

Baycrest Funds Update



The Baycrest Centre
Foundation

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E N D O W M E N T & C O V E N A N T F U N D N E W S

Bequest makes life-long dream a reality

The late **Fanny Levy** always wanted to become a nurse but in her teens this eldest of five children went to work as a bookkeeper to help support her family. Later, she met and married Maxwell Levy, a Toronto lawyer, had one child and became a full-time homemaker. Now, two years after her

passing at age 95, a generous bequest in her Will has made it possible for Fanny to help others achieve their dreams in nursing.

The Maxwell A. and Fanny Levy Nursing Award, named in honour of Fanny and her husband, will be awarded on an annual basis to a registered nurse at Baycrest who makes a commitment to further his or her nursing education by developing stronger leadership skills with the goal of improving client care.

“We know health care in Canada is facing severe nursing shortages,” says **Rhonda Seidman-Carlson**, Director of Nursing Placement, Development and Practice at Baycrest. “Education awards like these motivate our nursing staff to stay involved at the bedside while continuing to grow as caregivers.”

“Our sister was really committed to health care and ongoing education all her life,” says her family. “We can’t help but think that by helping others in this way, Fanny has finally realized her dream.”



Maxwell and Fanny Levy

Happy 90th birthday Paul Menceles !

The Menceles’s are celebrating a family birthday like never before thanks to the extraordinary care provided by Baycrest.

Andrew Menceles, with wife **Judy** and mother **Lily**, established a special 90th birthday gift fund at Baycrest in honour of **Paul**, after he spent three weeks nursing a broken leg at Baycrest Hospital.

“I had no idea what went on at Baycrest until we saw for ourselves the kind of excellent care my father received,” explains Andrew. “You could go all over the world and never find another facility like Baycrest.”

“Knowing how many people depend on Baycrest made us want to contribute as much as we could,” adds **Judy**.



Paul and Lily Menceles

Volunteer opens covenant fund, shares blessings

Two years ago **Harry Jonas** turned 80 and to celebrate, **Zelda Jonas**, his loving wife of over 59 years, opened a special gift fund at Baycrest in his honour. Friends and family were invited to make a contribution to Baycrest in lieu of other gifts. Several months later, Zelda and Harry decided to convert the special gift fund into a covenant fund, where the name of the fund will last in perpetuity.

When asked why they chose Baycrest, Zelda, a volunteer in the Foundation Card Office, said Baycrest had given her and her family so much over the years. "My mother was a resident in

the Home, Harry volunteered in Palliative Care, and years ago we established an endowment fund in honour of my parents **Arnold and Frania**

Hochberg," says Zelda. "The covenant fund was a nice way to attach our immediate family's name to Baycrest as well as share our blessings with the community."



Baycrest welcomes members from the Jonas family at a recent fundholder reception. (L-r) **Sheri Jonas, Harry and Zelda Jonas, Lillian Benson and Ellen Melman.**

"My heart has always been with Baycrest," says **Sonia Anisman**, who together with son and daughter-in-law **Ron and Sharon Anisman** (right), and daughter and son-in-law **Dena and Adam Ochshorn** established a covenant fund honouring late husband and father **Arthur Anisman**. Sonia, a retired nurse who used to work at Baycrest many years ago remembers Baycrest fondly, as does Ron, who recalls visiting his aunt at Baycrest every Friday when he was a young boy. "We've always been strong supporters of Baycrest and we're very happy to carry on that tradition through this fund," adds Ron.



Family dedicated to support place called home



Julian Ernest and wife **Corinne Engel** recently attended a special tour for fundholders of **The Rotman Research Institute** at Baycrest.

When **Mary Ernest** could no longer live on her own, Baycrest was there for her. Now, as the needs of the facility their mother called home for more than ten years are growing, the roles are reversed.

"Baycrest took excellent care of my mother when she needed it most," recalls **Julian Ernest**, who, with wife **Corinne Engel** and sister and brother-in-law **Leonie and Lorne Richler**, established a covenant fund in her honour. "Now, it's important

for us to meet Baycrest's needs and the needs of our community."

As a resident of the Apotex Centre, Mary suffered from dementia, which left her virtually detached from the things she loved most. "She lost so much as a result of her illness," explains Julian. "Baycrest was able to reach my mother when nobody else could," he adds. The art and music program were her favourites, according to Julian. "Those programs kept her going."



Covenant fundholder **Evelyn Wolf** wants to help Baycrest meet its most pressing needs.

Evelyn Wolfe hopes the covenant fund she established in honour of her late husband, **Milton Wolfe**, will help Baycrest meet its most pressing needs.

“Baycrest was so good to us, that I want to help make sure it’s always around to help others,” she explains. In addition to the care her husband received at an

outpatient clinic, Wolfe says she appreciates the guidance and support she was given when times were tough.

“I saw how great the need is for community support and I believe it’s important for us all to do what we can.”

Wolfe, whose mother **Bertha Olanow** volunteered at Baycrest when it was located on Cecil Street, has been a long-time supporter. “From its humble beginnings, Baycrest has become one of the outstanding geriatric facilities in Canada and the Toronto Jewish community should be very proud of what we have accomplished. It merits our total support.”

Endowed clinic day and lecture share knowledge

More than 120 people attended the recent **Dr. Ira Pollock Memorial Clinic Day and Wulf Grobin Memorial Lecture** at the **Wagman Centre**. Participants at the annual event included Baycrest staff and other Toronto health care practitioners from a variety of disciplines, including Medicine and Nursing.

“These events are so important,” says Dr. Michael Gordon, Vice-President, Medical Services. “They provide a rare opportunity for experts to talk about significant issues in care, treatment and diagnosis that relate specifically to aging.”

Dr. Sheila Pollock, widow of the late Dr. Ira Pollock, and primary

sponsor of the fund that endows the event, is proud of her husband’s association with Baycrest. A family doctor who worked with his father and two brothers at the Pollock Family Clinic on Bloor Street, Dr. Ira Pollock served as Chairman of the Admissions Committee for the Home. “I know he would be impressed with today’s clinic day,” says Sheila, a retired social worker and long-time clinic day attendee. “It has a broader focus than most medical conferences in that it incorporates knowledge from such diverse areas as Psychology and Social Work, in effect, focusing on the person as a whole in lieu of just the disease.”

Surviving son and primary sponsor of **The Fay Florence Grobin and Dr. Wulf Grobin Endowment Fund**, **Michael Grobin** believes the ethics lecture, which is now part of the clinic day programme, pays special tribute to his father and the years he dedicated to Baycrest clients as a consultant in diabetes from 1963 until his retirement in 1996 at the age of 85. His internationally acclaimed research study of diabetic and non-diabetic residents of the Home spanned nearly 30 years and led to improved quality of life for elderly people everywhere.

(L-r) **Ida Parsons, Mary McInnis, Michael Grobin,** and **Dr. Sheila Pollock** take a private moment with keynote speaker **Dr. Michael Gordon** (second from left) during Baycrest’s Clinic Day and Lecture. The annual event for health care practitioners is sponsored in part by **The Dr. Ira Pollock Endowment Fund** and **The Fay Florence Grobin and Dr. Wulf Grobin Endowment Fund**.



The Demon family had very little connection to Baycrest until one of their loved ones was admitted to the Hospital for long-term continuing care. Once **Ifa Demon** witnessed first hand the quality of care her husband **Morris** received at the facility for nearly two years, her ties to Baycrest increased dramatically.

“I had never contributed to Baycrest until Morris became a patient at the Hospital,” admits Ifa. After experiencing excellent care and learning what it takes to provide that level of care, Ifa felt she had to do something to show her appreciation. “I knew Baycrest needed funds and I was more than happy to help.”

That’s why Ifa and her two sons **Brian** and **Marvin Demone** and their respective wives **Lois** and **Judy** established **The Ifa and Morris Demon Endowment Fund** to honour Morris and to provide

Baycrest with critical funds to meet pressing needs.

“My family was very appreciative of the tremendous care my dad received as well as the support they provided to the rest of the family,” says Marvin. “Baycrest made some very difficult times much, much easier and for that we’re very grateful.”

Marvin recalls how weekly concerts, synagogue services and attention to Jewish tradition, unique to Baycrest, enhanced his father’s stay in the hospital and improved his quality of life.

“The Jewish community should be very proud to have a facility like Baycrest,” adds Marvin. “We’re very pleased that our family is doing its part to make sure Baycrest continues to carry out this very important work.”



Ifa Demon embraces granddaughter **Hayley** after accepting a plaque in honour of **The Ifa and Morris Demon Endowment Fund**.

Fundholder helps out in whatever way she can

In addition to attracting leading clinical psychologists and collaborating with world-renowned researchers, Baycrest’s Psychology Department counts patrons and volunteers among its most valued assets.

Volunteer **Lily Barr** became closely involved with the Department, which specializes in treating and researching memory disorders related to aging, after creating a special endowment fund in honour of her late husband **David Barr** who was a patient at Baycrest Hospital.

“Lily is one of our strongest advocates,” says **Dr. Guy Proulx**, a recent recipient of the President’s Award for Leadership Excellence at Baycrest and head of the Psychology Department.

After meeting Dr. Proulx at a gathering for endowment fund donors, Lily began to volunteer twice a week in the Memory and Aging Program for Mild Cognitive Impairment as well as other memory related projects, inputting computer data and conducting literature research, among other tasks.

“Support from people like Lily is absolutely invaluable,” notes Dr. Proulx. “Without it we wouldn’t be able to hire the students we need and we wouldn’t be able to move as fast as we are in finding ways to treat these disorders.”

“I’m so impressed with the way the Department and Dr. Proulx reach out to help people from all across Ontario and from all walks of life and religions,” says Barr. “I feel so lucky to help out in whatever way I can.”

When **Ben and Julia Golinsky** decided which community organization should be the recipient of a significant contribution that would bear their name, Baycrest was an easy choice.

“Baycrest has always provided good care to our family,” explains Ben, whose mother **Minnie Golinsky** and aunt **Helen Slutsky** were both residents of the facility. The couple recently established **The Ben and Julia Golinsky Endowment Fund** to support **The Rotman Research Institute**.

The Institute, which was established in 1989, strives to find better ways to care for the elderly and treat the diseases of aging. Drawing top scientists from around the world to study memory and the higher functions of the brain, the Institute has become world-renowned in its field.

“When the opportunity arose for my wife and me to make a substantial gift, we knew Baycrest was the right place,” says Ben.

Schipper award recognizes staff excellence

Baycrest’s best and brightest are being recognized for their leadership, hard work and innovation thanks to support from **The Anna and Frank Schipper Endowment Fund**.

“Being recognized by our peers and the community makes what we do all the more worthwhile,” says Speech-Language Pathologist **Lisa Sokoloff**, who won the 2003 Excellence in Leadership Award. Baycrest and the Schipper Endowment Fund jointly sponsor the award, which is part of the annual staff rewards and recognition program.

Sokoloff, who works in the Department of Communication Disorders, helped implement the use of a new digital imaging system to improve assessment for clients with swallowing problems due to strokes or other progressive diseases such as Alzheimer’s or Parkinson’s.

“Everything we do directly affects our clients and the treatment they receive,” says Sokoloff. “When our efforts are acknowledged in this way it gives us incentive to continue to strive for excellence.”

“Baycrest prides itself on the quality of care it provides and the

calibre of the staff that provides that care,” adds **Norman Schipper**, former Baycrest President and Chair of the Board of Directors, who established The Anna and Frank Schipper Endowment Fund together with his wife **Honey Schipper**, in honour of his parents.

“My mother was a big believer in recognizing the people who cared for her while she was in Baycrest Hospital,” notes Norman. “That’s why it’s so fitting this endowment fund supports such an important recognition program.”

Speech-Language Pathologist **Lisa Sokoloff** (2nd from left) poses with **Honey and Norman Schipper** (right) and **Lyn Ben-Dat** of the Foundation after receiving an Excellence in Leadership Award. The annual award, funded by **The Anna and Frank Schipper Endowment Fund**, recognizes staff excellence, innovation and achievement.



Man's best friend brightens lives

Baycrest endowment and covenant fundholder **Dr. Arthur Arshawsky** likes brightening up other peoples' lives. Every Tuesday, the retired endodontist and his beloved dog, **Elmo**, make their rounds visiting Baycrest Hospital patients as part of the Centre's Pet Program. Sometimes, they visit the Terraces of Baycrest as well.

Not long ago, Arthur recognized firsthand the benefits that animal visits can provide when he himself was a patient on 3-West of Baycrest Hospital, recovering from a serious hip injury. Each day, a friend would

bring Elmo, his seven-year-old Vyshla to see him.

Arthur recently lost his oldest daughter **Michele Andrea Arshawsky**, and his beloved wife, **Joyce**, eight years ago. His youngest daughter **Lisa** lives far away in Los Angeles, so he found Elmo's visits a great comfort while in the hospital.

The staff enjoyed Elmo's visits as well, so once he finished rehabilitation therapy, Arthur decided it would be great for other interested clients to benefit from Elmo's visits too. Now, he and Elmo are regular volunteers.

"I like helping other people and I understand what they're going through," he says. "It's very rewarding to see peoples' faces light up when I bring Elmo in for visits. It's really beautiful, and it's a great experience for me as well."



Endowment & covenant fundholder **Dr. Arthur Arshawsky** and his dog **Elmo** visit Baycrest patients as part of a unique pet program.

Contact Us!

Baycrest Funds Update is published semi-annually to keep you up-to-date on individuals, events and programs that relate to activities at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Please address your comments or ideas to the Editor at:

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