For more than 65 years, APF has had one abiding mission—to support medicine in Israel—and we’ve been tremendously successful at that. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our many generous benefactors who have made this possible. Of course, the work is ongoing, and we rely on you, our dedicated network, to help move APF and the entire Israeli health system into the future. Thanks to each and every one of you for your belief in our mission and continued support.

From the President

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As my two-year term as APF President comes to a close at the end of this year, I find myself reflecting on what an honor and privilege it’s been to serve as your representative. I feel a strong bond to APF and personally value this opportunity to develop a kesher, or connection, with our Israeli counterparts. Promoting the Fellowship Training program and being part of the Disaster Registry have given me an abiding sense of achdut, or true camaraderie, with the tireless and exemplary members of the Israeli health system.

It’s deeply rewarding to see the APF signature throughout the Israeli health system. You cannot point to a hospital or major health center that does not count at least one former APF Fellow among its leadership. Our “imprint” has been there since 1950—literally from the inception of the Israeli state! To have had a hand in advancing the Israeli health care system to a world-class institution is something we take tremendous pride in.

This November, many of these medical leaders will gather for our first (of many) reunions of former APF Fellows. Meeting so many of the individuals that all of you have supported will be a special occasion indeed. So far, more than 1,500 people have completed an APF Fellowship, and that’s in addition to the many nurses that APF has sponsored. This is truly amazing, and we couldn’t have done it without your help.

Also taking place this November is our annual Disaster Preparedness Course in Israel, and registration is filling up fast. So many American, Canadian and European doctors, nurses, paramedics and therapists have already taken this course, and every single one has come away confident that they were more educated and better prepared to deal with “worst-case scenarios.” The course instructors are incredible, and the simulation labs that everyone goes through are among the best in the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Mike Frogel, the Immediate Past President, for being my guide and mentor over the past two years. I also want to thank Dr. Jeffrey Devries, our incoming President, for his tremendous help with the Birthright trips, which he has personally gone on several times. A huge thank-you to Amir Goldshtein, our indefatigable Director, who is steadfast in keeping our operations running smoothly. Also, kudos to our Board of Directors, who take time out from their busy schedules to help with committee work, give financial support and offer invaluable advice. But most of all, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you, our supporters, for your sustained funding of our most important mission. Thank you for continuing to show your support to the degree possible. There is no APF without you, and we deeply appreciate your help.

Robert J. Kelman, M.D.
APF Fellows for 2017-2018

Since 1951, the APF Fellowships program has brought more than 1,500 gifted Israeli physicians to North America to receive advanced training and conduct research in their specialties, training that's not available to them at home. When APF Fellows return, they enrich Israel’s reservoir of medical knowledge. Many go on to become leaders in their fields, often as the only doctors with their skill set in the country or their region.

Yasmin Ghantus Bahouth, M.D.
Head & Neck Oncology
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD
The Baruch Padeh Medical Center

Zaher Bahouth, M.D.
Epigenetics of Bladder Cancer
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD
Bnai Zion Medical Center

Eran Cohen Barak, M.D.
Molecular Biology and Genetics
Northwestern University
Chicago, IL
Emek Medical Center

Shiri Shinar, M.D.
Maternal-Fetal Medicine
St. Michael’s Hospital
Toronto, Canada
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center

“APF’s very generous scholarship is allowing me to fulfill my dream of working here in Montreal as a clinician and scientist to acquire the knowledge and skills that are needed to help my gynecological-cancer patients back home in Jerusalem. I will remember my APF family for the rest of my career—and the rest of my life.”

–Dr. Liron Kogan

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