



United Hatzalah of Israel

Highlights of the week in Israel

4 September 2008

Dear Friends and Supporters,

With all the kids back in school United Hatzalah volunteers went back to school as well to educate the students about road hazards.

With the focus on children this week I wanted to share with you some kid-to-kid interviews where children of our volunteers shared from their own perspective what it is like to be the child of a United Hatzalah emergency response volunteer.

We wrap it up with a look at an amazing 3 1/2 year old who helped his daddy save a life.

Have a great week,

Sincerely,

Eli Beer

Chief coordinator

Back-To-School

Over a million and half children headed off to school this week. For many of them the excitement might have undermined the caution needed when crossing streets, getting on and off buses, and riding bicycles. United Hatzalah understands that awareness is the first step towards prevention.

In partnership with the National Road Safety Authority, United Hatzalah volunteers from Jerusalem, Haifa, Elad, Beit Shemesh, Kiryat Ata and many other locations visited their local schools.

The volunteers provided parents, teachers and students with the “10 Commandments of Road Safety”. Some of the tips were significant improvements on common safety perceptions.

Cross at the Crosswalk but you still must check both ways. Even on the sidewalks check for cars leaving or entering driveways.





Life as a United Hatzalah kid

Recently some teens and pre-teens were talking about life as a UH kid (as they call it). **Avigail** (12) and **Penina** (10) from Jerusalem decided to ask fellow UH kids **Devora** (9) and **Miriam** (13) from the Carmel area and **Avior** (13) from Dimona what they felt about their father being a part of United Hatzalah.

What do you like most about your father being a part of United Hatzalah?

Avior (13) - When I was younger I liked the “action”. Now that I have matured I like to see the faces of the people my father has helped. My younger brother likes the stickers.

Devora (9) - I like all the stuff my father carries around, especially the BurnShield, that has helped us a bunch of times.

Did it ever happen that your father had to run out in the middle of a festive meal on Shabbat or other occasion?

Devora (9) - Once on Passover, daddy had to leave to help someone but we were sad that he wasn't with us for the meal.

Avior (13) - Yea, it happens lots of times. The family goes on eating but I am proud that he is out there helping people regardless of the inconvenience. That just shows me how important it really is.

Do you know any of the people that your father helped?

Avior (13) - For sure, once my father helped my friend's father after he had a heart attack. My father was the first one to get there. After he got out of the hospital he came with my friend to the house to thank my father.

Miriam (13) - Of course, once my father did CPR on one of our neighbors and saved his life. Unfortunately, he died in the hospital a few days later. Another time one of our older neighbors, who has a disease that makes them forget where they live, wandered away. My father recognized her and brought her back home.



United Hatzalah's Youngest Lifesaver

It all began as a routine shopping trip for United Hatzalah Paramedic Mati Goldstein. Few things are really routine for the globe-trotting flight medic, but with his wife running errands, precocious Elnatan Chaim (age 3 1/2) tagged along with dad for some nice father-son time. Elnatan Chaim was asking all the “What’s this, Daddy?” questions for quite some time already. He even knew that the yellow box with wires helped people feel better.

When the call came through about an unconscious 58 year old woman around the corner, Mati was instantly on-scene and began CPR.

Normally, Elnatan knows to wait outside when daddy is helping people but after a few boring minutes outside Elnatan sauntered in and asked his father if he needed any help.

While a MICU ambulance or at least another pair of hands would have been helpful, Mati realized that the only pair of hands in the room able to help belonged to his 3 1/2 year old son.

With a deep breath, Mati told his son “When I tell you to press the green button, go ahead”. After one more round of CPR the AED urgently reported “Shock Advised”. “PRESS THE BUTTON, NOW!” Mati said, Elnatan did as advised. Another round of CPR, another advised shock, “PRESS IT AGAIN, ELNATAN” and so he did. After a third round of CPR and shocks a spontaneous pulse was detected. When the MICU team did enter the scene they had a patient with a viable pulse and the youngest lifesaver they ever saw.



**Thank you to all who have given us the opportunity to continue our work.
We hope you will continue to support us in the future.**

United Hatzalah is the largest emergency rescue volunteer organization in Israel which, working hand in hand with MDA has the endorsement of the leading Rabbis in Israel.

United Hatzalah has branches in almost every city in Israel from the Golan Heights in the north to Eilat in the south.