



September 2020

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Ronen Tov
Chairman
Executive Committee

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Administrative Director

Ronit Saranga
Fundraising

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Ms. Heli Tharp
P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds

Dear Heli,

Please allow me to introduce you to **Friends of Schneider Children's Medical Center**, a non-profit Friends Association that has been supporting the Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel since its foundation in 1991. The Association was established to promote the development and advancement of the hospital and works to raise funds for construction, acquisition of medical equipment, research grants, and special projects.

Since its establishment, SCMCI has revolutionized the practice of pediatric medicine in Israel and is recognized as one of the leading pediatric institutions in the world. The hospital implements a "whole-child-care" multidisciplinary approach where children, from birth to the age of 18, are treated as children, as they have different emotional and physical resources for healing. Therefore, treatment is integrated with emotional, psychological, educational and developmental care.

Friends of Schneider Children's Medical Center works in full co-ordination with SCMCI management to respond to the hospital's most pressing medical needs. The hospital is currently undergoing a momentum of development, which requires the **construction of new facilities**, acquiring state-of-the-art **medical equipment**, and supporting **special clinics, projects and research**.

As you probably know, the ongoing and significant challenges of a hospital continue to exist, alongside the fight against the corona plague. We need a lot of resources in order to maintain and promote the level of pediatrics in Israel.

I hope to draw your interest to the following project: **Ophthalmology Imaging Center**
The pediatric ophthalmology unit at Schneider Children's Medical center is the largest in Israel treating more than 15,000 children every year. The unit provides eye care in all fields of ophthalmology including neuro-ophthalmology, surgical and medical retina, glaucoma, cornea, cataract etc. Many of the children are being referred from within the hospital having systemic, oncologic or neurologic disease that can affect vision. There is an established collaboration between the ophthalmologists and all other physicians in the hospital providing a multidisciplinary team care to children. Recently, an electro-physiology examining service (ERG and VEP) has been established at Schneider, used for determining the function of the eye and optic nerve in children with hereditary eye diseases. Ophthalmology is a modern and sophisticated field of medicine relying heavily on advanced technologies for diagnosis and care.



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Optical coherence tomography (OCT) is a modern technique that can image the inner layers of the retina and optic nerve. It is used for evaluating optic nerve damage in patients with brain tumors involving the optic pathways, or extent of optic nerve swelling in children with papilledma. It is also used for retinal imaging in children with hereditary eyes diseases, adding further relevant information to the ERG/VEP tests. Often, the results of these tests guide physicians about the necessary treatment. costs € 112,550

The Humphrey visual field is used for evaluating the peripheral vision. A necessary exam in patients with diseases affecting the optic pathways, extending from the eye to the occipital lobes of the brain. costs €41,713

Anterior and posterior segment cameras allow imaging and documentation of the eye disease that can be demonstrated and explained to the parents. costs € 39,742

Corneal topography is necessary for evaluating corneal structure in conditions such as keratoconus. costs € 31,540

Unfortunately, currently there is no imaging service in the ophthalmology clinic. Causing delay and discomfort in the eye care provided. Many imaging centers do not allow examining children or are too busy with adults not having a dedicated service for children.

We hope to build an ophthalmological imaging center at Schneider's medical center that will greatly improve the quality of care provided to our children.

We are requesting the support of the **P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds** to purchase the equipment **The Corneal topography** that its price € 31,540.

Friends of Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel transfers funds from U.S. donors through the P.E.F.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully Yours,

Efrat Bar Natan

C.E.O

Friends of Schneider Children's