

2019

in review





Our mission

is to improve the level of pediatric cardiac care in developing countries and create centers of competence around the world

because we believe

that every child deserves the best medical treatment available regardless of nationality, religion, color, gender or financial status.

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) was founded in 1995 at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel by the late Dr. Ami Cohen when an Ethiopian doctor contacted Dr. Cohen to seek help with two children in desperate need of heart surgery. Dr. Cohen received the support of Prof. Arie Schachner, head of the Pediatric Cardiac Department, and approval was given to commence with this project.

Today, we are one of Israel's largest humanitarian organizations, with a global mission to provide lifesaving cardiac care to children who suffer from congenital and acquired heart defects and have no access to quality care in their native countries.



The Year Began

with a visit from the President of the State of Israel,
Reuven 'Ruvi' Rivlin.

We often quote the saying "he who saves a single life is as if he has saved the whole world." Behind each heart is not just a child, but a family, friends and community – a whole world...You know no borders, no race, no religion and no gender. You give your hearts to children in need. It is no surprise that Save a Child's Heart has been recognized by the UN. Dr. Ami Cohen, the founder of Save a Child's Heart, died tragically, but you, the wonderful staff and volunteers of this project, keep his mission alive.

- President of the State of Israel, Reuven 'Ruvi' Rivlin

In January 2019 we had the great honor of hosting the President of the State of Israel, Reuven 'Ruvi' Rivlin, at the Wolfson Medical Center. The President was accompanied by the ambassadors of Tanzania, Ethiopia, Zambia, Rwanda, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, France, Germany, European Union, Switzerland and Canada, as well as by Save a Child's Heart's supporters and donors. President Rivlin and the respectable guests met some of the children who were being treated by Save a Child's Heart and the doctors who are taking part in the advanced medical training program in all aspects of pediatric cardiology.



Since 1995

Save a Child's Heart has treated 5350 children, from 62 countries, embarked on 109 medical missions abroad to screen, diagnose and treat children and trained 122 medical professionals from 17 countries around the world.

CHILDREN TREATED

countries	'95- 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	total
<i>Afghanistan</i>	0		1	4	1		6
<i>Angola</i>	86						86
<i>Azerbaijan</i>	0	3					3
<i>Belarus</i>	0			1			1
<i>Burkina Faso</i>	1						1
<i>Burundi</i>	3						3
<i>Cameroon</i>	0				1		1
<i>P.R. of China</i>	124	1					125
<i>D.R. of Congo</i>	27						27
<i>Dominican Republic</i>	0		1				1
<i>East Timor</i>	0	1					1
<i>Ecuador</i>	2						2
<i>El Salvador</i>	1						1
<i>Eritrea</i>	11			1			12
<i>Ethiopia</i>	440	57	33	64	39	69	702
<i>Equatorial Guinea</i>	1						1
<i>Fiji</i>	0				1		1
<i>Gambia</i>	1		7	8			16
<i>Ghana</i>	28		1	2		3	34
<i>Haiti</i>	8						8

countries	'95- 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	total
<i>Honduras</i>	1						1
<i>Indonesia</i>	1						1
<i>Iraq</i>	223	26	31	41	10	12	343
<i>Ivory Coast</i>	1						1
<i>Jordan</i>	5						5
<i>Kazakhstan</i>	2						2
<i>Kenya</i>	14	14	9	14		2	53
<i>Kosovo</i>	2		1	1			4
<i>Liberia</i>	2						2
<i>Malawi</i>	0					1	1
<i>Mauritania</i>	4						4
<i>Moldova</i>	76						76
<i>Morocco</i>	1						1
<i>Myanmar</i>	0				1		1
<i>Nepal</i>	0					1	1
<i>Nigeria</i>	165			1			166
<i>Palestinian Authority</i>	1772	146	120	121	166	152	2477
<i>Panama</i>	2						2
<i>Peru</i>	1						1
<i>Philippines</i>	4						4

countries	'95- 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	total
<i>Romania</i>	60	7	15	23	36		141
<i>Russia</i>	25						25
<i>Rwanda</i>	6					16	22
<i>Rep. of Senegal</i>	3				8	3	14
<i>Sierra Leone</i>	1						1
<i>Solomon Islands</i>						1	1
<i>Somalia</i>	1						1
<i>Somaliland</i>	1		2				3
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	8						8
<i>St. Vincent</i>	1						1
<i>Sudan</i>	2						2
<i>Syria</i>	7	4	1				12
<i>Tajikistan</i>						1	1
<i>Tanzania & Zanzibar</i>	452	60	95	60	117	110	894
<i>Togo</i>				1			1
<i>Trinidad & Tobago</i>	1						1
<i>Uganda</i>	12	1	1	2		5	21
<i>Ukraine</i>	2						2
<i>Uzbekistan</i>						1	1
<i>Vietnam</i>	3						3
<i>Zambia</i>			1	1	6	6	14
<i>Zimbabwe</i>	3						3



In 2019

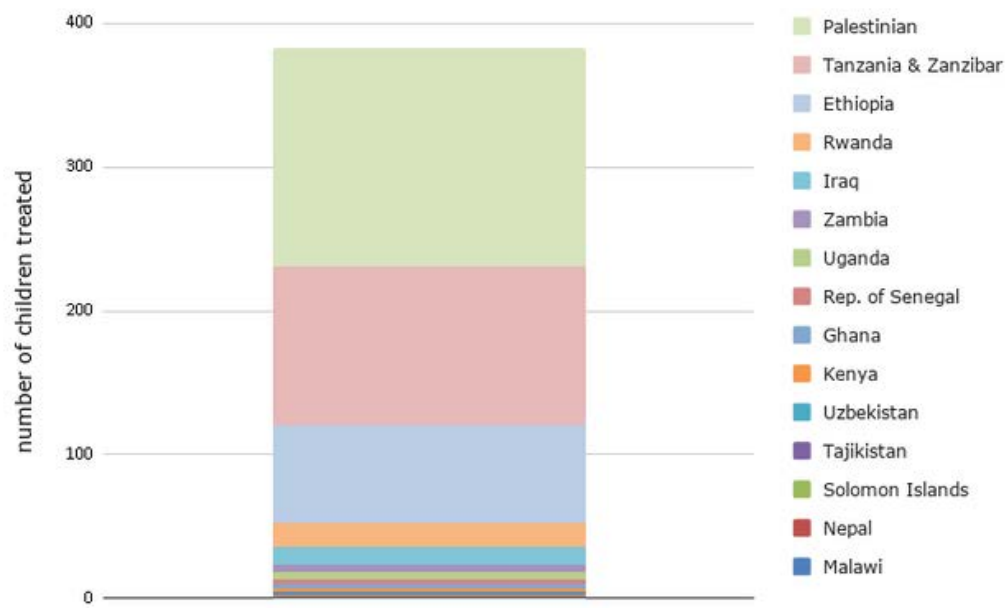
Save a Child's Heart reached its **58th, 59th, 60th, 61st** and **62nd** countries and treated our **5,000th** child! In one year alone, the volunteer doctors and nurses at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel, screened **1,417** and treated **383** children suffering from life-threatening heart disease from **15** different countries.

We also embarked on **7** international medical missions abroad, including a mission to Ethiopia to support Dr. Yayu Mekonnen upon his return to Addis Ababa after spending five years in training in Israel and 18 months at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia.

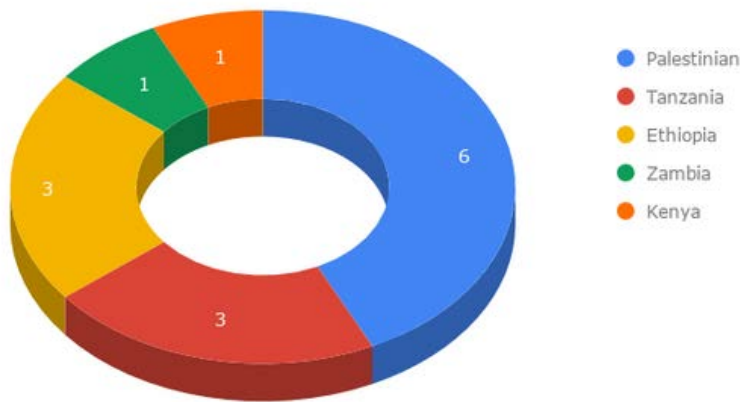
In addition, **14** international medical personnel have been training with the Save a Child's Heart team in all aspects of pediatric cardiac care so that they can return home and better serve the needs of their local populations.

Thanks to you, 2019 has been our most successful year to date! All of us at Save a Child's Heart thank you for being our partners in this lifesaving work.

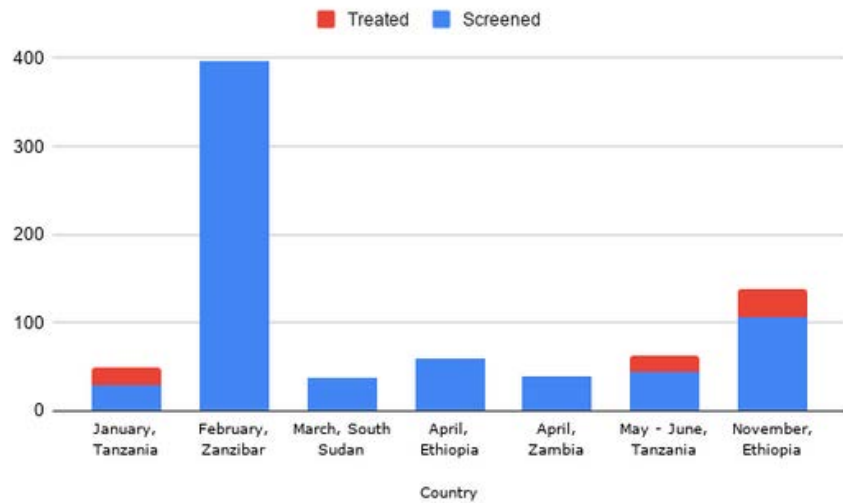
2019 BY THE NUMBERS



383 children were treated from 16 countries



14 doctors were trained from 5 countries



713 children were screened and 71 were treated on 7 missions abroad



Save a Child's Heart reaches its 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st and 62nd countries

In February of 2019, Save a Child's Heart saved the life of thirteen-year-old Hikmatullo from Tajikistan. The following month, we treated our first patient, Avita, from Nepal. In the second half of 2019 we treated Andy from the Solomon Islands, Husan from Uzbekistan and Lemos from Malawi.

Dr. Yayu returns to Ethiopia

In 2012, Dr. Yayehyirad (Yayu) Mekonnen Ejigu began a five-year pediatric cardiac surgery training program at the Wolfson Medical Center. Dr. Yayu completed his training in 2017, he went on to an 18 months fellowship at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia. He finally returned to Ethiopia in May 2019 as the country's first fully-trained pediatric cardiac surgeon.



The 5,000th child is saved

In February of 2019, former patient, Balkis, arrived at the annual SACH clinic in Zanzibar with her one-year-old baby daughter, Fatma. Amazingly, on arrival, Balkis was recognized as a SACH patient who underwent lifesaving heart surgery at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon 20 years before. Fatma was subsequently examined and diagnosed with the exact defect that her mother had suffered from and been treated for. There it was determined that soon Fatma would also be flown to Israel to receive the lifesaving medical procedure she needed. Fatma is the 5,000th child to be treated by Save a Child's Heart.

16 Rwandan children treated

Thanks to the initiative by SACH Africa's President, Haim Taib, head of the Menomadin Foundation, a memorandum of understanding was signed between SACH, the Menomadin Foundation, and the Rwandan Ministry of Health in 2018, to treat children from Rwanda in Israel. During 2019, 16 children's lives were forever changed as their heart conditions were mended and they returned home healthy.





Save a Child's Heart celebrates 2,000 Palestinian children saved as part of the EU-supported 'Heart of the Matter' program

On Wednesday, June 21, 2019, we celebrated saving the lives of more than 2,000 Palestinian children together with our partners at the European Union. For the past 15 years the EU has generously supported our Heart of the Matter program with more than \$US3,000,000 in support of our belief that by mending hearts we are actually building bridges whilst sharing knowledge between Israeli and Palestinian practitioners and creating endless encounters between Israelis and Palestinian families focusing on the common goal of improving pediatric cardiac care for Palestinian children.

Thanks to Sylvan Adams, Messi Meets the Children of Save a Child's Heart

In November, Sylvan Adams, one of Save a Child's Heart's most generous supporters, brought the Argentina and Uruguay national soccer teams to Israel for the first time to compete in a spectacular friendly match. The night before the match, Sylvan hosted a special meet and greet between international football star, Lionel Messi, and some of the SACH children undergoing treatment in Israel. The incredible experience, which garnered international attention, was not only a dream come true for the children, but notably introduced the work of SACH to Messi and his teammates.



Announcing the \$1,000,000 Waislitz Scholarship

Long-standing Australian donor, entrepreneur and philanthropist, Alex Waislitz, from the Waislitz Family Foundation, has pledged \$1,000,000 AUD to be donated through The Waislitz Scholarship Award, over a ten year period. Through this donation, the knowledge and experience provided to the doctors in training by SACH in Israel will enable them to save many more lives.



HEART OF THE MATTER 2019



Supported by the European Union, the Morningstar Foundation, the Waislitz Family Foundation and the Israeli Ministry of Regional Cooperation, the 'Heart of the Matter' program has trained a Palestinian medical team at the Wolfson Medical Center, conducted seminars for Palestinian medical personnel and provided funds for Palestinian children's care in Israel.

A critical piece of the Heart of the Matter program is a free, weekly clinic held at the Wolfson Medical Center for Palestinian children to undergo cardiac examinations. Each week, approximately 20-25 Palestinian children are screened.

576 Palestinian children were screened,
152 were treated,
and **6** physicians were trained
in 2019.

A group of medical professionals, including men and women of various ages, are gathered in a hospital corridor. In the foreground, a patient is lying in a hospital bed, partially visible. The background shows a typical hospital environment with white walls and ceiling lights.

IN TRAINING 2019

Tolesa Waktola Gemechu, Ethiopia
anesthesia, began: Nov 2015

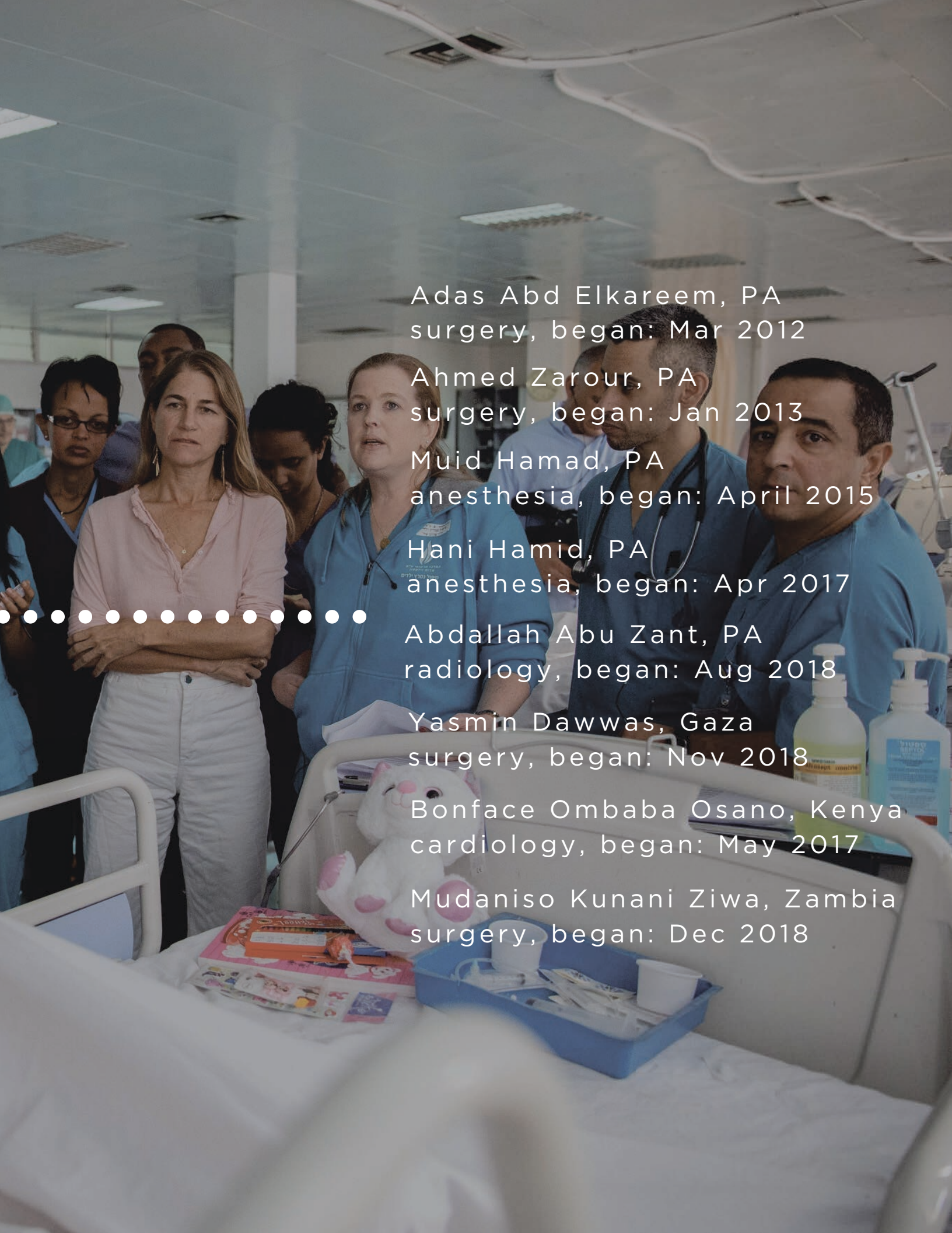
Rahel Tilahun Melaku, Ethiopia
anesthesia, began: May 2018

Yared Agidew Awano, Ethiopia
surgery, began: May 2018

David Peter Silveira, Tanzania
surgery, began: September 2016

Stella Mihayo Mongello, Tanzania
cardiology, began: February 2019

Alex Loth, Tanzania
anesthesia, began: March 2019



Adas Abd Elkareem, PA
surgery, began: Mar 2012

Ahmed Zarour, PA
surgery, began: Jan 2013

Muid Hamad, PA
anesthesia, began: April 2015

Hani Hamid, PA
anesthesia, began: Apr 2017

Abdallah Abu Zant, PA
radiology, began: Aug 2018

Yasmin Dawwas, Gaza
surgery, began: Nov 2018

Bonface Ombaba Osano, Kenya
cardiology, began: May 2017

Mudaniso Kunani Ziwa, Zambia
surgery, began: Dec 2018

MISSIONS 2019





January: Tanzania

A joint German-Israeli-Tanzanian catheterization mission was held at the Jakaya Kikweta Cardiac Institute (JKCI) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from January 17th to January 24th, 2019. Dr. Sagi Assa, senior interventional pediatric cardiologist led the mission in partnership with former-SACH-trainee, Dr. Naiz Majani. The team of Israeli doctors including Andrey Gluch, Ahmad Amar, SACH-trainee Tolesa Waktola Gemechu, and nurses, Svetlana Katsoyich and Elena Zhukov worked hand-in-hand with partners from the German Heart institute in Berlin, Prof. Dr. Felix Hermann Berger and Dr. Stephan Nicolas Schubert and nurses Anke Skupch and Susanne Barnebeck, as well as Dr. Godwin Mbawala, interventional pediatric cardiologist at the JKCI and Dr. Zhao Lijian, a Chinese interventional pediatric cardiologist who has worked at the JKCI for the past 2 years and Tanzanian nurses Rogers Kibula, Rydness Murachani, Keynes Mng'anya and Michael Lazaro to examine 29 and treat 21 children. This mission was a SACH Canada funded project.



February: Zanzibar

A joint effort by the Israeli and local Zanzibar medical team succeeded on an annual mission to Zanzibar, beginning February 14th, 2019, to screen 397 children. Dr. Alona Raucher Sternfeld, Head of Pediatric Cardiology, led the mission, working together with Yifat Brosh, medical technician, Nava Gershon, Head Nurse of the Pediatric Surgical Department and Tamar Shapira, Director of International Relations and PR, and Debbie Silver, a SACH volunteer and board member, to examine new and former patients.

The Israeli team worked hand-in-hand with the local team from Zanzibar including, Dr. Omar Suleiman who was trained by Save a Child's Heart in Israel, and has since become a key partner of the organization in Zanzibar. This mission was a SACH Canada project.

March: South Sudan

Dr. Akiva Tamir, Save a Child's Heart pediatric cardiologist, and Israel's Ambassador to South Sudan, Hanan Goder, traveled all the way to Al Sabbah Children Hospital in South Sudan from March 4-5th, where 37 children were screened and diagnosed by Dr. Tamir in partnership with local South Sudanese doctor, Dr. Joseph.



April: Ethiopia

On April 4th - April 6th, 2019, Save a Child's Senior Pediatric Cardiologist, Dr. Hanita Shai, Head Nurse Nava Gershon, SACH board member, Kobi Livne, SACH US co-president Dr. Jeff Hoffman and SACH Executive Director Simon Fisher, traveled to Ethiopia and together with our partner from the Black Lion Hospital, Dr. Etsegenet Gedlu, a pediatric cardiologist who received advanced training in Israel, screened 44 new and 15 former patients.



April: Zambia

Following the mission to Ethiopia, on April 6th-8th, 2019, the team flew to Zambia where pediatrician, Dr. Agnes Mtaja, and pediatric cardiologist, Dr. John Musuku, prepared patients for the clinic at the University Teaching Children's Hospital in Lusaka. Once on the ground, resident Dr. Nawa Kalima assisted Dr. Shai and Nurse Gershon to screen 29 new and 11 former patients.



May: Tanzania

Save a Child's Heart conducted a successful Catheterization Mission at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) in Tanzania from the 27th of May, to the 2nd of June 2019. This was a joint Israeli-Tanzanian effort to save children's lives. Representatives from SACH Canada joined the mission to assist the team and to gain greater understanding of the work performed by SACH and local doctors. This mission was carried out by a team of 10 medical personnel from Wolfson Medical Center alongside a local Tanzanian medical team of 32 from JKCI. Leading the Israeli delegation was Dr. Sagi Assa, senior interventional pediatric cardiologist from the Wolfson Medical Center together with Save a Child's heart co-founder and senior pediatric cardiologist, Dr. Akiva Tamir. Other team members included anesthetist, Dr. Andrey Gluch, pediatric cardiology resident, Dr. Sivan Alkarat, pediatrician, Dr. Adi Prizan Ravid, Head Cath lab Nurse, Svetlana Katsoyich, Cath lab technician, Tal Sela, PICU deputy head nurse Revital Cohen, as well as PICU nurses Efim Fainstein and Polina Pokrass.

Assisting the Israeli team was Dr. Alex Loth Ernest and Dr. Stella Mongella, both Tanzanian doctors currently completing a SACH Canada led two-year outreach training program in pediatric cardiac anesthesiology and pediatric cardiology at the Wolfson Medical Centre. Dr. Loth is being mentored throughout his anesthetic training by Dr. Gluch. During the week-long mission, the Israeli and Tanzanian medical teams worked together, teaching, sharing skills and jointly saving the lives of 18 children and 1 adult. Furthermore, this mission saw the unveiling of a new echo machine, generously donated by the Blidner Family. This mission and the acquiring of the echo machine were projects led by Save a Child's Heart Canada.

November: Ethiopia

Save a Child's Heart conducted a successful surgical, catheterization, screening and training mission at the Children's Cardiac Center in Addis Ababa from November 17th - November 23rd, 2019. This was a joint Israeli-Ethiopian effort to save children's lives and to support the Ethiopian team, led by Dr. Yayu Mekonnen, who completed five years of training in Israel and recently returned to Ethiopia to begin his work at the Children's Cardiac Center. Representatives from SACH US joined the mission to assist the team and gain greater insight into the work performed by SACH and their Ethiopian partners.

Leading the Israeli delegation were SACH co-founders Dr. Akina Tamir (cardiology) and Dr. Lior Sasson (cardiac surgery), as well as Dr. Alona Raucher, Head of Pediatric Cardiology, Dr. Sagi Assa, Head of Pediatric Interventional Cardiology, Dr. Racheli Sion Sarid, Senior Pediatric Intensive Care Specialist and Dr. Andrey Gluch, anesthesiologist. Working with them were head nurses Nava Gershon (pediatric surgical department), Chaya Musseri (surgery), Svetlana Katsoyich (invasive cardiology), and Irena Nusol (PICU). Dr. Anat Engel, Director of the Wolfson Medical Center also joined the mission for several days to experience Save a Child's Heart's global work, in situ and first-hand. She was warmly welcomed by Dr. Helen Befekadu, Medical Director and Cardiac Intensivist at the Cardiac Center.

The Ethiopian team was led by Dr. Yayu Mekonnen who recently returned to Ethiopia after a five-year training program under the auspices of Dr. Lior Sasson at the Wolfson Medical Center and 1.5 years on a fellowship at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne. Dr. Yayu is Ethiopia's first-ever fully-trained pediatric cardiac surgeon. Also on staff was Dr. Habtamu Sime who completed a two-year training program as an intensivist with Save a Child's Heart.

During the 8-day mission, the Israeli and Ethiopian medical teams worked together, teaching, sharing skills and jointly saving the lives of 31 children and screened and diagnosed 107 children. This mission concluded with a reunion event with more than 100 former SACH patients and their families in celebration of 25 years of joint cooperation and more than 700 Ethiopian children treated during these years.



International Pediatric Cardiac Center and Sylvan Adams Children's Hospital

The construction of the new 7-floor 11,038 SQM Children's Hospital is progressing. The external shell has been completed. Currently installations of the windows and curtain walls are being performed, after which the external facade covers are to be installed. The internal construction work has also concluded and installations of infrastructure and flooring are ongoing including work on suspended ceilings towards their closure. The special modular wall partition room systems for the operating theaters and pediatric Intensive Care Unit have been installed. All the carpentry work, doors, reception desks etc. are being manufactured in the factories, meanwhile installation of doors in the basement operating floor have already begun. Negotiations with medical equipment companies are in advanced stages and expected to be finalized in the next couple of months. All negotiations are taking place together with Sarel Ltd. To date, \$48M of the \$50M project has been raised.

The building is expected to be ready during the second half of 2020.



Groups and Delegations

More than 60 visits of leaders from around the world, MPs, congressmen, Knesset members and politicians, delegations of journalists, opinion leaders, union leaders, celebrities through AIPAC, AIJAC, CIJA, JCC, JNF, Jewish Federations and more came to the Children's Home and hospital.

Give Your Heart Out

Give Your Heart Out is our global young leadership campaign to raise funds to save lives in the month of February. This year, Save a Child's Heart young leadership surpassed our \$100,000 goal, raising more than \$106,000 and reaching over 120 college campuses.



Young Leadership Groups and Volunteers

We welcomed 170 Young Leadership group visits and more than 70 volunteers from Australia, Canada, Norway, Netherlands, Scotland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Mexico, Brazil, India, France, Russia, and Sweden.



Worldwide Events

The beginning of 2019 saw spectacular events for Save a Child's Heart around the world including, Symphony of the Heart concerts in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem in February, with a 100 musician-physician symphonic orchestra for the first time in Israel performing with leading Israeli and international artists, and a Washington DC Gala honoring the founders of Save a Child's Heart including, Obadiah & Delores Cohen, Marty ZL," Barry & Linda Perlis, as well as Connie Kamerow, Vivian G. Bass and Kim Zimmerman. Save a Child's Heart LA presented a special benefit evening with world-renowned mentalist Lior Suchard and SACH UK and Switzerland hosted world-renowned classical pianist Evgeny Kissin who generously donated a concert, playing at Wigmore Hall in Central London on June 29th. Save a Child's Heart Canada hosted an inspirational evening with guest speakers Masai Ujiri, President of the Toronto Raptors, and Dr. Stella Mongella, Pediatric Cardiologist in-training, hosted by Larry and Judy Tanenbaum. Guests had an opportunity to view and be photographed with the Larry O'Brien NBA Championship Trophy.

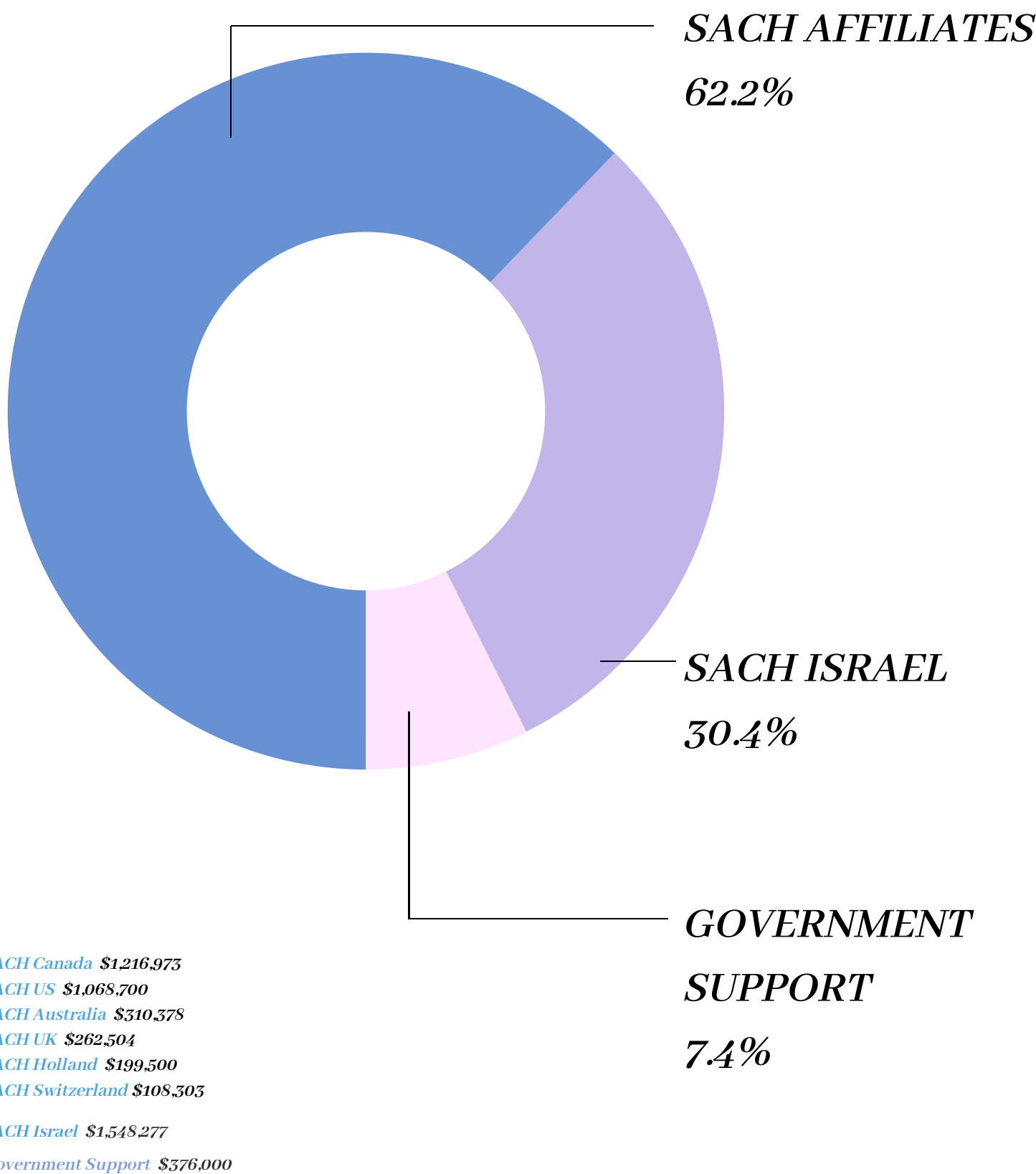
In the glorious private dining facility of The Dutchess, one of Amsterdam's top restaurants, SACH in the Netherlands organized a fundraising dinner for 40 guests, fully sponsored by the restaurant's owners, Eeke and Liran Wizman. During the dinner, the co-creator/writer/producer of the Netflix series, Fauda, Avi Issacharoff, shared his passion for SACH, which he visited the week before. Down Under, SACH Australia held various awareness and fundraising events, amongst them the young Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce event with SACH champion, Alex Waislitz, who shared his unique journey to becoming an internationally recognized investor.



2019 FINANCIALS

\$ 5 , 0 9 0 , 6 3 5

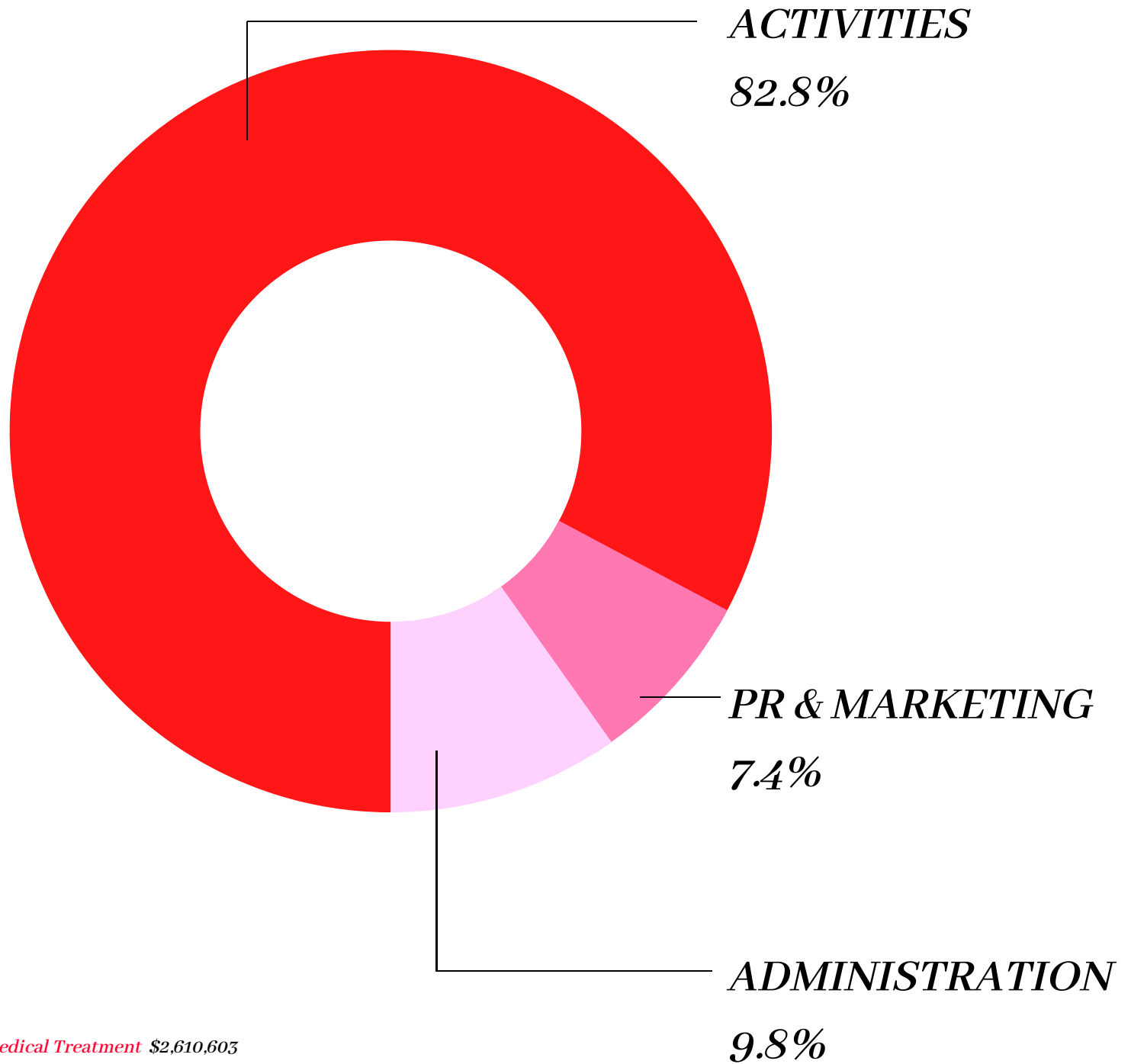
SUPPORT INCOME 2019



2019 FINANCIALS

\$ 5,003,333

ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES IN 2019



Medical Treatment \$2,610,603

Child Care \$383,457

Flights \$213,291

Medical Training, Outreach & Research \$386,233

Medical Equipment \$227,372

Young Leadership \$64,429

PR & Marketing \$346,693

Administration \$461,334

Financing \$309,921

IN THE PRESS

Save a Child's Heart was featured in several major publications in 2019.

THE JERUSALEM POST



VARIETY



ISRAEL21c

ON SOCIAL MEDIA



reach: 726,800



209K +



11K +



most likes: 1,479

