

## **PART I – IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION**

Submission Identifier Code:	TA09-033
Full Title for Entry:	Organ Transplant Awareness Shabbat
Entry Category:	Men's Health Programs
Contact to be listed on Torch Award CD:	Marvin Krutchik
Email to be listed on Torch Award CD:	<a href="mailto:krutchik@hotmail.com">krutchik@hotmail.com</a>
Club Number and Club Name:	1349 -Beth Torah Adath Yeshurun
Number of Club Members:	75
Synagogue name, city and state:	Beth Torah Benny Rok Campus, N.M.B. FL.
Club president name:	Marvin Krutchik
Person preparing Entry:	Marvin Krutchik
Email of Person preparing Entry:	Krutchik@hotmail.com
Date of Submission:	April 4, 2009

## **PART II SUMMARY INFORMATION**

### Organ Donation Shabbat

Marvin Krutchik, our Men's Club President, received the Gift of Life, a kidney transplant from his son Ed thirteen years ago. He approached our rabbis to have a special Shabbat for the awareness and importance of organ donation. They agreed that the kidney would have a bar mitzvah for its thirteenth birthday.

The rabbis decided to call the service Organ Transplant Awareness Shabbat. Flyers were sent to the congregants, emails were sent out, and the Shabbat service was advertised in the Torah Times, our synagogue's bi monthly newsletter.

As part of the Shabbat service Marvin, his son Ed who donated his kidney, and Ed's son Alex (age 11) shared the haftarah portion. Jenifer, Ed's wife chanted the opening blessings for the Haftarah. The entire family participated in the service. Other congregants including those who were donors or recipients of organs were invited to participate in this Shabbat Service.

Rabbi Rojzman created a pamphlet that explained Jewish views of organ donation throughout the years. His sermon was directly related to the importance of organ donation. "To Save a Life" is the message.

From the Men's Club

When the Dolphins, Heat and Panthers are playing it means only one thing, that it is the beginning of a new and exciting year for our Men's Club. This year we will be presenting a new program geared for grandparents who are interested in cultivating Jewish heritage and values to future generations. These sessions are open to all grandparents (parents are invited) to join us so to learn how we can teach the next generation about Judaism. Besides round table discussions, we will be showing films. We plan to have about 6 sessions this coming year. The first session will be on Thursday November 13 at 7:30 (see ad in bulletin). The second session will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2009.

Once again on Thanksgiving morning we will be delivering hot turkey dinners to the elderly, homebound, and holocaust survivors. This program has won an FJMC national award. Please join us for this very special mitzvah.

I am also very proud to announce that the Men's Club has again won the FJMC Quality Club Award for the year 2007-2008. Thanks to everyone who made this possible. We are two for two and are batting a thousand since this award has been implemented.

The Florida Region this year is having a Shabbat Interchange Program (See you in Shul) where members of Men's Clubs in the area visit other temples during the course of the year. We will be hosting this event on Friday November 7 at our Shabbat in Harmony service. Please try to attend to help welcome our Men's Club visitors.

**On September 20 my family and I celebrated the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my kidney transplant. My oldest son Ed gave me the "gift of life" by donating a kidney. I shared the haftarah with Ed and my grandson Alex (who is 11 years old). I was the last one in my family to be a bar mitzvah at Beth Torah. As each of my three sons turned 13 they were a Bar Mitzvah, and my wife was a Bat Mitzvah 14 years ago, (believe or not she is older than 27). I would like to thank all my family members and friends that participated in this unique and wonderful event. I most especially want to thank our rabbis in dedicating this day to organ donation awareness. Rabbi Rozjman gave the most inspiring and spirited sermon. He even came off the bima to get close to the congregants to tell them how important it is to "save a life". Rabbi Rozjman compiled a pamphlet on organ transplant awareness. Anyone wishing a copy please contact me or Rabbi Rozjman.**

The Men's Club would like to thank Victor and Majestic Caterers for supplying the apples that were distributed by the "Men in Black" on Rosh Hashanah.

Marvin Krutchik  
President  
"The Men in Black"

### **PART III SELF ASSESSMENT OF ENTRY**

#### 1. Explain presentation and documentation completeness

The presentation was a special Shabbat Service on September 20, 2008 called the Organ Transplant Awareness Shabbat Service. Marvin Krutchik, Men's Club President initiated this service and read the haftarah along with his son and grandson. The Haftarah was Ki Tavo. One of the messages in the haftarah describes the glorious future the people may expect. With organ transplants the future will be glorious. We have included the preparation involved in this service and the publicity used to make sure we had a good turn out for this Shabbat.

#### 2. Achievements of program goals, publicity, marketing and advanced planning

Our goal was to make people aware that donating an organ is an obligation in Jewish law in order to save a life. A date was chosen for the Organ Transplant Awareness Shabbat. There were a number of mailings, emails, and insertions in the Temple Bulletin. Organ donation cards were handed out so congregants can become organ donors. Rabbi Rojzman prepared a handout that was distributed on the day of the Shabbat. We also invited other donors and recipients in the congregation to participate in this service. Men's Club members participated by receiving honors. The Krutchik family requested that all gifts for the Bar Mitzvah be made out to the Temple, our Men's Club or the Transplant Foundation, Inc.

#### 3. How does the program enhance the image of the FJMC, region and/or your club

The FJMC International this year has been stressing the Wellness program. Our Men's Club felt that besides preventing illness, part of the program should be how to cure and treat illnesses. There are many Jews who do not believe in organ donation. This contradicts the essential law of To Save a Life. Our Men's Club felt that this Save a Life program of organ donation had to be promoted in a big way. There are many people in need of an organ donation which can and improve the quality of life. By having our Men's Club President come forward to initiate this awareness and share his personal experience with the congregation was a very good image for FJMC.

#### 4. Include information so other clubs can use this program

Included is a copy of the handout that Rabbi Rojzman used in his sermon. In addition Congregants were able to take this home and read them at their leisure. The information that Rabbi Rojzman used in his pamphlet came from an article found on the internet [http://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/teshuvot/docs/19912000/prouser\\_chesed.pdf](http://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/teshuvot/docs/19912000/prouser_chesed.pdf). A copy of a donor card and summary page of the Transplant Foundation Inc. are included. These and other articles were placed out in the foyer area of the temple for congregants to take home. The website for the Transplant Foundation, Inc. is <http://transplantfoundation.org>.

#### 5. What is the value in club building – number of named club members participating vs. club size and synagogue where it came from

Our Temple has slightly under 600 memberships which include singles, families etc. We have 75 Men's Club members. We had about one third of our members participate. The Men's Club members and their families came together on a Shabbat morning for a very important cause. This type of Shabbat service initiated by the Men's Club addresses the need for better health and the saving of lives.

6. Identification of source of program or practice and description of unique aspects. Help us understand where it came from

As Men's Club President, Marvin Krutchik, having breakfast after minyan he mentioned that his kidney transplant took place almost 13 years ago. It was suggested that to celebrate this "Gift of Life" from his son, he should give his kidney a bar mitzvah. From there he discussed this with his family, and they agreed to participate. He also included other Men's Club members and congregants including anyone who was either a donor or recipient. He wanted to make this Shabbat very special by making everyone aware that it is okay to donate a part of your body. The rabbis agreed and on September 20, 2008 The Organ Transplant Awareness Shabbat would take place.

7. Identification of this program as an adaptation of a previous Torch Award entry. I don't believe this program has been done before.

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Marvin Krutchik  
President  
"The Men in Black"

Your stamp is  
a gift to the  
foundation.  
Thank you.

*Foundation, inc.*

701 SW 27th Avenue, Suite # 704  
Miami, Florida 33135

Signed By the donor and the following two witnesses in the presence of each other:

.....  
Signature Date of Birth

.....  
Address of Donor

.....  
Date Signed City and State

.....  
Witness Witness

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** **Transplant Foundation, Inc.**  
701 SW 27th Avenue, Suite #704  
Miami, Florida 33135  
305-817-5645 [www.transplantfoundation.org](http://www.transplantfoundation.org)

## **Background:**

### ***What is Transplant Foundation?***

Transplant Foundation, affiliated with the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting transplant patients in both financial and emotional need, educating the community on the importance of organ donation and funding transplant research.

### ***Services: Patient Services***

Transplant patients in financial need may qualify for a grant. We work closely with the social work department at various hospitals to assure funding is available for such individuals. In 1999, the Adelina Gomez Pediatric Fund was started to provide continuous support for pediatric patients. The Bob Caiola Scholarship Fund was created in 2006 to give support to patients who require continued education in order to resume their place in the workforce. Since inception in 1987, Transplant Foundation has awarded over one million dollars in support through patient services.

In 2002, Transplant Foundation opened Transplant House, a 14-room facility on the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center campus where transplant patients and their families can receive convenient housing on any budget. Transplant House has been designed to provide temporary affordable living accommodations to pre and post transplant patients and caregivers who must travel to Miami for transplantation. With the expansion of the University of Miami Transplant Program into Broward, we are in the process of building a Transplant House on the Broward General Hospital campus.

The Mentor Program offers emotional support for transplant patients looking for a confidant. Mentors are either transplant recipients who are one year or more post transplant and family members of transplant patients; they have been specially trained to talk with pre-transplant patients and offer a kind shoulder to lean on through the journey.

### ***Services: Education***

Transplant Foundation operates the Lyn Pimentel: Life 101 College Program, which educates college students on organ and tissue donation with events coordinated by student groups. Also, there is an annual Education Forum where transplant patients and the general community alike can find out the latest advancements in transplantation directly from the surgeons. Finally, volunteers are trained to speak to community groups and to interact at various events within the community.

### ***Services: Research***

Transplant Foundation aids the University of Miami Transplant Program on research efforts seeking the induction of graft tolerance freeing patients from a lifetime of immunosuppressive therapy. Additionally, Transplant Foundation will provide funding to the newly approved Transplant Institute on the UM/JMH campus.

### ***Where Does The Funding Come From?***

Transplant Foundation and the numerous services it offers are made possible through individual contributions, corporate donations, planned gifts, special events and grants.

In Spring 2007, Transplant Foundation's specialty license plate "Donate Organs...Pass it On" will be available to purchase in the state of Florida. The revenue from this plate will benefit patients throughout the state, as well as educational and research efforts.

### ***Are contributions Tax Deductible?***

Transplant Foundation Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization

### ***Location***

701 SW 27<sup>th</sup> Ave, Ste 704, Miami, Florida 33135.

For more information, please call 305-817-5645 or visit [www.transplantfoundation.org](http://www.transplantfoundation.org).



Beth Torah  
Benny Rok Campus  
20350 Northeast 26 Avenue  
North Miami Beach, Florida 33180  
305-932-2829  
[www.btbrc.org](http://www.btbrc.org)

**September 20th, 2008 – 20 Elul 5768**

# **Organ Transplant Awareness Shabbat**

**Marvin, Ed, Alex & Jenifer  
Krutchik**

**13<sup>th</sup> Year – Celebration of Life**