



About Friends For Health

Created in 2003, Friends for Health is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people in pain, who cannot afford the life-saving medication they need.

Our mission is to provide a warm, personal and professional service to any human being who requests our help.

We help over **40,000** people a year with a broad range of services, all completely free:

- Life-saving medication to those who can't afford it.
- A unique pharmacy, first of its kind in the world, sending medication to chronically ill people.
- Raising of funds for hundreds of people in need of extraordinary medical interventions.
- Advice and legal aid.
- Organization of special events for children with special needs, and much more.

We are a team of 30 professionals and over 4,000 volunteers, including pharmacists, lawyers, doctors and nurses, striving to provide each and every person with the personal care they need.

Friends for Health was awarded **the President's Award** in 2013, the **Health Ministry Award** in 2011, and a **medal for Distinguished Service** from the National Council for Volunteering in 2008.

"We're talking about peoples' lives here; about pain and suffering. We can all help them – simply by donating the medication we no longer use."

**Rabbi Jacob Litzman,
Deputy Minister of
Health**

Free Medication

Diverting medication you no longer need;
to those who can't afford it

Friends for Health is the place where thousands of patients go to receive the medication they can't afford – every month - completely free of charge. We currently provide over 3,000 chronic patients with life-saving medication, gathered from 266 collection points throughout the country.

"None of this could be without our 600 volunteers. They're the ones that are there, day after day. They're the ones answering the phones, listening to the distress, and carrying the pain and suffering they encounter in order to save lives".

Baruch Liberman,
General Manager, Friends for Health

After rigorous sorting by professional pharmacists, the drugs are delivered directly to the patient via courier or registered mail. Expired drugs are sent to professional ('green') disposal. 220 packages of medicine are delivered every day to patients nation-wide.

Pharmaceutical Company Cooperation Project

Sending free medication from pharmaceutical
companies directly to patients

In 2013, Friends for Health initiated a unique project, first of its kind in the world: by close cooperation with leading pharmaceutical companies, we are able to send rare and expensive medication directly to our list of thousands of patients, completely free of charge. This initiative enables us to provide even more chronic and ill patients with the medication they simply cannot afford. The distribution of the expensive and rare drugs received is determined by a weekly internal committee, which defines eligibility and prioritizes the patients. Generic medication received arrives directly to our pharmacy and is then distributed to the chronic patients.

We are proud partners of the following pharmaceutical companies: Roche, Bayer, Pfizer, Teva, Dekson, MSD and Janssen

Lifesaving Donations Funds

Helping hundreds of people receive extraordinary medical
interventions

Thousands of patients in Israel today must personally and immediately finance special treatments, medication and urgent operations, all of which are not covered by public healthcare. Treatment cost can run to hundreds of thousands of shekels. Friends for Health helps hundreds of families a year. We help these families raise funds by publicizing their need to our community and through our media connections. Donations are made directly to families' funds opened by Friends for Health, and are tax deductible.



Legal Aid

Helping patients navigate the bureaucracy

Friends for Health has developed a network of volunteers who help patients navigate the complex bureaucracy.

Friends for Health finances doctors who advise patients on how to obtain funding from the health system and the Social Security Committees.

Mostly volunteer lawyers provide legal aid with regards to the Health Maintenance Organizations and the Health Ministry, to clarify eligibility for medical interventions

Academic Mentoring

Leading universities encourage students to mentor children with special needs

Friends for Health has been financing a mentoring program with the Hebrew University and the University of Tel-Aviv for the last ten years. Occupational therapy students enrolled in the program earn academic credit by mentoring children with special needs. The program has been incorporated as part of the curriculum: Students undergo special training and then volunteer 2 hours a week. In addition to the benefits and fun experienced by the children, the families as well receive a well-deserved rest from the responsibilities involved in caring for a special child. The project is planned to be extended to additional academic institutions.



Extraordinary Activities for Special Children

Providing special-needs children with friendship and fun.

1,685 Friends for Health volunteers organize special events to over 1,900 handicapped children and teenagers throughout the country. Hundreds of youth aged 18-20 choose to serve their national service with us and have even extended their volunteer periods beyond their service to participate in upcoming events. These young volunteers personally handle and accompany the children during the activities.

Benefitting both the children and their families, the events include: parties, day trips, weekends and summer camps. Twice a year we invite the children for trips abroad with the kind cooperation of El Al and local Israeli embassies. The children return with renewed energies to face their treatments, while their families earn a week vacation with the confidence that their child is in the best of hands.





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Medicine And Assistance
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