



A GLIMPSE ON 2020

The Nancy Caroline



ע"ש ננסי קרוליין
לזכר רון רוזין

COVID-19 DAYS

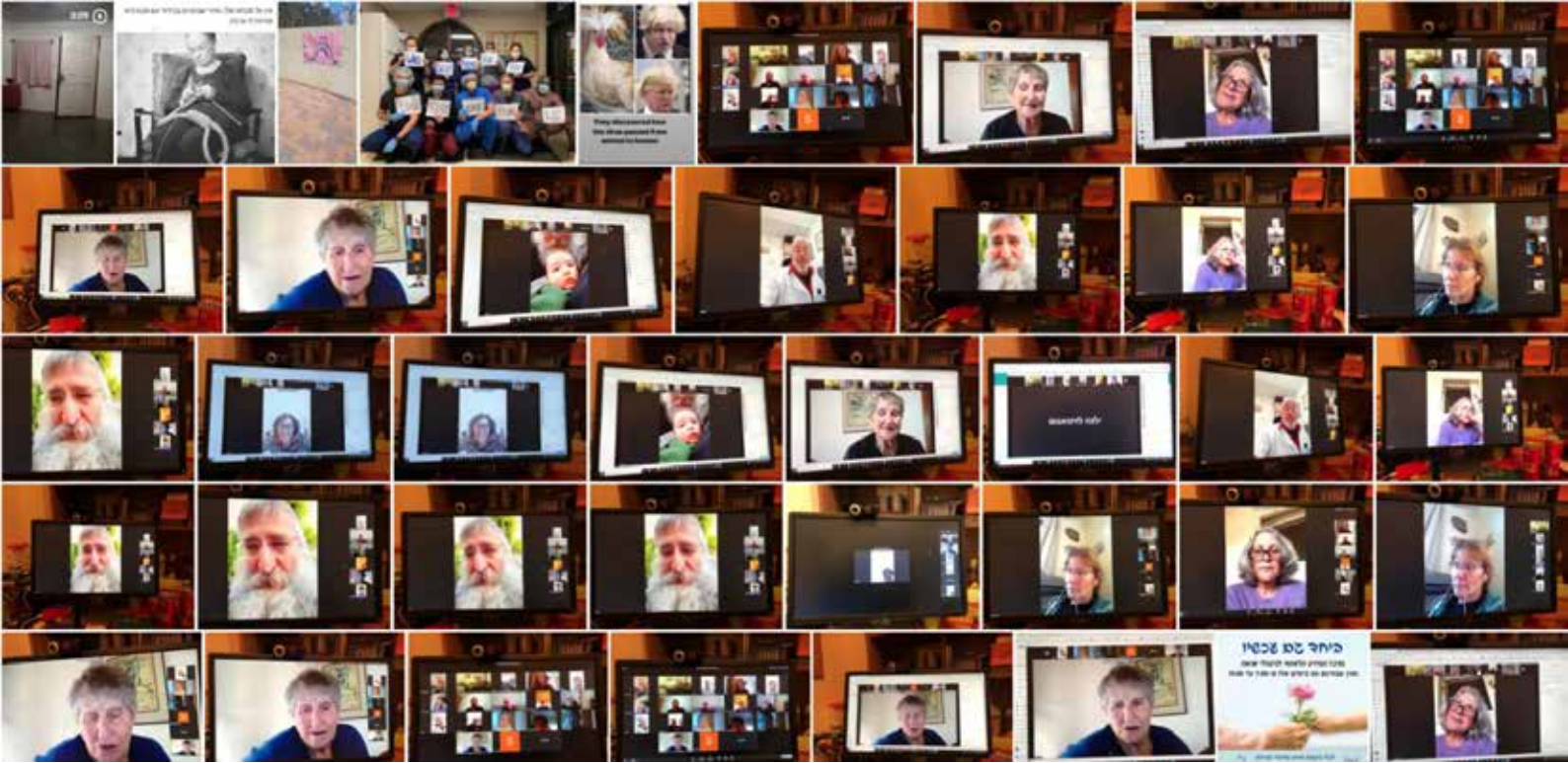
What a year...

The HUG terrain, like the world over, was stuck in the weird reality created by the Covid-19 virus. Every morning we faced new challenges, compelling us to find new creative ways to continue providing our patients with what they needed most: the assurance that they are not alone.

In spite of the unpredictable year, with all its countless restrictions, approximately 150 patients were treated in 2020. 120 of these were new referrals.

Due to the current situation, some of the regular home visits were conducted instead online or by phone. Whenever the need arose for an in-person visit, the staff were present, suited in full protective gear.





The weekly staff meetings which discuss and analyze patients' cases and vital consultations consistently took place – most of them in front of computer screens and smartphones.

This was the same for a series of journal-club sessions, which enrich professional know-how and offer a space to share experiences.

The volunteers' project was launched in January with 6 participants. By the end of the year, 14 patients received regular visits. The response was tremendous and we received many moving letters of thanks. The project will continue and we have plans to expand it.



"... the treatment for me was quality time (which I rewarded myself with) to just be... to release anything related to the disease, to devote myself to the present minute, now and here... to relax, to calm down and to be for a short while elsewhere"

.....
In short, we did our best to accept every change and surprise and make the necessary adaptations in order to ensure our vital services were still accessible for our patients.

For the most part, we have managed to carry on as usual, despite the virus. However, we have postponed the traditional bi-annual Palliative Seminar for the professional community. We will be back!

A change of personnel occurred simultaneously within the two HMO's we work with. Both visited our premises, met with the management and attended a staff meeting.

The close cooperation with the HMO's is essential for effective performance of HUG's goals.



אות הוקרה להוספיים

בכנס שסיכם השתלמות בת שנתיים "למקדמי שינוי בטיפול פליאטיבי" ביוזמת ג'וינט ישראל, עבור אחים ואחיות בבתי חולים, העניקה קרן גליקמן אות הוקרה להוספיים גליל עליון, לשנת 2020, עבור פועלו החלוצי ופורץ הדרך. הכנס התקיים במלון פלאזה ירושלים. בשם הוספיים גליל עליון קיבל את האות, איתן ארדיטי, הפסיכולוג הרפואי של הוספיים, העובד במקצועו גם בבית החולים פוריה. את איתן ליווה בכנס מתן אופיר, אח בבית החולים כרמל, שעבר בחודשים האחרונים השתלמות מעשית בהוספיים גליל עליון. שרוליק קנול, מנכ"ל הוספיים גליל עליון ציין בגאוה: "צוות הוספיים הוא באמת נבחרת איכותית של אנשים העושים את מלאכתם עם כל הלב וכל הנשמה. אות ההוקרה מגיע לכל אחד ואחת מהם. את ההכרה החשובה להם, הם מקבלים מהמטופלים, מבני המשפחה והחברים. אני שמח וגאה בהכרה וההוקרה בהן זוכה הוספיים ואנשיו. יישר כוח לעושים במלאכה".

HUG received an appreciation award from the Glickman Foundation. This was given to our youngest staff member and one of the interns from the Carmel Hospital.

TRAINING & INSTRUCTION

For several years, the Ministry of Health placed hospital interns with HUG, to practice palliative care under supervision of Yael Bleich, HUG's Chief Nurse and Clinical Expert. In 2020 we had three interns: Matan Ophir from the Carmel Medical Center, Jasmin Simanye from the Palliative Department at Fleeman Hospital and Noa Noy from the Soraski Medical Center. Each of them joined us in turn, for three intensive months and participated in home visits and staff meetings.





Twenty medical students from the Zfat faculty attended a six-meeting seminar conducted by Dr. Goldberger, HUG's CMO and one of Israel's "Fathers of the Profession". A series of lectures, meetings with staff and home visits introduced the young students to the complexity of end of life support and the value of palliative care.

Two social-work students from the Tel-Hai College spent their internship year with us, supervised by HUG's experienced social workers.



THE STAFF



The annual “Team day” holds a special place on the HUG calendar. Several hours of peace and tranquility were spent on the green, picturesque banks of the Banyas creek. This perfectly served our hard working staff and allowed them to relax and recharge and return to work the next morning fully refreshed.

This fun day also acted as a leaving party for our social work students who completed their internship year.



HUG is renowned for its long-standing staff. Since it was founded, only 2 staff members have actually left! However, after 25 years, retirement becomes unavoidable for some.

This year, we said good-bye to two veterans. Hugh Reisman, who served as Secretary and Treasurer for two decades and Leila Hart, an Art Therapist.

Leila's departure coincided with her 93rd birthday, which was celebrated with an early breakfast in the famous "Wadi" at Ayelet Hashahar. (We also celebrated her 80th birthday there too). In her own pleasant and graceful manner, Leila shared with us her exciting life story.



Adhering to our firm decision not to let the virus disrupt our regular activities, we soldiered on and celebrated the Jewish Holidays. Whenever possible, we arranged for our patients and their families to receive small gifts, donated by local businesses.



IN THE COMMUNITY

HUG and the surrounding communities work together in partnership. HUG provides local communities with much needed services. In turn, these communities respond with appreciation and support: from touching letters to fundraising events, to institutional and private donations.

The total contribution of the local communities and municipalities in 2020 has reached 220,000 NIS, while private donors gave 60,000 NIS.

FUNDRAISING

HUG's operation relies heavily on the support of Israeli, as well as overseas charitable foundations. In 2020 we were fortunate to be introduced to several new trusts in Great Britain, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

We were also blessed, by a small but very significant, local supporter. The Miriam Szwartz Charity was founded by the family after two family members were treated by HUG for a lengthy period. They have pledged ongoing support of the Volunteers' Program.

The Round Up project reached the 2,000 participants mark at the end of 2019. 2020 showed a 17% (337) rise. We are heading, slowly but surely towards the next goal – 3,000 participating members. The total project income in 2020 was 130,000 NIS.



A GLIMPSE AHEAD

- So far, 2021 is still an enigma. The pandemic has not yet gone and the future remains unclear. As far as we are concerned, the work continues and we intend to reach every corner that our service is required. New projects will be put on hold until the time is right
- Be that as it may, there is one project, that we hope to continue pushing forward. This is the third year that we have been renting the ancient house in Rosh Pinna. Our vision is to turn these premises into a permanent regional center of Palliative Care. Over a year ago we were planning a major fundraising campaign to raise money to purchase the building. We postponed this due to the virus but hope to resume it sometime soon.

