HALACHIC ORGAN DONOR SOCIETY’S
LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2016

1. A number of donor families in Israel revealed that they donated the organs of their loved one after learning about rabbinic support for organ donation from the Halachic Organ Donor Society.

2. The major fundraising event for HODS is the annual 5K race held this year in Brooklyn, New York on May 15, 2016. It was our 5th annual race. As a result of race participants asking their friends and family to sponsor them in the race, HODS raised over $105,000. Our race is an event our members look forward to every year and enjoy. Photos from the race are posted on our Facebook page.

3. Every year there is an increase in the number of Orthodox Rabbis and Orthodox Physicians who register for the HODS organ donor card. There are over 300 Rabbis and close to 200 Physicians who carry their HODS Organ Donor Card in their wallets.

4. HODS designed and published a brochure of prominent rabbis, women leaders, and Jewish physicians who have the HODS organ donor card. This brochure was also distributed to 5,000 people in London. HODS also designed a new advertisement of Orthodox Rabbis from several different locations outside the U.S. who carry organ donor cards. The advertisement was published in Jewish Action, Spring 2016.

5. High school and college students, rabbinical students, rabbis, medical ethicists, and journalists use our website as a great resource for their research.
6. HODS representatives delivered 58 lectures on Jewish law and organ donation to groups in USA, Australia, China, Israel, Mexico, and the United Kingdom reaching hundreds of people. Lectures were given upon invitation to synagogues, schools, yeshivot, seminaries, college campuses, Hillel Houses, and in private homes. Via electronical resources, a HODS representative trained a Jewish French medical student, a retired doctor from Texas, and a Jewish medical student from Mexico. They each gave lectures on behalf of HODS.

7. HODS Explanation of Death video is now available in Hebrew, bringing the total languages to four.

8. HODS was invited again to host an information booth at the Rabbinical Council of America’s Annual Convention in June 2016. HODS representatives attended the conference, staffed a table of HODS literature and distributed flyers. They spoke to many rabbis at the conference. Each year there seems to be more positive interest on the party of Orthodox rabbis to consider the subject of organ donation.

9. LiveOnNY, the local Organ Procurement Organization in NY, continues to use our materials and refer people of Jewish faith to our website.

10. Given that the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) declared November as national organ donor month, HODS sent notices to Rabbis to give a sermon on one Sabbath in that month.

11. HODS annually sponsors a Teaneck League Baseball team and a team in the Jerusalem Football League. The HODS Logo is imprinted on the T-shirts. We have had much anecdotal feedback that these teams raise awareness about the organization, its mission and halachic support for organ donation.