

The Israel Parkinson Association

The Israel Parkinson Association (IPA) was founded in 1993 by Parkinson's disease patients to support people impacted by Parkinson's disease and their caregivers. We are the **only** organization caring exclusively for Parkinson's patients in Israel.

Through **18 branches** spread across the country, the Association provides Parkinson's patients with professional consultation, emotional support groups, subsidized physical rehabilitative activities, lectures by physicians and recreational, cultural and social activities. In addition, we closely cooperate with a **Medical Advisory Committee**, whose members are professionals in the field of Parkinson's. The committee writes recommendation letters for the health basket, provides consultations for formal appeals and more. Patients can also benefit from our organization's **Web Based Resource Center** which encompasses information concerning which governmental bodies/organizations to apply for aid, samples of completed forms etc. Consultation with an attorney specializing in legal aid for disabled individuals is also available. Those in need can also call our **Hotline** which is operated by volunteers who were trained by ERAN (Emotional First Aid). They offer the patients comfort and support in a variety of domains, both functional and emotional.

Moreover, the organization endeavors to increase **public awareness** of Parkinson's disease and engages in lobbying to expand the health basket of services to include new medications and advanced treatments. Thanks to our efforts, the Knesset Lobby on Parkinson's Disease was established in 2013. IPA also cultivates collaboration between researchers to **promote groundbreaking research** in order to help develop new treatments and find a cure for the disease.

In addition to our ongoing activities as described above, the IPA constantly develops **new programs** to suit the needs of patients. As part of this operation, for the past few years we are operating a program for newly diagnosed Parkinson's patients and their families. The IPA provides them and their family members with ongoing guidance from veteran patients and operates informational events regarding the disease. Recently, we also started collaborating with the Sheba Medical Center and established a new program for Parkinson's patients who are bound to their home (Remote Access). Patients receive treatments through an online platform by professionals and improve their functioning. Finally, we also began funding patients' transportation expenses as they are in need of suitable transportation in order to reach doctor's appointments and our branches for them to take part in our activities.

For its outstanding services to the Parkinson's disease community, the IPA was awarded the President's Mark of Distinction for Volunteering, the Health Minister's Shield for Outstanding Volunteers, the Ministry of Labor's Shield for Volunteers, and also received the Midot Seal of Effectiveness, which is an indication of our ability to generate social value and improve the lives of our beneficiaries.

In order for us to continue providing these services to Parkinson's patients in need, we need your support. I hope you will find our organization worthy and will agree to donate. I will be happy to provide you with additional information as needed.

Sincerely,

Zion Azrad, Director of Resource Development

Tel: +972-54-5629482

Email: zionazrad2012@gmail.com