



**HADASSAH**  
Nurses & Allied Health  
Professionals Council

## NEWSLETTER Fall 2020



### Welcome Message from the Council Chair

Dear Colleagues,

Tom wrenched my heart. He is a nurse and frontline hospital worker dealing with COVID-19 patients. He was interviewed on the November 1 episode of the Rachel Maddow Show. Generally, when we listen to news surrounding the pandemic, it is focused on patients and numbers. But this segment with Tom brought to the forefront that these nurses, working with so many critical patients, are also suffering and struggling mightily. He was the first nurse in his hospital to lose a patient to COVID-19, and he couldn't stop crying. Tom related how devastating the pandemic has become and that his heart is broken due to his inability to improve conditions for both the patients and nurses. As nurses, we have all learned to hide our own pain deep within ourselves to be able to care for others. We must keep in mind that these nurses need our continual love and support. The healers need healing! All of our frontline workers epitomize what service and sacrifice look like.

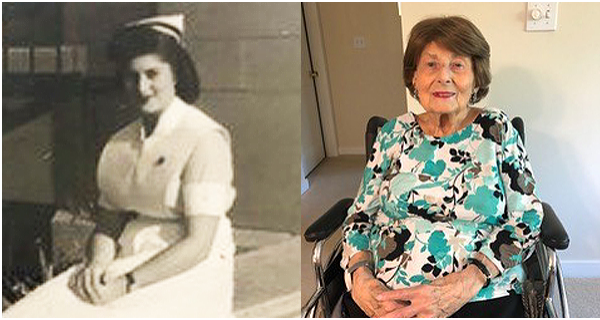
In our effort to show our support for our colleagues, I would like to thank Helene Kornstein for working to get a policy statement written asking our government to provide sufficient PPE. [Visit the Social Action Network to support our effort.](#)

Later the same day, I was privileged to hear Abby Kra Friedman present a webinar titled "Inside the Hadassah School of Nursing in Israel: Nursing Education During the Time of COVID-19," and moderated by our own Dianne Gottlieb, MSN, APRN, CNM. Abby first reassured us that what happens at the Henrietta Szold School of Nursing would not be possible without the fundamental partnership with Hadassah Nurses & Allied Health Professionals Council and Hadassah. Listening to Abby, I was immediately transported back in time to my own experience as a student nurse. The words she used to describe bringing nursing practice to life over Zoom are still part of our professional lexicon. It took me back to the days when I learned to write a nursing care plan and how to continually evaluate the success of said plan.

This past year, the Nurses & Allied Health Professionals Council has presented our members with many outstanding learning opportunities like this one. You can read about those, and many more interesting pieces of news, in the newsletter below. And stay tuned; there is much more to come!

Best wishes,  
Susan Lafer, RN  
Chair, Hadassah Nurses & Allied Health Professionals Council

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## Celebrating and Honoring a Nurse Heroine: Faye Berzon

For Veterans Day on November 11, Hadassah profiled an extraordinary woman who is a nurse and a member of our council. At the age of 94, Faye Berzon belongs to a group of 124,000 unique women who played a significant role as members of the US Cadet Nurse Corps. Faye is one of the "unsung heroines of World War II," where she was proud to serve in the all-female Corps, the first uniformed service in the US that did not discriminate based on religion

or race.

We're extremely proud of Faye and her remarkable achievement! Click [here](#) to read her deeply inspiring story.

## Advocacy Alert from Helene Kornstein



Our council has the opportunity to help advocate for the passage of a bill for limited Honorary Veteran status for WWII Cadet Nurses. The mission of the US Cadet Nurses Corps from 1943-1948 was to serve as nurses on the home front while preparing nurses for service in the military as needed to support the war effort. Today, these heroic nurses, including our own Faye Berzon, want to be remembered for their service to our country with a gravesite plaque and an American flag.

Senator Elizabeth Warren of MA is lead sponsor of Bill # S997: the US Cadet Nurse Corps Service Recognition Act. It provides limited honorary Veteran status for WWII Cadet Nurses. Last year it failed in the Senate. The bill number in the House Of Representatives is HR 2056. The bill, which has large bipartisan support, has 100 % support of the VFW, the ANA and 62 members of the Nursing Community Coalition. More Senate cosponsors are needed, and that is where Hadassah will assist.

Hadassah has created an action alert on the National Advocacy page where members may, with an easy click, send a letter to their members of Congress. [Visit the action center to add your support.](#) It is very important for Hadassah members to send letters to members of Congress to advocate on behalf of these aging WWII Cadet Nurses and give them the recognition they deserve.



## Support Our Nursing Colleagues

In 2020, the International Year of the Nurse/Midwife, we celebrate and honor our Hadassah nurses! On January 18, 1913, Hadassah sent two trail-blazing American Jewish nurses, Rose Kaplan and Rachel Landy, to pre-State Israel. Little more than two months later, Hadassah brought healing to Jerusalem for the

first time. We were pioneers, setting the standards for quality nursing care at our Hadassah medical centers and academic nursing education at our Hadassah Henrietta Szold Hebrew University School of Nursing.

From Hadassah's beginning, nurses have played a vital role in our efforts to advance healthcare in the US, Israel, and around the world. And now their future depends on us -- and on you. At a time when nurses and healthcare workers are putting their lives on the line to help others -- and when funding is in dire need -- let's provide much-needed aid. There's no better way to honor them. Click here to make your [donation](#). You may also send a check to Hadassah, 40 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005 (include code 'NAHPC' in the memo line). Read Hadassah's Charitable Solicitation Disclosure Statement [here](#).



## Meet a Member: Joyce Laiter, MPT

I received my Masters of Physical Therapy from Emory University 33 years ago. Since graduation, my passion has been for soft tissue and cranial sacral techniques to address chronic pain. The body holds trauma in the tissues that can lead to future health concerns which medications and traditional therapies do not help. The body is a puzzle, and my work was never boring. However, after I retired a few years ago, my path led me in other directions. My Hadassah life became more enriched, involved and demanding as I took on the role of region president of Greater Philadelphia. As we presidents say, it was the best three years of my life! (We all need a sense of humor to navigate the world of Hadassah sometimes.) But truth be told, my work was extremely rewarding in a multitude of ways. I honed my leadership skills, met the most wonderful and impressive women whom I now consider close friends, and deepened my respect and passion for the work we do.

From my role as president, I moved on to chair the nascent network for young women called EVOLVE Hadassah, of which I am terribly proud. Through EVOLVE, I have met the incredibly energetic and devoted young women who are proving to be the future of Hadassah. I wish them much success! Locally, I am the liaison/mentor to our young women's chapter, Neshama, in Greater Philadelphia. I believe deeply that while these young women, while respecting those of us with years of experience, understand how to cultivate the next generation of active and devoted Hadassah women. Currently, at the national level, I am chair of National Membership.

On a personal note, I'm a Jersey shore native and recently moved back to the beach in Ventnor, NJ. I have been married for 34 years to Allen, the cousin of my best friend at Brandeis University. We have three adult children. Our daughters, Jessica and Heather, are active Hadassah Life members in the NY Young Professionals chapter. That they are carrying on the Hadassah legacy is deeply gratifying to me. I am so proud! Allen and my son David are Hadassah Associates. I am of course proud of them as they actively support my passion for Hadassah and the work that we all do. I'd also like to mention that my mother, a Life Member, joined my daughters and me at the Hadassah convention in NY, and it is a Hadassah family memory I will cherish forever. Thank you to Hadassah for allowing me to introduce this most empowering organization to the women I love.



## Ask an HMO Nurse:

**"How do you prioritize your day? You are a wife, a mother of six, work full time at Hadassah Hospital, and in addition, you're working towards your PhD."**

*Abby Friedman, MSN, RN, CNM, WHNP*

*Director of the Women's Health Nursing Department at the Henrietta Szold Hadassah Hebrew University School of Nursing*

I have to say that I would not be able to get through my day without my husband's partnership. I would not be able to manage all of the day-to-day tasks that keep our family going without his support.

My day starts the night before. At the end of a late night of studying, writing, research interviews, and school meetings, I pack up my computer, make school lunches, and take out clothes for the little ones. If I am in clinicals, I try to leave around 6 am before everyone gets up. This gives me time to check assignments and pull up patient lists before I head to the unit. Meanwhile, at home, my husband is getting the kids out to school.

While in clinicals, I try not to answer calls from home. It is important to give my students priority in the units. I have set clinical "care plans" with my goals and learning objectives for the day. In the high-risk pregnancy unit, we do Leopold's maneuvers, connect fetal monitors, and interpret strips. In the maternity unit, we prepare private and group patient education sessions, do postpartum and neonatal assessments, and discharge new mothers and babies. In the nursing school, we have a very loving and supportive staff. We rely on each other to meet our goals and work well as a team.

But really, my day is just like most moms. Sometimes I just pray I will get through the day hoping all the little things will work themselves out. I pray to find a parking spot, to make it to my early class, to leave a Zoom at just the right time to

sign into the next one, which ends just in time to run to my car, speed home to put up dinner, get to a piano lesson, pick up from swim, serve dinner, give baths, and start a never-ending bedtime routine.

People tell me I do too much; how do I manage school on top of it all? I am in a very intense accelerated online three-year PhD program which most people end up doing in six. It is hard. But this part of my life is holy; it's for *me*. I enjoy writing and research and learning new worldviews. I love the philosophy of science. I love using my brain to digest new approaches to old nursing problems. This is one of the most meaningful parts of my life. It's more than a hobby. It brings me joy. And so, at the end of a long, long day, I close my computer, pack up my bag, make lunches and take out clothes, and prepare to do it all again. Because even if I missed something today, there is always tomorrow.

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## Mazel Tov to Our Council Members



### Helen Tieger, RN

2020 has been a challenging year for many healthcare workers, as they are constantly on the frontlines of COVID-19. Many patients are expressing their gratitude and appreciation to these essential workers. We're proud to highlight Helen Tieger, RN, who was honored by patients in *The Boston Globe*. Click [here](#) to read the special recognition received by Helen.



### Nancy Wagner, DNP, RN, CNE

We're pleased to congratulate Nancy Wagner for receiving the [Award for Excellence](#) from the Case Western Reserve Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing alumni association. Nancy is a member of the council's steering committee, and organized a student/faculty study abroad to Israel and to the school of nursing at Hadassah Medical Organization in 2018.

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## Online Program Recaps from Our Professional Councils

Hadassah's professional councils presented and partnered on several outstanding webinars in recent weeks. Here are some highlights:



### Medical Marijuana: Highs & Lows, Smoke & Mirrors

The speaker, Dr. Jordan Tishler, a Cannabis Specialist, was trained at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. While caring for his patients through his private practice, "InhaleMD," he also works on the faculty of both the Brigham & Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. In his informative presentation, Dr. Tishler talked about the symptoms that can be treated by medical cannabis and explained the current research that exists in testing the use of cannabis to treat cancer and neurological illnesses. Watch a

recording of the program [here](#).



### Advances in Women's Health 2020

Presented by the Hadassah Physicians Council and the Greater Kansas City Physicians Council, the program's panel included Dr. Scott Sher, a diagnostic radiologist at the Diagnostic Imaging Centers in Greater Kansas City; Dr. Christa Balanoff, a breast surgical oncologist at the University of Kansas Cancer Center and Associate Program Director for the Department of Surgery at the University of Kansas Medical Center; and Sabrina Korentager, a registered nurse

at the Lymphedema Prevention Clinic at the University of Kansas Cancer Center. It was moderated by Dr. Stacey Keen, co-chair of the Hadassah Physicians Council. Click [here](#) to watch a recording of this informative program.



### Eye Health 2020

Dr. Lynn Brandes, an Optometry Specialist in Brockton, MA, who has more than 25 years experience in her field and has also worked in Israel, focused on digital devices and eye strain. Dr. Brandes spoke about how the increase in usage of digital devices, especially during the pandemic, has become a public health issue. This has resulted in decreased social and motor skills, especially among children. She provided some tools and instruction on how both adults and children can balance the usage of digital devices. The second half of the webinar focused on neuro-ophthalmic emergencies. Click [here](#) to watch a recording of the program.

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### Diane Gottlieb, MSN, APRN, CNM Talks about Her Interview with Abby Friedman

In 1995, I was working at a women's health clinic as a Certified Nurse Midwife. It was right before Christmas, and I decided to hang a menorah on my office door. A few minutes later, a nurse knocked on my door and asked if I was Jewish. We chatted awhile and she asked if I would like to join a Jewish nurses' group that was meeting that week. The group was the Landy Kaplan Nurses Council Chapter of Greater Miami Hadassah. I went to the meeting, volunteered to be the Treasurer and, as they say, the rest is history and the beginning of a relationship with Hadassah that continues today.

Since then, as President of that same Nurses Council chapter, as Co-Chair of Hadassah's National Nurses Council, as a National Vice President and now, as a member of the Board of Directors of Hadassah Medical Organization, I have had the privilege and honor of meeting many nurses at Hadassah Medical Organization and at the Henrietta Szold Hadassah Hebrew University School of Nursing. Nurses speak a universal language and share a universal goal. Nursing has evolved from the care of patients in the battlefield to the scientific evidenced-based profession that it is today.

Hadassah has been committed to supporting clinical nursing and nursing education since 1918 when we established the first School of Nursing in pre-state Israel. One of the goals of the Nurses & Allied Health Professionals Council is to connect us to our Israeli colleagues so that we can see the impact that Hadassah and American nursing has had on nursing in Israel. Through the council, we share the language of healing and teaching through nursing and the goal of advancing nursing practice through research.

For a recent council online program on "Inside the Hadassah School of Nursing in Israel," I had the great pleasure of interviewing Abby Kra Friedman. Abby is an outgrowth of our council's commitment to nursing and an outstanding example of the compassion we show when caring for our patients, the passion with which we educate the next generation of nursing students, and the knowledge we gain while advancing the profession of nursing through the application of nursing science.

To see a recording of my interview with Abby Fra Friedman, click [here](#). Abby discusses nursing education in the time of Covid 19, how students and faculty are managing distance learning, the impact on nursing education in the future, and how she juggles being a full-time wife and mother with being a student herself and teaching full time.

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### Upcoming Webinar:

**"Taking Action in Times of Need: Lillian Wald, the Henry Street Settlement, and the Lower East Side"**

Thursday, December 3, 2020, 8 pm ET

The Nurses & Allied Health Professionals Council presents this webinar on the early years of nurse Lillian Wald, her establishment of the Henry Street Settlement, its place in New York City and the nation, and its enduring fight for social justice. Henrietta Szold herself was inspired by Wald and her work when starting Hadassah. In March 1893, 26-year-old nurse Lillian Wald rushed through the gritty streets of Manhattan's Lower East Side to the bedside of a deathly ill woman. Hemorrhaging after childbirth, the woman had been abandoned by her doctor because she could not pay his fee. Wald's visit to the squalid apartment and the dismal scene she found there awakened her to the depth of poverty and inequality on the Lower East Side, and inspired her to create Henry Street Settlement: a place of healing and action.

Our speaker will be Ellen M. Snyder-Grenier, a national-award-winning curator and writer, and principal of REW & Co. She directs research projects, develops museum exhibitions, and writes on urban history, with a focus on social justice. The author of an award-winning history of Brooklyn, Snyder-Grenier is a Fellow of the New York Academy of History.

[Click to register.](#)



### **You're Invited!**

#### **"Miracles of Hadassah: Honoring Nurses - Past, Present and Future and Benefitting Our Nurses at Hadassah Medical Organization"**

Sunday, November 22, 2020, 12 pm ET

Hadassah Midwest and Hadassah Northeast invite you to this special event in celebration of the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife, and raising funds for a much-needed nurses station at Hadassah Hospital. Among the great lineup of speakers are Nancy Falchuk, Past Hadassah National President and Founder of the Hadassah Nurses Council; Abby Friedman, Hadassah

nurse and educator at the Szold Hadassah-Hebrew University School of Nursing; and Gila Zarbiv, Hadassah nurse and midwife at HMO.

[Click here to RSVP by Nov 19.](#)



### **Podcast Alert:**

#### **New Hadassah On Call episode available 11/19/2020: "Long Term Side Effects of COVID; Life after COVID-19"**

In light of a second outbreak of COVID-19 in Jerusalem, a new multidisciplinary clinic has opened at Hadassah Ein Kerem Hospital to evaluate patients who have recovered from the virus. Host Benyamin Cohen talks with the head of this clinic, Professor Neville Berkman, Adult Invasive Pulmonology Unit Head, to find out the state of the coronavirus in Israel and just when we can expect a cure to the deadly virus. Listen to Hadassah On Call [here](#).

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