

# matters OF THE HEART

SAVE A CHILD'S HEART AUSTRALIA

YEAR OF IMPACT

Advancing global  
**health equality**

For the world  
**for Israel**

**new hospital**  
near Tel Aviv

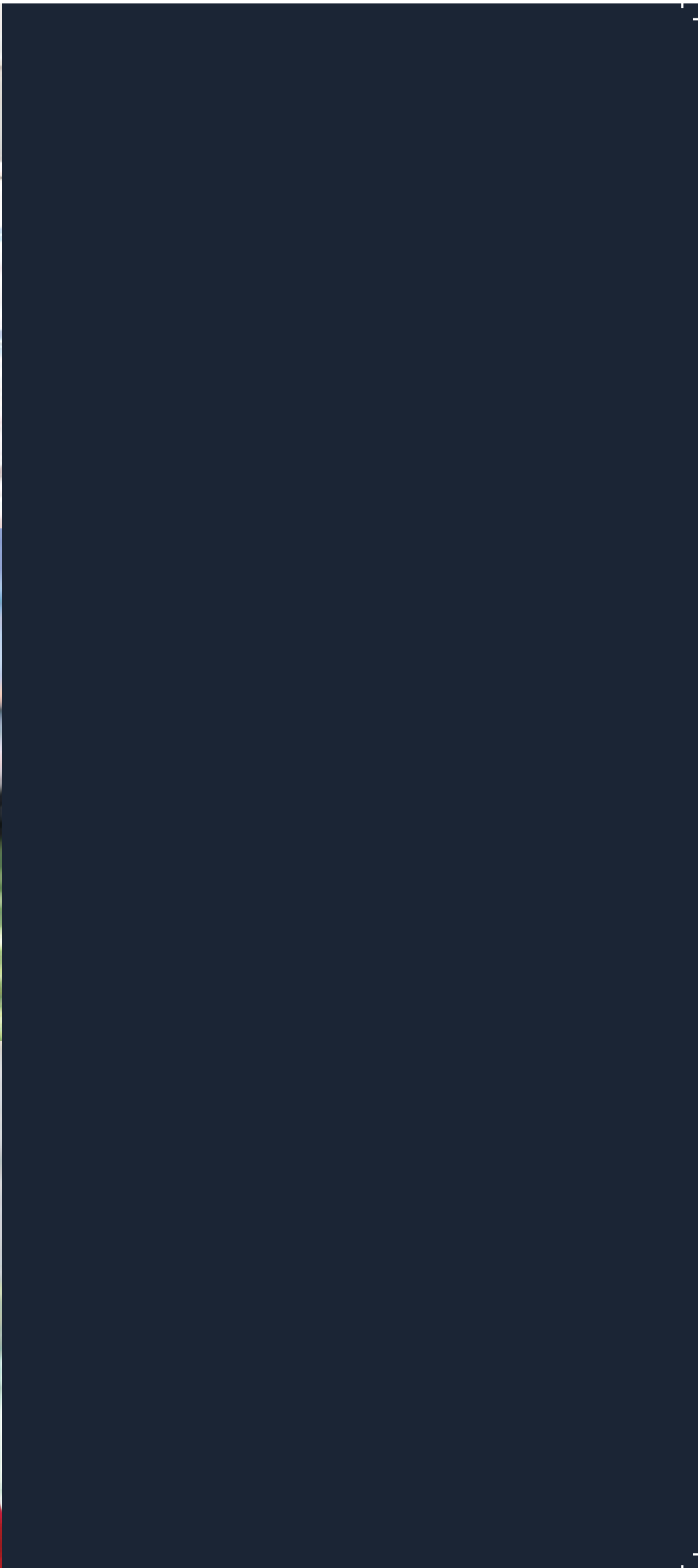
**one child  
saved**  
every 24 hours



SAVE A  
CHILD'S  
HEART

הצל ליבו של ילד





“

Every child deserves a chance at a healthy life. No matter their race, religion, gender, nationality or financial status.

No organisation lives and breathes this mission more than Save a Child's Heart. **They fill the void in addressing the global burden of childhood heart disease.** This is why I continue to support their work – that is a vital lifeline for families, communities and a world that needs it *now*, more than ever.

**Alex Waislitz, The Waislitz Foundation**

SACH Champion & Benefactor









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# Words from the heart of our CEO

When I reflect on the past year the words that encapsulate my experiences are heartwarming and inspiring.



One of the biggest achievements over the past year was reaching our much-anticipated milestone of saving 6,000 lives from 63 countries, since Save a Child's Heart (SACH) began in 1995.

That's 6,000 children, who were given a second chance at a healthy life – because of compassionate people like you. It also reflects the remarkable efforts of our medical and operational teams over the past 25 years.

But what about the lives we saved just last year?

I'm delighted to share that in 2021, SACH Australia funded 41 life-saving heart surgeries.

In addition, we also funded four medical training scholarships for doctors from Zambia, Gaza and Ethiopia. We also helped fund our new *International Pediatric Cardiac Center and Children's Hospital* in Holon, Tel Aviv.

Our Australian community should be especially proud, as we exceeded our expected contribution to the total global funds raised, securing over \$1.1 million in donations.

This past year or so was also the beginning of an era of renewed hope for Israel, driven by new diplomatic ties between Israel and neighbouring nations. We have played an important part in these developments as we've been building relationships with countries like Morocco, Sudan and our Arab



neighbours in the Palestinian Authority, United Arab Emirates and Bahrain for many years.

One of my personal highlights of 2021 was running the Eilat Desert Marathon, raising funds for the heart surgery of Bernnandet, a 10-year-old girl from Zambia. Like many children, she had no access to critical cardiac care.

I will never forget Bernnandet's beaming smile when I first met her at the hospital. Standing in on her surgery – the culmination of my fundraising – was an experience that will stay with me forever. I'm glad to share that Bernnandet is now healthy and back home with her family and friends in Zambia.

Personally, Bernnandet encapsulated why I do what I do. It was overwhelming to witness – first-hand – the sheer happiness and relief on her mother's face, as she hugged her healthy child for the first time.

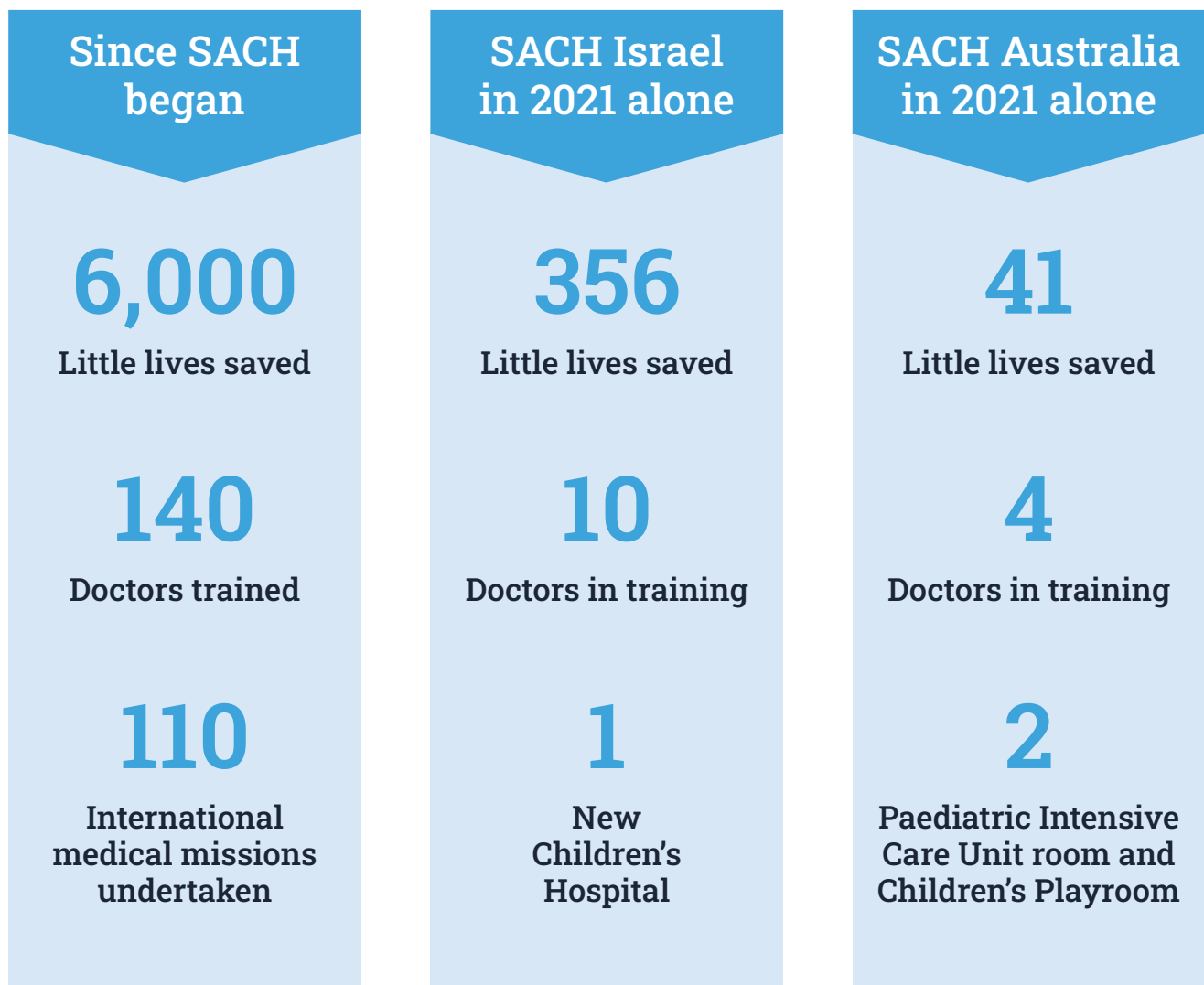
Looking ahead, I hope to grow awareness and support for Save a Child's Heart. In turn, we can treat even more children, train more doctors, and continue to advance global health equality while strengthening our beloved Israel.

**Doron Lazarus**  
National CEO, Save a Child's Heart Australia

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I will never forget the moment I first met Bernnandet at the hospital before her surgery and her beaming smile. Standing in on her surgery – the culmination of my fundraising – was an experience that will stay with me forever.

# The numbers that matter



## Financial Summary Australia 2021



TOTAL FUNDS  
RAISED



■ Funds to Israel 68%  
■ Expenses 32%



■ Funds to Israel 75%  
■ Expenses 25%



# 25 years of saving lives in Israel

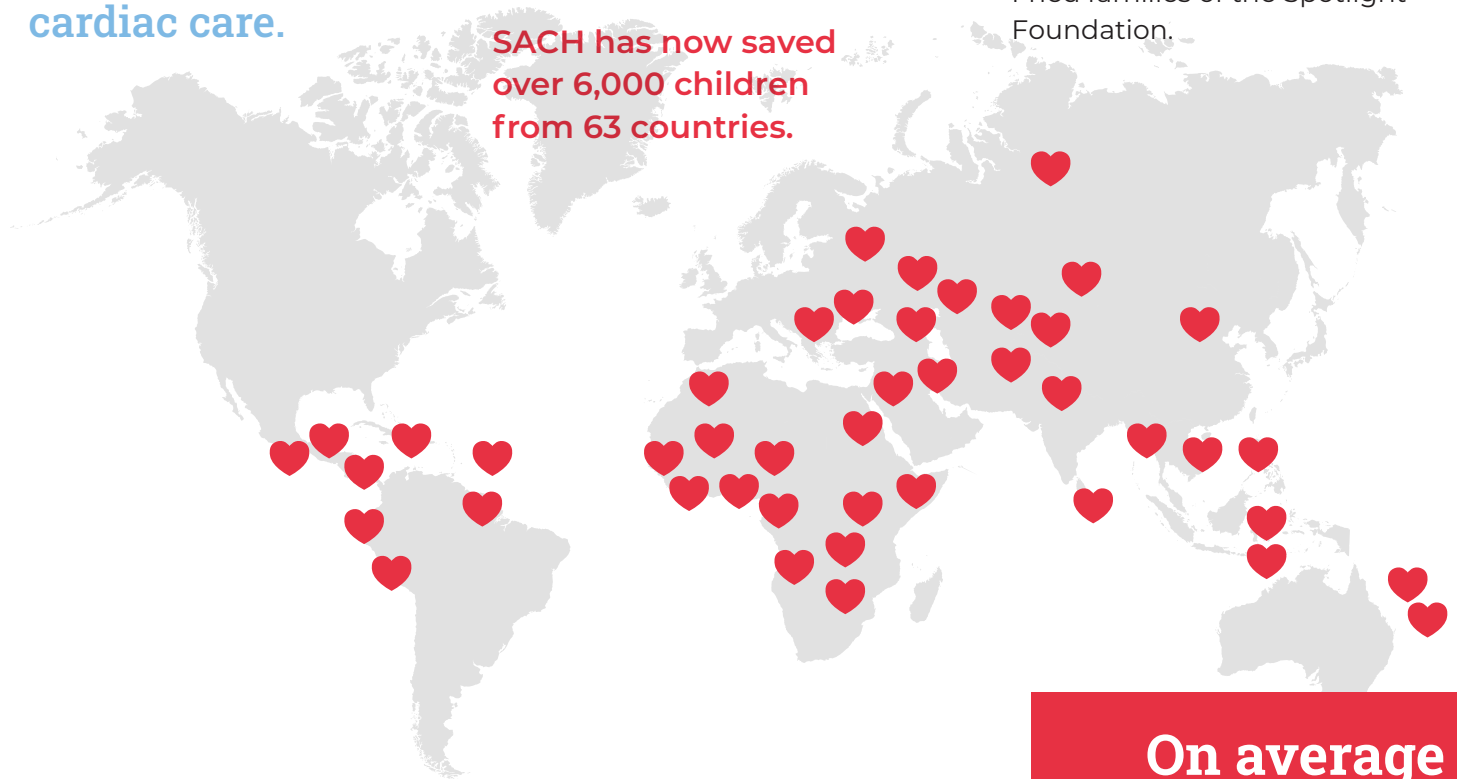
In 2021, we celebrated our 25th year of saving lives of children from countries without access to critical cardiac care.

It's a monumental achievement that reflects the tireless work of our team – and immense generosity of our community, who have supported us through the years.

To make this anniversary even more special, last year also marked another record:

**SACH has now saved over 6,000 children from 63 countries.**

A special thanks to all of our communal supporters and those donors who directly funded a lifesaving surgery, including David and Bindy Koadlow, Banxa, Bob and Candi Burger Trust, The ORAH Fund, the Slonim family, and the Fraid and Fried families of the Spotlight Foundation.



On average

every

**24**  
hours

**a child**

receives a life-saving heart surgery at SACH

## SEKINAT'S STORY

# From Nigeria to Israel: Searching for hope and a healthy heart

**Every fortnight for four years, Sekinat boarded a bus with her mother, Aishat, in Lagos, Nigeria, and rode one hour to their nearest hospital.**

The visits began when Sekinat broke her arm at just five years old. After several weeks, Aishat noticed that something was wrong: her little girl's forearm wasn't healing.

Concerned, as any mother would be, Aishat rushed Sekinat to their local hospital.

It was there that they received the news that not only did Sekinat have a hole in her heart – she also had three other critical heart defects.

From that moment on, Sekinat and Aishat began fortnightly trips to the hospital for rigorous medical monitoring. The journeys took their toll. But most of all, for this mother and daughter, it felt like there was no hope in sight.







That was until 2021, when Aishat received a call. It was from her doctor, sharing the news that Sekinat had been scheduled to travel to Israel for a life-saving surgery.

"I was so happy," Aishat remembers.

"The work SACH does, it's not little things, they save lives. I cannot thank SACH enough for everything they have done for my family and so many others."

Now, Sekinat is a vibrant nine-year-old. She has big dreams for her future. And most of all, Aishat has the deep comfort every mother deserves: that her daughter now has a healthy future.

Sekinat's story is just one of 6000 other beautiful stories.

“

The work SACH does,  
it's not little things,  
they save lives.

Aishat



# Advancing global health equality, one doctor at a time

Disease knows no borders. But today, healthcare still does – with many children in the developing world unable to access vital cardiac services.

**Featured:**

Dr Tolesa Waktola Gemechu, Ethiopia - Intensive Care (this page),  
Dr Fitsum Argaw Abebe, Ethiopia - Cardiac Surgery (opposite left),  
Dr Stella Mongella, Tanzania - Paediatrician (opposite upper right),  
Dr Ahmed Zarour, Palestinian Authority - Cardiac Surgery (opposite lower right).



For millions of people, economic inequality and a lack of resources are perpetuating health disparities.

For children in many countries, healthcare inaccessibility is particularly dire.

### The heart of the problem

Over the past 30 years, children's deaths from communicable diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV have plummeted. Yet the mortality from congenital heart disease (CHD) hasn't waned and is expected to reach epidemic proportions, especially in many African countries.

Affecting one in every 100 children, CHD is the most common birth defect. Yet in Africa alone, as in many other developing nations, over 90% of these children don't have access to the cardiac care they need.



In many developing nations, over 90% of children [with CHD] don't have access to the cardiac care they need.

Since we opened our doors in 1995, SACH has trained 140 doctors and medical specialists.





## How SACH is repairing hearts – and the world

That's why SACH has stepped in, with a model designed to transform global health outcomes in the long term.

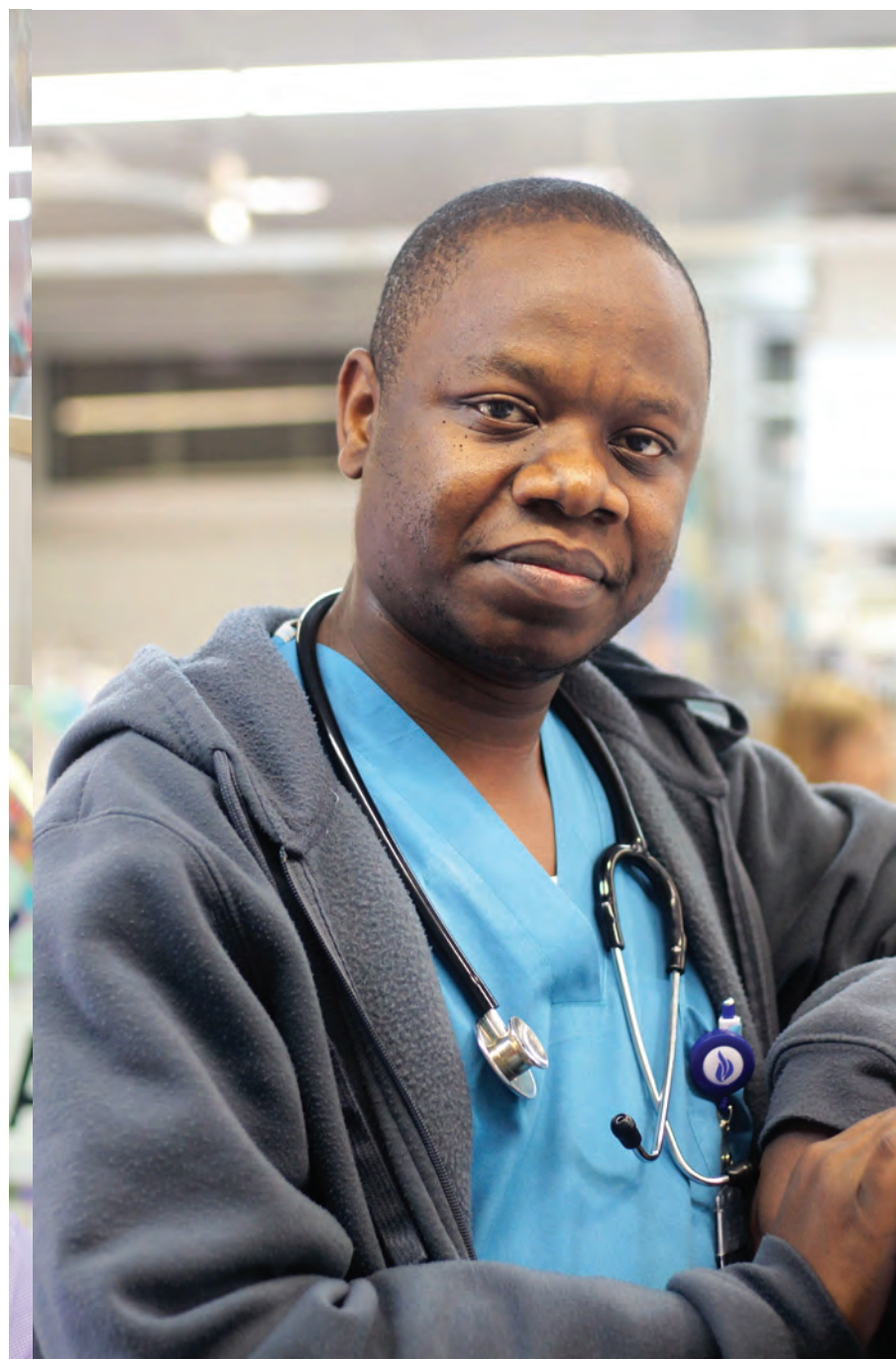
Each year, SACH brings medical professionals to Israel, where they receive specialist training in surgical cardiac care and other specialist fields. These doctors then return home, where vital

cardiac services are limited or non-existent, and establish local centres of cardiac excellence.

Since we opened our doors in 1995, SACH has trained 140 doctors and medical specialists.

We are beyond grateful to Alex Waislitz and the Waislitz Foundation for supporting the medical scholarships of Zambian doctors, Dr Mudaniso Ziwa and Dr Michael Kangwa, as well as Dr Enas Kabar from Gaza.





“

Zambia is a country of about 18 million people, without a single paediatric cardiac surgeon.

Thanks to my training in this specialty at SACH, I hope we can establish paediatric cardiac services back home... and eliminate the waiting list for Zambian children.

**Dr Mudaniso Kumani Ziwa**

Zambia

Last year, Portland House Foundation funded the training of Dr. Fitsum Argaw Abebe from Ethiopia. Dr Abebe is one of the many doctors we have educated, as part of our long-term strategy to develop paediatric cardiac services around the world, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Above:**

**Dr Yayu Mekonnen, Ethiopia - Cardiac Surgery** (far left),  
**Dr Enas Kaabar, Gaza -Anesthesia** (upper centre),  
**Dr Michael Kangwa, Zambia - Anesthesia** (lower centre),  
**Dr Mudaniso Ziwa, Zambia - Cardiac Surgery** (far right).

# A new hospital for the future near Tel Aviv

The new hospital will care for children from around the world, as well as Israeli children.

Our new USD\$65 million *International Pediatric Cardiac Center & Children's Hospital* in Holon, south of Tel Aviv, has commenced operation.

This state-of-the-art facility will be the largest of its kind in the Middle East and allow us to double our capacity over the coming years. It will care for children from around the world, as well as Israeli children, playing a vital role in serving the needs of children from communities in South Tel Aviv, many who face economic and social challenges.

These children will now have access to the most advanced care available anywhere in Israel.







“

What I do, I do as an Israeli. It's my pride that as an Israeli I can offer to do this. I think this is part of our Jewish tradition to do "Tikun Olam" – and this is what we do here.

**Dr Alona Raucher Sternfeld**

Head of the Paediatric Cardiology Unit  
Wolfson Medical Center, Save a Child's Heart





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We are proud to support Save a Child's Heart and strongly believe in developing a culture of care which provides our teams with an opportunity to give back in such a meaningful way.

**Earl Evans and Allan Zion**  
Co-CEO's Shaw and Partners

The hospital will also feature the latest in medical innovation and technology, as well as an entire floor dedicated to training and simulation. This will attract the brightest minds in the field of paediatric cardiac medicine from all around the world, to learn and collaborate in Israel.

Our deepest gratitude to Earl Evans and Al Zion from Shaw and Partners who funded a Paediatric Intensive Care room. This space will be used for the most critical cases, treating children for decades to come.

Similarly, thank you to John Roth and Jillian Segal who generously funded the new children's playroom. This stunning and interactive space will let children find joy, away from their treatment.

“

Our ongoing support of Save a Child's Heart is testament to the significant impact of their life-saving work around the world – providing critical treatment to children who would otherwise not have access to the care they need.

**John Roth & Jillian Segal AO**



Several areas of the hospital have been named in honour of other generous donors, including Alex Waislitz and the Waislitz Foundation, Goldschlager Family, Goodridge Foundation, David & Bindy Koadlow, The Besen Family Foundation, Lance & Julie Rosenberg, Millie Phillips z"l and Family, The ORAH Fund, Ruth & Sam Alter, Centennial Property Group, ABL, John and Penelope McBain, the Jack & Robert Smorgon Families Foundation, Victor Smorgon Family Foundation, Sunraysia Foundation and Brand Foundation.

Upper left:

**Cheque presentation with Russell Karlson, Shaw and Partners Foundation Chair**



“

Save a Child's Heart represents the best of humanity, Jewish ethics and the Israeli spirit.

It shows the world that for all our differences, we are stricken by the same conditions and motivated by the same basic desire to see our children healthy. **It is a powerful force for goodness and peace.**

**Alex Ryvchin**

Co-CEO, Executive Council of Australian Jewry

# For the world, for Israel: **Dispelling myths and shifting attitudes**

**Proud is an understatement for the vital work we do at SACH in shifting political dynamics and attitudes towards Israel.**

From the Abraham Accords – to a growing number of other nations establishing trade treaties with Israel, there is genuine hope for a golden age of cooperation in the Middle East.

This significant progress cannot be underestimated and neither can the foundational work SACH has made in building trust and cooperation between Israel and various countries over the many years prior.

Doctors can cross borders that diplomats can't. And so, while our doctors either travelled to – or treated children from countries like Morocco and Sudan, they also showcased Israel as a shining example of humanity.

Through cultivating these relationships, and potentially even dispelling myths, we've shifted attitudes and built trust from the ground up. We're now seeing these actions play out in the political sphere, with more to follow.

“

Our patients and their families speak different languages, practise different faiths, and comprise different ethnicities. We treat all these children with compassion, dignity and care. We do not only save lives, we change the way Israel is viewed in the region.

**Simon Fisher, Advocate. Executive Director,**  
Save a Child's Heart Israel







(Left to right) Ambassador of Rwanda, Ambassador of Zambia, Simon Fisher, Ambassador of Tanzania, Ambassador of Ethiopia

So, Save a Child's Heart is not just saving lives, but helping to strengthen Israel's standing on the world stage.

Plus, with thousands of Palestinian children owing their lives to care from SACH Israel, we're also creating generational change and fostering bonds.

Proud is an understatement for the vital work we do at SACH in shifting political dynamics and attitudes towards Israel.

Upper right: Ghana Ambassador to Israel, Her Excellency Mrs. Hannah Ama Nyarko with Doron Lazarus

Lower right: (Left to right) Doron Lazarus, Ambassador Jalahma (and his wife), Sylvan Adams, Simon Fisher



“

Save a Child's Heart is an outstanding organisation dedicated to healing those in need while building bridges through genuine compassion, unity and inclusion.

Simone Szalmuk-Singer, CEO & Director, Erdi Foundation

“

I have heard of the work you do across the world. And I hope that this is the beginning of a fruitful relationship between Bahrain and Israel in the medical field. Your programs are what will make our world a better place.

His Excellency, Khaled Yusuf Al Jalahama  
Ambassador of Bahrain to Israel

# When our community unites for good

## Our event highlights

### **Valentine's Day in May Gala & 'Cocktails for the Heart' with The Waislitz Foundation**

While we couldn't host our Gala in person due to COVID-19, we still funded nearly 30 life-saving surgeries. A big thank you to our corporate sponsors who gave us their blessing to allocate their table sponsorship towards saving children's lives. We were delighted to have the opportunity to later thank over 100 supporters and friends at our 'Cocktails for the Heart' event.

It was wonderful to be together – and celebrate under the stars – as we thanked our caring community for saving children's lives around the world.

### **'Give Your Heart Out', hosted by John Roth & Jillian Segal**

We held a very special event in Sydney last year, hosted by John Roth and Jillian Segal AO.

This amazing evening raised funds for seven lifesaving surgeries – as well as the fit-out of an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in the new *International Pediatric Cardiac Center* and Children's Hospital in Holon, south of Tel Aviv.

### **'Give Your Heart Out' – Young Leadership**

This year, we held a special Valentine's 'Give Your Heart Out' event and Chanukah party with over 200 young Jewish members of our community.

We are immensely proud of playing our role in connecting the next generation to their Jewish values and Israel. We are deeply grateful to the Besen Family Foundation for supporting our Young Leadership program.











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They say ‘whoever saves a life saves the world’. It is a daily pleasure to bring healing and peace to children’s hearts, and to be surrounded by the SACH community of unity and love.

**Dr Sagi Assa**

Head of the Interventional  
Paediatric Cardiology Unit  
Wolfson Medical Center,  
Save a Child’s Heart



# To our corporate supporters, thank you

## CORPORATE PARTNERS 2021



## CORPORATE SUPPORTERS 2021



# The people who make it possible

## **AUSTRALIA**

### **SACH Champion & Benefactor**

Alex Waislitz

### **Board of Management**

Simon Fisher

Yoav Lewis

Simon Singer

### **National CEO**

Doron Lazarus

## **ISRAEL**

### **Advocate. Executive Director**

Simon Fisher

### **Deputy Executive Director and Director of International & Public Relations**

Tamar Shapira

### **Office Manager**

Sarah Nevo

### **House Mother**

Laura Kafif

### **Medical Secretary**

Dawn Mizrachi

### **Director of Resource Development**

Ido Gutin

### **Grants and Development Manager**

Jennifer Lang

### **International Young Leadership Director**

Danielle Rothenberg

### **Paediatric Cardiac Surgery**

*Director of Paediatric*

*Cardiac Surgery*

Dr Lior Sasson

*Director of*

*Cardiothoracic Surgery*

Dr Hagi Dekel

### **Paediatric Cardiology**

*Director of Paediatric*

*Cardiology*

Dr Alona Raucher Sternfeld

*Senior Paediatric Cardiologist*

*& Head of the Interventional*

*Paediatric Cardiology Unit*

Dr Sagi Assa

### **Paediatric Intensive Care**

*Director of the Paediatric*

*Intensive Care Unit*

Dr Racheli Sion Sarid

**And all of our medical teams, support staff and volunteers.**



“

In this small global village that we all share, we must care for our own children – as well as our neighbours. No matter how near or far, we are all one people. Neither geography nor prejudice should impede us. In the words of the Bible, and common to all beliefs: We must love our neighbour as ourselves. This principle underlies all that we do at Save a Child's Heart.

**Dr Lior Sasson**

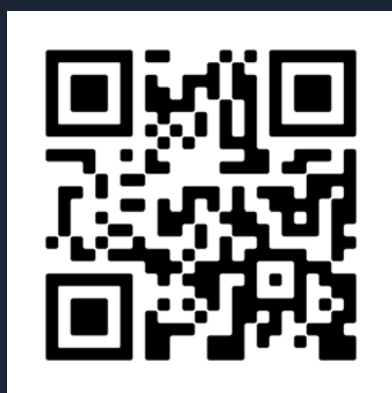
Director of Paediatric Cardiac Surgery  
Wolfson Medical Center, Save a Child's Heart



# Thank you...

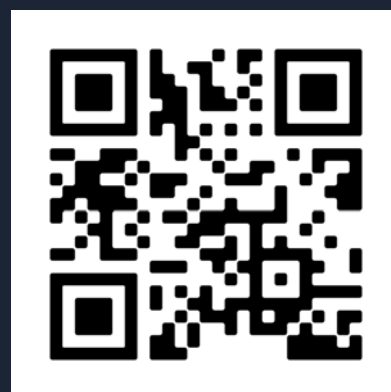
As long as children with heart disease around the world continue to suffer without access to care, we will treat these children, train medical professionals and raise the level of paediatric cardiac care worldwide, all from our HEART in ISRAEL

To view a brief video please scan below



SAVE A  
CHILD'S  
HEART  
הצל ליבו של ילד

To make tax deductible donation please scan below



For more information or to discuss your support please contact

**DORON LAZARUS**, National CEO

doron.lazarus@saveachildsheart.org.au **phone: 0487 340 092**

saveachildsheart.org

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