

ST. JOHN'S ICARE FOUNDATION



Dear Friend,

Pazit Bach, a 48-year-old single mother, was terrified upon receiving a stage 2 breast cancer diagnosis. "I have always been a very healthy person so this news came as a shock," she shared.

During a routine mammogram a year and a half ago, doctors noticed something suspicious that required further investigation. Pazit promptly took her images to St. John's Episcopal Hospital (SJEH), where a biopsy confirmed her worst fears - she had breast cancer.

"I was overwhelmed with fear, especially when I discovered that I was HER2-positive, an aggressive type of cancer," she explains.

Pazit had hoped to receive her chemotherapy treatment at St. John's Episcopal Hospital but the new cancer center, a collaborative effort between Episcopal Health Services (EHS) and New York Cancer & Blood Specialists (NYCBS), led by board-certified hematologist-oncologist Dr. Joshua Harris, had not yet opened its doors at 275 Rockaway Turnpike in Lawrence.

After several months of consultations, Pazit found herself at a different hospital where she says she had to wait two weeks due to an oversight in ordering her chemotherapy.

"Fortunately, a stroke of luck came my way when the new cancer center opened and I secured an appointment for the very next day with Dr. Harris, becoming the first patient in the center," she said.

Pazit saw Dr. Harris, and from that moment on everything changed for the better. Within two days, she started her first chemotherapy treatment with New York Cancer & Blood Specialists at St. John's Episcopal Hospital.

Please make a generous gift of \$20, \$35, \$50, or more today to support the crucial and life-saving services provided to patients like Pazit and their families.

Your gift will help to elevate the standard of care in our community:

- New York Cancer & Blood Specialists at Episcopal Health Services offer a unique blend of personalized and supportive care typically found in community hospitals, combined with the expertise and compassion of a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- Our new Ambulatory Pavilion, opening soon, will offer advanced medical oncology, 17 infusion stations, endoscopy services and a highly accurate Linear Accelerator for targeted radiation treatment.

L-R: Nina Hadeef, Head Infusion nurse NYCBS, at St John's, Patient Pazit Bach, Reynaldo Ocampo, RN at St John's, Roman De Leon, RN at St John's

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"Thank God my cancer is gone. I got my life back and met so many wonderful people. We are not only friends, we are like family."

- Pazit Bach

DID YOU KNOW?

The New York City Department of Health has identified cancer and heart disease as the leading causes of premature death (death before the age of 65) in the Rockaways, with breast cancer accounting for one of the three leading cancers.

"When I first started treatment, I was in bad shape and so worried about my children and my future, but the team made everything so manageable for me," she recalls.

According to Nina Hadeff, Head Infusion Nurse NYCBS, there were times when Pazit came in so sick but still took her boys to school because she had no choice. "We were all aware of her situation, so whenever she came in, we wanted to make sure she was comfortable, able to rest and supported with whatever she needed."

Pazit underwent six treatments every 3 weeks, which yielded positive results before her first surgery at St. John's. Due to her high risk status, Pazit underwent two additional surgeries, followed by a year of treatments.

Today, Pazit is free from cancer and grateful for the exceptional care she received. "The entire team was incredibly kind and supportive of me every step of the way. Dr. Harris showed genuine care for me and did everything he could to cure me. He is not just my doctor, he is the angel who saved my life."

Pazit can finally plan that long-awaited trip to Israel with her children to reunite with her parents, whom she hasn't seen in a long time.

Your support plays a vital role in making success stories like Pazit's possible. Please make a donation today to help support the best possible cancer care for our patients and their families.

With Deepest Gratitude,

Nancy C. Leghant

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Executive Director



P.S. We kindly request your support in advancing our future cancer services, which save the lives of patients in the Rockaways. For your convenience, you can also scan the code to donate online. Thank you!



“Until now, outpatient Chemotherapy Infusion services were not available in the Rockaways. Having the service minutes away makes all the difference to our patients and their families. It's difficult enough to fight a disease, add a long commute and it can make a huge impact on their treatment.”

- Nina Hadeff, Head Infusion Nurse NYCBS

DID YOU KNOW?

In addition to Hematology and Oncology, the New York Cancer & Blood Specialists at Episcopal Health Services also provide access to:

- Social Workers
- Nutritionists
- Clinical Trials
- Lab Work
- Imaging such as PET & CT Scans

For more information about cancer services on the Rockaways, please visit:

<https://rockawaycancer.com>



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Conquering Cancer Together™

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