected their entire family of four children. The husband adamantly refused to seek professional help. Fearing the stigma of going to a therapist or counselor, the wife confided in an Achiezer staff member about all of her problems and how she urgently needed help to save her marriage. Achiezer negotiated a discounted rate with a local social worker and after gentle and

discreet encouragement, her husband agreed to see a therapist at a neutral location. School psychologists were enlisted to help the children cope and, with Hashem's help, the couple is now back on the right track to improving their marriage.

Unlike the other services that are provided, Crisis Management is an all-encompassing, intensive effort which requires fast response, keen insight, complete confidentiality, and, above all else, genuine compassion. At times, a staff member may spend several hours or even days working with a single individual to help alleviate a crisis. And there are, G-d forbid, unfortunate times that it is impossible to avert a tragedy. Yet, even in the face of emotional turmoil and distress, professionally trained counselors are on hand to guide and comfort in the time of need.

A quick perusal of the numerous thank-you letters that arrive at the Achiezer office shows just how much these efforts mean to the families who are helped:

"The best I can do is say 'thank you' from the bottom of my heart and ask that if I can ever, ever do anything to repay your kindness, please do not hesitate to contact me."

"We can't thank you enough for all your help... You should have continued strength to help people in need."

"I am completely speechless. You are making dreams come true. Tizku L'mitzvos."

It is clear that Achiezer has filled a critical void in the community, helping families in ways that are almost unimaginable. It is just one more way that they have revolutionized the word "chessed."





Ten Minutes

With Rabbi Boruch Ber Bender
Founder of Achiezer

Visit the Achiezer office on any given day and there is one thing you're guaranteed to see: a constant buzz of activity. Each day brings its own crisis and challenge to be solved and there is a constant stream of new people reaching out and asking for help.

Suffice it to say it is no simple task to catch a quiet ten minutes with Rabbi Bender. In fact, we were interrupted a number of times with urgent matters that needed his attention. From the intensity of his responses it is clear that he has a passion for Achiezer's work.

> How many calls do you get on a daily basis?

We field about ninety calls for assistance every single day.

But, stating a number reduces many of our hard-working, self-respecting friends into a mere statistic. That's not what true chessed is about. It's about preserving dignity while you help.

And make no mistake about it, they are *your* friends. Whether it is through our medical recommendations, social services, or any of our many programs, you are bound to know at least one, if not several people who have been helped by Achiezer.

> What projects are in the works for Achiezer?

We are currently working on a few new valuable services for the community. First, we have been working very hard to expand our services for the elderly. It started with our successful ElderCare 2011 event this past summer and continues to expand today. The reality is that the number of older men and women in our midst is

growing rapidly and there is a real urgency to help them. Older children are stuck in a very difficult position when they must care for elderly parents and we are determined to help.

For instance, plans are complete for the Achiezer Shuttle Bus, which is poised to open many new social and recreational opportunities for local Jewish seniors. We are finalizing the plans and schedule which will provide easy, free transportation to and from doctors, shopping, shiurim and other locations.

We have also just inaugurated the South Nassau Communities Hospital Respite Room which is going to be a lifesaver for so many of our friends when they find themselves in the hospital.

> What do you mean when you say that Achiezer is the community's resource center?

Many people don't understand the full scope of what we do because we have created a drastically new concept in a community organization. Achiezer is the 311 of chessed in our community. There are so many crucial organizations that provide so much for people in need. But when a person or family is in crisis, there are usually many areas that need help – social, financial, medical, educational and so on. So while there are organizations that address some of these individual areas, who addresses the entire situation? They each can help elements of the situation but who takes responsibility for the whole situation?

During a recent high-profile incident, people from the entire tri-state area got involved to help. It was truly inspiring to see so much concern for a fellow Jew. But when the dust settled, who was there to ensure that the family was still intact and their needs – *all of their needs* – were addressed? Who took care of not just their major needs, but their simple needs too, like food, transportation and basic necessities?

That's where Achiezer steps in and that's what makes us a full-service resource center.

> How does Achiezer manage such a wide range of services and projects?

There's a saying that goes "the jack of all trades is master of none." But, like I said before, our mission is not to be the jack of all trades.

True, we are a one-stop-shop of sorts; we help people with multiple problems and our programs and services are very diverse. But, at the same time, we are not here to be redundant. We work very closely with almost all local and national organizations and, when the situation calls for it, we refer clients to them for assistance.

In those instances, we continue to monitor each situation to ensure that our clients are assisted and everything is proceeding smoothly.

At the same time, we have developed specialty departments to address specific areas like family crisis, insurance, medical intervention, eldercare, and other needs that were not being addressed by other organizations.

> How does a person become a volunteer for Achiezer?

First, let me state that we are constantly amazed by the amount of chessed that is performed in our community. The people who volunteer for Achiezer go above and beyond all expectations and truly inspire us with their devotion. In fact, many of the people who have joined our volunteer staff have done so because they were inspired by the devotion of our volunteers.

If someone would like to join our team of volunteers (which is now over 200 strong!) and offer their time, he or she can contact our office at 516-791-4444.



Taking Care of **Our Own**

As soon as Mrs. Klein walked into the Achiezer office it was clear that all was not well. Her two sons had both come down with a highly contagious virus and, with her husband out of work, she had no money or insurance to cover a doctor's visit.

Now, you may be thinking that this is not too common in our community. Unfortunately, it is. On average, 3-5 families who cannot afford to cover their basic medical necessities reach out to Achiezer every week.

For some it is simply a matter of enrolling in Medicaid or another subsidized program. But for many it is a more complicated situation that requires the help of attorneys, specialists and a thorough knowledge of the rules and eligibility for each program. Daunted by the overwhelming bureaucracy, most families don't even try to enroll, even though they are fully eligible for free or subsidized insurance.

That's where Sruli Miller steps in. He runs Achiezer's Health Insurance Division and has a unique perspective on the often misunderstood area of government subsidies. "You should see the look of surprise on the faces of clients like Mrs. Klein when we show them services they are eligible for. And then you should see their relief when we tell them that we will handle all the paperwork for them!"

For him, Achiezer has literally created an assistance center that exists nowhere else. "Imagine the following scenario: A family of six, with twin infants, is experiencing serious financial difficulties. They visit our office a few times and leave with the insurance for the whole family. We also screen and direct them to other programs. So in a few days they have an EBT account that gives them about \$1,200 each month for food, WIC checks to purchase food and formula for their babies and HEAP benefits to help them cover their electricity

Health Insurance

bills. It's like putting an entire tzedakah campaign together for them without spending a penny and without costing them their self-respect or dignity.”

There is something uncommon about that level of chessed.

But the chessed doesn't end there. Rabbi Boruch Ber Bender explains the ingenuity of what Achiezer has created.

“What happens if that same family has been surviving on bread and butter for the past month because they simply can't afford a wholesome, nutritious dinner for their children? What happens if they haven't been able to pay their credit cards in months and their bills are now sky-high and in collections? What happens if they have been hanging out at the mall lately to warm up because they just can't afford to fix their broken boiler?”

These are things that happen almost every day. And they happen right in our backyards.

“Many people ask how many cases we deal with on a monthly basis. The answer is simple: Achiezer doesn't deal with cases, we deal with people. These are real people with

ACHIEZER DOESN'T DEAL WITH CASES, WE DEAL WITH PEOPLE.

real families – they're *our* neighbors. They live around the corner and daven in *our* shul.

“They've lost a job or hit a rough patch and they need our help. It could have easily happened to you or me, so how can we not help them?”

The ingenuity of Achiezer's chessed is not just in its ability to provide so many services under one roof, but also in the way that the organization fills the gaps which are left open so that the family is cared for immediately.

“We've partnered with local supermarkets like Gourmet Glatt and Seasons. If a family needs immediate help and can't wait for the EBT application to be processed, they'll get a gift card on the spot to purchase groceries today.

“There are no assistance programs out there to help a family fix a broken air conditioner or boiler, so we've enlisted repairmen to provide the service at little or no cost to the family. We even work with several knowledgeable attorneys who help families negotiate with credit card companies to bring down their payments and fees.

Achiezer's staff is remarkably dedicated to helping the community... and it shows.

Responding to **IRENE**

As Hurricane Irene approached the New York coastline and our community was expected to take the brunt of the storm, Achiezer became a community command center, fielding calls, assisting residents and coordinating with local agencies to prepare for the storm. Below is a short summary of that long and harrowing weekend of frantic preparations and evacuation.

83 Elderly and handicapped neighbors assisted with evacuation	220 People placed in an exclusive Kosher shelter set up by Achiezer
48 Ambulances and ambulettes utilized in evacuating residents	457 Requests for help in the 72 hours from Friday to Sunday
32 Lay leaders and activists stationed in Achiezer office to help callers	60 Shabbos guests placed at homes in neighboring communities
14 Minutes before Shabbos that the last volunteer left Achiezer's office	7 Up-to-the-minute informative emails sent to thousands of residents

Preserving Dignity at **JFK**

Anyone who has experienced a funeral at JFK Airport knows that the scene can often be chaotic and disorderly, certainly not the solemn and reflective atmosphere that one would expect at a time of mourning.

With an ever-increasing number of families that choose to honor a departed loved one by burying them in the holiness of Eretz Yisroel, funerals at JFK have become quite common. The lack of space, organization and even the basic framework of a traditional funeral have left many grieving families disconcerted and pained by the experience.

Utilizing its close working relationship with airport officials and Port Authority personnel, and with the efforts of several community activists including Michael Fragin, Meir Krengel, Michael Krengel and Rabbi Benett Rackman, Achiezer has succeeded in drastically improving the

situation. Arrangements have been made for Achiezer's staff to hold respectful, dignified funeral services in a specially designated area of the former Ramada Hotel. The space is both spacious and easily accessible, and will allow for orderly, solemn services.

As a comfort to grieving family members, Achiezer has also secured special clearance for a limited number of relatives to escort the niftar to the cargo area and plane to ensure that proper kavod is maintained.

In a statement from the Airport, JFK General Manager Jerry Spampinato and Chief Scarano of the Port Authority Police wrote "We are pleased to be able to accommodate the needs of the Jewish community through the tireless efforts of Achiezer. We hope that families can find solace in the knowledge that their needs were carefully considered in finding an arrangement that is understanding and respectful.





Just One Phone Call

Jay Gelman
Achiezer Board Member



For me it started with one phone call.

On the line was Rabbi Boruch Ber Bender asking me to help a young man who needed a school to attend. As Rabbi Bender put it, the boy had made his way to Achiezer due to an entirely different challenge he was facing. But true to his mission of helping the entire person, Rabbi Bender quickly surmised that the boy had more issues that needed to be addressed, including the lack of a proper Yeshiva to attend.

In the end, after an extraordinary effort by Achiezer's staff over the course of several weeks, the young man was on track educationally and sorting through his other challenges with the help of competent professionals.

That was my first personal exposure to the organization and it quickly demonstrated its uniqueness. Achiezer has managed to gather together the strengths of all of our wonderful local organizations under one roof so that any person facing any difficulty can call and get the help he needs for his unique situation. It is perhaps the only organization of its kind capable of responding to such a wide range of issues from one central location.

Indeed, it takes just one phone call. When someone is experiencing a crisis, that one phone call is a lifesaver.

I am proud to play a small role in the organization's incredible work and as a community, we should all be proud to have such remarkably devoted individuals in our midst.

Advocating for the Community AT SOUTH NASSAU COMMUNITIES HOSPITAL

For people living in our area, South Nassau Communities Hospital has become a primary address for all things medical. The hospital has seen a steady climb in the number of Orthodox patients it receives and expects that trend to continue at an even greater pace.

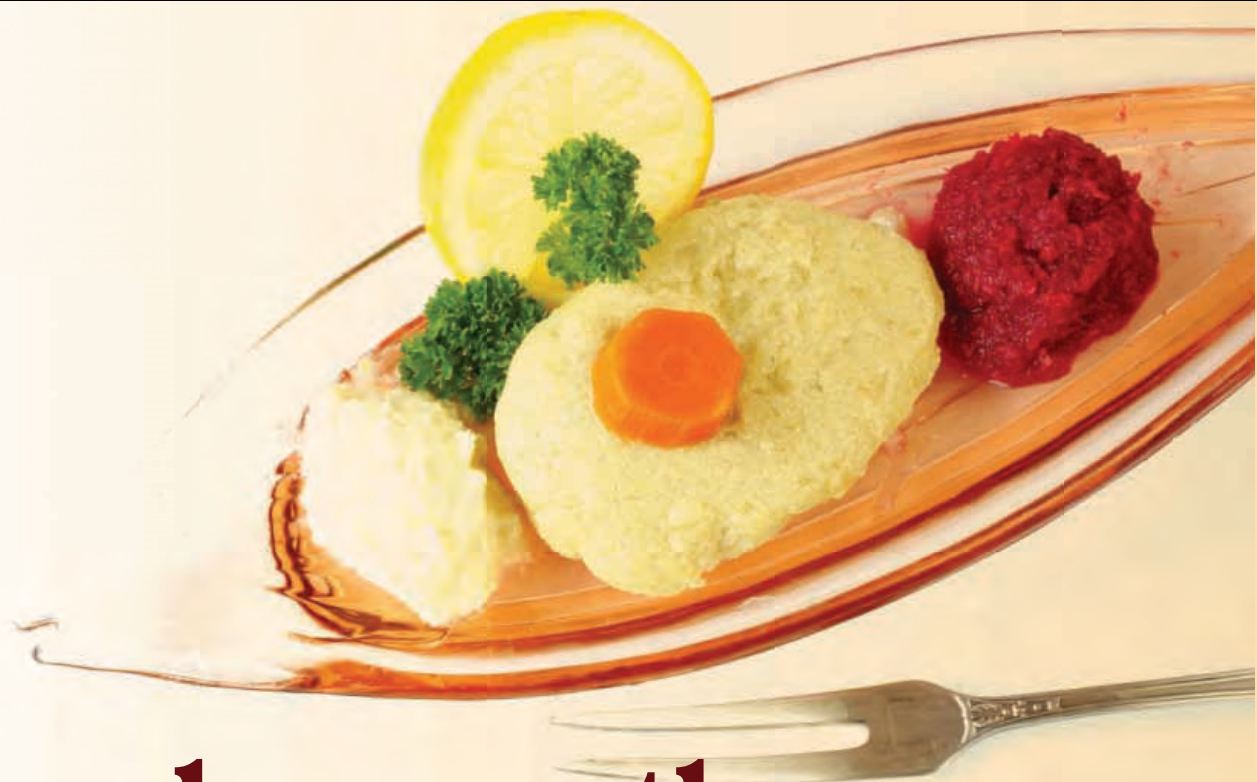
"We see a trend here," says Rabbi Boruch Ber Bender, "The Orthodox population obviously recognizes the quality of care that South Nassau provides and are choosing the hospital more and more."

Achiezer has been very involved in many emergency medical cases at the hospital and recognized early-on the lack of proper amenities to serve the unique needs of the Jewish community. Working closely with hospital staff for many months, plans were conceived for a comfortable, welcoming Respite Room for patients and their families.

Shalom Jaroslawicz, Achiezer's dedicated volunteer coordinator is ecstatic about the results. "We are very pleased to report that construction is complete and the room is fully functional. People will be relieved to find a fully stocked kitchen, space to eat and rest, siddurim, seforim and lots of other amenities. It's truly a breath of fresh air for frum patients.

For more information about the room, patients can call the Achiezer office at 516-791-4444. If you would like a share in tremendous zechus of *bikur cholim*, the room is available for dedication in honor or memory of a loved one.





It's much more than just the food...

Shabbos always poses a challenge for hospital patients and their families. Try as they may to create a haven of peacefulness in their little corner of a bustling hospital, most people end up feeling lonely and lacking.

A group of Achiezer volunteers resolved to do something to alleviate this loneliness. The result was the popular **Meals and More** program. They couldn't bring the patient home for Shabbos, but at least they could bring some Shabbos to the patient.

It's no secret that a good home-cooked meal can do wonders to lift a person's spirit, and with so much of Shabbos revolving around the meals, the ambitious group set out to recreate the Shabbos *seudos* in the hospital setting.

Shira has been a volunteer *seuda*-maker since the program started. "Imagine sitting down to a *seuda* of hospital-style mashed potatoes with a little cup of jello for dessert. Is that Shabbos?"

"Instead, we send each family a Shabbos feast for all three meals. It's much more than soup-to-nuts – we give them fresh challah, fish, chicken, hot kugels, salads, desserts... everything! And the best part about it is that

almost everything is homemade. We even send chummus and horseradish. No detail is overlooked."

Achiezer has implemented a seamless system to make this impressive program work. When a call comes in about a patient who will be in the hospital for Shabbos, a text message is immediately broadcast to all volunteers.

Within minutes, the meals are all accounted for by volunteers who each donate a "dish." Then a designated volunteer gathers all the food and it is dispatched to the hospital.

Mrs. Stern, another long-time volunteer, describes the real value of Meals and More. "Of course, we make

sure to send only delicious meals and, without fail, we always get rave reviews about the food. But at the end of the day, Meals and More does much more than give patients good food. We recreate a real Shabbos feeling in an otherwise lonely and very un-Shabbosdik atmosphere. That is what people appreciate the most."

IMAGINE SITTING DOWN TO A SEUDA OF HOSPITAL-STYLE MASHED POTATOES WITH A LITTLE CUP OF JELLO FOR DESSERT. IS THAT SHABBOS?

“It’s been 38 years since I saw food like that...”

When the Meals and More package arrived at their hospital room, the Gottlieb family were overwhelmed. In their rush earlier that morning they had no time to prepare any food, but they could not have imagined how Achiezer was able to put together such a spread in so little time.

As they sat down at their hospital-cart turned dining room table that Friday night it was almost as if they were right at home... almost. The food was delicious and plentiful and it really gave them a “*lichtige Shabbos*” feeling, despite their anxiety-filled day.

On the other side of the curtain sat Mr. and Mrs. Gross. The elderly couple had been in the hospital for some time while Mrs. Gross recuperated from a broken hip. They had watched curiously while their new roommates settled in earlier in the day but spoke little to the young couple.

As Moshe Gottlieb served his wife a steaming bowl of soup, he noticed Mr. Gross peering at him through the curtain. A few minutes later he saw Mrs. Gross peaking through too. Thinking that they may have been making too much noise, Moshe asked them if everything was okay.

“Oh yes, everything is fine,” replied a shy Mrs. Gross. “We were just surprised to see all the food you brought with you. It all smells delicious.”

“To tell you the truth,” interrupted Mr. Gross, “we are Jewish too. You may not believe this but we used to be frum like you! It’s been 38 years since I saw food like that on Shabbos.”

Not missing a beat, Moshe rolled over their makeshift dining room table so the Gross’s could join their seuda. Mr. Gross was visibly moved by the scene and could barely contain his emotions. “Ah... gefilte fish and chrain... it’s been so long...”

The two couples spent the rest of Shabbos talking and reminiscing about the old times while they enjoyed two more home cooked meals.

After 38 years, it was a Shabbos they will surely remember.

The Joys and Challenges of **Caring for our Elders**

ElderCare 2011, which was held at the International Hotel at JFK Airport, was the first event of its kind to bring together experts on virtually all areas of caregiving to educate participants about the opportunities available to help.

“Caregiving is one of the most challenging responsibilities that a person can face,” explains Rabbi Boruch Ber Bender “The feelings of love and devotion to a parent conflict with frustration and stress and often leave the caregiver feeling burnt out and despondent. Until recently, this rapidly growing phenomenon in our community that was almost unidentified.”

“We have encountered hundreds of caregivers in the area who simply do not know where to turn when a challenge or crisis arises. It is one of the most overwhelming situations that a person can encounter.”

To assist them, Achiezer has initiated several projects for the community. A specialized medical equipment gemach allows people to borrow specialty items that usually cost hundreds or even thousands of dollars. This has saved families much money and heartache and has allowed them to take advantage of medical equipment that would otherwise be too prohibitive.

A support group for people who care for Alzheimer’s patients has also been established. This group promises to be a valuable resource for networking, ideas and respite for many families in our area.

Rabbi Bender is clear about the goals of these efforts, “ElderCare 2011 is just one integral element of our ongoing efforts on behalf of caregivers. There is so much help available for people going through this challenge, but they simply don’t know how to tap into it. We decided to bring the help to them.”



Judging by the topics covered at ElderCare 2011, it is clear that there is much to learn. There were sessions on Geriatric Nutrition, Medicare, Medicaid, Elder Law, Preventing Caregiver Burnout, Detecting Alzheimer’s, and three distinct sessions on the various Halacha and Hashkafah issues related to caring for a parent. Plus, Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twerski gave an inspiring Keynote Address to conclude the evening.

“We need this information,” said one participant after the program. “Achiezer has done a real service for the community in coordinating this event because these are issues that every caregiver needs to know. I hope to be back here for ElderCare 2012.”



הדרת פני זקן
ElderCare 2011

EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES. MAINTAIN DIGNITY. ENHANCE LIFE.



My Name is Daniel

Though the names and some identifying details have been changed, the story below is all true. Daniel is a little boy in our community who was helped by Achiezer. His ordeal is far from over but his story has touched the heart of many.



In the short three months that I have been here I have been through more than most people experience in a lifetime. Usually, when babies are born it is a time of celebration, but my parents and me it was a frightening and difficult ordeal.

The doctors told them I wasn't going to live. They said I had just 24 hours.

It all started when I was born prematurely while my parents were out of town. There were major, life-threatening complications during labor. The local hospital was severely unequipped to handle a serious situation like mine but to my parents who have little medical knowledge, there seemed to be no other option.

In the tense hours after my birth my mother wasn't even able to hold me. With a maze of tubes and wires on my tiny body, she could hardly bear looking at me. I hope no mother ever goes through the agony that she experienced.

Not knowing where to turn, my father called Achiezer's 24-hour hotline to see if there was anything that could be done. Nevermind that it was 1:30 in the morning, Rabbi Bender got back to him right away and in a matter of hours, and a flurry of phone calls later, I was whisked away in an emergency medical transfer to a world-class hospital closer to home.

The specialists in the new hospital said I was a special baby. Never had they seen a case like mine. They did not have much hope for my survival.

They said that I was brain-dead, but my little mind didn't know what that meant.

Within a few hours there my room was crowded with sad looking adults. Achiezer brought in grief counselors and social workers – they all told my parents to prepare for the worst, there was no chance that I would make it. The doctors even suggested that instead of avoiding the inevitable, we should say goodbye, and disconnect the scary looking machines.

But my mother would not give up. She saw the little signals I was giving her – a little squint in my eye or a twitch in my arm – she knew that the doctors could not be right.

Rabbi Bender didn't give up either. My father pleaded with him, "This is my first child. Please do something to save him." Determined to help, Achiezer's team gathered all the papers and x-rays in my file - a file that was unnaturally thick for a child just 36 hours old – and sent them to several specialists that they work with, one of them as far away as Houston, Texas.

That's when the miracle appeared. Dr. Russel from Columbia Presbyterian dealt with devastating births like mine many times before and, like a *Malach Refael*, knew exactly how to get me out of my mess. It wasn't long before Achiezer informed my parents that we would yet again be picking ourselves up and whisked away to yet a third hospital where they would perform a very unique procedure on my brain. Several days later, I began to show signs of life.

I wasn't supposed to be responding, but less than 3 weeks later I started to breathe on my own. I wasn't supposed to live more than three days, but now, seven weeks later, I am drinking from a bottle and smiling

like... like a little baby smiles.

No. I would never want any mother to go through what my mother went through. But I wish that every mother would experience the indescribable simcha that she felt at my Bris last week.

Yes, the Bris which I was never supposed to have.

Hashem has many messengers. Sometimes they come from the most unlikely of places, sometimes they come from your very own backyard. For me and my parents Achiezer was that messenger. Every doctor, every nurse, every friend and neighbor that davened for me – they were all part of my recovery, but Achiezer was there for us the entire time, no matter how bad things seemed to everyone else.

I have a long road ahead and have no idea what challenges I will face, but I do know that nobody even dreamed that I would come this far.

Yes, I am an Achiezer miracle!



**THEY SAID THAT I
WAS BRAIN DEAD,
BUT MY LITTLE MIND
DIDN'T KNOW WHAT
THAT MEANT.**



מי נעמד ישראלו!

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Chesky Abramsky | Zissi Rosenberg Friedman | Ari Kohn | Rabbi Shalom Rosen |
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| Yehudis Baida | Basi Frischman | Sarale Korn | Aron Zelig Rosenberg |
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| Sheya Belsky | Eliezer Fuld | Eli Baruch Lazar | Shirley Rothberg |
| Shainy Bender | Noki Ganz | Devorah Leff | Iris Rothman |
| Suri Bender | Bracha Garbacz | Emunah Lefrak | Shoshana Salzberg |
| Yocheved Bender | Elisheva Garbacz | Shmuel Levine | Bashi Salzman |
| Shoshana Benzaquen | Yael Garbacz | Moshe Lipschitz | Tziona Schmell |
| Chani Bloom | Sammy Gertner | Temima Loeb | Mimi Schreier |
| Deena Bloom | Mindy Glaser | Shloimy Lousky | Ettie Schorr |
| Goldie Bloom | Yanky Gobioff | Mike Mandel | Nesanel Silverman |
| Shifi Bloom | Bracha Goldberg | Muriel Mehlman | Tova Singer |
| Temima Blumenkrantz | Ita Goldberg | Ettie Mermelstein | Perry Sitorsky |
| Mariam Bodner | Chanie Goldberger | Shira Messner | Naftali Solomon |
| Zvi Bokow | Naftoli Goldgrab | Leiby Minzer | Rachel Solomon |
| Tova Bollag | Rivky Goldman | Rivky Moseson | Michelle Spira |
| Sharoni Botwinick | Ronald Goldman | Rabbi Yisroel Moshen | David Sporn |
| Basya Brecher | Eli Goldstone | Machi Muller | Jamie Stahler |
| Shuie Brick | Aviva Golombeck | Ariela Naamat | Gittel Stein |
| Aviva Brody | Rena Golub | Judy Naamat | Avigayil Steiner |
| Shani Devor | Malka Griner | Gittie Neufeld | Goldi Thalheim |
| Ephraim Diamond | Shulamith Gross | Menachem Neufeld | Rabbi Shmuel Trenk |
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| Ruchie Edell | Aharon Michael Guttman | Miri Ostreicher | Aliza Vogel |
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| Miri Friedman | Alter Katz | Adina Reich | |
| Sharon Friedman | Peri Keilson | Ruchi Rose | |
| Shaye Friedman | Sharon Klestzick | Mutty Rosen | |

We pay tribute to the **many dedicated volunteers** who enable Achiezer to provide its services to the community. Your devotion is boundless, your fortitude is inspiring and your graciousness is deeply appreciated.

May Hashem grant you many years of happiness and health and give you the strength to continue your maasim tovim on behalf of our community.

חזק חזק ונתחזק!

Rabbi Boruch Ber Bender
Founder

Dovid Bloom
Chairman of the Board





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At a Recent Achiezer Board Meeting:
Representatives from across the entire Far
Rockaway and Five Towns community meet to
discuss Achiezer's present and future activities.

