

Learning A Lesson

"Whoever preserves a single life is considered to have saved a whole world" is the Talmudic quote used by Magen David Adom as our mantra, our philosophy, our dictum. From a literal perspective we save lives and offer humanitarian assistance worldwide. At this time of COVID however, we are not only saving lives literally but through small acts of kindness and by reaching out to others.

With the High Holidays upon us and a world where we have never experienced the Chagim quite like this, it's a time to put into action the words of our forefathers in the best ways we can. We won't be experiencing our community through shules or family meals but reaching out and letting our friends and family know we are there for them is just as important.

As leaders in the world-wide Jewish community, MDA represents the best in what people have to offer. It is built on the backs of individuals who put others first and who realise the importance of each and every life. Through our Israeli Blood banks and volunteer programs, through our training centres and COVID testing stations, through the fact that our name is synonymous with what is best and good in people, each time we give a little of ourselves, we are saving lives and potential lives. This knowledge is spread through the MDA Friends Societies throughout the world.

Inspiration comes in all forms, and at this time, the Talmudic quote could not be more accurate. Every time each one of us reaches out to another it is an act of kindness and we may not even realise the impact it is having. During these unprecedented times, many of us feel alone and helpless. If we can offer a glimmer of hope through personal contact – by phone, Zoom, by a letter or message, by a bunch of flowers or by just ensuring that others know we are here, and more importantly here for them, we are potentially saving a whole world.

These difficult times, in many ways, are bringing us back to basics - to a time where we know the importance of family and of having each other. Out of darkness often comes good things and an appreciation of what we have, what we are capable of and of each other.



SHARON UNGER

Having worked in Catering for 24 years, Sharon Unger moved into the Not for profit sector in 2015. At Magen David Adom Australia, Sharon works in the field of Events and Fundraising using her extensive experience in dealing with people on a personal basis. She has particularly enjoyed visiting schools and Aged Care Facilities over the years, and is passionate about maintaining positive donor relations. Sharon is proud to be a part of MDA Australia which is represented, by a full female staff in our office, led by Chairperson Glynis Lipson. Sharon has travelled extensively and tries to visit Israel as part of each trip she makes.

ABOUT THE ELUL PROJECT

An initiative aiming to share stories and teachings from Jewish women leaders in our community. Whilst many of us are stuck at home, or isolated from family over Elul and the High Holy Days, we hope this project will serve to inspire, nurture, and uplift during this difficult time.